

# SLATE BIOGRAPHIES: NATIONAL DELEGATES & ALTERNATES TERMS TO EXPIRE IN 2025

National Delegates	Alternates
<u>Girls:</u> Gianna Buscho Madeleine Curran Rebecca Ireland Miranda Lopez Laelia Maynor Kiran Tator	<u>Girls:</u> Rhiannon Hertel Nakyla Stolp Crystal Wang
<u>Adults:</u> Jeanne-Marie Carr Lauren Fialkow* Winnie Kubik* Shannon McMath Kindra Mendall Ann Monroe Bri Seoane* Charissa Ramp Sandy Shirai Koren Stevenson	<u>Adults:</u> Erin Eusted Heather Harper Carol Wheeler

\*staff

## National Delegates: Girls

**Gianna Buscho** is a 9-year Girl Scout who is a curious learner, ambitious goal-setter, hard worker, and strong voice in her community. She has a heart for service, earning many awards including the Journey Summit Award at every level as well as her Bronze and Silver Awards. She is an enthusiastic leader who takes initiative on group and individual projects, which helped her earn the Silver Torch Award as yearbook editor. Gianna's lived experience as the daughter of someone with stage 4 cancer has helped her develop a strong sense of empathy and responsibility. She strives to always be as inclusive as possible, especially focusing on advocating for equitable representation of diverse life experiences and family situations. For her Silver Award project, she worked to increase access to fresh food no matter the circumstances with special consideration of underserved communities. In 2021, as a second-year Kode with Klossy scholarship recipient, she worked with other girls nationwide to create a website to analyze data and educate others about health disparities in BIPOC communities. In her free time she enjoys backpacking as a member of GSNorCal BIG, visiting National Parks, playing flute, and reading.

**Madeline Curran:** As an Ambassador Girl Scout finishing my term as Alternate National Delegate, I strongly believe in the importance of girl delegates and girl voices at the National Council Session. Although we may be young, the decisions being made affect us and our experiences the most, and our

power to make changes that we have seen are needed is crucial to the Girl Scouting journeys of girl delegates to come. As an Alternate, I became familiar with the issues most important to our organization today and heard many different perspectives from across the country on what the next steps should be. I feel passionate about the proposals that we voted to pass in 2020, and am especially engaged in what's to come regarding the Gold Award scholarship committee and troop proposals to encourage declarative language. I am equipped with experience from the past two years to be knowledgeable and engaged during discussions, and am so excited to learn even more from the delegates. I hope to be able to vote for the exciting new changes being made in 2023, and to advocate for NorCal there and along the way!

**Rebecca Ireland:** I will be an effective National Delegate because I am passionate about Girl Scouts, and making sure everyone can get the best out of their GS experience. I am in two Girl Scout troops — Berkeley-Sakai Girl Scout Exchange, and my local troop — and I am working on my Gold Award, hosting workshops every month and motivating youth to take action. I have also completed both Bronze and Silver Awards. I have also been a Program Aid for Chabot Day Camp multiple years. Outside of Girl Scouts, I am in two Jewish groups-Tri Valley Cultural Jews and Cultural and Secular Jewish Organization. In those Jewish groups, I am the teen representative to the boards, and am the social action coordinator for the national group (CSJO). I started a Secular Student Alliance at CVHS this year, and I am a co-president of Girls Learn International Club--fighting for the rights of girls around the world. I will be advocating for gender justice this year at the UN Conference on the Status of Women, through Girls Learn International. I would say that I am very strong in my beliefs and I am able to voice my opinions effectively, as well as listen to other people. I would love to be able to have the experience as a National Delegate, bringing my voice and my Service Unit's to the national floor.

**Miranda Lopez:**

A National Delegate needs to be thoughtful, organized, and prepared. If you were to ask any of my friends or teachers about me, they would say these adjectives accurately describe me! As a ninth-year Girl Scout who has completed a Bronze Award, I have an optimistic voice that should be heard in the National Council Meeting.

Through cookie sales, peer tutoring, and badge leading, I am an inviting person who listens to others in addition to inputting my own opinion. As a peer tutor, I expanded my communicative and listening skills. I learned to not simply teach students information, but to assist in finding effective study habits to improve the quality of their work for the long term. I have demonstrated my leadership skills which are valuable in business meetings.

Girl Scouting is important to me because I learn life-long skills not taught by the school curriculum. As your delegate, I would absorb information and share ideas with others to make a difference in our community. My #1 priority is expressing confidence to speak up in order to promote ideas and change. A vote for me is a vote for a Girl Scout who cares about you and the world.

**Laelia Maynor:** I have been a Girl Scout for nine years and I am 15 years old. Out of those nine years I have spent four of them in mentor and leadership roles. I have received both Senior and Cadette Service to Community and Girl Scouts bars. Currently I am working with my local school board to address issues surrounding sexual violence and the LGBTQ community. I am passionate about Girl Scouts and a proud advocate of its consistent, positive impact on local and national communities. As a National Delegate I will work to ensure that the needs of my local, small town Girl Scouts are met and that they receive the

best scouting experience possible. Girl Scouts has changed the course of my life and it is an honor to participate in our governing events.

**Kiran Tator:** I have been a Girl Scout for ten years, with past leadership experiences such as being a program aid and cookie captain. I have experience as a program aid at multiple camporees, and I was typically responsible for groups of 5-10 people in a camp of 50 to 60. In addition, as a Cookie Captain, I have trained many girls, ages Daisy to Seniors, in goal setting and business management. I've worked with a diverse range of scouts, so I want to make sure that Girl Scouts is a safe and inclusive space for everyone. I'm also very passionate about environmental issues.

## National Delegates: Adults

**Jeanne-Marie Carr:** I am a lifetime member of Girl Scouts and the Juliette Gordon Low Society. My long-term service to Girl Scouts has spanned numerous levels for decades: co-leader for multi-level troops, Service Unit Delegate, Learning Facilitator, event First Aider, helping hand, and workshop leader. I have shared ideas and best practices with other GS adults and Girls in our Council and beyond.

I was a new National Delegate this past term, and took part in trainings online, listened in GS webinars and discussed in town halls. This experience renewed my GS commitment. I want to continue to grow my leadership skills and return from the National Convention with inspiration for all. I am prepared for the important duties of a National Delegate by engaging in discussions with diverse viewpoints, and researching what is best for our GSNorCal Council and its members. It would be a privilege and an honor to represent the members of Girl Scouts of Northern California at the National Council Session.

**Lauren Fialkow:** I'm Lauren Fialkow, a Girl Scout for 17 years including 13 girl years and 4 staff years. During that time I earned my Silver and Gold Awards and participated in a GS Destination trip to Costa Rica.

I earned my bachelor's degree from Virginia Tech in International Studies in 2012. I began as Girl Scout staff at the council I grew up in, the Girl Scouts Council of the Nation's Capital, as a Membership Specialist in 2015. In 2017, I moved to Jerusalem, Israel to complete a masters degree in Nonprofit Management and Leadership.

In 2019 I relocated to the Bay Area and began as Membership Development Manager for GSNorCal overseeing girl and volunteer recruitment in 5 South Bay cities. During the pandemic my role shifted to Virtual Membership Development Manager and then finally to Grade 6-12 Program Manager.

I hope to serve as a National Delegate to use my experience as a Girl Scout professional, my background with nonprofit organizations, my access to current members, and my passion for improving our organization to bring the Girl Scout movement to the most successful and impactful future possible.

**Winnie Kubik:** As a volunteer, GSNorCal Council staff member, and lifetime Girl Scout, I am excited to represent our adult and girl members as a National Delegate. I have served as a volunteer troop leader, international travel troop leader, service unit volunteer, Gold Award Coordinator, and as a Council staff member working directly with troop and service unit volunteers. I am now part of the Higher Awards and Program department, working directly with older girls and adult volunteers. I am passionate about the Girl Scout program and its value to both girls and adults. I believe my long and varied experience in Girl Scouts gives me a strong base to represent the GSNorCal Council and its members.

**Shannon McMath** has been a part of the Girl Scout Organization since 2009. She's been on several committees at various levels and has worn MANY hats – Troop Leader, LSM, PSM, MSM, Regional

Delegate, Program Team, Learning Facilitator, and more. She's received many recognitions-Rookie of the Year to Honor Pin, honored at Juliette's Jubilee as someone who "follows in the footsteps of Juliette Gordon Low," and most recently, the Circle of Empowerment Award.

After attending the National Convention as a guest, then as a delegate, she returned home sharing her experience with Volunteers and Council Staff. It renewed her excitement about "all things Girl Scouts." Through those experiences, she decided she wanted to be part of the process at National Convention whenever she could. Because of her extensive volunteerism within the Organization, she recognizes many of the key issues Girl Scouts face at all levels – National, Council, Volunteer, and Girl. She believes relevance, balance, support and honor are key words that can open dialogue to develop solutions. Her varied roles as a Girl Scout Volunteer, her belief in a "girl-led" experience, and her continued support of her Girl Scout peers shows she is a well-rounded choice for National Delegate.

**Kindra Mendall:** I am uniquely suited to represent all the various groups that participate in the Girl Scout movement: girls, parents, volunteers, alumnae, and donors. I was a girl Girl Scout for 12 years, serving as a girl delegate on the Board of Directors of Girl Scouts of Santa Clara County and earning my Gold Award. As an adult Girl Scout for 13 years now, I have served as a troop leader, camp staff, service unit team member, event planner, alumnae member, fundraiser, donor, and parent of a girl in our scouting movement. Serving in all of these roles has allowed me to see what works, what does not, and what needs to be improved. As someone who teaches girls from Kindergarten to 8th grade, I am in a unique position to understand what drives girls these days. I am a product of the Girl Scout movement and the empowerment it inspires. I would like to serve as your delegate so I can do my part to make sure the movement remains strong, vibrant, and responsive to the needs of the girls and the adults that together make up our amazing sisterhood. I humbly ask for your vote.

**Ann Monroe:** I am a troop leader and a lifelong Girl Scout. I believe in the mission of Girl Scouts. I've seen the positive impact of Girl Scouts on so many girls and adult volunteers. In 2021, I founded gsCommunity, a virtual community for older girls and adults to connect with each other. I worked for Apple for 18 years. I was Vice President of Worldwide Marketing and Customer Success for Claris. In 2019, I drove the successful global rebrand of FileMaker to Claris. In 2018, I created the customer success function to increase retention and customer referrals. During my time, I worked to expand the developer community to include more women and underrepresented groups through education, mentorship and job opportunity programs. Prior to working in marketing, I worked in finance during the initial implementation of Sarbanes Oxley and as a mechanical engineer at Mattel. My experience working for Apple gives me a unique perspective on how technology and focus on the user experience can positively impact people's lives. I hope to bring my professional experience to the role of National Delegate.

**Bri Seoane:** Girl Scouts of Northern California's Chief Executive Officer

**Charissa Ramp:** I served my country as a Coast Guard Veteran, specializing in search and rescue as well as disaster response. I am a lifetime member; I want to ensure the future success of the Girl Scout Organization. I believe all members (youth and adults) should have a voice. I will work to be inclusive and share proposals so that we understand the effects these proposals on all demographics of members. I lead a troop of 24 Girl Scouts. I am co-LSM for the Vallejo/American Canyon Service unit. I work as Product Program Manager, Cookie Cupboard, Event Manager, and Camp Director. I understand the time and energy that volunteers put into Girl Scouting. This would be my second National Council Session, although the first in person. I will do my best to represent the diversity, tenacity, and grit that is our council. Thank you.

**Sandy Shirai, GSNorCal Board President Nominee 2022-2024:** After 31 years, Sandy retired from Deloitte LLP in September 2020. Prior to retiring, Sandy was Vice Chairman and the Global Technology, Media and Telecommunications leader. Previously, Sandy was the leader of Consulting's US region and served on the Consulting Executive Committee and reported to the CEO. Sandy was also elected to the Deloitte LLP Board of Directors and served as Chairman of the Strategic Investments Committee, and member of the Governance, Partner Earnings, Risk, and Finance Committees. Sandy was named in the top 25 consultants by Consulting Magazine and was recognized in SF Business Times Most Influential Women for several years. She earned her BA in Computer Science at U.C. Berkeley, with Highest Honors, and a member of Phi Beta Kappa. She earned her MBA at Stanford, Arjay Scholar (top 10%). Sandy was a Girl Scout troop leader for eleven years.

**Koren Stevenson:** Koren seeks to represent GSNorCal as a National Delegate at the 2023 Convention. She believes that both her professional experiences as an attorney and Troop leader in addition to her personal experiences as a woman of color have prepared her to represent the diverse interests and perspectives of all GSNorcal members in moving Girl Scouts forward.

Koren has served as Troop Leader for her daughter's Brownie Troop in Oakland. She holds a Juris Doctor from Georgetown University Law Center where she was on the Dean's List and received the Dean's Certificate for Service to the Law Center Community. She also holds a Bachelor's degree from Florida A&M University, a Historically Black College. Koren was a Brownie as a child while growing up in Alabama. Her daughter has been a member of Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta and Koren was active there as a Troop Helper and volunteer with the Council. She enjoys camping, hiking and visiting National Parks. Koren lives in Oakland with her family.

### Alternate National Delegates: Girls

**Rhiannon Hertel:** My name is Rhiannon Hertel and I'm a 10th grader attending Alison Montessori. I have been a Girl Scout from the very beginning as a 1st year Daisy. I've learned many things from Girl Scouts one is leadership. I've used my leadership skills to help with: my troop and our troop activities, guiding younger girls earning Joineries, First aid pin, and badges, running Service Unit events, and Council Events as well as starting up an annual coat drive at my school and being a founding member of my schools Drama Club. In 2019 I also had the chance to be a Service Unit delegate and found the process interesting. I enjoyed seeing the running of Girl Scouts and how everything and everyone worked together. I would like to be part of the team at the National Level.

**Nakyla Stolp:** My name is Nakyla and I've been in Girl Scouts since fourth grade. I love leadership, which is why one of my favorite things to do in Girl Scouts is to lead badges, journeys, and activities for younger Girl Scouts. Last year I was a service unit delegate for the first time, because it was the first year that I was old enough for that role. If elected as a national delegate, I promise to represent all Girl Scouts in my council. I will make a digital poll that will get sent out in the Norcal newsletter. It will include multiple choice questions and written responses. It will also include an additional space for anyone to write other ideas and opinions. I will carefully read the results of the poll and vote for whatever is in the best interest of my council.

My excellent organization and motivation led me to be the top cookie seller in my service unit three years in a row. I promise that if you elect me, I will put the same amount of time and thought into my job as a national delegate. Please vote for me. Thank you!

**Crystal Wang:** Hi, I'm Crystal Wang. I am currently 15 years old and in my Freshman year of high school. I have been a Girl Scouts for 10 years and I plan to be a lifetime Girl Scout. Girl Scouts has helped me build my morals and identity. It has influenced me greatly and really helped me realize how much of a change I can make in my community, and in other people. I have finished my bronze and silver awards, and I am currently working on my gold award. I enjoy connecting people and helping everyone's word get out. I am a goal getter who will do anything I can to help others and my community as a whole, and I am a great problem analyzer who will find the best way to solve a root issue. I believe that we can become a better and happier community working together, and I think I will be a great addition to the board.

## **Alternate National Delegates: Adults**

**Erin Eusted:** My Girl Scout Leadership journey began in 2013, leading my older daughter's Brownie troop. The following year, my younger daughter joined our troop as a Daisy. Before I knew it, our troop had grown to encompass K-7th grade. Feeling that I wasn't able to adequately serve that many levels, I split my troops into a Daisy/Brownie/Junior troop and a Cadette troop. Since then, my younger troop has again grown to Daisy-Cadettes, and my older troop is now a Senior troop. I've assembled a strong team of amazing co-leaders to help lead each level. The girls really benefit from being able to teach each other and learn from each other.

In addition to leading two troops, I'm also a member of my Service Unit Leadership Team. I currently hold the role of Program Support Manager. I've also been the Camp Director for several camps serving Service Units across our region.

When I'm not leading my troops or running camps or events, I am the co-leader for the Red Bluff Girl Scout Travel Troop. This troop is open to girls in our Service Unit. We have been working towards a trip to Europe that will hopefully take place in 2022.

**Heather Harper** is a third generation Girl Scout who wants to see the organization continue to thrive. She has been a troop leader for six years, and her daughter is now a Cadette. Heather has also been an Alameda Service Unit volunteer and active in regional events. She would use her skills as a communications professional to connect and engage with members to ensure their views and perspectives are represented at the National Council Session. Girl Scouts provided her with experiences and learnings that she still draws on today. Serving as a National Delegate would be a way for her to give back to Girl Scouts.

### **Carol Wheeler:**

Carol has been a member of Girl Scouting for over 45 years, beginning as a Brownie Girl Scout. She earned her First Class and was leader for her two daughters as they achieved Gold Awards. Carol has been a Council Service Unit/Area Delegate multiple years and a National Council Delegate for 3 different Councils. Currently a Service Unit Leader Support Manager and Product Manager, she adds being the troop leader to two troops, Juniors and Seniors, since they were Daisies. It is the girl members she wants to represent at the National Delegate Session. Living in the rural, mountainous community in Siskiyou County, these Girl Scouts represent the farthest geographical area of GSNC. Carol wants to share this Girl Scout experience beyond their community with them and use it for retaining and recruiting in her area.