

A Year in the Life of Juliette January Patch Program



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Art All Around!



Juliette loved to express her energy and enthusiasm through the arts, and she always thought of herself as an artist. Even as a young girl, she loved to draw and make paper dolls with her cousin to act out plays. In 1880 at the age of 19, Juliette went to New York City to study art. Juliette hoped to be able to support herself financially through her art and studied with well-known artists, including Robert Walker Weir, a famous painter at the time.

Throughout her life, Juliette refined her skills in painting with oils and watercolors and explored sculpting in clay, ceramic, and alabaster. She even worked in mediums that required physical strength like woodcarving, sculpting in bronze, and blacksmithing. Art was always an important outlet for Juliette's creative energies and that passion is shared through the legacy art badges that have been part of the Girl Scout program since we were founded in 1912. Many of her works of art are on display at the Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace in Savannah. In this patch program, girls will have the opportunity to experience several different art mediums, display their art, and use their art to make a difference in their community. The activities are broken up into three categories: Create, Demonstrate, and Celebrate.

CREATE Girl will learn about a variety of artistic methods and discover what talents and interests they have. To complete the create step of this patch program, Daisies and Brownies choose at least one option below, Juniors and Cadettes choose at least two options, and Seniors and Ambassadors choose at least three options:

◆ Painting - Juliette was a skilled painter. She experimented with a variety of painting types including watercolors, oils, and acrylics. Pick two of these three types of painting mediums and paint a nature scene using each type of paint (so you'll have two different nature paintings). Compare how the different types of paint you used changed the way your painting looks. Talk with others about what type of paint medium you liked best and create one more painting of your choice using that type of paint.

◆ Drawing - Juliette loved to draw and it was one of her first experiences with art. She used drawing to create her fashion ideas, record what she saw in nature, and express her thoughts. Choose at least two of the following drawing mediums- chalk, coal, colored pencils, or Cray-Pas, and using something at your meeting place as a model to draw (a book, a table, a potted plant, etc.) Experiment with what you can do with each type of drawing medium. Share what you drew with the others in your group and talk about which medium you liked best.

◆ Sculpture - Learn about different materials you can use to create sculpture- clay, metal, stone, or even sculpting out of soap. Find materials you can use to create sculpture and a make sculpture of an animal or a person. Talk about what you learned about proportions, capturing movement, and details.

◆ Metal working – at the Birthplace in Savannah, you can see the wrought iron garden gated at the Wellsbourne House that Juliette Low created. She always wanted to test her limits and would experiment with art in ways that weren't typical for a woman in her day. Learn about how to create art from metals using wrought iron, recycled metal, tin, or another type of metal. Work with a trained professional to learn how to weld and use torches to cut metal to create a piece of art.

◆ Ceramics – Juliette had a wicked sense of humor. She loved to make art that served a purpose, and at the Birthplace, she hand plated dessert plates with beautiful wildlife scenes. As part of those plates, she painted some of them to secretly be 'butt plates'. She painted an animal from their backsides and used those plates to serve people that she didn't particularly like at her gatherings. Visit a pottery or ceramic studio to create a piece of art that also can be used around the house. Learn about the steps involved from starting with clay to adding paint to kiln firing to create your own piece of art.

◆ Choose your own – there are many ways that we can create art – stained glass, textiles, and photographs are just a few. Find a style of art that you would like to try. Visit an art studio or invite a guest speaker to your meeting to learn about the materials and techniques used to create art within that medium. Create two different pieces of art using your newfound skills. Share what you liked best with your troop or others in your community.

DEMONSTRATE Girl will connect with others to share what they have learned.

Daisy and Brownie Girl Scouts must complete at least one option, Juniors and Cadettes must complete at least two options, and Seniors and Ambassadors must complete at least three options.

- ◆ Visit an art museum in your area. Take a tour and learn about the types of art on display, who are the famous artists on display, and what pieces are the most popular with visitors to the museum. Bring a notebook with you to sketch/document the art you like best and share with others how the art makes you feel.
- ◆ Visit an art studio or gallery. Talk to the artist or curator about the art on display. Learn about shading, use of colors, brush strokes, etc., and ask them what inspires them to create/display the art they have.
- ◆ Visit a location that displays sculptures (park, museum, estate, etc.) How do the sculptures change the mood and setting of where they are placed in the venue? Do they add visual value to the area where they are located? Are there any statues on display that visitors go specifically to that location to view? Talk to the groundkeeper to find out what is involved in keeping outdoor art in good condition.
- ◆ Create your own art display. Using the art you created in the ‘Create’ section, create an art display at a local school, community center, or other public location. Invite others in your community to attend an event to show off your troop’s artwork and ask for their critiques.
- ◆ Look for art as part of your local building’s architecture. What makes certain buildings stand out? Ask the building owner/manager about the building designers and the building’s history. Was there a purpose in having the building designed that way? See if you can find historic pictures that show what the building looked like when it was new.
- ◆ Choose at least one activity from the Art in the Outdoor Badges, from your grade level badge program and complete that activity. Share with others what you liked best about doing that activity.
- ◆ Find a past Girl Scout handbook and choose a badge that is related to the arts. Pick an activity that interests you and try it out. How does the activity from the past badge book compare to activities that you would find in current Girl Scout materials?

CELEBRATE

Girls will take what they have learned from their experiences and celebrate with others. All ages choose at least one activity to complete.

- Coloring books have been linked to improved brain function in adults. Create large design coloring books that can be donated to local senior citizen services. Provide colored pencils, crayons, or other materials for coloring the pictures you create.
- Donate your art to brighten up a community center or other public building. Work with the building manager to see how your art can be displayed and be recognized as work done by your Girl Scout troop.
- Look for areas in your community that have outdoor art on display. Work with the maintenance staff to find out how you can make a difference by offering to do a day of caring to clean up the area. Work with the caretakers to find out what you can do to keep the area clean in the future.
- Find a local building in need of improvements and see if it is possible to create a community mural on one of the outside or inside walls. Work with other community members to design and paint a mural that represents your community.
- Offer a patch program for younger girls to teach them about what you learned while working on this patch program. Try to get local artists to come and offer instruction. Use activities that are part of this patch program or legacy art badges to help guide the activities that you provide.
- Host an art themed ‘Bring a Friend’ event and invite other girls to learn about all you do in Girl Scouts. Plan hands on art activities and share what you love about being in Girl Scouts.