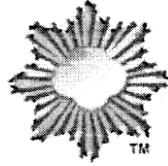




Masonic Recognition Certificate for Recipients of the Girl Scout Gold Award® Certificate Application



The Freemasons have long been a strong supporter of the Girl Scouts of the USA, serving as volunteers and assisting by sponsoring Girl Scout units. For many years the relationship between Masonry and Girl Scouting has been of mutual benefit to each organization.

The Masonic Recognition Certificate for Recipients of the Girl Scout Gold Award® was created as a national Masonic award program in February of 2007 and is administered by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York, as a service to all regular Grand Lodges of the United States.

Girl Scout History

Juliette “Daisy” Gordon Low assembled eighteen (18) girls from Savannah, Georgia, on March 12, 1912, for a local Girl Scout meeting. She believed that all girls should be given an opportunity to develop physically, mentally, and spiritually. With the goal of bringing girls out of isolated home environments and into community service and the open air, Girl Scouts hiked, played basketball, went on camping trips, learned how to tell him by the stars, and studied first aid.

Within a few years, Daisy’s dream for a girl-centered organization was realized. Today, Girl Scouts of the USA has a membership of nearly four million girls and adults, a significant growth from its modest beginnings nearly a century ago. In fact, more than 50 million women in the United States today are Girl Scout alumnae. **Girl Scouts is dedicated to every girl, everywhere.**

Empowering Girls

In Girl Scouts, girls discover the fun, friendship and power of girls together. Through a myriad of enriching experiences, such as extraordinary field trips, sports skill-building clinics, community service projects, cultural exchanges and environmental stewardships, girls grow courageous and strong. Girl Scouting helps girls develop their full individual potential; relate to others with increasing understanding, skill and respect; develop values to guide their actions and provide the foundation for sound decision-making and contribute to the improvement of society through their abilities, leadership skills and cooperation with others.

At Home and Abroad

Girls at home and abroad participate in more than **236,000 troops and groups in more than 90 countries** through USA Girl Scouts Overseas and over **300 local Girl Scout councils** offer girls the opportunity for membership across the United States.

Girl Scout Gold Award®

Highest Award for Girls Ages 14-18

The **Girl Scout Gold Award®** is the highest award that a Girl Scout 14-18 may earn. Someone once described the **Girl Scout Gold Award®** as being “what you really want to be remembered for” in Girl Scouting. For many, the leadership skills, organization skills and sense of community and commitment that comes from “going for the Gold” sets the foundation for a lifetime of active citizenship.

The Gold Award Project

The Gold Award project is the culmination of all the work a girl puts into “going for the Gold.” It is something that a girl can be passionate about – in thought, deed and action. The project is something that fulfills a need within a girl’s community (whether local or global), creates change and hopefully, is something that becomes ongoing. If it is an event, the event should be something that people will want to continue for the next year; if it is a service, it should be something that creates change or action with long-term possibilities, empowering others besides just the girl; if it is something tangible, it should come with a plan of use and maintenance within the community. The project is more than a good service project – it encompasses organizational, leadership and networking skills. If a group of girls work on the project together, each girl must be responsible for a specific part of the project and must evaluate her participation as an individual and a member of the group.