

Girl Scouts North Carolina Coastal Pines invites girls, families, and volunteers to stay involved while at home. We know that today's girl is ready to pivot on a moment's notice and is willing to embrace new ways to explore Girl Scouting. That's why we're promoting these options for engaging with us while you're at home today ... or any day!

LIFE SKILLS, ENTREPRENEURSHIP & FINANCE

shares activities, tips, and tricks each Wednesday for developing the skills necessary to prepare her to do amazing things for herself and her community, and grow into the incredible woman she's destined to become.

Join the conversation online. **#OurGSNCCPCommunity**



The Value of Creative Arts in a Girls Life

Through various age level Girl Scout badges and patch programs, your girl can boost her confidence through creative arts and theatre! Whether she finds inspiration by attending a performance or works her way through a badge, she's sure to challenge herself to step outside her comfort zone. Drama can be a fun and important creative outlet and through Girl Scout activities, it can be a safe, non-judgmental safe space for self-expression. Have the family join in the fun and get silly with your girl as she ventures out into the creative world!

Girl Scouts– North Carolina Coastal Pines is fortunate to have so many creative arts organizations - theaters, ballet, stage acting, ice skating performances, orchestra and more throughout our council and we are proud to partner with so many of them in a variety of ways! From discount tickets to meet and greets with actors, we appreciate the opportunity and look forward to building more partnerships– check out our current partners on our [community partner page](#).

We took a moment to chat with Meredyth Pederson Cooper from the Raleigh Little Theatre and she invited us to participate in their Homemade Play Festival, where you can work on parts of a Girl Scout badge while creating an original short play at home. For more information, visit the RLT [page](#).

Here's what Meredyth had to say about creative arts & confidence:

We'd love to hear about Raleigh Little Theatre and what it's all about...

Raleigh Little Theatre is a welcoming community using theatre to enrich, educate, entertain and engage volunteers, students and audiences of all ages. We do this through our 11 productions each year and education programs for age 2 through adults. Something I love about RLT is that it's an organization that supports people getting involved in theatre at any age and in so many different ways. There's something for everyone!

How did you get involved in RLT, what is your role, and how long have you been there?

I am the Director of Education at Raleigh Little Theatre, and I've been in this role for just over three years. In my job, I am responsible for all of our classes and camps and programs we do with schools in the community. In all those different programs, I love that we get to create so many different ways for students to engage with theatre.

Need a copy of a Journey, badge requirements or want to order patches? While our shops are closed, please feel free to [shop online](#) or [email](#) us for merchandise needs. We will provide free shipping within in our council footprint on orders emailed to us (please provide phone number in

What do you love about your job and what is most challenging?

What I love most about my job is that I get to create the kinds of experiences in theatre that were so important to me when I was a young person. When I was in high school, theatre was where I found friends, a way to express myself and a supportive and creative community. I love that I get to be a part of creating these kinds of opportunities!

The biggest challenge in my job at the moment has been figuring out how to keep the connection, the learning, the self expression going during a time when we can't gather in groups in the same space as we are used to doing. Theatre is an art form that is all about collaborating and sharing your work with others in the same space. But I've been inspired by how theatre artists are using technology to adapt our art form during this time. At Raleigh Little Theatre we moved our classes for youth and adults online, and we've been pleasantly surprised by how well it has worked. It's so much fun to see kids excited to see each other (even on a screen) and have an opportunity to be creative and collaborate with each other.

How do you see theatre's value in supporting the Girl Scout mission of building girls of courage, confidence and character?

Theatre is a great way to build courage, confidence and character! I think whenever you are working with other people, whether it's group project in school or creating something in a theatre class, or working on a full production, it's going to challenge you to think outside of yourself. I love that theatre invites everyone to bring their ideas to the table, but the collaboration and working together happens when we listen to each other and find ways to connect our ideas and let ourselves be inspired by others. It takes courage to share your ideas with others, and to be open to listening to others' ideas. One of my favorite parts of rehearsal and working on a play with students is seeing their confidence grow from the first rehearsal, through all the practicing to the moment we get to share our work with an audience. Theatre is fun, and it's also challenging. I think anything that presents you with a challenge is going to build your character. It's so rewarding to look back on your work, see how you made it through the hard things, or surprised yourself by what you were able to do,

What advice would you give to a girl who isn't quite sure if the theatre is for her? What are some ways that she can explore theatre life?

Often when people think of theatre, they think of the actors first - that makes sense, since those are the people audiences see on stage. But performing may not be what everyone likes to do. There are so many different ways to get involved in theatre! There are designers who create the world that the play takes place in, there are people who are great at math and building things to figure out how to put the set together. People who like making things with their hands might learn to create costumes or props for actors to use in a show. Or maybe you are great at visualizing how a story jumps off the page, and you'd like to try directing. There are stage managers who keep everything running smoothly in performance and rehearsal. And of course we need audiences! There's so much to learn from theatre, no matter what part of it you are involved in. So I encourage you to try something new and see what you learn!

Let's Get Confident in Our Creativity Girl Scouts!

- ⇒ Daisy, Brownie and Junior Girl Scouts can grow their confidence while earning the [Make Every Step Count patch](#) while practicing skits and playing charades, while learning healthy habits for a lifetime.
- ⇒ Brownies can earn the [Dance Badge](#) by exploring the world of dance while bringing out the dancer inside her!
- ⇒ Juniors can explore their musical side by earning the [Musician Badge](#). They'll learn how music is made and how to perform music themselves.
- ⇒ [Playing the Past](#) is another Junior badge where girls can learn about and become a character from the past.
- ⇒ Cadettes can try their hand at writing a script for the show or movie screen by earning the [Screenwriter Badge](#).
- ⇒ When Seniors earn the [Troupe Performer Badge](#), they'll know how to organize a team of people and put together a performance.
- ⇒ Ambassadors can earn step 5 of the [Photographer Badge](#) by shooting 5 action shots using theatre as their focus!

