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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Girl Scouts' Women's Leadership Forum Spotlights Businesswomen in the Arts

Baltimore—Girl Scouts of Central Maryland (GSCM) will host its 3rd annual Women's Leadership Forum on Wednesday, March 11, 2009 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the Baltimore Sun Building, 501 N. Calvert Street. The forum will include a Q&A and panel discussion with arts industry businesswomen Elizabeth Cockey, painter, author and art therapist; Rebecca Hoffberger, founder and director, American Visionary Art Museum and Toby Orenstein, owner, Toby's Dinner Theater and founder, artistic director and president of the Columbia Center for Theatrical Arts (CCTA) Board of Directors. This year the Maryland Women's Heritage Center has partnered with Girl Scouts of Central Maryland to celebrate Women's History Month and to support Girl Scouts' efforts to acknowledge the accomplishments of today's women leaders and empower the next generation. Nancy Grasmick, State Superintendent of Schools will provide opening remarks.

The Girl Scouts' Women's Leadership Forum is designed to provide an opportunity for teenage girls and professional women of all ages to tap into the knowledge and experiences of successful businesswomen in order to explore career options as well as glean practices and principles that could be useful in their current and future careers. "Through Girl Scouts, thousands of young girls and women learn and develop skills—especially leadership skills—that will last a lifetime," noted Traci A. Barnett, GSCM CEO. "Programs like the Women's Leadership Forum help girls learn about leadership and hear how other women became leaders," she added. "These are the kinds of experiences that make a huge impact on their lives."

The Women's Leadership Forum is open to the public. Reservations are required and can be made by contacting Maria Johnson, GSCM Vice President, Advancement, by email: mjohnson@gscm.org or by phone, 410.358.9711. All guests are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items in support of Girl Scouts' Harvest for the Hungry campaign. **###**

Girl Scouts builds girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place. Girl Scouts of Central Maryland serves nearly 30,000 girls in Baltimore City, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford and Howard counties providing programs and activities that allow them to Discover, Connect and Take Action.

Where Girls Grow StrongSM