

MEDIA ALERT

CHANNELING WING SCOUTS OF THE PAST:

WOMEN PILOTS LEAD AVIATION WORKSHOP FOR GIRL SCOUTS, MARCH 14

The San Fernando Valley Ninety-Nines meet girls on the tarmac, show them piloting and aviation basics

WHAT: Girl Scouts is turning 103 this month, and to pay tribute to its tradition of introducing girls to a wide range of skills and future careers, Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles is hosting an aviation workshop for girls in grades 6–12 on Saturday, March 14 at the Whiteman Airport in Pacoima. Girl Scouts has hosted this program—led by the female pilots of the San Fernando Valley Ninety-Nines (SFV 99s)—for five years. It was started by Girl Scout Troop Leader Jacki Harris, a member of the SFV 99s.

SFV 99s is the San Fernando Valley chapter of the international organization of women pilots that promotes advancement of aviation through education, scholarships, and mutual support. It was established in 1929 by 99 women pilots. Its first president was Amelia Earhart.

At the event on Saturday, girls will get to step inside various aircrafts and tour the air traffic control tower, among other activities. The event pays tribute to the Girl Scouting tradition of Wing Scouts, a program that was started in the 1940s so that girls could learn about aviation in order to serve their country.

WHO:

- Forty L.A. area Girl Scouts in grades 6–12 and their troop leaders
- Female pilots and members of the San Fernando Valley Ninety-Nines, International Organization of Women Pilots

WHEN: Saturday, March 14, 2015
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

WHERE: Whiteman Airport, 12653 Osborne St, Pacoima, CA 91331

FACTS:

- Only 7% of pilots in the U.S. are women. Women also represent just 23% of non-pilot careers in aviation (mechanics, flight navigators, flight attendants, etc.).
- Girl Scouts has a strong history of supporting girls in underrepresented fields. As early as 1916, Girl Scouts could earn an aviation badge. In the early 1940s, the Wing Scout program was established for Senior Girl Scouts interested in aviation.
- Girl Scouts of the USA turned 103 years old on March 12, 2015.
- Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles STE[A]M (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) programs—including its robotics teams, rocketry workshops, video game design patch program, and more—encourage girls to discover how the world works around them and how they can explore careers in the sciences.

About Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles

Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles serves more than 40,000 girls in partnership with more than 20,000 volunteers throughout the diverse communities of Los Angeles County and parts of Kern, San Bernardino, and Ventura counties. The council engages girls through programs in Leadership, Business and Financial Literacy, Outdoor Adventure, STE[A]M (science, technology, engineering, art, math), and Healthy Living. To join, volunteer, reconnect, or support, visit www.girlscoutsla.org or call 213-213-0123.