girl scouts
of gateway council

jacksonville WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

The 31st Annual Celebration

Interactive Fundraising Event

Friday, June 26, 2020 • 11:30 a.m.

Honoring local women whose accomplishments in careers and community service exemplify the values of Girl Scouts

Presented by

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jacksonville WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

The 31st Annual Celebration

Women of Distinction 2020
Honorees and Mentees

Angela Corey
Mentee: Savannah, Girl Scout Cadette

Rose Devoe
Mentee: Alexis, Girl Scout Senior

Wanda Lanier
Mentee: Alana, Girl Scout Cadette

Paula Liang
Mentee: Lindsey, Girl Scout Senior

Melanie Patz
Mentee: Emily, Girl Scout Senior

A special thank you to our 2020 event committee:

Chelsea Shackelford, Committee Chair
Martha Barrett, Past Co-chair • Teala Johnson, Past Co-chair
Patrice Abner • Bernice Davis • Diana Donovan • Lisé Everly
Paige Hakimian • Jan Lipsky • Kayla Williams

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Woman of Distinction 2019

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Martha Baker, *Woman of Distinction 2018*

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Brunet-García Advertising, Diane Brunet-Garcia, *Woman of Distinction 2017*

Jan Lipsky, *Woman of Distinction 2005*

Truist, Debbie Buckland, *Woman of Distinction 2016*

Paola Parra Harris, *Woman of Distinction 2019*

Susan Rogers, *Woman of Distinction 2000*

Lisé Everly, *Woman of Distinction 2019*

Alberta Hipps, *Woman of Distinction 2001*

Jill Dame, *Woman of Distinction 2013*

Delores Barr Weaver Legacy Fund, *Woman of Distinction 2002*

Carol C. Thompson, *Woman of Distinction 2000*

Pamela Y. Paul, *Woman of Distinction 2008*

The Fiorentino Group

Helen M. Lane, *Woman of Distinction 2007*

Saniglaze

Stephanie Cost, *Woman of Distinction 2016*

Julia Taylor, *Woman of Distinction 2010*

Judith Rodriguez, *Woman of Distinction 2011*

Susan Remmer Ryzewic, *Woman of Distinction 2006*

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Amelia Island Museum of History
Aqua East
Athena Restaurant
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Bellwether Restaurant
Blair Hakimian Original Art
Bold Bean
Bold City Brewery
Bogetta di Bella Sera/Catering by Liz Grenamyer
Bok Tower Gardens
Bravoz Entertainment Center
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Catty Shack Ranch Wildlife Sanctuary
Clara's Tidbits
Creative Grain Studio
Cummer Museum
Dog Wood Park
doTERRA
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Rethreaded Inc
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San Sebastian Winery
Stacey Hendry, Artist
Taste of Jacksonville Food Tours
The Comedy Zone
The Lash Lounge
Total Wine
Underwood Jewelers
Whataburger
Wick: A Candle Bar
World Golf Hall of Fame
Zulu Nyala

Bid on our silent auction items: bit.ly/silentauction20

Integrity. Leadership. Collaboration.

Improving the health and well-being of the community is more than a job for Melanie Patz. It's her passion.

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MAKING THE RIGHT CONNECTIONS

CSX is proud to support the Girl Scouts of Gateway Council and its signature Women of Distinction event.

CSX values and develops employees with diverse skillsets and perspectives who challenge the status quo and deliver innovative, transformative results. We know the importance of acknowledging female leaders and installing programming that connects girls in the Northeast Florida community with opportunities to realize their potential.

We're excited to promote the Women of Distinction event as it inspires the next generation to strive for ethical leadership accomplishments, contribute to their communities and make the world a better place.

CSX®

jacksonville WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

Angela Corey

Former State Attorney

Angela Corey is a native of Jacksonville and a second generation Floridian. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in marketing from Florida State University in 1976, and her Juris Doctor from the University of Florida College of Law in 1979.

Angela is a 30 year veteran prosecutor and began her career in 1981 under State Attorney Ed Austin. During her 25 year tenure in the Fourth Judicial Circuit, she tried hundreds of cases. In 2007, she joined the 7th Judicial Circuit for a two year stint as an assistant state attorney in the homicide investigative unit. In November of 2008, she was elected to serve as the State Attorney of the 4th Judicial Circuit of Florida.

In addition to her distinguished career trial work, Angela has devoted an equal amount of time to training police and prosecutors on local, state and national levels. Since 1982, she has taught classes for the Police Academy at Florida State College at Jacksonville. She has served as training director for the State Attorney's Office as well as lectured extensively on a variety of topics for the Florida Prosecuting Attorney's Association. In addition to commitment to training for prosecutors, Corey has also served as an adjunct professor at the Florida Coastal School of Law. Angela has further displayed her commitment to continuous learning by achieving board certification in criminal trial law.

Angela is involved in many community and civic activities. She is an active member of the Republican Party of Duval County and the Republican Women's Club of Duval Federated. She has served on the board of directors of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the Criminal Justice Advisory Board for Florida State College at Jacksonville. She served on the transition teams for both Gov. Rick Scott and Attorney General Pam Bondi. She currently serves on the board of trustees at Episcopal High School of Jacksonville.

Angela is very active in her church, St. Johns Episcopal Cathedral, having served on the vestry from 1987 to 1989. For the past 20 years, she has participated almost every Sunday in Children's Chapel, where she loves to help teach the children from ages 5 to 10.

jacksonville WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

Rose Devoe

Duval County Clerk of Courts

Rose Devoe is an employee of the Duval County Clerk of Courts Office in Jacksonville, where she is the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, working under the leadership of the Duval County Clerk of Courts Ronnie Fussell. In this capacity, she oversees the operations of the felony, misdemeanor, traffic violations bureau, beaches branch, appeals, criminal redactions, and criminal evidence departments.

Rose began her career with the Duval County Clerk of Courts Office more than 37 years ago, rising from the ranks of court records clerk, trial clerk, court operations specialist, assistant to the clerk, and director of criminal operations. During her tenure with the Duval County Clerk's Office, Rose has accumulated a wealth of experience through serving on key projects and working closely with Duval County's Judicial Partners. The Jacksonville Business Journal recently selected Rose as a Woman of Influence for her support and participation in the Keys 2 Drive program implemented by the State Attorney's Office in Duval County.

A native of Jacksonville, Rose attended the local public schools and colleges. She is the wife of the Rev. John J. Devoe, Jr., pastor of Grace Baptist Church of East Springfield. They are the proud parents of two adult daughters and one son, and the grandparents of two beautiful granddaughters. While serving as the first lady of Grace Baptist Church of East Springfield, she is involved in facilitating weekly Bible study sessions and organizing women's events through the Ladies of Grace Women's Ministry.

When not engaged in serving the people of Duval County or leading the women's ministry at her church, Rose enjoys event planning and design, creating beautiful interiors, and being in the company of family and good friends.

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Wanda Lanier

Barnabas Center, Inc.

Wanda currently serves as the president and CEO of Barnabas Center, where she has been her role since June 2010. Barnabas Center is a nonprofit agency serving Nassau County that serves as a “safety net” for families in need or in crisis. Wanda led Barnabas through a successful capital campaign that raised $1.5 million to achieve a major expansion of services in 2014 and a subsequent endowment campaign that raised $1.5 million.

Wanda is an experienced nonprofit executive who has served in leadership roles in several nonprofit organizations throughout her career. Prior to her position at Barnabas Center, she served for three years as the development director for North Carolina Outward Bound in Asheville, N.C. Before this role, she lived in Jacksonville for 21 years, where she led agencies addressing health care, poverty and homeless issues, as well as managing her own fundraising and grant writing business. Wanda was the first executive director of the Emergency Services and Homeless Coalition of Jacksonville, which she served for five years. Wanda has also served as the associate director of Community Connections of Jacksonville (formerly the YWCA) and vice president of community initiatives for United Way of Northeast Florida. She began her career more than 30 years ago at Hubbard House, a domestic violence shelter in Jacksonville.

Wanda earned her bachelor’s degree in sociology from Winthrop University, and completed her graduate studies in sociology at Southern Illinois University. She was a Florida Times-Union EVE Award finalist in 2019, and was nominated for the Nassau County Chamber’s Business Leader of the Year for 2019. She is a founding member of the Sulzbacher Center in Jacksonville, and served as an Olympic Torchbearer in the 1996 Olympics. She is a graduate of Leadership Asheville and Leadership Jacksonville, and is a member of the Jacksonville Women’s Network, Association of Fundraising Professionals and Rotary Club of Amelia Island Sunrise. She currently serves on the board of directors of the Nonprofit Center of Northeast Florida.

Wanda is divorced and balances her life by enjoying the outdoors, especially the beach and mountains. She is an avid swimmer, hiker, gardener, and reader and enjoys traveling and spending time with her two grown sons and their families.

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Paula Liang

Community Advocate

A graduate of Brown University and Boston University School of Law and an attorney by training, Paula found her passion when she took a leave to raise her children. Volunteerism turned into leadership roles in non-profits, then employment. She was a fundraiser for an independent school, and eventually the lead volunteer manager and fundraiser in a social service agency.

After moving to Florida in 2011, she immersed herself in the nonprofit sector, and has served as the co-chair of the Florida Women's Funding Alliance. She is a past president of the Women's Giving Alliance of Jacksonville and the past board chair of Hubbard House, the certified domestic violence center for Duval and Baker counties

Paula currently serves as the chair of Philanos (formerly Women's Collective Giving Grantmakers Network), which has 80 affiliates from 28 states and the District of Columbia, as well as affiliates in Melbourne, Australia, and London, England, whose 17,000 individual members annually invest more than $15 million into their communities.

For the last year, she has also been working with leaders of four other networks of giving circles under a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to co-design infrastructure support for the entire sector.

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Melanie Patz

Baptist Health

Melanie Patz joined Baptist Health September 2014. As vice president of community investment and impact, Melanie directs the development of the Community Health Needs Assessment in collaboration with Brooks Rehabilitation, Mayo Clinic Florida, St. Vincent's Health System and UF Health Jacksonville. She also serves as executive sponsor of Baptist Health's PRIDE Team Member Community. Melanie received a bachelor's degree in business management from Samford University, and a MBA with a concentration in economics from the University of North Florida.

Melanie co-leads the Jacksonville Community Remembrance Project, Jacksonville's chapter of EJI's Community Remembrance Project. The goals of JCRP are to foster healing through learning about racism and understanding its impact past and present and to encourage Jacksonville residents to use their influence and authority to create a Jacksonville free from racism.

Melanie serves as the chair of the Jacksonville System of Care Initiative Board of Directors. She served on the board of directors for the Association of Fundraising Professionals for five years and on the United Way Worldwide Advisory Councils for Health and Education and was a member of the UWW Education Social Change Task Force.

In her previous position of vice president of community impact for United Way of Northeast Florida, Melanie directed the investment of Community Fund dollars toward significant, sustained improvement in education, income and health and supervised United Way initiatives and collaborations: Achievers For Life, Advocacy, Born Learning, Empowering Effective Teachers, United Way 2-1-1, Life: Act 2, Success By 6, RealSense Prosperity Campaign, Youth Employment and Full Service Schools of Jacksonville.

Melanie is a graduate of the 2005 Community Coaches program and Class of 2006 Leadership Jacksonville. Melanie was recognized as a 2013 Woman of Influence by the Jacksonville Business Journal, and as a Community Health Hero by Agape Community Health in 2019.

Melanie enjoys running and reading. She and her husband Jason live in Avondale.

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Women of Distinction Honorees
and the Girl Scouts of America

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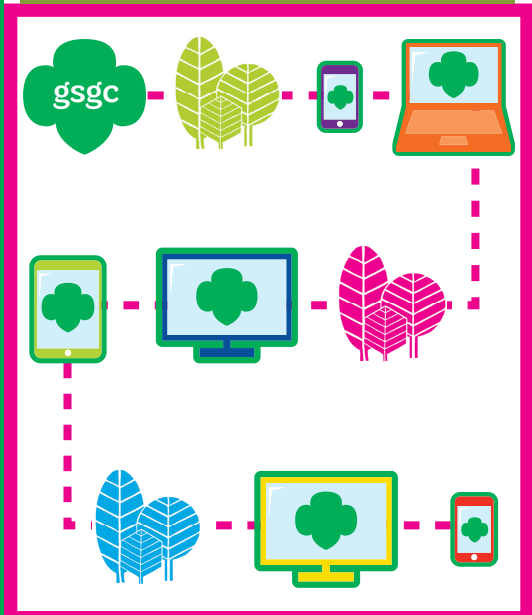

Girl Scouts of Gateway Council

SUMMER CAMP 2020

girlscouts-gateway.org/SummerCamp

jacksonville WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

Past Honorees

1989
Leslie Elayne Allen
Tillie Kidd Fowler *
J. Elizabeth Meuse *
Marion Conner Price *
Ann Marie Rogers
Blair Woolverton

1990
Willye F. Dennis *
Patricia I. Hannan
Nancy L. Hogshead-Makar
Peg S. Katzenburg *
Martha C. Rader
Darleen R. Unger

1991
E. Rushton H. Callaghan
Jane S. Condon
Lyn G. Joynt *
Espie D. Patrinely
Gertrude H. Peele *
Portia L. Taylor

1992
Martha Barrett
Kathy G. Chinoy
Roberta Giudice-Teller
Pauline O. Lawrence
Audrey M. Moran
Kathy R. Stark

1993
Cindy Edelman
Beth McCague
Audrey Schiebler *
Betty Skinner *
Sherri Smith
Linda Walker

1994
Sarah W. Bailey
Elizabeth Boddie *
Kay E. Gilmour
Joy McCumber Myers
Clovia E. Russell *
Susan K. Shaw

1995
Anne Connolly
Judy Hall
Teala A. Milton
Cindy Mosling
Madeline Scales-Taylor
Carol S. Spalding

1996
Jackie Cornelius
Barbara Drake
Stuart Evans
Bonnie Grissett *
Ju'Coby Pittman-Peele
Linda Sherrer

1997
Clarice Adkins-Knopf *
Carolyn Gentry
Janet Johnson *
Suzanne Lewis
Sherry Magill
Joanelle Mulrain

1998
Leah Barker *
Betty Boyer *
Sherry Burns
Elizabeth Means *
Carolyn Munro Wilson
Mary Alice Phelan

1999
Sue Butts
Barbara Darby
Barbara Jaffe
Sallyn Pajcic
Nancy Snyder
Beverly Jennings

2000
Dorothy S. Dorion
Susan L. Hartley
Joyce Morgan Danford
Cheryl Amos Riddick
Susan L. Rodgers
Carol C. Thompson

2001
Carol Alexander
Peggy Bryan
Barbara Goodman
Charlene Taylor Hill
Alberta Hipps
Connie Hodges

2002
Cynthia B. Austin
Toni Crawford
Lois Graessle *
Suzanne Jenkins
Emily Lisska
Delores Barr Weaver

2003
Edythe Abdullah
Jeannie Fewell *
Karen Gordon
Susan Hamilton
Marty Lanahan
Betsy Lovett

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Past Honorees

2004
Susan H. Black
Eleanor J. Gay *
Linda M. Lanier
Karen Brune Mathis
Deborah Pass Durham
Courtenay Sands Wilson

2005
Corrine Brown
Rita Cannon
Betty P. Cook *
Ann C. Hicks
Janice G. Lipsky
Susan Wildes

2006
Fran Peacock Coker *
Audrey Gibson
Susan Adams Loyd
Kelly Madden
Susan Remmer Ryzewic
Emily Balz Smith

2007
Peggy Cornelius
Helen M. Lane
Marcia C. Morales
Ava L. Parker
Victoria B. Robas
Susan B. Towler

2008
Kristi Bageant-Epperson
Roslyn Mixon-Phillips
Pamela Y. Paul
Mary Virginia Terry
Nancy C. Ulrich
Nina Waters

2009
Ann M. Baker *
Teresa de Balmaseda
Milam Janet Garrett
Owens Kathryn Pearson
Peyton Sandra C.
Ramsey
Karen Wolfson

2010
Karen E. Bowling
Sandra L. Cook
Shahla Masood, M.D.
Carole J. Poindexter
Julia W. Taylor
Norma S. White

2011
Robin J. Albaneze
Betty Asque Davis *
Davalu Parrish
Judith C. Rodriguez
Laine Silverfield
Cindy Stover

2013
Jill Langford Dame
Estelle W. McKissick
Shannon Miller
Rita Perry
Cindy M. Sanborn
Isabelle Owen Spence

2014
Pamela Chally
Jennifer Chapman
Marsha Oliver
Allison Korman Shelton
Nancy Soderberg
Carmen Townsend

2015
Adrienne L. Conrad, J.D.
Joyce Kramzer
Mary O'Connor, M.D.
Donna Orender
Rebecca Steele
Susan Wilkinson

2016
Cheryl Bryan
Debbie Buckland
Vickie Cavey
Stephanie Cost
Heather Duncan Velma
Monteiro-Tribble

2017
Mary Baer
Anna Lopez Brosche
Diane Brunet-Garcia
Nancy Chartrand
Jane Lanier
Diane Raines
Amy Ruth
Lt. Lakesha Burton

2018
Martha Baker
Tamara Baker
Giselle Carson
Camille Harrison
Mary Kelli Palka
Nicole Thomas
Penny Thompson

2019
Kathleen Brandt
Lise Everly
Paige Hakimian
Paola Parra Harris
Anne Marie Knight
Ellen Wiss

A Girl Scout is a girl of courage, confidence, and character, who makes the world a better place.

At Girl Scouts, girls discover who they are, where their talents lie, and what they care the most about. They connect with people in their communities. And they take action to change the world. Through our program, the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, girls develop a strong sense of self, display positive values, and seek challenges. They learn from setbacks, form healthy relationships, and identify and solve problems in their communities— unleashing their inner G.I.R.L. every step of the way.

We're the preeminent leadership development organization for girls in Northeast/Central Florida. And with programs across our 16-county footprint, Girl Scouts offers every girl a chance to practice a lifetime of leadership, adventure, and success.

The more than 14,000 Girl Scouts we serve are making an impact all around the community from starting community gardens to volunteering at local senior centers. We also focus on bringing critical girl-led programs to 4,200 girls in low-income communities to help break the cycle of poverty and give girls the resources they need to be successful in school and throughout their life.

Invest in Girls. Change the World!

Did you know?

Girl Scouts fuels the female leadership pipeline.

50%
OF FEMALE BUSINESS LEADERS

76%
OF FEMALE U.S. SENATORS

100%
OF FEMALE U.S. SECRETARIES OF STATE

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