



## 2019 Partners in Preservation FAQ

### Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace Savannah, Georgia

#### What is Partners in Preservation?

- Created by American Express and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Partners in Preservation (PIP) program is a contest among America's historical and cultural places that seeks to increase the public's awareness of the importance of historic preservation in the United States and preserve America's historical and cultural places. To learn more about PIP, click [here](#).

#### How did Girl Scouts and the Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace become a PIP finalist?

- The National Trust for Historic Preservation reached out directly to Lisa Junkin Lopez as the executive director of the Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace, informing GSUSA of this year's focus on women's history sites and inviting us to apply for PIP. The birthplace was selected through a rigorous application process as 1 of 20 finalists from more than 120 applicants nationwide.

#### Why is this a big deal for Girl Scouts?

- This recognition is a testament to the enduring significance, prestige, and value of the Juliette Gordon Low (JGL) Birthplace as a vital landmark for the Girl Scout Movement, the Savannah community, state of Georgia, and our country, and demonstrates the ongoing importance of the mission, ideals, and values of Girl Scouts.
- Winning recognition and funding from PIP would allow the JGL Birthplace to continue to serve as a vital conduit of historical research, interpretation and engagement on the life of Juliette Gordon Low, the Savannah community she knew and loved and the Girl Scout Movement she created.

#### If you win, what will the money be used for?

- It would help the birthplace remain fresh, exciting, and interesting for visitors. As a living museum and pillar of the Girl Scout experience, the birthplace must remain engaging and relevant for generations of girls from across the United States.
- Working closely with community stakeholders from within the Girl Scout Movement and the broader Savannah community, in addition to top-tier architects and preservationists, GSUSA is engaged in a comprehensive renovation of the Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace, focusing on program rooms, visitor service areas, and outdoor space. The renovation project will make the birthplace sustainable, accessible, flexible and engaged (S.A.F.E.), so that it will be enjoyed new generations of girls.
- Disability access and inclusion are central aspects of the renovation project. Through these efforts, the birthplace will demonstrate leadership in balancing historic

preservation and access, furthering a longstanding commitment of Girl Scouts to welcome every girl. This focus highlights Juliette Gordon Low's disability as a woman who was hard-of-hearing, and it echoes her commitment to providing girls with disabilities equal access to Girl Scouting.

- We are working with a talented group, including many female leaders, to honor the spirit of Juliette Gordon Low throughout this renovation project, updating the birthplace to appeal to girls everywhere, and drawing inspiration and expertise from women of today.

### **What is happening at the JGL Birthplace?**

- To put it simply – exciting things! The JGL Birthplace is a vital and vibrant part of the Girl Scout Movement.
- It's also a living breathing part of the Girl Scout *experience*, with thousands of girls from troops across the country coming each year to visit the home and birthplace of Juliette Gordon Low, and engage with the history of Girl Scouts.
- Like the rest of Girl Scouts and the girls we serve, the birthplace must grow, evolve, change, and innovate to make sure it remains fresh, exciting and relevant for today's girls.
- The JGL Birthplace is an important part of what it means to be a Girl Scout, and we want – and need – to make sure that it, too, remains up to date with the changing needs of girls, while maintaining the vital essence, spirit, and history of Juliette Gordon Low, and the Savannah community she knew and loved.

### **How does the contest work?**

- It's very simple! All we need is your support by clicking [HERE](#). Your click is your vote, and the top vote getter is the winner!
- Official voting starts 09/24 and ends 10/29. Vote daily! You vote. Girls win.
- Council staff may access GSUSA's PIP Social Media Toolkit [HERE](#), which provides all the copy and graphics for social media posts encouraging audiences to vote for the JGL Birthplace.