

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

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## **This Veterans Day, *American Heritage Girls* Shares a Bedrock Belief: ‘We Must Understand Our Heritage to Improve the Future’**

*Our Nation’s History ‘Was Built on the Solid Rock of Faith—  
and AHG Is Here to Continue Its Legacy’*

**CINCINNATI, Ohio** — This week, as the country celebrates Veterans Day on Thursday, Nov. 11, *American Heritage Girls (AHG, [www.americanheritagegirls.org](http://www.americanheritagegirls.org))* reiterates the fact that patriotism is fundamental to its programs. *AHG* regularly encourages patriotism among its members, as well as a deep respect for those who have made immense sacrifices for the U.S.A.

One of the world’s largest Christian, scout-type organizations, *AHG* has long focused on building young women of integrity through service to God, family, community, and country. Through its thoughtful badge programs, service projects, leadership opportunities, outdoor adventures, virtual connections, and more, *AHG* stresses Christian values and family participation across its many programs for girls.

*AHG Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay says, “Like the patriots before them, American Heritage Girls must understand their heritage to improve the future. We must understand both the sacrifices—and the mistakes—of our forefathers. If we erase our heritage and our history (as so many other groups have done), we’re bound to repeat our mistakes and release our commitment to freedom. The freedom I’m referring to does not come from government, leaders, or finances,” she continues. “It comes from the Lord God Himself. America’s heritage was built on the solid rock of faith—and American Heritage Girls is here to continue its legacy.”*

Among *AHG’s* many specially designed offerings is its “**Free to Honor**” program initiative, which shares the importance of honoring our country and the sacrifices made by others—including those made by scores of American veterans—to bring America to where it is today. *AHG* members learn this pledge: “I promise to love God, cherish my family, **honor** my country, and serve in my community.” During “**Free to Honor**” week, *AHG* members spend a day devoted to each of these concepts: Heritage, Unity, Patriotism, Honor, and Respect. Girls can also earn a special “**Free to Honor**” patch reflecting our country’s history, discovering service opportunities, and learning the characteristics of a respectful citizen by completing specific badge requirements.

*“Faith is the spark that remains in the hearts of many of our fellow countrymen,” adds Garibay. “We are the ones writing the script of America’s future today. With every word, decision, and act—for good or ill—we are either rebuilding our foundation or contributing to its further decay. Each of us plays a part.*

*“Members of American Heritage Girls,” Garibay continues, “are equipped to lead and learn. Girls are encouraged in their faith walk to be women of integrity. History is rolling up like a scroll—and we need to respond to the divine hand of God and the moment of grace that’s been extended to us. Let’s seize the opportunity before us! Our young women are encouraged to share the Gospel, engage the culture, and stand like shining lights in a dark world. I believe if we can understand our past, then we can build for a bright future.”*

**AHG** Troops regularly perform service of all types within their communities year-round. In the last **AHG** Program Year ending May 30, 2021, **AHG** girls accomplished an impressive total of 417,295 service hours.

**American Heritage Girls** was founded in 1995 by a group of parents who wanted this faith-based, scout-type character development program for their daughters. At **AHG**, girls ages five to 18 meet together as [a single Troop](#) at the same time and then break out into Units by Levels. This gives **AHG** girls the important social experience of interacting with friends and godly mentors of various ages; members also learn leadership skills within a group setting. **AHG** Troops are located in [local communities](#) across the nation. If none exists in a given area, families can bring the **AHG** Program to their own area. An **American Heritage Girls** Troop Development Coach is available to provide resources to potential Charter Organizations and other families to form [a new Troop](#). To hear more about the purpose, mission, and vision of **AHG** from **Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay**, [click here](#).

Today, there are [Troops](#) in all 50 states and girls being served in 15 countries around the globe. Girls can join a Troop at any time; if a Troop is not available nearby, they can become a [Trailblazer](#) and enjoy the **AHG** program alongside their parent. A variety of Christian denominations are also represented as [Charter Organizations](#) 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.

The *“Raising Godly Girls”* radio feature and [Raising Godly Girls blog](#) shares guidance and biblically based advice on many key topics affecting girls today—including the prevalence of bullying and cyberbullying. It gives parents, educators, and faith community leaders a set of tools, resources, and Scripture-based advice to assist in raising girls after God’s own heart. The [“Raising Godly Girls Minute” with Patti Garibay](#) airs on 900+ Christian radio stations across the country.

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To schedule interviews with **Patti Garibay**, **Founder and Executive Director of American Heritage Girls**, contact [Media@HamiltonStrategies.com](mailto:Media@HamiltonStrategies.com), Beth Harrison, 610.584.1096 ext. 105, or Deborah Hamilton, ext. 102.

To inquire about airing the [“Raising Godly Girls Minute” with Patti Garibay](#), contact [Michael Hamilton](#), 610.584.1096, ext. 101.