

JOURNEY OF A LIFE TIME



Maureen Nderitu, Young Leader Kenya Girl Guides

It all started 16 years ago when I got the opportunity to be a member of Kenya Girl Guides Association and since then I have never looked back. I have gone through the several guide branches which include Brownies, Girl Guides and Rangers. I am currently in the young leader's branch which caters for young people between 18 – 30yrs.

Guiding has really helped me grow in very many areas and this has been attributed by the Guiding Principles and the Laws that govern us on a day to day basis. Our Motto **“BE PREPARED”** is something I carry with me every day and this has enabled to handle everything that comes my way whether unexpected or expected, I should be prepared. Our Promise is a constant reminder of my three main duties while I live in this world; **Duty to God, Duty to my country and to help other people at all times.**

The ten guide laws are a guide to what is right and just and like the Ten Commandments every law is important and if followed one is able to grow in the right direction just as I have. My favorite and most treasured guide law is Guide Law no. 10 which states that; **“A Guide is pure in thought, word and deed.”**

Girl guiding has opened leadership opportunities for me and molded me to be a leader in character, speech and action. I have served in various capacities within the young leaders unit where I started as the young leaders chair in Central Province and I represented all the young leaders in the province. At the early age of 21 I served as the deputy young leader chair for a term of three years and was representing the young leaders in the Executive board and the National council of Kenya Girl Guides Association.

I am currently the Secretary to the young leaders unit in Nairobi County and the staff responsible for all correspondences that concern the young leaders at the headquarters.

I have always enjoyed working with young people and through guiding my career dreams and aspirations are being fulfilled, by being given the opportunity to serve as a staff of Kenya Girl Guides where my position is programs Coordinator, I implement various programs that aim at empowering the Girl Child to get to her fullest potential.

Girl guiding has opened networking opportunities for me, I have been able to meet various important people both nationally and internationally and

WAGGGS Mission is to empower girls and young women to get to their fullest potential and this has been possible through the many leadership trainings I have been nominated to attend both nationally and internationally in Madagascar 2010 for the 9th Africa Regional Conference, Our **Cabana** in Mexico 2012 for the Juliette Low Seminar, Pax Lodge in London 2015 for the NLDP facilitators training and most recently Our Chalet in Switzerland where I attended the 11th Hellen Storrow seminar as a Facilitator. Through the trainings I have had an opportunity to share my ideas and learn a lot from Girl Guides and Girl Scouts from different parts of the world. It has also contributed a lot to how I relate with people socially, emotionally and professionally. I have a lot to be emulated from me by my friends, colleagues and neighbors and all this is attributed to Girl Guiding. As the saying goes "If it's not fun it's not Guiding" I have enjoyed and still enjoy being a Girl Guide.

The Olave Baden - Powell Society (OB -PS) is a part of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts that brings together a worldwide network of WAGGGS supporters who provides vital funding to the organization and create a community of those who are passionate about global Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting. The Society aims at empowering girls to get to their fullest potential by providing opportunities for them to be great leaders

It was an honor and privilege to be nominated as an Olave Baden Powell Society (OB-PS) youth supporter for Kenya in 2016. The opportunity comes with several key responsibilities which entail publicize OB-PS, WAGGGS work and the effect which Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting have on girls' lives in Kenya and around the world. It will also be an opportunity to recruit more members into the Guiding movement, network with like-minded Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in Kenya and the world and give back to the same organization that has made me the great woman I am today.

I humbly take up the OB-PS youth supporter role and promise to do my best to ensure that my key responsibilities are met. I thank the Kenya Girl Guides Association for believing in me and granting me this auspicious opportunity to ensure that the Girls Voice is heard not only in Kenya but all over the world, I also thank the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts and Olave Baden – Powell society for giving me an opportunity to represent them.

My Guiding Journey still continues and I look forward to achieving a lot in the years to come.

ONCE A GIRL GUIDE FOREVER A GUIDE!!! LONG LIVE GIRL GUIDING!!