

Slate of Nominees to be Presented at the Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay (GSCB) 63rd Council Annual Meeting

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

Delaware Technical & Community College – Terry Campus

Del-One Conference Center

100 Campus Drive - Dover, DE

5 p.m. – 8 p.m.

The Board Development Committee (BDC) presents the following slate of candidates for our voting members of the Corporation which are elected:

- Association Chairs
- Board of Directors
- Board Development Committee Members
- National Council Session Delegates
- Service Unit Delegates

The Board Development Committee elected members are Vanessa Phillips, chair, Devon Manning, Bonnie Meszaros, Nathalie Princilus, Autumn Tuxward, and Amber Young.

Officers | Board of Directors | Class of 2028

Patricia Nash Christel, 2nd Vice Chair (1st Term):

Patricia Nash Christel is an experienced Communications and Marketing Leader and Chief of Staff. She is skilled at enhancing and protecting brands, advancing business goals, and managing high-stakes issues. With more than 25 years of experience working in financial services, nonprofit organizations, and higher education, she has an extensive background in counseling executives and boards on strategy, leading communications and marketing initiatives, and spearheading reputation, customer, employee, and social impact programs.

Most recently, Patricia served as head of corporate marketing and communications and chief of staff to the CEO at Navient Corporation, a publicly traded financial services firm. She earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from Andrews University in Michigan and an MBA from the University of Maryland's Smith School of Business.

Patricia joined the board of the Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay in April 2024. She strongly believes in the Girl Scouts' mission and the power of girl-led experiences to build future generations of women leaders. For more than a decade, she was a troop volunteer and enjoyed camping, hiking, trips, and service projects with the Girl Scouts. Patricia lives in Newark, Delaware, with her family.

Tavanya Lockett, MPH, PMP, Secretary (1st Term):

Tavanya Lockett is the Principal and Founder of Mainline Advisory & Consulting Group, a management consulting firm dedicated to helping organizations navigate complex challenges, drive operational excellence, and build high-performing teams. A distinguished senior executive, Tavanya is recognized for her ability to transform ambiguity into strategic clarity, align cross-functional teams, and execute innovative solutions that deliver measurable results. She specializes in strategy development, change leadership, and innovative problem-solving, guiding multi-state enterprises to plan and implement their most ambitious initiatives successfully.

With a master's in public health from Drexel University and a Project Management Professional (PMP) certification, Tavanya is a recognized thought leader in healthcare management and business strategy. She is an active member of Women Business Leaders of the U.S. Health Care Industry Foundation (WBL), the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE), and the Project Management Institute (PMI). Further deepening her expertise in emerging technologies, she recently earned a certificate in Artificial Intelligence from MIT Sloan School of Management.

Beyond her professional work, Tavanya is committed to community service and leadership development. She serves on the Board of Directors for the Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay and the YWCA of Delaware. She also

volunteers her time supporting local food pantries and dining rooms, reinforcing her dedication to service and social impact.

In her personal time, Tavanya enjoys running, yoga, reading, gardening, and spending time outdoors with her family. She is passionate about using her servant leadership superpower to mentor and empower the next generation of leaders to discover their strengths and maximize their potential.

Director-at-Large | Board of Directors | Class of 2028

Natalie DiCostanza (1st Term):

Natalie DiCostanza serves as the Community Engagement Officer for WSFS Bank, where she cultivates strong relationships with community stakeholders, nonprofits, and Community Development Financial Institutions. Her work focuses on identifying key community needs, supporting impactful initiatives, and driving business opportunities that directly benefit low-to-moderate-income neighborhoods.

Natalie brings 15 years of experience from the nonprofit sector in Wilmington, Delaware, where she championed affordable housing, neighborhood revitalization, and active community involvement. Leveraging this expertise, she now serves on the Housing Alliance of Delaware's Board of Directors, contributing to efforts to ensure equitable housing and resolve homelessness. Her professional background also includes 10 years at MBNA America Bank, where she worked in the Motorsports and New Sales divisions.

A Delaware native and Wilmington resident, Natalie is a University of Delaware alumna and mother of two sons.

Danielle Vozzo (1st Term):

Danielle Vozzo is an experienced leader employed by Agilent Technologies, a company that manufactures high-end laboratory instrumentation for chemical analysis and life sciences research. She is currently the Operating Manager for the US East Territory Scheduling Organization. In her current position, she oversees a team of 20 customer-facing individuals who focus on the strategic planning of Field Service Engineers, ensuring customers maintain productivity and uptime in their labs. She is also a member of Agilent's Delaware Sites Leadership Council.

Before joining Agilent, Danielle attended the University of Delaware, earning her bachelor's degree in chemical engineering.

Danielle has had the pleasure of serving on the GSCB Board of Directors for two years, fulfilling a vacated term, and is excited to begin her first official term. She is passionate about empowering younger generations, especially young women and girls, and is excited to continue supporting GSCB's mission and vision.

Outside of work, Danielle is a certified yoga instructor who enjoys sharing the benefits of yoga and meditation with others. She lives in North Wilmington with her pet rabbit and enjoys baking (focusing on Gluten-Free recipes), theme parks, and podcasts.

Amber Young (2nd Term):

Amber Young is the Director of the Operations Control Center (OCC) and Emergency Preparedness (EP) and is responsible for leading the day-to-day operations team in the Atlantic City Electric, Delmarva Power, and Pepco Control Centers to provide safe, reliable power while providing a premier customer experience. Additionally, Amber leads the Emergency Preparedness organization in responding to major storm events and other large-scale events that impact our ability to provide safe, reliable power. Amber served as Secretary for the Delaware Chapter of the American Association of Blacks in Energy and was the International lead to Delmarva Power's STEM partner organizations (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Boys and Girls Club of DE, etc.). She also initiated a Robotics Club at Las Americas ASPIRA in Newark, DE and is a fellow of Leadership Delaware, a non-profit organization dedicated to preparing Delawareans with the knowledge, vision, integrity to impact and transform communities. Amber holds a bachelor's in electrical engineering and a master's in business administration from the University of Delaware and is a Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. member.

Kimberlee Ziolkowski (1st Term):

Kimberlee A. Ziolkowski serves as Vice President of learning, Planning, and communications for AAA Club Alliance (ACA). Throughout her 27-year tenure with AAA, she has collaborated with leadership to advance talent development, change management, and enhance our culture and partnership within our communities

to support achieving desired organizational goals. In her current role, Ms. Ziolkowski leads the direction of enterprise functions for learning and development, talent management, diversity, corporate communications, and corporate social responsibility.

Ms. Ziolkowski began her career with AAA Central-West Jersey as Director of Training & Development in 1997. She joined the AAA Mid-Atlantic team in 2001 with a focus on creating a culture of continual learning and development.

Notably, Ms. Ziolkowski was instrumental in designing and orchestrating the merger integration work between AAA Mid-Atlantic and AAA Allied group into ACA. Over a two-year period, she played an integral role in alignment efforts for associates, membership, products and services, and technology and telecommunications.

Ms. Ziolkowski earned her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science/Public Administration and her Master of Arts in Teaching from the College of New Jersey. She serves on the steering committee for Women in Leadership, the Board for Chesapeake Bay Girl Scouts, and the Delaware Business Roundtable Education Committee.

Board Development Committee Members Class of 2028

Erin Knauer (1st Term):

Erin Knauer is Vice President and Business Relationship Manager at M&T Bank. She has dedicated over a decade since 2014 to business banking, specializing in lending to fuel growth for businesses and nonprofits. Managing a portfolio of 100+ clients, she provides strategic guidance to help them thrive, reflecting M&T's commitment to understanding community needs. This work drives her passion for empowering the girls of Chesapeake Bay. As an immigrant, mother of two daughters, and wife to an amazing husband, she has built a rich life and career. She is excited to inspire young women to unlock their potential and advance the mission of the Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay and will be proud to serve on the Board Development Committee. Outside work, Erin enjoys shopping, traveling with her family, relaxing on the beach, or boating during the summer.

Susan McNiece (1st Term):

Susan McNiece retired from a successful career in the telecom industry with extensive experience in IT, Operations, and Marketing. She concluded her professional career as a high school teacher of personal finance, business, and IT. She is passionate about ensuring all high school graduates are financially literate and continues to advocate for personal finance education in the K-12 arena. She volunteers with the Center for Economic Education & Entrepreneurship, bringing personal finance programs to Delaware students and their families. She is a board director of the Alpha Phi Foundation, a charitable foundation that funds scholarships and comprehensive leadership education and training to empower Alpha Phi women. Susan is adamant about providing young women with leadership skills and training and sees Girl Scouts as a perfect fit to further her goals. Susan holds a BA in Economics from the University of Delaware and an MS from George Washington University School of Business and Public Management.

Autumn Tuxward (1st Term):

Autumn Tuxward is the Director of Youth Programs for Code Differently. In 2005, she became the first black female Paramedic Lieutenant with New Castle County, Delaware Emergency Medical Services, and is a beacon of inspiration. Her historic appointment is a testament to her dedication to breaking barriers. She strives to be an example to women and cherishes any opportunity to mentor our youth. Her memories as a Girl Scout and a leader in her daughter's troop are cherished, reflecting her commitment to community service. She resides with her family in Middletown, DE, emphasizing her strong community ties.

Autumn's leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic is a source of great pride. She coordinated New Castle County's testing and vaccination response, a monumental task that resulted in over 500,000 tests and over 2,000 vaccinations. Her COVID-19 testing site playbook, a testament to her strategic thinking, is featured in various academic publications. Her expertise is also recognized in the Journal of the American Medical Association, further solidifying her credibility and leadership.

Autumn's impact on Historically Black Colleges and Universities across the Country is significant. Her creation of logistical testing plans paved the way for returning students to campus, a crucial step in ensuring their education and safety. Her efforts were recognized with the Jefferson Award for Leadership in

Community Engagement and the Goodwill Partner of the Year award, underscoring the value of her contributions during the pandemic.

She is currently an At-Large member of the Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay board, is the 2nd Vice Chair for the Delaware NOBLE (National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives), is a 2023 Leadership Delaware Fellow, and teaches leadership theories to executives with her thoughts on leadership featured in NJSPCA magazine. She believes in the power of strong communities and the transformational ability of servant leadership.

Amber Young (1st Term):

Amber Young is the Director of the Operations Control Center (OCC) and Emergency Preparedness (EP) and is responsible for leading the day-to-day operations team in the Atlantic City Electric, Delmarva Power, and Pepco Control Centers to provide safe, reliable power while providing a premier customer experience. Additionally, Amber leads the Emergency Preparedness organization in responding to major storm events and other large-scale events that impact our ability to provide safe, reliable power. Amber served as Secretary for the Delaware Chapter of the American Association of Blacks in Energy and was the International lead to Delmarva Power's STEM partner organizations (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Boys and Girls Club of DE, etc.). She also initiated a Robotics Club at Las Americas ASPIRA in Newark, DE and is a fellow of Leadership Delaware, a non-profit organization dedicated to preparing Delawareans with the knowledge, vision, integrity to impact and transform communities. Amber holds a bachelor's in electrical engineering and a master's in business administration from the University of Delaware and is a Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. member.

National Council Session Delegates | Class of 2028

Olivia Bruno, Delegate:

Olivia Bruno attends Early College School at Delaware State University and has been an active Girl Scout since kindergarten. She is an Ambassador in Troop 547 and has volunteered and led many Girl Scout events with Service Unit 31. This past year, Olivia has been a Teen Board Representative. Olivia aspires to be an agricultural architect and knows the skills she has learned in Girl Scouts will help her achieve her goals. She has earned her bronze and silver awards and is working on attaining her Gold Award.

Kelley Ketcham, Delegate:

Kelley Ketcham grew up in Baltimore, Maryland, where she first encountered Girl Scouts as a Junior in the Girl Scouts of Central Maryland. As an adult, she was the troop leader for her daughter's Daisy troop in the Girl Scouts of Northwest Ohio before moving to Delaware in 2022. She currently serves as the troop leader and fall product champion for Troop 424, a multi-level troop consisting of 13 Brownies and Juniors, and an alternate delegate for Service Unit 625.

Kelley is the pastor of St. Mark's Lutheran Church (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) in Wilmington, Delaware; the church hosts five different Girl Scout troops, including Troop 424. She serves on the Delaware-Maryland Synod Council and is a member of the synod's Worship Team. Kelley is also a member of Sigma Alpha Iota, an international music fraternity for women, and serves on the United Lutheran Seminary Alumni Association and Covenant Community Services boards. She resides in North Wilmington with her husband, Robbie, and daughter, Abby.

Juliana Morrisette, Delegate:

Juliana "Jules" Morrisette is in her 10th year as a Girl Scout with Troop 446 and Service Unit 688. She is a Bronze & Silver Award Recipient pursuing her Gold Award, focusing on water safety awareness. She's passionate about the Girl Scout camp experience and travel - having camped every summer since she was a Daisy and previously traveling both domestically and internationally with Girl Scout Destinations as a Cadette. She holds outdoor program & camp certifications, including small craft, lifeguarding, PAT, CIT1 & CIT2 with GSUSA. She is actively involved in the United States Navy Sea Cadet Corps with aspirations for post-graduate military service. She plays varsity volleyball and swims competitively for her school and club travel teams. She

is also involved in her high school's Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Emerging Leaders. She looks forward to advocating for her Girl Scout sisters and ensuring all girls continue to benefit from the Girl Scout Experience!

Lauralee Rappleye, Delegate:

Lauralee Rappleye has been a Girl Scout for over 35 years---10 years as a Girl Scout in the Nation's Capital Council (earning her First Class Award in 1972) and 25+ years as a volunteer with Chesapeake Bay, during which she has been a leader for several troops (all age levels), held many positions within her Service Unit, served multiple terms as Association Chair, served on four property task forces, and helped plan the Grove Point closing weekend. She is the treasurer of her service unit, a member of the Gold Award and Archives Committees, and chairs the Annual Meeting Planning Committee. Although she is now retired, during her professional career, Lauralee led archeological excavations for both a consulting firm and Del DOT, and, for 38.5 years, was the senior staff archeologist for NJDOT, serving as an Environmental Manager for 10 of those years. While at NJDOT, Lauralee and her team worked with municipal, county, state, and federal agencies and tribal nations to deliver projects that were responsive to transportation needs and compliant with all environmental regulations. Although no longer a troop leader, Lauralee continues to be a strong advocate for our Scouts and volunteers throughout the Council through her work with our Council.

Alexis Abrams, Alternate Delegate:

Alexis Abrams has been a Girl Scout since Kindergarten and a proud member of Troop 934, based in Conowingo, MD. As the eldest of four children, Alexis took on the natural role of leader and mentor. She has a heart for service, earning many awards including the Journey Summit Award at every level as well as her Bronze and Silver Awards. Alexis was born with a rare disease called LCHAD, which has helped her grow into a strong advocate for herself and others. Outside of her success with Girl Scouts, Alexis swims competitively, enjoys playing Softball & Bocce, and takes care of her chickens with entrepreneurial goals of starting a farm stand one day. Alexis enjoys camping, traveling with her family, and visiting many national parks. She has been to 29 states with the goal of visiting all 50 states.

Kendall Ervin, Alternate Delegate:

Kendall Ervin is 14 years old and is a current Form II student at St. Andrews School in Middletown, Delaware. Her Girl Scout journey started five years ago and instantly changed her life. Through Girl Scouts, she learned collaboration, teamwork, organization, leadership, and the true meaning of service to all. She plans to be actively involved in Girl Scouts for the rest of her life and desires that all girls experience the positive impact from which she consistently benefits. Kendall is deeply committed to working toward her Gold Award and is excited to embark on her National Council Session responsibilities and future opportunities in the movement.

Vincenta Parker, Alternate Delegate:

Vincenta Parker is a dedicated mother, wife, and child advocate. She has volunteered with the Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay for 10 years, primarily with Troop 204, started Troop 1120, and has 18 years of experience serving the community. Vincenta holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice human services and a master's in Addiction and Recovery and is currently employed as a Child Support Specialist II with the Maryland Department of Human Services in the Queen Anne County Department of Social Service Division. Her passion is helping people in need and serving her community. Vincenta lives with her family in East Market, Maryland.

Claudia Peña Porretti, J.D., CFRE, Alternate Delegate: Claudia Peña Porretti has been the Chief Executive Officer of the Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay since October 2018. She is a change management expert, entrepreneur, and social justice advocate whose deep understanding of nonprofit governance, business acumen, and strategic partnerships has led nonprofit organizations, including the GSCB, through times of uncertainty to optimal success. A former small business owner who is skilled in problem identification, analysis, and solution, Claudia drives change through strategic and innovative team building, transforming underperforming organizations into thriving businesses. A strong advocate for children and youth, Claudia promoted statewide awareness of English Learners' educational issues, advocated for new arrival immigrant children, supported Latinas through a collaboration with Girls, Inc. of Delaware, and created various Latinx youth programs for nonprofit organizations. She serves as a Board Trustee for Woodlawn Trustees and the University of Delaware, where she serves as Chair of the Board's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Ad Hoc

Committee. Claudia earned her Juris Doctor (JD) degree from Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law and her Bachelor of Science degree from Indiana Institute of Technology, graduating *summa cum laude*, and attained the Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) credential.