

# Girl Scouts of Southeastern New England

## 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Centennial Patch Program

### XIX: Shall Not Be Denied

2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment. Why is this an important milestone for Girl Scouts (and American women in general)? The 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States guarantees that the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by a state on account of sex. It took decades of determined campaigning by countless women (and some men too!) to secure equal voting rights under the law. The legacy of this group of determined advocates has positively impacted generations of Girl Scouts, and we want to celebrate their achievement with our council's own patch program. To earn your Girl Scouts of Southeastern New England XIX: *Shall Not Be Denied* patch, complete the required number of steps for your age level and purchase the commemorative patch in our Girl Scout shop.



**DAISIES:** Complete 3 steps, including 1 starred item

**BROWNIES:** Complete 4 steps, including 1 starred item

**JUNIORS:** Complete 5 steps, including 2 starred items

**CADETTES:** Complete 6 steps, including 2 starred items

**SENIORS/AMBASSADORS:** Complete 6 steps, including 3 starred items

### ***Please choose from the following to complete the patch requirements:***

- \* Discover the history of the Women's Rights Movement. Delve into the lives and stories of the women whose efforts led to the ratification of the 19th Amendment locally. Give a presentation to your troop or another group in your community.
- \* Complete the requirements to earn the Citizen badge for your age level.
- Run for office! Imagine you are running for public office. What issues would you advocate for? What would your platform be? Decide your main issue/platform and then create your own campaign slogan.
- Take a women's history tour in Providence from the Rhode Island Historical Society.
- Go global! Compare our nation's political systems and voting practices with those of another country. Share what you learned with others.
- Take a tour of the Connecticut, Massachusetts, or Rhode Island state house.
- Choose your favorite female political figure (historical or current); explore her story and political platform. What main issues did she focus on? What national issues or historical events impacted her decisions? Write/draw a graphic novel about her life.
- Create your own suffrage poster or banner based on a historic or current voting rights issue.
- Learn about a man or men in your state who supported the passing of the amendment.
- Imagine you're a suffragette in 1918 and you're asked to give a speech at a Women's Rights rally. What would you highlight in your speech? Write it out and give your speech to friends, family, or your Girl Scout sisters.

- Learn about who the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment left out? Who in our society today still do not have voting rights?
- Visit the Rhode Island Historical Society's Research Center library or the Rhode Island State Archives to learn how to conduct archival research and see archives and objects from RI's suffrage history (Juniors and above).
- Learn about civil disobedience. What does it mean? Find a current or historical movement where advocates used civil disobedience as a strategy to effect change. Share what you learned with others.
- \* Explore the history of voting rights in the United States of America. How have voting rights been expanded through Constitutional Amendments and other legislation? What are some contemporary issues that pertain to voting rights?
- Explore the history of the League of Women Voters. What led to this organization's creation? What other organizations have been formed over the years to support women voter registration? How do these organizations support or promote civic engagement today? Share what you learned with others.
- Pick a time period and learn about what the expectations and roles for women were in your state at that time. What is similar or different from today?
- Help your high school partner with the Elections Division of the RI Department of State to hold a student government election using real state voting machines! (Seniors/Ambassadors in RI only).
- Attend and participate in a mock legislative session at the Rhode Island State House (Cadettes and above).
- Invite a female legislator or town councilwoman to speak to your troop or service unit.

### **Additional Resources:**

XIX: *Shall Not Be Denied* partnership website: <https://www.shallnotbedenied.org/>

Extraordinary Women of the East Bay online exhibit: <https://sites.google.com/rwu.edu/exhibit-eastbay-women/meet-the-women>

Explore the RI Department of State's interactive digital timeline about the path to women's suffrage: <http://sos.ri.gov/divisions/civics-and-education/for-educators/themed-collections/women-suffrage-timeline>

Online Biographical Dictionary to the Women Suffrage Movement in the United States: <https://documents.alexanderstreet.com/VOTESforWOMEN/intro>

Explore other civics and history resources at the RI Department of State: <http://sos.ri.gov/divisions/civics-and-education/for-educators>

Learn all about how to run for office and how elections work in Rhode Island: <https://vote.sos.ri.gov>

RI Historical Society online textbook: <http://library.providence.edu/encompass/>



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