

GIRL SCOUTS OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY, INC.

Bridging Booklet



Girl Scouts®
Where Girls Grow StrongSM

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CEREMONIES AND GIRL SCOUTING

In Girl Scouting, you can find many reasons to plan a ceremony. Girl Scouting has several special days and traditions that help mark the passing of the year. Celebrating these special days helps foster a sense of belonging and historical understanding. Girls learn of the larger organization of which they are members. Best of all, a ceremony which the girls have planned and carried out is a creative expression of their ideals and aspirations.

IMPORTANT CEREMONIES IN GIRL SCOUTING

- **Bridging**—welcomes girls into another level of Girl Scouting.
- **Candle lighting**—helps Girl Scouts think about the words and meaning of the Girl Scout Promise and Law. (Small, inexpensive flashlights may be substituted for candles, especially for younger girls.)
- **Court of Awards**—gives recognition to girls who have accomplished something, such as completing a service project, helping someone, or earning awards.
- **Flag Ceremonies**—are part of any program that honors the American flag.
- **Fly-Up**—is a bridging ceremony for Brownie Girl Scouts who are bridging to Junior Girl Scouts.
- **Girl Scouts' Own**—is an inspirational, girl-planned program to express girls' deepest feelings about something.
- **Investiture**—welcomes someone into Girl Scouting for the first time and pledges them to live by the Girl Scout Law.
- **Rededication**—renews the Girl Scout Promise and Law for previously invested Girl Scouts.
- **Special Girl Scout Days**—Girl Scouts in the U.S.A. have four special days that are celebrated all across the nation. Girls often plan events or hold ceremonies to celebrate these days.
 - **February 22**—Thinking Day, the birthday of both Lord Baden-Powell and Lady Baden-Powell. Girl Scouts and Girl Guides all over the world celebrate this day in international friendship and world peace.
 - **March 12**—The Birthday of Girl Scouting in the USA. Girl Scout Week is the week that contains March 12. Girl Scout Sunday and Girl Scout Sabbath are in that week, too.
 - **April 22**—Girl Scout Leader's Day, when girls show their leaders how much they appreciate them.
 - **October 31**—Founder's Day, the birthday of Juliette Gordon Low.

BRIDGING

A bridge crosses a gap and makes it easy to get from one side to another; so it is in Girl Scouting. Through a process called “bridging,” girls who move from one program age level to another have something to help ease that jump.

The Girl Scout program is based on progression. As girls increase their skills and confidence, they can carry out activities that require more planning, take place farther away from home, and utilize special skills and endurance. Progression is built into the design of the handbooks and awards at each age level, so there are a number of differences between the levels of Girl Scouting. Without the bridging process, these differences could make a girl uncertain about continuing to the next stage.

The bridging process is outlined in the handbook for each age level. By completing the bridging process, girls earn a special award.

- Daisy Girl Scouts earn the Bridge to Brownie Girl Scouts Award.
- Brownie Girl Scouts earn the Bridge to Junior Girl Scouts Award.
- Junior Girl Scouts who are entering middle school or ready to begin work on the Girl Scout Silver Award earn the rainbow bar award (formerly the Bridge to Cadette Girl Scouts Award.)
- Girls turning 14 (or in grades 8-9) who are entering high school or ready to begin work on the Girl Scout Gold Award earn the rainbow tent award (formerly the Bridge to Senior Girl Scouts Award.)
- Graduating Girl Scouts may earn the Bridge to Adult Girl Scouts Award.

Bridging activities have been designed to emphasize the continuity of one Girl Scout program, to introduce girls to what lies ahead, to encourage girls to reflect on their personal growth and previous accomplishments, and to give older girls a sense of personal responsibility for younger girls. Bridging activities will take time, but careful planning and continued reinforcement of the idea that the girls are getting ready to move on to the next age level in Girl Scouting will make the experience meaningful for them.

Once the bridging activities have been completed, a bridging ceremony can be held to recognize the girls and welcome them into the next Girl Scout program level. It is important to note that completing any earned bridging award is optional. If a girl chooses not to earn the award, she may still plan a bridging ceremony (if she chooses) and participate in the next level of Girl Scouting.

Insignia—such a membership pin, Brownie Girl Scout wings, or a membership star with the appropriate-colored disk—does not have activity requirements beyond Girl Scout membership, and it may be given to every girl bridging to the next level. In addition, bridging certificates are available at the Girl Scout Stores. Sashes, vests, or program resources (handbooks and/or award books) may be given to girls who have bridged to a new level. Other small gifts, such as flowers, may be appropriate. For fun, Daisy Girl Scouts can be presented with daisy flowers, Brownie Girl Scouts can receive a brownie, and Junior Girl Scouts can be given a box of Junior Mints.

PLANNING A MEANINGFUL CEREMONY

No matter what kind of ceremony you are having, good planning is essential so that the ceremony will be meaningful. Ceremonies should be simple and sincere. They should have significance and beauty. Good ceremonies have both a clear purpose and a theme that enriches the meaning and mood of the ceremony. Whatever the purpose or origin, ceremonies serve to reinforce values of Girl Scouting. They provide opportunities for girls to share their feelings and reflect on what they have accomplished individually and together.

Basically, a ceremony has three parts – the opening, the celebration, and the closing.

- The opening can be used to welcome guests, explain the purpose of the ceremony, and set the mood for the occasion. For example, it might be quiet, festive, or serious. You can begin a ceremony by reciting The Pledge of Allegiance and The Girl Scout Promise and Law.
- The celebration focuses on the purpose of the ceremony, the reason you have gathered people together. The focus might include presenting awards, singing songs, reading poems or choral readings, performing dramatics, or sharing a candle-lighting.
- The closing may summarize the ceremony. It might include forming a friendship circle, saying good-bye or thank-you to special guests, or singing a closing song.

In addition, the best ceremonies have a combination of the following elements:

- The girl participants each have personal qualities and characteristics which they can contribute to the nature of the ceremony. The role that each participant plays is important, and each girl should have the opportunity to express herself in some way during the ceremony.
- The purpose of a ceremony is its controlling idea. Why are you having this ceremony? State the purpose of the ceremony in the opening after you have welcomed your guests.
- The theme of a ceremony focuses on the purpose and how the purpose is developed. A theme can be expressed through readings, drama, skits, and songs, as well as in the invitations, decorations, setting, and refreshments.
- Mood and atmosphere establish the tone of the ceremony. Is it serious, reflective, light-hearted, or humorous? The mood and atmosphere can be developed through musical or literary selections, decorations, or candlelight.
- The setting is created by the time and place the ceremony is held, which should have an impact on the message delivered. The setting should fit the size of the group and accommodate the planned activities. Also, the setting should contribute to the mood and atmosphere that the girls wish to create.

INCORPORATING GIRL PLANNING

Girl Scouting operates on the purpose that girls grow, learn, and have fun by making decisions, doing and discovering for themselves. That is why it is important that the girls do as much of the planning for ceremonies as possible. Ceremonies are opportunities for the girls, not the adults, to express themselves. Girls should have a part in making their own memories.

Planning should include the girls' ideas and input. Keep in mind that, at different levels, girls will have different abilities. As the girls get older, their responsibility for planning should expand. Don't worry about doing everything "right." Be flexible, let the girls make mistakes and learn from them. It is the volunteer's role to guide the group and provide an environment for creativity. Start planning your ceremony by asking the girls the following questions.

- What kind of ceremony do we want?
 - Bridging?
 - Flag ceremony?
 - Investiture?
 - Rededication?
- Where and when will it be held?
 - Indoors or outdoors?
 - In the morning or at night?
 - During a troop meeting or another time?
- Who should be invited?
 - Parents?
 - Siblings?
 - Special Friends?
 - Another Girl Scout troop?
 - Adults in Girl Scouting?
 - Adults from the community?
- What can we use to personalize the ceremony?
 - A theme?
 - Symbolism?
 - A favorite song, dance, skit, or poem?
 - Girl Scout Promise and Law?
 - Candles, lights, or a campfire?
 - Flags?
 - A bridge?
 - Other props?
- How will we do it?
 - Who will start the ceremony?
 - Should we sit or stand?
 - What formations will we use?
 - Where will the guests sit?
 - Should we speak together or separately?
 - Do we want/need to learn something new?
 - Will we serve refreshments?
 - Do we need to rehearse?

CEREMONY PLANNING WORKSHEET

- Name/Type of Ceremony
- Date, Start Time, and End Time
- Rehearsal Date, Start Time, and End Time
- Location/Setting
- Purpose
- Introductory Remarks
- Opening Section
 - Activities
 - Participants
 - Formations Used
 - Songs/Poems/Quotations Used
 - Decorations/Props Needed
 - Awards/Recognitions Given
- Main Section
 - Activities
 - Participants
 - Formations Used
 - Songs/Poems/Quotations Used
 - Decorations/Props Needed
 - Awards/Recognitions Given
- Closing Section
 - Activities
 - Participants
 - Formations Used
 - Songs/Poems/Quotations Used
 - Decorations/Props Needed
 - Awards/Recognitions Given
- Refreshments
- Troop Archivist/Photographer
- Invitations
- Thank-You Notes
- Budget/Estimated Cost of Ceremony
- Audience
- Theme
- Person Responsible
- Person Responsible
- Person Responsible
- Person Responsible
- Funds Available

CEREMONY PLANNING CHECKLIST

- Does the ceremony fit the ability and age of the girls?
- Have the girls had a major part in the planning?
- Does every girl have a part or job and understand what it is?
- Have the girls practiced just enough so that they are comfortable in their roles, but not so much that it's become boring?
- Is the ceremony interesting enough to hold everyone's attention, yet simple enough to be understood?
- Do the activities reflect the theme, touch emotions, or express feelings of respect, pride and happiness?
- Do the activities provide an opportunity for everyone to participate, even the guests? If needed, will there be time to teach the songs before the ceremony begins?
- Will the audience be able to hear the girls?
- Have the readers practiced the reading several times aloud?
- If it will be dark, how will the readers see? How will the participants be seen? Does it matter?
- Have the girls discussed safety, especially if they are using candles?
- If you're using a new location, have you visited the site to make sure it's what you're expecting?
- If a contract needs to be signed, have you submitted the original to the Rock Island Girl Scout Office for the authorized signature at least four weeks before the event?
- Have you kept the ceremony simple and made it fun?

PERSONALIZING A CEREMONY

The ceremonies that are remembered the most often have been personalized to express a clear purpose and a theme, which gives continuity and cohesion to the ceremony. A theme can be expressed through symbolism, music, songs, stories, poetry, skits, dance, or light.

COMMON THEMES

- Accepting Responsibility
- Beauty
- Cheerfulness
- Creative Arts
- Conservation
- Friendship
- Gifts of Girl Scouting
- Global Awareness
- Heritage
- Loyalty
- Music
- Nature
- Patriotism
- Peace
- Service to Others
- Women to Remember

COMMON SYMBOLISM

- Archway—entering a different atmosphere or phase
- Bridge—a crossing over
- Color—different colors can express different emotions; ask the girls how they feel about different colors and choose a color scheme to enhance the ceremony
- Dove and Olive Branch—peace
- Eagle—courage and patriotism
- Feather—nature, personal growth
- Flag—the official banner of something
- Flowers and Herbs—for over 150 years, flowers have been represented feelings and sentiments; your local library and the Internet are good sources for dictionaries of the “language of flowers.”
- Friendship Circle—the unbroken chain of friendship with Girl Scouts and Girl Guides all over the world
- Handshake—hello, welcome
- Light—love, truth, hope, high ideals, a promise, or an individual; three candles represent the three parts of the Girl Scout Promise and ten candles stand for the ten parts of the Girl Scout Law
- Pebble—the largeness of the world
- Planting a tree—conservation, a living dedication to someone or something
- Quiet Sign—silence, remembrance
- Signing Your Name—your own identity, personal involvement, support, loyalty
- String—the human line binding all humanity
- Swaying From Side to Side—everyone agreeing to the same thought
- Trefoil—the three parts of the Girl Scout Promise
- Wishing Well—hopes and dreams

CREATING A BRIDGE AND OTHER PROPS

The bridge that takes Girl Scouts into the next program age level can be represented in many ways. Some parks have small bridges over streams that would be appropriate for an outdoor ceremony. The bridge can be a natural or homemade bridge that girls walk over. It can be an arch that girls walk under, steps they ascend and descend, or stepping stones (real or constructed) that they walk over. The bridge can even be represented by simply walking from one side of the room to the other. Several ideas for creating a bridge or other props for a bridging ceremony are listed below.

- Girls can join a circle or horseshoe made up of girls in the next age level.
- Girls can cross over a stage area or over a bridge constructed with movable steps.
- To create a “bridge,” overturn a folding card table so the legs face up. Attach streamers from the floor to one leg, across to the opposite leg, and back to the ground. Repeat on the other side to form the “sides” of the bridge.
- To create a “stream” with “stepping stones” for younger girls, paint a blue stream and several stepping stones on a large, flat piece of cardboard. Label the stepping stone with past troop activities, parts of the Girl Scout Law, or the girls’ personal thoughts about joining the next level of Girl Scouting.
- To create a “stream” with “stepping stones” for older girls, lay several different types of blue-colored fabric on the floor to form a “stream.” Place several stepping stones (purchased or made) on top of the fabric for the girls to walk on as they cross over.
- To create a reflecting “pond,” lay a large mirror on the ground, surrounded by daisies.
- To create an “oven” for baking a batch of Brownies, cut a door on opposite sides of an upside-down, large cardboard box. Decorate the “front door” to look like an oven, with knobs, buttons, and a door handle. Daisy Girl Scouts enter through the back door and exit, as Brownie Girl Scouts, out the front of the oven.
- To create a “nest,” paint a large nest on a tree branch on one side of a cardboard refrigerator box laid horizontally. Make the nest big enough to cover the entire cardboard piece. Brace the “nest” on the ends so it will stand up.
- To create “wings,” cut out a basic wing outline out of heavy paper. Wings should be four to six feet long and about one foot wide. Each girl paints both sides of her wings. After the paint is dry, cover the underside of the wings in clear contact paper. (This will add strength to the wings and keep paint from rubbing off on clothing.) Make loops for the upper arms out of a 15-inch piece of heavy-duty tape. Make similar loops for the wrists out of a nine-inch piece of heavy-duty tape. Center and attach loops to the underside (contact paper side) of the wings. At the ceremony, girls can adjust tape loops as needed. Tape the top of the wings to the center back of the girls’ uniform or vest.

- Girls can pass under a “rainbow” of colored streamers or balloons. Each color symbolizes a different aspect of Girl Scouting:
 - Red—understanding one's self, including one's values, needs, emotions, and strengths. It represents the development of proper health, safety, and nutritional guidelines. It stands for building satisfying relationships with others, making and keeping friends, and sharing with family and the community.
 - Also, red—fire. Fire is one of humanity's greatest blessings, but can also destroy. We can use fire for good or evil. We are kind and considerate or we hurt each other if our fires are uncontrollable.
 - Orange—discovering how things operate; experimenting and developing creative abilities, inventing ways to cope with problems and deal with change, looking ahead to the future, and seeing the traditional and nontraditional roles of men and women.
 - Yellow—becoming aware of the natural environment and developing skills and knowledge for living comfortably in that environment. It represents a respect for the balance of nature and a dedication to protecting and preserving the environment.
 - Also, yellow—sunshine. As the sun warms us all, we in turn spread warmth and friendship to those we meet. This color reminds us to make Girl Scouting fun for the girls, but, at the same time, not to lose sight of the Girl Scout Promise and Law.
 - Green—the Girl Scout Promise and Law. It means sharing in the special ways and days of Girl Scouting, wearing a uniform or the Girl Scout pin, meeting and working with the troop, developing self-potential, contributing to society, developing values, relating to others, and belonging to the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.
 - Blue—discovering one's heritage and family customs, and finding out more about one's community and how to contribute to it. Blue represents a growth in an awareness of global issues and the basic needs of all people.
 - Also, blue—our faith in each other, our loyalty to our beliefs, and our love of God, home, and country.
 - Purple—the development of personal taste for various forms of art, expressing thoughts, feelings, and ideals through various art forms, and appreciating the artistic talents and contributions of others.
 - White clouds—honesty in thought, word, and deed. The color represents honesty toward ourselves and others.

READINGS FOR BRIDGING CEREMONIES

- “Follow, Dream, And...”—Author Unknown

Follow the winding pathways through the forest. Follow the gentle streams to lakes of blue. Follow the star that gleams at evening when day is through, when day is through.

Dream of the day that passed before us. Dream of the campfire’s glow.
Dream of the sound of laden voices chanting low, chanting low.

Bring the woodland songs into the city. Bring the gleam of stars to tired eyes.
Bring home the pathways of tomorrow from the skies, from the skies.

- “I Must Not Hurry”—Betty Jean Soule

I must not hurry along this road. There is so much to see:
A crimson flower, a wrinkled toad, a knotty, scarred oak tree.

A bubbling brook, a lacy fern, a cobweb shimmering and still,
A yellow bird whose mournful tones sound over vale and hill.

Because all nature’s loveliness is very dear to me,
I must not hurry along this road. There is so much to see.

- “Look Up”—Edward Everett Hale

Look up and not down. Look forward and not back. Look out and not in. Lend a hand.

- “To Be What We Are”—Robert L. Stevenson

To be what we are, and to become what we are capable of becoming,
it is the only aim of life.

- “Unremembered Acts”—William Wordsworth

That best portion of a good person’s life, the little nameless, unremembered acts of
kindness and of love.

- “I’m Glad”—Author Unknown

I’m glad the sky is painted blue and the earth is painted green,
With such a lot of nice fresh air all sandwiched in between.

- “What is America?”—Author Unknown

What is America? What is the U.S.A.? Well, it’s purple mountains and fruited plains...

But it’s smokestacks and railroad ties, too. It’s air-coaches and ice-cream sodas.
It’s Christmas stockings and plush hotels, production lines and skyrockets.
It’s TV sets and antique shops, advertising signs and factory whistles.
You can put all that together—and add a million bags of fertilizer—a thousand jukeboxes—a hundred diesel locomotives—but the inventory isn’t even started.

For America is also the country preacher’s warm handclasp, the quick comeback of the smart-looking stenographer. It’s the set jaw of the high school halfback, the tanned skin of the farmer. It’s the soft, quiet talk of a mother to her baby, the close harmony at a campfire. It’s the crackle of ham and eggs frying, the smell of gasoline exhausts and popcorn.

But America isn’t just the sum substance of all the things you see and hear and touch.

America is ideals—beliefs—feelings—the opportunity to work your way through college, to invent and sell a million new can openers, to open a hot dog stand or farm your own land. It’s the freedom to meet with others who share your opinions, to invest your money or hide it under your mattress, to worship in your own way, to run your own life. You have to look ahead to see America.

For, most of all, America is a state of mind—a point of view—a love of moving on—beyond the next year—the next filling station—the next frontier—expanding—growing—living—beyond the horizon.

- “Look”—Author Unknown

Do not look for wrong or evil—You will find them if you do.
As you measure your neighbor, he will measure back to you.

Look for goodness, look for gladness—You will meet them all the while.
If you bring a smiling visage to the glass, you will meet a smile.

- “Friendship”—Author Unknown

Friendship is like a hearth fire burning bright. A softly-glowing place apart,
Where one from outer chill returning may pause to warm their heart.

- “A Creed”—Edwin Markham

There is a destiny that makes us (sisters.) No one goes (her) way alone.
All that we give into the lives of others comes back into our own.

- “Be the Best of Whatever You Are”—Douglas Malloch

If you can't be a pine tree on the top of the hill, Be a scrub in the valley.
But, be the best little scrub by the side of the hill. Be a bush if you can't be a tree.

If you can't be a bush, be a bit of grass, and some highway happier make.
If you can't be a muskie, then just be a bass, but be the liveliest bass in the lake.

If you can't be a highway, then just be a trail. If you can't be the sun, be a star.
It isn't by size that you win or you fail. Be the best of whatever you are.

- “The End of a Perfect Day”—Author Unknown

A camp in the woods beside a stream when the evening sun is low.
A place and a time when one can dream in the firelight's friendly glow.

The charm of mystic symphony that the woodland creatures play.
And you enjoy it all with me. That, the end of a perfect day.

BRIDGING CEREMONY SCRIPTS

While the ideas listed below are separated by Girl Scout program age levels, creative adaptation may be used to tailor them to other age levels. Reading parts can be split or consolidated to match the number of participants.

DAISY GIRL SCOUTS BRIDGING TO BROWNIE GIRL SCOUTING

- **A BROWNIE STORY:** Brownie Girl Scouts can take turns reading either “The Brownie Story” or “The Brownie Tale” to the Daisy Girl Scouts and the audience. (Both stories can be found in the *Brownie Girl Scout Handbook*.)

After the story has been read, the Brownie Girl Scouts form a ring and the Daisy Girl Scouts line up beside the “pond.” (See “Creating a Bridge and Other Props” on pages 9-10 in this booklet.) One at a time, each girl turns around three times, while repeating the verse:

“Twist me and turn me and show me an elf.
I looked in the water and saw _____.”

As she looks into the pond, she completes the rhyme by saying, “Myself.” The girl then walks over to join the ring, where she receives the Bridge to Brownie Girl Scouts Award and the Brownie Girl Scouts pin.

A bridge for the girls to cross may be set up between the “pond” and the ring, if desired. This is repeated until each former Daisy Girl Scout has been welcomed into Brownie Girl Scouting.

- **BAKE A BATCH OF BROWNIES:** Current Brownie Girl Scouts are in a horseshoe, open to the audience, next to the “oven.” (See “Creating a Bridge and Other Props” on pages 9-10 in this booklet.) Daisy Girl Scouts are on the other side of the “oven.”

1st Brownie Girl Scout: Let’s bake something.

2nd Brownie Girl Scout: Yes, what can we make?

3rd Brownie Girl Scout: I know, let’s make some new Brownies!

All Girls: Yes, that’s a great idea! (Etc.)

4th Brownie Girl Scout: Let’s look in our handbook for the recipe. (Pulls out *Brownie Girl Scout Handbook* and flips through it, stopping on any page)

5th Brownie Girl Scout: Here it is! To make Brownies, you start with a bouquet of Daisies.

6th Brownie Girl Scout: Then, we must mix two basic ingredients—the Promise and the Law.

7th Brownie Girl Scout: In a large bowl, cream together 1 cup each of a promise to serve God, my country, and humankind.

8th Brownie Girl Scout: To this mixture, add 2 cups of honesty and 4 tablespoons of fairness. Mix together until well blended.

9th Brownie Girl Scout: Beat together 1/2 cup of cheerfulness and 1/2 cup of helpfulness, and add to the mixture.

10th Brownie Girl Scout: Stir in 1 cup of thoughtfulness and 1 cup each of courage and strength.

11th Brownie Girl Scout: Fold in 1 cup of responsibility for what I say and do.

12th Brownie Girl Scout: Add 1 cup of respect for authority and 1 cup of respect for myself and others. Stir until well blended.

13th Brownie Girl Scout: Sift together 1/2 cup of wise use of resources and 6 tablespoons of a promise to protect and improve the world. Stir into the mixture.

14th Brownie Girl Scout: Sprinkle over the mixture 2 tablespoons of sisterhood of Girl Scouting. Spread batter into a large pan and bake at a moderate temperature until done.

Daisy Girl Scouts enter back of oven. A leader inside the oven can remove their Daisy Girl Scout tunics and give the girls the Bridge to Brownie Girl Scouts Award and the Brownie Girl Scouts pin.

15th Brownie Girl Scout: (After timer rings) They're done! (Opens oven door and new Brownie Girl Scouts crawl out of oven) Look! A new batch of Brownies!

BROWNIE GIRL SCOUTS BRIDGING TO JUNIOR GIRL SCOUTING

- **THE SPELLING OF BROWNIE AND JUNIOR GIRL SCOUTS:** Brownie Girl Scouts form a ring on one side of the room and Junior Girl Scouts form a horseshoe on the other side of the room.

Brownie Girl Scout Leader: You've been in Brownie Girl Scouts
And you've earned your wings of sunlight gold.
You're ready now for Junior Girl Scouts—
New adventures you've been told.

1st Brownie Girl Scout: B—means to BE PREPARED for any new surprises.

2nd Brownie Girl Scout: R—we're READY now when the unexpected rises.

3rd Brownie Girl Scout: O—we're flying OUT of the ring which held us close so long.

4th Brownie Girl Scout: W— we've earned our WINGS so celebrate with a song.

5th Brownie Girl Scout: N—means NO ONE can deny how much we really care.

6th Brownie Girl Scout: I—is for the INTEREST shown by our leaders everywhere.

7th Brownie Girl Scout: E—is for the ENERGY we've put into EVERY little thing.

Brownie Girl Scout Leader: You've put them all together and made this Brownie Ring.

Bridging Brownie Girl Scouts leave the ring, one by one. Their Brownie Girl Scout leader pins the Brownie Girl Scout Wings and Bridge to Junior Girl Scouts Award on her uniform and says good-bye with the Girl Scout handshake. The girl crosses over to the horseshoe.

The Junior Girl Scout leader greets her with the Girl Scout handshake and pins the Girl Scout pin onto the girl's uniform. This continues until all of the girls have joined the horseshoe.

1st Junior Girl Scout: J—means you're JUST the one we've needed all these days.

2nd Junior Girl Scout: U—is for the UPS and downs you'll have along life's way.

3rd Junior Girl Scout: N—just means we won't say NO to religion, or to race.

4th Junior Girl Scout: I—is INTERNATIONAL sisters to Girl Guides in a far place.

5th Junior Girl Scout: O—is for the OPEN hearts and hands we extend to you.

6th Junior Girl Scout: R—means that we REALLY want you to try to like us, too.

Junior Girl Scout Leader: Junior Girl Scouts you'll be for three short years.

Make the most of each day that goes by.
Be cheerful and helpful and do a good turn,
And greet each Girl Scout with a "Hi!"

- **OUT YOU FLY:** Brownie Girl Scouts form a ring on one side of the room and Junior Girl Scouts form a horseshoe on the other side of the room. The Brownie Girl Scout leader and the bridging Brownie Girl Scouts are in the center of the circle.

Brownie Girl Scout Leader: Brownie Girl Scouts, you are just about

To become a Junior Girl Scout.
But when you have left the pack,
Turn sometimes and just look back.

Remember that all Fairyland
Really lies close at hand.
And if you're happy, brave, and true,
You'll find the world's all magic, too.

In this new troop you soon will find
Junior Girl Scouts are loyal and kind.
And if you bring your Girl Scout grin
And some brownie magic in—

The troop, the town, the world, and all
Will like you, even though you're small.
Now it's time to say good-bye.
Open the ring and out you fly.

The Brownie Girl Scout leader gives each girl the Girl Scout handshake and pins the Bridge to Junior Girl Scouts Award and the Brownie Girl Scout Wings to the girl's uniform. The girls individually walk across the room to the horseshoe.

Junior Girl Scout Leader: Now who is this, with her dress so brown,
Her smile turned up and her cap turned down?
We've heard of her ways all over the town.
Of course, she is a Brownie Girl Scout.

We're Junior Girl Scouts, a trusty band,
And we welcome this elf from Brownie land.
We're ready to help her lend a hand.
So welcome, new Junior Girl Scout.

The leader asks each girl to say the Promise and then pins the Girl Scout pin on the girl's uniform. Then each girl enters the horseshoe.

- **LEAVING THE NEST:** Wearing their "wings," the bridging Brownie Girl Scouts duck down behind the "nest." (See "Creating a Bridge and Other Props" on pages 9-10 in this booklet.) Each girl stands up, says a passage, and ducks down again.

1st Brownie Girl Scout: J—is for JUMPY, happy kids who play with friends.

2nd Brownie Girl Scout: U—is for UNITED. Our troop stays together to work and have fun.

3rd Brownie Girl Scout: N—is for NATURE that we share and care for.

4th Brownie Girl Scout: I—is for IMPORTANT INTERESTS that make us more alike than different.

5th Brownie Girl Scout: O—is for OVERNIGHTS and trips that are exciting.

6th Brownie Girl Scout: R—is for RESPECT for myself and others, and the world around me.

7th Brownie Girl Scout: S—is for SINGING SONGS we enjoy.

All Brownie Girl Scouts: (In unison) Together we make JUNIORS. We're ready to fly up to more exciting adventures. (Girls remain standing for the rest of the ceremony.)

1st Brownie Girl Scout Leader: Three years have passed since you first stood
By the magic pool and learned you could
Do lots of things in a Girl Scout way.
And truly live by the words you say.

2nd Brownie Girl Scout Leader: In commitment to promises and showing respect
Satisfaction from working together is what you expect.
So, Brownie Girl Scouts, fly on and find
That Junior Girl Scouts are true and kind.
Now we give you Brownie Girl Scout Wings
That you may fly to bigger things.

1st Brownie Girl Scout Leader: Now it's time to say good-bye.
Break the ring and out you fly.

One at a time, each girl is gently "pushed" out of the nest by the girl next to her. The girl leaves the nest and is greeted by the Brownie Girl Scout leader, who removes the wings and presents her with the Bridge to Junior Girl Scouts Award and the Girl Scout pin. The last girl in the nest may be "pushed" out by a leader or may carefully "trip" out of the nest herself.

JUNIOR GIRL SCOUTS BRIDGING INTO STUDIO 2B

- **A NEW CHALLENGE:** This ceremony works best when the bridging Junior Girl Scouts have had time before the ceremony to prepare thoughtful responses. Junior Girl Scouts form a horseshoe to one side of the room and STUDIO 2B members form a horseshoe on the other side of the room. If a bridge is used, it should be between the horseshoes.

1st Junior Girl Scout Leader: <Names of Girls> have fulfilled their responsibilities as Junior Girl Scouts. They have served their community, their troop, and the Girl Scout movement well, and are prepared to join a STUDIO 2B group. Today we are locking in our hearts the fun, laughter, hard work, and good times that their Junior Girl Scout years have brought.

2nd Junior Girl Scout Leader: As each girl's name is called, she will walk across the bridge to the next level of Girl Scouting. One of her Girl Scout sisters will meet her halfway.

1st Junior Girl Scout Leader: <Name of Junior Girl Scout> walks to the middle of the bridge and is met by <Name of STUDIO 2B Member>.

1st STUDIO 2B Member: <Name of Junior Girl Scout>, I challenge you to do your best to be honest and fair.

1st Junior Girl Scout: I will be honest and fair by <the girl's own words>.

The STUDIO 2B member pins the rainbow bar award and the STUDIO 2B pin on to the girl's uniform. Then both girls walk together to stand with the other STUDIO 2B members. Each girl is met in the same fashion.

2nd Junior Girl Scout Leader: <Name of Junior Girl Scout> walks to the middle of the bridge and is met by <Name of STUDIO 2B Member>.

2nd STUDIO 2B Member: <Name of Junior Girl Scout>, I challenge you to do your best to be friendly and helpful.

2nd Junior Girl Scout: I will be friendly and helpful by <the girl's own words>. (And so on through the 10 parts of the Girl Scout Law.)

(Each challenge spoken by a STUDIO 2B member is one part of the Girl Scout Law. All 10 parts of the Law are stated. Parts could be repeated for more than 10 girls, or girls could be given more than one part if there are fewer than 10 girls.)

STUDIO 2B Advisor: (After all the girls have crossed over) STUDIO 2B group <troop number or group name> welcomes their new sisters and looks forward to the fun and adventure to come.

- **THE GIFT OF A GIRL:** Junior Girl Scouts form a horseshoe to one side of the room and STUDIO 2B members form a horseshoe on the other side of the room. If a bridge is used, it should be between the horseshoes.

1st Junior Girl Scout: The trail of Girl Scouting winds wide and long,

2nd Junior Girl Scout: From Brownies and Beanies and sit-upons

3rd Junior Girl Scout: To campouts and service and badges to earn.

4th Junior Girl Scout: So much to do, so much to learn!

5th Junior Girl Scout: Then over the bridge and on to STUDIO 2B,

6th Junior Girl Scout: With memories and friendships

7th Junior Girl Scout: We'll never forget.

Junior Girl Scout Leaders: These Junior Girl Scouts are tried and true.

As they cross over the bridge, we give them to you.

A gift of a girl is a precious thing. Take care and great joy they will bring.

Each girl may be presented with the rainbow bar award and the STUDIO 2B pin before crossing over to join the other STUDIO 2B members.

1st STUDIO 2B Member: Let us be friends in everything of duty and of play

2nd STUDIO 2B Member: And in whatever other deeds we do from day to day.

3rd STUDIO 2B Member: Let us be kind and generous to those who cross our path,

4th STUDIO 2B Member: And not allow ourselves to live in jealousy or wrath.

5th STUDIO 2B Member: Let us consider what we have and how much we can spare,

6th STUDIO 2B Member: To spread the sunshine within us to others everywhere.

7th STUDIO 2B Member: For, after all, our happiness to some degree depends

8th STUDIO 2B Member: On how we go about the task of comforting our friends.

9th STUDIO 2B Member: So let us follow friendliness with every step we take,

10th STUDIO 2B Member: And do some worthy deed each day for someone else's sake.

STUDIO 2B MEMBERS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL ENTERING SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

- **OVER THE RAINBOW:** Girls may cross “over the rainbow” by crossing a bridge or by walking from one end of a decorative rainbow to another. (See “Creating a Bridge and Other Props” on pages 9-10 in this booklet.)

1st STUDIO 2B Advisor: This evening we celebrate your advancement in Girl Scouting. We know that you have prepared yourselves well and will use the experiences you have gained to the greatest advantage in your future Girl Scout experiences.

2nd STUDIO 2B Advisor: We know, too, that you will adhere to the belief in the Girl Scout Promise and Law which underlies the STUDIO 2B activities as it does all Girl Scouting. Please repeat together our Promise and Law. (The Promise and Law are spoken.)

1st STUDIO 2B Member in High School: STUDIO 2B members have diversified troops and many interest groups. In STUDIO 2B, you can explore career opportunities through giving service as a trained volunteer.

2nd STUDIO 2B Member in High School: You have the opportunity to strive for the highest recognition for girls in Girl Scouting today—the Girl Scout Gold Award.

3rd STUDIO 2B Member in High School: STUDIO 2B can prepare you for adult leadership through leadership programs and can expand your horizons and circle of friends.

4th STUDIO 2B Member in High School: Much that you have learned during your days as Daisy, Brownie, and Junior Girl Scouts will help you as a STUDIO 2B member.

5th STUDIO 2B Member in High School: This evening marks a milestone in your lives as Girl Scouts and is a mark of progress for both you and your leaders. We Girl Scouts are moving forward as a small group just as the whole Girl Scout organization is constantly moving forward, inspired by our founder, Juliette Gordon Low, a woman of vision and courage. (A poem or quotation about or by Juliette Low may be read.)

1st STUDIO 2B Advisor: It gives us much pleasure to invite you to cross the rainbow and receive the rainbow tent award. As your name is called, please come forward to cross over the rainbow.

2nd STUDIO 2B Advisor: (After all girls have crossed over.) It is a joyful quest we are following together, and we find a great joy in the comradeship of working together, and seeking together. As soon as we understand this joy of comradeship, we long to have others share it, too.

- **THE FIVE CANDLES OF GIRL SCOUTING:** Bridging STUDIO 2B members form a horseshoe open to the audience. A table is set with candles. Each candle is lit as the corresponding passage is read.

STUDIO 2B Advisor: I share with you the pure light of Girl Scouting as you explore the Girl Scout World through skill development, adventure, service, career exploration, and leadership opportunities. (A white candle is lit. This candle is used to light the others.)

1st STUDIO 2B Member: The red candles represents health and recreation, which helps young women understand themselves, their values, needs, and strengths, while also being aware of what it takes to be physically and emotionally fit.

2nd STUDIO 2B Member: The orange candles stands for science and life skills, which let a young lady look into the how's and why's of things, to solve problems and to recognize the ways her present interests can build toward future ones.

3rd STUDIO 2B Member: The yellow candle symbolizes nature explorations, which can help a young woman to enjoy and appreciate her natural environment and to take action to protect and preserve her world and environment.

4th STUDIO 2B Member: The blue candle represents communication and history, which helps a young woman build pride in her own heritage, while appreciating the uniqueness of each culture and the common themes among them all.

5th STUDIO 2B Member: The purple candle stands for the arts, which develops a young lady's personal taste and appreciation for the many art forms and things of beauty in the world around her.

STUDIO 2B Advisor: From the light of the five candles of Girl Scouting, may your Girl Scout world ever grow. (A green candle is lit.)

Individually, girls step forward to receive the rainbow tent award. The leader greets each girl with the Girl Scout handshake. Each girl receives a small white candle, which she lights from the green candle's flame.

STUDIO 2B Advisor: From the Girl Scout World, take your light into the world and let it shine forth with love and knowledge.

STUDIO 2B MEMBERS BRIDGING TO ADULT GIRL SCOUTING

- **THE TWELVE CANDLES OF GIRL SCOUTING:** The passages may be divided equally between the bridging girls. Each candle is lit as the girl recites the passage. (If similar candles cannot be found in the appropriate colors, ribbons may be tied to the base of white candles. Caution should be used to avoid contact between the ribbon and the flame.)

1st STUDIO 2B Member: Silver—Morning, the beginning of a new day, which presents a new challenge

2nd STUDIO 2B Member: Yellow—Juliette “Daisy” Gordon Low, the founder of the Girl Scout movement

3rd STUDIO 2B Member: Pink—Other girls in Girl Scouting, sisters to each other

4th STUDIO 2B Member: White—Purity of every Girl Scout's heart

5th STUDIO 2B Member: Gold—The Girl Scout Pin, which reminds us of our Promise and Law

6th STUDIO 2B Member: Purple—Courage to stand up for what we believe

7th STUDIO 2B Member: Turquoise—Water, which sustains life

8th STUDIO 2B Member: Brown—The earth on which we live

9th STUDIO 2B Member: Green—All plant life that beautifies the earth, which we must respect and protect

10th STUDIO 2B Member: Red—Fire, which glows for warmth and friendship

11th STUDIO 2B Member: Blue—The sky, under which we are united by our Girl Scout ideals

12th STUDIO 2B Member: Orange—Sunset at dusk, the closing of another Girl Scout day

When all of the candles have been lit, the girls may be presented with the Bridge to Adult Girl Scouts Award.

- **THE KEYS TO GIRL SCOUTING:** The keys presented to the girls at the end of this ceremony may be key-shaped charms, antique keys, or blank keys on a Girl Scout key chain.

1st STUDIO 2B Advisor: As you enter another phase in Girl Scouting, you will find yourself entering a world of new experiences where you will gain an understanding of your own self worth and individuality. The Girl Scout Promise and Law will help you take action when you are faced with a decision and will help you develop the personal values that will give meaning and direction to your life. As you accept more responsibility, you will experience a growth in your knowledge, abilities, and judgments. In these tools, place your enthusiasm for the future. Use them wisely. Are you willing to accept the challenges and responsibilities of an adult Girl Scout?

STUDIO 2B Members' Response: (In unison) I am.

Individually, girls step forward to receive their Bridge to Adult Girl Scouts Award and recite a passage.

1st STUDIO 2B Member: I challenge myself to greater understanding of personal health, fitness, and nutrition.

2nd STUDIO 2B Member: I challenge myself to better serve both my local community and the global community.

3rd STUDIO 2B Member: I challenge myself to adapt to ever-changing technology and science.

4th STUDIO 2B Member: I challenge myself to cultivate a better insight and appreciation for the arts.

5th STUDIO 2B Member: I challenge myself to understand and preserve the natural world around me.

6th STUDIO 2B Member: I challenge myself to learn leadership and give service.

7th STUDIO 2B Member: I challenge myself to explore careers that value my interests and skills.

8th STUDIO 2B Member: I challenge myself to always live by the Girl Scout Law.

2nd STUDIO 2B Advisor: (As each girl is presented with a key) We present you with a golden key. Keep it as a symbol that, as you meet the challenges of adult Girl Scouting, you unlock the door to qualities that will serve you all your lives, such as an increased understanding and respect for others, strong values, social conscience, and a conviction about your own potential and self-worth.

MULTI-LEVEL BRIDGING CEREMONIES

- **THE SPELLING OF GIRL SCOUTING, BY EFFIE BYNUM:** Before the ceremony, girls can prepare signs or posters with each letter printed on them. As each line is spoken, the girls hold up the appropriate sign. To accommodate a large number of girls, one girl may read the passage while another stands beside her, holding the sign.

- 1st Girl Scout: G—is for the GRACIOUS way we all proclaim our birth.
- 2nd Girl Scout: I—points up the IDEAS shared and those we'd like unearthed.
- 3rd Girl Scout: R—is for RESPECT we have for every race and creed.
- 4th Girl Scout: L—is for our LOYALTY to promises we heed.
- 5th Girl Scout: S—is for SINCERITY of deed and word and mind.
- 6th Girl Scout: C—is for the COUNTLESS ways in which these are combined.
- 7th Girl Scout: O—is OBLIGATION that we owe to fellow man.
- 8th Girl Scout: U—means that it's YOU who must be first to lend a hand.
- 9th Girl Scout: T—is for the TEAMWORK, which has evidenced our growth.
- 10th Girl Scout: I—is for the INTEGRITY which backs the Girl Scout oath.
- 11th Girl Scout: N—is for the NOBLE way we remember days of old.
- 12th Girl Scout: G—is for the GRATEFUL thanks for efforts toward our goal.

All Girl Scouts: (In unison) Each of these is Girl Scouting.
 What work! What fun! What pride!
 To recall with admiration
 And seek with greater stride.

- **HAIL AND FAREWELL:** This ceremony involves every program age level of Girl Scouting, from Daisy Girl Scouts through graduating Girl Scouts. (See “Formations for Bridging Ceremonies” on page 27 in this booklet.)

Daisy Girl Scout Leader: Farewell, girls. Go join the ring.
 There, Brownie Girl Scouts plan most everything.

Daisy Girl Scouts leave their circle and cross the bridge. Brownie Girl Scouts meet them at the other end and present the girls with the Bridge to Brownie Girl Scouts Award and Brownie Girl Scout pin before joining the other Brownie Girl Scouts.

Brownie Girl Scout Leader: Now it's time to say good-bye.
 Break the ring and out you fly.

Brownie Girl Scouts leave their ring and cross the bridge. Junior Girl Scouts meet them at the other end and present the girls with the Bridge to Junior Girl Scouts Award, Brownie Girl Scout Wings, and Girl Scout pin before joining the other Junior Girl Scouts.

Junior Girl Scout Leader: As we say, “Welcome to you,”
 We have to say good-bye, too.
 The time has come for some to cross.
 The STUDIO 2B group's gain is our loss.

Junior Girl Scouts leave their horseshoe and cross the bridge. STUDIO 2B members meet them at the other end and present the girls with the rainbow bar award and STUDIO 2B pin before joining the other STUDIO 2B members.

STUDIO 2B Advisor: Welcome to STUDIO 2B.

As you join us to help make a well-rounded troop,
Ready to meet new challenges in STUDIO 2B,
We, too, must say good-bye to some of our members
As they progress on to the next adventure in Girl Scouting.

STUDIO 2B members in middle school leave their horseshoe and cross the bridge. STUDIO 2B members in high school meet them at the other end and present the girls with the rainbow tent award before joining the other STUDIO 2B members.

Next, graduating Girl Scouts leave their horseshoe and cross the bridge. Adult Girl Scouts meet them at the other end and present the girls with the Bridge to Adult Girl Scouts Award before joining the other adult Girl Scouts.

- **“TAKE MY HAND” PAPER DOLL CEREMONY:** This large but simple ceremony involves every program age level of Girl Scouting, including adult Girl Scouts serving both as leaders and in other volunteer positions. At the front of the room, bridging Girl Scouts stand side by side in order of ascending program age level, with their Girl Scout leaders in between. Each Girl Scout leader recites her verse. Then, she joins the girls from her troop in taking a step forward and stretching out their hands to each other, to resemble a chain of paper dolls. By the end of the poem, all participants should be standing hand in hand.

Daisy Girl Scout Leader(s): Take my hand in friendship
I give to you this day.
Remember all the good times
We had along the way.

Brownie Girl Scout Leader(s): Take my hand in helping
Other people that we know.
The more we give to others,
The more that we will grow.

Junior Girl Scout Leader(s): Take my hand in learning
To camp on nature’s ground.
Enjoying trails and campfires
With new friends that we have found.

STUDIO 2B Advisor(s)—Middle School: Take my hand in giving
Our knowledge as Girl Scouts
To girls we meet and talk to
Who have so many doubts.

STUDIO 2B Advisor(s)—High School: Take my hand in thanking
Our leader and our guide,
With sincere appreciation
For standing by our side.

Adult Girl Scout(s): (Other than leaders) Take my hand in eagerness
To be an adult Girl Scout.
“We’re proud to be a member!”
Is what we’re going to shout.

All Girl Scout Leaders: (In unison) So take my hand to follow
New Girl Scouting paths in sight.
We'll join hands with each other
And in friendship we'll unite.

All Bridging Girl Scouts: (In unison) We give our hands in promise
To hold our country dear,
And abide by the Girl Scout Law
Each day throughout the year.

- **WHEN YOU WERE A YOUNG GIRL:** This ceremony involves every program level of Girl Scouting, Daisy Girl Scouts through graduating Girl Scouts. (See "Formations for Bridging Ceremonies" on page 27 in this booklet.)

Daisy Girl Scout Leader: Stepping-stones are for you, Daisy Girl Scouts,
Cross them while you sing.
Your Daisy Girl Scout days are over now,
Go and join the Brownie Girl Scout Ring.

Daisy Girl Scouts leave their circle and cross the bridge. Brownie Girl Scouts meet them at the other end and present the girls with the Bridge to Brownie Girl Scouts Award and Brownie Girl Scout pin before joining the other Brownie Girl Scouts.

Brownie Girl Scout Leader: When you were a were young girl
You wore Daisy Girl Scout blue.
You learned the joys of singing
With Girl Scout friends so true.
Bring along your happy smile.
To Brownie Girl Scouting, we welcome you.

Brownie Girl Scouts leave their ring and cross the bridge. Junior Girl Scouts meet them at the other end and present the girls with the Bridge to Junior Girl Scouts Award, Brownie Girl Scout Wings, and Girl Scout pin before joining the other Junior Girl Scouts.

Junior Girl Scout Leader: When you were a young girl
You learned through "trying" many things.
Now you are ready for new adventures.
As Junior Girl Scouts, your ideas can take wings.

Junior Girl Scouts leave their horseshoe and cross the bridge. STUDIO 2B members meet them at the other end and present the girls with the rainbow bar award and the STUDIO 2B pin before joining the other STUDIO 2B members.

1st STUDIO 2B Advisor: When you were a young girl
You learned lots of things.
By singing, badge work, and helping others
You learned what happiness can bring.

Now you are ready to take a greater part
In Girl Scouting and your community,
And STUDIO 2B is just the start.

STUDIO 2B members in middle school leave their horseshoe and cross the bridge. STUDIO 2B members in high school meet them at the other end and present the girls with the rainbow tent award before joining the other STUDIO 2B members.

2nd STUDIO 2B Advisor: When you were a young girl

You wore a dress of green.
Through service to others
A new world you have seen.

You will achieve your goal.
By learning the world around you,
You will discover your own role.

Graduating Girl Scouts leave their horseshoe and cross the bridge. Leaders meet them at the other end and present the girls with the Bridge to Adult Girl Scouts Award.

All Girl Scout Leaders: (In unison) When I hear of a young girl

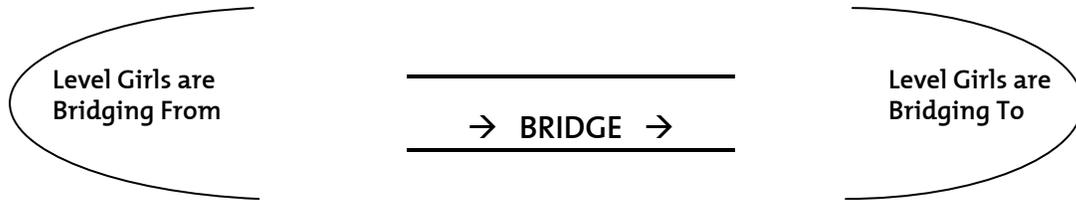
Who hasn't been a Girl Scout,
I think of all the wonders
That she has never seen.

Follow in the proud footsteps
Of where other Girl Scouts have been,
And when you are older,
You'll still love your dress of green.

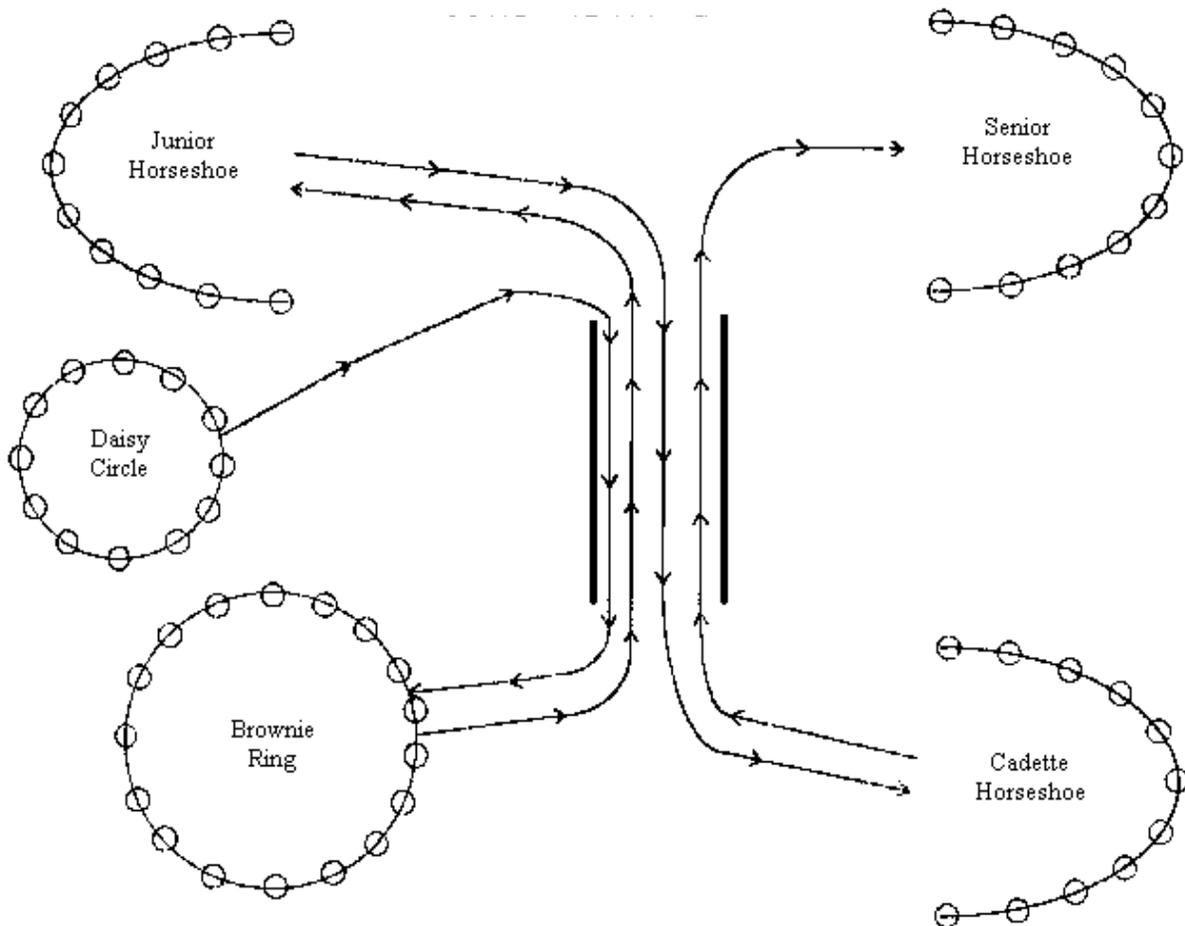
We've watched you girls grow
And marveled at the sight,
Your caring, talents, and abilities
And using them just right.

APPENDIX

FORMATION FOR A TYPICAL BRIDGING CEREMONY



FORMATION FOR A MULTI-LEVEL BRIDGING CEREMONY



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT BRIDGING

Q: Why do Brownie Girl Scouts receive Wings and participate in Fly-Up Ceremonies?

A: Our Brownie Girl Scout age level came into being from the Brownie Girl Guides of England, who were first organized in 1914. English Brownie Girl Guide leaders were called “Brown Owls,” and still are in many WAGGGS countries. At a fly-up ceremony, the Brown Owl gave wings to “Owlettes,” those girls in the troop who were ready to “fly up” to the next program level in Girl Guiding. We continue this tradition today in the U.S.A. Brownie Girl Scouts who fly up to become Junior Girl Scouts receive Brownie Girl Scout Wings that they can wear as Junior Girl Scouts. Girls who join Junior Girl Scouts without first being Brownie Girl Scouts do not receive Brownie Girl Scout Wings. Brownie Girl Scouts are the only age level to “fly up.” (For more about brownies and owls, read “The Brownie Story” in the *Brownie Girl Scout Handbook*.)

Q: Can a girl remain involved in Girl Scouting if she doesn’t earn the bridging awards or plan a bridging ceremony?

A: Yes. Bridging is a process that girls may choose to participate in. While encouraged for the benefit of the girl, earning bridging awards or planning in a bridging ceremony are optional activities. If a girl chooses not to complete these activities, she will still be able to participate in the Girl Scout program appropriate for her age level.

Q: How can a girl remain involved in Girl Scouting after she graduates from high school?

A: By the conclusion of a girl’s time as a Senior Girl Scout, she will have acquired an array of experiences and skill. Girls can continue their Girl Scout career by bridging to the adult level. As an adult volunteer, they may serve in a leadership role supporting a troop, a service unit, or council. Those attending a college, vocational or technical school, or another institute of higher learning may join or organize a Campus Girl Scout group through the local council. Young adults, male or female, with or without previous Girl Scout experience, may register as members of a Campus Girl Scout group. Over 1,300 young adults are volunteering their talents through Campus Girl Scout groups, established in more than 40 colleges and universities in the USA. Campus Girl Scouts wear a special “CGS” guard with their membership pin. Young adults may also choose to become a lifetime member of Girl Scouts of the USA.

SAMPLE NEWS RELEASE

GIRL SCOUT BRIDGING CEREMONY AND COURT OF AWARDS

WHEN: <Day, Date, Year>
<Time>

WHERE: <Location>
<Address>

WHO: GIRL SCOUT TROOPS FROM <Town/Towns>

WHAT: PLEASE JOIN GIRL SCOUT TROOPS, LEADERS, VOLUNTEERS, AND PARENTS AT THIS VERY SPECIAL BRIDGING CEREMONY! A BRIDGING CEREMONY IS THE END EVENT TO A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES THAT INTRODUCE GIRLS TO WHAT'S AHEAD IN GIRL SCOUTING. GIRLS RECEIVE PINS OR OTHER MEMENTOS THAT SYMBOLIZE THEIR PASSAGE FROM ONE PROGRAM AGE LEVEL TO ANOTHER. DURING THE COURT OF AWARDS, GIRLS WILL BE PRESENTED WITH AWARDS THAT THEY HAVE EARNED AND THEY WILL GIVE A PRESENTATION ON THE ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE PROJECTS THAT THEY COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR. JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THIS VERY SPECIAL BRIDGING CEREMONY AND COURT OF AWARDS TO SUPPORT GIRLS IN ALL STAGES OF GIRL SCOUTING!

CONTACT: FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL <Contact's First and Last Name> AT <Telephone Number with Area Code>.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- *Brownie Girl Scout Handbook*
- *Cadette Girl Scout Handbook*
- *Ceremonies in Girl Scouting*
- *The Guide for Brownie Girl Scout Leaders*
- *The Guide for Cadette and Senior Girl Scout Leaders*
- *The Guide for Daisy Girl Scout Leaders*
- *The Guide for Junior Girl Scout Leaders*
- *Junior Girl Scout Handbook*
- *Let's Celebrate!*
- *A Resource Guide for Senior Girl Scouts*
- GSMV Council Patch Booklet
- GSUSA Bridging Web Site:
<http://www.girlscouts.org/program/gscentral/ceremonies/bridging.asp>
- Your local library and the Internet may be good sources for additional ideas and information.