NEWS RELEASE

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Is the rise of AI the fall of real relationships? *American Heritage Girls* founder espouses true comradery through unique programming

'Real relationships are the heartbeat of human civilization, and no artificial intelligence can replace the warmth of human contact,' says AHG Founder Patti Garibay

CINCINNATI, Ohio — Today's world is advancing faster than anyone could have predicted. As society continues to delve into the realm of artificial intelligence (AI), many experts — including <u>Geoffrey Hinton</u>, the "godfather of artificial intelligence" — are warning against the potential pitfalls of such futuristic technology. One aspect that could be irreversibly altered by artificial intelligence is the way humanity forms relationships, <u>particularly for youth</u>.

American Heritage Girls (AHG, <u>www.americanheritagegirls.org</u>), one of the world's largest Christian scouttype organizations, has been fostering godly relationships with girls for nearly three decades. In the face of artificial online relationships, AHG Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay emphasizes the importance of true, meaningful relationships with "real" people.

"<u>Genesis 2:18</u> revealed God's heart for relationships — it is not good for man to be alone," said Garibay. "Real relationships are the heartbeat of human civilization, and no artificial intelligence can replace the warmth of human contact. Meaningful relationships are vital to the wellbeing of young girls. <u>Research</u> <u>shows</u> that these early relationships (particularly the ones with parents) are the building blocks for the rest of a girl's life.

"The idea of replacing real relationships with manmade, artificial entities is unfathomable. Allowing technology — one of the <u>key detriments</u> to teen social development — to form and influence relationships with children through AI is a formula for disaster. Technology houses some of the worst aspects of humanity. AI, despite its technological advancements, reflects the flaws of its creators... man. For the picture of a true, loving relationship, girls need only to look to their flawless, perfect Creator, then take that love into their relationships here on earth."

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."

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 <u>Raising Godly Girls blog</u> 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 <u>*"Raising Godly Girls Minute" with Patti Garibay* airs on 1000+ Christian radio stations across the country.</u>

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To schedule interviews with spokespersons from *American Heritage Girls*, contact <u>Media@HamiltonStrategies.com</u>, 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.