

Francheska's Story – Inclusion and Leadership

Girl Scouts has been an important part of my life. I have become more confident and developed leadership skills thanks to Girl Scouts.

I have been a Girl Scout since I was in third grade; I was 7 at the time. I had just come to the United States barely knowing any English. I was really shy and quiet because of it. One day as I was walking out of school, I heard a loud noise coming from the gym. Curious, I looked inside to find a group of girls reciting the Girl Scout Promise. Once they were done, they all started talking and laughing. The next week, I went to the meeting, and I have loved it ever since.

In Girl Scouts, we do many programs throughout the year. One of them is Take the Lead, which honors important women in the community for their hard work. The cool thing about it is that the Girl Scouts run the whole show. Four girls are picked to interview the women, go to their jobs, and find out how they are making the world a better place. This past year, I was one of the girls selected to interview a woman community leader, but before I went to the interview, I attended a Girl Scout training on how to do a proper interview and how to make a proper speech. I even had the chance to speak in front of a camera, which I was so nervous about, but I confidently stood there as they asked me a series of questions. Once I was done, I felt very proud of myself.

Staying in Girl Scouts has been one of my best decisions. Now that I'm older, my current troop leaders are really dedicated to helping us develop better skills for our future. They take us to different college campus and give us college tours. College students even talk to us about how to prepare ourselves for our freshman year.

As for my leadership skills, I have learned so much from Girl Scouts, like treating everybody with respect. I also learned to make sure everybody feels included and to just have fun. In my class at school, I consider myself a leader. I try to motivate everyone to get their work done so we can have a party at the end of each month.

Girl Scouts is an important factor in my life and I honestly don't know what kind of person I would have become without it. I'm so happy I walked inside those gym doors nine years ago. Thank you, Girl Scouts, for making me the person I am today.