

# NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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## **Girl Scout Troop 1290 Builds Free Library to Celebrate Asian Culture**

*Free Library Built by Girl Scouts Benefits My Sister's Café*

Sacramento – Girl Scout Troop 1290 proudly presents “My Sister’s Little Library,” – a free library built by the Girl Scouts for their Bronze Award project, just in time for Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in May. The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the library will take place on Saturday, May 21, at 9 a.m. in front of [My Sister’s Café](#), located at 455 Capitol Mall, #110 in Sacramento.

In 2021, many Asians were experiencing a rise in discrimination and a spike in “Asian Hate.” Since a Girl Scout promises to “help people at all times” and works hard to “make the world a better place,” and “be considerate and caring,” Girl Scout Troop 1290, Junior-level Girl Scouts, brainstormed ways they could help their community. The girls had a great idea to build a free library and fill it with books written by Asian authors or topics to help people learn about the culture and rich heritage of the Asian American and Pacific Islander community.

“I think if people knew more about Asian culture and read some stories by Asian authors, they would know more about them and be kind,” said Girl Scout Troop 1290 member Ella.

The girls began their adventure by contacting [My Sister’s House](#). This nonprofit organization serves Asians and Pacific Islanders, and underserved women and children impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. My Sister’s House has a volunteer-based support program to help domestic violence survivors get back on their feet financially called [My Sister’s Café](#). The Girl Scouts thought this would be an ideal pairing – a free library in front of the café!

According to Executive Director Yen Marshall, “My Sister’s House is so excited to be a beneficiary of Girl Scout leadership and generosity. Having a mobile library of books relating to Asian culture and Asian authors will be interesting for My Sister’s Café clients and My Sister’s House survivors.”

To start the adventure, the girls designed the library and learned how to use tools. Home Depot in Natomas and Lowe’s in West Sacramento kindly donated wood and other supplies. The girls researched Asian topics and authors and held a book drive to collect books. Girls used funds from cookie sales or other donations to buy additional supplies and books. [Wild Sister’s Book Company](#), which has an owner who was a Girl Scout, and [Insperity](#) contributed many books to help the library get started. Author Ken Liu provided copies of [The Hidden Girl and Other Stories](#). Girls then designed stickers for the books so people would know where to return them and decorated the library to match the café.

It takes skill and dedication to achieve a [Bronze Award](#). Junior-level Girl Scouts (4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders) must build a team, decide on a project, make and execute a plan, and spread the word about the good deed.

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Girl Scout Troop 1290 is part of the Girl Scouts Heart of Central California Council. The Council serves more than 12,000 girls in 18 counties.