

Young Women in Harmony Girl Scout Patch Workshop

The Magic of Harmony Show Chorus sponsored a 3 hour workshop for Girls Scouts who want to earn the YWIH GS Patch. During the workshop we covered 9 of the requirements, so that most of the girls (Daisy, Brownie and Junior) could earn the Patch at the end of the Workshop. Cadettes and Seniors will need to do one additional requirements to earn the badge.

The schedule for the workshop was:

Gathering and Opening: 15 minutes

4 Sessions: 30 minutes each

Snack between session 3 and 4: 15 minutes

Performance for families: 30 minutes (including practice time)

We had the girls divided into 3 groups, but with more girls we could have had 4 groups. The groups were made up in age groups, and rotated between the 4 sessions. The four sessions were:

1. Music Basics: covered requirements Discovery # 1, 2, 3, 4. The girls learned about melody, harmony, barbershop harmony, various music styles including rock and roll and classical, and about singing as a solo, duet, trio, quartet and in a chorus. A combination of listening to music and singing helped them to learn these various concepts. We also were able to listen to a quartet sing a simple arrangement that we had of Old McDonald in several different musical styles.

2. Sing Rounds: covered requirements Connect # 5. The girls learned about what a round is and learned to sing several different rounds. They first did Meet New Friends in a round, then sang several other rounds.

3. Barbershop Basics: covered requirements Connect 7 and 8. The girls watched several different YWIH videos and discussed the difference between up tune, ballad and swing tune. They talked about other songs they knew that were up tunes or ballads. They also compared the performances with other choirs or choruses they may have seen.

4. Sing Harmony: covered requirements Take Action # 10 and 12. Three songs were learned with harmony. The girls were taught the barbershop tag Mickey Mouse and sang along with the quartet that lead the session. They also learned to sing harmony parts to You Are My Sunshine and Kum Ba Ya.

The oldest girls will need to complete one more requirement to earn the badge. They can choose Connect # 6, and try harmonizing with friends to other songs they know. Or they can choose Take Action # 9 or 11 by checking out the Sweet Adelines International website or the Sweet Adelines regional website. They could also visit a rehearsal of a Sweet Adelines chorus in the area.

The final part of the afternoon was a short practice, with all the girls together, of the rounds and harmony songs they learned during the sessions. Then they presented a short program to the parents who were coming to pick them up.

This was our first time presenting the YWIH/GS Patch Workshop and we felt it was very successful. We had a total of 22 girls in attendance, 7 Brownies, 9 Juniors and 6 Cadettes/Seniors. We had 8 Sweet Adelines leading the 4 sessions and 6 GS leaders who stayed with the groups as they moved from session to session. We are planning to make this an annual event for our chorus and hope to reach out to girls from the entire Colonial Coast Council.

In addition to the activities at the Workshop, we are also making plans for the girls to sing during the 2015 Annual Awards Luncheon for the GS council. Patches will be given to the girls at that event.