

**girlscouts**   
of west central florida

# Gold Award Ceremony



June 8, 2024  
Hillsborough Community College



# EVENT PROGRAM

## Welcome

Cami Gibertini, Board President

## Flag Ceremony

Troops 2300 & 2337

## National Anthem

Katie Madison, Troop 50139

## Gold Award Alumna Message

Rita Lowman

## Award Ceremony

Mary Pat King, CEO

## Gold Award Presentation

Dr. Deirdre Dixon & Yvette Segura, Board Members

## Scholarship Presentation

Jillian Painter, High Awards Manager

## Closing Ceremony

Cami Gibertini, Board President

## Retiring of the Colors

Troops 2300 & 2337



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



## Welcome to Girl Scouts of West Central Florida's 2023-2024 Girl Scout Gold Award Ceremony!

Throughout its 100 year history, the Gold Award has established its legacy as the mark of the remarkable for all the young women who achieve it. Although the name evolved from its beginnings in 1916 as the Golden Eaglet of Merit, the purpose and prestige of the Gold Award has remained firm as the highest award in Girl Scouting—a testament to the leadership and determination of every girl who earns it.

Thank you for being here to honor the outstanding achievements of these 28 young women who have continued that legacy by earning their Girl Scout Gold Award. I happily look toward the future as younger GSWCF Girl Scouts follow in their footsteps with 86 Cadettes being recognized for earning the Girl Scout Silver Award and 216 Juniors being recognized for earning the Girl Scout Bronze Award. Through the High Awards, these young leaders all demonstrate hard work and passion, and in doing so, touch lives and improve our current and future communities.

These Gold Award Girl Scouts join the alliance of women who took the initiative to assert themselves as leaders and community advocates, and make meaningful, sustainable changes locally and around the world. Please spend some time to learn about this year's inspiring young women and their Gold Award projects. I promise that you will be inspired by their dedication, perseverance, compassion and overall character. Each of these girls has overcome many obstacles in the last year in order to complete her project. They are our future business and community leaders, and they possess the resiliency, skills and ambition to overcome whatever challenges may come their way. We honor them as they now move into a new phase of their lives that will continue them on the path to becoming enthusiastic visionaries.

My sincere congratulations to all of the High Award recipients. These young women are leaders and innovative change-makers. We can all be confident that whatever their aspirations, with Girl Scouts as part of their backgrounds, these young women will continue to make us proud! I wish them the very best in their future endeavors.

Finally, I would like to recognize and thank all of the Girl Scout Gold Award mentors and parents for guiding the girls toward achieving their goals, and to the Gold Award Committee members for coaching these girls through their journey of Going Gold.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Cami Gibertini". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "C" at the beginning.

**PRESIDENT CAMI GIBERTINI**  
GSWCF Board of Directors

# GOLD AWARD ALUMNA MESSAGE



**RITA LOWMAN**—a Gold Award Girl Scout, Girl Scouts of West Central Florida Woman of Distinction, and current Board Member of Caldwell Trust Company and Encore Bank—has been blazing trails in the banking industry throughout her 45-year career.

Her professional highlights include serving as President of Pilot Bank, Chief Operating Officer of C1 Bank and managing 23 acquisitions. Elected Chair of the 2017-2018 Florida Bankers Association, Rita was the third woman in 130 years to serve in this position. She also served on several other boards including as the 2020-2021 Chair of the ReliaQuest Bowl, Past Chair of the Board of Directors of the Florida School of Banking at the

University of Florida, and the Southeastern United States Cabinet of the American Cancer Society.

Rita has published numerous articles on banking and is a requested speaker on subjects from successful management to women in the boardroom. She has earned numerous awards including Business Woman of the Year by Tampa Bay Business Journal, a Power 100, Guy King Mental Health Champion, Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce Woman of Influence and most recently, the 2023 Florida Legend by Florida Trend.

Rita's top priorities are her family and her faith. Rita and her husband Gary Sr. also enjoy HooperWill Farm, named after their sons, where the family grows Black Angus cattle.





## The Mark of the Truly Remarkable

The Girl Scout Gold Award represents the highest achievement in Girl Scouting, recognizing girls who demonstrate extraordinary leadership through remarkable TAKE ACTION projects that have a sustainable impact in their communities and beyond. In approximately 100 years, one million girls have earned the Gold Award or its equivalent. University research indicates that adding the Gold Award to a college application is a critical element in the admissions decision process.

- ▶ According to the 2012 National Girl Scout Alumnae Study, Gold Award Girl Scouts place significantly higher importance on having a successful career, financial security and being leaders, and they are more likely to believe that they are achieving their life's ambitions.
- ▶ A number of colleges and universities recognize the achievements and leadership abilities of Gold Award Girl Scouts by establishing scholarship programs for them. Girl Scouts of the USA publishes the scholarships for Girl Scouts at [girlscouts.org/scholarships](https://www.girlscouts.org/scholarships) and all Gold Award Girl Scouts and their families are strongly encouraged to check it out. Seniors in high school can also apply for a council scholarship.
- ▶ A Girl Scout who has earned her Gold Award immediately enters at a higher pay grade in any U.S. military branch.
- ▶ Gold Award Girl Scouts are acknowledged by many government, state, local, and non-profit organizations.

Through sustainable Girl Scout Silver and Gold Award projects, girls find the root cause of community issues and take action to improve lives now and in the future!



MAEGAN HEINK



EMILY CONNER

## Ann Hensler Scholarships

The Ann Hensler Scholarships are in honor of Ann Hensler, a past GSWCF Executive Director and a 1992 Woman of Distinction who was with GSWCF for approximately 10 years. Ann passed away from cancer in 1999, and in her will she donated funds to be used as scholarships for Gold Award Girl Scouts in recognition of their accomplishments.



EMILY CONNER

## GSWCF Scholarship

Funded by ad purchases in the Gold Award Ceremony program, the GSWCF Scholarship is an opportunity for Gold Award Girl Scouts in the West Central Florida area. This scholarship provides Gold Award Girl Scouts with funds to help support their higher education.

# GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS girl scouts gold award



**PHOEBE ANCER** 

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY**

## **Learning Gate Community School Friendship Bench**

Phoebe addressed the issue of social isolation among elementary school children by building a Friendship Bench at Learning Gate Community School. Inspired by her own experiences of feeling left out during playtime, Phoebe collaborated with school staff members to establish a designated space where children could go to seek companionship or a playmate. Through presentations and skits, she effectively communicated the purpose and function of the Friendship Bench to all second-grade students at the elementary school, emphasizing its role as a safe space for students to build their social skills and make new friends.

To promote her project, Phoebe created a website and Instagram account. She also created a video demonstrating the practical use of the Friendship Bench, which was posted on YouTube. Phoebe's project will be sustained by the kindergarten team lead, who will integrate the initiative into the school's annual curriculum. Through these efforts, Phoebe's project will continue to positively impact elementary school children, helping them build social connections and navigate playground dynamics with confidence.

Phoebe graduated from Land O' Lakes High School in 2024.



**MACEY CLAY** 

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY**

## **A Greenhouse for Green Thumbs**

Macey's project aimed to raise awareness of the negative effects of climate change. She conducted workshops for younger Girl Scouts and Future Farmers of America (FFA) students at Randall Middle School. Workshops included fun activities such as environmental scavenger hunts and games, as well as the construction of mini greenhouses to educate participants on the importance of reducing greenhouse gases. These workshops aimed to empower individuals to take small steps in their communities to become better stewards of the environment.

With the funds Macey raised through hosting the workshops, she purchased a large greenhouse for the FFA and agricultural program at Randall Middle School, giving back to the program that inspired her own passion for plants and agriculture. To promote her project, Macey created posts for the Randall FFA Facebook page and was featured in the Osprey Observer newspaper. Macey's project will be sustained by the agricultural students at Randall Middle School.

Macey will graduate from Newsome High School in 2025.



# GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS



**EMMA CLOUGH**   
**Human Foosball**

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY**

Emma focused on the issue of inadequate physical activity among children, which contributes to rising rates of child obesity, by constructing a 'human foosball' game at Camp Dorothy Thomas. Inspired by her passion for sports and exercise, Emma collaborated with camp staff to design a fun and engaging activity that would encourage kids to meet the recommended 60 minutes of daily exercise, all while having fun and making friends.

To promote her project, Emma created two YouTube videos—a time-lapse of her team building the Human Foosball game, and a video demonstrating how to use the equipment and play the game. She also created a brochure and installed a sign about the game, which highlighted the benefits of exercise and provided activity recommendations. More than 2,500 camp attendees will benefit from this game each year.

Emma graduated from Newsome High School in 2024.



**EMILY CONNER**   
**Astraea Zine Project**

**PINELLAS COUNTY**

Emily's project aimed to amplify the voices of girls around the world who do not have the resources or ability to express and share their experiences. Emily created a platform for anyone who identifies as female or non-binary from the ages of 10-to 21 to share their creativity through works of art and writing. Emily created a beautiful website with over 2,000 visitors since she began, an Instagram account with over 300 followers, and a team of ten girls who help share and design the zine. The 50-page-long first issue was entitled "Goddess." Emily will continue working to sustain the creative platform for years to come.

Emily graduated from St. Petersburg Collegiate High School in 2024.



**PRISHA DESHMUKH**   
**Peace Corner**

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY**

Prisha tackled the issue of mental health struggles among children by establishing a Peace Corner at Brandon Montessori School. Prisha filled the Peace Corner with posters, books and toys geared towards mental health and social and emotional learning. With the help of teachers, Prisha presented to more than 50 students to communicate the purpose of the Peace Corner and to equip young children with coping strategies to manage their mental health.

To promote her project, Prisha used multiple communication channels, including the Brandon Montessori School newsletter, social media, and presentations to students and school faculty. The Peace Corner has become a permanent spot in the school for children to use for years to come, ensuring the longevity of Prisha's mental health awareness initiative.

Prisha will graduate from Newsome High School in 2025.



# GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS girl scouts gold award



**ALYSSA DUFORT** 

## See Through My Lens

Alyssa's project spread awareness of hidden disabilities such as autism spectrum disorder and sensory processing disorder. Inspired by her own experience of having autism spectrum disorder, OCD, ADHD, and being misunderstood and labelled for behaviors she could not control, Alyssa's project focused on sharing what hidden disabilities feel like, rather than how the behaviors appear. Alyssa hosted both in-person and virtual presentations for staff at Joyful Motion Pediatric Therapy Clinic and members of an employees with disabilities resource group, to promote awareness, understanding and empathy towards individuals with hidden disabilities.

To promote her project, Alyssa created a website where she uploaded recordings of her presentations and provided a space for visitors to anonymously submit feedback, personal stories and questions. Alyssa also created social media posts that led viewers to her website.

Alyssa graduated from Solid Rock Community School in 2023.

PASCO COUNTY



**MAEGAN HEINK** 

## The Period Project

Maegan's project addressed period poverty and the stigma surrounding menstruation. Many girls, particularly from lower income households, do not have access to feminine hygiene products. These girls are also less likely to be educated on menstruation and feminine hygiene. To combat this, Maegan worked with a local organization to donate 200 period pouches to girls in need. The pouches contained period products and positive affirmations. Maegan also hosted two movie nights, showing a film that told a story about girlhood and growing up, and created educational social media posts to reduce the stigma surrounding periods.

Maegan promoted her message through the social media posts on Instagram, and by word-of-mouth. She spoke with friends, Girl Scouts and often strangers she met at events in her community.

Maegan graduated from Harrison School of the Arts in 2024.

POLK COUNTY



**JESSICA HILL** 

## Cracker Country Garden Fence Restoration

Jessica was disheartened to witness vandalism and neglect around historical sites, so she advocated for the preservation of natural history. Her efforts were two-fold. First, Jessica informed her community about ways to help preserve natural history by conducting interactive presentations at local libraries and daycare centers, as well as at Cracker Country during Girl Scout Fest, reaching more than 500 people.

Secondly, Jessica collaborated with others to rebuild a deteriorating garden fence at Cracker Country, further showcasing her dedication to preserving natural history.

Jessica graduated from Tampa Bay Technical High School in 2023.

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

# GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS



**MOLLY JOINER** 🌻 🌻 🌻

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY**

## **Safe Transportation for Those in Need**

Molly addressed the issues of a lack of both exercise and transportation options in her community by providing used bicycles to those in need, particularly veterans and underprivileged children. Recognizing the importance of exercise and the prevalence of unused bikes, she formed a partnership with Bikes for Christ to repurpose 20 used bikes back into the community. By collecting donated bikes, repairing them to ride-ready condition, and delivering them to those in need, she made a positive impact in her community.

Molly promoted her project by creating a bike riding safety video and a flyer, which included bike safety tips and the QR code to her video. Her video was shared on social media and the flyers were distributed to the public and posted at bicycle stores. Bikes for Christ also assisted in promoting her efforts by sharing the safety video. Molly's younger sister will continue Molly's efforts by collecting and restoring used bikes and donating them to Bikes for Christ annually.

Molly graduated from Newsome High School in 2024.



**KAMERYN KNOWLES** 🌻 🌻 🌻

**MARION COUNTY**

## **Beat the Heat**

Kameryn's project combats sudden heat-related illnesses, such as heat stroke, which is the third most common cause of death in student athletes. After witnessing the severity of heat-related illnesses firsthand, Kameryn recognized the need for prevention resources. To tackle this issue, she developed Keep Cool Kits. The kits contained items such as instant ice packs, hydration drink mixes, water, and sunscreen, which aimed to provide people with the tools to manage heat-related emergencies effectively.

To promote her project, Kameryn created a website that housed all project materials, including a video presentation; a Keep Cool Kit item checklist; a downloadable brochure; and information about heat-related illnesses and how to prevent them.

Kameryn graduated from West Port High School in 2024.



**MILLAY KRAL** 🌻 🌻 🌻

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY**

## **Robinson Mural Project**

Millay's project aimed to promote positivity within her school, Robinson High School. Millay noticed that students from surrounding communities looked down on her school. This confused Millay, as she viewed her school as a beacon of diversity and inclusion. That's why, with the help of her friends and principal, Millay brightened up the halls of her school by designing and painting, "Unity and Diversity," a colorful indoor mural to showcase the greatness of Robinson High School.

To promote her project, Millay created an Instagram account that she used to document her mural's progress. Robinson High School newspaper staff helped promote Millay's project by publishing an interview with her. Millay was also interviewed by ABC News about the mural. The mural club that Millay created made plans to paint additional murals at Robinson High School.

Millay graduated from Robinson High School in 2024.

# GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS girl scouts gold award



## NEVAEH MOTES Project Monarch Butterflies

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

Nevaeh addressed the decline of the Monarch butterfly population by building two Monarch butterfly habitats in collaboration with the Apollo Beach Garden. These habitats, one of which was an ADA-compliant raised bed, provided safe spaces for Monarchs to thrive amidst habitat loss. Nevaeh extended her impact by planting community gardens in neighborhoods such as Covington Gardens, Island Walk and Waterset.

Nevaeh promoted her project and the importance of Monarch butterflies by hosting presentations at multiple after-school youth group meetings, camps and events. She created social media posts and distributed an informational flyer to local libraries and the Chamber of Commerce. The gardens Nevaeh created will be enjoyed by butterflies and her community for years to come.

Nevaeh will graduate from Winthrop College Preparatory Academy in 2025.



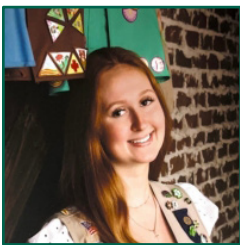
## ANNELIESE MURCH Camp Wildwood Equestrian Safety & Activity Enhancements

PASCO COUNTY

Anneliese's project equipped girls with the confidence and knowledge to become better equestrians. Anneliese knew that confidence on the ground translated into confidence in the saddle, so she focused on boosting girls' comfort levels around horses through educational videos and practical skill-building activities. Anneliese created two videos: one on general horse safety and another to familiarize girls with Camp Wildwood's equestrian program. Anneliese also created two interactive games to enhance girls' skills in the barn.

To promote her project, Anneliese placed QR codes, which led to her educational videos, around her family's barn and at Camp Wildwood. Anneliese also hosted an informational booth at Girl Scout Fest, at which she taught girls how to identify different breeds of horses, horse safety tips and basic horse facts. The videos Anneliese created will be used at Camp Wildwood to educate girls for years to come.

Anneliese graduated from Sunlake High School in 2023.



## OLIVIA ONDASH Pick Me Up, Buttercup

PINELLAS COUNTY

Hammock Park in Dunedin, Florida was Olivia's happy place, but she noticed that park goers were not disposing of trash correctly. Concerned about the negative impact that improperly discarded trash had on the wildlife at Hammock Park, Olivia collaborated with the Friends of the Hammocks (FOTH) to implement a sustainable solution. With the help of a friend, Olivia built and installed two posts equipped with frames to hold waste baskets, which encouraged park visitors to dispose of trash correctly and collect litter as they strolled through the park.

To promote her project, Olivia gave a presentation to the FOTH Board, securing its support and collaboration. Olivia also created a social media campaign to help spread awareness of her project and the negative impacts of littering. She used the hashtag #pickmeupbuttercup to challenge viewers to go outside and document their own participation in a park cleanup.

Olivia graduated from Dunedin High School in 2023.



# GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS



**ELLE ORCHARD**   
**Heart-Sewn Heroes**

**PINELLAS COUNTY**

Elle's project advocated for children impacted by domestic violence. Recognizing the trauma and disruption domestic violence causes children, Elle wanted to offer those children comfort and support. Elle collaborated with CASA's Family Justice Center to distribute hand-sewn dolls to children who visited the center. Elle hosted a workshop in which she taught attendees how to make the dolls and the long-term effects of witnessing domestic violence as a child.

To promote her project, Elle created a domestic violence educational video that she shared with her community. Elle also created flyers, raising awareness of domestic violence and its impact on children, which she distributed to classmates at her school. Elle graduated from St. Petersburg High School in 2024 continue working with the activities coordinator to plan events and set up time slots for visitors.

Elle graduated from St. Petersburg High School in 2024.



**EMERSEN PILON**   
**The Plastic Problem of Tampa Bay**

**PINELLAS COUNTY**

Emersen's project educated her community about the negative impacts of micro-plastics in Tampa Bay. Emersen collaborated with her school's service club and environmental club, and local Girl Scout troops, to host two beach cleanups. Emersen also hosted a workshop with a Girl Scout troop at which she taught the girls how to make reusable bags from old T-shirts and educated them on the importance of using reusable plastics rather than single-use plastics such as straws, utensils and water bottles. The Girl Scouts who attended her workshop earned their Climate Change Badge.

Emersen spread her message by speaking with clubs at her school and local Girl Scout troops, and by hosting an educational and action-oriented workshop. The environmental club at Emersen's school agreed to sustain her project by educating students on single-use plastics and advocating for reusable options.

Emersen graduated from St. Petersburg High School in 2024.



**LUCIA POPOVICH**   
**Sun Ready!**

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY**

Lucia's project raised awareness of melanoma among her community, specifically the youth. In collaboration with local organizations and camps, Lucia strived to educate young people about the seriousness of melanoma and the importance of sun protection. Through engaging presentations and interactive activities, she reached more than 100 children in her community. Lucia surveyed her audience to gauge the effectiveness of her educational tools and ensure her message resonated with them.

To promote her project and the importance of sun protection, Lucia created posters, booklets and flyers, which were distributed to local church camps, YMCA locations and Girl Scout units. Lucia also shared her project's initiatives, information regarding her fundraising events and presentations, and melanoma facts on social media, furthering her awareness initiative.

Lucia graduated from Winthrop College Preparatory Academy in 2024.

# GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS girl scouts gold award



## BIANCA RAISES Save Snail Mail

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

Inspired by her love of writing and mailing letters, Bianca's project addressed the dwindling practice of mailing written letters, particularly among today's youth. Bianca noticed that many young people in her community did not know how to address an envelope or send physical mail. To combat this, Bianca collaborated with the Hillsborough Transportation Department, after-school groups and local Girl Scout troops to host presentations that taught young people how to properly address and send mail.

To promote her project, Bianca hosted "Positive Postcard" workshops. During these workshops, the youth in her community wrote positive affirmations that were then distributed to more than 100 members in her community. Bianca also created a YouTube video that outlined the proper way to address an envelope, which was shared throughout her community.

Bianca graduated from Newsome High School in 2024.



## BRYNLEE RHODES Everyone Needs a Healthy Smile!

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

Brynlee's project addressed the issue of a lack of dental hygiene supplies among unhoused individuals and families in need. In collaboration with Metropolitan Ministries and local Girl Scout troops, Brynlee tackled this issue by organizing community service opportunities to donate dental care supplies. With the supplies she collected, Brynlee donated more than 225 dental care kits to those in need.

Brynlee also hosted informational sessions at which she educated younger Girl Scouts about the importance of keeping a healthy smile. Girl Scouts who attended received a 'healthy living' patch for their vests to display that they received dental hygiene training. Brynlee believes everyone deserves a healthy smile, which is why she plans to continue donating dental care supplies to those in need.

Brynlee will graduate from Bloomingdale High School in 2025.



## ISABEL SANTIAGO REYES Water Conservation Project

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

In response to Florida's record-breaking heat and anticipated water shortages, Isabel's project helped make Girl Scout Camp Dorothy Thomas more water efficient and educated her community on the importance of water conservation. To tackle her water conservation efforts at Camp Dorothy Thomas, Isabel worked with the camp ranger to enhance water efficiency by installing low-flow shower heads, shower timers and rain barrels. Isabel also created and distributed an informational flyer and hosted educational workshops for Girl Scouts. She reached more than 220 individuals.

To promote her project, Isabel created a website, YouTube channel and Facebook page. She used those platforms to educate the public on ways to conserve water and the importance of water efficiency. Her workshops were recorded and uploaded to her online platforms, furthering her mission to educate the public.

Isabel will graduate from Newsome High School in 2027.

# GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS



**JULIETTE SELMAN** 🌻 🌻 🌻

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY**

## **Humane Society- Neonatal Intensive Care Unit**

Juliette's project increased the survival rate of newborn puppies and kittens in animal shelters. When a newborn animal is brought to a shelter, often the mother is not present. This causes life threatening challenges as newborn rescues depend on their mother's body heat and care for survival. To combat this issue, Juliette worked with the Humane Society of Tampa Bay to create a neonatal intensive care unit and raised money to donate an incubator, oxygen unit, nebulizer, blankets and more.

Juliette promoted her project on various social media platforms, distributed flyers throughout her community, and hosted a booth at GSWCF's STEMapalooza event. Juliette's project was also highlighted on the Humane Society of Tampa Bay's social media channels as well as on FOX 13. The Humane Society has reported more than 200 rescue animals have been saved with Juliette's NICU, and more will be saved in the future.

Juliette will graduate from Henry B. Plant High School in 2026.



**ISABELLA SHAFER** 🌻 🌻 🌻

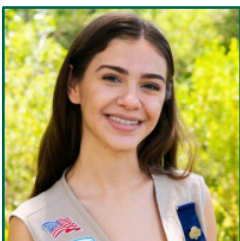
**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY**

## **Code Red**

Isabella addressed the issue of limited access to menstrual products among young girls, particularly those from lower-income households, by donating period kits to Tomlin Middle School. Isabella worked with the school's nurses to distribute more than 100 period kits to students. These period kits contained various menstrual products such as pads, liners, cleansing wipes and sanitizer, as well as a motivational card. Isabella ensured that students had easy access to essential feminine items at school so that they could manage their periods comfortably and confidently.

Isabella used various communication channels to promote her project, including social media and traditional posters and pamphlets. To end the stigma surrounding menstruation, Isabella created informational posters discussing common menstrual issues, hormonal changes and menstrual cycle symptoms, which were posted throughout Tomlin Middle School. She also created a YouTube video detailing her project's goals, which was shared on social media.

Isabella graduated from Newsome High School in 2024.



**GRACE SIGUENZA** 🌻 🌻

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY**

## **Project Keep on Reading**

Grace's project increased literacy among children in low-income neighborhoods. She recognized that many children faced difficulties reading due to not having access to books because of financial hardships. To combat this issue, Grace established a "Little Free Library" at a local elementary school. She worked with the school's administration to place the free library in an area that was easily accessible and visible to students. Grace's library allowed more than 600 students and community members to freely exchange books.

To promote her project, Grace distributed flyers within the school and surrounding areas, that included information about her "Little Free Library" and the importance of literacy. The school in which the library is located agreed to take on responsibility of the library, ensuring that it continues to serve as a valuable resource for students.

Grace graduated from Wharton High School in 2023.



# GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS girl scouts gold award



## GABRIELA SOSA **The Hippy Hoppity Habitat**

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

Gabriela's project addressed the issue of declining native frog populations in Florida due to human-caused habitat loss and competition from invasive frog species. To tackle this problem, Gabriela created frog habitats at Girl Scout Camp Dorothy Thomas. Next to these frog habitats, Gabriela added a sign with a QR code that led individuals to her website.

Her website informed viewers about the importance of native frogs in Florida, the problems native frogs face and how people can build their own frog habitats.

To promote her project, Gabriela created a poster for the camp lodge so that visitors could learn interesting facts about Florida native frogs and where to find the frog habitats she built. Gabriela also made 50 bookmarks with the QR code to her website, which she distributed at Riverview Library and Panther Trace Clubhouse.

Gabriela graduated from Newsome High School in 2024.



## JOSIE STROMGREN **Adopt a L.A.M.B. Family Impacted by Pediatric Cancer**

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

To address the financial struggles faced by families caring for children with cancer, Josie collaborated with the Lawrence A. Martucci Benefit Corp. (L.A.M.B.) to raise funds to purchase essential household items for these families. Additionally, she organized multiple toy collections, conducted educational workshops on cancer prevention and research, and created informational pamphlets to raise awareness about L.A.M.B. and pediatric cancer

research.

To promote her project, Josie created and distributed pamphlets including information about L.A.M.B., pediatric cancer and her fundraising efforts. She also created a website and actively engaged with the community by speaking at Girl Scout leader meetings and conducting educational workshops. Josie also collaborated with Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital, where she met with social workers to distribute her informational pamphlets to families in need.

Josie will graduate from Newsome High School in 2025.



## HALEY THOMPSON **Badge in a Box**

PINELLAS COUNTY

Haley's project helped kids get active outdoors. As technology advances, children are becoming increasingly disconnected from nature due to excessive screen time. Recognizing the importance of outdoor activities for childhood development, Haley created 'Badge in a Box,' a program that contained instructions for engaging children, aged 5 to 18, in outdoor activities. Additionally, she established online resources including

a website and a Facebook group, on which the activity instructions were shared.

Haley promoted her project within the Girl Scout community and to nature enthusiasts around the world. Her project gained significant international attention, with more than 1,800 members from various countries joining the Facebook group.

Haley graduated from Northeast High School in 2024.

# GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS



**CHLOE WILSON** 🌻 🌻 🌻

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY**

## **Orchestra Outreach Initiative: Fostering Musical Engagement**

Chloe's project increased participation rates in orchestra programs and educated students about the physical and mental benefits of playing an instrument. Chloe conducted presentations at local middle and elementary schools, during which she addressed the physical, mental and social benefits of joining an orchestra program. To further engage the students, Chloe performed a duet with one of her classmates. In total, Chloe reached

73 students.

To promote her project, Chloe created a video presentation that was posted on YouTube and shared across various social media channels. In the video, Chloe discussed the benefits of orchestra participation and emphasized the friendships and connections formed within the ensemble. The video she created helped spread her project's message to a larger audience, furthering her awareness initiative.

Chloe will graduate from Bloomingdale High School in 2025.



**LAILA WOOD** 🌻 🌻 🌻

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY**

## **Preparing for Disasters, One Pet at a Time**

Laila helped to ensure pets' safety during natural disasters. To combat the problem of pets being left behind or lost during storm evacuations due to last-minute preparation, Laila collaborated with the Humane Society of Tampa Bay to create pet disaster relief kits. The kits included items such as bowls, food, toys, collars, leashes, cat litter, and disposable litter boxes. She also created a brochure that highlighted the importance of being prepared for natural disasters, including how to prepare and find a safe location for pets during a natural disaster. In total, Laila donated 72 pet disaster relief kits in her community.

To promote her project, Laila created a YouTube video detailing how to assemble a pet disaster relief kit at home, ensuring accessibility to information beyond her local community. Her video was shared across various social media platforms.

Laila graduated from Newsome High School in 2024.



**EMILIE YOUMANS** 🌻 🌻 🌻

**MARION COUNTY**

## **Sensory Immersion**

Emilie's project advocated for autistic children and young adults. Emilie partnered with the Marion Therapeutic Riding Association (MTRA) to create a sensory trail for its students. Engaging children with autism in sensory activities had several benefits including, helping to stimulate the brain; creating neural pathways and improving sensory processing systems; improving social skills; and improving coordination and fine motor skills. Emilie's sensory trail allowed students to immerse themselves in a sensory experience with different ways to use their five senses.

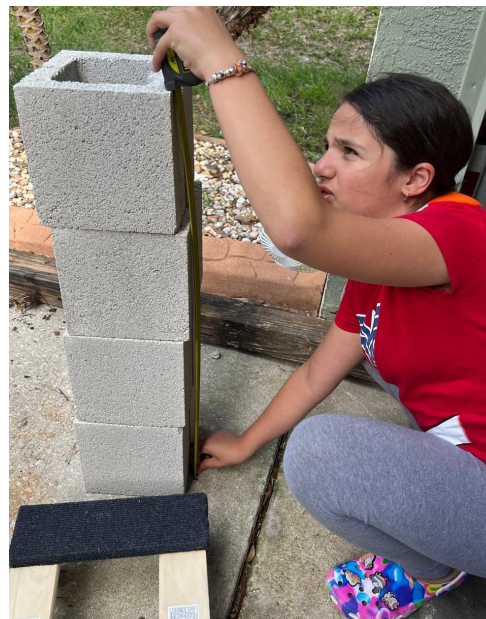
To promote her project, Emilie created an Instagram and Facebook page to spread her project's message, share information about the trail, post updates on the building process, and educate people on the importance of sensory immersion among autistic individuals. The trail Emilie created has become a permanent trail at the MTRA facility and will benefit students for years to come.

Emilie graduated from West Port High School in 2024.



# BRONZE AWARD RECIPIENTS

girl scouts  
bronze award



Accomplishment



# BRONZE AWARD RECIPIENTS



The Girl Scout Bronze Award is the highest award a Girl Scout **Junior** can achieve. Girls earning this award have DISCOVERED issues, CONNECTED with their community, developed leadership skills, and TAKEN ACTION to advocate for their passions. They have each given 20 hours, and most gave many more, towards their award. This award is worked on as a troop. We congratulate them for their dedication and hours of hard work!

Rocio Agostini  
Avery Abels  
Camila Acevedo  
Aleena Adams  
Linley Aldrich  
Ellyanna Allen  
Alyssa Allen  
Phoebe Baker  
Alva Balys  
Ava Banchak  
Emma Banchak  
Autumn Barger  
Blythe Barth  
Averi Bauer  
Samantha Bechard  
Sophia Bee  
Matti Belle-Kaspar  
Juliet Berman  
Kylie Binegar  
Brooklyn Blair  
Leah Bloznalis  
Autumn Bolander  
Charlotte Booth  
June Bowden  
Kaylanee Bradley  
Sofia Brongo  
Madalyn Bryant  
Hazel Burgess  
Aubrey Campbell  
Alexa Cardinale  
Eliana Carrillo  
Sophia Carter  
Sophia Castillo  
Lily Castro  
Amira Chaloune  
Norallynn Chapman  
Isabel Churchill  
Caroline Clark  
Emma Clark  
Holly Connor  
Emma Cooper  
Tallalua Corner  
Mary Correa  
Emmalee Croasmun  
Audrey Cross  
Chelsey Daugherty  
Lauren Dauman  
Savannah-Rose Davis  
Aliza Dean  
Fiona Dent  
Sofia Deras  
Ellanie Diaz  
Madison Dion  
Samantha Dion

Bryce Dombrowsky  
Genevieve Dryden-Tepper  
Isabel Encarnacion  
Beatrice Estaling  
Aubree Evans  
Kayla Farrell  
Isabella Fernandez  
Sophia Figgins  
Gabby Foley  
Olivia Galarza  
Eleni Galasso  
Penelope Galasso  
Anastasia Garcia  
Isabella Garcia  
Kailyn Gardner  
Rylan Gaul  
Brianna George  
Isabel Gorman  
Isabella Graves  
Sarah Green  
Hadley Groves  
Alyssa Hamblen  
Riley Hand  
Kandace Harris  
Brooklyn Hart  
Brannagh Hayes  
Aviana Hernandez  
Alexandra Hernandez  
Hanna Higgins  
Audrey Hoopes  
McKenna Houston  
Skylar Hurst  
Olivia Incorvaia  
Hailey Ishihara  
Syrena Ismail  
Harper Jackson  
Katalina Jimenez  
Jocelyn Johnson  
Devyn Kendall  
Aleena Khurram  
Katie Klein  
Julia Kluis  
Ellee Kluis  
Madison Knezich  
Alison Knowles  
Kaylee Kovich  
Catie Grace Krampert  
Adyson Kras  
Rosa Labonte  
Grace Ledward-Moore  
Grace Legg  
London Levison  
Emma Liddick  
Emma Livingston

Taralyn Logan  
Skylar Louvon  
Aislinn Lynch  
Quinn Malone  
Alexandria Mamczak  
Paige Markwardt  
Mackenzie Martin  
Allison Matthews  
Kelsey McCallister  
Harper McCants  
Madeline McEachern  
Miranda McKinnon  
Allison Mead  
Madeline Mersinger  
Sanibel Miller  
Kinley Miller  
Claudia Mills  
Susie Mills  
Lucia Molina  
Delilah Money  
Leigha Monfett  
Ellis Monfred  
Elizabeth Mooneyhan  
Alessandra Morales-Coll  
Sophia Moreno  
Emmalyn Mullaney  
Sama Musa  
Sophia Mylarski  
Chloe Navarro  
Ivy Navarro  
Avery Newell  
Madison O'dell  
Liliana Ortiz  
Hailey O'Steen  
Leighton Owens  
Laura Parrish  
Aryana Patel  
Teagan Patterson  
Mia Pecoraro  
Lia Pellegrini  
Mikaela Perez-Viana  
Ashlynn Perry  
Alex Peterson  
Isabella Porter  
Sofia Porter  
Mia Provencher  
Gianna Raymond  
Leilah Razaqyar  
Charlotte Reid  
Brady Rich  
Emily Roach  
Chloe Roberts  
Ava Rohde  
Isabella Rose

Jalynn Ross  
Mila Ruhe  
Juliana Ruiz  
Delaney Rumbaugh  
Jordan Sanders  
Mia Santana  
Olivia Sardo  
Olivia Sharma  
Astrid Sheppard  
Zoey Sherburn  
Emersyn Singletary  
Katelyn Sluder  
Cora Snedeker  
Suri Solano Sanchez  
Taylor Solley  
Riley Spaniolo  
Carson Spaniolo  
Natalie Springer  
Nina Stefanelli-Weiss  
Sydney Stelinski  
Sophia Stern  
Lillian Stoneburner  
Gemma Stubbs  
Allison Sweeney  
Gabriella Szmigiel  
Leah Tatum  
Charlotte Taylor  
Lizzie Tedford  
Layla Thayer  
Andrea Thomas  
Adalyn Thompson  
AmyLee Tirado  
Mia Todd  
Annabelle Torres  
Julliette Truong  
Ryanna Turner  
Ryann Udagawa  
Kira Vollmer  
Rylie Waddell  
Katelyn Weclaw  
Kate Welles  
Sofia Wheaton  
Linden Whitman  
Aubrey Wileman  
Reese Wilson  
Rio Yeager  
Alexa Young  
Emma Young  
Eiliyah Zafrullah

*List reflects girls  
who completed their  
projects between  
April 1, 2023- March 31, 2024*



# SILVER AWARD RECIPIENTS

girl scouts  
silver award





# SILVER AWARD RECIPIENTS



The Girl Scout Silver Award is the highest award a Girl Scout **Cadette** can achieve. Girls earning this award have DISCOVERED issues, CONNECTED with their community, DEVELOPED leadership skills, and TAKEN ACTION to advocate for their passions. They have each given 50 hours, and most gave many more, towards their award. We congratulate the girls below for their dedication and hours of hard work!

Vivian Abston  
Lauren Alberico  
Khloe Ammeraal  
Destiny Anderson  
Emily Aylward  
Grace Rebekah Baer  
Julia Bailey  
Amalia Barro  
Zoe Beauregard  
Katrina Berg  
Amber Bouchie  
Lauren Brill  
Teagan Carroll  
Kareena Chatani  
Aubrey Close  
Allison Cozier  
Mariana Cuevas  
Aubrey Cuza  
Calista Dalyander  
Emma Deal  
Carleigh Dtieri  
Alannah Duncan  
Lillian Faulkner  
Ella Fedorchak  
Ava Fedorchak  
Alexandra Fiore  
Gianna Floyd  
Gianna Foxton  
Ellie Garland-Cook  
Fallon Glover  
Isabella Gonzales  
Alice Habgood

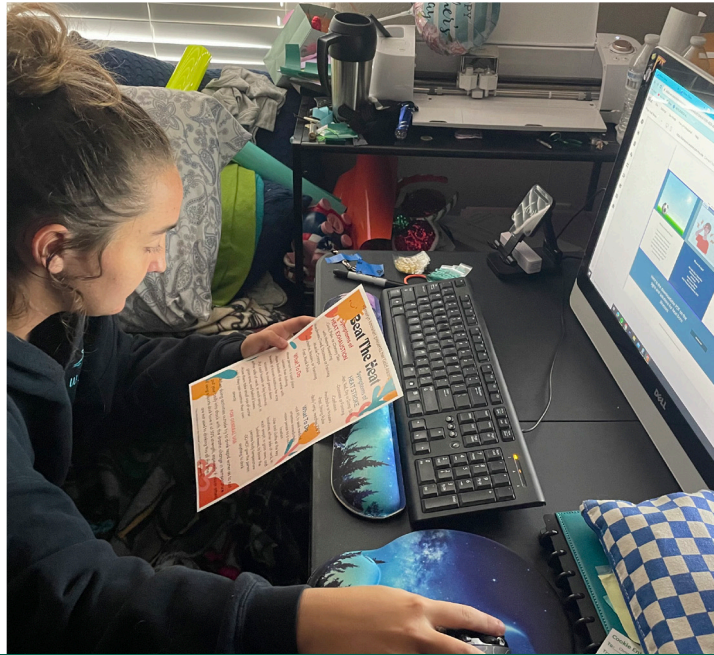
Dagny Haggerty  
Adriana Herbert  
Kennedy Hinson  
Emma Hoffman  
Lily Hoffman  
Harper Houston  
Leah James  
Celeste Jenne  
Delaney Kane  
Arianna Kasarjian  
Summer Kaufman  
Abbey Kuespert  
Madalyn Lance  
Sophia Litwiller  
Wynter Luby  
Calissa Lyons  
Christiana Lyons  
Natalie Martin  
Abigail McCarthy  
Audrey Missonis  
Anaëlle Morency  
Charlotte Morris  
Eleanor Nartker  
Olivia Nelson  
Amia Paige  
Bailey Pate  
Sabella Phillips  
Caroline Pilon  
Kayla Rawls  
Malia Rezac  
Serena Roberts  
Bailey Robinson

Anjoulie Rodriguez  
Molly Rosario  
Mariatu Search  
Naisha Shah  
Siena Squires  
Haley Stang  
Ashtyn Thompson  
Eden Thrasher  
Sofia Torres  
Olivia Tourtillott  
Evelyn Turner  
Avery Turner  
Lauren Vance  
Aubrie Walker  
Myla Walker  
Olivia White  
Madelyn Wilhelm  
Valentia Wilson  
Roisin Wilson  
Jessica Wolfertz  
Hailey Wong  
Fiore Yebba

*List reflects girls  
who completed their  
projects between  
April 1, 2023- March 31, 2024*



# GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS IN ACTION





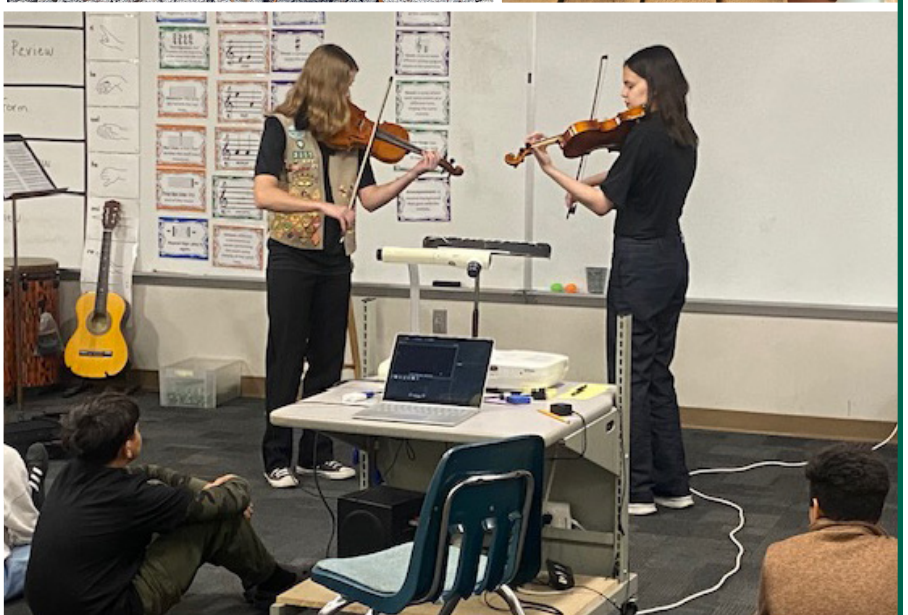
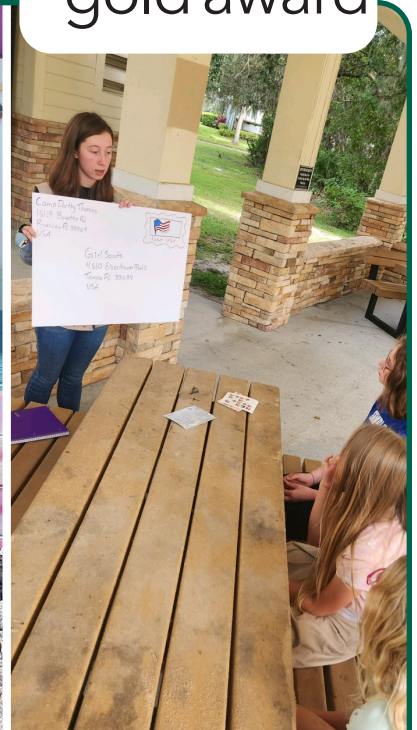




# GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS IN ACTION











Congratulations, Lucia

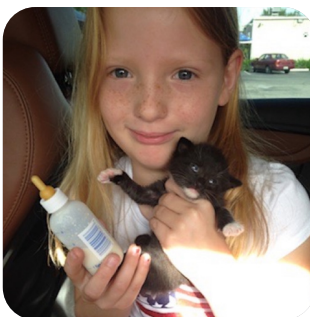
We are so proud of you! Your determination and commitment to things will take you far.

Love,  
Mom, Dad and Dylan



Congratulations, Brynlee

Keep using your resources wisely and giving your time, love, and attention to the community. So proud of you!



Congratulations,  
Juliette

We are so very proud of you and you continue to exceed all of our expectations. We love you so much!

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Bradley & Adrian





Congratulations  
Emilie,

As you celebrate receiving your Gold Award-your dedication and hard work have truly made a positive impact on our community. You make us proud every single day!

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Madeline and  
Alyssa



Congratulations, Chloe

We are so proud of you and your initiative, hard work, and dedication. We love you!

Love,  
Mom and Dad



Congratulations, Nevaeh

We're so proud of you and all your accomplishments. You have made a big difference in this world.

Love,  
Motes Family





Congratulations, Meagan

We are so proud of you!

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Ceili, Erin & Ashley



Congratulations, Gabriela

We're so proud of your hard work,  
dedication, and creativity on your Gold  
Award Hippity Hoppity project!

Love,  
Mom and Dad

Congratulations, Lucia



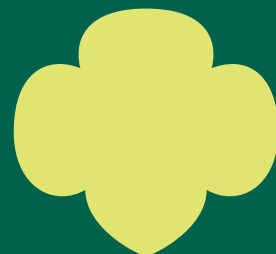
We are so proud of you. Your dedication  
& hard work throughout your project  
is inspiring.

Love,  
Geania & Troop 30349

Become a  
Lifetime Member  
today!

When you become a lifetime member, we'll  
keep you updated on what's new, continue  
to inspire you with stories of girls who are  
making the world a better place, and share  
opportunities for you to speak up for girls.

Simply register at [girlscouts.org/gradltm](https://girlscouts.org/gradltm)



You truly are a go-getter, innovator, risk-taker, and leader. We are beyond proud of you earning your Gold Award! This is just the beginning of what you can accomplish.

Love,  
Mom and Dad.



## Congratulations, Macey!



Words can't express how proud we are of you. Congratulations on this monumental achievement of reaching your goal and earning your Gold Award!

We love you so much!  
Mom, Dad and Garrett



## Congratulations, Phoebe





# Congratulations, Gold Award Girl Scouts

It has been my privilege to witness your  
courage, confidence and character the  
past four years.

Keep Going Gold and  
Make Our World Shine!

Proudly,  
Mary Pat King  
CEO, GSWCF



## Congratulations on becoming a Gold Award Girl Scout!

You have truly distinguished yourself—earning the most prestigious  
award in Girl Scouting. You join other inspiring leaders who are making a  
sustainable difference in their communities and beyond. We are deeply proud  
of your outstanding accomplishment and have the highest confidence in your  
continued success.

Thank you for being a changing the world,  
Girl Scouts of West Central Florida Team





# GIRL SCOUTS OF WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## Executive Committee

Cami Gibertini, President  
Dr. Deirdre Dixon, President-Elect  
Lynn Dorman, Vice President of Governance

Michelene Everett, Treasurer  
Stephen Ponzillo, Secretary  
Mary Pat King, Ex Officio Officer

## Members at Large

Starr Brookins  
Kelly Dunne  
Sue Ryan Goodman  
Tracy Holt

Nancy Hutson  
Vanessa Jones  
Joanne LeBlanc  
Ashley Nessler  
Marion Rich

Jule Doran Salem  
Yvette Segura  
Lavinia "Vinnie" Vaughn  
Kelly Williams-Puccio

## Girl Board Members

Hafsa B  
Jaidyn F.

# HIGH AWARD COMMITTEES

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## Gold Award Commitee

Marcia Greensfelder, Committee Chair

Shannon Boyer  
Abby Burden  
Nerissa Casanova

Holly Conner  
Lorie Kittendorf  
Kasey Martin  
Jane Morris

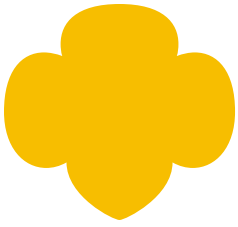
Manar Sarsour  
Kelly Sobtzak  
Jennifer Telfare

## Silver and Bronze Award Commitee

Marjorie Crosbie  
Tiffany Eaton

Katie Habgood  
Kasey Martin

Sarah Mundy  
Andrea Weaver



# 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.

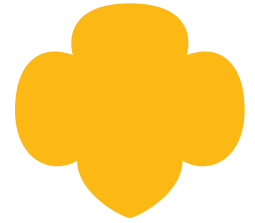
# Girl Scout Law

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.



# Gold Proclamation



## **GO within,**

See yourself as pure gold, free to shine and way too good to play small.

## **GO deeper,**

Into problems and places where help is needed, with the strength to spark worldwide change.

## **GO ALL OUT,**

As a golden-gifted gi-normous force of nature owning your power to lead.

Imagine what will happen if we show a girl the heights of achievement,

Then promise to get her there.

Her inner light will take on an incredible new hue.

She'll see so many paths she can take,

She'll join hands with girls around the globe—

Learning, leading, lifting, climbing, shining, shaping the future,

They'll dream anew, in color. And together, they will go boldly forward.

We're inviting you to participate in the power of a billion bright lights.

A world ignited. When every girl believes that she can **GO GOLD**.

So how do we get her there? We ALL GO gold.

We GO to her side with the encouragement she needs.

We GO public with her incredible story.

We get everyone talking about what Gold Award means so when girls seek out community support, it's there.

And for every Daisy, Brownie, Junior, Cadet, Senior and Ambassador we put Gold firmly on their radar, and in their hearts.

We reignite the passion of Gold Alumnae, we get the entire community on the same glorious page with a clear-cut mission and a powerful rallying cry—a cry that will be heard, and felt, across this nation.

Everyone, together, **LET'S ... GO GOLD!**

# Make New Friends

Make new friends, but keep the old.  
One is silver, the other is gold.

A circle is round, it has no end.  
That's how long, I will be your friend.

A fire burns bright, it warms the heart.  
We've been friends, from the very start.

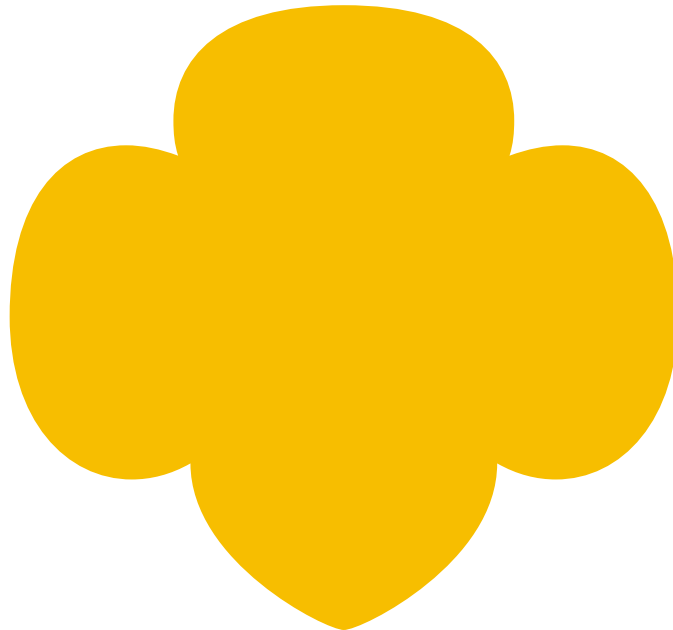
You have one hand, I have the other.  
Put them together, we have each other.

Silver is precious, gold is too.  
I am precious, and so are you.

You help me and I'll help you  
and together we will see it through.

The sky is blue. The Earth is green.  
I can help to keep it clean.

Across the land, Across the sea.  
Friends forever we will always be.



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