

2023

Women of Distinction



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Event Schedule

Welcome

Mary Pat King

Chief Executive Officer of Girl Scouts of West Central Florida

Traditional Girl Scout Flag Ceremony

Girl Scouts of West Central Florida Media Girls

Gratitude & Recognition

Laura Webb

Girl Scouts of West Central Florida President

Women of Distinction Recognition

Veronica Cintron

Woman of Promise Honoree

Trimeka Benjamin • Kathalin Carvalho • Mallory Dimmitt • Rhea Law

2023 Women of Distinction Honorees

Dr. Sylvia Campbell

Hall of Fame Inductee

Impact of Girl Scouts

Cami Gibertini

Girl Scouts of West Central Florida 3rd Vice President

Girl Scouts of West Central Florida Media Girls

Keynote Speaker

Telva McGruder

Lifetime Girl Scout *and* Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer at General Motors

Closing Gratitude

Mary Pat King

Chief Executive Officer of Girl Scouts of West Central Florida



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Letter from our CEO & Board President

Welcome to the 2023 Women of Distinction Awards Luncheon!

For 31 years, Girl Scouts of West Central Florida has celebrated the astounding achievements of women leaders in our community through this annual event. We are so happy that you are joining us today to recognize six remarkable women who have dedicated their lives to making the world a better place.

This year, Girl Scouts of West Central Florida honors: **Trimeka Benjamin, Kathalin Carvalho, Mallory Dimmitt** and **Rhea Law** as Women of Distinction; **Veronica Cintron** as Woman of Promise; and **Dr. Sylvia Campbell** as a Women of Distinction Hall of Fame Inductee.

This extraordinary group of women serve as the next generation's role models. They are dedicated champions for lifting up women and youth to ensure the future is brighter for all. Leading by example, they inspire Girl Scouts from across our council to be go-getters, innovators, risk-takers, and leaders who serve their communities with compassion.

For the past 111 years, Girl Scouts has proven to be the premier leadership development program for girls, globally. We know that the bonds of sisterhood formed through Girl Scouts last a lifetime and create a strong sense of self for girls. Furthermore, we know that it takes dedicated female leaders as mentors to build girls of courage, confidence, and character.

On behalf of the Girl Scouts of West Central Florida Board of Directors, we would like to recognize our 2023 Women of Distinction Honorary Chairs who poured so much energy into bringing this day to life—**Dr. Liana Fernandez Fox, Senator Arthenia Joyner** and **Commissioner Karen Williams Seel**.

We hope that you are inspired by the stories of our Women of Distinction honorees, our amazing keynote **Telva McGruder**, and our Girl Scouts sitting among us today. Thank you for showing your commitment to girls by supporting Girl Scouts of West Central Florida.

Yours in Girl Scouting,



Mary Pat King
Chief Executive Officer
Girl Scouts of West Central Florida



Laura Webb
President
Girl Scouts of West Central Florida

2023 Keynote Speaker



Telva McGruder

Telva McGruder is a lifetime member of Girl Scouts and is currently serving as the chair of the board of the Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan (GSSEM). Growing up in southwestern Ohio, Telva was an eager Girl Scout from Brownie through Cadette. Girl Scouting exposed her to challenges and adventures that first encouraged her thirst to reach past her limits. She was a troop leader for 10 years where she enjoyed supporting the girls' growth into impactful Ambassadors with two of them earning their Gold Award. As a GSSEM director, she supported development of the council 2017-2019 GSSEM strategic plan in alignment with GSUSA.

Telva is currently the chief diversity, equity and inclusion officer at General Motors where she leads the development and execution of strategies that will ensure positive change toward a high performing, inclusive culture. In this role, Telva leads workforce strategy for the company, where the focus is building the agile workforce of the future, creating pathways of entry and career development. She is also a member of the General Motors Inclusion Advisory Board. Prior to her current role, Telva was director of Workplace Engineering and Operations Solutions where she supported the global footprint for facility engineering, technologies, energy strategy and multiple facility management strategies. Her team created compelling workplaces, ensured a safe work environment, and focused on operational carbon footprint reduction through energy efficiencies and renewable energy procurement.

Earlier in her career, Telva held positions of increasing responsibility and influence within manufacturing engineering and at several manufacturing locations where she motivated teams to rethink the possible in project execution, maintenance, quality, operations and labor negotiations. She earned her BS and MS degrees in Electrical Engineering from Purdue University.

Telva is committed to service and to helping others become all they are meant to be. She supports numerous professional and community organizations through mentoring, teaching, speaking and other forms of direct engagement. Telva is vice-chair of the board of advocacy and resource development for the Oakland University School of Health Sciences, a member of the advisory board for the University of Michigan School for Environment and Sustainability, a member of the board of Engineering Tomorrow and a member of the Executive Leadership Council. Telva is a positive, passionate leader with a keen sense of what is important and enjoys wonderful life experiences with her husband, son and two daughters.

2023

Women of Distinction Honoree

Trimeka
Benjamin



Trimeka Benjamin is the President & CEO of Swim Digital Group, a higher education consulting firm operating on the principle of changing generational poverty by increasing access to education. Trimeka founded Swim because of her steadfast belief that the world is full of students whose lives are just waiting to be changed through removing barriers to accessing post-secondary education. This work has come to life through her partnerships with Colleges & Universities nationwide, addressing transformational change in student enrollment and retention and experiences both in and out of the classroom. Trimeka's personal and professional educational experiences demonstrate her commitment to supporting community colleges and Historically Black Colleges and Universities; she is driven to provide educational opportunities to underserved students and to help build economic and social mobility for underrepresented populations. Trimeka has served as the Chair of the Board of The Spring of Tampa Bay, worked with Girl Scouts of West Central Florida, and co-founded the Women's Exchange. She is a Sustainer of the Junior League, a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated, Women in Leadership and Philanthropy, and International Women's Forum.

2023

Women of Distinction

Honoree



**Kathalin
Carvalho**

Kathalin Carvalho is the global director of regulatory compliance at Sitel Group. She has more than 15 years of experience working in the areas of financial crimes, risk management, corporate legal compliance and criminal investigations for domestic and international institutions. She is the founding Co-Chair of the Central Florida Chapter for the Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists, dedicated to providing resources for financial institutions and related industries in the areas of career development, educational growth and professional networking since 2012. She has served as the president of the Sheriff's Hispanic Advisory Council for two consecutive years and received the 2018 Leadership Class Award from the Tampa Hispanic Heritage. She is a mentor for USF's MUMA College of Business Corporate Mentor program as well as the Hispanic Professional Women Association mentorship programs.

2023

Women of Distinction Honoree

Mallory
Dimmitt



Mallory Dimmitt is the inaugural CEO of the Florida Wildlife Corridor Foundation and former vice president of strategic development for Lykes Bros., a fifth-generation, family-owned, agribusiness based in Florida. Previously, she led The Nature Conservancy's Colorado Plateau Initiative from Telluride, Colorado, assessing large-scale conservation opportunities in a four-state region of the West, and prior to that directed the Southwest Colorado Project for the Conservancy's Colorado Chapter. She has served as a member of Telluride's Town Council and has worked with local, regional, state and federal agencies and organizations on natural resource issues.

2023

Women of Distinction Honoree



Rhea
Law

Rhea Law became the University of South Florida's eighth president in March 2022. Over the course of her 35-year-plus career, she has held top leadership positions with several Florida-based organizations. She is the first USF graduate to serve as president. As one of the founding members of the USF Board of Trustees, she spent five years as vice chair and four years as the first (and only) female chair. Previously, Law was chief executive officer and chair of the board of Fowler White Boggs, a Florida-based law firm. Currently, Law serves on the Board of Directors of Tampa Electric Company and Peoples Gas. She also serves on the Executive Committee of the Tampa Bay Economic Development Council, the Tampa Bay Chamber, the Council of Governors for the Tampa Bay Partnership and on the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center Board of Directors and National Board of Advisors.

2023

Hall of Fame Inductee

Dr. Sylvia
Campbell



Dr. Sylvia D. Campbell, MD, FACS serves as the President of the Board of Directors of Village Partners International. She was born in Orlando, Florida, and received a BS and MS from Emory University in Atlanta, Ga. Later she received her MD from the University of South Florida, and completed a General Surgery residency there. She currently is in private practice in Tampa. She has served on and currently is President of the Board of the Judeo-Christian Health Clinic, a free medical clinic in Tampa, has served on the Board of the Medical Benevolence Foundation of the Presbyterian Church, as an elder with the Presbyterian Church, and was involved in development of Trauma Care Systems and Injury Prevention in the state as well as nationally. She has served on the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors of the American College of Surgeons, and currently serves on the Advisory Council of Operation Giving Back of the American College of Surgeons. She has served on mission trips to Haiti and Uganda since 1996, and been involved in helping children travel to the US for life saving care. She is married to Bob Campbell and has three children, Chelsey, Meaghan and Ross.

2023

Woman of Promise Honoree



Veronica
Cintron

Veronica Cintron joined the Hillsborough County Aviation Authority in April 2020. As Vice President of Communications, she oversees all internal and external messaging for America's Favorite Airport. Before joining Tampa International Airport's award-winning Communications team, she anchored Spectrum Bay News 9's weekday evening newscasts for 10 years. During her journalism career, Veronica covered major domestic and international stories including Pope Francis' first-ever visit to Cuba, the 100th anniversary of the Panama Canal, and the aftermath of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. Her work earned six Suncoast Chapter Emmy awards, Florida Association of Broadcast Journalists awards and Society of Professional Journalists Sunshine State awards.

Veronica serves on The Florida Aquarium Board and is a member of the University of South Florida's Advancing Latino Access and Success Task Force, the University of South Florida Zimmerman School of Advertising and Communications Advisory Council, and the Athena Society. She is a 2022 Tampa Bay Business Journal's 40 Under 40 honoree and lives with her husband and 7-year-old daughter in Tampa.

2023

Women of Distinction Honorary Chairs



Dr. Liana
Fernandez Fox



Pinellas County Commissioner
Karen Williams Seel



Senator
Arthenia Joyner

Girl Scouts of West Central Florida is grateful to our 2023 Women of Distinction Honorary Chairs who have all been honored in the past as Women of Distinction and Hall of Fame Inductees.

Thank you to **Dr. Liana Fernandez Fox**, **Senator Arthenia Joyner**, and **Pinellas County Commissioner Karen Williams Seel**, for continuing to be champions for Girl Scouts and all women leaders.



Thank You

THE UNIVERSITY
OF TAMPA

and

Renée Vaughn



Thank You to
**The University of Tampa and
its First Lady Renée Vaughn**
for sponsoring and hosting the
**2023 Women of Distinction
Honoree Reception at the
University of Tampa Vaughn
Center on January 12.**

It was a beautiful evening for past
Women of Distinction Honorees
to meet and welcome the 2023
Women of Distinction.

Women of Distinction

The Women of Distinction Event began in 1992 to recognize the importance that female role models play in the lives of young women. This distinguished group of past Women of Distinction honorees continue to provide inspiration, leadership, and support for girls served by Girl Scouts of West Central Florida.

Jan Abell, 1995*
Emeline Acton, 1998
Melanie Adams-Miller, 1992
Marion C. Albanese, 1992
Lavonne Alberti, 1992
Betty Alfano, 1992
Mary Wyatt Allen, 1992
Karen Arch, 1995
Rosemary E. Armstrong, 2017
Kathleen Assimack, 1992
Beverly A. Austin, 2007
Maruchi Azorin, 2010
Helen V. Baines, 1992
Sally L. Baldwin, 2005*
Joanne M. Baldy, 1998
Lucille Barcellona, 1992
Fran Barford, 1992
Beverly Barnett, 2001
Carol J. Barnett, 2008*
Heather Barrow, 2014†
Dorothy Beach, 2019
Sarah Beasley, 2011
Jeanette Benfield, 1995
Gracia Bennish, 1997
Catherine Bessant, 2001, 2019°
Susan B. Betzer, 1994
Colleen Bevis, 1996*
Mabel H. Bexley, 1995
Dee Blanchard, 1992
Susan Blanchard, 1998
Sara L. Bowen, 1997
Helen Brandell, 1992
Karen Brandell, 1992
Shelley Broader, 2007
Gayle Brooks, 1992
Elsie S. Brown, 1996*
Rebecca A. Brown, 1999*
Karen Brown Dunlap, 2005
Kim Brubaker, 1996
Esther G. Bryant, 1992
Susan C. Bucklew, 1996
Janet Burdeno, 1992
Moirra J. Burke, 1992
Phyllis Busansky, 1999*
Sylvia D. Campbell, 2001
Lisette Campos-Perez, 2018
Maria P. Cantonis, 2007
Carol Cargill, 1992*
Sylvia M. Carley, 1992*
Betty Lee Carlton, 1995*
Willa Carson, 2001*
Marilyn A. Carter, 1999
Janice B. Case, 1996
Betty Castor, 1999°
Jane Castor, 2011

Alice C. Changstrom, 1998*
Colleen Chappell, 2020
Kathy B. Church, 1992
Susan Churuti, 2010
Louise Clarke, 1992
Denise Coburn, 1992
Lucy D. Cole, 2000
Shirley Coletti, 1994
Elaine M. College, 1995*
Janice C. Collier, 1997
Chloe Coney, 1996
Altrichia A. Cook, 2016†
Mary E. Corbett, 1992
Lenore "Gundy" Costello, 2015
Irmina Couret, 1992
Molly Crews, 2014
Gail A. Crosby, 1992
Faye B. Culp, 1997
Gay Culverhouse, 1992
Maureen Daly, 2002
Phyllis Davis, 1995
Wanda Davis, 1992*
Maria J. De Q. Azorin, 1995
Sandra Delancey, 1992
Robin DeLaVergne, 2012
Susan E. Dellinger, 1996
Arlene DiBenigno, 2019
Deirdre Dixon, 2012
Erin Doslourian, 1992
Gladys E. Douglas Hackworth, 2006
Ann M. Doyle, 1998
Nettie Draughon, 1994*
Fentrice Driskell, 2018†
Holly H. Duncan, 2003
Dorothy E. Ebersbach, 1996*
Ruth B. Eckerd, 2005*
Joan Eddy-Brigham, 1994
Doretha Edgecomb, 2017
Winifred Ekman, 1992*
Pat Engelhardt-Provence, 1994
Amy Epstein, 1998
Jackie A. Everidge, 1994
Mary Jim Everidge, 1992*
Sharon Everidge, 1996*
Jeanette LaRussa-Fenton, 1996
Angeles Ferlita, 2008
Rose V. Ferlita, 2009
Cecelia Ferman, 1995
Yolanda Fernandez, 1992
Liana Fernandez Fox, 1999, 2018°
Diana D. Ferreira, 1992
Adelaide G. Few, 1997
Chloe Firebaugh, 2018
Patricia Flores, 1994*
Evelyn Follit, 2015

Patricia C. Frank, 1996
Joanne H. Frazier, 1999
Sandra Freedman, 1994
Corinne Freeman, 1994*
Mary M. Freeman, 1992*
Yvonne Fry, 2016
Alexandra Frye, 1996
Cynthia Gandee Zinober, 1996
Adrienne M. Garcia, 2002
Rita Garvey, 1996
Judy Genshaft, 2006
Felecia Gilmore-Long, 2022
Jean Gibson, 2012
Donna E. Glausser, 1992
Stephanie Goforth, 2018
Louise Gonzalez, 1992
Margarita Gonzalez, 1992
Adela Gonzmart, 1994*
Shirley Goodchild, 1992
Helen Gordon-Davis, 1995*
Jeanne G. Gossman, 1992
Melanie S. Griffin, 2017†
Dotti Groover-Skipper, 2014
Cheryl Guldenschuh, 1998
Elizabeth Gutierrez, 2022
Patty Haislop, 1992
Susan C. Hale, 1992
Martha R. Hall, 1997*
Kim A. Hanna, 2001
Arndreeta L. Harris, 1994
Felicia Harvey, 2013†
Hazel S. Harvey, 1993
Kathy Hayes, 1992
Wanda Hayes-Riddick, 1997*
Paula Heald, 1992
Diana Heath, 1996
Ann Hensler, 1992*
Lois Henton, 1992
Mercedes Hernandez, 1992
Ann Hildebrand, 1992
Sally S. Hill, 2009
Alma S. Hires, 1992°
Connie Hogan, 1992
Doris Hogan, 1992
Mary Rose Holmes, 1996
Julianne Holt, 1997, 2022°
Charlene E. Honeywell, 2001
Martha Hood, 1998
Pam Iorio, 2004
Karen Jacobs, 1995
Diane Jamai, 1996
Julie Janssen, 2009
Delma Jay, 1992*
Adelle V. Jemison, 1992
Katurah Jenkins-Hall, 1994

Marie Johnson, 1992
 Tina P. Johnson, 1994
 Joyce Johnston, 1999
 Joanna Jones-Tokley, 1992
 Lisa Jorda, 1992
 Arthenia L. Joyner, 1995, 2019^c
 Liz Kennedy, 2009
 Kathryn L. Kepes, 1996
 Nelly N. Khouzam, 1992
 Kim Kirchman, 1992
 Barbara Knowles, 1992
 Kathleen K. Koch, 1992
 Jean M. Kohler, 1992
 Susan Kolker, 1997
 Robin C. Krivanek, 1992
 Gladys M. Kuhn, 1992^f
 Carol Kurdell, 1997
 Carolyn J. Kurtz, 1999
 Teresa Kusmierczyk, 1992
 Terry L. Lamberson, 1992
 Beverly Lane, 1999
 Connie Lange, 1992
 Marian Lauria-Davis, 1992
 Lee Leavengood, 2003
 Claire M. Leboeuf, 1996
 Terri Lipsey-Scott, 2019
 Judith Lisi, 2011
 Gwin A. Londrigan, 2012
 Rita Lowman, 2019
 Catherine Lynch Buckhorn, 2017
 Irene Maher, 2000
 Jeanne Malchon, 1995^{*}
 Phyllis Marshall, 1994^{*}
 Sadye Martin, 1994^{*}
 Dorothy Mason, 2000^{*}
 Vanessa Maternowski, 2022^f
 Roxann Mayros, 2000
 Sylvia McCardel Thomasson, 1992^{*}
 Jeane A. McCarthy, 1994
 Catherine McGarry, 2000
 Julianne C. McKeel, 2000
 Paige McRight, 1992
 Mary Melvin, 1992
 Karen R. Mertes, 2015
 Elise Minkoff, 2013
 Dorothy S. Mitchell, 2005^{*}
 Judy A. Mitchell, 1998
 Karen Moffitt, 1992
 Annetta Monroe, 1992^{*}
 Carolyn Morgan, 1992
 Carol Morsani, 2010
 Paddy K. Moses, 1992
 Patricia B. Moss, 2003
 Audre P. Mossberg, 1999^{*}
 Patricia Mulieri, 1998
 Pamela Muma, 2016
 Sandra L. Murman, 2004
 Ann L. Murphey, 1995^{*}
 Heather A. Nagy, 1994
 Ginny Nash, 1992
 Vanessa Negron Cohn, 1992
 Geri Nelson, 1992
 Pamela Neuhaus, 1995
 Karen Nicolai, 1992
 Cam Oberting, 1997
 Ardie Paetz, 1992
 Elinor J. Paladine, 1992
 Alma Palonis, 1992^{*}
 Bess Paloumpis, 1992^{*}
 Jeanette Parke, 1992

Sallie Parks, 2018^{*}
 Mary Parlett, 1994
 Pallavi Patel, 2006
 Betty Patton, 1999
 Eunice M. Penix, 1995
 Jane Peppard, 2000
 Elaine Perry, 1992
 Kathleen Peters, 2020
 Peggy Peterman, 1992^{*}
 Joy Petit, 1995
 Ruth Pierson, 1992
 Fay Pino, 1992
 Barbara J. Pittman, 1992
 Jan K. Platt, 1992^{ac}
 Ann Porter, 1997
 Debra Prewitt, 1995
 Mary Preziosi, 1992
 Gaile Rametta, 1992
 Patricia B. Randall, 1992
 Carolyn B. Reed, 1999
 Jeanette G. Renfrow, 1995
 Adelaida D. Reyes, 1994
 Marion R. Rich, 2002^c
 Nancy M. Ridenour, 2014
 Patricia B. Riggs, 1997
 Anne H. Rimbey, 1997
 Eleanor J. Rimes, 1994
 Jessica Rivelli, 2020^f
 Marion S. Rodgers, 1992^{*}
 Anna Rodriguez, 2016
 Barbara B. Romano, 1996
 Margarita Romo, 2000
 Robin L. Rosenberg, 1998
 Barbara L. Rosenblum, 1992
 Marjorie Rothermel, 1992
 Thelma P. Rothman, 2007^{*}
 Christa Rowe, 1992
 Jacquelyn Rozman, 1992
 Ardith C. Rutland, 1992
 Shirley Ryals, 1992^{*}
 Marsha G. Rydberg, 1992
 Sherry Sacino, 1996
 Linda Saul-Sena, 1992
 Cathy E. Schmidt, 1992
 Elvena Schmugge, 1992
 Virginia J. Scott, 1992
 Mary Scriven, 1994
 Karen W. Seel, 1999^c
 Betty S. Sembler, 2000^{*}
 Amy G. Shimberg, 2002^{*}
 Elaine F. Shimberg, 1994
 Gayle Sierens-Martin, 1995
 Jane Siling, 1998
 Shirley Simmons, 1998
 Rose G. Sims, 1995
 Adelaide A. Sink, 1994, 2020^c
 Bonnie B. Sitko, 1992
 April Smith, 1992
 Dorinda Smith, 1992
 Juel S. Smith, 1994
 Rebecca J. Smith, 1997
 Sally P. Smith, 1992
 Melissa Snively, 2016
 Elithia V. Stanfield, 1992
 Marsha Starkey, 2008
 Frances L. Stavros, 2003^{*}
 Deborah A. Stephens, 1992
 Gwendolyn W. Stephenson, 1999^{*}
 Sara Charles Stevens, 1996
 Mary Ann Stiles, 1996

Deborah Stone, 1996
 Marcia G. Storm, 1992
 Irene Sullivan, 2022
 Margaret Sullivan, 2011
 Jacqueline L. Swanson, 1992
 Natalie Taliaferro, 1992
 Akiko Tanaka, 2000
 Lorna Taylor, 2013
 Phyllis Taylor, 1992
 Sherrie Teddy, 1998
 Stella F. Thayer, 1995
 Sally Thompson, 1996
 Cathy Tileston, 1992
 Seretha Tinsley, 2010
 Candy Tremmel, 1992
 Celeste K. Valdez, 1999
 Renée Vaughn, 2015
 Jenna Venero, 1997
 Sylvia H. Walbolt, 1995
 Bette S. Walker, 1998
 Martha Rudy Wallace, 2006
 Laura L. Waller, 1992
 Robin Warren, 2013
 Leslie Waters, 2014
 Joe Elena Weachter-Heinz, 1992^{*}
 Doris L. Weatherford, 1996
 Lauren Weiner, 2020
 Margaret Whaley, 1996^{*}
 Deborah J. White, 2017
 Tonjua Williams, 2020
 Belinda F. Wilson, 2004
 Judy Wilson, 2013
 Marilyn J. Wilson, 1992
 Mildred Wilson, 2000^{*}
 Marian S. Winters, 1992
 India Witte, 2022
 Jean G. Wittner, 2008
 Belinda Womack, 2001
 Gwynne A. Young, 1997
 Diane A. Zwicker, 1994
 Rachel Zysk, 2019^f

Deceased^{*}
 Woman of Promise^f
 Hall of Fame^c

In Memoriam



Sallie Parks

Women of Distinction 2018

1936–2022

A History of Women of Distinction

In 1992, Girl Scouts USA celebrated their 80th anniversary and introduced a National Women of Distinction honor to the celebration. Councils throughout the country began recognizing women who had made extraordinary accomplishments in their communities. Locally, the first Suncoast Council Women of Distinction event nominated women from our membership. The event focused on career opportunities, as the Women of Distinction held panel discussions for Girl Scout members.

Former Hillsborough County Commissioner Jan Platt was instrumental in moving the Women of Distinction recognition to the next level in 1994. That year, a committee was introduced to solicit nominations, a special reception to honor the women was held, and the women received a recognition pin created by a local artist. The focus also shifted toward a mentoring program for Girl Scouts working to achieve their Gold Award.

Over the next few years, the event solidified its importance within the community. Sponsors came forward to help recognize these outstanding women while supporting the Girl Scouts. In 1995, Gayle Sierens, co-anchor of the evening news for WFLA, came on board as the Emcee, a tradition that would last for the next 15 years, and gave the event local television coverage.

From 1992 through 2001, Girl Scouts recognized close to 250 women. As the event became increasingly popular locally in 2002, the Women of Distinction reception became an annual signature fundraising luncheon. Additionally, the number of women recognized for the award each year was limited to four to increase the prestige of the recognition.

A key component in making this move a success was introducing a keynote speaker. The first woman in space, Sally Ride, was our first keynote speaker.

She started a long tradition of esteemed speakers, including Jenna Bush Hager, Leeza Gibbons, Jane Goodall, Soledad O'Brien, Alma Powell, Mary Lou Retton, Jehan Sadat, Jane Seymour, and Marlo Thomas, who spoke at the annual awards ceremony.

In 2013, an additional honor was introduced, the Young Woman of Promise, to honor a deserving young woman under 40. In 2016, the Women of Distinction Hall of Fame honor was created to recognize former Women of Distinction recipients who continued their passionate service to the community long after receiving their initial award.

In 2020 and 2021, the event was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Girl Scouts pivoted to host a virtual series of Trefoil Talks with past Women of Distinction and other women leaders to inspire Girl Scouts and early career alumnae. Today, we celebrate 31 years of honoring extraordinary women with this prestigious award.

Special Thanks

to the volunteers who shared this rich history:

Marion Rich

2002 Woman of Distinction *and*
Hall of Fame Inductee, Lifetime Girl Scout
and long-time GSWCF Board Member

Jean Kohler

Woman of Distinction 1992 *and*
Past President, Suncoast Girl Scouts Council









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We're proud to support those
who dream of a brighter future.



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Jossie De Q Azorin, WOD 1995 & Maruchi Azorin, WOD 2010



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"A woman with a voice is, by definition, a strong woman."

Melinda Gates

Congratulations to this year's
Women of Distinction.

Thank you for using your voice
to make a positive impact in
your community.

Paddy Moses



CONGRATULATIONS
to the
**2023 WOMEN
OF DISTINCTION
HONOREES!**

Joyce Cotton

**Congratulations
to the 2023 Women of
Distinction Honorees!**

Trimeka Benjamin

Women of Distinction 2023



**"Leaders are like gardeners...
As leaders we are not only
responsible for harvesting our
own success but for cultivation the
success of the next generation."**

Susan Collins

**Thank you to our
2023 Women of Distinction
for cultivating the success of
the next generation.**

Liz Kennedy

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ACADEMIC MEDICAL CENTER**

**FOR OVER
50 YEARS**



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A life well planned can offer each of us – any of us –

THE POWER TO GIVE.



The causes that inspire you are as unique as the life you lead. We all live and give differently, but the support of the right financial partner has the power to multiply generosity. It's our privilege to help people make an impact – and to make our own. RAYMONDJAMES.COM/GIVINGBACK

Raymond James is proud to give back to the communities in which we live and work by supporting the Girl Scouts of West Central Florida.

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Vistra proudly supports the Girl Scouts of West Central Florida in honoring the **2023 Women of Distinction**

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Congratulations to the extraordinary inductees!

Thank you for your tireless service to our community and beyond.

Courtney & Allan Bilyeu



CONGRATULATIONS
to the
**2023 WOMEN
OF DISTINCTION
HONOREES!**

**Congratulations to this year's
Women of Distinction honorees!**

The young lives you have touched
are changed **forever**.

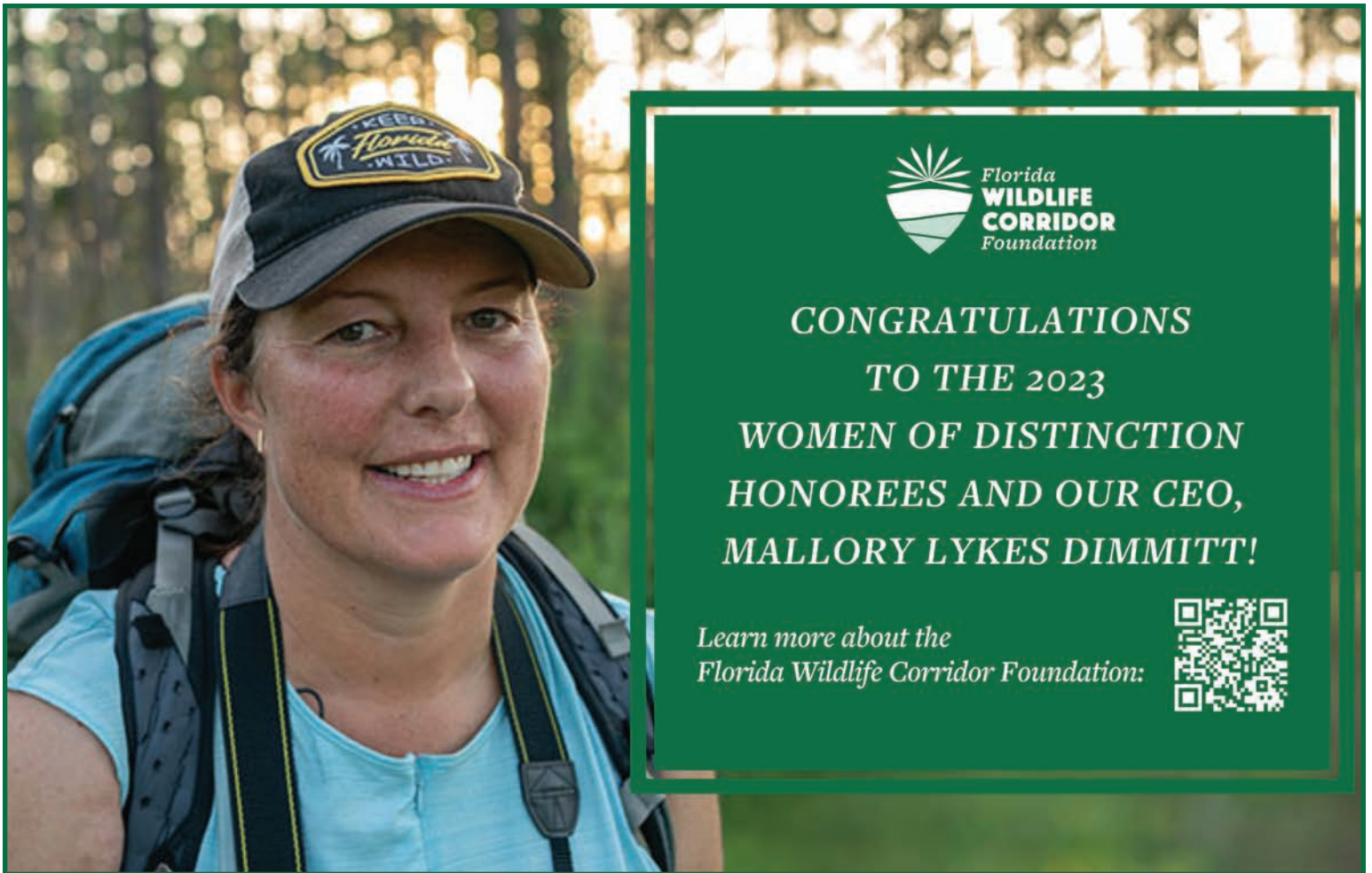
For all the times you have been “a rainbow in
someone else's cloud,” we thank you!

Liana Fernandez Fox, PhD

Powerful women empower others.

Congratulations to the 2023 Women of Distinction.
Thank you for empowering the next generation of female leaders.

Lauren Weiner



**CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE 2023
WOMEN OF DISTINCTION
HONOREES AND OUR CEO,
MALLORY LYKES DIMMITT!**

*Learn more about the
Florida Wildlife Corridor Foundation:*



**Congratulations
to the 2023 Women of
Distinction Honorees!**

Kathalin Carvalho
Women of Distinction 2023



In the words of
Elizabeth Barrett Browning:

“Light tomorrow with today.”

Congratulations to our
2023 Women of Distinction.
You are the lights who
inspire us all.

Moira Burke

**Congratulations
to the 2023 Women of
Distinction Honorees!**

Mallory Dimmitt

Women of Distinction 2023



Morgan Stanley

Proud Supporter

Morgan Stanley is proud to support Girl Scouts of West Central Florida.

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Financial Advisor

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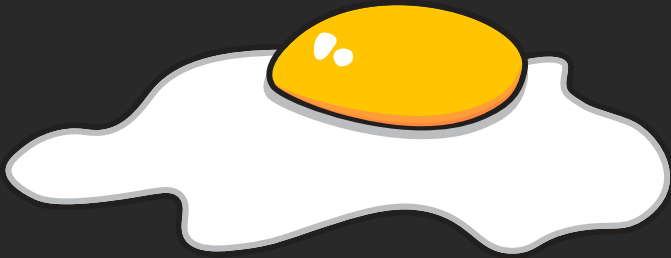
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When girls have models of success
and the perspectives of strong women—
they thrive.

It is our responsibility to show
our girls the path forward.

Michlene Everett



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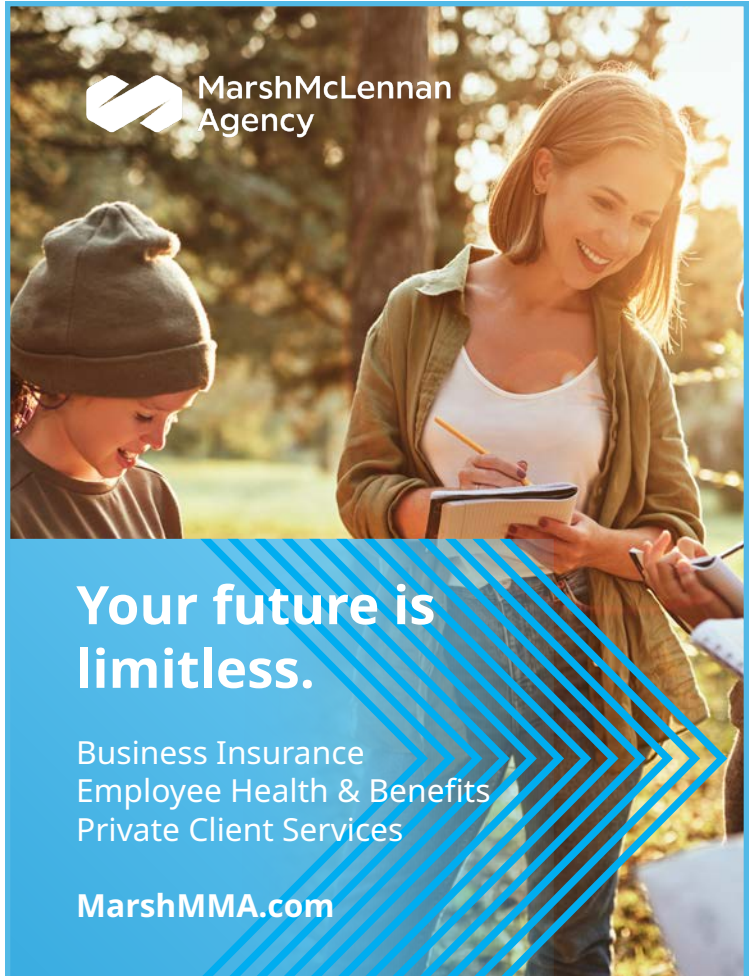
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CONGRATULATIONS
to the
**2023 WOMEN
OF DISTINCTION
HONOREES!**

Maria Cantonis



MarshMcLennan
Agency



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limitless.**

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THANK YOU!

2023 Women of Distinction Honorees

for serving as role models for young women today and empowering our next generation of leaders.



EducationFoundation.com

Learn more about our mission to strengthen public education:



Congratulations to the 2023 Women of Distinction Honorees!

Rhea Law

Women of Distinction 2023



***Proud to Support the Girl Scouts
of West Central Florida.***

On behalf of the ReliaQuest Bowl and past recipient and past Bowl Chair Rita Lowman, we congratulate the 2023 Women of Distinction.



Rita Lowman
*Past Chair and
Past Woman of Distinction*

\$1.1 Billion*
ECONOMIC IMPACT
FOR TAMPA BAY

Millions
TO CHARITIES

*over history of the bowl

\$170 Million*
PAID TO UNIVERSITIES
PLUS \$20 MILLION OVER NEXT 3 YEARS



**“The work of today
is the history of tomorrow
and we are its makers.”**

Juliette Gordon Low,
Founder of Girl Scouts

**Congratulations to the 2023 Women of
Distinction Honorees! You are trailblazers and
role models for our Girl Scouts!**

Thank you for all you do!

Mary Pat & Eric King

TAMPA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
*congratulates all the honorees
including our*
VP of Communications and 2023 Woman of Promise



**Veronica
Cintron**

*Thank you
Girl Scouts of
West Central
Florida for helping
girls soar!*

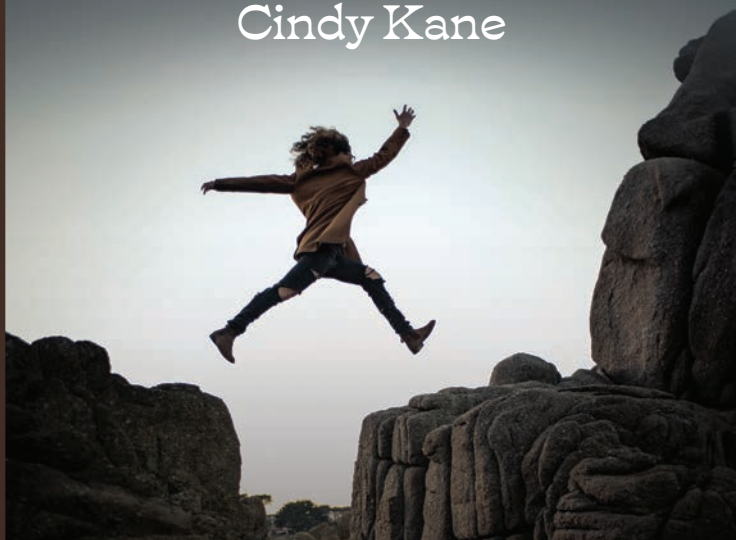

TampaAirport.com or follow us @FlyTPA



**Congratulations
to the
2023 Women of Distinction!**

I love Girl Scouts and everything that they stand for—your award is the result of your hard work and fearless spirit.

Cindy Kane





Wherever you're going, we'll take you there.

Your future is limitless.SM

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Congratulations to the
2023 Women of Distinction.

Thank you for all that you do.

Veveie Dimmit



UNIVERSITY of
SOUTH FLORIDA

Congratulations to

RHEA LAW

University of South Florida

President & CEO

on her **2023 Women of
Distinction Honors!**



We come together
for the family
moments.

 **WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA**

West Central Florida is your home, and it's ours, too. We share your commitment to those you care about. You inspire us to make banking easier, so we all have more time to enjoy life as we take our next step together in this place we call home.

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Congratulations
to the **2023 Women of**
Distinction Honorees!

Dr. Sylvia Campbell
Hall of Fame Inductee 2023



Congratulations
TO THE
2023 WOMEN OF DISTINCTION HONOREES!

Hancock Whitney proudly supports the
Girls Scouts across the Gulf South region.

P.S. We love their cookies!

Cami Gibertini

3rd Vice President
Board of Directors
GSWCF

Vice President/
Business Banking
Hancock Whitney





**Congratulations to the
2023 Women of Distinction!**

Thank you for
your hard work building the
next generation of leaders.

Nancy Ridenour

Congratulations

**to the 2023 Honorees
of**

Girl Scouts of West Central Florida

Women of Distinction

"There is no limit to what we, as women, can accomplish."



Felecia Gilmore-Long
Women of Distinction 2022

“There is no limit to
what we, as women,
can accomplish.”

Michelle Obama

Today we celebrate six
extraordinary women
and all of their many
accomplishments.

Congratulations Ladies!



The Orenda
COLLECTIVE



The Tampa Bay Lightning is

PROUD TO SUPPORT

Girl Scouts of West Central Florida
Women of Distinction 2023

BE THE THUNDER

Congratulations to the
2023 Women of Distinction!



We celebrate their professional and civic accomplishments, as well as express our gratitude for the many ways these extraordinary women have positively impacted our communities across the Tampa Bay Area.

Kris Johnson

Congratulations
to the 2023 Women of
Distinction Honorees!

Veronica Cintron
Woman of Promise 2023



CONGRATULATIONS
to the
2023 WOMEN
OF DISTINCTION
HONOREES!



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2001 Tampa Chamber of Commerce
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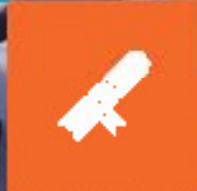


2002 - Tampa Steel Plant



**Congratulations to all the
Women of Distinction Honorees.**

We aim to close the postsecondary degree attainment gap for students of color and those from low-income backgrounds by focusing on three key drivers:

-  Ensure students are reading at grade level by third grade
-  Increase college enrollment
-  Increase attainment of two- and four-year degrees



Learn more about Helios' Florida Black Student Success Strategy at www.helios.org



USF Health

CONGRATULATIONS

to our amazing Women of Distinction honorees!

Thank you for
your service to our
community!



Congratulations to the
2023 Women of Distinction!

Your courage, confidence and
character has made the world
a better place.

Thank you for all that you do.

Lynn Stephanie Dorman

CONGRATULATIONS

to the

**2023 WOMEN
OF DISTINCTION
HONOREES!**

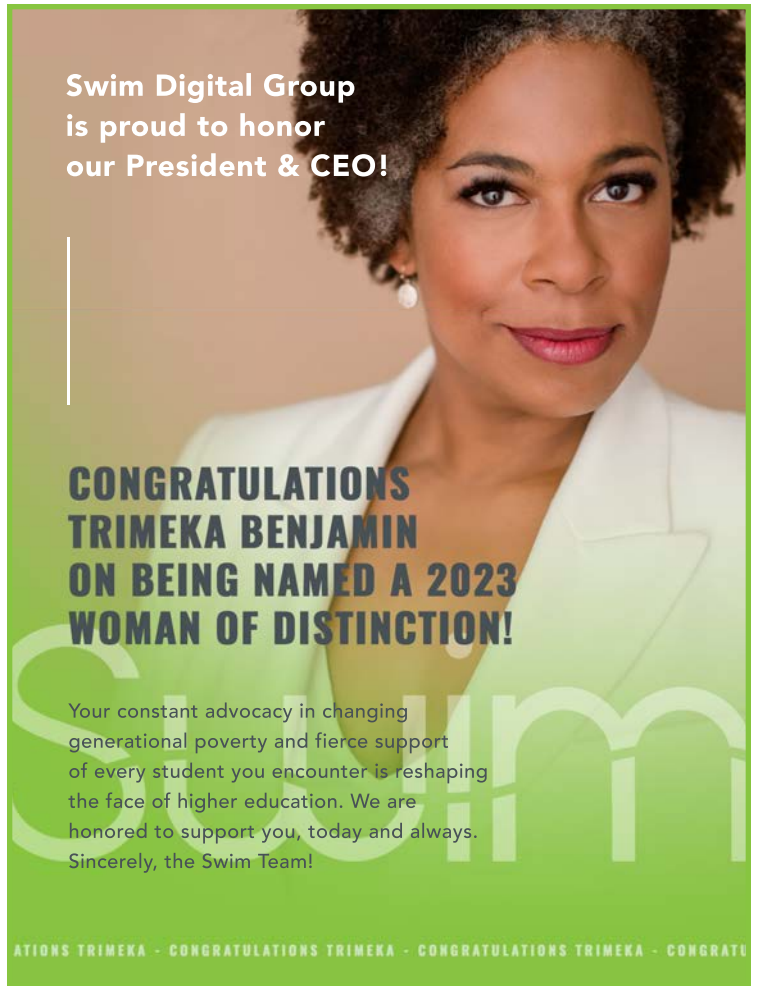




Congratulations to the
2023 Women of Distinction
Honorees.

You are inspirations to us all.

Lavinia Vaughn



Swim Digital Group
is proud to honor
our President & CEO!

CONGRATULATIONS
TRIMEKA BENJAMIN
ON BEING NAMED A 2023
WOMAN OF DISTINCTION!

Your constant advocacy in changing
generational poverty and fierce support
of every student you encounter is reshaping
the face of higher education. We are
honored to support you, today and always.
Sincerely, the Swim Team!

ATIONS TRIMEKA - CONGRATULATIONS TRIMEKA - CONGRATULATIONS TRIMEKA - CONGRAT



CONGRATULATIONS
to this year's
2023 WOMEN
OF DISTINCTION
HONOREES!

Doris Weatherford



Congratulations to the
2023 Women of Distinction!

Today we celebrate
extraordinary women who
exemplify the Girl Scout Promise
and Law as business, community
and philanthropic leaders.

Honorable Julianne M. Holt



Salutes Women of Distinction



Discover our portfolio at mainsailhotels.com

CONGRATULATIONS HONOREES

The University of Tampa is a proud sponsor of Girl Scouts of West Central Florida, and joins them in congratulating the 2023 Women of Distinction honorees.

WOMEN OF DISTINCTION: Trimeka Benjamin | Kathalin Carvalho | Mallory Dimmitt | Rhea Law

WOMAN OF PROMISE: Veronica Cintron

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE: Dr. Sylvia Campbell



The University of Tampa offers a rich undergraduate and graduate educational experience through 200 academic programs with outstanding faculty, diverse international programs, experiential education, co-curricular learning, leadership programs, community service and a vibrant campus environment.

ut.edu

THE UNIVERSITY
OF TAMPA

CONGRATULATIONS

to the

2023 WOMEN OF DISTINCTION.

Thank you for empowering
the next generation of
female leaders.



Congratulations

Women of Distinction Class of 2023

FROM

The Women of Metropolitan Ministries



Our mission is to care for the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless in our community through services that alleviate suffering, promote dignity and instill self-sufficiency... as an expression of the ongoing ministry of Jesus Christ.

Congratulations to the Women of Distinction Honorees!

The Pinellas Education Foundation is a coalition of business and community leaders who collaborate with community partners to nurture student success in the classroom and to better prepare them for the world beyond.



**Pinellas Education
Foundation**

Inspired minds transform lives



Stay connected & learn more at:
PinellasEducation.org



@PinellasEducation

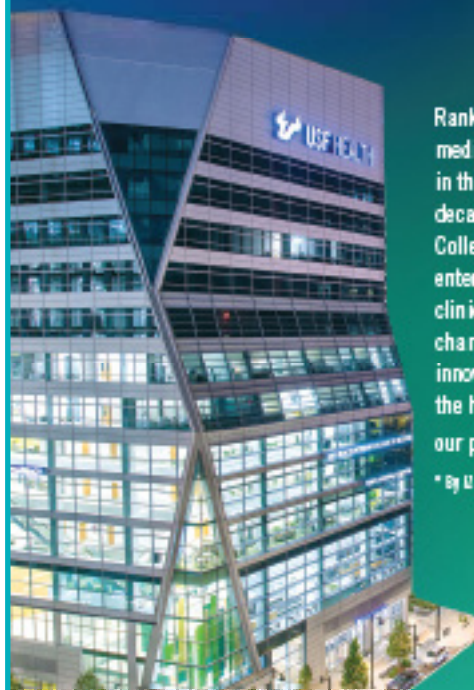


@PinellasEd



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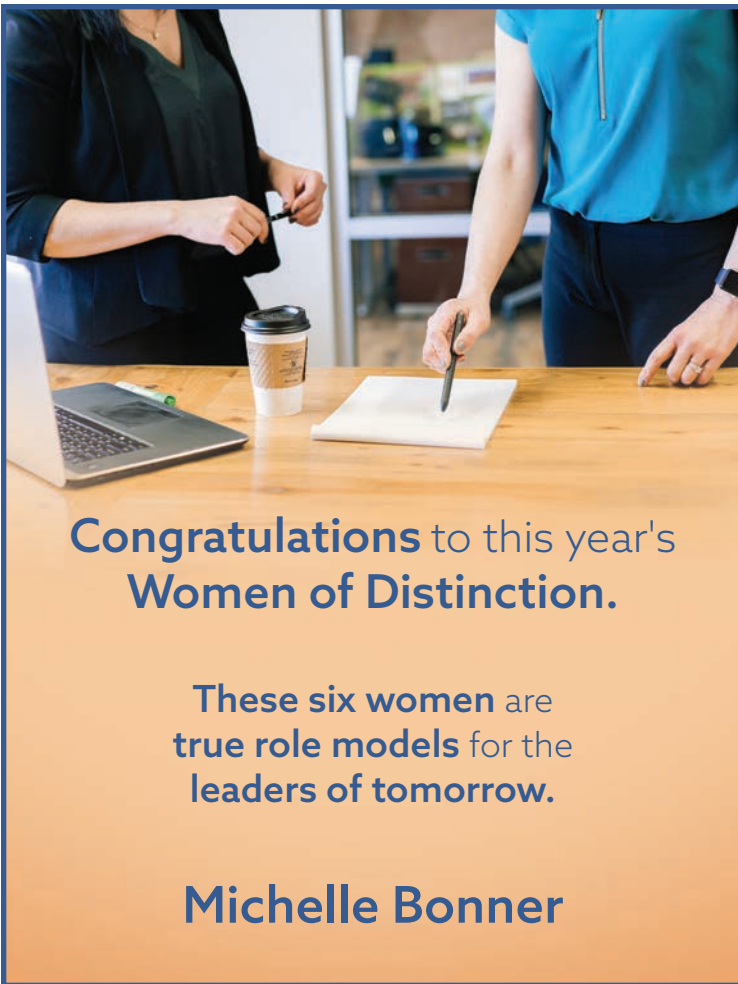
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Ranked as the fastest-rising medical school for research in the nation over the past decade*, USF Health Morsani College of Medicine is an enterprise of researchers, clinicians and educators who champion collaboration and innovation that contribute to the health and well-being of our patients and communities.

* By U.S. News & World Report Academic Insights

health.usf.edu



Congratulations to this year's
Women of Distinction.

These six women are
true role models for the
leaders of tomorrow.

Michelle Bonner

“Little girls with dreams
become women with vision.”

Congratulations to those women whose dreams
have come true...encouragement to all the little girls
with dreams. You can make them happen!

Elinor Paladine



Congratulations
to the **2023 Women of**
Distinction Honorees!

Elizabeth Gutierrez
Women of Distinction 2022



CONGRATULATIONS
to the
2023 WOMEN
OF DISTINCTION
HONOREES!

Larry Brooks

“I was **deeply grateful** and **humbled** by this honor from the Girl Scouts, who are more necessary than ever for girls and young women in this digital age.”

Irene Sullivan

Women of Distinction 2022



Congratulations

to **six incredible women** who **exemplify the Girl Scout Promise and Law** and **serve as role models for the leaders of tomorrow.**

Dr. Sue Ryan Goodman



“No one ever became a success without taking chances...One must be able to recognize the moment and seize it without delay.”

Estée Lauder

Thank you to our **six honorees** for **taking chances.**

Congratulations on being honored as 2023 Women of Distinction.

Debbie White



Congratulations
to the **2023 Women of Distinction Honorees!**

Today we honor **six incredible women** who serve as **role models for the leaders of tomorrow.**

Melanie Adams

Women of Distinction 1992



**BE
YOU**

@HCCFL

Get back to being you at Hillsborough Community College. If you're considering college, you're heading in the right direction. If you're thinking of transferring, you're right on track. With hands-on learning, flexible schedules and convenient locations, HCC is the place where you can...be you. From enrollment to employment, it's all on your time, your terms. Be you at HCC.

HCC

Register now! <https://www.hcc.edu/register>

Hillsborough Community College subscribes to equity, access, diversity and inclusion.

Today we celebrate
six incredible women.

HPWF

Hispanic Professional Women's Foundation, Inc.

**Congratulations to this year's
Women of Distinction!**

CONGRATULATIONS
to the
**2023 WOMEN
OF DISTINCTION
HONOREES!**

Sally S. Hill

**LAKE
MICHIGAN
CREDIT UNION**

CONGRATULATIONS
to the **2023 WOMEN
OF DISTINCTION!**

Rosa Parks

1913-2005



It all started on a Bus in 1955.
She changed the course of
history and inspired us all.



Adventure, Friends and Fun!
Girl Scout summer camp has it all.
Register today at gswcf.org/summercamp



girl scouts
of west central florida

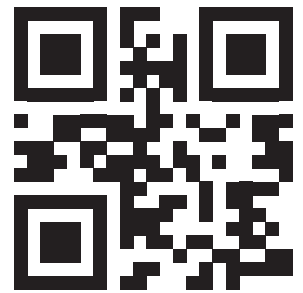




Your Year of Fulfillment

It's because of amazing volunteers like you that girls feel such joy, excitement, and guidance from their troop.

Give your Girl Scouts another year of growth, laughter, and the confidence they need to be their most authentic selves!



Join Today!

girl scouts 
of west central florida



STEM a palooza

April 15, 2023 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Florida Polytechnic University



Join us for our 11th annual STEMapalooza!

STEMapalooza is an amazing opportunity for your Girl Scout to learn about the world of science, technology, engineering, and math! They'll get to explore STEM careers, chat with leading women in the STEM field, and take part in fun, hands-on activities that give them a taste of the STEM life!

Thank you to our 2023 STEMapalooza Sponsors:

Cyborg Sponsor

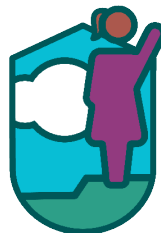


girl scouts 
of west central florida

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Women's Resource Group



Register at
[gswcf.org/
stemapalooza](https://gswcf.org/stemapalooza)



Ways to Give



Donate Today: www.gswcf.org/give

Juliette Gordon Low Society

The Juliette Gordon Low Society was established to honor individuals who have included Girl Scouts of West Central Florida in their estate plan. It is comprised of a diverse group of donors across a wide range of ages and income levels who have one common connection—a desire to ensure that Girl Scouting makes a strong and vital impact for years to come.

If you would like to learn how you can become a member of the Juliette Gordon Low Society, please contact **Clara Moll, Chief Development Officer** at **813-262-1768** or **cmoll@gswcf.org**.



Daisy's Circle
Bring her promise to life

Named after Girl Scouts founder Juliette “Daisy” Gordon Low, **Daisy's Circle** is Girl Scouts of West Central Florida's monthly giving program designed to cultivate philanthropy among friends, members, alumnae, and volunteers of Girl Scouts. Funds raised through Daisy's Circle ensures every girl in our eight-county footprint has a high quality Girl Scout Leadership Experience.

Daisy's Circle members receive a quarterly Daisy's Circle email newsletter, a unique Daisy's Circle pin, as well as other special incentives. To join Daisy's Circle visit **gswcf.org/daisyscircle**.





Girl Scout Promise

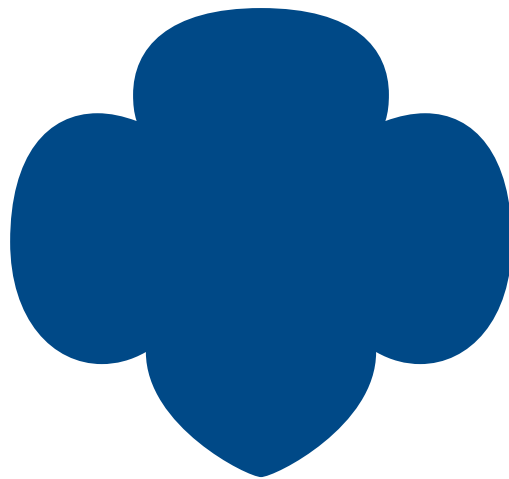
On my honor, I will try:
To serve God and my country,
To help people at all times,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be
honest and fair,
friendly and helpful,
considerate and caring,
courageous and strong,
and responsible for what I say and do,
and to respect myself and others,
respect authority,
use resources wisely,
make the world a better place,
and be a sister to every Girl Scout.

Girl Scouts of West Central Florida
4610 Eisenhower Blvd. Tampa, FL 33634
1-800-881-GIRL (4475) *or* 813-281-GIRL (4475)
www.gswcf.org

Save the Date:
2024 Women *of* Distinction
March 8, 2024 *at* Armature Works



Nominations *are* Now Open!
www.gswcf.org/2024WOD



Thank You *for* Supporting Girl Scouts of West Central Florida
www.gswcf.org/give