Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts Hosts Annual Cookies & Cocktails Competition

Boston-area chefs and mixologists turned beloved Girl Scout Cookies into inventive dishes and drinks in support of female leadership development.

WALTHAM, MA (October 23, 2026) – Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts (GSEMA) welcomed more than 250 guests and some of the Boston area's most talented chefs and mixologists on October 22 for its annual culinary competition, Cookies & Cocktails, an evening of cookie-inspired creations, all in support of female leadership development.

Four local chefs took on the challenge of transforming beloved Girl Scout Cookies into inventive, unexpected dishes, while two mixologists put the cookies to work behind the bar. Guests in attendance sampled every creation, browsed a silent auction, and cast their votes for the night's Crowd Favorite.

This year's creations were evaluated by a panel of celebrity judges, including Ashley Lujares, chef of Mango Tao, Food Network's *Chopped* champion, and a two-time Cookies & Cocktails winner who traded her spot in the competition for a seat at the judges' table. Kennedy Elsey of Mix 104.1's *The Karson & Kennedy Show* returned as emcee, bringing energy and humor to the competition from start to finish.

Proceeds from the event support GSEMA's mission and programming, helping sustain the Girl Scout experience for 20,000 girls in 178 communities across eastern Massachusetts and building girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place.

"Every year, Cookies & Cocktails reminds us just how much creativity and generosity there is in this community," said Monica Roberts, CEO of GSEMA. "Our chefs and mixologists brought incredible imagination to the cookies we all love, and every guest in the room helped invest in the next generation of girl leaders. We're so grateful to everyone who made this night possible."

Here are this year's winners and the full lineup of creations:

- **Judges' Pick**: Kanèl Myèl Bar by Kelly Saintus, AnviDous
- **Crowd Favorite**: "When Life Gives You Lemons" Chicken Salad by Rosie Martone, Figaro's Boston
- Peanut Butter Braised Beef by Dave Becker, Sweet Basil and Juniper
- Johnny Cake with Lobster and Caviar by James Newell, Ocean Prime
- **Most Inspired Sip**: Troop There It Is by Oscar Simoza, The Wig Shop
- Coconut Rum Caramel Crunch by Kimberly Medina, Tipsy Scoop Boston

About Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts

Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts (GSEMA) is 30,000 strong, with 20,000 girls and 10,000 volunteers in 178 communities in eastern Massachusetts, building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. GSEMA is the largest girl-serving organization in Massachusetts and the tenth-largest Girl Scout council in the United States. Backed by trusted adult volunteers, mentors, and millions of alums, Girl Scouts lead the way as they find their voices and make changes that affect the issues most important to them. To volunteer, reconnect, donate, join, or learn more, visit www.gsema.org.