



ANNUAL REPORT



A look at 2017 and the strides
we took in shaping the lives
of America's youth



RANDALL STEPHENSON

National President



MICHAEL SURBAUGH

Chief Scout Executive



CHARLES W. DAHLQUIST II

National Commissioner





RANDALL STEPHENSON

National President

“The Boy Scouts of America remains one of the best character-building and leadership development organizations in the world. The values Scouts learn — integrity, selflessness, and self-reliance — are fundamental to a strong, healthy society. It’s no surprise that so many of America’s leaders, in every field of endeavor and from all walks of life, have Scouting in their backgrounds.”





MICHAEL SURBAUGH

Chief Scout Executive

"With a steadfast focus on the four pillars of Scouting — service, leadership, learning and adventure — the Boy Scouts of America continues to help build the future leaders of our country through educational and fun experiences."





CHARLES W. DAHLQUIST II

National Commissioner

"Scouting, in all its programs, is more relevant and needed by youth and families today than ever before to help develop character and leadership that will empower this generation to face the challenges of the future."





SCOUT OATH

On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

SCOUT LAW

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.



MISSION

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

VISION

The Boy Scouts of America will prepare every eligible youth in America to become a responsible, participating citizen and leader who is guided by the Scout Oath and Scout Law.





1,245,882

BOYS

AGES 6 TO 10

in Cub Scouts

834,142

BOYS AGES 11 TO 17

in

★ BOY SCOUTS & ★
VARSITY SCOUTS

87,827

YOUNG MEN & WOMEN

AGES 14 TO 20

VENTURING *and*
SEA SCOUTS

376,837

BOYS  GIRLS

IN ELEMENTARY
THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL

IN LEARNING FOR LIFE
CHARACTER EDUCATION
PROGRAMS

114,751

YOUNG MEN & WOMEN
AGES 10 TO 20 EXPLORING

CAREER-BASED
programs

99,814 | UNITS

REPRESENTING

PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATIONS

with

BUSINESSES

COMMUNITY
& RELIGIOUS
ORGANIZATIONS

AGENCIES
THAT SUPPORT
BSA PROGRAMS





BUILD LEADERS

From the time they enter the program as Cub Scouts until they become adults, boys learn what it takes to be a leader. Starting in 2018, girls, too, will be able to benefit from these early lessons, thanks to the BSA's historic decision to begin admitting girls into the Cub Scout ranks in 2018. A program for older girls, launching in 2019, will enable them to advance and earn the highest rank of Eagle Scout.

In 2017, a total of **55,494** young men earned the Eagle Scout rank. Reaching this pinnacle requires Scouts to conceive of, plan for, and

complete a project that takes into account



Eagle Scout Blake Deaton, right, is shown with special needs teacher Savanna Hersh.

everything they've learned about leadership, service, outdoor skills, and values.

Jeffrey "Blake" Deaton from Morehead City, N.C., built a sensory room for children with autism — including special lighting, padded floors, and educational toys — earning him the 2017 Glenn A. and Melinda W. Adams National Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award. But leadership doesn't begin, or end, with the awarding of Eagle Scout.

Daniel Konzelman, a 24-year-old Eagle Scout, was among the first on the scene after an



Eagle Scout Daniel Konzelman

Amtrak train derailed in DuPont, Wash., in December. Demonstrating the skills he learned in Scouting, he helped more than a dozen passengers to safety before emergency workers arrived. “Nobody was there, nobody was leading or responding to the incident,” Konzelman told CBS News. “I did my best to sort of take charge of the situation.”

In all, Konzelman, his girlfriend Alicia Hoverson, and a police officer who arrived on the scene helped about 15 people escape the train — many of whom were injured, in shock, and unable to move without assistance.

From Scouting’s younger ranks, STEM Scout Gitanjali “Anjali” Rao, 12, was named the winner of the 2017 Discovery Education and 3M Young Scientist Challenge thanks to her invention of a device that enables users to test for lead levels in water, proving that leaders come in all shapes and sizes. Her award-winning project, the Tethys, enables users to test for lead levels in water with greater ease and effectiveness than many existing testing processes. This tool was named after the Greek goddess of fresh water and has potentially life-saving implications for communities around the globe.



STEM Scout Anjali Rao

This invention follows her previous creation of a life-saving device for snake bites that earned her the title of Middle Tennessee Council’s STEM Scout of the Year.

2017 Report to the Nation infographic. ➔





In communities throughout the nation, Scouting is administered through civic, faith-based, and educational organizations that deliver our programs to their youth members and adult volunteers.

During 2017, our members recorded **15.6 million hours** of service to their communities, at a value of more than **\$376 million** (based on a national volunteer-hour value of \$24.14). Eagle Scout

projects alone accounted for more than \$205 million (or, 8.5 million hours) in service to the nation.



At the 2017 National Jamboree, which was held at the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve in West Virginia, Scouts and Scouters contributed more than 100,000 hours of service as part of the

Messengers of Peace Days of Service initiative, making a meaningful impact on the lives of residents across the state. While you often see Scouts working in your community, you also run across them online, where the BSA's growing social media channels on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram reached more than **132 million** people in 2017 with stories of service and leadership.



BUILD INTERESTS

Scouts earned more than **1.8 million** merit badges during the year — including Exploration, which became the 137th available merit badge in February — introducing Scouts to a spectrum of life skills topics.

In the Exploring co-ed career exploration program, a Career Interest Survey given to more than 150,000 students in 6th – 12th grades generated a list of favored careers that ranged from in-demand medical positions to more

aspirational roles such as athletes, singers, and actors. Nearly half of respondents, or 45 percent, expressed the most interest in the medical and engineering fields, as well as programming and marine biology.

Launched the previous year, the Lions pilot program grew in 2017 as it focused on teaching new skills and building character in kindergarten-age boys. Likewise, the co-ed STEM Scouts pilot program — which offers hands-on STEM

exploration for students in grades 3-12 — continued expanding.





BUILD ADVENTURE

Scouting prepares our youth for active lives full of adventure. More than **1 million** Scouts attended our day and summer camps across the country. At our high-adventure bases in New Mexico, Minnesota, Florida, and West Virginia, they camped, hiked, climbed, paddled, and sailed. In all, this added up to more than 5.6 million nights under the stars.

During the course of 10 days in July, attendees at the 2017 National Jamboree combined adventure and leadership development, made lasting friendships, and experienced

the best of Scouting, all in one place. As it does every four years, this landmark event showcased our mission by giving youth life-changing experiences they can't get anywhere else. A few of the highlights from this year's event included:

- **Messengers of Peace Days of Service:** The BSA partnered with the Citizens Conservation Corps (CCC) to identify more than 200 projects in nearly every county across West Virginia, with a combined economic impact of more than **\$7 million**.
- **The BSA Takes STEM Out of the Lab and Into Nature's Biggest Classroom:** The BSA provided a classroom encompassing 14,000 acres by offering unique STEM experiences that allowed attendees to ex-

Explore the science behind adventure while experiencing the newly expanded STEM Quest area. Displays included offerings by NASA/FIRST, the Center for the Ad-

vancement of Science in Space (CASIS), Cognizant's Innovation Hub, the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, West Virginia University, the American

Welding Society and Lincoln Electric, and more.





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