

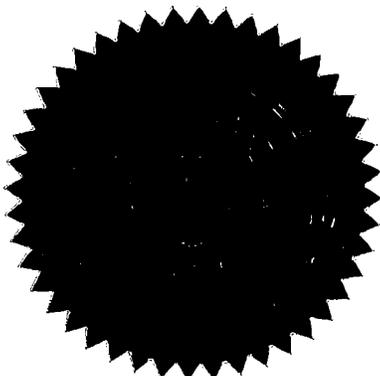
## CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

**PROCLAMATION**

- Whereas:** March 12, 2012 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, which began in 1912 in Savannah, Georgia, when Juliette Gordon Low gathered 18 girls and gave them the opportunity to develop physically, mentally and spiritually; and
- Whereas:** For 100 years, Girl Scouting has helped build millions of girls and women of courage, confidence and character who act to make the world a better place; and
- Whereas:** Through the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, girls develop the skills and lessons that will serve them throughout their lives so that they may contribute to their communities; and
- Whereas:** Today more than 50 million American women are Girl Scout alumnae, 3.3 million girls and adult volunteers are active members, and Girl Scouts is the largest member of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, a global movement comprised of more than 10 million girls in 145 countries worldwide; and
- Whereas:** Through the dedication, time and talent of volunteers of different backgrounds, abilities, and areas of expertise, the Girl Scout program in western Washington is brought to 26,000 girls regardless of their financial circumstances and, through innovative programs, reaches girls facing societal challenges; and
- Whereas:** 1,005 girls and 574 dedicated adult volunteers and lifetime members are proud to be part of the Girl Scout tradition in our community of Bellevue; and
- Whereas:** The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest honor in Girl Scouting, and the recipients of this honor have demonstrated leadership and contributed to their communities. In the last 5 years, 22 Gold Awards have been given to girls in Bellevue. Their projects ranged from serving disadvantaged youth and teens, low income, ESL, and special needs kids to creating high-school-level curricula addressing sensitive women's issues. Similarly, several hundred Silver and Bronze awards were given to recognize achievements in community service by Cadettes and Juniors, respectively.

**Now, therefore, I, Conrad Lee, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby applaud the commitment that Girl Scouts of the United States has made to support the leadership development of America's girls for the past 100 years, the Girl Scouts of Western Washington for providing the local support for Girl Scouting in our community, and the Girl Scouts of Bellevue for their contributions to our community, and proudly proclaim 2012 as:**

**"YEAR OF THE GIRL", celebrating 100 years of Girl Scouting.**




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Conrad Lee  
Mayor