

**GIRL SCOUTS HONOR WOMEN OF DISTINCTION,  
ROLE MODELS FOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS**

Central & Southern NJ – The Girl Scouts of Central & Southern NJ, Inc. (GSCSNJ) have named five outstanding female leaders as Women of Distinction for 2016. The women receiving awards are leaders in their fields, innovators of unique programs and services, and are role models and mentors to tomorrow’s generation. All of the honorees demonstrate that studying, hard work, and dreaming big are the keys for women and girls to succeed at achieving their goals. GSCSNJ’s annual Women of Distinction event is a celebration of women who exemplify excellence and accomplishment. GSCSNJ will host an award breakfast at the Crowne Plaza Philadelphia – Cherry Hill, on Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 – 10:30 AM

Through their commitment to leadership, excellence and public service, these five Women of Distinction serve as exceptional role models for girls:

- Patricia A. Hartpence: Assistant Vice President, NJM Insurance Group
- Shelley R. Sylva: Vice President, Senior Manager Legal Operation & Governance, TD Bank, America’s Most Convenient Bank
- Phoebe A. Haddon: Chancellor, Rutgers University - Camden
- Varissa McMickens Blair: Executive Director, Roebling Museum
- Rising Star – Sarah A. Lachman: Campaign Manager, AdTaxi Networks.

“Women of Distinction is an opportunity to bring together business and community leaders and members to recognize the long-term impact of Girl Scouts mission "to build girls of courage, confidence, and character".” states Ginny Marino, CEO of GSCSNJ. “The women we honor this year exemplify those values, serve as active role models for our community, and partners in our mission to help girls thrive.”

The 2016 Women of Distinction Awards are supported by Presenting Sponsor: NJM Insurance Group; Gold Sponsor: Pennsylvania Lumbermens Mutual Insurance; Silver Sponsors: Fulton Bank and inTEST Corporation; Bronze Sponsors: Capital Impact Group, Parker McCay, Saratoga Benefit Services, South Jersey Industries, Bowman & Company, Children's Specialized Hospital, and AmeriHealth NJ.

If you are interested in attending the 2016 Women of Distinction event, nominating a 2017 Woman of Distinction, or sponsoring the 2016 event, please visit [gscsnj.org/wod](http://gscsnj.org/wod).

**About Girl Scouts of Central & Southern NJ, Inc.**

Girl Scouts of Central & Southern NJ (GSCSNJ) is the premier organization serving 19,000 girls in over nine counties. GSCSNJ will shape leaders for tomorrow by empowering girls to take on bold challenges, discover their own passions and strengths, act with character, and engage fully in fun, relevant experiences that encourage friendships and build life-long skills. For more information on how to join, volunteer, reconnect or donate to Girl Scouts of Central & Southern NJ, call (800) 582-7692 or visit [www.gscsnj.org](http://www.gscsnj.org). You can also connect with GSCSNJ on Twitter @GSCSNJ or Facebook.com/GSCSNJ!

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