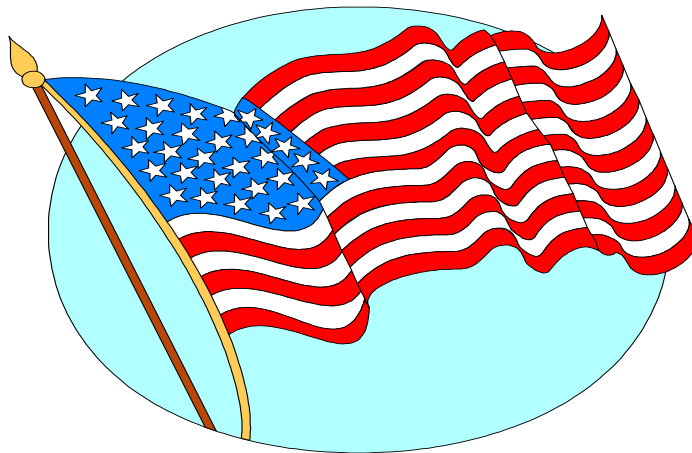


# 2008

## Buckeye Girls State

June 15-21, 2008



### *Delegate Information Booklet*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Bring this booklet and all information (except that which must be returned)  
with you to Buckeye Girls State**

# About Buckeye Girls State

## *What is Buckeye Girls State?*

Buckeye Girls State is a program designed to educate Ohio's young women in the duties, privileges, rights and responsibilities of good citizenship. By getting involved in the process, you will learn more about City, County and State Government in one week than you will learn in an entire semester of high school.

The young women selected for this honor are called Delegates and are assigned to one of two political parties – Federalist or Nationalist. As an active member of your party, you will learn political party structure and have a definite function in the government system. Through hands-on experience you have the opportunity to not only learn the mechanics of local and state government; you have the opportunity to learn citizenship and patriotism; you gain self-confidence, poise and character. Attendance also makes you eligible to apply for or be selected for awards, honors and scholarships as outlined in this packet.

Buckeye Girls State has a policy that all delegates must stay for the entire program, which lasts seven days; from Sunday, June 15 beginning at 1:00 pm through Saturday, June 21 at 12:15 pm. If a delegate leaves early she forfeits all rights to any honors, awards and scholarships presented or announced at the closing program. She is not permitted to say that she attended the program. Unlike a camp, Buckeye Girls State is a week long process for learning about government, campaigning and running for office and then operating in the elected or appointed position for the rest of the week. And it's not fair to other citizens who are counting on her to perform those responsibilities throughout the week. If she leaves the program early she will not get the full benefit of participating. We recognize this is a difficult decision for young women. But this is just one of the decisions she will be making as an adult and only one of the life lessons she may learn by attending Buckeye Girls State. If a delegate elects not to attend, please contact the American Legion Auxiliary Unit sponsoring her so that they can notify the alternate.



## *Benefits of Attending Girls State*

The Ohio American Legion Auxiliary has been a proud sponsor of Buckeye Girls State for the past sixty-one years. The program has been honored by such organizations as Freedom's Foundation at Valley Forge and the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

## **Girls State is a nationally recognized program. Past participants have included:**

- Former Texan Governor Ann Richards
- Newscaster Jane Pauley
- Television personality Leeza Gibbons
- U.S. Congresswoman Jennifer Dunn
- Director of Ohio Job and Family Services Helen Jones Kelly
- Former Miss USA Terri Utley
- Country music performer Janie Fricke
- Brigadier General Sharla Cook
- County Commissioner Marilyn Byers



## *Where is Buckeye Girls State?*

Buckeye Girls State 2008 will be held on the campus of Ashland University in Ashland, Ohio. Delegates and Staff are housed on campus in university residence halls. Each girl must provide her own transportation to and from Buckeye Girls State. If you drive your personal car, you must turn your keys

in to the Girls State Information Center upon arrival. Registration begins at 1:00 pm on Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. Delegates are not allowed to leave the campus until after the closing session of Buckeye Girls State on Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup>.

### ***Q & A Buckeye Girls State On-line Orientation Program***

Completing the On-line Orientation is mandatory for all attending Delegates. This new, innovative process of preparing Delegates for Girls State will be available on the website ([www.buckeyegirlsstate.org](http://www.buckeyegirlsstate.org)) April 1, 2008. Delegates should complete the On-line Orientation and notify their sponsoring Unit upon completion.

### **BENEFITS OF THE ON-LINE ORIENTATION**

- Consistent dissemination of information
- Sponsoring Unit has on-line confirmation of completed individual Orientations
- Delegates will be able to print a hard-copy “certificate of completion”
- Convenience (available at the Delegate’s home, school or local library)
- Required travel unnecessary
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) feature
- Packet information remains on-line for easy reference
- Delegates, Alternates, Parents, Unit Members have access to the same information resulting in improved communication and better prepared Delegates

In order for you to take the On-line Orientation the following actions must have occurred:

- You have received the “***Delegate Information Packet***”
- You have carefully read the “***Delegate Information Packet***” contents

Note: The Delegate Information Packet contains login instructions including a confidential password that the Delegate must use to take the On-line Orientation.

After you have completed the On-line Orientation you may print a *Certificate of Completion* verifying that you completed the Orientation. Notify your American Legion Auxiliary sponsor you successfully completed the Orientation.

You may also be invited to attend an American Legion Auxiliary Unit or District sponsored social event where you and your parents can meet other Delegates and Alternates from your area. While these events are not mandatory, we encourage you to attend.

### ***Buckeye Girls State Policies***

These policies were developed for your safety. Anyone who does not adhere to the Girls State Policies (detailed on Page A-7) or creates disturbances to the point she disrupts the program and/or other Girls State Citizens, will be subject to immediate dismissal and will be sent home from the Girls State Program. Some violations may be subject to criminal prosecution.



## Registration—Sunday, June 15, 2008

Registration for the 2008 session of Buckeye Girls State opens promptly at 1:00 PM on Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup> and closes at 3:00 PM in the Physical Education Center (GYM), #31 on the campus map. Arrivals prior to 1:00 PM are unnecessary since registration will not open prior to 1:00 PM.

Please follow the Girls State Traffic Control personnel and the Ohio State Highway Patrol officers who will move you quickly in and out of the Registration Area.

Do not unpack your luggage at the registration site. After you register, you and your parents will be directed to your residence hall where you may unpack near your assigned room.

At the Registration Area, please line up at the proper Registration Station by your last name. Stations are divided in groups based on the first three letters of your last name (AAA-ARC, ARD-BAE, etc.). At the Registration Station you will be handed a 3 x 5 card with your housing, your assigned Buckeye Girls State City and County, and other information. **Before leaving the Registration Station, check your name, address and school information on the card.** Ensure the information shown on the card describes you and not another Delegate with the same or similar name. Once you have officially registered you are on your way to becoming a Citizen of Buckeye Girls State.

If you are an Alternate replacing a Delegate at the last minute, please proceed to the Registration Station labeled “Alternates replacing Delegates”. You will be given further directions there. You must know the name of the Delegate you are replacing.



### *Medical Information/Registration*

The **Medical Record and Consent Form** must be fully completed, signed, and returned in the large, self-addressed envelope contained in this packet. If you have had a physical (for sports, etc.) in the past year, then your parent may complete the form. Otherwise, you must get a physical before arriving at BGS.

**Be sure that all required signatures are included on the form before returning it!**

A nurse’s station will be set up at registration to answer any questions you or your parents may have.

If the Medical Alert box is checked on your Registration Card you will be required to visit the clinic in the Hawkins-Conard Student Center (1<sup>st</sup> Floor) after you have completed the registration process and have completed the check-in process at your assigned Residence Hall.



### *What to Bring from Home*

#### *Apparel*

Bring enough cloths to last a week. We suggest you make sure that your entire luggage and other belongings are clearly marked, inside and out, with your name and address.

| <b>Event Description</b>   | <b>Day of the Week</b> | <b>Required Dress</b>                   |
|--|------------------------|---|
| Opening Ceremony   | Sunday                 | Dress/Suit or Blouse & Skirt            |
| City Pictures  | Sunday                 | Dress/Suit or Blouse & Skirt            |
| City Government Celebration  | Wednesday Evening      | Dress/Suit or Blouse & Skirt            |
| County & State Government Celebration  | Thursday Evening       | Dress/Suit or Blouse & Skirt            |
| Joint Session of the House & Senate  | Saturday               | Dress/Suit or Blouse & Skirt            |
| All Other Functions  | Refer to Daily Program | Slacks, Walking Shorts, Jeans           |
| State Highway Patrol Participants  | Wednesday – Friday     | White T-Shirts w/Black Shorts or Slacks |
| <p>Note: No short shorts, mini skirts or tattered jeans are permitted. Candidates for office should dress accordingly. Take into consideration if you are elected to a City, County or State office that you bring appropriate apparel to take part in their special ceremonies. Also bring rainwear and comfortable shoes (citizens do a lot of walking).</p> |                        |   |

### ***Linen***

You must also bring at least two single sheets for a twin size bed, one pillow and pillow case, a light blanket or quilt, personal care items, towels, washcloths, soap, a fan (no air conditioning in sleeping rooms), clothes hangers, alarm clock, and, if desired, a hair dryer, camera, calculator, and radio. NO TV's or appliances.

### ***Checklist***

| <b>✓</b> | <b>Items to bring with you:</b>  | <b>Required/Optional/Suggested</b>                            |
|----------|--|---|
|          | Buckeye Girls State Delegate Information Packet  | Required  |
|          | Dress/Suit or Blouse & Skirt (as specified above)  | Required  |
|          | Slacks, pant skirts, walking shorts, or jeans. NO short shorts, mini-skirts, or tattered/torn jeans. | Required  |
|          | Rainwear   | Suggested   |
|          | Comfortable walking shoes  | Required  |
|          | Two single sheets for a twin bed   | Required  |
|          | One pillow and pillow case   | Required  |
|          | Light blanket or quilt   | Required  |
|          | Personal care items  | Required  |
|          | Towels and washcloths  | Required  |
|          | Soap   | Required  |
|          | Shampoo  | Suggested   |
|          | Hair dryer   | Optional  |
|          | Fan (no air conditioning in sleeping rooms)  | Suggested   |
|          | Clothes hangers  | Suggested   |
|          | Alarm clock  | Suggested   |
|          | Camera   | Optional  |
|          | Calculator   | Optional  |
|          | Radio (No TV's)  | Optional  |
|          | Band instruments   | If you plan to join the band                                  |
|          | “Phone Card”   | Suggested   |
|          | Markers, paper, scissors, rulers, etc.   | Optional – in great demand                                    |
|          | Sunscreen  | Optional  |
|          | White T-shirts<br>Black shorts or slacks   | Required if you want to participate in the BGS Highway Patrol |

## **Entertainment**

There will be plenty of music at Buckeye Girls State. If you plan to play in the BGS Band, bring your musical instrument. If you sing or play the piano, the BGS Chorus needs you.

If you are interested in participating in the BGS Band or Chorus, **complete and send the enclosed Band and Chorus Information Sheet by June 1, 2008** in the large, self-addressed envelope contained in this packet.

## **Housing**


You will be housed in a Residence Hall on the campus of Ashland University. Your Residence Hall and room number will be given to you at registration.


You will stay in a 2 or 3-person room and will be given a key to your room by your City Counselor. This key is your responsibility and must be returned to your City Counselor before you leave on Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>. There will be a \$25.00 charge for any key not returned. Coin operated washers and dryers are located in each residence hall.

Residence Hall Counselors will always be there with friendly words and to see that the dorms are quiet after “lights out” every night.

## **General Information**

 **All of your meals will be served on campus.**

 You will be able to send and receive mail. Outgoing mail is taken to the Post Office daily. Incoming mail is picked up by Ashland University’s mailroom on a daily basis and will be routed to you through your City Counselor. To receive mail, please advise family and friends to address your letters: *Your Name, Your BGS City, Residence Hall Name, 401 College Avenue, Ashland University, Ashland, Ohio 44805.*

 Telephones are located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of each residence hall and will be located in auxiliary areas around residence halls. You may wish to bring a “Phone Card” or call collect. Other than emergencies, you may call only when government is NOT in session. Calls are limited to five minutes so that everyone has an opportunity to make their call.

 **Medical Care**

Licensed nurses and hospital facilities are available at all times for the citizens of Buckeye Girls State. The **Medical Record and Consent Form must be completed** by each Delegate and sent in the large, self-addressed envelope contained in this packet.

**Be sure that all required signatures are included on the form before returning it!**

*Delegates with special medical or nutritional requirements **must notify** the Buckeye Girls State office in writing prior to your arrival at Girls State. Send your correspondence to The American Legion Auxiliary’s Department Headquarters in the large, self-addressed envelope contained in this packet. (See page A-10 for the address)*

While you are attending Buckeye Girls State, you are covered by a blanket Accident and Liability policy maintained by the Ohio American Legion Auxiliary. This coverage is excess coverage to insurance maintained by your parents. In the event you receive treatment at Girls State, a bill will be directed through your parent's Health Insurance.

### ***Buckeye Girls State/Red Cross Blood Drive***

For those of you who wish to participate in the Blood Drive, an appointment will be made for you during the day on Friday, June 20, 2008. The **Red Cross Blood Drive Pre-Registration form must be completed** and sent in the large, self-addressed envelope contained in this packet.

### ***Buckeye Girls State Souvenirs and Available Items for Sale***

For your convenience the Ashland University Bookstore, which is located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Hawkins-Conard Student Center, will carry such items as Girls State Apparel and other souvenirs as well as postcards, stationery, and small gift items. Stamps can be purchased through the University Post Office, which is also located on the first floor of the Hawkins-Conard Student Center. Cameras and film processing are also available.



Group pictures of each Buckeye Girls State City and other photographs will be taken and available to you for purchase while you are at Girls State. A flyer from the official Buckeye Girls State Photographer is included in this packet.

- \* Color print in folder of your Girls State City.....\$12.00 8 x 10
- \* Buckeye Girls State 2008 Yearbook.....\$15.00 16 pages
- Inauguration Candid's.....\$ 4.00 4 x 6
- Inauguration Candid's.....\$12.00 8 x 10
- \* *Buy both the City picture and the BGS Yearbook and save! Sale price \$23.00*

### **The following items will be available from the Ashland University Bookstore: (Prices shown are approximate)**

|                                   |                    |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Long & Short-Sleeve T-Shirts..... | \$11.99 to \$14.99 |
| Sweatshirts.....                  | \$21.99 to \$27.99 |
| Shorts.....                       | \$11.99 to 15.99   |
| Sweatpants.....                   | \$22.99 to \$25.99 |
| Nylon bag.....                    | \$10.99            |

(And many other items)

### **\$\$ *How Much Money Will You Need***

Your sponsorship fee covers the full expense of your meals and accommodations, but you may want to bring additional money for personal use (photos, yearbook, snacks, City party, stamps, souvenirs). A variety of beverages and snacks are available in vending machines so you may want to bring some change. Pizza is available for sale most evenings from the University. Your City may plan an evening to include cake/pizza/etc. A nominal fee may be assessed each City resident.

For those parents that want their daughters to have access to credit without actually handing over their credit card, Ashland University Bookstore can set up an account that can accommodate special instructions or limitations on purchases. This is similar to services AU offers parents of college students. Parents interested in setting up an account should go to the AU Bookstore before leaving the campus. Both the Ashland University Bookstore and Gerald's Studio will be set up in the GYM during registration for purchases and orders.

## **Publicity**

The Buckeye Girls State Application you completed and signed included the name and address of your local newspaper. The BGS Director of Public Relations will notify your local newspaper and your sponsoring American Legion Auxiliary Unit about your accomplishments (office attained, awards, etc., while you are at Girls State) as reported during the session.

## ***Policies***

The Buckeye Girls State Board of Directors developed these policies for the safety of BGS Citizens and Staff.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <i>Smoking Policy</i>                    | Smoking and the use of other tobacco products is <u>strictly prohibited</u> . Violators will be subject to <b>immediate dismissal</b> from the program.   |
| <i>Drugs, Alcohol and Weapons Policy</i> | Use or possession of illegal drugs, alcoholic beverages, and/or weapons is <u>strictly prohibited</u> . Violators will be subject to <b>immediate dismissal</b> from the program and possible <b>criminal prosecution</b>   |
| <i>Hazing Policy</i>                     | Hazing in any form is <u>strictly prohibited</u> . Violators will be subject to <b>immediate dismissal</b> from the program and possible <b>criminal prosecution</b>  |
| <i>Creating Disturbances Policy</i>      | Creating disturbances to the point that they disrupt the program and/or other Girls State Citizens is strictly prohibited. Violators will be subject to <b>immediate dismissal</b> from the program.  |
| <i>“Mock” Activities Policy</i>          | Any “mock” activities which in “real life” would cause either physical or emotional trauma to the victim(s), and to those associated with the victim(s), and for which the perpetrators would be <u>subject to criminal prosecution</u> are <u>expressly prohibited</u> . Violators will be subject to <b>immediate dismissal</b> from the program and <b>possible criminal prosecution</b> . |
| <i>No Boys Policy</i>                    | Boys on campus during Buckeye Girls State are <u>expressly prohibited</u> . The Ohio State Highway Patrol Troopers will escort them off campus.   |
| <i>Leaving Campus Policy</i>             | All citizens are restricted to the Ashland University campus and the facilities used by BGS. Citizens will only be permitted to leave the campus during scheduled and supervised field trips. Violators are subject to <u>immediate dismissal</u> from the program.   |



## *Awards, Honors and Scholarships*

Endowment Fund Scholarship – Two outstanding Buckeye Girls State Delegates will be selected to receive the \$1,000 Buckeye Girls State American Legion Auxiliary Department of Ohio Endowment Fund Scholarship. This scholarship is funded by donations from local Auxiliary Units across the state of Ohio.

Girls Nation – Two Buckeye Girls State Delegates will be selected to represent Ohio and Buckeye Girls State in a week-long exercise in the operation of the Federal Government through the American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation Program. The American Legion Auxiliary National Organization underwrites the transportation as well as the housing and meal costs of all Delegates selected to participate in the Girls Nation Program. Delegates must be recommended by certain BGS staff members and go through an interview process. Selection is based on leadership, cooperation, attitude, interest in government, and desire.

In addition to the two (2) Girls Nation Delegates, two (2) Alternates will also be selected in the event one of the Delegates from Buckeye Girls State is unable to attend.

United States Senate Youth Program – Literature detailing this honor is included in this packet. Should you wish to be considered for this honor, the Senate Youth Scholarship application form **must be completed and returned by June 1, 2008** to the Ohio American Legion Auxiliary Department Headquarters. Please use the large, self-addressed envelope contained in your Buckeye Girls State packet.

The SAMSUNG Scholarship – Literature detailing this scholarship opportunity is included in this packet. Should you wish to be considered for this honor, the SAMSUNG Scholarship application form **must be completed and returned by June 1, 2008** to the Ohio American Legion Auxiliary Department Headquarters. Please use the large, self-addressed envelope contained in your Buckeye Girls State packet.

The SAMSUNG Scholarship Application Form is available on the American Legion web site at [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org), under “**Legion Programs**” click on “*Legion Scholarships*”, then scroll to “*Samsung Scholarship*”. Follow the instructions to download, complete, save and print the application. Before sending, ensure that all required signatures are present on the form. Note: Hand written applications will NOT be accepted.

Ashland University Scholarship – Ashland University offers a scholarship to Buckeye Girls State delegates who complete the entire BGS Program and enroll at Ashland University after graduation from high school. The scholarship is \$1,000 per year and is renewable based on maintaining a satisfactory academic level.

### ***Buckeye Girls State Highway Patrol***

Buckeye Girls State operates a functioning Girls State Highway Patrol, chaired by Officers and Troopers of the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

The young women selected to form the Girls State Highway Patrol receive comprehensive training in Ohio Law, Law Enforcement, and the role, duties and responsibilities of a police officer. If you are interested in participating in the Girls State Highway Patrol, please be sure to bring several white T-shirts and black shorts or slacks to wear Wednesday through Friday.

Following the conclusion of Buckeye Girls State, approximately 10 Girls State citizens are selected to attend Junior Cadet Week at the Highway Patrol Training Academy in Columbus. This program is jointly sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary and the Ohio State Highway Patrol. Please refer to the information enclosed in this packet for further details.



### *Ashland University Seminar*

A free seminar entitled “The Principles and Practice of Freedom in American Politics” is being offered by the Ashbrook Center for Public Affairs at Ashland University. Information for this seminar is included in this packet. To register for the AU Seminar, you must attend one of the workshop seminar sessions on Monday (see Daily Program).






### **BUCKEYE GIRLS STATE “DO’s AND DON’T’s”**

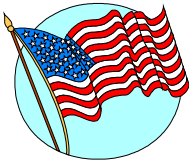
- DO** Come to Girls State with an open mind and a willingness to learn. Be prepared to spend long, but rewarding, hours learning with the Girls State Program.
- DO NOT** Think you are coming to a summer recreation camp.
- DO** Bring comfortable clothes. Dresses or blouses and skirts will be required for the Official Opening, City Pictures, City Government Celebration, County and State Government Celebration and the Joint Session of the House and Senate. Slacks, pant skirts, walking shorts and jeans are permissible for all other activities. Also bring rainwear and comfortable shoes. You will do a lot of walking.
- DO NOT** Bring clothes that are not respectable or abuse the dress code.
- DO** Keep the American Legion Auxiliary Unit, which is sponsoring you, informed of what you are doing. They are proud to have you represent them.
- DO NOT** Bring anything with you which is extremely valuable as all personal items are your responsibility. Girls State assumes no responsibility for lost items.
- DO** Make a list of what you bring to Girls State. This can serve as a checklist when packing for home. Mark items with your name before you leave home.
- DO NOT** Leave anything behind at Girls State. If you do, please contact the American Legion Auxiliary Department Headquarters.
- DO** Leave your car keys at the Girls State Information Center if you are driving your personal car. They will provide the needed parking permit for your car. This is a must.
- DO NOT** Leave campus anytime during the week. Violators will be immediately sent home.
- DO** Be very clear about any medical conditions for which the caregivers at Girls State should be aware. We want you to spend a happy and healthy week at Buckeye Girls State.
- DO NOT** Invite male friends to visit during your stay at Buckeye Girls State. These visits are not permitted.
- DO** Be proud of being selected to attend Girls State. It is an honor afforded to only a special group of Ohio’s finest young women each year.
- DO** **Arrive between 1:00 and 3:00 pm on Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>.**
- DO NOT** **Depart before the final closing on Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup>.**

# How You Can Be Reached

Parents who need to contact a Citizen should call the BGS Information Center during office hours. After office hours, messages may be left on the Girls State office answering machine. Calls will be returned as soon as possible. If you have an emergency after office hours, contact Ashland University Safety Services. They will contact the proper Girls State officials. For non-emergencies, a telephone message form will be sent to the Citizen through the City Counselor.

## Important Information and Telephone Numbers

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Materials/Information:</b>  |   | <i>Send To:</i>   |
| Materials that need to be submitted prior to Buckeye Girls State:                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Medical Record and Consent Form</li> <li>▪ Red Cross Blood Drive Pre-registration (opt)</li> <li>▪ Special nutritional requirements</li> <li>▪ Scholarship application forms (optional)</li> <li>▪ Band &amp; Chorus Information Sheet (optional)</li> <li>▪ Special Entertainment Info Sheet (optional)</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><i>American Legion Auxiliary</i><br/> <b>Buckeye Girls State</b><br/> <b>PO Box 2760</b><br/> <b>Zanesville, Ohio 43702-2760</b></p>  |
|  |  | (Pre-addressed envelope provided)  |
| <b>How to contact you at Buckeye Girls State:</b>  |  |  |
|                    |  |  |
| <b>Messages during office hours</b><br>(9:00 am to 11:00 pm)   | <p>Girls State Information Center<br/> (419) 289-5718<br/> (419) 289-5716 Fax</p>  | <p><i>A telephone message form will be sent to the Citizen through her City's City Counselor. After business hours, messages may be left on the Girls State office answering machine and calls will be returned as soon as possible.</i></p> |
|                   |  |  |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Emergencies <u>during</u> office hours<br/> (9:00 AM to 11:00 PM)</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">BGS Information Center (419) 289-5718</p>   |  |
| <b>Emergencies <u>after</u> office hours</b>   | <p style="text-align: center;">Ashland University Safety Services (419) 289-5766</p> <p><i>Immediate attempts will be made to contact the Citizen in the event of an emergency. University Safety Services officers will contact the proper Girls State officials.</i></p>   |  |
| BGS Clinic   | (419) 289-5206   |  |
| <b>Samaritan Hospital</b>  | (419) 289-0491   |  |
| <b>Your BGS Mailing Address:</b>   | <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Your Name, Your BGS City, Your BGS Residence Hall, Ashland University, 401 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio 44805</i></p>   |  |
|                   |  |  |
| <b>BGS Web site</b>  | <b><a href="http://www.buckeyegirlsstate.org">www.buckeyegirlsstate.org</a></b>  |  |



# **About Buckeye Girls State Government**

## ***General Information***

To get the most from the Buckeye Girls State Program, you need to participate. Select an office you feel you can serve well. If you are interested in a particular office, do some research before coming to BGS to find out all you can about the duties, function and responsibilities of that office. You might want to consult an official holding the office as part of your research. Take full advantage of the Monday Workshops to learn specific information about the office you seek. Once you have researched the office, campaign enthusiastically and, if elected, represent your fellow Citizens to the best of your abilities. Remember, they have entrusted their vote to you! If you should lose, you have still “won” for you have gained from those experiences and the election process.

Also, have alternative positions in mind. There are many, many appointed positions on all levels at Girls State so don't be discouraged if you don't get your first choice. There should be no one unemployed! Make the very most of this time. You will benefit now and far into the future!

Because our time is limited there are some areas where we have had to make decisions for you, but we attempt to adhere to Ohio laws and processes as closely as possible.

## ***Political Parties***

Although you will select your own party affiliation in your private life when you turn 18, at Buckeye Girls State you will be assigned to a political party. There are two parties – Federalists (blue lanyards) and Nationalists (gold lanyards). Once you are assigned to a party however, you will create your own party platform. You will be among the approximately 900 girls attending the program.

## ***Cities and Counties***

At registration, you will be assigned to a City. There are 25 Cities named for famous Ohio women. Each City has a City Government Advisor and a City Counselor.

Your City is part of a County. The five Counties are named for Past State Presidents of the Ohio American Legion Auxiliary. Each County has a County Government Advisor.

## ***The Election Process***

City Elections are held within your City. Primary and General Elections are held at the GYM and determine the officials on the County and State levels. Each City will elect two Central Committeemen (one for each party) whose duties include:

1. foster and instill party loyalty.
2. make certain her party has candidates for City Offices.
3. promote candidates for County and State Offices, and work for their election.
4. take an active role during County & State Caucuses, Rallies and Debates.
5. participate in platform development.

Your City Central Committeeman, along with her counterpart in the opposing party and their City Government Advisors, serve as the Precinct Election Official and will assist in the Primary and General Elections. She must also hold an appointive position after these duties are completed. She, along with

her counterpart and Advisor, will be responsible for preparing the ballot used in the election of the City Officials.

Each party will elect a County Board of Elections official within their City to assist with the Primary and General Elections, petition filing, etc. She too, must hold an appointive position after these duties are completed.

Declaration of Candidacy and Petitions must be signed by not less than four (4) nor more than eight (8) electors of the same party in the same County. Please note that All BGS Staff Members are considered a Notary Public when it is necessary for you to have papers signed. As in real life a filing fee is required; however, at BGS you'll receive BGS checks to cover any government functioning expense.

| <b>To become a candidate for:</b> | <b>You:</b>   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| County Office                     | Should be nominated through the <u>County Caucus</u> of your political party. Candidates must file a Declaration of Candidacy and a Petition for the <u>Primary Election</u> (along with the required BGS filing fee) at the designated place and time listed in the Daily Program.   |
| State Offices                     | Should be nominated through the <u>State Caucus</u> of your political party. Candidates must file a Declaration of Candidacy and a Petition for the <u>Primary Election</u> (along with the required BGS filing fee) at the designated place and time listed in the Daily Program.  |
| Senators and Representatives      | Must be elected from a <u>Congressional District</u> . The County is considered a Congressional District. This means you must file a Declaration of Candidacy and a Petition (plus a BGS filing fee) for the <u>Primary Election</u> .  |
| Judges                            | Must run on their party affiliation in the <u>Primary Election</u> , filing a Declaration of Candidacy and a Petition (plus a BGS filing fee). These offices become non-partisan (no party affiliation is listed) in the <u>General Election</u> .  |
| State Board of Education          | Must be elected from each <u>State School Board District</u> (each City is considered a State School Board District). This means you must file a Nominating Petition and Declaration of Candidacy at the time and place designated in the Daily Program. Your name will appear as non-partisan (no party affiliation listed) in the <u>General Election</u> . |

## Government Positions Available

| BGS Elected Positions Available |  |                                |                                    |
|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                                 | City Officials                                 | County Officials               | State Officials                    |
| 1                               | Federalist Central Committeeman                | County Commissioners (3)       | Governor                           |
| 2                               | Nationalist Central Committeeman               | Sheriff                        | Lt. Governor                       |
| 3                               | Federalist County Board of Elections Official  | Auditor                        | Secretary of State                 |
| 4                               | Nationalist County Board of Elections Official | Treasurer                      | Attorney General                   |
| 5                               | Mayor  | Prosecuting Attorney           | Auditor of State                   |
| 6                               | Auditor  | Engineer                       | Treasurer of State                 |
| 7                               | Treasurer                                      | Recorder                       | Supreme Court Chief Justice        |
| 8                               | Director of Law                                | Coroner                        | Associate Justices (6)             |
| 9                               | Municipal Judge                                | Judge of Court of Common Pleas | Court of Appeals Judges (3)        |
| 10                              | City Council Members (5)                       | Clerk of Court of Common Pleas |                                    |
| 11                              | City School Board Members (5)                  |                                | Senators (5) -county-wide election |
| 12                              | State School Board Member                      |                                | Representatives (9) - “ “ “        |

### **Election Notes**

The five members of the City Board of Education and the Municipal Judge will be considered non-partisan on the ballot.

President of Council is the candidate who receives the highest number of votes in the election. The President of the City School Board is elected by the members of the board.

All Judges and Clerk of Courts of Common Pleas are considered partisan in the Primary Election and non-partisan (no party affiliation) in the General Election

The Governor and Lt. Governor will run as a team, which is determined at the State Party Caucus.

For convenience, each City is an Election Precinct and a Local and State School District and each County are a State Senatorial and Representative District.

Only official signatures will be valid on official papers (signature under which you are registered at BGS).

No person may file for or hold more than one elective office. No election official may file a petition.

If you are running for a County Office or a countywide election, you should campaign in all cities located within your county. State Board of Education candidates need only campaign in their city.

Government functions take precedent over all other activities – so plan accordingly.

## Declaration of Candidacy and Petitions

All candidates for County or State level offices must secure, circulate and file a Declaration of Candidacy and Petition according to the schedule listed in the Daily Program

Declaration of Candidacy and Petitions must be signed by not less than four (4) nor more than eight (8) electors.

Signatures of electors shall be the same Political Party as the candidate except with Judges and State Board of Education petitions where electors irrespective of party may sign.

State Board of Education candidates must secure electors within their city.

The Petition asks for a committee of four (4) to sign for the candidate. Also, there are signatures for the petition itself. The same four (4) may sign both.

The "County Seat" is the first named city in the Daily Program.

Here are some of the appointed positions that are available at Buckeye Girls State:

### BGS Appointed Positions Available

| City Officials             | County Officials       | Executive Branch                             |
|----------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Recreation Commissioner    | Animal Control Officer | <b>Governor/Lt. Governor's Office</b>        |
| Director of Public Service | Deputy Sheriff         | - Deputy Chief of Staff                      |
| Director of Public Safety  | Clerks                 | - Director of Communications                 |
| Police Chief               | Assistants             | - Press Secretary                            |
| Fire Chief                 |                        | - Director of Legislative Affairs            |
| Engineer                   |                        | - Senior Policy Advisor                      |
| Clerk of Council           |                        | - Administrative Assistants                  |
| City Reporter              |                        | Cabinet Appointments                         |
|                            |                        | Various Personnel for State Officials        |
|                            |                        | <b>Judicial Branch: (must pass Bar Exam)</b> |
|                            |                        | Bailiffs                                     |
|                            |                        | Clerks                                       |
|                            |                        | Court Administrator                          |
|                            |                        | <b>Legislative Branch:</b>                   |
|                            |                        | Legislative Service Commission-15            |
|                            |                        | Clerks (House-7, Senate-7)                   |
|                            |                        | Sergeant at Arms (4)                         |
|                            |                        | Pages (8)                                    |
|                            |                        | Chaplain (2)                                 |

NOTE: Cabinet appointments vary from year to year. Interested individuals will need to check with their Government Advisor at BGS for a current list of appointments available.

## Campaign Regulations

All candidates for office must adhere to the following campaign regulations. Any violation of the regulations may result in a fine and/or removal from office. To report potential violations, any Citizen may file a complaint with her County Board of Elections representative. The entire Board, chaired by the Secretary of State will hear the complaint. You must abide by the following:

Campaign materials are limited to the paper provided at BGS and magic markers.

You **MAY NOT** bring any prepared campaign materials from home.

Computer generated materials must be created on campus and be initialed by a staff member prior to copies being run

No campaigning is allowed in the dining halls.

No obscene language, suggestive or lewd designs may be used on campaign materials.

You must remove campaign signs and dispose of them within 24 hours after the General Election

Every campaign publication must include the name of the BGS Citizen who made the publication. Campaign publication must clearly state "Made by [insert name of the BGS Citizen]".

Every candidate for elective office, including those candidates who were not elected, must file a Campaign Finance Statement with the Secretary of State's office.

You may only post materials in approved areas (see below).

### Sign and Literature Posting Limitations

| Location:          | Regulation:   |
|--------------------|---|
| Residence Halls    | Nothing in elevators                                      |
| Convocation Center | Nothing in dining hall on walls                           |
|                    | Lobby walls - OK  |
|                    | Table tents and flyers - OK                               |
|                    | Exterior walls - OK                                       |
| Upper Convocation  | Nothing on walls or glass entry                           |
| Student Center     | Nothing on walls<br>Bulletin Board - OK                   |
| Bridge             | Nothing hanging from bridge                               |
| Patterson          | Nothing on walls<br>Postings permitted on bulletin boards |

NOTE: No chalk is allowed

## *Summary*

Again, please come prepared to make the most of this experience. While some positions may be more visible than others, the government as a whole could not run without the contributions of each and every citizen of Buckeye Girls State.