



11 January 2012

To Whom It May Concern,

On 2-4 March 2012, Girl Scouts in grades 6-12 are invited to attend the Girl Scout's *Centennial Celebration & Discovery Institute* in Pisa, Italy. The Girl Scout organization turns 100 years old on March 12, 2012 and this event celebrates that milestone with a primary focus on leadership training for girls. Girls attending this event are offered three tracks from which to choose. (see below)

USA Girl Scouts Overseas-North Atlantic (USAGSO-NA) is aware of schools' attendance policies that may limit excused absences for students. Because the programming offered at this event addresses certain curriculum standards, in addition to directly relating to the Girl Scout's mission of "building girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place," USAGSO-NA respectfully requests the girls attending this event be granted an excused absence for 2 March and 5 March (if needed for distance travel).

If you would like to further discuss the curriculum offered at the Centennial Celebration & Discovery Institute, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angela Miller".

Angela Miller
Director of Program & Adult Development
USAGSO-NA
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Centennial Celebration & Discovery Institute Curriculum for Girls Grade 6-12

All sessions will be completed at the Centennial Celebration & Discovery Institute

Program Aide

Cadettes: 6th – 8th Grade Girls

- **The Leader in You:** At the end of this session girls will be able to describe themselves as leaders – in their lives and in the world. Specifically, Program Aides will describe or demonstrate examples of their own leadership.
- **The Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE):** At the end of this session, girls will understand what the Girl Scout Leadership Experience means and how it helps girls become leaders in their daily lives—and in the world! Specifically, Cadettes will be able to identify the three keys (Discover, Connect & Take Action), explain what leadership means to them, and express what leadership could mean to younger girls.
- **Girl Development:** At the end of this session, girls will learn how younger girls develop physically and emotionally. Cadettes will come to understand how the needs, interests, and capabilities of younger girls can change. Program Aides will begin to think about how younger girls can be leaders in their lives based on their developmental characteristics.
- **Group Dynamics:** At the end of this session, girls will have an increased ability to manage groups effectively. As leaders in their lives, Program Aides will begin to think about how they can be leaders in the world as they spend time with groups of younger girls.
- **Journeys:** At the end of this session, girls will know that leadership journeys (Girl Scout programming) are a key part of the GSLE, that a journey is a coordinated series of activities grouped around a theme, and that each journey ties to Girl Scouts' 15 national outcomes. Specifically, Program Aides will be able to facilitate journey activities with younger girls.
- **High-Quality Experiences:** At the end of this session, girls will understand that not only are the activities they facilitate with girls important, but how they engage is also important in creating a high-quality experience. Specifically, Program Aides will be able to identify the three processes (Girl-Led, Learn by Doing and Cooperative Learning) and explain how they can use those processes with younger girls.
- **Personalization:** At the end of this session, girls will have planned how they can infuse their personal passions into their work with younger girls.
- **Safety:** At the end of this session girls will be able to apply the 12 Safety Standards to activities they facilitate with younger girls.
- **Celebration:** After girls have completed all the steps to earn their Program Aide Awards, they can celebrate their achievements

Volunteer-In-Training

Seniors & Ambassadors: 9th – 12th Grade Girls

- **The Leader in You:** At the end of this session girls will be able to describe themselves as leaders – in their lives and in the world. Specifically, Volunteers-in-Training will describe or demonstrate examples of their own leadership.
- **The Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE):** At the end of this session, girls will understand what the Girl Scout Leadership Experience means and how it helps girls become leaders in their daily lives—and in the world! Specifically, Volunteers-in-Training will be able to facilitate activities intentionally aimed at meeting outcomes – fun with purpose.
- **Girl Development:** At the end of this session, girls will learn how younger girls develop physically and emotionally. Volunteers-in-Training will come to understand how the needs, interests, and capabilities of younger girls can change. Volunteers-in-Training will be intentional about helping younger girls become leaders in their lives.
- **Group dynamics:** At the end of this session girls will have an increased ability to manage groups effectively. As leaders in their lives, Volunteers-in-Training will begin to think about how they can be intentional leaders in the world as they spend time with groups of younger girls.
- **Journeys:** At the end of this session, girls will know that leadership journeys (Girl Scout programming) are a key part of the GSLE, that a journey is a coordinated series of activities grouped around a theme, and that each journey ties to Girl Scouts' 15 national outcomes. Specifically, Volunteers-in-Training will be able to choose and facilitate journey activities with younger girls while modeling leadership.
- **High-Quality Experiences:** At the end of this session, girls will understand that not only are the activities they facilitate with girls important, but how they engage is also important in creating a high-quality experience. Specifically, Volunteers-in-Training will be able to identify the three processes and explain how they can use those processes with the younger girls they will work with.
- **Safety:** At the end of this session girls will be able to apply the 12 Safety Standards and Safety Activity Checkpoints to activities they facilitate with younger girls and know how to respond to emergency situations.
- **Program Plan:** At the end of this session, girls will use the girl led process to create a plan for the program(s) they will facilitate. Specifically, Volunteers-in-Training will be mindful of what activities they will facilitate as well as how they will engage girls.
- **Practice:** At the end of this session girls will have practiced or refined the skills they need to carry out their plans.
- **Volunteer Systems:** At the end of this session, girls will understand the volunteer systems in place in their Girl Scout region. Volunteers-in-Training will begin to think about what volunteer role might be a good match for her skills and interests.
- **Celebration:** After girls have completed the steps to earn their Volunteers-in-Training Awards, they can celebrate their achievements!

- **After the event:**
- **Practical Experience:** Girls will complete a council-designed “hands-on” project/internship. Specifically, Volunteers-in-Training will work with younger girls over a period of three to six months utilizing all they have learned about themselves as leaders and younger girls to facilitate activities aimed at outcomes that provide fun with purpose.

Healthy Living Track

Cadettes – Ambassadors: 6th – 12th Grade Girls

- Explore how your physical and emotional health fits into becoming a leader with courage, confidence and character.
- What IS holistic living?
- Caloric Need – weight management, portions
- Healthy eating habits – nutritious options
- Aerobic Training – importance/benefits, heart rates, different activities, caloric expenditure
- Resistance training – strength vs endurance, resistance bands, BOSU balls, medicine balls
- Zumba!
- Janice Booth, Empowerment Expert and lifetime Girl Scout