NEWS RELEASE

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MAY 14 IS MOTHER'S DAY

As the world erases femininity, *American Heritage*Girls celebrates the uniqueness of every girl

'Girls need women who embrace their God-given womanhood and empower them to love what makes them a godly girl' says **Patti Garibay**

CINCINNATI, Ohio — Modern society is constantly shifting the definition of womanhood. With schools actively <u>removing the word "female"</u> from curriculum and high-ranking government officials refusing to answer basic biology questions about <u>what it means to be a woman</u>, young girls are in desperate need of positive, godly female role models.

American Heritage Girls (AHG, <u>www.americanheritagegirls.org</u>), one of the world's largest Christian scouttype organizations, is proud to foster meaningful relationships between mothers and daughters, mentors and mentees, and girls looking for examples of godly women of character, leadership, virtue, and integrity.

"Girls need strong female role models now more than ever before," said AHG Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay. "In a world looking to erase femininity, girls need women who embrace their Godgiven womanhood and empower them to love what makes them a godly girl. At AHG, girls not only have the opportunity to foster relationships with their Troop leaders and mentors, but also other Troop members! These relationships are crucial for a young girl looking for clarity regarding her femininity."

AHG provides Christian programming that is rich in opportunities for girls of all ages and abilities. As girls grow and change, so should the activities that they do. With each **AHG** Program Level, girls are introduced to new skills, experiences (including outdoor adventures) and leadership positions, as well as given opportunities to grow closer to the Lord.

"At AHG, girls from ages five through 18 gather in a single Troop, offering girls a look at girlhood at every stage," said Garibay. "In a world that looks to obscure the truth about gender and identity, these powerful relationships are absolutely critical."

One **AHG** mom commented, "My daughter just became a Patriot (Level). She has been with **AHG** since she was five. In all of those years, she has grown into an amazing, confident young woman. She has developed life-long friendships, even across the country thanks to Convention, camps, and the Pen Pal Program. Her faith is stronger because it extends past home and church! Her heart to serve amazes me every day and I believe that was developed through so many acts of service with **AHG**. She is truly a godly, young woman of integrity."

In order to give parents, teachers and leaders a guide through the maze of gender and identity, **AHG** proudly offers "A Raising Godly Girls Guide to Gender and Identity." The groundbreaking guide provides tools parents can use to understand society's attitude toward gender and applies biblical truth highlighting the beauty in the differences between men and women. From preparing hearts for conversation to reviewing a glossary of key gender terms and how they are used, parents will come away with a set of tools and exercises to begin this important conversation with their daughter. This resource meets parents right where they are, combining Scriptural wisdom and **AHG's** tried-and-true methodologies to raising godly girls.

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 <u>a single Troop</u> 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 <u>local</u> <u>communities</u> across the nation. To hear more about the purpose, mission, and vision of *AHG* from *Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay*, <u>click here.</u>

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, Beth Harrison, 610.584.1096 ext. 105, or Deborah Hamilton, ext. 102.

To inquire about airing the "<u>Raising Godly Girls Minute</u>" with *Patti Garibay*, contact Michael Hamilton, 610.584.1096, ext. 101.