



The Best of Oregon

CITY of BEAVERTON

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LIBRARY, LOCAL GIRL SCOUT PARTNER TO SEEK TEEN STORIES ABOUT COVID-19 PANDEMIC

BEAVERTON, Ore. – The Beaverton City Library is partnering with local tenth grade Girl Scout Riley Kessler to collect personal accounts of the COVID-19 pandemic, written by middle and high school students. The project is one part of Kessler’s Gold Award—the highest award available to Girl Scouts in grades 9-12.

Students aged 11 to 18 in Multnomah or Washington counties are invited to submit writing for consideration. The deadline to apply is Wednesday, Jun. 30.

“The goal of the project is to spotlight teen experiences during the pandemic,” said Girl Scout Riley Kessler. “We have gone through a very unique set of challenges that differ from adults’ experiences, and I want to share that.”

Participants are not required to be registered Girl Scouts to submit an entry. Selected pieces will be compiled and published, including but not limited to the library’s local history collection. Students can learn more about this project and how to participate at www.BeavertonLibrary.org/COVIDwriting.

In July, the submissions will be publicly shared to help everyone understand what it is like to be a teenager during a global pandemic.

“The library is happy to help gather youth perspectives for this project,” said Ian Duncanson, Community Engagement Librarian for Beaverton City Library, who is helping to run the event. “I am looking forward to gaining some understanding of what youth have been going through.”

About the Girl Scout Gold Award

Gold Award Girl Scouts don’t just change the world for the better, they change it for good. The Gold Award is earned by girls in grades 9–12 who demonstrate extraordinary leadership in developing sustainable solutions to local, national, and global challenges. Since 1916, Girl Scouts have answered the call to drive lasting, impactful change. The Gold Award is the mark of the truly remarkable. Learn more at www.girlscouts.org/gold.

About Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington

In partnership with more than 6,800 adult members, Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington prepares more than 11,500 girls in grades K-12 for a lifetime of leadership, adventure and success. GSOSW’s programs in civic engagement, financial literacy, the

outdoors and STEM serve girls in 35 counties in Oregon, and Clark, Klickitat and Skamania counties in Southwest Washington. The Girl Scout mission is to build girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place. For more information, visit www.girlscoutsosw.org.

About Beaverton City Library

Beaverton City Library, the third busiest library in the state in terms of collection use, serves a population of approximately 148,000 (the population of Beaverton plus a portion of the unincorporated residents of Washington County). Each month, more than 67,000 people visit the library to check out more than 350,000 items. The total annual circulation is nearly 2.75 million items. The library has two facilities—Beaverton City Library Main and Beaverton City Library Murray Scholls—each open seven days per week. Learn more at www.BeavertonLibrary.org.

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