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American Heritage Girls Endorsed as Preferred Scouting Option by Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kan.

Catholic scouting troops will transition to the AHG Program over upcoming years

CINCINNATI, OH (May 3, 2017) – On May 1, 2017, Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann, D.D., Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kan., issued a letter proclaiming his support for the American Heritage Girls (AHG) Program. The Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kan. stated that Girl Scouts of the USA is no longer a compatible partner when it comes to issues like virtue and values. Catholic scouting troops within the archdiocese will begin the transition to become part of the American Heritage Girls Program; all parishes are expected to begin the transition this year, at least for those entering kindergarten. AHG, Inc. Staff Members are prepared to walk hand-in-hand with those in Kansas City, Kan. to successfully make the transition from other scouting organizations to the AHG Program.

“Our greatest responsibility as a church is to the children and young people in our care,” said Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann in his letter. “We have a limited time and number of opportunities to impact the formation of our young people. It is essential that all youth programs at our parishes affirm virtues and values consistent with our Catholic faith.”

Similarly, in 2014, the Archdiocese of St. Louis encouraged support for American Heritage Girls and other faith-based organizations for girls. In 2011, the Diocese of Rockford issued a diocesan endorsement for formation of American Heritage Girls Troops within its diocese and appointed a diocesan chaplain to assist Troops in their development and evolution. To learn of other dioceses that have promoted American Heritage Girls, visit <https://www.americanheritagegirls.org/program/alliances/ahg-national-catholic-committee/>.

“I am encouraged by the support from Archbishop Naumann and the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kan.,” said Patti Garibay, Executive Director/Founder of American Heritage Girls. “The AHG Program focuses on caring about girls, especially those in childhood, and teaching them about who they are, as well as whose they are. Having faith leaders, like Archbishop Naumann, recognize the impact on the Kingdom through a program like AHG, will lead to the development of more women of integrity through service to God, family, community and country.”

American Heritage Girls, the premier national character development organization for young women that embraces Christian values and encourages family involvement, was founded in 1995 in West Chester, Ohio in response to changes within GSUSA. The AHG Program was initially targeted towards girls in the Cincinnati-area looking for a faith-based alternative; however, within three years of starting the scout-like program, American Heritage Girls quickly spread

across the country. Since then, AHG has been successful in attracting 47,000 Members that make up 1,029 Troops, all who seek a faith-based program focused on character development.

For more information, visit americanheritagegirls.org or contact the AHG, Inc. National Office in Cincinnati, Ohio at 513-771-2025.

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Founded in 1995 in Cincinnati, Ohio, AHG is a faith-based character development program for girls five to 18 years of age. AHG is dedicated to the mission of building women of integrity through service to God, family, community and country. AHG girls across the nation and the globe participate in badge programs, service projects, leadership opportunities and outdoor experiences, all with an emphasis on Christian values and family involvement. For more information, visit the AHG website at www.americanheritagegirls.org.

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To schedule an interview with AHG Executive Director and Founder, Patti Garibay, contact Chelsey Ross at rossc@ahgonline.org or 513-771-2025, ext.168.