



Girl Scout Gold Award Ceremony



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Dear Gold Award Girl Scouts,

Congratulations on earning the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest achievement in Girl Scouting. This prestigious honor reflects your exceptional leadership, dedication, and commitment to creating meaningful and lasting change in your community.

The Gold Award is more than a project. It represents years of growth, service and perseverance throughout your Girl Scout journey. By identifying a need, developing a vision, and leading with purpose, you have demonstrated the courage, integrity and determination that define extraordinary leadership.

Your accomplishments place you among a distinguished group of young women who have chosen to make a positive impact through service and action. The work you have completed will continue to inspire others and leave a lasting legacy in the communities you serve.

Today, we proudly celebrate all that you have achieved and the leader you have become. Congratulations on this remarkable milestone and best wishes for continued success in all that lies ahead.

Yours in Girl Scouting,

Cynthia H. Breunig
President & CEO





Gold Award Recipients



Alexa Y

Southwest Troop 643

Susan H. Nelson High School

*Giving Back To Those Who Served: Launching a Veteran Supply
Pantry*

For my Girl Scout Gold Award, I created a sustainable Veteran Supply Pantry in partnership with MilVet to support homeless and low-income veterans. After researching the root causes of veteran homelessness, I recognized a lack of accessible resources and education for both veterans and the public. I organized community outreach, donation drives, and educational materials to raise awareness and collect essential items such as hygiene products and daily necessities. In addition to providing immediate support, I connected veterans to long-term resources including CalBenefits, SNAP, and disability compensation programs. The pantry continues to operate beyond my involvement through MilVet, ensuring lasting impact. This project combined education, leadership, and direct service to address veteran homelessness while empowering others to take action in their own communities.



Arabella C

High Desert Troop 2113

Riverside Prep High School

Kera's Butterflies

Kera was a Girl Scout who created a project to help other children who had the same struggles that she did. Her idea was to help prevent self-harm in the foster care system by giving the children temporary tattoos of butterflies. She believed that no one would want to harm a butterfly. By honoring her and her idea, many foster children were able to find peace.



Ariel S

Low Desert Troop 123

Palm Desert High School

Astronomy Education for Beginners

Along with the Astronomical Society of the Desert, I created a comprehensive astronomy lesson plan and travel trifold brochure which covered a wide variety of topics to introduce or appeal to novices, or experienced astronomers who are looking for a deeper understanding about the phenomena located in the night sky.



Ashlynn S

Low Desert Troop 693

La Quinta High School

Wasting Food

For my project, I focused on reducing food waste in the Desert Sands Unified School District. I noticed that many students were throwing away their lunches, often because they didn't like how the food tasted. To address this, I created an Instagram account to educate students about food waste and organized a food tasting event where students could try new, healthier options and give feedback on the school menu. At this event I was interviewed by my local news station which brought light to the problem of food waste in schools and also brought attention to Girl Scouts and the Gold Award. Through surveys and social media engagement, I gathered valuable input and helped raise awareness. This project strengthened my leadership skills and showed me that meaningful change starts with listening and taking action.



Astreya F

Southwest Troop 2502

Hemet High School

School Training for Single Sided Deafness

My Girl Scout Gold Award Project focuses on increasing understanding and support for students with single-sided deafness. Many teachers are unfamiliar with the technology and accommodations that help students with hearing loss succeed in the classroom. Because single-sided deafness is often considered an "invisible disability," it can sometimes be overlooked, making it difficult for students to receive the support outlined in their IEPs. To address this issue, I created a series of educational YouTube videos designed to inform teachers, parents, and students about hearing loss, audiology systems, and important disability laws such as ADA and IDEA. The videos explain how classroom accommodations and assistive technology support students with hearing loss and why they are essential for learning. I also created a video specifically for students to help them learn how to advocate for themselves and communicate their needs with confidence. By providing accessible information and real-world guidance, my project empowers both educators and students to create more supportive and inclusive learning environments.



Briseis H

High Desert Troop 710

Academy of Careers and Exploration

Be A Kid Again!

My Girl Scout Gold Award Project focuses on supporting the mental health and well-being of teens and young adults in my community by creating a safe, welcoming place for them to take a break and process life's challenges. Growing up can feel overwhelming, and everyday experiences—such as conflicts with friends, family disagreements, or breakups—can sometimes feel like huge emotional obstacles. Many young people need a neutral space away from school and home where they can pause, reflect, and talk with friends. To address this need, I helped create a swing set in a local park designed to offer a simple but meaningful place for teens to gather, relax, and reconnect with the carefree feeling of childhood. Swinging can be calming and provide a moment of peace during difficult times. By creating this space, my goal is to encourage healthy conversations, emotional release, and connection, reminding young people that they are not alone and that it's okay to take a moment to breathe and heal.



Ilianna V

Southwest Troop 2557

Mission Vista Academy

Empowerment Village Garden

I made a garden at Mission Hope's Empowerment Village for mothers and children in crisis to help them get back on their feet. The garden provides the residents with an activity encouraging sustainability, patience, and growth. I also made educational curriculum and hosted a workshop for both the children and parents, enabling them and future residents to engage with the garden. Mission Hope has already planned to expand my project to additionally provide for their food pantry



Iris E

Central West Troop 1160

Ontario Christian

Healing Hands Garden for Veterans

My Gold Award project, Healing Hands Garden, created a therapeutic, sustainable garden space for Veteran residents at March Veterans Village – Building 1. Many Veterans in the rehabilitation program struggled with isolation, depression, and a lack of meaningful daily activities. I addressed this need by designing and building two garden areas—an in-ground vegetable garden and an accessible raised herb garden—that encourage outdoor engagement, healthy routines, and community connection. I collaborated with US Vets staff, advisors, community sponsors, and volunteers to build the gardens, provide care guides, and integrate garden maintenance into the rehabilitation and community service program. The project offers residents a calming environment where they can learn new skills, grow fresh food, and experience the mental health benefits of gardening. The Healing Hands Garden continues to be used daily and remains a long-term wellness resource, supporting Veterans as they transition into stable, independent living.



Jasmine K

Central Troop 1449

21st Century High School

Creating Mountains of Education

Inspired by our surrounding Beaumont mountains: San Gorgonio & San Jacinto, these 3D tactile puzzles are suitable for diverse learners on the autism spectrum. I collaborated and refined designs where it met classroom needs & student abilities. The 3D printer I earned from selling Girl Scout cookies helped me to design & produce 3 puzzle levels. Contoured lines allow students to feel topographic features by touch & match visible mountains from every school site. This unites environmental awareness with hands-on exploration. All files were shared freely with Beaumont School District. All puzzles can be reprinted permanently using existing school equipment, ensuring a long-term impact without enduring expenses. By bringing these creations to life, I improved student engagement, supported inclusive learning, & showed how accessible tools & teamwork can make a lasting difference in public education.



Joy O

Central West Troop 2025

Eleanor Roosevelt High School

More Than a Place to Sit

The “Building Benches” project was established to support community development, address mental and physical stress in demanding work environments, and encourage individual creativity. This initiative reaches a broad audience through a documented video and a published website that chronicles the bench-building process. These platforms aim to raise awareness of the mental and physical challenges faced by individuals in high-pressure settings. A key focus of the project was the local police department, where personnel lacked a designated space to rest and recharge. By installing a bench at the department, the project provided employees with an accessible outdoor area to take breaks while remaining on duty, promoting well-being and resilience within the workplace. Today, the bench serves as a reminder to employees of the importance of taking time to pause and reflect. Additionally, “Building Benches” serves as a model for communities nationwide, demonstrating how similar projects can be implemented locally.



Julia W

Central West Troop 1661

Riverside Polytechnic High School

Operation Nutrition

I organized a community project to promote healthy eating habits at a local organization, Operation Safehouse. This included creating a cookbook with instructional videos to make nutritious cooking more engaging and accessible. I also planted a vegetable and fruit garden, which provides a fun hands-on activity to also teach where food comes from. This project combines education and practical experience to support healthier lifestyles.





Kayliana C

Low Desert Troop 2025

Cathedral City High School

Buddy Benches

My Gold Award project was focusing on bullying and isolation within my local elementary school. In order to try and fix this issue I created a buddy bench and placed it at the school. This bench had a meaning and the meaning was if you seen someone on the bench you would go make friends with them so that they didn't feel alone at school.



Khaila J

Southwest Troop 2504

Murrieta Valley High School

Love for Literacy

Love for Literacy involved creating a series of video read-aloud books for emergent readers at Donald Graham Elementary School. Book selections were guided by circulation data provided by school librarians to ensure inclusion of high-interest, developmentally appropriate titles. The initiative addressed gaps in literacy support caused by limited adult availability and busy family schedules by providing accessible audio and video read-alouds that students could use independently on iPads or mobile devices, both at school and at home. The project has positively impacted emergent readers and ESL learners, who have gained confidence through independent use of the videos while developing listening and reading comprehension skills. By supporting fluent reading, reducing stress, and promoting positive learning experiences, the project created an inclusive and supportive literacy environment.



Lillian P

Central Troop 1271

Redlands High School

Speaking Up!

When I learned that over 50% of people fear public speaking, I realized that I could share my public speaking knowledge to help others in the community. As someone who has always loved the stage, I knew I could give kids tangible ways to improve their ability to speak. I personally recorded and animated multiple YouTube videos to assist with preparing and making public speeches. I presented to kids in fifth grade through ninth grade about multiple ways to get rid of nerves or even how to appear confident when public speaking. I took surveys before and after my presentations and found a rapid increase in kids' confidence for public speaking. Additionally, I wrote and published a children's book, called From Squeak to Speak, to encourage younger kids to be excited about public speaking.



Rose H

Central West Troop 2026

John F Kennedy Middle College High

Brothers and Sisters for T1D

My Gold Award project was created to support and educate siblings of kids newly diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes (T1D). When my brother was diagnosed with T1D, there was no education or support to help me understand what was happening at a stressful time for our family. From that moment on, I made it my mission to help educate siblings about T1D to help them understand the condition and support their families. T1D impacts the entire family and it is important to include everyone in these conversations. I created educational materials and a website for siblings and parents, held a book drive, and used the materials to create sibling support kits for Pediatric Adolescent Diabetes Resource Education Foundation (PADRE). The PADRE Foundation now uses these kits to educate the siblings of newly diagnosed T1D patients. I also appeared on the Type 1 Together podcast to share my experiences as a Type 1 Diabetes sibling and promote the PADRE kits.



Shreya J

Central West Troop 2066

Centennial High School

Seed Library: From Seeds to Sustainability

I established a Seed Library at the Corona Public Library, a community-centered, sustainability initiative designed to promote biodiversity, food security, and environmental awareness. A Seed Library is a resource where individuals can check out seeds for free, plant them in their gardens at home, and donate seeds back for others, creating a continuous cycle of sharing and learning. From securing a generous donation of heirloom and climate resilient seeds by Seed Savers Exchange, to developing an informational display and leading a hands-on community workshop, this project was developed to empower participants to regain their connection with nature. By reducing dependence on commercial seed sources and encouraging local food production, the Seed Library demonstrates how small, community-driven actions can create lasting environmental impact while cultivating resilience and collective responsibility for the future.



Simone Anna B

Central Troop 542

Aquinas High School

The Art of Prayer

The Art of Prayer is a children's coloring book created for children who are receiving their First Holy Communion. It is divided into chapters based on the lessons they are following as they prepare for their sacrament. Each chapter has an original drawing, a Bible verse, and a prayer. There is also a page for personal reflection. The coloring book is designed to support all learning styles. I also created a public social media account so educators can access the pages of the book for free. The Art of Prayer was made to encourage creativity and accessible learning for all.



Sofia D

Central West Troop 2083

Corona High School

Trap Neuter & Return (TNR) For Feral & Community Cats

My Gold Award Project, Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) for feral and stray community cats, provides TNR education and promotes local resources. TNR is an important solution for preventing unfixed, free-roaming cats from reproducing. Feral and stray cats, along with kittens, are euthanized every day in animal shelters due to the ongoing overpopulation crisis.

My goal is to educate people about TNR and available local resources so they can take action in their own communities. I collaborated with local cat rescue Kitty Camp Corporation, which shares an educational pamphlet I created explaining the TNR process. I also developed an informational website that provides TNR education, local resources, and a survey to help expand outreach and awareness.



Sophia C

Central West Troop 2115

Eleanor Roosevelt High School

How to get testing support from the DMV, Learning Disabilities or Otherwise

Earning a driver's license is an important milestone for many teens, but for students with learning disabilities, the process of obtaining testing accommodations at the DMV can be confusing and difficult. As someone with dyslexia, I experienced this challenge firsthand when trying to take my permit test. Although the DMV offers helpful accommodations such as read-aloud support, paper tests, and private testing, there is little clear information available about how to request them. For my Girl Scout Gold Award project, I worked to make this process easier for others. I created a step-by-step infographic that clearly explains how students can request DMV testing accommodations. After researching the process and experiencing it myself, I designed the guide using a calm color palette and dyslexia-friendly font to ensure it is accessible and easy to understand. By sharing this resource through social media and with my school district, I hope to empower students with learning disabilities and ensure they can access the support they need to succeed.



Valine E

Central Troop 2115

Yucaipa High School

Voices of Respect: An Anti-Bullying Curriculum

I worked with a volunteer team of educators to create an interactive anti-bullying curriculum for elementary school students. The curriculum includes five lessons, each with a lesson focus, learning objective, materials, class structure, and assessment of knowledge. The goal is for the target audience, elementary school students and their teachers, to gain knowledge about the four major types of bullying--verbal, social, physical, and cyberbullying--in terms of what they are, where they are found, and how to stop them. In order to achieve this, the curriculum teaches students various skills to identify and combat bullying, which include the R.I.P. test and the "Stop, Walk, Talk" technique. Students can take these skills beyond the classroom and continue to combat bullying in their everyday lives.

Margaret Scout Service Award

This recognition is open to registered Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador Girl Scout members who have dedicated a minimum of 50 hours of service to the Girl Scout community. Recipients demonstrate an outstanding commitment to service while faithfully embodying the Girl Scout Promise and Law through their actions, leadership, and willingness to support others. Their dedication helps strengthen Girl Scouting and inspires those around them through meaningful and selfless service.



Central- *Alexis H*

Alexis H brings warmth, encouragement, and a true heart for helping others to every Girl Scout experience. She enjoys working alongside younger girls, teaching skills, leading songs, and stepping in wherever help is needed. Alexis has a natural ability to make others feel comfortable and included, especially girls who may be shy or uncertain. During a winter campout, she patiently guided a nervous new Daisy through activities and helped turn a difficult moment into a positive memory. Her kindness, maturity, and joyful participation make her a wonderful example of Girl Scout sisterhood.

Central West- *Kayla M*

Kayla M “Artemis” is known for her positive attitude, dependable leadership, and willingness to serve wherever she is needed most. Whether working behind the scenes at events, supporting girls at camp, or helping lead Junior Jam activities, Kayla approaches every task with care and enthusiasm. She has a remarkable ability to notice what needs to be done before anyone asks and quietly steps in to help. Younger girls look up to her because she is patient, encouraging, and genuinely invested in their success. Kayla’s dedication and strong work ethic make her an invaluable part of the Girl Scout community.

High Desert- *Robin H*

At camp, Robin “Matchbox” H is recognized not only for her bright smile, but for the calm confidence and encouragement she brings to those around her. She has become a respected mentor through her years of involvement at Camp Skyland Ranch and Junior Jam, where she teaches outdoor skills and helps girls build confidence in themselves. Robin especially shines in the way she supports younger campers with patience, empathy, and steady leadership. Her love for camp and commitment to helping others grow have made her a trusted role model and a cherished part of the Girl Scout experience.

Low Desert- *Leila E*

Leila E has become a familiar and dependable presence throughout the Low Desert region through her extraordinary commitment to service. She volunteers countless hours supporting product sales, regional events, troop activities, recruitment opportunities, and volunteer conferences, always bringing energy and professionalism to every task. Leila is especially gifted at working alongside both girls and adults, helping events run smoothly while making everyone feel welcomed and supported. From organizing supplies to mentoring younger scouts, she consistently leads through action. Her dedication, initiative, and generous spirit truly reflect the values of Girl Scouting.

Southwest- *Kate J*

Kate “Charlie” J has dedicated years of service, creativity, and leadership to Girl Scouts and her community. Whether volunteering at major regional events, designing event patches, mentoring younger girls, or supporting community relief efforts, Kate brings enthusiasm and heart to everything she does. She combines artistic talent, strong leadership skills, and a genuine desire to help others in ways that leave a meaningful impression on those around her. From the stage to service projects to advocacy opportunities, Kate represents Girl Scouts with confidence, compassion, and outstanding character.

Girl Scout of the Year

This recognition is open to registered Senior and Ambassador Girl Scout members who exemplify the highest ideals of character, integrity, patriotism, and service through both their words and actions. Recipients uphold the mission and values of Girl Scouts while demonstrating meaningful leadership within both Girl Scouting and their communities. Above all, they consistently live out the Girl Scout Promise and Law, serving as inspiring examples to others through their dedication, compassion, and commitment.



Khaila J

Southwest

Khaila J is the embodiment of what it means to be a Girl Scout leader, mentor, and role model. A lifelong Girl Scout, Khaila has dedicated countless hours to serving her troop, region, council, and community with extraordinary enthusiasm, creativity, and determination. Whether mentoring younger girls at Junior Jam, teaching outdoor skills, volunteering at Mega Drops and council events, or supporting recruitment and product programs, she consistently leads with confidence and kindness.

Khaila's talents extend far beyond Girl Scouts. A standout varsity volleyball athlete, coach, artist, and scholar, she balances an incredibly demanding schedule while maintaining academic excellence and a deep commitment to service. She has earned her Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards, as well as the Presidential Volunteer Service Award, completing hundreds of service hours each year. Her Gold Award project created audiobook resources for emerging readers using QR-coded library books, helping students strengthen literacy skills in meaningful and innovative ways.

Girl Scouts also helped inspire Khaila's love of creativity and design. From sewing projects benefiting hospitals, veterans, and NICU families to designing Junior Jam patches and event graphics, she uses her talents to uplift others and bring joy to her community. Trusted, hardworking, supportive, and genuine, Khaila leads by example in every area of her life. She represents the very best of Girl Scouts and leaves a lasting impact on everyone fortunate enough to know her.

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Thank you Mr. Jeremiah Dollins, English Teacher & Publications Advisor
from Colton High School and student photographer Leilanee from Colton High School

Our Mission

Girl Scouting builds
girls of courage, confidence, and
character, who make the world
a better place.

Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be
honest and fair,
friendly and helpful,
considerate and caring,
courageous and strong,
and responsible for what I say and do,
and to respect myself and others,
respect authority,
use resources wisely,
make the world a better place,
and be a sister to every Girl Scout.

Girl Scout Promise

On my honor, I will try:
To serve God* and my
country,
To help people at all times,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.
**Members may substitute for the word
God in accordance with their own
spiritual beliefs.*