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GIRL SCOUTS OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA ANNOUNCES 2026 TAKE THE LEAD GREATER PHILADELPHIA HONOREES

Four women leaders who exemplify courage, confidence, and character will be paired with local Girl Scouts as mentors and honored this March

MIQUON, PA (December 18, 2025)— [Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania](#) (GSEP) is thrilled to announce its 2026 Take the Lead Greater Philadelphia honorees – four female leaders who exemplify the Girl Scouts’ mission of building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

This year’s honorees are leaders in both their professional industries and communities, serving as positive role models for Girl Scouts in Greater Philadelphia through their careers and dedication to local causes they support. The honorees will be recognized at a special Girl Scout-led event at The College of Physicians of Philadelphia on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, presented by PECO.

2026 Take the Lead Greater Philadelphia Honorees

- **Jacqueline Cuddeback, Chief Revenue Officer, Philadelphia Phillies:** As the Chief Revenue Officer of the Philadelphia Phillies, the first woman to join the organization’s C-Suite, Jackie is paving the way for women to chart new territories in a male dominated industry. Among other responsibilities, Jackie serves on the boards of the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce, the Boys and Girls Club of Philadelphia, and the Committee of Seventy. She embraces leadership roles with confidence and perseverance and hopes to inspire others to dream big.
- **Maria Gonzalez, President, HACE CDC:** As President of HACE CDC, Maria Gonzalez oversees the non-profit’s development team in managing commercial and housing development projects that contribute to the stabilization and revitalization of local Philadelphia neighborhoods. Maria is also involved on the Philadelphia Planning Commission, serves as President of the Board of the Philadelphia Association of Community Development Corporations, and more to strengthen the city and show her unwavering commitment to the Philadelphia community.
- **Cherri Gregg, Public Media Host, WHYY:** As co-host of WHYY’s daily radio show, Studio 2, and executive producer and host of “Good Souls,” Cherri is dedicated to spotlighting community members that serve as role models for compassion, generosity, and service. As a journalist, activist, attorney, and founder of Create Genius Media, LLC, Cherri is committed to advocating for truth and justice, empowering young women to use their voices and support others.
- **Angela Val, President and Chief Executive Officer, Visit Philadelphia:** Angela Val is the President and CEO of Visit Philadelphia, where she leads a diverse team of creative thinkers dedicated to building the city’s image, driving visitation, and strengthening the economy. With decades of experience in tourism marketing at organizations including Tempest and the Philadelphia Convention & Visitors Bureau, as well as board positions at organizations like Forum For Executive Women and International Women’s Forum, Angela’s devotion to Philadelphia’s diverse communities inspires women to take leadership roles that drive longterm impact on the region.

“Through their vision, resilience, and commitment to excellence and lifting others in the community, our 2026 Take the Lead Greater Philadelphia honorees truly exemplify Girl Scout values,” said Kim E. Fraites-Dow, Chief Executive Officer of GSEP. “We are thrilled to honor these women and celebrate both their individual

accomplishments and the impact they have in strengthening our community. We look forward to Girl Scouts from Greater Philadelphia learning firsthand from these women what it takes to lead a life of purpose.”

Beyond serving as an opportunity to acknowledge women leaders in the region, Take the Lead is also a unique leadership opportunity for Girl Scouts. As part of the program, high school-aged Girl Scouts are paired with each honoree to shadow them for a day to gain impactful career and leadership insights, as well as receive guidance on building their own professional networks. The girls, who are selected through a competitive application and interview process, then creatively reflect on the experience and deliver presentations at the Take the Lead event. The program provides unparalleled public speaking, creative writing, and relationship management opportunities. In addition, Girl Scouts will serve as presenters, emcees, event hosts, social media influencers, and chorus members – because GSEP’s signature fundraising event, Take the Lead, is truly an event for girls, by girls.

Take the Lead Greater Philadelphia is co-chaired by past Take the Lead Honorees, Carolina DiGiorgio, Vice President of Government and External Affairs at PECO and Kathy Killian, Former Vice President of Administration at the Philadelphia Phillies and current GSEP Board Member.

“Each year, our Take the Lead Greater Philadelphia event raises critical funds for Girl Scouting in Eastern Pennsylvania. We are grateful to our co-chairs and committee members whose tireless efforts help continue the success of this program and ensures that every girl has access to the Girl Scout Leadership Experience,” said Fraites-Dow.

This year, guests are welcome to enjoy a cocktail reception including Girl Scout-led activities followed by an inspiring program celebrating outstanding leaders and girls who are making a difference in our community.

For more information about Take the Lead sponsorships and tickets, visit www.gsep.org/takethelead or call 267-332-5483.

About Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania

Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania (GSEP) is the largest girl-serving organization in Pennsylvania and builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. What was started in 1912 in Savannah, Georgia by founder Juliette Gordon Low as one small, yet dedicated troop of diverse girls has grown into 2.8 million Girl Scouts across the U.S. today. GSEP serves more than 25,000 girls in partnership with more than 14,000 volunteers in Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Delaware, Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton, and Philadelphia counties. Today, 80 percent of women in leadership and executive roles in the U.S. are Girl Scouts. Girl Scout alumni comprise 70 percent of women in the U.S. Congress. For further information about Girl Scouting, how to join, volunteer, reconnect, or donate, call 215-564-2030 or visit www.gsep.org. Follow @GirlScoutsEPenn on X, Instagram and Facebook.

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