NEWS RELEASE

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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 <u>Black History Month</u>, *American Heritage Girls (AHG,* <u>www.americanheritagegirls.org</u>) — 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 <u>the famous abolitionist and political activist</u>. Harriet Tubman dedicated her pioneering spirit and life to the cause of freedom and stands as a role model of bravery and confidence.

"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."

Tune in to this week's *Raising Godly Girls (RGG)* podcast and *"Raising Godly Girls"* one-minute radio feature to learn more about authentic community, Black History Month, and the Harriet Tubman Award.

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 <u>a single</u>

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

Today, there are <u>Troops</u> 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 <u>Trailblazer</u> and enjoy the *AHG* program alongside their parent. A variety of Christian denominations are also represented as <u>Charter</u> <u>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.

AHG offers various resources under <u>*"Raising Godly Girls,"*</u> including a weekly podcast, one-minute radio features, a blog, and guides for parents. All *"Raising Godly Girls"* platforms and materials offer guidance and biblically-based advice on various topics affecting girls today, such as bullying, identity, anxiety, and body image issues. *"Raising Godly Girls"* provides parents, educators, and faith community leaders with tools, resources, and Scripture-based advice to help raise girls after God's own heart.

AHG's new podcast, <u>*"Raising Godly Girls,"*</u> features fresh episodes every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Subscribe and follow on any major podcast platform or visit <u>raisinggodlygirls.com</u>. Additionally, the <u>*"Raising Godly Girls Minute" with Patti Garibay*</u> airs on 1000+ 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 <u>Media@HamiltonStrategies.com</u>, Beth Bogucki, 610.584.1096 ext. 105, or Robin Sprague, ext. 103.

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