

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Girl Scouts of the Sierra Nevada Will Honor Five Local Women Leaders

TRIUMPHANT: Celebrating Women In Leadership Awards Dinner

GIRL SCOUTS OF THE SIERRA NEVADA

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Reno, NV – Girl Scouts of the Sierra Nevada (GSSN) is pleased to announce this year's TRIUMPHANT: Celebrating Women In Leadership Award honorees. The five women, each representing one of the five focus areas of GSSN, will be recognized at the 12th annual TRIUMPHANT: Celebrating Women In Leadership Awards Ceremony. This year's event will be held on Thursday, November 20, 2014 at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa. Sponsor opportunities are available.

Please join us in congratulating Dee Frewert, Lynell Garfield-Qualls, M.S., Estela Gutierrez, Season Lopiccolo, and Heather Reimer.

2014 TRIUMPHANT Honoree Bios:

S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math): *Dee Frewert, Managing Principal, Gryphon Education & Associates, LLC; Director, Carson Aviation Academy; Director, FIRST Nevada; Director, Northern Nevada Robotics Tournament*

Ms. Frewert is an enterprise consulting and program development professional whose experience working with Fortune 100 companies in Silicon Valley and not-for-profit organizations has brought her noteworthy success. She has created sustainable programs that have earned such recognition as the Technical Excellence Award for developing the *Oracle Application Implementation Method™*, a corporate consulting standard, and the ING Unsung Heroes Award for *A Cubed (A3)*, a youth STEM education program. She brought the international FIRST Robotics programs [For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology] to northern Nevada to enable nearly a thousand local students to immerse themselves in an academic and competitive challenge each year. An active member of the Society of Women Engineers, Partners for Community, Optimist International and the Experimental Aircraft Association, she has delivered numerous STEM programs involving aviation and aerospace, supported student leadership projects, and facilitated student mentorship across northern Nevada. She is currently pursuing her doctoral studies in education at Drexel University.

Environmental Leadership and Responsibility: *Lynell Garfield-Qualls, M.S., Hydrologist, City of Reno; Children's Book Author, "The Secret Life of Streams"*

Ms. Garfield-Qualls has a background in Aquatic Toxicology and Environmental

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Sciences from the University of California at Davis and the University of Nevada Reno, with studies on The Metabolism of pesticide degradants by marine invertebrates on Coconut Island, Hawaii, and on The Effects of a Dog Park on Burke Creek at Lake Tahoe. Ms. Garfield-Qualls now works as the Hydrologist for the City of Reno, where she works monitoring storm water quality, managing the Truckee River Info Gateway database, managing watershed restoration projects, and facilitating Low Impact Development. In her free time, she loves to spend time outdoors, chasing her family up creek trails and telling dragonfly tales whenever possible. In 2013, she published her first children's book, "*The Secret Life of Streams*," a project intended to connect little ones with their home waters and grow the next generation of stewards.

Community Service: Estela Gutierrez, Trustee, Washoe County School District; Dean of Student Services, TMCC

Education is a passion for Estela Gutierrez. As a long-time Reno-Sparks resident, she has been involved in education for 27 years. In addition to serving on the WCSD Board of Trustees, she is the Dean of Student Services for Truckee Meadows Community College. She is also the co-founder of the Mariposa Dual Language Academy in Reno.

Gutierrez was sworn into the WCSD Board of Trustees on September 9, 2008. When she was elected as President of the Board in 2010, she became the first minority to lead an elective entity in Washoe County. Under her leadership and the direction of the Board, the District saw an increase in its graduation rates; implemented its strategic plan, *Envision WCSD 2015 – Investing In Our Future*; and weathered difficult budget cuts. In her leadership role, she stressed stronger collaboration between the community, the Board, the Superintendent, and all District staff. She also worked to provide Washoe County students with the tools, access, and self-confidence to achieve their goals and receive their high school diplomas. As Board president, Gutierrez was recognized by the Reno-Sparks Chamber of Commerce as the recipient of the 2011 Raymond I. Smith Civic Leader of the Year award for her commitment to education and advocacy for youth in the community.

In addition to her work in WCSD, Mrs. Gutierrez has worked to promote educational reform at the state level. In November 2010, she was named to Governor Brian Sandoval's transition team comprised of various leaders around the state to help the governor—this included a subcommittee on education.

Mrs. Gutierrez has also been an active member in the community, particularly the Hispanic community. She has served on numerous boards and has developed programs that benefit youth and adults. In 2006, she was elected to serve on the "Instituto de los Mexicanos en el Exterior" as a liaison to the Mexican government. She has received various awards including the American Institute for Public Service – Jefferson Award, Nevada Role Model of the Year from the Lt. Governor, Nevada Hispanic Leadership Award, the Nevada Presidential Award for Administrative Excellence, the Power of One Award from the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and

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the Nevada New School Board Member of the Year by the Nevada Association of School Boards.

Financial Literacy: Season Lopiccolo, *Chief Operating Officer, Noble Studios*

Season Lopiccolo is the driving force behind Noble Studios' talented team and company operations. A born leader and award-winning entrepreneur, Ms. Lopiccolo is well-known for her business leadership as a published author and spokesperson. Her expert commentary has appeared in Mashable, Reno-Gazette Journal (RGJ) and several times in the Northern Nevada Business Journal as well as on Reno Public Radio.

Ms. Lopiccolo has grown Noble Studios from a single laptop computer onto *Inc.* magazine's list of the fastest-growing private companies in America with a client roster of global brands - Autodesk, Wildfire by Google, Verizon, HTC, Hotwire, Ford, and Cisco.

As chief operating officer, Ms. Lopiccolo develops strategic goals, policies and procedures for the agency. She oversees all financial, HR and legal matters to ensure a sustainable and successful business environment.

In 2013, Ms. Lopiccolo was named Entrepreneur of the Year by the RGJ. She was also inducted into the RGJ's 2012 class of Twenty under 40 award-winners. In 2010, she was recognized as the Young Entrepreneur of the Year by the Nevada District of the U.S. Small Business Administration and presented with In Business Las Vegas' Entrepreneur Award for outstanding business.

A strong advocate for bringing technology into the classroom, Ms. Lopiccolo is actively involved with the Carson City School District's Technology Textbook Committee. She earned her bachelor's degree in English from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Healthy Living: Heather Reimer, Chief Visionary Officer and Founder, *Each One. Tell One.*; Sales Manager, *Hometown Health*

Heather Reimer is a breast cancer survivor and founder of *Each One. Tell One.* Eight months after receiving a clear mammogram she learned she had a 1.8 cm Invasive Ductal Carcinoma (Triple Negative) that went undetected in her annual mammogram exam because she has Dense-Breast Tissue (DBT). Through her workplace wellness program she received an Automated Whole-Breast Ultrasound (SonoCiné AWBUS™) that found the cancer and saved her life. Ms. Reimer is a DBT Breast Cancer advocate and has launched a movement to tell each woman that mammography may not be enough if she has DBT.

Ms. Reimer has been married to Josh Reimer since 2010 and has two beautiful girls,

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Haley (16) and Savannah (14). Heather makes her home in Reno, Nevada. She enjoys a career with a locally owned Integrated Healthcare Delivery System (Renown Health) in the Health Insurance division at Hometown Health as the Sales and Marketing Manager. Prior to her career in the health industry she owned and operated her own restaurant in Grass Valley, CA.

“By holding up strong women in our community, and celebrating their leadership roles, we are showing our Girl Scouts that we honor adult women leaders, which, in turn, encourages them to continue on their own path to adult leadership,” said Julia Ratti, Chief Executive Officer, Girl Scouts of the Sierra Nevada. “Too many women are opting out of leadership, and we want today’s girls to know that they have a right to take leadership roles in their homes, businesses, communities, and their nation.”

The TRIUMPHANT: Celebrating Women In Leadership Awards Dinner provides critical funding that supports the Girl Scout experience for more than 4,000 girls throughout the Sierra Nevada council. The evening includes a VIP reception with wine and hors d’oeuvre pairings, one of the area’s best silent auctions, and a one-of-a-kind dessert created with Girl Scout Cookies.

“This event truly celebrates the incredible women leaders in our community and gives us all the opportunity to show our women leaders how much we support and appreciate all that they do to make our community a better place,” said Ratti.

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We’re the Girl Scouts of the Sierra Nevada. We’re 4,500 girls and 2,000 adult volunteers strong in northern Nevada and northeastern California, and we believe every girl can change the world. We are building girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place by helping them discover their inner strength, passions, and talents. With incredible programs and great friends, there’s a chance for every girl to do something amazing. To volunteer, reconnect, donate or join, visit www.gssn.org

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