





Table of Contents

About the Girl Scout Gold Award	4
Welcome Message	5
Gold Award Support Team	6-7
Gold Award Girl Scouts	9-17
About Girl Scouts of Suffolk County	18

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 communities 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 would also like to thank our Gold Award Mentors, Girl Scout volunteers and families for their support in helping girls achieve this prestigious recognition. Their dedication to helping our young women earn the Girl Scout Gold Award is inspirational.

We are so proud of our exemplary Gold Award Girl Scouts, and we very much look forward to learning about their future positive impacts and successes.

Yours in Girl Scouting,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tammy S. Severino".

Tammy S. Severino
Interim President & CEO



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donna Smeland".

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.



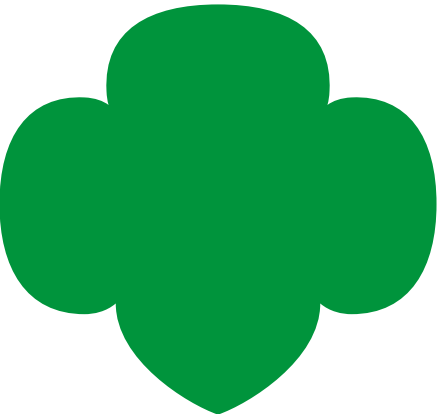
Doryce Polanish was a Brownie Girl Scout and leader for her daughter's troop for 13 years in the Commack area until her daughter earned her Gold Award. Her favorite thing about being a Gold Award Mentor is seeing the pride and excitement each girl feels upon completing her project.



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.



Rose Vermillion has been in Girl Scouts from first grade to twelfth grade. She has been a leader since 2006 with her oldest daughter, and continues to be a troop leader for her younger daughters. She was Service Unit Coordinator for 3 years, and now holds the Events Coordinator position on the service unit's team. Rose loved having the opportunity to guide Gold Award recipients towards their goal, and help motivate them to do the best they can to improve their community.

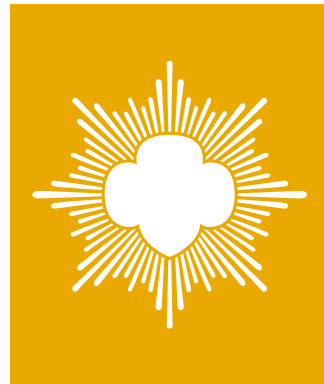


2020-2021
Gold Award Girl Scouts



Grier Adams

Grier made a YouTube video for women and teenage girls about the dangers of abusive relationships. She partnered with LI Against Domestic Violence to provide supplies for moms and children that suddenly enter into their care.



Molly Battaglia

Molly generated awareness of problems with plastics in our environment by distributing hand-outs, giving Girl Scout troop presentations and creating online lesson plans to promote eco-friendly actions.



Alexa Brucculeri

Alexa designed and painted two murals at the Nesconset Christian Church for all to enjoy.



Jessica Claflin

Jessica wrote and produced a public service video to raise awareness about the role of volunteer firefighters in the community.



Gianna Derrenbacher

Gianna renovated a bird blind structure at the children's educational camp at the Pocono Environmental Center.



Maggie Fleming

Maggie refurbished the pediatric outdoor play area at Good Samaritan Hospital in West Islip.



Lauren Callaway

Lauren beautified an outdoor area at Amercian Legion Rusy-Bohm Post 411 in Islip. She built planter boxes for flowers and updated the landscaping for Veterans to enjoy.



Catherine Carillo

Catherine renovated the flower beds to create a more beautiful environment for students and the community to enjoy at Mount Sinai High School.



Julia Carpenter

Julia implemented a compost bin system at a local community garden. She also designed a website and pamphlets to educate the community about the importance of composting.



Jenna Forestiero

Jenna coordinated and implemented a science club during the summer at Tri-CYA to encourage an interest in science among disadvantaged children.



Sophie Giles

Sophie built a charging station for cell phones at Ascension Lutheran Church so that they would be readily available for use for those in need.



Julianna Greci

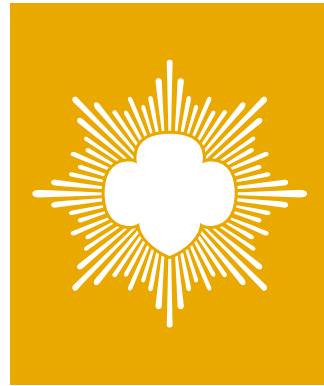
Julianna designed and built feral cat shelters and provided resources for Northport Cat Rescue.





Sofia Haskelson

Sofia implemented an eyeglass donation program and made and donated more than 400 fabric eyeglass cases for families in need.



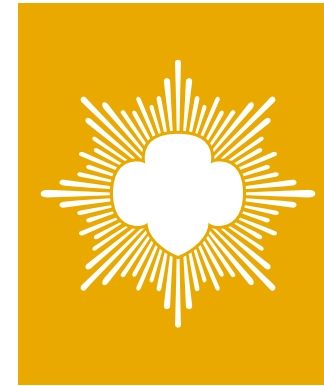
Rebecca Hoover

Rebecca assisted adaptive/special needs students at Commack High School with their social and emotional-well being by decorating pumpkins and giving them seeds to plant in the garden area next year.



Josie Hudson

Josie decorated the trees on the grounds at Little Flowers School for the children to enjoy during the winter months when they played outdoors.



Ava McGovern

Ava designed and created a sensory garden for visually impaired children.



Isabella Mule

Isabella planted a perennial garden inside the Four-Waller garden at Caumsett State Park for the community to enjoy.



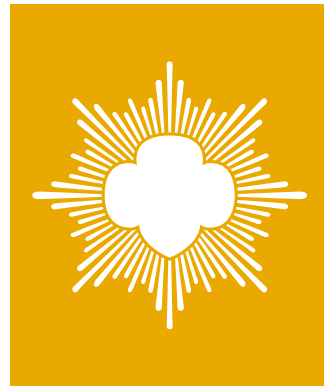
Megan Oswald

Megan renovated the Deer Park High School Stadium concession stand.



Julie Kreyborg

Julie partnered with the Southampton Animal Shelter to set cat traps for feral cats to be caught, then spayed or neutered, and then possibly put up for adoption or released.



Sarah Linsalata

Sarah promoted awareness about the importance of e-waste recycling during an e-waste drive and produced an informational video for YouTube.



Margaret Marzigliano

Margaret donated equipment for the Special Olympics team and the district's ESY program to use at practices. She also painted an inspirational mural entitled *Together We Can*.



Kessandra Pallino

Kessandra published a wildlife activity book to educate children about the native and endangered animals that live on Long Island.



Natalie Pedrazzi

Natalie implemented a program called *Greenlawn Goes Gold for Childhood Cancer Awareness*. She also created a Facebook page for related events and activities to encourage community participation.



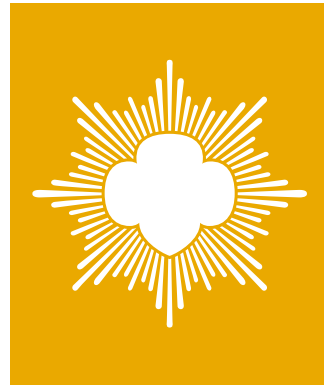
Amanda Perrone

Amanda implemented a craft club program designed to teach children about the importance of reducing, reusing, and recycling.



Kristine Pohlmann

Kristine added an herb garden to the vegetable garden at The Sisters of St. Joseph in Brentwood.



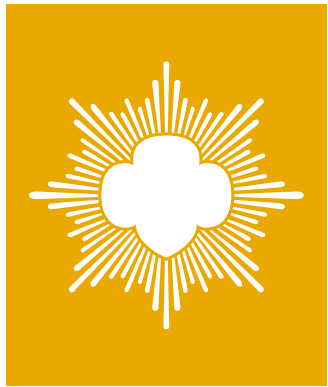
Shannon Reagon

Shannon wrote a manual on how to be a Nicotine Cessation Telephone Supporter and made two pamphlets for Stony Brook's Tobacco Cessation Program to help people quit smoking and vaping.



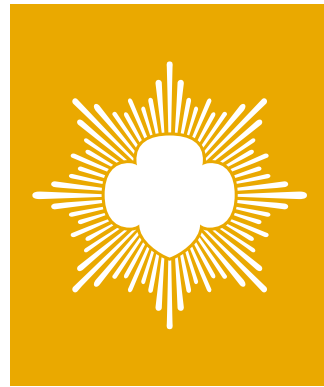
Nina Ritter

Nina designed and painted a mural to celebrate each branch of the military at the local VA hospital.



Aleena Rubino

Aleena built bird houses for the residents at the Huntington Hills Nursing home to enjoy.



Cassandra Serpico

Cassandra renovated the intake room at Family Service League by providing storage solutions, organizing items and displaying motivational quotes.



Emily Teplansky

Emily collected and provided 100 wellness packages to the health care workers and staff at Carillon Nursing Home & Rehabilitation Center due to the challenges they faced during the COVID-19 Pandemic.



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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