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Local Girl Scouts travel to Houston to celebrate the “Year of the Girl”

On November 9, eight Tallahassee Girl Scouts travelled to Houston, Texas for the 52nd National Convention, the official kick-off of the 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouting! Ranging from 14 to 17 years old, these local Girl Scouts participated in the Girl Scout Leadership Institute (GSLI), a three day program created to help girls develop the skills they will need for the future. Girl Scouts gained entrepreneurial skills, heard real-life experiences of the glass ceiling in the workplace, built and programmed robots, and learned about the space program and how Dr. Ride paved the way for female astronauts.

“I absolutely loved the Convention! It was very inspirational to hear the guest speakers talk about their time in Girl Scouts and how it helped them,” said Shae Gibbs, 7th grader at Deer Lake Middle School.

In addition to self-esteem-building activities and evaluating leadership styles, the GSLI Team enjoyed a variety of fun activities in Houston, from checking out the Zoo to grooving at a dance party with boy-band Mindless Behavior.

In the three months prior to National Convention, the GSLI team designed a Healthy Eating blog. The project was part of a national goal set by Girl Scouts to promote healthy lifestyles for girls and women. The blog, Got Health, can be accessed at: www.gsli100.blogspot.com.

As part the 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouting, Girl Scouts throughout the Florida Panhandle will be given opportunities to travel around the country this year to participate in other leadership-building activities. Twenty Girl Scouts will travel to Washington DC in June for the National Sing-Along. In July, two Girl Scouts will attend the Girl's World Forum in Chicago, Illinois. At the Girl's World Forum, Girl Scouts from all around the world will focus on the theme, "Together We Can Change Our World" with an emphasis on three UN Millennium Development Goals (to end poverty and hunger, to promote gender equality, to achieve environmental sustainability).

"Being able to give girls these types of travel opportunities is what Girl Scouting is all about," said Raslean M. Allen, CEO of GSCFP. "Whether it is to our Nation's Capital, around the world, or simply to a neighboring state, Girl Scouting is creating amazing travel experiences that will shape a girl's future."

To learn more about travel opportunities for Girl Scouts or to help sponsor a girl for one of these exciting activities, please contact Vicki Adams at vadams@gscfp.org or 850-386-2131.

Girl Scouts of the USA are celebrating 100 Years of Girl Scouting on March 12, 2012 with the Year of the Girl. The Girl Scouts of the Florida Panhandle invite girls from kindergarten to twelfth grade, to join the adventure and empower themselves through courage, confidence and character, to make the world a better place. Currently, the council serves 6,024 girls and 1,980 volunteers across 19 counties of the Florida Panhandle. To volunteer or join Girl Scouts, contact the local council office at 1-888-271-8778 or visit www.gscfp.org.

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