## \*\*\*NEWS RELEASE\*\*\*

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## American Heritage Girls Announces 'Live Free,' Its Joyful and Forward-Focused Program Theme for 2021-2022

As Pandemic Restrictions Recede, AHG Girls Are Reuniting in Their Troops and in Meeting Places— 'May the Joy of the Lord Color Our Every Day'

**CINCINNATI, Ohio** — Tens of thousands of parents and caregivers of daughters across America already know that *American Heritage Girls (AHG, www.americanheritagegirls.org)* provides a faith-based, scout-type experience for girls and young women that includes compelling service projects, badge programs, leadership opportunities, outdoor adventure, and much more—all with a strong focus on Christian values and family participation.

Today, as millions of Americans take steps forward after the devastation of COVID-19—and begin to shed the restrictions imposed on the nation and the world during these difficult pandemic times, including social distancing and mask wearing—AHG is pleased to share a positive, encouraging, and God-affirming message: The organization is kicking off a year of "Living Free" for all participants as they engage and participate anew in the AHG program.

"While AHG has always worked diligently to build young women of deep faith and abiding integrity no matter what challenges they face, the circumstances of the past year have been especially crushing," said AHG Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay. "As we embark on a new period of engagement, service, and growth after these trying times, AHG is declaring a bold and refreshing commitment to 'Live Free.' We know from the Bible that God wants us to do so as believers in Jesus Christ.

"Parents of today's girls are searching for a way to raise their 'Gen-Z-ers' with a strong and life-giving faith," Garibay added. "American Heritage Girls offers that godly space for tens of thousands of families nationwide. Thanks to a program fully formed and centered around Jesus Christ, girls are learning, firsthand, how (and why!) to live a life of virtue."

**AHG** has been dedicated for many years to providing authentic, positive, and values-driven outdoor activities and other character and leadership development opportunities for girls across the nation. This well-organized program also honors girls' specific and measurable accomplishments, something in which the participants take enormous pride—and use as stepping-stones each year as they further enhance their skills, sense of service, and much more.

Added Garibay about the program's 2021-2022 "Live Free" theme, "As followers of Jesus Christ, we have the opportunity to Live Free in the joy of His love. We no longer are bound by the chains of sin—but set free through faith! And we know that His saving grace frees us from the many things that try to trap us in life. We are free from worry, doubt, and fear because we know God is in control. We are free from allowing circumstances to defeat us, knowing God is growing our character. He promises to use everything we face for our betterment and bring glory to Him.

"A relationship with Christ does not free us to do whatever we want," added Garibay. "It gives every Christ-follower the privilege to do what is right, just, and true in our Father's eyes. We are free to live a compassionate, helpful, honest, loyal, perseverant, pure, resourceful, respectful, responsible, and reverent life in Christ—just as our AHG Creed instructs."

American Heritage Girls was founded in 1995 by a group of parents who wanted a faith-based, scout-type character development program for their daughters. American Heritage 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.

In addition to the biblically based parenting advice shared in the <u>Raising Godly Girls blog</u> and <u>Raising Godly Girls</u> radio features that are heard on 770 radio stations, *American Heritage Girls* provides a community experience in a Troop setting. Girls benefit from Christ-centered friendships and mentors to assist them in becoming godly girls.

Today, there are <u>Troops</u> in all 50 states and girls who are being served in 15 countries around the globe through the <u>Trailblazer Program</u>. A variety of Christian denominations are also represented as <u>Charter Organizations</u> for Troops. Thousands of volunteer members across the country are helping girls grow in their faith, cultivate a heart for service, enjoy the great outdoors, and have more fun than they can imagine.

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To schedule interviews with *Patti Garibay, founder and executive director of American Heritage Girls*, contact <u>Media@HamiltonStrategies.com</u>, Beth Harrison, 610.584.1096 ext. 105, or Deborah Hamilton, ext. 102.