

GSEMA 2021 Volunteer Conference

Sunday, October 17

4 PM: Firelight Opening Ceremony at Camp Cedar Hill

Join us for this intimate, casual kick off to the conference in the newly restored Council Bowl at Camp Cedar Hill, Waltham, MA.

Schedule Overview

Monday, October 18 to Thursday, October 21

After the opening ceremony on Sunday, the GSEMA 2021 Volunteer Conference will continue for four days of engaging virtual workshops, lunchtime "Ask Us Anything" sessions with GSEMA staff, and live, immersive experiences each evening. Please note: Daytime sessions will be recorded and available to registered attendees after the conference. Evening sessions are live only and will not be recorded.

Monday, October 18

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| 10 AM | Welcoming New Members: How & Why |
| 11 AM | Lift Your Voice: Leading Diverse Troops |
| 12 PM | Encampment Ask Us Anything |
| 1 PM | Cookie Program for Seasoned Cookie Volunteers |
| 2 PM | Breaking Down the Bronze Award |
| 6 PM | GSEMA and Hollaback Present: Bystander Intervention Training |

Tuesday, October 19

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| 10 AM | Engaging Juniors and Cadettes in STEM |
| 11 AM | Lift Your Voice: Practicing Anti-Racism with Your Troop |
| 12 PM | Governance Ask Us Anything |
| 1 PM | Injury Prevention |
| 2 PM | Reinvesting in Community: The Relationship Between Women, Money, and Community |
| 6 PM | Networking with Neighbors: A Night with the Product Program Team |

Wednesday, October 20

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| 10 AM | Engaging Daisies and Brownies in STEM |
| 11 AM | Six Steps to Supporting Neurodiverse Girl Scouts |
| 12 PM | Volunteer Engagement Ask Us Anything |
| 1 PM | Introduction to the Cookie Program |
| 2 PM | Setting up the Silver Award |
| 6 PM | Girl Scouts Fun and Games: A Networking Night Experience |

Thursday, October 21

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| 10 AM | How to Run a Wooden Car Race with Your Troop |
| 11 AM | Online and Virtual Selling |
| 12 PM | Troop Camping Ask Us Anything |
| 1 PM | Teaching and Promoting Self-Advocacy |
| 2 PM | Introduction to Neurodiversity |
| 6 PM | GSEMA and Hollaback Present: Stand Up to Street Harassment |

See following pages for workshop descriptions.

GSEMA 2021 Volunteer Conference

Monday, October 18

10 AM: Welcoming New Members: How & Why

Welcoming new Girl Scouts into our established troops is so important... not only for the new members, but also to role model how to make new friends and be a sister to every Girl Scout! Girls and families are looking for connection and know that Girl Scouts offers it; by welcoming new members into our troops, we are offering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience to those who might not otherwise have the opportunity to participate. In this session, we'll talk about how to create an open and inclusive troop environment. Participants will have the opportunity to share roadblocks and concerns, as well as success stories.

11 AM: Lift Your Voice: Leading Diverse Troops

All troops have Girl Scouts and families from different economic and cultural backgrounds, life experiences, and family structures. As troop leaders, it is our responsibility to make sure that we can create a welcoming and supportive environment for all Girl Scouts and their families. Join the GSEMA Community Engagement team to discuss tools and resources for family engagement, cultural awareness, and creating more inclusive and welcoming Girl Scout troops. We'll also discuss successes you have had leading diverse troops and what challenges you anticipate this troop year.

12 PM: Encampment Ask Us Anything

Do you have questions about service unit and town encampments this fall? Bring your lunch and join this drop-in session with GSEMA's Outdoor Program team to chat about encampments!

1 PM: Cookie Program for Seasoned Cookie Volunteers

If you have at least one year of cookie program experience, come learn what's new for this year's cookie program, including new ways for girls to sell cookies in-person and online. You'll also receive a quick refresher on how to get started in Smart Cookies, the cookie program digital platform.

2 PM: Breaking Down the Bronze Award

Join the GSEMA Program team to learn how to get started on a Bronze Award project, what counts, and tips for success.

6 PM: GSEMA and Hollaback: Bystander Intervention Training

How can we take action if we don't know what to do? In this interactive training, we will train you on how to safely intervene when you witness street harassment — or experience it yourself. During this training you'll learn a clear, adaptable, and expert-approved set of tools that have been proven to reduce the prevalence of street harassment: Hollaback!'s 5D's of bystander intervention. We'll start by deepening our understanding of street harassment and its impact. Then, we'll talk through five strategies for intervention: distract, delegate, document, delay, and direct; and how to prioritize your own safety while intervening. We'll also talk about what to do if you're worried the violence will turn on you and how to avoid escalating the situation. Then, we'll talk about what to do if you experience harassment and give you tools to safely get your power back. We'll have time at the end for practice. Exit polls show 98.8% of attendees leave the training feeling like there is at least one thing they can do the next time they witness harassment.

GSEMA 2021 Volunteer Conference

Tuesday, October 19

10 AM: Engaging Juniors and Cadettes in STEM

Everyone can do STEM! You do not need to be an expert scientist to explore STEM with your girls! In this hands-on workshop, you will learn techniques to help engage Juniors and Cadettes in STEM. No experience needed. Be prepared to play some STEM-related games and be a little silly. This will include an activity/discussion from the new Math in Nature badge.

11 AM: Lift Your Voice: Practicing Anti-Racism with Your Troop

Being anti-racist is about lifting your voice to make the world a better place. Join the GSEMA Community Engagement team to learn activities and strategies for incorporating regular anti-racist practices into your troop meetings. In this space, we'll discuss working through challenges in implementing anti-racist activities and go through specific activities to take back to your troop.

12 PM: Governance Ask Us Anything

Join us to learn more about volunteer leadership opportunities to support council Governance. Adults and girls 14+ can lend their voice as a Regional or National Delegate, or Girl Board Member, helping to influence policy and foster and improve Girl Scouting within the council.

1 PM: Injury Prevention

Injury is the number one killer of kids in America today. Learn about the history of injury, why it is so prevalent, and what steps we can take to reduce that number for both ourselves and children today.

2 PM: Reinvesting in Community: The Relationship Between Women, Money, and Community

How we spend money influences and creates community on every level, and historically, women were very limited in their financial decision-making abilities. Now, women drive economies and have emerged as one of the most significant sources of financial leadership. We will consider how women's access to financial freedom has evolved over the years, how that impacts our communities and opportunities, and what the future of financial leadership could look like for volunteers and Girl Scouts.

6 PM: Networking with Neighbors: A Night with the Product Program Team

Network with your neighbors in preparation for the cookie program... starting in November! Learn more about cookie-selling best practices, share planning tips, discuss meeting and distribution strategies, and how to get the whole troop engaged. Your valuable work and experience can help your fellow volunteers better support their troops!

GSEMA 2021 Volunteer Conference

Wednesday, October 20

10 AM: Engaging Daisies and Brownies in STEM

Everyone can do STEM! You do not need to be an expert scientist to explore STEM with your Girl Scouts! In this hands-on workshop, you will learn techniques to help engage Daisies and Brownies in STEM. No experience necessary! Be prepared to play some STEM-related games and get a little silly, including an activity and discussion from the new Math in Nature badge.

11 AM: Six Steps to Supporting Neurodiverse Girl Scouts

Learn tangible strategies and tools to promote the inclusion of neurodiverse troop members, including practices that will benefit all Girl Scouts. This toolbox will support your own growth as leaders who can support their neurodiverse troop with skill building and accessing Girl Scout experiences in meaningful ways.

12 PM: Volunteer Engagement Ask Us Anything

Do you have questions about the Volunteer Toolkit, your role as a troop leader, or engaging in your community? Bring your lunch and join this drop-in session with GSEMA's Volunteer Engagement team!

1 PM: Introduction to the Cookie Program

New to the cookie program? No problem! Get excited for the largest girl-led entrepreneurial program in the world with an overview of how to participate, what materials are needed, and how to get cookies. We'll also cover common cookie lingo, different ways Girl Scouts can sell cookies, and how they develop their entrepreneurial skills. Then get answers to all of your questions during a Q&A session.

2 PM: Setting Up the Silver Award

This workshop will go through the Silver Award from idea to completion. We will break down what counts, tips and tricks, and the requirements for a successful Silver Award project.

6 PM: Girl Scouts Fun and Games: A Networking Night Experience

Come celebrate, play, and have fun with your fellow troop leaders and Girl Scout volunteers! A variety of fun games and activities will be available to all in this live, non-recorded session. It's time for some fun with your peers!

GSEMA 2021 Volunteer Conference

Thursday, October 21

10 AM: How to Run a Wooden Car Race with Your Troop

Are you ready to join the races? Learn about opportunities for your troop or service unit to rent time with our 6-lane wooden car race track, ways to prepare for a race, where to get supplies, how to build and design wooden cars, and some sample activities that relate to the science behind this race.

11 AM: Online and Virtual Selling

Learn about how to support girls in hosting virtual cookie booths, best booth practices, social media marketing tips and contactless payment methods to ensure a safe selling season.

12 PM: Troop Camping Ask Us Anything

Do you have questions about troop camping or taking Girl Scouts outdoors this fall? Bring your lunch and join this drop-in session with GSEMA's Outdoor Program team for all things troop camping!

1 PM: Teaching and Promoting Self-Advocacy

Everyone needs to be able to effectively advocate for themselves, and this skill takes practice, effort, and attention to be successful. In this session, volunteers will enjoy an introduction to self-awareness (the foundation of self-advocacy, help create and define expectations for self-advocacy, discuss how to teach and promote self-advocacy, and leave plenty of time for volunteer questions!

2 PM: Introduction to Neurodiversity

While there is so much more to a child than a diagnostic label, there is great value to caregivers and leaders having a fact-based understanding of what a child's diagnosis can tell us about how their brain and body work. This presentation will focus on the most common childhood neurodevelopmental and psychiatric disorders (ADHD, OCD, ODD, ASD, NVLD, among others) with an overview of the diagnostic criteria required to receive these diagnoses, discussion around common presentations associated with these profiles, and some suggested strategies to support children with these diagnoses in group activities. We'll discuss how knowledge of a child's diagnosis is one tool that can allow caregivers to predict and apply a child's strengths and challenges to help them find success in group collaboration and learning.

6 PM: GSEMA and Hollaback Present: Stand Up to Street Harassment

We all have a responsibility to do something when we see street harassment happening, but too often we freeze. We don't know what to do. Bystander intervention gives us tools to intervene without compromising our own safety. When we intervene, we don't just reduce trauma for the person being street harassed. We also start to chip away at the culture that allows harassment to be so prevalent. Alone we can't shift the culture — but together — our actions matter. In this training our goal is to give participants the tools to intervene the next time they witness harassment in public spaces. We will equip you with the right information on how to be an effective bystander in the midst of public space harassment using our proven 5D's methodology, our five strategies for intervention. Then we will practice so you leave our training feeling more prepared to successfully and safely intervene.