



2026 Annual Meeting

When: Saturday, February 7, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM | Where: Live Virtual Event
Registration Deadline: January 29

DELEGATE PACKET

Thank you to those of you who have agreed to represent your service unit as a delegate to the 2026 Girl Scouts of Western Washington Annual Meeting. As a service unit delegate or other voting member of the council, your responsibilities include electing our Girl Scouts of Western Washington board and board officers. This packet includes board nominee bios for your review.

The 2026 annual meeting will be held virtually using the Zoom platform. There is no cost to attend the meeting, but all participants must register. You will receive a login link to the Zoom meeting after registering. You will vote electronically via a link or QR code.

Use the link below to register for the meeting.
Registration is required to receive the confirmation packet with the Zoom link.

[Delegate Registration](#)

Meeting Outline

Changes are being made to the format of the annual meeting this year. Please review the basic agenda below. The main meeting will be similar to past meetings; however, following the meeting, instead of a question-and-answer period, there will be two opportunities for breakout rooms for youth and adult members.

Meeting

- Welcome and Meeting Overview
- Review of 2024-2025 Membership Year
- Treasurer's Report
- Election of Board of Directors
- Introduction of Board Members

Breakout Session Options

- Girl Scouts of Western Washington Strategic Planning
- National Council Session Feedback

If you have questions for Girl Scouts of Western Washington, please submit them via this form: <https://forms.office.com/r/strtBa9Cxd>. Using this form is the best way to ensure a response to your questions from Girl Scouts of Western Washington. A FAQ sheet will be put together using questions collected via this form and distributed to meeting attendees.

Learning Resources for Delegates

There are two courses on [gsLearn](#) that we ask all delegates to watch before the annual meeting. Youth delegates who do not have a gsLearn account may email Beth Parker at bparker@girlscoutsww.org to get one set up.

- [688 So You Wanna Be a GSWW Delegate?](#) – An introduction to the annual meeting and the roles and responsibilities of being a delegate.
 - [688 Robert's Rules of Order: The Musical](#) – An overview of Robert's Rules of Order and how we use them in the annual meeting.
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New Deadline for Nominations from the Floor

At the 2023 annual meeting, the voting members of Girl Scouts of Western Washington made some changes to the bylaws. Among those changes was a change to the process for nominations made from the floor to the Girl Scouts of Western Washington Board of Directors, such that nominations from the floor should be made in accordance with the Nominating and Governance Committee Charter. In 2025, the Girl Scouts of Western Washington Board of Directors amended the Nominating and Governance Committee Charter to change the lead time for making a nomination from the floor. This has been changed from forty-eight hours to two weeks (fourteen calendar days) to better allow for the necessary conversations between nominees and our Nominating and Governance Committee members, to make sure that staff have time to confirm the eligibility of the nominees, and to provide information to voting members about the additional nominees. Any nominations from the floor should be brought to the attention of the Chair of the Nominating and Governance Committee and Girl Scouts of Western Washington's Chief of Staff no later than two weeks prior to the annual meeting.

Chair of the Nominating and Governance Committee: Dana Henderson; hendersondana@hotmail.com

Girl Scouts of Western Washington's Chief of Staff: Shannon L. Pitton; shannonlp@girlscoutsww.org

Board of Directors Nominees

Girl Scouts of Western Washington's Board of Directors is charged with working in partnership with the CEO and other staff to provide mission-based strategic direction and governance, along with fiduciary oversight for the council. Board members participate in defining the strategic framework of the organization, monitor progress toward established goals, and actively participate on various committees. As individuals who care deeply about the Girl Scout mission and our council's vision, board members are engaged in the community as ambassadors of Girl Scouts of Western Washington and work in collaboration with our philanthropy team to facilitate the identification, cultivation, solicitation, and stewardship of individual donors and corporate and foundation partners.

New Board Members: The following are new board members up for election to three-year terms as members at large.

Jenny Hickcox

Tacoma



Jenny has served as a Community Member on the Girl Scouts of Western Washington Board, Nominating and Governance Committee for the past three years, sharing her passion for the girl* experience and creating opportunities in STEAM. As a Community Member, Jenny helped create committee charter templates for consistency and clarity of focus and responsibilities that support Girl Scouts of Western Washington committees to operate effectively.

Beyond Girl Scouts of Western Washington Board, Nominating and Governance Committee support, Jenny has spent the last four years working as the Director of Engineering for a Seattle-based SaaS (Software as a Solution) company serving the infrastructure construction industry, HeadLight Technologies, Inc. As the Director of Engineering at HeadLight, Jenny Hickcox drives innovation by aligning processes, people, and technology to deliver next-level solutions. With over fifteen years of demonstrated expertise, she transforms technology organizations through learning and continuous improvement, fostering a culture that strives to achieve the impossible. At HeadLight, Jenny has played a pivotal role in transforming the engineering organization to incorporate scalability and engineering excellence in speed-to-market delivery objectives. She prides herself on fostering transparency and trust as foundational elements for building strong, cohesive teams.

Prior to HeadLight, Jenny worked for Nordstrom, a Fortune 500 company, in several roles and positions over fifteen years, where she ran and delivered multiple large-scale, multi-year, and multi-million dollar enterprise initiatives. Notably, Jenny led the successful delivery of a \$27 million multinational Workday SaaS solution that enhanced HR and employee self-service functionalities for Nordstrom.

Jenny attended the University of Puget Sound. Jenny obtained her Certification in DEI from the University of Washington Foster School of Business in 2023 and is passionate about fostering a culture of diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging both in the workplace and beyond. Outside of work, Jenny lives in Tacoma with her wife, Christa, and their three dogs, Glacier, Myles, and Chia.

New Board Members Continued

Lina Miller

Seattle



Lina is the founder of Miller Impact Collective and a fundraising strategist with more than twenty-five years of experience helping mission-driven organizations grow their philanthropic support. She has held senior development roles at Earthjustice and The Nature Conservancy, leading major gifts programs and campaigns that raised hundreds of millions of dollars for the environment and social justice.

Lina had a brief stint as a Brownie, and recently discovered that her mother was also a Girl Scout in Québec City—giving her a meaningful, multigenerational tie to the movement. She is inspired by Girl Scouts of Western Washington’s commitment to inclusivity and to creating spaces where young people of all identities and abilities can find confidence, belonging, and purpose.

She holds a B.S. in Environmental Studies and Wildlife Biology from the University of Vermont and lives in Seattle with her family.

Colleen Murphy

Maple Valley



Colleen has been a Girl Scout since she was five years old. Her very first badge was the Cooking Badge, and her first overnight camp adventure was at Camp Widjiwagan in Illinois — where she learned to love the outdoors, make new friends, and try new things that felt a little bit brave, like learning how to identify poison ivy and hike at night.

Colleen is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and a finance leader with over thirty-five years of experience. She is responsible for accounting, producing financial statements, and explaining what the numbers mean to senior leaders and external parties. She loves taking something complicated and making it easy for people to understand so they can make smart decisions.

When she’s not working, Colleen loves hiking, snow skiing, and biking. She has climbed Mount Rainier and ridden her bike from Seattle to Portland and from Seattle to Vancouver, BC. Most of all, she loves spending time and making memories with her husband and two daughters.

Renewing Board Members: The following are renewing board members who are up for election to three-year terms as members at large.

MJ Kriepps

Redmond



Mara (MJ) has served as a Board member for Girl Scouts of Western Washington for nearly three years. She also has served as a Board member for the Boeing Employees Flying Association Charitable Trust, an organization that funds aviation education for under-represented youth, since 2024.

MJ's business career spans thirty-plus years in executive leadership and consulting roles, primarily in U.S.-based technology organizations, as well as engagements in the Caribbean, Europe, and Asia. Most recently she served as vice president of an international business operations team for Warner Media's Global Streaming business. Her previous professional roles have spanned operations, product management, and marketing.

MJ also served for seven years as Facilitator and Advisory Board member of the Product Management Consortium, a Seattle-based professional organization she led through more than tenfold growth. Previously, she served as an Advisory Board member and instructor for the University of Washington's Software Product Management Certificate Program.

MJ has been a speaker for multiple U.S.-based product management and marketing organizations. She has been listed in Puget Sound Business Journal's TechFlash "Top 100 Women in Seattle Tech" for her role in the local technology industry, and she received an Association of International Product Marketing and Management "Excellence in Product Management Education" award for her professional training work.

Dan Rutter

Seattle



Dan was bitten by the "investment bug" in college. Since then, his professional focus has always been on investing. He earned an MBA at the University of Washington and then the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation four years later. Dan ran the dividend fund for SAFECO's investment department and helped launch SAFECO Trust Company. While serving as President of the CFA Society of Seattle, he moved to Laird Norton Trust Company and then Paragon Investment Management. Dan left Paragon to pursue better work-life balance at Agate Pass Investment Management, LLC, in May of 2018.

Aside from creating wealth for people, Dan enjoys tennis, snow skiing and spending time with his wife, Nancy, two college-aged daughters, and his black lab, Terra. As of December 2020, Dan has completed ten years of consecutive CFA continuing education and is working on the Certified Retirement Counselor designation.

Renewing Board Members Continued

Tara Smith

Bainbridge Island



Tara is a transformational, executive level leader with more than twenty-seven years of experience in the public and non-profit sector. A skilled strategic thinker, Tara is best when she is transforming strategic plans into real world solutions and measurable benchmarks; using data, human centered design and loving leadership to identify and solve multifaceted problems that drive organizational health.

As Director of Strategic Policy at Catholic Community Services of Western Washington (CCSWW), Tara works with policymakers and leaders to protect the interests of some of the most vulnerable in our community—children and families in crisis who need the intervention of family behavioral health services. With 75% of all lifetime mental illnesses emerging by age twenty-four, CCSWW’s work provides a critical path for the success of our future generations.

In 2021, Governor Jay Inslee appointed Tara as Director of the Washington State Department of Enterprise Services (DES), and she was confirmed by the Washington Senate in 2022. As a member of the Governor’s Executive Cabinet, Tara led the delivery of statewide centralized support services across state agencies and local governments so they can focus on their core missions. With more than 1,000 employees, Tara oversaw a \$300 million operating budget, and a capital program of \$1.2 billion through many different programs, including centralized procurement, facilities management, real estate, printing and mailing, surplus equipment disposition, public works, capital projects, risk management, fleet management, workforce development, and care and custody of the country’s largest state capitol campus. She left state service in January 2025 at the end of Governor Inslee’s term.

Prior to coming to Washington, Tara was a leader in one of the country’s largest municipal governments for seventeen years. She worked her way up through progressively more responsible leadership roles until she was appointed Director of the Internal Services Department for Miami-Dade County in 2015, where she led one of the county’s largest operational agencies and spearheaded the first social infrastructure public-private partnership project in the southeast region.

Tara is a dedicated mentor and advocate for social justice, equity, and inclusion. She earned her bachelor’s degree in social work and a Master of Public Administration from Florida International University, where she was awarded the Public Service Distinguished Alumni Award.

Tara lives in Pierce County with her wife, Monica. She spends most of her free time in volunteer work, serving on the board of Girl Scouts of Western Washington, and as an advisory member of the Institute for Innovation and Global Engagement. In her free time, she enjoys exploring the Pacific Northwest, learning from her new vegetable garden, reading, and is a certified yoga teacher.

Renewing Board Members Continued

Robert te Winkel

Seattle



Robert is currently with Entrepreneurs' Organization (EO) Seattle, an influential business network run by entrepreneurs for entrepreneurs. As a Chief Financial Officer (CFO) he is a trusted financial expert among CFO peers, with a strong history of driving growth and building financial infrastructure.

While at Washington Technology Industry Association, Robert built a team from inception, guiding and designing highly efficient reporting systems and optimizing business and staff performance. He's also held several accounting and finance roles for privately held enterprises in Washington and California.

He is originally from Caracas, Venezuela and found his way to the U.S. on a soccer scholarship. After graduating from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting and Finance, Robert moved to Spain to get his MBA at Carlos III University of Madrid. He lives and works in Seattle.

*Girl Scouts of Western Washington uses the term girls inclusively to speak to everyone who identifies with the Girl Scout experience, which includes cisgender girls, gender-expansive youth, transgender youth, non-binary youth, gender nonconforming youth, genderqueer youth, and any girl-identifying human.