

# PROGRAM

## WOMEN IN THE ARTS PATCH B • J • C • S



Girl Scouts - Prairie Winds, Inc.  
2400 Ogden Ave., Suite 400  
Lisle, IL 60532-3933  
T 630 544 5900 Toll Free 888 544 5901  
Cicero Branch 708 656 0887  
F 630 544 5999  
www.girlscoutspw.org

*The Women in the Arts Patch Program is offered to Girl Scouts nationwide at the Brownie, Junior and Cadette/Senior levels.*

### **Requirements**

Brownie and Junior Girl Scouts are eligible for a patch once they:

1. Complete the Discovering Art: A Museum Guide for Girl Scouts booklet.
2. Complete one or more of the suggested troop activities in the Leader Information Packet.
3. Visit a local art museum or center and try to find art similar to the pieces in Discovering Art.
4. Complete the *Woman Artist Interview Form* provided in the Leader Information Packet.
5. Complete the evaluation provided in the Leader Information Packet and send it to the Girl Scout office.

Cadette/Senior Girl Scouts are eligible for a patch once they:

1. Assist a younger troop in requirements 1 to 3.
2. Complete the *Woman Artist Interview* from the Leader Information Packet.
3. Complete the evaluation provided in the Leader Information Packet and send it to the Girl Scout office.

### **This packet contains:**

- Leader Information Sheet
- Woman Artist Interview Form
- Evaluation Form

## ***Leader Information***

“The visual arts provide an outlet for many people to learn about history and cultures, to express themselves, and to communicate ideas. Visual art surrounds us in many ways and can be found in a variety of forms such as images in the media, the buildings in which we live and work, and even jewelry. Visual literacy is the ability to look at images, understand their structure, and find meaning in them. Often young people do not have the opportunity to develop their skills in looking at and interpreting the many visual images around them. The *Women in the Arts Patch Program* has been designed to help Girl Scouts develop these abilities so that they may increase their visual literacy skills and better understand their world. We encourage you to look at examples of women’s artwork and stories of women artists whenever possible to help you complete this program.” (from the [Leader’s Guide to Discovering Art: A Museum Guide for Girl Scouts](#))

### **TIPS FOR USING DISCOVERING ART:**

- Lead the troop through the concepts presented in [Discovering Art](#).
- Listen carefully to each girl’s answers; her insights will help others in the group to learn.
- Remember that interpreting artwork is subjective, no right or wrong answers.
- Draw personal connections to the artwork if possible.
- Consider the attention span of the troop members when planning.

### **PLANNING A MUSEUM VISIT:**

- When planning a museum visit, call in advance to schedule your visit.
- Ask to schedule with a museum educator, if possible.
- Tell the educator you have been studying women artists. Ask to see examples of portrait, still life, landscape, narrative and abstract paintings, if possible.
- Research the museum on the web, particularly if it is a large museum.

### **WHILE YOU ARE AT A MUSEUM:**

- Consider the attention span of the girls.
- Remind the girls not to touch artwork.
- Encourage the girls to talk about what they see. Remember, there are no right or wrong answers.
- As you find women artists, record their names and have the girls decide what forms of artwork they are viewing. Is it a portrait? Landscape?, etc.
- Encourage the girls to make sketches of artwork they particularly like, it will help them remember the work.
- In addition to completing [Discovering Art](#) and visiting a museum or gallery, you need to complete one or more of the suggested troop activities listed below. You might choose the type of artwork your girls enjoyed most to guide your activity choices. You can do these activities while visiting a museum or you can do them later, at a troop meeting. If possible, try to find artwork by women artists for these activities.



- Collect objects for the girls to paint with: sponges, rollers, popsicle sticks, string, straws, etc. Have the girls experiment with the objects to create an abstract work of art. The girls can also experiment with mixing colors. When they are done, ask them what they feel when they look at their paintings—are they happy? Sad? Full of energy?

## **INTERNET RESOURCES**

There are a number of internet websites with a variety of work by women artists. You can try printing artwork from any of these websites.

[www.nmwa.org](http://www.nmwa.org)

National Museum of Women in the Arts

[www.artcyclopedia.com](http://www.artcyclopedia.com)

Guide to art online, with a database of over 6,000 artists

[www.artsnetmn.org](http://www.artsnetmn.org)

Arts Net Minnesota

[www.nga.gov](http://www.nga.gov)

National Gallery of Art



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### *Woman Artist Interview Form*

Interview a woman artist in your community. If you need help finding an artist, ask a local art teacher, gallery or community center for suggestions. Questions to ask the artist:

- What kind of artist are you?
- With what tools and materials do you work?
- Where do you do your work?
- When did you become interested in art?
- Did you go to art school? If so, where?
- Was there another artist who you admired or whose work inspired you?
- What ideas do you hope to express through your art?
- Do you exhibit your work anywhere? If yes, where?
- What are you working on now?
- What is your favorite piece that you've created? Why?
- What is the hardest thing about being an artist?
- Are you part of an artists' organization or group?
- Are you able to support yourself through the sale of your artwork?
- What advice do you have for someone who wants to become an artist?

Troop Leader Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Troop Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Artist Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Media: \_\_\_\_\_

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### *Evaluation Form*

Troop Leader Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Troop Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of museum visited: \_\_\_\_\_

What did your troop do at the museum?

What did you and your troop enjoy most about the book Discovering Art: A Museum Guide for Girl Scouts?

What kinds of activities did you do to earn the patch?

What was the impact of using Discovering Art for your girls?

Please make any suggestions for improving the *Women in the Arts Patch*.