

Gold Award

2024–2025 Yearbook



Dear Gold Award Recipients,

Congratulations! You did it! You've reached the pinnacle of Girl Scouting by earning the highest honor—the Girl Scout Gold Award.

As a Gold Award recipient, you join a distinguished group of young women who have been making a difference since 1916. This prestigious award has empowered Girl Scouts to transform their lives and the lives of others in remarkable ways. The leadership skills, organizational abilities, and sense of community and commitment gained from “Going for the Gold” lay the groundwork for a lifetime of active citizenship.

Today is a wonderful day to celebrate the mark you’ve made. I see a brilliant future ahead for each of you. As a Gold Award Girl Scout, you know you can achieve anything you aspire to and accomplish anything you set your mind to. As you embark on your journey, I hope you embrace all the opportunities before you and take your place at the community leadership table.

Say yes—to pursuing higher education, exploring the world, running for office, launching a new business, or anything that brings you joy and fulfillment. When challenges arise, remember that you are a Girl Scout. You possess the courage, confidence, and character to overcome any obstacle. You are ready to change the world, and we eagerly anticipate seeing what your future holds.

Despite the ever-changing times, you have persevered. It is my hope that years from now, you will look back on this period in your life and celebrate your resilience and the memories you've created.

Always remember that you are extraordinary. **You are Solid Gold!**

Yours in Girl Scouting,

Paula Bookidis
Chief Executive Officer

2024-2025 Gold Award Recipients



Denotes the achievement of all three Highest Awards: Bronze, Silver, and Gold.



Ananya Rajanala
Austin, TX



Bee Cave Public Library Blood Drive
Ananya's Gold Award Project, *Bee Cave Public Library Blood Drive*, helped her community by addressing the decline in recent blood donations through educational campaigns. Ananya hosted multiple blood drives, campaigned throughout her community, and advertised to teens as well as young adults to encourage continual donations from new donors.

Through Girl Scouts, I have made many friendships and connections that will last throughout my life and have learned to be a leader and how to help change the world.



Isha Ailnani
Austin, TX



Tech Lessons for Senior Living Residents - Isha's Gold Award Project, *Tech Lessons for Senior Living Residents*, addressed the importance of combating isolation and depression among the elderly by teaching seniors to use smartphones and how to properly navigate the internet. Isha's lessons helped seniors stay connected, reducing loneliness and improving their mental well-being.

Being a Girl Scout has given me the courage to take action alongside a supportive community.



Julia Ward-Mulligan
Austin, TX



Eanes ISD Spanish Pen Pal Project - Julia's Gold Award Project, *Eanes ISD Spanish Pen Pal Project*, made an impact in her community by bridging the knowledge gap between the elementary Spanish immersion program and the high school Spanish program. Julia's pen pal project creates opportunity for the students in each school's program to connect, interact, and apply their language skills outside the classroom.

Girl Scouts may have been the single most powerful extracurricular behind my growth as an individual. It taught me independence, resilience, and my own power to make a change.




June Wilkerson
Austin, TX

Robotics 4 NYOS - June's Gold Award Project, *Robotics 4 NYOS*, helped her community by addressing the lack of robotics education at NYOS Charter School. By founding and leading a team, June provided students with valuable robotics skills and experiences, ensuring the program's sustainability through a video series offering advice on starting and maintaining a robotics team.

Through Girl Scouts and the Lady Cans FIRST Robotics troop, I have gained a plethora of skills, including teamwork, problem solving, and it has led me to find my passion and future career in the STEM field.



Kara McKinney
Spicewood, TX

 **The Art of Memory** - Kara's Gold Award Project, *The Art of Memory*, addressed the underserved population of memory care residents and their lack of structured stimulation. Kara's curriculum provides individual facilities, volunteers, and caretakers with creative activities for memory care patients that provides art in a fun, safe, and achievable way.

Girl Scouts has provided me with the perfect skill set to be an effective and confident leader, to work in team settings, and to connect with different types of people.



Kat Valentine
Austin, TX

Beastly Benches - Kat's Gold Award Project, *Beastly Benches*, made a difference in her community by creating two benches for the Austin Zoo, improving the visitor area. Kat also raised awareness about the importance of non-profit zoos and animal welfare through a video shared widely on social media, encouraging more people to support and visit the zoo.

As time goes on, I have realized that Girl Scouts is mainly teaching young women to be great people, and I personally really appreciate those lessons.



Lena Boas
Austin, TX

Travel the World: Countries and Cuisines - Lena's Gold Award Project, *Travel the World: Countries and Cuisines*, addressed the importance of increasing youth knowledge of global geography and enhancing cultural understanding among elementary students. Lena organized workshops featuring country subject-matter experts, interactive presentations, and cooking activities, fostering a memorable learning experience and bridging the gap in geography education in local schools.

Through Girl Scouts, I have developed confidence and leadership skills, as well as learned the importance of making a difference in my community.



Lucille Collier
Austin, TX



Preserving Lost Legacies: Marking Graves and Installing Signage at Historic Parks Springs Cemetery - Lucille's Gold Award Project, *Preserving Lost Legacies: Marking Graves and Installing Signage at Historic Parks Springs Cemetery*, helped her community by addressing the issue of unmarked graves and lack of historical signage. Lucille created an informational sign, and durable grave markers, providing education to visitors regarding the cemetery's significance.

Girl Scouts has taught me leadership skills and offered years of experiences and friendships that have helped shape me into the best version of myself.



Manal Rashid
Cedar Park, TX

Faimah Asif Library - Manal's Gold Award Project, *Faimah Asif Library*, made an impact in her community by addressing the lack of educational resources in Orangi Town, a small town in the western part of Karachi, Pakistan. Manal established a library and conducted workshops through volunteers, providing essential books and learning opportunities to girls, thereby fostering education and reducing illiteracy in the region.

Through Girl Scouts, I have learned the importance of giving back to my community and the true value of thinking from different perspectives.



Maya Hay
Pflugerville, TX



Point of View Austin - Maya's Gold Award Project, *Point of View Austin*, helped her community by addressing the lack of platforms for Black youth to discuss real-world issues. Maya established a teen radio show, trained volunteers in interview and audio editing skills, and conducted interviews with community leaders, fostering engagement and awareness through digital marketing strategies.

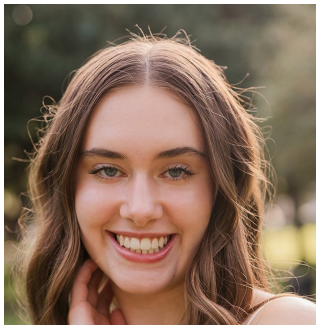
Girl Scouts has shaped my leadership and passion for change. Because of Girl Scouts, I am a confident advocate and believe in the power of collaboration and the desire to make positive change.



Phoebe Ligan
Austin, TX

Invasive Species Removal at Laguna Gloria - Phoebe's Gold Award Project, *Invasive Species Removal at Laguna Gloria*, impacted her community by eliminating the invasive cat's claw plant and planting native species. This effort restored the area's ecosystem and improved biodiversity, ensuring the gardens thrive. Phoebe also educated the public about invasive species, fostering long-term environmental awareness and stewardship.

Girl Scouts has inspired me to become a leader through hard work and community involvement.



Renee Lofye
Austin, TX



Call a Ranger Box at McKinney Falls State Park - Renee's Gold Award Project, *Call a Ranger Box at McKinney Falls State Park*, made an impact in her community by addressing park safety concerns. Renee installed a communication system at McKinney Falls State Park, allowing visitors to contact park rangers easily. This project enhances safety, especially for women, families, and individuals with special needs, encouraging more people to enjoy the park.

Girl Scouts has taught me how to be a better leader and a more involved member of my community through sustainable impact.



Ria Manchanda
Austin, TX

Dogs for Joy - Ria's Gold Award Project, *Dogs for Joy*, made an impact in her community by addressing loneliness in elderly residents by bringing joy through regular dog visits. Ria's initiative also fostered intergenerational connections, positively impacting both seniors and teen volunteers in the community.

Girl Scouts has taught me how to take initiative and how to make a real impact in my community.



Savannah Buchner
Austin, TX



Project Safety First - Savannah's Gold Award Project, *Project Safety First*, addressed the importance of outdoor public safety by installing first aid kits in neighborhood parks and coordinating stickers on trail signposts for emergency assistance. Savannah's efforts ensured that residents, including young children and bikers, could enjoy the outdoors safely and feel prepared for any situation.

Girl Scouts has taught me what true commitment looks like through the value of hard work and dedication.



Sevy Agarwal
Austin, TX



Creating Healthcare Heroes - Sevy's Gold Award Project, *Creating Healthcare Heroes*, addressed the importance of equipping children with basic first aid skills. By implementing a comprehensive first aid curriculum in schools in Austin, Texas, and Jaipur, India, Sevy empowered students to respond to medical emergencies, promoting safety and reducing injury-related fatalities.

Being a Girl Scout has helped push me outside of my comfort zone and has helped me develop a wide range of skills, including leadership, taking initiative, public speaking, and teamwork.



Shrishti Mahajan
Austin, TX

Make a Mark - Shrishti's Gold Award Project, *Make a Mark*, helped her community by addressing the marketing challenges faced by small businesses and creating business opportunities for girls in her community. Shrishti developed an internship program pairing high school girls with small businesses to provide marketing services, fostering skills in young women and supporting local businesses.

Girl Scouts has given me the skills to be a strong leader and to know how best to serve my community.



Sofia Requay Pace
Liberty Hill, TX



Feminine Hygiene Product Dispensers - Sofia's Gold Award Project, *Feminine Hygiene Product Dispensers*, addressed period poverty by installing dispensers with free products and QR codes for educational resources in her high school. Sofia's efforts ensure all girls have access to necessary hygiene products and information at school.

Girl Scouts has helped me recognize the challenges and unfairness life can bring and has given me the tools to overcome those obstacles.

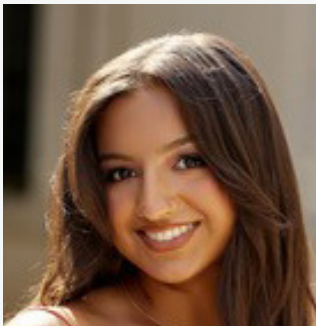


Sophia Ortiz
Liberty Hill, TX



Take Back LH - Sophia's Gold Award Project, *Take Back LH*, made an impact in her community by creating a safe disposal area for medications and educating the public on overdose prevention. Sophia's efforts led to the successful establishment of a take-back box at the Liberty Hill Police Department.

Girl Scouts has taught me how to be a leader, when to stand up for what you believe in, and the importance of lifelong friendship.



Trishna Uribe
Austin, TX



Gardening for the Mind - Trishna's Gold Award Project, *Gardening for the Mind*, helped her community by creating a sustainable garden space for elderly residents. Trishna's efforts provided residents with a place to connect with nature, improving their mental well-being and fostering community involvement.

The Girl Scout organization has provided me with unprecedented opportunities for personal growth as a leader. I will strive to uphold the values instilled in me as I soar to greater heights in the following chapters of my life.



Yessenia Barrón
Austin, TX



Roller Derby Matters! - Yessenia's Gold Award Project, *Roller Derby Matters!*, addressed the lack of support for roller derby in Austin. By creating videos and launching a social media campaign, Yessenia highlighted the sport's significance for marginalized communities and advocated for better facilities and cultural recognition.

Through Girl Scouts, I have developed a strong sense of self, a greater commitment to equity and social justice, as well as making a positive impact on the world.



"Another world is not only possible, she is on her way. On a quiet day, I can hear her breathing." — Arundhati Roy

Ananya,

We celebrate your accomplishments and your commitment to making the world a better place. Your quiet presence, caring and strength have made a strong impression on all of your Girl Scout sisters. We are so very proud of you and the person you are becoming.

— The Daisies, Brownies, Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors, Ambassadors, leaders and parents of Troop 2959.



Kara,

Congratulations on your Gold Award! It has been such an honor and a privilege to watch you grow in confidence and leadership over the years. You have persevered and accomplished so much through your Bronze, Silver, and Gold Award. You are truly a leader, and you make the world a better place. We are so proud of you, and we can't wait to see what you achieve next. We love you!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Joy and Isaac





June,

It's hard to put into words how proud we are of you and all that you have accomplished with GSCTX Troop 3993, also known as The Lady Cans. Since you joined this all-female robotics team in 6th grade, we have watched you grow leaps and bounds in confidence, teamwork, and STEM skills. It has been amazing to watch you go from a timid girl helping to build robots to coding autonomous as the lead programmer. Across meetings and competitions, advancing to two World Championships, you have been an absolute role model to so many. Your dedication and leadership, which has included being the CEO and CTO of Software, to Girl Scouts of Central Texas Robotics has been inspiring. And you still have one more year to go! We can't wait to see where this passion leads you into the future. Shoot for the stars.

Congratulations on earning your Gold Award!

With all of our love,
Mom, Dad, and Luke

*"We never know how high we are till we are called to rise. Then if we are true to form, our statures touch the skies."
- Emily Dickinson*

Yessenia,

You are a role model and an inspiration to girls everywhere and especially your Girl Scout sisters in Troop 2959. You are a leader in every sense of the word and you make a difference wherever you go. Your commitment, caring, strength, and passion have made a lasting impact on us all. We celebrate your accomplishments and the work you do to make the world a better place. We are so very proud of you!

— The Daisies, Brownies, Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors, Ambassadors, leaders and parents of Troop 2959.



Congratulations Savannah!!

We are so proud of your dedication to Girl Scouting and on your Commitment to completing your Gold Award project.

It has been an honor to watch you grow through the years.



We Love You!

Ms. Liz and Troop 1272



Congratulations Trishna!!

We are so proud of your commitment to Girl Scouting and on your accomplishment of completing your Gold Award project.

It has been an privilege to watch you grow through the years.

We Love You!

Ms. Liz and Troop 1272





Phoebe Lingan's Gold Award Project, Battling Invasive Species at Laguna Gloria

Phoebe spent hours in the hot sun with teams of Girl Scouts and the landscape team at Laguna Gloria to remove invasive species and re-seed and plant native species in key areas on the campus. Additionally, she has spread awareness about the impact of invasive species on Laguna's website and through her school board's sites as well.

Phoebe has been a Girl Scout in the Westlake Service Unit since kindergarten. She will be attending Carnegie Mellon in the fall to study Statistics and Data Science. She would like to work in statistics related to environmental studies.

We are so proud of Phoebe and her remarkable and enriching time with Girl Scouts! Congratulations, Phoebe!!



Congratulations to the 2024-2025 GSCTX Gold Award Girl Scouts!

We are so proud of you!

- GSCTX Board of Directors



Lucy,

We are so proud of you and so impressed with you. Congratulations on attaining your Gold Award! You find your passion, set your mind to a project, see it to the end, and do a thorough job.

When you started as a Daisy, who could imagine what adventures you'd embark upon, what good deeds you'd accomplish, what cool projects you'd participate in, and all the wonderful friends you'd make along the way. It's been a great joy being able to witness your Girl Scout journey.

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Liam



CONGRATULATIONS, RENEE!



Trishna Uribe



Trishi, words cannot express just how proud of
you we are. Your tireless dedication and
limitless energy are just a fraction of the reason
we love you so much!

Here's to all your achievements so far and all
the ones yet to come!

All the love, Mommy, Dadda, Nani, Di, Deva,
Mali, and the boys



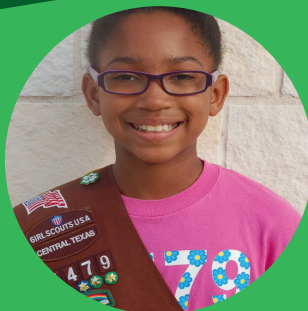
Maya,

We are so proud of your dedication and hard work in juggling your academics, speech and debate competitions, student council activities, life activities, and putting in the time needed to earn your Gold Award. You said you wanted to achieve the Gold Award when you were a Brownie Girl Scout. You put your words into action!

You demonstrated exceptional leadership skills early on by earning your bronze and silver awards. As a teen, you served two terms as a GSCTX National Council Delegate and contributed to shaping the organization on a national level during the Girl Scout conventions.

Now that you are a college student, we are again proud to see how you are taking the leadership skills you have learned in Girl Scouting to start an international policy organization at Dartmouth College. We are looking forward to seeing what the future has in store for you. Keep reaching for the stars!

Love,
Mom, Dad, your family
and Troop 1479, Pfirefly SU





Kat,

We are so incredibly proud of your dedication to raising awareness about the important role non-profit zoos play in protecting endangered species. Your idea to build and donate picnic tables to the Austin Zoo—each featuring plaques with links to online resources—was both creative and impactful. You've created something lasting that will educate and inspire visitors for years to come.

Congratulations on your amazing Gold Award achievement!

Love,

Mom, Dad, Sam, Ozzie & Makena



Lena,

Juliette Gordon Low said that being a Girl Scout is not just "knowing, but doing, and not just doing, but being." You are everything a Girl Scout should be. May the next years of your life be full of discovery and beauty and joy. I'm so proud of you.

Heather

Lena,

We're so proud of all that you have accomplished, but even prouder of the young woman you have become. Your strong character, determination, and hard work will take you far in life. Enjoy your success and don't forget to pause, soak it all in, and enjoy the journey!

Mama und Papa

