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CNYers celebrate 100 years of Girl Scouts

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By **Sarah Moses / The Post-Standard**

Syracuse, NY -- For 19-year-old Julia Calagiovanni, of Syracuse, girl scouting is a family tradition.

Her mother was Girl Scout in the 1960s and her grandmother in the 1930s. As a third generation scout, Calagiovanni said she is thankful for the strong core values that scouting has given her.

Calagiovanni will be among 100 people and organizations honored tonight in celebration of the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouts USA. Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways, which serves nearly 19,000 girls in a 26-county area in New York and Pennsylvania, is hosting a 100th Anniversary Gala at the Oncenter in Syracuse.

Some of the other honorees include Carol Baldwin, Ginny Donohue, Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand and Syracuse Mayor Stephanie Miner.

"It's truly an honor to be recognized in this group," said Calagiovanni, who was valedictorian of the West Genesee High School class of 2010 and is currently a freshman at Yale University.

The women, men and organizations being honored were selected for the recognition because they have inspired girls to lead and achieve, said Judy Gallagher, NYPENN's director of marketing and communications.

"Some of the honorees were Girl Scouts or volunteers, who have been role models for girls," she said.



Calagiovanni began scouting when she was in kindergarten and continued until she graduated high school. She is now a lifetime member.

"A lot of people dropout in middle school, but my mom encouraged me to keep going and I love it," she said.



AP Photo/The Times of Northwest Indiana, File

This is a 1924 file photo showing Juliette Gordon Low and a group of Girl Scouts standing in the yard in Savannah, Ga., where the first Girl Scouts met in 1912.



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Julia Calagiovanni

Camp was the best part for Calagiovanni. She said she loved meeting new friends at camp and reuniting with them each summer. She also enjoyed training to be a program aid and junior counselor.

Juliette Gordon Low founded Girl Scouts on March 12, 1912 in Savannah, Georgia. A lot has changed in 100 years but the core values has stayed the same, said Rita Chirumbolo Ernstrom, chair of the history and archive committee for NYPENN.

“The promise the girls take and the law that they live by have stayed the same,” Ernstrom said. “How we deliver the program has been adapted as the times have changed.”

An exhibit on the history of the Girl Scouts is now open at the Onondaga Historical Association, which is located 321 Montgomery St., in Syracuse. Lynne Pascale, director of development at the Onondaga Historical Association, said the exhibit is a great learning tool for current scouts and a walk through memory lane for former scouts.

The exhibit will be open through Aug. 31. The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday through Friday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the weekends. The cost is free with a suggested donation.

In addition to the gala, several other events are planned to mark the anniversary, including candlelight ceremonies and other programs.

“The 100th anniversary is a celebratory time because of the more than 50 million American woman who have been Girl Scouts and say that Girl Scouts gave them the their foundation,” Gallagher said.

The honorees

Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways — which includes Central New York — is honoring 100 women, men, Girl Scouts and organizations to mark the 100th anniversary of the founding of Girl Scouts:

Liz Ayers

Robert Baden-Powell*

Carol Baldwin

Susan Bebee

Carrie Berse

Susan Bertrand

Suzanne Blatchford

Juli Boeheim

Bond, Schoeneck & King

Diane Bootie

Katherine Bootie

Kimberly A Boynton

Eileen L. Brophy

Natalie L. Brown

James C. Burns

C&S Companies

Julia Calagiovanni

Julie Cecile

Mary Ellen Clausen

Ruth Colvin

Dorothy Cotton

Gail Cowley

Edith Cox

Beverly Crim

Susan Crossett

CX Tec

Karrie Damm

Lisa DeVeau

Ginny Donohue

Alexandra Ferlo

Carol Fletcher

Claudette George

Rosamond Gifford*

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand

For the Girl Scouts we have Lost*

Girl Scout Volunteers

Sharon Gramlich

Ruth Hancock

Hancock Estabrook

Hematology-Oncology Associates of CNY

Kathy Henry

Tracy Higginbotham

Marilyn Higgins

Beth A. Hilton

Beth Lynn Hoey

Charlotte "Chuckie" Holstein

The Junior League of Syracuse

Pat Keefe

Keys for Women

Gail Kinsella

Kathy Kotz

Diane Kuppermann

Linda Lopez

Juliette Gordon Low*

Amy Lynch

Cynthia L. Mather
Danielle Mather
The Matilda Joslyn Gage Center
Sue McCarthy
Leslie Rose McDonald
Gool Mehta
Mayor Stephanie Miner
Sherry A. Mossotti
Judy Mower
National Women's Hall of Fame
Northland Communications
Margaret "Peggy" Ogden
Marjorie Z. Olds
Onondaga Community College
Onondaga Historical Society
Onondaga Nation
Cindy Ormond
Gwendolyn Parks
Katy Payne
Dr. Sarah Pines
Terry Plizga
Judy Prosser
Judith H. Reilly
Amy Robbins
Katherine Robinson
Sonia Marie Robinson
Amy Schiek
Julie Shimer
Theresa Slater
Tom Slater
Joan Sprague
SRC Inc.
Ann Marie Stonecypher
Susan Swanson
Jennifer Tom
Melanie Trexler
Scott Van Allen
Colleen Van Camp
Vera House, Inc.
Julia Wolanski
WBOC
WISE Symposium

Women's Fund of Central New York

Judy Zeamer

Zonta

** Indicates legacy honoree*

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