2019-2020 GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD YEARBOOK





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ABOUT THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD

The Girl Scout Gold Award, Girl Scouting's highest honor, is earned through a project that meets an expressed need in the community.

Senior and Ambassador Girl Scouts are challenged to excel in the areas of leadership and service as they utilize skills learned from the Journeys to complete their Gold Award project.

Earning the Girl Scout Gold Award is no simple task. It requires completion of a series of steps: identify a community need; investigate it thoroughly; request help and build a team; create a plan; present the plan; gather feedback; take action; and educate and inspire others.

In reaching out to others, these young women learn about the talents and strengths within themselves.

A Gold Award Girl Scout becomes a community leader whose accomplishments set her apart from the rest. The organizational skills, leadership skills, and sense of community and commitment that come from "going for the gold" set the foundation for a lifetime of active citizenship. The list of opportunities is endless.

Our sincerest congratulations to these young women of whom we are exceedingly proud. These women are the leaders of tomorrow, and we confidently leave the future of Girl Scouting in their very capable hands.

HONORING YOUNG WOMEN OF EXCELLENCE

Dear Friends,

For more than 50 years, Girl Scouts of Suffolk County has been helping girls make great strides in leadership, while learning about the importance of serving others. Gold Award Girl Scouts exemplify this better than anyone.

Our Gold Award Girl Scouts are extraordinary. These young women have worked tirelessly to address needs both within and beyond their community and have achieved sustainable results. They have shown that no challenge is insurmountable and that unprecedented efforts can yield infinite rewards, both personally and peripherally.

We want to thank all of our Gold Award Girl Scouts for their commitment in completing their Gold Award project. As a result of their dedication, we, too, benefit from their hard work both as a council and a community. We are so proud of these exemplary young women, and we look forward to learning about the future positive impacts made possible by our own Gold Award Girl Scouts.

Yours in Girl Scouting,



Tammy S. Severino Interim President & CEO



Donna Smeland Chair of the Board



Alena Berenblatt has been active in Girl Scouts since 2005, serving as a Girl Scout Leader for her daughters' troop as well as Organizer, Nuts Manager, Permit Manager and Coordinator for the Service Unit in Babylon Village. She attended the 2014 National Convention in Salt Lake City as a Council Delegate and the 2017 National Convention in Columbus, Ohio, as a girl chaperone. Alena feels honored to be a Gold Award mentor and enjoys helping girls from around Suffolk County achieve the highest award in Girl Scouting



Kathy Ciano is a longtime Girl Scout, having attended a Wider Opportunity and achieved First Class as a young woman. She later volunteered as a Leader and has held Service Unit team positions such as Coordinator, Consultant, Organizer, Nuts and QSP Manager and currently serves as a Council Trainer. She loves watching the girls' ideas come to life on the path to Gold and seeing them make a difference.



Cheryl D'Agostino was a Brownie Girl Scout, served as a Girl Scout Leader and is the proud mother of a Gold Award Girl Scout. She has volunteered in her Service Unit as Coordinator, Treasurer and Campaign Manager. She loves that being a Gold Award Mentor allows her to watch girls take the journey toward becoming the best they can be.



Colette Galvez was a Girl Scout, is currently the Coordinator for Service Unit 46, and has been a leader for 10 years. She has served on her Service Unit Team in a variety of ways including Treasurer, Organizer, and Community Service Coordinator among others. Colette's passion for Girl Scouting is a wonderful asset to the Gold Award Support Team and to the girls who are "going for Gold."



Victoria Genovese was a Girl Scout from second through sixth grades, and a Troop Leader from first grade Brownies through Ambassador Girl Scouts with her daughter's troop. Her troop of 13 Ambassadors had 10 Girl Scouts earn their Gold Award, which proved to be an amazing experience. Because of this, Victoria was excited to become a Gold Award mentor so that she could continue to encourage girls on their Gold Award journey.



Joan Godbold has been a member of Girl Scouts since 1985, reaching Cadette level, leading her daughter's troop and volunteering as the Older Girl Consultant in the Port Jefferson area. Joan attended the National Convention as a Council delegate in 2005 and 2008, and as a girl chaperone in 2011. Joan became a Gold Award mentor to stay involved with older girls and to encourage them to continue in Girl Scouts.



Mary Grizzle has been active in Girl Scouts since 2008. She has been a troop leader for her daughter, Team Member and Service Unit Coordinator, among other roles. When her tenure as Service Unit Coordinator ended, Mary joined the Gold Award Support Team, and became a member of the Membership Advisory Committee. She enjoys mentoring girls as they work toward earning their Gold Award.



Karin Kouril was a troop leader for both of her daughters' troops in Northport-East Northport, and currently serves as a Service Unit Team Member. She was excited to be able to guide her daughters and many others through the completion of their Gold Award. Karin is proud to be a part of the Gold Award Support Team and to encourage girls to grow and make a positive difference in their community.



Laverne Perez was a Cookie Coordinator and a Troop Leader/Advisor in West Babylon for several years. Once the 11 girls in her troop graduated, she chose to become a Gold Award mentor to inspire girls by guiding them to develop leadership skills and a lifetime of confidence. Girl Scouting is important to Laverne because she feels it is essential that girls know themselves by exploring the world.



Doryce Polanish was a Brownie Girl Scout and leader for her daughter's troop for 13 years in the Commack area until her daughter earned her Gold Award. Her favorite thing about being a Gold Award Mentor is seeing the pride and excitement each girl feels upon completing her project.



Liz Sosulski was a dedicated Girl Scout Leader and has held volunteer positions in the Smithtown, St. James and Nesconset areas that include Service Unit Coordinator, Treasurer and Organizer. A Gold Award Support Team member since 2006, Liz enjoys helping girls achieve their goals and the friendships she has formed on the team.



GOLD AWARD GIRL SCOUTS

2019-2020





Colette Albertson

Colette created online lesson plans for children with special needs at Spirit of Huntington.



Milena Albertson

Milena created backpacks for special needs children and created a website for volunteers to assist in the respite program.



Jennifer Andrews

Jennifer started a club called *Kids for Kindness* at North Ridge Scope to involve the children in various community service activities.



Samantha Barcia

Samantha built closet shelves and painted inspirational quotes on the walls of one of the classrooms at St. Patrick's Church.



Catherine Bell

Catherine created a media room at the Central Islip Recreation Center to give children in the area an alternative for a social outlet and to discourage them from joining local gangs.



Bianca Blasi

Bianca provided toys for long-term hospitalized children to enjoy.



Vanessa Blasi

Vanessa painted games on the blacktop of the playground at Vanderbilt Elementary School to encourage children to work together and prevent bullying.



Naomi Blowe

Naomi refurbished the fire pit at Camp Norwesca and built and donated five new benches.



Sarah Bock

Sarah built a music wall for Autistic children at the Developmental Disabilities Institute in both Huntington and Medford.



Maille Bowerman

In an effort to increase awareness of the importance of bee conservation, Maille built a bee garden and mason bee houses at William Paca Middle School.



Emily Broomhead

Emily made bandanas for adopted pets at Last Chance Animal Rescue, and built a storage chest for the office.



Lindsay Cahill

Lindsay built equipment racks for helmets and softball bats and created and installed inspirational message signs on the walls of the softball dugouts at Shoreham Wading River High School.



Madeline Canonico

Madeline produced a video explaining how people that are hearing impaired can use Textto-911 in case of an emergency.



Karalynn Cantwell

Karalynn wrote and published a book using stories from hurricane victims in the United States to bring awareness to the issue.



Jessica Castiglione Jessica built a planter box for the Town Hall of Lindenhurst.



Farihah Chowdhury

Farihah built a garden at the Bay Area Head Start in Shirley for the preschoolers to use and enjoy.



Rebecca Clock

Rebecca re-created a 1950s and 1960s-themed prom for Veterans who could not attend their own because they enlisted in the military.



Grace Colletti

Grace donated a bench and a sanitary stand to the Guide Dog Foundation in Smithtown.



Nicole Conlon

Nicole cleaned, repaired and restored the interactive Rain Forest & Woodland exhibit room at Sweetbriar Nature Center.



Erin Corcoran

Erin coordinated a number of clubs at Babylon High School to volunteer collectively at the Babylon Beach House Nursing Home.



Lillian Cordes

Lillian renovated a sensory garden at America's Vet/Guide Dog Foundation.



Gioianna DiGiorgio

Gioianna directed and produced an altar server training video for St. Matthew's Church.



Sara DiMaggio

Sara implemented the Sara's Sharing Shoes campaign at the Vernon School, which works to accept and store shoe donations for students in need.



Lillian Dookram

Lillian sewed, embroidered and donated 50 surgical teddy bear pillows to be used by children at Good Samaritan Hospital post-surgery.







Savannah Farrugia

Savannah created a garden area and a bench for Legion members and their families to enjoy at American Legion Hall Post 155.



Delia Ferrigno Delia reorganized the library at the Tri-CYA in Huntington.



Diana Fogel

Diana created a meditation area and garden at Temple Beth El in Huntington.



Kathleen Gennings

Kathleen taught a free summer art class for elementary school children in Babylon Town Village. The students' work was featured in an art show.



Diana Girandola

Diana renovated a bird blind at Caleb Smith State Park Preserve, so that bird watchers could enjoy the different species of birds that live in the park.



Brianna Griesman

Brianna developed and distributed a pamphlet for 8th graders in Accompsett Middle School to promote music education for High School.



Alyssa Guiang

Alyssa refurbished two classrooms at St. Louis de Montfort school for the children to use.



Gillian Hicks

Gillian partnered with the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County and built tic-tac-toe boards for their Nature Explore Classroom at Suffolk County Farm.



Caroline Hines

Caroline produced informative videos about bees, which she posted to social media. The videos help children learn about the importance of bee conservation.



Lucia Ibrahim

Lucia rebuilt the camp house building at Camp Norweska so that troops could have their meetings indoors.



Rina Gabriella Jenne

Rina built a butterfly garden that included informational and explanatory signage at the Yaphank Historical Society.



Grace Keles

Grace designed a coding game to teach and attract more young, female computer programmers into the technology industry.



Caleigh Kilmurray

Caleigh designed and built wooden educational signs for the Suffolk County Farm & Education Center.



Jennifer Kruszewski

Jennifer implemented a bi-weekly baking club at Sunrise Assisted Living facility, which is run by students from Smithtown High School West.



Kathryn Kuroda

Kathryn painted inspiring and encouraging quotes on the walls for students at Elwood-John H. Glenn High School



Allison Leute

Allison created a bicycle safety and helmet program to be administered in schools throughout the Town of Brookhaven.



Lexi Lewis

Lexi created a website called Intergral Innovation & Inspiration for You to highlight the achievements of women that have persevered in the workplace.



Katie Longobardo

Katie built and donated book cabinets for use in the religious education department at St. Patrick's Church in Bayshore.



Sofia Lorente Sofia instituted a cultural club and library at the Tri-CYA in Huntington.



Kathleen Loscalzo

Kathleen made and donated blankets for residents at the Long Island Veterans Home in Stony Brook.



Stella Mancini

Stella produced a pamphlet and educational video about the dangers of driving while distracted.



Julianne Martin

Julianne built and donated a flag retirement box and informational board at Yaphank Cemetery.



Carly McCaffrey Carly built a 9/11 First Responders Memorial at West Islip Beach.



Amanda McCague

Amanda painted a mural in partnership with with the art club at Otsego Elementary School.



























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GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD PROJECT



Arianna McMorris

Arianna renovated the dressing room and wardrobe space for the Drama Club at Shoreham-Wading River High School.



Erin Meagher

Erin built six bat houses at Heckscher State Park and created informational pamphlets regarding bat facts and myths for distribution.



Rose Meschi

Rose created a "retreat room" at RJO Intermediate School to provide a therapeutic and calming environment to help students cope with anxiety and personal issues.



Katie Moore

Katie hand-sewed a covering for the dais as well as new drapes for the local VFW Hall.



Alexandria Morrow

Alexandria implemented a bike safety program in the Babylon School District for students in grades K-6.



Stephanie Mullan

Stephanie designed signs with a Bible verse to display on the classroom doors at her school. She also made a binder for the school library with the Bible verses.



Carly Murray

Carly built and donated a portable merchandise cart for Sweet Briar Nature Center so staff could sell merchandise to visitors.



Angelina Nappi

Angelina built and donated life-sized games for the children to use at the Brookhaven Girl Scout Park.



Nicole Nicou

Nicole donated toys to Sunrise Senior Living to benefit seniors in the Memory Care Unit.



Aidan Noble

Aidan partnered with Tri-CYA to create a space with resources where students could choose a college to which they'd like to apply.



Mollie O'Hanlon

Mollie made a vegetable garden at Friends Kitchen so that low-income families had access to healthy food.



Julianna Orkin

Julianna installed a dispenser for disposable feminine hygiene products in the women's bathroom of a local domestic violence shelter.



Courtney Palumbo

Courtney gave lectures in the Shoreham-Wading River school district related to cyber awareness.



Lauren Redelman

Lauren created a handbook with rules, regulations and house sketches to be used by volunteer guides during tours at the Huntington Historical Society.



Meghan Reilly

Meghan partnered with SIBS Place to make and donate therapeutic "goodie bags" for children to enjoy while their parents administer to their sick sibling.



Mycaela Reilly

Mycaela placed recycling receptacles throughout Walt Whitman High School to raise awareness on the importance of recycling.



Sophia Sacchetti

Sophia created and donated a Decades of Music section at the Huntington Senior Center, where residents could listen to their favorite music.



Daniela Santoiemma

Daniela built activity boxes to store outdoor games for children at Helping Hands Rescue Mission.



Nicole Santucci

Nicole partnered with the Babylon Youth Program to refurbish their outdoor facility for kids to use.



Melissa Scandiffio

Melissa created and donated sensory calming bottles for children with sensory processing disorders to use at Just Kids Early Childhood Learning Center.



Emily Scarbrough

Emily made 30 chalkboards and 2 checkerboards for children in an orphanage in Uganda. She also assembled 150 birthing kits for mothers in Uganda and Zambia, which help to provide cleaner birthing stations to help lower the mortality rate of mothers during childbirth.



Hailey Schiller

Hailey built a small library in the entertainment room at the East Meadow Fire Department.



Jennifer Sebok

Jennifer taught children about healthy living at the SCOPE program at JFK Intermediate School.



Kaitlyn Seeger

Kaitlyn built and donated a toy box for sensory toys to be used by those in the Autism program at the Family Service League.







Rosanna Semetsis

Rosanna built and donated a tower for the cats awaiting adoption at Little Shelter.



Symrn Shah

Symrn hosted a book drive to collect and distribute books to underprivileged elementary schools within her community.



Sarah Shaljian

Sarah built an arbor at Heritage Park with inspiring quotes and messages painted on it for community use and enjoyment.



Renae Smith

Renae worked to renovate the church sign at St. Thomas Moore Church.



Sarah Smith

Sarah made and donated 41 bags filled with fun and engaging activities for children to use during hospital stays.



Sofia Stirpe

Sofia built wheelchair-accessible planter beds for residents at Woodhaven Nursing Home.



Nicole Strong

Nicole wrote and published a book about herself and her experiences growing up with Cerebral Palsy to inspire others with disabilities.



Anna Tast

Anna built an enclosed, sustainable garden for students attending the Mill Neck School for the Deaf to enjoy.



Caitlin Tucker

Caitlin worked to increase awareness about improving local water quality. Improving water quality will increase biodiversity at local ponds in the future.



Emma Turner

Emma built shelves at KK Athletico to hold kleats that were collected for children in need.



Natalie Ugenti

Natalie made and donated more than 200 Easter baskets for Tri-CYA and other youth organizations that help children in need.



Hailey Van Cott

Hailey refurbished a raptor enclosure for birds at Sweet Briar Nature Center. This enclosure aids in the rehabilitation of injured wildlife so they can be released back into the wild.



Alexa Vargas

Alexa built and donated two wheelchair-accessible raised garden tables for residents at the Islip Adult Day Care Center.



Diya Varma

Diya created and produced a website to promote mosquito awareness.



Sara Vozza

Sara sewed and donated hats and scarves for the homeless in her community.



Emily Waldvogel

Emily partnered with The National Ovarian Cancer Coalition and made 50 no-sew fleece blankets for ovarian cancer patients to use during and after treatment.



Erica Whitman

Erica designed a website as well as a poster and pamphlets to educate people about the importance of voting in the United States elections.



Alisa York

Alisa built a Fallen Officer Memorial at the 7th Precinct in Suffolk County.



Katrina Zabransky

Katrina renovated the library area of the First Presbyterian Church in New Hyde Park.



Deah Zajmi

Deah organized workshops in local elementary schools for students to learn more about STEM.



Erin Zipman

Erin created a verbal and artistic presentation about human trafficking and sexual violence focusing on African Americans, Native Americans, immigrants and people in the LGBT community.







ABOUT GIRL SCOUTS OF SUFFOLK COUNTY

- Largest youth-serving agency in Suffolk County
- Membership open to all girls ages 5 through 17 (Grades K 12)
- Part of a larger world of Girl Scouting through membership in Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.

- MISSION STATEMENT -

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

- VISION STATEMENT -

For every girl to realize that there are no limitations to what she can accomplish. If she can dream it, she can do it.

- MEMBERSHIP -

The council serves more than 30,000 girls and their families. There are also more than 5,000 adult members, including volunteer troop leaders, administrators, consultants, board members and employed staff specialists.



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