

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

For Immediate Release  
February 6, 2023

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**FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

***American Heritage Girls* challenges and inspires girls  
with Harriet Tubman Award**

*AHG founder: ‘I believe if we as Americans can understand our past and celebrate those who fought for what is right, we can then build for a bright future’*

CINCINNATI, Ohio — As America celebrates [Black History Month](#), *American Heritage Girls* (AHG, [www.americanheritagegirls.org](http://www.americanheritagegirls.org)) — one of the largest Christian, scout-type organizations in the world — respects the legacy of Black women in American history. AHG’s highest award for the Pioneer Level (ages 12-14) is the Harriet Tubman Award, named after [the famous abolitionist and political activist](#).

*“I have always had a passion for history,” stated AHG founder and executive director Patti Garibay. “I believe if we as Americans can understand our past and celebrate those who fought for what is right, we can then build for a bright future. That’s what I envisioned for AHG when it was founded, and I am grateful for the opportunity to help raise godly girls and mold the future of America. Members of American Heritage Girls are equipped to lead, resource, and learn. Girls are encouraged in their faith walk and to be women of integrity, and the Pioneer Level Harriet Tubman Award is a great example of that.”*

The Harriet Tubman Award encourages girls in the Pioneer Level to expand their skills by accomplishing a variety of achievements. The requirements include holding a leadership position for at least four months, completing 15 hours of service each year as a Pioneer, planning, organizing, and implementing a Troop activity or event and other tasks. The tasks are designed to challenge the girls as they complete each item on the list. The girls are also given an extensive checklist to help guide them through the requirements.

*Garibay continued, “Our goal is to equip young women with the tools they need to grow from godly girls to women of integrity — and the Harriet Tubman Award is a prime example of that goal. It teaches girls perseverance, self-respect, and a strong sense of satisfaction.”*

*American Heritage Girls* was founded in 1995 when *Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay* became concerned with the direction the Girl Scouts of America was headed. *Garibay*, along with a group of concerned parents, wanted a faith-based, scout-type character development program for their daughters, and *American Heritage Girls* was born. Today, there are [Troops](#) in all 50 states and girls being served in 15 countries around the globe. 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.

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. To hear more about the purpose, mission, and vision of **AHG** from **Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay**, [click here](#).

**AHG's "Raising Godly Girls"** radio feature and [Raising Godly Girls blog](#) shares guidance and biblically based advice on many key topics affecting girls today — from bullying and identity to anxiety and body image issues. 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 1000+ Christian radio stations across the country.

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To schedule interviews with spokespersons from *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](#).