



# *A Week That Will Change a Lifetime*



## **Welcome**

Welcome to American Legion Auxiliary Palmetto Girls State!

We, the members of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of South Carolina, are excited that you will attend this exceptional program known as ALA Palmetto Girls State. We believe that you are about to be a part of one of the greatest opportunities available to young ladies in high school. Your selection to attend ALA Palmetto Girls State is an honor and is a result of who you are. For you to have been nominated and selected to attend ALA Palmetto Girls State, someone believes that you are a leader in your school and community. Your attendance at ALA Palmetto Girls State offers you the opportunity to participate in mock political activities on the city, county, and state levels of government and to develop relationships with other young leaders from across the State of South Carolina.

ALA Girls State is a program developed and sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary. The South Carolina version of ALA Girls State is ALA Palmetto Girls State, which is sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of South Carolina. ALA Palmetto Girls State, like similar ALA Girls State programs being conducted across the nation, is an exercise in government, Americanism, and citizenship. As a program of the American Legion Auxiliary, ALA Palmetto Girls State operates under the tenets and principles of the American Legion Auxiliary. At ALA Palmetto Girls State, we respect the Constitution of the United States, as well as the Constitution of South Carolina; we respect and salute the flags of the United States of America and South Carolina. ALA Girls State also recognizes the history and importance of "God and Country". Morning invocations and evening vesper services (sessions of devotion and reflection) are held daily at ALA Palmetto Girls State. All in attendance at ALA Palmetto Girls State are expected to participate in these daily activities and observances.

This year's session of ALA Palmetto Girls State will be held June 11, 2023, on the campus of Presbyterian College in Clinton, South Carolina. The address of Presbyterian College is 503 South Broad Street, Clinton, South Carolina. Directions to the campus and a campus map are available on the ALA Palmetto Girls State website, ([www.palmettogirlsstate.net](http://www.palmettogirlsstate.net)), with the Delegate Informational Materials. Check-in for ALA Palmetto Girls State will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end promptly at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 11, 2023. Plan to arrive at Presbyterian College during this check-in period.

Upon arrival at ALA Palmetto Girls State and Presbyterian College, please go to Neville Hall to check-in with ALA Palmetto Girls State. Neville Hall is located on South Adair Street. Parking is available in the lots near Neville Hall and will be marked. Please note, all delegates must complete the check-in process before going to their assigned dorm.

At check-in, each delegate will need to present the following:

- \* \$50.00 registration fee (required)
- \* \$40.00 room key/dorm access card deposit (required)

(The total amount needed IN CASH is \$90.00. These fees are accounted for separately. Therefore, please have the exact amount in cash for each of these fees. No checks or credit/debit cards are accepted for these fees.)

\* Completed Samsung Scholarship Application for those eligible to apply must be submitted online prior to arrival.

All forms should be completed and signed through the online registration system before arrival at ALA Palmetto Girls State. These forms are part of the registration process.

Following check-in at Neville Hall, delegates will proceed to their assigned dorms. Room and dorm assignments will be provided at registration on June 11, 2023. Please make sure that all luggage, bags, cosmetic cases, etc. are clearly marked with your name. Each delegate is responsible for carrying her luggage to her room. Please be aware that only Girls State delegates and Girls State staff are permitted in the living areas of the dorms. Parents and/or friends are NOT allowed into the living areas of the dorms. Accordingly, each delegate is responsible for



## *A Week That Will Change a Lifetime*



transporting her luggage and belongings to her room. Therefore, each delegate should pack knowing that she alone is responsible for carrying all luggage and belongings to her room.

We expect approximately 650 delegates for this year's session of ALA Palmetto Girls State. Check-in and move-in with that many people/luggage takes time. Overcrowding and congestion are inevitable. Please pack extra patience for this time. You can assist in avoiding congestion by arriving early, by limiting good-byes with family, and, most importantly, by being prepared for check-in with all forms completed and the exact money needed to register.

Do not bring valuable or irreplaceable jewelry or large amounts of money. Neither ALA Palmetto Girls State nor Presbyterian College assumes responsibility or liability for loss or damage to personal effects or property. During your stay at ALA Palmetto Girls State, you are asked to lock your room, but even though you may secure your room, you still should not bring valuable belongings or large sums of money. There is an ATM located on campus should additional cash be needed.

A non-refundable registration fee of \$50.00 is required from each participant. Also, a deposit of \$40.00 for your room key and dorm access card is required. The room key/dorm access card deposit will be refunded on Saturday morning after a room check and after you return the room key and dorm access card at checkout. Should you fail to return the room key and/or the dorm access card, you will not receive your deposit, and you will be charged the additional costs associated with replacing the dorm access card and/or replacing or rekeying the lock on the room. NOTE: Charges for missing keys and dorm access cards are assessed to Girls State when the Girls State office checks out on Saturday, June 17, 2023. Therefore, delegates cannot return the dorm key or dorm access card by mail. Missing keys and dorm access cards must be paid for before delegates depart campus.

DELEGATES MAY NOT HAVE PERSONAL CARS AT ALA PALMETTO GIRLS STATE. Each delegate and her family are responsible for arranging transportation to and from ALA Palmetto Girls State. Please observe the registration times of 8:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 11, 2023. On Saturday, June 17, 2023, we will dismiss at approximately 10:30 a.m.; please make arrangements to depart campus no later than 11:00 am on June 17, 2023. There is no lunch service on campus on Saturday, June 17, 2023.

Each delegate and her parents should carefully review this letter and the other materials including the letter to parents. These materials are available on the ALA Palmetto Girls State registration website. Attendance at ALA Palmetto Girls State is a privilege. Every delegate is expected and required to abide by the rules of the program, including adherence to the dress code that is prescribed for ALA Palmetto Girls State. The dress code is explained in detail on the dress code document.

We look forward to meeting you and having you become a citizen of the 76th session of ALA Palmetto Girls State.

Sincerely,

Sabra Denny  
Director, ALA Palmetto Girls State



# *A Week That Will Change a Lifetime*



## **Information For Delegates To ALA Palmetto Girls State**

1. Registration/check-in is 8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 11, 2023. Please arrive early to allow sufficient time to complete registration during this time period. We will check-in approximately 650 girls during this time period. Please plan your arrival taking into account the number of registrants, the 2.5-hour window to check-in/register, and the probability of lines. Early arrival is highly recommended.

2. Registration/check-in will be held in Neville Hall. Please consult the campus map available on the ALA PGS website for the location of Neville Hall. There are various parking lots around Neville Hall.

3. Delegates are not allowed to have personal cars at ALA Palmetto Girls State. Delegates and their families are responsible for arranging transportation to and from Presbyterian College. Please observe the times for registration on Sunday, June 11, 2023, (8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.) and the time to depart campus on Saturday, June 17, 2023 (approximately 10:30 a.m.).

4. Please read the ALA Palmetto Girls State Pledge before signing. Each delegate is expected to abide by the pledge as it is written. Please realize that violation of the ALA Palmetto Girls State Pledge or the rules of ALA Palmetto Girls State may result in dismissal from ALA Palmetto Girls State. Additionally, violation of the rules of Presbyterian College or damage/theft of property or another person's belongings may result in dismissal from ALA Palmetto Girls State. Further, please be aware that ALA Palmetto Girls State reserves the right to contact local law enforcement authorities for assistance should damage or theft of property or belongings occur.

5. On arrival day, parking in the lots around Neville Hall will be monitored. After completing registration/check-in, we request that cars in the lots surrounding Neville Hall be moved to make way for others arriving. Cars may be moved to the parking areas near the dorms for unloading luggage. Once the delegate has checked-in at Neville Hall and unloaded her belongings at her assigned dorm, family members should make their good-byes and allow the delegate to begin her ALA Girls State experience, as well as clear the way for other arrivals.

6. On Saturday, June 17, 2023, delegates will be dismissed to leave after the closing assembly. This should be at approximately 10:30 a.m. Please arrange to depart campus no later than 11:00 a.m. There will be no lunch service on campus for ALA Palmetto Girls State on Saturday, June 17, 2023. NOTE: The closing assembly is not open to visitors. We are sorry, but the auditorium does not have room for family and friends to attend our closing session.

7. Delegates are expected to remain in attendance at ALA PGS for the entire week. However, each year some delegates seek permission to leave early. Permission to leave early should be requested and obtained prior to online registration and arrival at ALA Palmetto Girls State on Sunday, June 11, 2023. Any delegate requesting to leave the program early must contact the Unit sponsoring the delegate and ask the Unit to contact ALA PGS personnel. ALA PGS personnel will not approve early departure without the sponsoring Unit approving of the early departure and requesting early departure on behalf of the delegate. Further, early departures must be arranged and scheduled to fit within the ALA PGS schedule. Anyone seeking permission to leave early must coordinate the departure with the ALA PGS Administrative Staff to ensure that the departure works within our schedule.

Please also be advised that the Constitution of Palmetto Girls State provides in Article VIII that "Each citizen completing the course of study and activities of Palmetto Girls State shall receive a Certificate of Merit and a charm." Therefore, charms and certificates are awarded at the end of the program to those delegates who complete the course of study. Delegates departing from the program prior to the completion of the course of study do not receive a certificate or a charm.

8. Please clearly mark all bags, suitcases, cosmetic cases, etc. with the delegate's name and address.

9. Delegates may use cell phones in the dorms and after dismissal from scheduled activities.



## *A Week That Will Change a Lifetime*



Except for clearly announced uses related to ALA Palmetto Girls State cell phone use (including calls, texting, emails, games, or any other use or application) is not allowed during assemblies, meetings, or other scheduled activities. ALA Palmetto Girls State is an educational program and should be respected as an educational program. Non ALA PGS-related use of cell phones and other electronic devices during meetings and/or assemblies may result in dismissal from ALA Palmetto Girls State. Further, delegates are expected to attend to ALA Palmetto Girls State activities before responding to calls, texts, emails, etc. Use of cell phones and other electronics should not disrupt the activities of ALA Palmetto Girls State and should not be loud, annoying, inconvenient, or otherwise bothersome of others. Delegates are expected to restrict use of cell phones and other electronic devices (talking, texting, gaming, web-browsing, etc.) to free times and not to allow cell phone/electronic device use to be disruptive.

Part of the ALA PGS experience is the immersion of all attendees in the program without outside distractions. Delegates should not expect to be able to call, text, and/or email at all times. Also, parents, please refrain from contacting your daughter during the day. We follow a regimented and tight schedule. Your daughter may have the opportunity to contact you during her free time.

10. Visitors are not allowed at ALA Palmetto Girls State. We follow a tight schedule at ALA Palmetto Girls State. We have neither the time nor the space for visitors (this pertains to both family and any other persons who may want to visit). Please do not "drop by" to see your daughter or encourage others to do so. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this regard. Also, please note that the closing assembly on Saturday, June 17, 2023, is not open to visitors as there is not sufficient room in the auditorium for family or friends to attend our closing session.

11. Should someone need to deliver a package to a delegate, the package or delivery should be delivered to the ALA Palmetto Girls State "Delegate Services" office which will be located in Staton Hall. Staton Hall is located beside Georgia Dorm. Please make sure that any package or delivery is clearly marked with the delegate's name, and if known, her room assignment. The office personnel will contact the delegate to let her know she has a package. Please DO NOT make deliveries directly to a delegate's dorm, and please DO NOT attempt to meet with a delegate. Also, delivery of prepared food (e.g. take out, delivery, etc.) is not appropriate. (Please see paragraph 13 below.)

12. Only participants of ALA Palmetto Girls State (delegates, counselors, and staff members), designated staff or officials of Presbyterian College, or a person or persons with the permission of the Director are allowed in the dorms during the time ALA Palmetto Girls State is in session. Violation of this policy may result in dismissal of the delegate from ALA Palmetto Girls State.

13. Meals will be provided on campus through the campus dining services. In addition, snacks are available from vending machines and the ALA PGS canteen. Delegates may bring snacks. However, take-out food deliveries are not allowed. This applies to deliveries from take-out places or from friends or family. Parents, please respect our position in this regard.

14. Do not bring valuable, sentimental, or irreplaceable items such as jewelry, large sums of cash, etc. Neither ALA Palmetto Girls State nor Presbyterian College assumes responsibility or liability for lost or missing items. If in doubt, leave the item at home. While we urge everyone to keep their rooms locked, there may be times when you forget and leave your room unlocked and open. The best safeguard is to leave valuables at home.

15. REMEMBER THE \$50.00 REGISTRATION FEE AND \$40.00 ROOM KEY/DORM ACCESS CARD DEPOSIT. Please bring the exact amounts in cash - where you have exactly \$50.00 and \$40.00. These fees are accounted for separately and are maintained separately. Cash is required - NO checks, money orders, credit cards, or debit cards are accepted for payment of these fees at registration/check-in. The Room Key/Dorm Access Card deposit will be returned on Saturday, June 17, 2023, provided the room key and dorm access card are returned. If the room key or dorm access card or both are lost during the week or are not returned prior to leaving on Saturday, June 17, 2023, then the delegate is responsible for paying the charges levied by Presbyterian College to cover the costs of replacing the dorm access card or of replacing or





## *A Week That Will Change a Lifetime*



rekeying the lock to the room. Currently, Presbyterian College contacts a local locksmith to rekey the lock and make new keys, and the charges for these services are \$150.00. The deposit will not cover the full charges incurred by Presbyterian College, and any delegate losing a key or failing to return a key will be responsible for the full amount of the costs to rekey the lock and provide new keys.

16. Each delegate will be provided two (2) ALA Palmetto Girls State T-shirts (white with navy lettering) and one T-shirt designating her county for the week (colored). Delegates are expected to wear an ALA Palmetto Girls State T-shirt daily. Additionally, extra T-shirts and other souvenirs will be available for purchase in the ALA PGS Store. T-shirts range in price from \$10.00 - \$25.00. Other souvenir items are also available in the ALA Palmetto Girls State store. Cash, credit cards, or debit cards may be used for purchases in the ALA PGS Store; however, checks are not accepted in the store. The ALA PGS Store will be open during check-in should parents want to purchase items.

17. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE AND/OR ALA PALMETTO GIRLS STATE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO ENTER ROOMS AT ANY TIME FOR PURPOSES OF MANAGEMENT, SAFETY, HEALTH, AND MAINTENANCE, OR TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE RULES, REGULATIONS, AND STATE LAW. Please be further advised that ALA Palmetto Girls State supports Presbyterian College in this regard and will assist Presbyterian College as needed. Possession of (1) fireworks, firearms, air guns, other weapons (knives, daggers, etc.) or (2) illegal drugs, alcohol, tobacco or e-cigarettes, or prescription medicines without a valid, current prescription are prohibited and will result in immediate dismissal from ALA Palmetto Girls State. Presbyterian College has a non-smoking policy. ALL dorms and dorm rooms at Presbyterian College are non-smoking buildings and rooms. Smoking and/or vaping in the dorms, the dorm rooms, and/or on campus will result in immediate dismissal from the program. Also, no candles, incense, or other flame-producing or flammable materials are to be used in the dorms or dorm rooms. Violation of this provision will result in dismissal from the program. In addition to the foregoing, please be aware that ALA Palmetto Girls State reserves the right to contact local law enforcement authorities for assistance should any delegate be found in possession of illegal weapons, illegal drugs, or alcohol.

18. Each person in attendance at ALA Palmetto Girls State is responsible for her own actions. Acts of dishonesty will not be tolerated and will result in dismissal from the program. Any damages caused to Presbyterian College property, or ALA Palmetto Girls State property, will result in the party(ies) causing such damage being assessed for the cost of the damages. Intentional acts causing damages to property could result in dismissal from the program.

19. ALA Palmetto Girls State will have a staff member available for simple "nursing" duties, such as band-aids, aspirin, and Pepto-Bismol. We will also rely on "doctor's care" facilities or a local hospital's emergency room. All costs and charges incurred for medical care or medical treatment are the responsibility of the delegate's parent(s) or guardian(s). We are not equipped for mental health needs and/or emergencies. Should this arise we will contact the parent/guardian.

20. We do not require a physical examination. Your parents have completed the online Medical Consent Form. We have medical personnel on staff for basic medical needs (not including mental health services) and we will use this information if there is an emergency.

21. Mail may be sent to delegates attending ALA Palmetto Girls State. Mail should be addressed as follows: NAME OF DELEGATE, ALA Palmetto Girls State, c/o Presbyterian College, 207 East Maple Street, Clinton, SC 29325. DO NOT HAVE MAIL SENT TO THE ADDRESS ON THE LETTERHEAD. Because mail coming into ALA Palmetto Girls State is routed through Presbyterian College's mail room, please advise anyone who may send you mail not to send anything after Tuesday, or you may not receive it.

22. Delegates must adhere to the safety guidelines that are in place. These guidelines will be determined closer to the date of ALA PGS but could include appropriate masking (covering nose and mouth), prior testing or vaccine proof, etc. Delegates who cannot follow the guidelines will be dismissed from the program.



# *A Week That Will Change a Lifetime*



## **What To Bring With You**

1. Appropriate clothes that meet the dress code. For normal daily assemblies, meetings, and activities on campus, Sunday through Saturday, each delegate will wear an ALA Palmetto Girls State T-shirt. Each delegate will be supplied with two (2) white Girls State T-shirts and one (1) colored T-shirt depending on county assignment. (These are the only approved T-shirts that may be worn for scheduled daily activities. Extra delegate T-shirts may be purchased in the ALA PGS store.) Keep in mind that you will wear the Girls State T-shirt every day with appropriate skirt, slacks (including Capri pants), skorts, or shorts. [NOTE: Skirts, shorts, and skorts must be no shorter than 3 inches above the knee. Please refer to the dress code document for a description.]

\* Dress code compliant clothes for the week.

\* A light sweater or jacket. Meeting rooms are sometimes cool.

\* Raincoat and/or umbrella. We walk - rain or shine.

\* Comfortable shoes for daily wear. We walk a lot. This is not the time to break in a new pair of shoes. Rubber flip flops are appropriate as shower shoes; rubber flip flops are NOT appropriate footwear for assemblies and other scheduled events.

\* Athletic shoes are needed for county competitions.

\* A pair of thick-soled shoes or athletic shoes to wear to our trip to Columbia on Friday. We will walk in a parade along Main Street to the State House. Heels, flip flops, and sandals are not advisable.

\* Appropriate attire for the trip to Columbia. **IMPORTANT:** Shorts and blue jean/denim pants of any length are NOT permitted for the trip to Columbia. Be advised that delegates will be sitting on the steps of the State House during the inauguration ceremony. Seating is crowded. Past experience has proven that tight skirts result in a very uncomfortable time. (Navy skirts, while not required, are available through many mail order clothing stores such as LL Bean, Eddie Bauer, and Lands End and may also be found at school uniform supply stores.)

\* Undergarments, socks, etc.

\* Casual clothing - jeans, shorts, and shirts - for after hours, and athletic clothing for County Olympics. (These items may be worn after the daily activities are concluded.) Please do not bring clothing with offensive or obscene slogans or words; clothes with offensive or obscene words are not acceptable at any time.

2. Cosmetics, toiletries and personal items - toothbrush, toothpaste, brush, soap, shampoo, any personal items which you regularly use, and those items needed for monthly menstrual cycles. Also, any prescription or regular medication that you take.

3. Linens/bedding (sheets and pillow case), blanket, and pillow. Also towels and washcloths. NOTE: Most beds in the dorms at Presbyterian College are twin extra-long (Twin XL). While some rooms may have standard twin beds, we do not know which rooms will have beds which are Twin XL and which rooms may still have standard Twin size beds. Delegates are advised to bring either Twin XL sheets or larger sized sheets which may be "tucked in" to fit either the standard Twin or the Twin XL mattress.) Please see the last page of these materials for further information.

4. Shower shoes, bathrobe/cover-up, and shower tote - Some dorms have hall/community baths. Shower shoes will be needed for trips to the shower. Also, a small pail or plastic tote (i.e. shower tote) to carry soap, shampoo, toothbrush, etc., to and from the bath is helpful. Shower shoes and a shower tote are recommended regardless of whether you are assigned to a dorm with a hall/community bath or not. Also, a bathrobe or cover-up is recommended.



## *A Week That Will Change a Lifetime*



5. Alarm clock, camera, radio, change for canteen and vending machines, some spending money - Extra T-shirts and souvenirs will be available in the PGS store, and drinks and snacks will be available in the ALA PGS canteen. A large amount of money is not needed. There is an ATM on campus, and credit/debit cards will be accepted in the ALA PGS store ONLY.

6. Registration materials

A. Forms needed for check-in (COMPLETED AND SIGNED through online registration)

OPTIONAL MATERIALS:

(1) Samsung scholarship (if applicable) submitted online prior to arrival.

B. REQUIRED FEES:

(1) \$50.00 ALA PGS registration fee; and

(2) \$40.00 room key/dorm access card deposit.

IMPORTANT: Exact amounts in cash for these two fees are required. No checks, no credit cards, and no debit cards are acceptable for these two fees.

7. DO NOT BRING

1. Alcohol
2. Tobacco / Vaping Materials
3. Illegal Drugs
4. Weapons (including pocket knives) or fireworks
5. Campaign materials
6. Candles, incense, or other items requiring burning

Although most people realize these above-listed 6 items are inappropriate at ALA Palmetto Girls State, we just want to make sure that everyone understands that these items are not allowed.

8. During the exercises and activities at ALA Palmetto Girls State, our delegates will offer and run for various offices in our state of "Palmetto." No prepared campaign materials or campaign supplies may be brought to ALA PGS. Additionally, there should be no campaigning conducted via social media (i.e Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, etc.) before ALA PGS begins. After arrival at ALA PGS, all delegates will be advised of the rules pertaining to campaigning. There should be no campaigning for any office conducted prior to June 11, 2023 and the start of ALA PGS.

9. This checklist is intended to aid you in preparing for ALA Palmetto Girls State. We cannot anticipate every delegate's need. If you have a special need, then please remember to pack for that need!



# *A Week That Will Change a Lifetime*



## **Dress Code**

For daily activities and events on Presbyterian College campus:

Delegates will be provided two white ALA PGS t-shirts to wear on Sunday-Tuesday and Thursday-Saturday, and one colored t-shirt associated with their ALA PGS County to wear on Wednesday.

ALA PGS t-shirts must be worn with appropriate skirt, slacks, skorts, or shorts. On Wednesday and Thursday, delegates must wear an appropriate solid-colored bottom. No patterns are permitted on Wednesday and Thursday.

Skirts, shorts, and skorts must not be more than three inches above the top of the kneecap. Flip-flops and "spike" heels are not permitted.

For "after hours" activities and County Olympics:

Casual and athletic apparel are permitted.

For Friday's trip to Columbia:

Delegates will wear a white ALA PGS t-shirt with appropriate skirt, skort, or slacks.

Navy blue, black, or other dark colored skirt, skort, or slacks are requested, but not required.

(Navy skirts are available through many mail-order clothing stores such as LL Bean, Eddie Bauer, and Lands End and may also be found at school uniform supply stores.)

Skirts, shorts, and skorts must not be more than three inches above the top of the kneecap.

Shorts and denim (of any length) are not permitted.

Flip-flops and heels are not recommended. We will walk several blocks down Main Street in a parade, so please wear comfortable, thick-soled shoes.

At all times:

Skirts, shorts, and skorts must not be more than three inches above the top of the kneecap.

No tattered or torn clothing.

No clothing with obscene or suggestive slogans, words, writings, etc.





# *A Week That Will Change a Lifetime*



## **Citizen Pledge**

American Legion Auxiliary Palmetto Girls State  
CITIZEN PLEDGE - 76th ALA PALMETTO GIRLS STATE  
JUNE 11-17, 2023

As a Delegate to and a Citizen of ALA Palmetto Girls State, a program sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of South Carolina, I voluntarily make the following PLEDGE:

1. I will obey the rules of ALA Palmetto Girls State. I will show consideration and respect for all individuals participating in ALA Palmetto Girls State at all times, including staff, other delegates, and speakers. I will not use obscene, profane, threatening, or harassing language or engage in any unwanted or inappropriate conduct or any form of harassment or intimidation. I understand the terms "harassment" and "intimidation" include any verbal or physical conduct that unreasonably interferes with another's performance or creates an intimidating, offensive, or hostile environment. I will promptly report any such conduct by others to my Senior Counselor(s) and/or Administrative Staff.
2. I will be present for every portion of the ALA Palmetto Girls State session and will remain in its entirety, unless advanced permission is obtained in writing from the American Legion Auxiliary Unit that sponsored me and from the Director of ALA Palmetto Girls State.
3. I will not leave assigned areas of the Presbyterian College campus, except as the ALA Palmetto Girls State schedule allows or as may be approved by the Director of ALA Palmetto Girls State.
4. I will take a serious and conscientious interest in discharging my duties as a Delegate to and Citizen of ALA Palmetto Girls State.
5. I understand that ALA Palmetto Girls State is an Americanism program established to educate young women in the duties, privileges, rights, and responsibilities of American citizenship. I further understand that the program is a study of city, county, and state government and that the ideals of Americanism, citizenship, patriotism, and "God and Country" are featured throughout the week.
6. I understand the ALA Palmetto Girls State program continually strives to reflect a cross-section of South Carolina, and to further this goal, ALA Palmetto Girls State embraces and encourages diversity among its staff, volunteers, and delegates. I further understand ALA Palmetto Girls State aims to create an environment which promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion regardless of an individual's race, color, religion (creed), nationality, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, socioeconomic status, location (rural, urban, or suburban) in this state, or political views and beliefs.
7. I understand ALA Palmetto Girls State will not tolerate any forms of intentional discrimination and will address any bias incidents reports. A bias incident is defined as the use of any disparaging or offensive remarks, including slurs, epithets, or stereotypes about race, color, disability, nationality, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or religion (creed) and the display or use of any offensive or intimidating imagery or symbols. I further understand that upon receiving a bias incident report, ALA Palmetto Girls State will immediately take steps to reaffirm its nondiscrimination policy and provide a resolution, which may include mediation, education, and/or removal of an individual from the ALA Palmetto Girls State program.
8. I understand ALA Palmetto Girls State recognizes and supports delegates' rights to freedom of speech, expression, and association, including the use of online social networks. However, I further understand that participation in the ALA Palmetto Girls State program is a privilege, not a right, and I represent the American Legion Auxiliary and am expected to portray myself, my school, and the Auxiliary in a positive manner. I therefore agree that any online postings relating to ALA Palmetto Girls State will be consistent with federal and state laws and further agree to the



## *A Week That Will Change a Lifetime*



following:

A. I understand everything I post online is public information. I cannot control any text, photo, or video once it is posted online, even if I limit access to my post(s). I understand information (including pictures, videos, comments, and posts) may be accessible even after I remove it.

B. I understand ALA Palmetto Girls State will not tolerate disrespectful comments and behavior posted on social media, including derogatory or defamatory language, images, or videos, or comments that create a danger to the safety of another person or that constitute a credible threat of physical or emotional injury to another person.

C. I understand ALA Palmetto Girls State reserves the right to have staff members review and/or monitor delegates' social networking sites and postings regarding the ALA Palmetto Girls State program. I further understand any violation of law or of ALA Palmetto Girls State's guidelines is subject to investigation and possible removal from the ALA Palmetto Girls State program and/or referral to appropriate law enforcement agencies.

9. If elected to office, I will serve to the best of my ability and participate in the activities designed for my office.

10. Upon returning home and if requested by the American Legion Auxiliary Unit which sponsored me, I will make a formal report (written or oral) of my impressions and experiences at ALA Palmetto Girls State.

11. I will live in residence as a Citizen of ALA Palmetto Girls State.

12. I will adhere to ALA Palmetto Girls State's COVID-19 protocols, which I understand may include wearing a face covering, social distancing, and proof of negative test or vaccination before arrival on campus.

13. I will return to my high school for at least one semester of my senior year.

14. I am not a member of, nor do I subscribe to the principles of, any group opposed to democracy or to the forms of government of the United State of America and the State of South Carolina.

15. I will not use the ALA Palmetto Girls State name in any commercial or promotional activity.



## **Non-Discrimination Policy**

The ALA Palmetto Girls State program continually strives to reflect a cross-section of South Carolina. To further this goal, ALA PGS embraces and encourages diversity among its staff, volunteers, and delegates. ALA PGS aims to create an environment which promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion regardless of an individual's race, color, religion (creed), nationality, socioeconomic status, location (rural, urban, or suburban) in this state, or political views and beliefs.

ALA PGS affirmatively and emphatically states that it will not tolerate any forms of discrimination and will address any bias incidents reports. A bias incident is defined as the use of any disparaging or offensive remarks, including slurs, epithets, or stereotypes about race, color, disability, nationality, religion, or creed and the display or use of any offensive or intimidating imagery or symbols. Upon receiving a bias incident report, ALA PGS will immediately take steps to reaffirm this policy and provide a resolution that may include mediation, education, and/or the removal of an individual.



# *A Week That Will Change a Lifetime*



## **Samsung Scholarship Information**

While ALA Palmetto Girls State is not a scholarship program, there are scholarship opportunities available to delegates who attend and complete ALA Palmetto Girls State.

The Samsung American Legion Scholarship was created in 1996 from an endowment by the Samsung Corporation. This endowment was made in appreciation of U.S. veterans who came to aid South Korea during the struggle against communist forces in the Korean War. The endowment resulted in a scholarship program, which is administered by The American Legion, to benefit direct descendants of U.S. veterans. Every Girls State and Boys State program selects one finalist from among its participants. State finalists move to the national level of competition for the opportunity for a \$10,000 scholarship. Additional information may be found on The American Legion website at [www.legion.org/scholarships/samsung](http://www.legion.org/scholarships/samsung). (The application is found at the bottom of the page after the information and requirements.)

**\*\*The application is a lengthy process and ample time will need to be devoted to completing the application. There are multiple documents and signatures needed. All applications are due by the end of the first day (11:59 pm on Sunday, June 11, 2023) in order to be considered. \*\***



# *A Week That Will Change a Lifetime*



## **Important Information About Dorms**

### Size of Beds/Mattresses:

- \* Presbyterian College is in the process of converting the mattresses in ALL dorms to twin extra-long (Twin XL).
- \* We do not know which rooms will have beds which are Twin XL and which rooms may still have standard Twin size beds.
- \* Delegates are advised to bring either Twin XL sheets or larger sized sheets which may be "tucked in" to fit either the standard Twin or the Twin XL mattress.
- \* If a delegate does not have Twin XL sheets, consider using a larger flat sheet instead of a fitted sheet or sheets for a Full or Queen sized mattress.
- \* The dimensions of a twin extra-long (Twin XL) mattress are 39" x 80".
- \* Standard sizes of flat sheets are
  - Twin--66 x 96 inches (or 167 x 243 cm)
  - X-Long Twin--66 x 102 inches (or 167 x 259 cm)
  - Full--81 x 96 inches (or 205 x 243 cm)
  - Queen--90 x 102 inches (or 228 x 259 cm)

### Dorms with Community (Hall) Baths:

- \* Some dorms at Presbyterian College have community (hall) baths.
- \* Community (hall) bath refers to a dorm where the rooms do not have adjoining baths but all rooms of the floor share one or more large bathrooms with each bathroom having multiple sinks, showers, and toilets
- \* All delegates should consider bringing a bath tote or small pail/bucket to assist with carrying shampoo, soap, and toiletries to the bath. Regardless of whether a delegate is assigned to a dorm with a community bath or not, the tote/pail will assist in keeping shampoo, soap, and other toiletries together.

All delegates should also consider packing shower shoes and bathrobes/cover-ups.