

Inauguration Parade / Women's March participation

Girl Scouts throughout the country will be participating in civic events surrounding both the inauguration of the 45th President of the United States and the Women's March on Washington. Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) and its councils, including Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles, are not in any way affiliated with a political party or the Women's March organizers. Participation is based on the interest of girl and adult members independently.

Girl Scouts encourages civic engagement and respects the rights of individual girl and adult members of our Movement to make their own decisions regarding participation in these non-partisan events. Per a statement from GSUSA, "Girl Scouts strives to help each girl tap into her leadership potential to develop the courage, confidence, and character to make our world a better place. We are proud to work with leaders from all levels of government and all sides of the political spectrum to advance issues important to girls."

Regarding the Inauguration events on Friday, January 20:

Following a century-long tradition of volunteering and participation at such events, the local Washington, DC council, Girl Scouts Nation's Capital, has scheduled participation in the presidential inauguration by marching in the inaugural parade. This year, along with members of other nonprofit organizations, approximately 75 Girl Scouts from the Greater Washington region plan to carry American flags and Girl Scout flags in the inaugural procession.

Regarding the Women's March on Saturday, January 21:

Many troops throughout the country have inquired about participation in the Women's March in DC as well as affiliated local marches throughout the country. Girl Scouts are allowed to participate in the Women's March if they choose to do so—as Girl Scouts or as individuals.

As with any events involving Girl Scouts, troop leaders, parents and guardians should assess the risks and merits of their girl's participation. We strongly encourage any members considering participation to learn more about these events and expectations.

If you have any additional questions regarding Girl Scouts participation in this week's events, please contact Director of Marketing & Advocacy Kenya Yarbrough at kyarbrough@girlscoutsla.org or 626-677-2266.