

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts Announces 2018 Leading Women Award Honorees

The 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Ceremony will Honor Three Inspirational Massachusetts Women

**BOSTON, MA (January 30, 2018)** — Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts is pleased to announce the honorees for its 26<sup>th</sup> annual Leading Women Awards. This breakfast event will take place on Thursday, March 1, 7-9:30 AM, at the Sheraton Boston Hotel.

This year, Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts will honor three remarkable business leaders and role models for girls: **Diane McLoughlin**, Head of Eagle Americas and Chief Client Officer, Eagle Investment Systems, a BNY Mellon Company; **Elizabeth Stevenson**, **LP.D**, **CAPT**, Vice President of Enrollment Management and External Affairs, Massachusetts Maritime Academy; and **Tanisha M. Sullivan, Esq.**, Head of Legal Industrial Affairs, Sanofi Genzyme and Sanofi North America.

The 2018 Leading Women Awards celebrates the power within every G.I.R.L. (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader)<sup>™</sup> to change the world. Each honoree will be introduced by an exceptional Girl Scout, who has spent time getting to know the honoree in preparation for the ceremony. This tradition highlights how, for more than 100 years, Girl Scouts have been drawing inspiration from successful female leaders in their communities, including Girl Scout Alums, business leaders, and those who serve as troop volunteers.

"These accomplished women are incredible role models for our Girl Scouts across eastern Massachusetts, showing girls that there are no limits on what they can achieve," says Tricia Tilford, Board Chair and President, Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts. "We are truly honored to recognize these three inspirational women, who have made unique contributions to our council, all while exemplifying what it means to be a go-getter, innovator, risk-taker, and leader."

At Girl Scouts, girls find a safe, girl-focused space where they can develop their leadership skills and learn the importance of service to others. Through hands-on activities (including STEM and outdoor adventures) and the guidance of adult volunteers, girls discover their values, skills, and the world around them; connect with others in a multicultural environment; and take action to make a difference in their world. Each year, approximately 60 older teen Girl Scouts in eastern Massachusetts earn the Gold Award—the highest honor a Girl Scout can earn—by completing a significant project that effects real and sustained change in her community.

Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts embraces diversity and inclusion, and is committed to ensuring all girls in eastern Massachusetts, regardless of their circumstances, have access to the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. Support for the Leading Women Awards allows the council to maintain our powerful leadership development programming that prepares girls to empower themselves. The event is further supported through the generosity of business sponsors, including lead sponsor BNY Mellon.

Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts has honored more than 200 women with the Leading Women Award since its inception in 1992. The prestigious <u>list of honorees</u> includes individuals with outstanding careers who have made a significant, positive impact in an impressive array of fields. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit <u>gsema.org/LW</u>.

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We're Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts (GSEMA) We're 47,000 strong, with 32,000 girls and 15,000 volunteers in 178 communities in eastern Massachusetts who believe in the power of every G.I.R.L. (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader)<sup>™</sup> to change the world. Girl Scouts is the preeminent leadership development organization for girls. GSEMA is the 10<sup>th</sup> largest Girl Scout council in the United States, building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. To volunteer, reconnect, donate, join, or learn more, visit <u>gsema.org</u>.