



2018 Girl Scout Gold Award Ceremony

*June 2, 2018
Pasadena Civic Auditorium*



GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS
CONGRATULATIONS
on your
many outstanding
achievements!



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2018 GOLD AWARD CEREMONY PROGRAM



<i>Opening</i>	Lynette Romero, Reporter & Anchor, KTLA5
<i>Processional</i>	2018 Girl Scout Gold Award Recipients
<i>Presentation of Colors</i>	Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles Color Guard
<i>National Anthem</i>	Samantha Herrmann, Cadette Girl Scout
<i>Welcome</i>	Terry Tornek, Mayor, City of Pasadena
<i>The Gold Award Journey</i>	Lise L. Luttgens, Chief Executive Officer, Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles Shelley B. Thompson, Board Chair, Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles
<i>Keynote Address</i>	Jess Weiner, Talk to Jess, LLC
<i>Presentation of Girl Scout Gold Award</i>	Lise L. Luttgens Denise Nowack, Chief Mission Delivery Officer, Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles Anne Marie Hand, Director, Program and Community Engagement, Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles
<i>Gold Award Video Presentation</i>	
<i>Closing</i>	Lynette Romero, Reporter & Anchor, KTLA5
<i>Recessional</i>	2018 Girl Scout Gold Award Recipients

Thank you for joining us in celebrating the 2018 Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles Gold Award recipients.

Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles is grateful to
our 2018 Gold Award Ceremony Sponsor:
Little Brownie Bakers

THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD



The Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest honor in Girl Scouting, is a national award with significant standards that elevate a girl's leadership skills, creativity, value, and efforts to make the world a better place.

Earning the Gold Award requires spending at least 80 hours planning and implementing a challenging, large-scale project that is innovative, engages others, and has a lasting impact on its targeted community.

The prestigious award recognizes Senior and Ambassador Girl Scouts—girls in ninth through 12th grades—for outstanding accomplishments in leadership, community service, career planning, and personal development.

Starting in 1916, the best and brightest undertook projects that improved their communities—and the world. The Golden Eaglet, the highest award in Girl Scouting from 1916 to 1939, sparked the beginning of a long tradition of recognizing the extraordinary efforts of extraordinary girls. From 1940 to 1963, the Curved Bar Award was the highest honor in Girl Scouting. From 1963 to 1980, the highest award was called First Class. And since 1980, the Gold Award has inspired girls to find the greatness inside themselves and share their ideas and passions with their communities.

Nationwide, only six percent of all eligible Girl Scouts achieve the Gold Award. And out of 112 Girl Scout councils, Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles (GSLA) continuously boasts the highest number of girls reaching Gold each year.

Girls who earn their Girl Scout Gold Award automatically enter the military one rank higher, qualify for college scholarships, and additional national service awards.

LETTER FROM GSGLA LEADERSHIP

Dear Girl Scouts, Families, and Friends,

This year, we celebrate the wonderful accomplishments of 291 exceptional young women who were inspired to make a significant difference locally, nationally, or internationally.

True **G.I.R.L.s**—Gold Award Girl Scouts have shown grit like **Go-getters**, problem-solved like **Innovators**, embraced new challenges like **Risk-takers**, and displayed empathy and integrity like **Leaders**. They have used their skills and experiences to empower others and advocate on their behalf—from creating a popular self-defense YouTube channel to promoting awareness of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder—Gold Award recipients define leadership not as power over people, but power with purpose.

In 2018, they provided more than 23,000 hours of service through the development and execution of projects of sustainable impact. Each of these projects, while varied in scope, addressed a need, provided support, found solutions, and inspired communities—whether it be restoring hiking trails in the Santa Monica Mountains or providing dental health kits to kids in Armenia.

On behalf of Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles members, volunteers, board members, and staff, we thank these outstanding young women for helping to address critical issues and for being the **G.I.R.L.s** our world needs. Thank you for a job well done, and congratulations on earning the Ph.D. of Girl Scouting!

Sincerely,



Shelley B. Thompson
Board Chair



Lise L. Luttgens
Chief Executive Officer



MISTRESS OF CEREMONY



LYNETTE ROMERO -
Reporter & Anchor, KTLA5

Prior to joining KTLA, Lynette anchored and reported for 10 years at KUSA-TV in Denver. She also spent nearly a year reporting for KUSA-TV's sister station in Austin, Texas, KVUE-TV. While in Denver, Lynette's assignments included the 1993 papal visit, the standoff in Waco, and the bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City.

Lynette is a member of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists and is an advisory board member for the University of Colorado School of Journalism and Mass Communication. She teaches a reporting and anchor class for UCLA Extension. She spends much of her personal time in the community, speaking at schools and appearing at public events.

Lynette has a bachelor of science degree in journalism, broadcast news from the University of Colorado in Boulder. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband and daughter.

WELCOME



TERRY TORNEK -
Mayor, City of Pasadena

Terry Tornek was born and raised in New York City and moved to Pasadena from Massachusetts in 1982 to accept the position of Planning Director. He was hired because of his history of neighborhood improvement and historic preservation while serving as Planning Director of Springfield, Massachusetts. He also served as a member of the Springfield City Council. Terry was Pasadena's planning director for three years and helped to rewrite the Zoning Ordinance, the General Plan, and establish the redevelopment plan for Old Pasadena.

After leaving city government, Terry built a career in real estate as a developer and manager of residential and commercial properties all over Southern California. He remained active in Pasadena affairs through his 20 year service as a Board Member of Pasadena Neighborhood Housing Services, a non-profit organization devoted to

affordable housing in Northwest Pasadena. In 2005, Sid Tyler appointed Terry to the Planning Commission. He also served as a member of the Design Commission. He was elected to represent District 7 on the City Council in April, 2009, was reelected in 2013, and was then elected as mayor in April 2015.

Mayor Tornek serves as chairman of the Finance Committee, is a member of the Municipal Services and Legislative Policy Committees, is the City Council appointee to the Fire and Police Retirement Board, and is president of the Burbank Airport Authority. He is deeply involved in the City's financial planning, affordable housing, and the City's planning and development decision-making process.

Terry graduated from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School with a degree in public and international affairs. He also earned a Master of Science in urban planning from Columbia University's School of Architecture. He served in the Army National Guard and Reserves for six years.

Terry and his wife Maria have been married for 50 years. They have three children and seven grandchildren.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



JESS WEINER -
CEO, TALK TO JESS, LLC

Jess Weiner is the CEO of Talk to Jess, a cultural think tank and strategy firm that partners with global brands to ensure that marketing, media, and advertising are inclusive and diverse.

She began her professional life as an author and editor, where she told stories about the self-esteem and body confidence of girls worldwide. Through her expertise and success as a writer, Jess quickly became a thought leader and strategist for businesses and brands who also wanted to address the issues of empowerment and self-confidence.

She has contributed to large culture-changing moments working as a strategist behind the scenes with various brands, such as Dove's memorable 2004 Real Beauty Campaign. She was also a key player in Barbie's latest body

evolution, giving Barbie four body types, seven skin tones, 22 eye colors, and 24 hairstyles.

Now, with over 20 years of experience, Jess is considered a leading cultural expert and changemaker working in the business of empowerment, making significant waves in how we approach inclusivity and representation.

GOLD AWARD ANNOUNCERS

Marriah Xylina Amador - Gold Award 2015

Graduate Student, Urban Education, Loyola Marymount University

Julie Ast - First Class 1975

Real Estate, Keller Williams Beach Cities

Laurel Ast - Gold Award 2013

Associate Buyer, Beautycounter

Catherine Caporale, Ph.D. - First Class 1981

Marriage & Family Therapist, Claremont Counseling Center (owner)

Rashi Chhajed - Gold Award 2013

Assistant Media Planner, Initiative at IPG Mediabrands

Rachel Harvey - Gold Award 2011

Doctoral Student, Clinical Psychology, Pepperdine University

Joanna Hua - Gold Award 2015

Student, Government, Cornell University

Marina Kissner - Gold Award 2016

Student, Double Major, Kinesiology and Psychology, University of Maryland, College Park

Madisyn Larecy - Gold Award 2016

Student, Nursing, Montana State University

Katherine Libby - Gold Award 2017

Student, Nursing, El Camino Community College

Leilanie B. Martinez - Gold Award 2014

Student, Legal Studies and Chicana Studies, University of California, Berkeley

Somer Nabulsi - Gold Award 2016

Student, Biomedical Science / Chemistry, Northern Arizona University

Michelle Ng - Gold Award 2017

Student, Kinesiology, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Vanessa Quilliam - Gold Award 2017

Student, High School, Mary Star of the Sea High School

Sophie Richman - Gold Award 2013

AmeriCorps VISTA - Environmental Education Project Leader, YouthBuild Charter School

Mayleen Rivas - Gold Award 2017

Student, Psychology, Pierce College

Jo Anna Samec - Gold Award 2015

Student, Graphic Arts and Design, Citrus College

Sophia Wu - Gold Award 2017

Student, Nutritional Sciences, Cornell University

2018 GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS

Aleka Adamian	Northridge	Elizabeth Chase	Rancho Cucamonga
Athena Adamian	Northridge	Bernadette Chavez	Burbank
Kimiko Adler	Glendale	Xoshil Chen-Marquez	La Cañada
Rachel Alder	Manhattan Beach	Lindsey Chheng	Walnut
Emily Alexander	Tarzana	Katie Chiu	Sherman Oaks
Alicia Amamoto	Montebello	Jasmine Christensen	Redondo Beach
Isabel Andersen	Pasadena	Julia Chun	Redondo Beach
Shayla Anderson	Palmdale	Lisa Chung	Cerritos
Valencia Anzo-Andrade	Hacienda Heights	Gassia Cooper	Camarillo
Josephine Armendariz	Bellflower	Brigitte Corbell	Hermosa Beach
Sophia Arvin	Pacific Palisades	Julia Coronado-King	Burbank
Holly Audet	Ontario	Cristina Corral	North Hollywood
Destiny Avalos	La Puente	Greta Cox	Palos Verdes Estates
Sabrina Azzuz	Northridge	Brenna Coyle	Manhattan Beach
Talin Bakalyan	La Crescenta	Megan Crawford	Manhattan Beach
Catherine Baklarz	Glendora	Madelyn Cripps	Fontana
Isabel Ball	Pasadena	Savanah Cripps	Fontana
Scarlette Barajas	Santa Clarita	Kate Crowell	La Cañada
Katya Baranets	South Pasadena	Siena Dancsecs	La Cañada
Elisa Bass	Redondo Beach	Kyla Dang	Arcadia
Grace Beaty	Upland	Kelly Daniels	Arcadia
Francesca Bennett	Manhattan Beach	Annemarie Dapoz	Manhattan Beach
Hannah Bergin	Manhattan Beach	Amy Davin	Rolling Hills Estates
Katelyn Berndt	Valencia	Kaitlin Day	Walnut
Madelyn Bernstein	Alhambra	Nareh Dehartounian	Pasadena
Masha Best	Reseda	Lysette DeSilva	Long Beach
Kennedy Blackwell	Rolling Hills Estates	Rachel Dever	Santa Clarita
Karina Blanco-Johnson	Los Angeles	Lindsey Di Silvestri	Lancaster
Claire Bogosian	Rolling Hills Estates	Elizabeth Dick	La Cañada
Annika Bohanec	Sierra Madre	Morgan Dickson	Rancho Palos Verdes
Madeline Bohman	Glendale	Cameron Dirkse	Saugus
Allison Budde	La Cañada	Amy Domae	Cerritos
Kara Burke	Pasadena	Tara Donaghy	Glendale
Kelsey Burke	Pasadena	Sabrina Duncan	Castaic
Michelle Burns	Los Angeles	Alexandra Ehrhart	La Cañada
Camille Burton	San Marino	Emilee Estoya	Carson
Erica Buyalos	Calabasas	Kaela Fischer	Long Beach
Caroline Callan	Temple City	Abby Fisher	Pacific Palisades
Jordyn Carpenter	Long Beach	Madyson Fisher	Torrance
Jessica Castro	Valencia	Harper Fox	South Pasadena
Celeste Chan	Los Angeles	Amaris Francia	Arcadia

2018 GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS

Cayla Fujita-Haffner	Glendora	Selene Jalalianfard	Lakewood
Jaclyn Gabela	Diamond Bar	Claire Jenness	Rancho Palos Verdes
Alyssa Galang	Temple City	Courtney Johnson	La Cañada
Claire Ganguin	San Marino	Kirsten Johnson	Calabasas
Kayla Garcia	San Dimas	Samantha Johnson	Pasadena
Briana Garden	Santa Clarita	Ashley Kang	Torrance
Jacqueline Garrity	Glendale	Emily Kasman	Valencia
Catherine Gaynor	Claremont	Hailey Keidel	Palmdale
Jocelyn Gee	Pasadena	Emma Kessner	Culver City
Talia Goldstein	La Cañada	Laila Khan	Chino Hills
Rachel Graves	Manhattan Beach	Deborah Khaw	Arcadia
Rachel Gray	South Pasadena	Ashley Kim	Chino Hills
Katie Griffith	Lake Balboa	Kristy Kim	La Cañada
Heather Griffiths	Castaic	Sophie Kim	Glendale
Julie Guan	Cerritos	Stacey Kim	La Cañada
Ava Gutierrez	San Gabriel	Katie Kirkendall	San Marino
Sara Haleblan	La Cañada	Diana Knobler	Montebello
Elisabeth Hales	La Crescenta	Luna Kohut	Los Angeles
Mia Harder	Arcadia	Patricia Ku	Cerritos
Mary Harmon	Altadena	Kendal Kully	Altadena
Alexis Harris	Rancho Palos Verdes	Hannah Lam	Glendale
Holly Harris	Rancho Palos Verdes	Alexa Lank	Castaic
Mia Hasenmayer	Torrance	Sarah LaPedis	Valley Village
Masooma Hasnain	Torrance	Mindy LaPointe	Arcadia
Kassidy Hata	Monterey Park	Mikaela Larecy	Torrance
Tara Hejazi Hashemi	La Crescenta	Megan Lau	Arcadia
Kristina Hiraishi	West Covina	Maya Ledesma	Sierra Madre
Elizabeth Ho	Rolling Hills Estates	Caitlin Lee	Pasadena
Janice Ho	Cerritos	Jessica Lee	Monrovia
Eleanor Holdsworth	San Marino	Kaelyn Lee	Los Angeles
Madison Hollers	Valencia	Sarah Lee	La Cañada
Brittany Honig	Monrovia	Sydney Leib	Malibu
Stephanie Hoo	Harbor City	Anela Leis	Los Angeles
Amber Hool	Palos Verdes Estates	Jillian Lerma	Monrovia
Jessica Hosler	Long Beach	Emmie Lew	La Cañada
Madeleine Hotaling	San Marino	Isabel Lewis	Santa Monica
Josie Hull	La Cañada	Madeline Lewis	Pasadena
Kira Hum	Los Angeles	Michelle Liang	Arcadia
Sarra Hussain	Reseda	Ashley Likins	La Crescenta
Isabella Ignatian	La Cañada	Sidney Lim	Monterey Park
Autry Isom	Santa Monica	Isabella Liu	Arcadia

2018 GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS

Chathuni Liyanage
Samantha Lomen
Caroline LoMonaco
Alice Lousen
Erika Luu
Emily Lyons
Olivia MacDougall
Katelyn Maheia
Kaitlin Maire
Densel Martin
Jaclyn Martinez
Anabel Massabki
Emily Matsui
Keila McCabe
Elizabeth McCarthy
Della McDougal
Marisa McGovern
Megan McKiernan
Sadie McMillan
Marissa McPhaul
Skylar McVicar
Taylor Michel
Clarissa Miller
Tiffany Min
Jacinda Molina
Gianna Mor
Georgia Moran
Margaret Mordecai
Gabrielle Moreta
Kendall Nakai
Allison Nakamoto
Kiara Necessary
Hannah Nelsestuen
Amanda Nishimura
Amanda Olivar
Kate O'Malley
Emily Ong
Jael Osborne
Dana Otera
Alicia Paliza

Arcadia
Rancho Cucamonga
Santa Monica
Pasadena
Azusa
Palmdale
Hermosa Beach
Lawndale
Los Angeles
Baldwin Park
Diamond Bar
La Cañada
Torrance
Manhattan Beach
Pasadena
Sierra Madre
Manhattan Beach
La Crescenta
Manhattan Beach
Palos Verdes Estates
Palos Verdes Estates
La Habra Heights
Altadena
Rolling Hills Estates
Saugus
La Cañada
Burbank
San Marino
Los Angeles
Huntington Beach
West Covina
Santa Clarita
Burbank
San Gabriel
San Gabriel
San Marino
Diamond Bar
South Pasadena
Palos Verdes Estates
Palmdale

Lindsay Palm
Nicole Parks
Isabel Peinado
Charlotte Pizante
Miranda Pla
Sidney Polzin
Julia Powers
Ashley Prokey
Nicole Puente
Sheridan Quan
Alexa Quilliam
Rhea Rahimtoola
Jayleen Ramos
Audrey Raulli
Cassandra Reano
Sarah Reeves
Sydney Reisch
Laurn Reyes
Catherine Riegel
Katherine Ripley
Daniela Robles
Kyra Rosen
Helen Rossi
Madison Rowe
Hannah Ruiz
Maya Sahai
Athena Sandoval
Brianna Sanford
Sara Santos
Alina Saratova
Nicholetta Sarkissian
Brooke Sasaki
Auburn Schmidt
Altana Schweitzer
Marisol Sciaroni
Ashley Scott
Jordan Shang
Meghan Shen
Joyce Shin
Katie Shue

Calabasas
Diamond Bar
Alhambra
South Pasadena
Los Angeles
Shadow Hills
La Cañada
Agoura Hills
Arcadia
Walnut
Manhattan Beach
Sherman Oaks
Glendale
La Cañada
Valencia
Redondo Beach
Pasadena
Simi Valley
Palos Verdes Estates
Redondo Beach
San Pedro
Los Angeles
La Cañada Flintridge
Palmdale
Arcadia
La Cañada Flintridge
Long Beach
Santa Clarita
Pomona
Rancho Cucamonga
Glendale
Glendale
Tucson
San Dimas
Rancho Palos Verdes
Lakewood
Upland
Diamond Bar
Tarzana
La Cañada

2018 GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS

Chloe Smigla	Pacific Palisades	Ashley Wu	San Marino
Cameron Smith	Fontana	Elizabeth Yamarone	Burbank
Kaily Snider	Torrance	Francesca Yao	Arcadia
Lauren Spensiero	Pasadena	Samantha Yasuda	Arcadia
Malaika Stambler	Culver City	Alyssa Yung	Redondo Beach
Sofia Stellar	Pasadena	Emily Zavala	San Dimas
SJ Stephens	Los Angeles	Emily Zepeda	Granada Hills
Bethany Stitt	Fontana		
Ashley Sue	Cerritos		
Lauren Sugiyama	Pasadena		
Bridget Sullivan	Sherman Oaks		
Madelyn Susank	Glendale		
Whitney Tanquary	Manhattan Beach		
Ingrid Teng	San Marino		
Peyton Thomas	Arcadia		
Julissa Tirado	Canyon Country		
Arianna Togelang	Arcadia		
Micaela Tomaro	Manhattan Beach		
Katrina Torrealba	Altadena		
Elizabeth Travers	Chino Hills		
Joy Uehara	Redondo Beach		
Kestrel Valdez	Los Angeles		
Eva Valero	La Crescenta		
Olivia Virgen	San Gabriel		
Tawa Volden	Lakewood		
Tishani Vora	Torrance		
Alexandra Vrastil	Manhattan Beach		
Amanda Wagner	Pasadena		
Cameron Ward	Chino Hills		
Chloe Ward	La Mirada		
Giselle (Gigi) Wargin	Rancho Palos Verdes		
Ashley Wei	San Marino		
Caroline Wigner	Whittier		
Skye Wilson	Calabasas		
Kate Winschel	Pasadena		
Emily Wong	Temple City		
Grace Wong	Arcadia		
Jenna Wong	San Marino		
Melissa Wong	Arcadia		
Sarah Wong	Monterey Park		



While some people still think of us as just cookies, campfires, and friendship bracelets, Girl Scouts are so much more. Girl Scouts are big thinkers, groundbreakers, and role models.

When she's a Girl Scout, she's also a G.I.R.L. (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader)[™]. These traits define girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. This is the Girl Scout DNA.

As you peruse the biographies of our Gold Award Girl Scouts, you will see the G.I.R.L. traits selected by each girl which represent her project.

G.

Go-getter

She's bold, honest, and determined to succeed. In her mind failure is no reason not to get back up and try again, and again, and again. That explains why half of all U.S. businesswomen were Girl Scouts.

I.

Innovator

Thinking outside the box is her specialty, so she's always looking for a creative way to take action. A clear correlation: 75 percent of current female senators were Girl Scouts.

R.

Risk-taker

Courageous and strong, she's keen to try new things and embrace the unfamiliar. It's no wonder that nearly all of the 40 women who have flown in space were Girl Scouts.

L.

Leader

She's confident, responsible, and committed to changing the world. Here's proof: Every year, Girl Scouts collectively spend more than 75 million hours improving their communities.



ALEKA ADAMIAN

Project: Got Your Back!

Summary: “For my Girl Scout Gold Award, I wanted to help the community I grew up in. I realized that my school did not have any safety kits for each classroom, and so for my project I put together emergency kits that I placed in the main office and each classroom from pre-K to high school.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned from earning my Gold Award is that hard work does not come easy; but once you reach your goal, it is all worth it.”

Future: “I plan to transfer to a four-year university and finish my degree in political science. I would either want to work as a teacher or as a government official.”



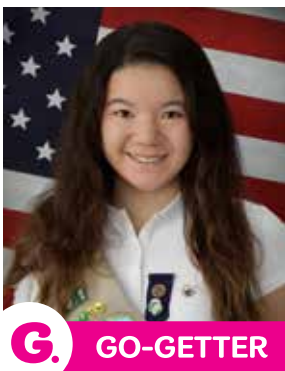
ATHENA ADAMIAN

Project: Healthy From The Start

Summary: “My Gold Award project was sparked by my love of working with kids and living healthy. For two weeks, I taught a third-grade class how they could live healthy and active lives. I also started a club where the older kids will work with the younger ones.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I have learned in Girl Scouts and from my Gold Award project is how to be a leader to younger kids.”

Future: “I am currently in community college pursuing a psychology degree. I plan to transfer to UCSD next year. I plan to use my degree to help juvenile kids get out of prison and help them make a better life for themselves.”



KIMIKO ALDER

Project: Rejuvenation of Rooms at Ronald McDonald House

Summary: “I repainted two bedrooms, donated 22 mattress covers, and ran a collection for lamps, TVs, and DVDs at the Ronald McDonald House. I hoped to benefit the families staying there by making their rooms more comfortable.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned from my Gold Award is realizing that I cannot do everything by myself and being more open to cooperating with others. Because my project was very big to take on, I needed many people to help me accomplish it, and I grew to welcome other people’s input and help.”

Future: “I hope to attend college and pursue a degree in public health and then go to medical school or graduate school, and focus my study on epidemiology and infectious diseases. After completing my studies, I plan to research infectious diseases and hopefully find a cure to current incurable diseases, such as the Ebola virus.”



RACHEL ALDER

Project: Mychal’s Learning Place Garden to Table

Summary: “I saw that the students at Mychal’s Learning Place were eating processed foods, and so I decided to renovate their garden and teach them to make healthy snacks. This teaches these students not only how to eat healthy but how to garden and cook—both great life skills.”

Outcome: “If you set your mind to it, any task is possible. At the beginning, the Gold Award seemed like a lot of work, and it was. However, it taught me so many life skills and I made so many wonderful memories.”

Future: “I plan to attend college, study abroad, and make new friends. I want to continue volunteering in whatever new communities I end up in and one day have a daughter who is a Girl Scout.”



L. LEADER

EMILY ALEXANDER

Project: Stroke Awareness for Teens

Summary: “To raise stroke awareness in teens, I did research and rounded with nurses at Cedars-Sinai. I created a pamphlet about strokes and gave a presentation at a donor event that I organized. I hope my project will prepare teens to recognize signs of stroke and treatments.”

Outcome: “I gained leadership skills, including becoming a stronger public speaker. I learned better how to interact with people and be supportive and make them feel comfortable. Working with stroke patients was challenging, but I think it helped me grow as a compassionate person and made me more understanding.”

Future: “I am interested in a career in medicine and helping patients like those I saw at Cedars-Sinai Hospital. So I will be majoring in health sciences in college and continuing to volunteer in my spare time.



I. INNOVATOR

ALICIA AMAMOTO

Project: Cultural Connections

Summary: “My Gold Award project was inspired by my experience during a trip to Japan. With the help of friends and family, I folded 1,000 cranes and displayed them in my city hall to bring cultural awareness to my community. I also met with clubs at my high school to spread Japanese culture and encourage them to participate in a local sister city program.”

Outcome: “Through completing my Gold Award project, I have gained a new sense of confidence and developed critical leadership and communication skills that I will utilize throughout my life.”

Future: “I plan to attend a four-year university as a pharmacological chemistry major and pursue a career in pharmacy.”



L. LEADER

ISABEL ANDERSEN

Project: A Trip to Mom's House

Summary: “My Gold Award project was inspired by my desire to help and care for children. I put together a room at the Walter Hoving Home where the children of the ladies living there could stay when they visited. I wanted to make their visit as happy and welcoming as possible in their transition.”

Outcome: “I learned the importance of hard work. I had always been taught to be an example, but thanks to my Gold Award, I was able to experience it for myself.”

Future: “I plan to attend Northeastern University in the fall where I will be spending my first semester abroad in Melbourne, Australia as a biomedical physics major. I hope to become a surgeon specializing in either pediatrics or neonatology.”



L. LEADER

SHAYLA ANDERSON

Project: Spay and Neuter

Summary: “My Gold Award project was supposed to tell people to protect dogs and cats by spaying and neutering them so no more animals will be unsafe. I love dogs so much and I care so much about them so I hope me saying this would also inspire other girls.”

Outcome: “I can do anything and pursue it with dreaming and I learned how to not be shy.”

Future: “I plan next year to go to college and pursue my degree in science. I plan to become a veterinarian and hope my dream comes true.”



L. LEADER

VALENCIA ANZO-ANDRADE

Project: Make a Difference in a Veteran's Future

Summary: "My Gold Award project addressed the need for proper assistance and support to veterans transitioning back into the civilian workforce. I raised awareness by giving presentations to my community and by collecting ties and beauty kits that were donated to Working Wardrobes. By educating the community, I hope to have inspired others to do the same."

Outcome: "The greatest lesson I learned from my experience in earning the Gold Award is that I am capable of making a difference in people's lives and bringing others together to help make a difference."

Future: "I plan to attend Point Loma Nazarene University and pursue a degree in science. I plan to become a physician assistant with a specialty in children."



G. GO-GETTER

JOSEPHINE ARMENDARIZ

Project: The Gap

Summary: "My Gold Award was inspired by my love of reading and my shock at how prevalent a problem illiteracy is. I created a film about illiteracy and printables with activities that help with phonemic and phonetic awareness skills. I posted the film and printables on a website I created and passed out the printables at an elementary school."

Outcome: "I've learned that with a lot of hard work and commitment I can help others. I learned that I want to spend my life helping others."

Future: "I plan to attend college and seek a master's degree in political science. I'd like to be a senator, and later, secretary of education."



I. INNOVATOR

SOPHIA ARVIN

Project: Keyboards for a Cause

Summary: "My Gold Award project was initiated by my skills in piano. I used my knowledge about music to develop a lesson plan to teach the students at Saint Anne's School how to play the keyboard. I also created a book with all of my learning techniques and a collection of YouTube videos for students and parents."

Outcome: "The greatest lesson I learned from earning the Gold Award is perseverance. I had to persevere through difficult times while teaching the students. I also earned great leading skills from teaching a large group of students."

Future: "I plan to attend college and pursue a career in medicine or engineering."



G. GO-GETTER

HOLLY AUDET

Project: Tennis 101

Summary: "My project was a camp where I taught kids how to play tennis, how to stay healthy, and how to exercise and have fun at the same time. The lessons I taught about being healthy will last because I wrote out everything and gave it to my adviser and tennis coach who will be able to share with others who are interested."

Outcome: "My Gold Award project has taught me how to work with different personalities. I am able to work with kids that have almost completely different mindsets and help them toward a common goal more than before."

Future: "I will be attending UCI, double majoring in chemistry and education with a minor in music. After receiving my Bachelor of Science, I plan on becoming a teacher in order to help further the minds of those who will form our future."



DESTINY AVALOS

Project: Confidence Movement

Summary: “I established an anti-bullying prevention program entitled ‘Convergent Campaign.’ The Convergent Campaign had spread #ThePowerofAmity in numerous forms, reaching more standpoints beyond the United States by building awareness about bullying, utilizing STEM, and counseling to youth internationally.”

Outcome: “Overall, the greatest lesson I learned from my experience in pursuing the Gold Award is that education is a powerful tool in life. It helps shape our society ideology in regards to bullying.”

Future: “After graduating high school as my class valedictorian, I plan to attend an Ivy League university and become an attorney. In the future, I also plan to become an author as my passion is writing literature, short stories, and novels.”



SABRINA AZZUZ

Project: Watch Them Grow

Summary: “I built a garden area at St. Nicholas School to support lesson plans for elementary and middle school in science and agriculture. I hoped to create a more hands-on learning and better-rounded education that would teach discipline and responsibility.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I have gained from this project is independence and confidence. I learned that it is important to get things done properly, not quickly.”

Future: “I plan to pursue a degree in psychology while attending University of Channel Islands. I plan on either becoming a therapist for children with mental disorders or a licensed counselor to work with children.”



TALIN BAKALYAN

Project: Medicinal Native Plants of Southern California

Summary: “I created flashcards, pamphlets, and led tours at the Rosemont Preserve about the medicinal uses of the native plants in my community. I hope my work will educate people about beneficial plants around their own environment and inspire others to learn more about nature.”

Outcome: “By taking charge of my project, I have gained a sense of pride in my own work and, as a result, have discovered that educating and spreading awareness about an issue I strongly believe in, is essential to my character and personality.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in kinesiology. I plan to become a pediatric physical therapist, and possibly work at the Children’s Hospital, Los Angeles in the future.”



CATHRINE BAKLARZ

Project: Anemia Awareness

Summary: “I advocated for greater awareness about iron deficiency anemia so that fellow adolescents, females, and athletes would not have to suffer from this completely preventable disease. I hosted eight educational booths at local events. I also made a website, YouTube video, and fliers for visitors, in the hope that they will share what they have learned.”

Outcome: “I learned that I am capable of more than I think, and that change can be brought about in simple ways. I also learned how to describe anemia to children.”

Future: “I intend to study biology in college, and prefer a career in research. As I plan to minor in German, it comes as no surprise that travel is important to me, and that I wish to pursue higher education and a career that allows me to visit other realms and cultures.”



R. RISK-TAKER

ISABEL BALL

Project: Addressing Fitness and Hygiene with Children's Ct.

Summary: "My project addressed problems of health and hygiene for the children and Children's Court. I made backpacks full of hygiene products and arranged for many fitness teachers to volunteer at the court. I hope that helping children's health and hygiene will leave a lasting impression on their confidence and overall quality of life."

Outcome: "I learned a lot about the importance of persistence when attempting to make connections. This project allowed me to develop the confidence to be persistent and keep reaching out to organizations so that they would volunteer at children's court."

Future: "I will attend college next year and study biology. I hope to become a doctor, continuing my involvement in children's health issues."



I. INNOVATOR

SCARLETTE BARAJAS

Project: Alzheimer's Walk Kids Zone

Summary: "I worked with the Alzheimer's Association for the Walk to End Alzheimer's in my city. I created a Kids Zone and set up educational stations along the route to add liveliness to the event and to educate the public. All of the carnival games that I built for the Kids Zone will be used at future Alzheimer's Walks."

Outcome: "Throughout my experience, I have gained many leadership qualities. This project has taught me how to successfully plan and put an idea into action as well as how to organize events. I have also been able to lead and work well with different groups of people in order to reach a common goal."

Future: "I plan to attend a four-year university and earn a degree in business and marketing. I intend to pursue a career in the field of business management and marketing in hopes of becoming a brand manager for a large company."



I. INNOVATOR

KATYA BARANETS

Project: Voices of The Past

Summary: "My project was inspired in part by my paternal grandmother's life story. I collected the life stories of 12 senior citizens in my community and compiled them in a self-published anthology. I hope my project will conquer the issue of misinformation about the past by educating people about members of their own community."

Outcome: "In the sense of practical skills, my Gold Award taught me how to follow through with people responsibly and thoroughly. Spiritually, I gained the knowledge and life stories of 12 more people, which only adds to my ever-growing understanding of the world and those around me."

Future: "I plan to attend university and major in international relations, and minor in both the French and Russian languages. After university, I plan on working with the United States Diplomatic Corps, hopefully working towards becoming a United Nations delegate or an ambassador for either the United States or Russia."



L. LEADER

ELISA BASS

Project: Connecting Senior Citizens to the Library

Summary: "My project was inspired by my love for the library and desire to connect the library to senior citizens. I created a brochure about the library resources available to seniors to be distributed to the local library branches and attended outreach at senior centers. I hope my project will continue to help connect people to useful resources."

Outcome: "My project has allowed me to connect with people in a way that I never had before through something I was passionate about: learning. I have discovered that learning transcends generational divides. As a result of my experiences, I will always try to continue learning."

Future: "I am attending college and will pursue a degree in biology. I plan to attend medical school and become a family physician. I am also interested in teaching medicine."



GRACE BEATY

Project: Upland Animal Shelter

Summary: “My team and I cleaned, painted, added a shelf, and reorganized the feed room at the animal shelter. We organized multiple shelves that had donations thrown haphazardly and dangerously on them. When we did that, we removed things that would be dangerous for the animals to be around and donated them.”

Outcome: “I learned how to lead more effectively, and I developed my skills in handling obstacles. During my project, I had to change project advisers, and one woman continuously tried to undermine my leadership in the project and take my volunteers that were not affiliated with the shelter.”

Future: “I plan to attend college to major in petroleum engineering with a minor in either math, computer science, or Spanish.”



FRANCESCA BENNETT

Project: Hunt for History Manhattan Beach

Summary: “I worked with the second female mayor of Manhattan Beach to create a history lesson, scavenger hunt, and booklet for kids about our city’s history. I reached 116 children between first and fourth grades in addition to two presentations at the Manhattan Beach library for community members.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I’ve learned from my experience is that I have the power to make a difference in my community. I’m ready to become more involved with my city and to help with future projects.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in finance and a minor in history and Spanish. After college, I will live in a Spanish-speaking country where I will pursue a career in business and finance.”



HANNAH BERGIN

Project: Recycle Right!

Summary: “After learning that 70 percent of trash can be recycled, but only 30 percent is, I began my project. I held six workshops on how, what, and why to recycle, and made a video on how to recycle food for biofuel. In working with Waste Management and the City of Manhattan Beach, I made stickers saying not to bag recyclables that was sent to all 14,000 residents.”

Outcome: “I have learned that even as a sophomore in high school I can be taken seriously and make a difference. I am lucky to have connected with professionals who work for Waste Management and the City of Manhattan Beach.”

Future: “I plan to attend a four-year university and major in a science field. I want to work in a lab and then teach science in high school. I hope to continue help to make our world a better place.”



KATELYN BERNDT

Project: Reckless Driving Awareness Bench

Summary: “I chose to raise awareness for reckless driving with my Gold Award project. I built an eight-foot-long, double-sided wooden bench with old metal wagon wheels on each end and made signs with safe driving slogans. I chose William S. Hart Park in Newhall because it is next to busy roads. I hope to inspire people to drive more safely.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned in earning the Gold Award is that some people may not work as hard as you do. I learned to accept it and figured out how I could work around those mindsets.”

Future: “I will attend a four-year university and pursue a degree in business and minor in fashion or photography. I plan to become a successful businesswoman and put forth my creativity in whatever job I end up with.”



MASHA BEST

Project: It's More Than Just A Drink

Summary: "I have Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) and wanted more people to be aware of this disorder that is 100-percent preventable. My project included a workshop, an informational brochure which went to LAUSD high school health classes, and a website to help battle FASD."

Outcome: "I learned not to give up and keep on going no matter what the outcome is. I had plenty of downs throughout this Gold Award that only taught me to push on and keep going and these became life lessons that I will remember forever. This Gold Award helped me grow as a person and as a leader and showed me how much I can achieve by being me."

Future: "I am attending Pierce Community College and I am pursuing a degree in teaching or acting and will hopefully make it big on the screens!"



KENNEDY BLACKWELL

Project: Jayden's Shoes

Summary: "My project was about the growing amount of homeless families in Los Angeles. I wrote and published a novel called Jayden's Shoes. The novel follows Jayden's journey as he battles moving from house to house and learning to overcome life's challenges. I hope my work will help inform people about youth homelessness, so aid can be provided."

Outcome: "I learned to keep moving forward, even through the rough times. Writing a book was one of the most challenging experiences, but it was extremely rewarding. It required a lot of self-motivation and I definitely want to do it again."

Future: "I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in human biology and journalism. I plan on writing another novel addressing issues in today's society from a teen's perspective."



KARINA BLANCO-JOHNSON

Project: Welcoming a New Community Room for All

Summary: "I set out to address the issue of the lack of safe and affordable meeting spaces for community organizations to hold small events. Fortunately, I was able refurbish a meeting room at a local church that was in dire need of a face lift. With the help of family and friends, I washed, repaired, painted walls, and replaced unusable furniture."

Outcome: "I learned many new lessons that will help me in the future. The main lesson I learned was to always reach for the ultimate goal even if there are roadblocks along the way. Often, your plans go in an unexpected direction and therefore you always need to remain flexible and find other ways to accomplish your goal."

Future: "My immediate plans are to attend a university and major in kinesiology. By majoring in this field I will become one step closer to achieving my dream job of becoming a pediatric orthopedic doctor."



CLAIRE BOGOSIAN

Project: Coloring at the Doctor's Office

Summary: "My project was inspired by my love for art, children, and medicine. I wanted to help alleviate kids' anxiety when waiting to see the doctor. I authored and illustrated a bilingual coloring book, held art therapy workshops, and organized a child-collaborated painting on permanent display in urgent care."

Outcome: "I enjoyed sharing my love for art to help kids with their anxiety. I was gratified to see kids' faces light up when coloring copies of my book I handed out in the waiting room. They related to my story of how Ozzie the Dragon, the hospital mascot, injured his wrist and had to also visit the doctor. I learned the powerful impact of art on society."

Future: "An applied math major at UC Berkeley, I'm pursuing my interest in bioengineering research and received the Kraft Scholarship freshman year. I plan to attend medical school upon graduation."



I. INNOVATOR

ANNIKA BOHANEK

Project: Imagination at Sunnyside Preschool

Summary: “My project focused on building literacy and imagination for children by creating a mural and writing a book for a local preschool. My hope is that the children will continue to utilize the book and mural to foster their creativity—a skill for 21st-century thinking.”

Outcome: “I learned about leadership, organization, and communicating with those in my community. I know these skills will help me in the future to achieve my goals.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in psychology or English.”



G. GO-GETTER

MADELINE BOHMAN

Project: Creating a Comfortable Living Space at the YWCA

Summary: “I improved the living space for the women and children who are temporarily residing in a domestic violence shelter. By doing so, I made it more enjoyable and welcoming; really helping these families to feel that they are home. The YWCA of Glendale will maintain the space and upgrade when necessary through their own funds and donations.”

Outcome: “I learned critical communication and leadership skills through this project. Specifically, when working in a team, it is important to solicit feedback from the group, and to keep an open mind. Sometimes an idea can come from out of nowhere, and it can be a good one!”

Future: “I plan to attend a four-year college, studying either photography or medicine.”



R. RISK-TAKER

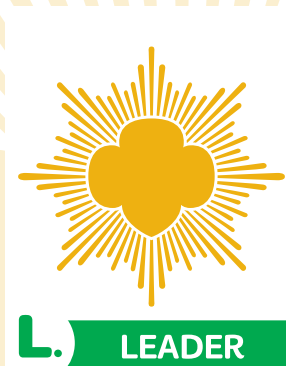
ALLISON BUDDE

Project: Extreme Makeover; Door of Hope Edition

Summary: “Sparked by my love for interior design, I redecorated an office/meeting area in the Door of Hope house in Pasadena. The room has all new furniture and paint—I hope it will help change the mood of the staff there, and give potential donors a sense of what Door of Hope is about.”

Outcome: “I learned to be grateful for the opportunities life gives you, and to be grateful for everything you have.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and go into the entertainment business, or be an interior designer.”



L. LEADER

KARA BURKE

Project: Team Kits and 5K Booths

Summary: “My project focused on inspiring and empowering young girls. I created booths at a 5K event and put together team kits that would help teach girls life lessons, such as setting goals and addressing social pressures. I hope my project will help celebrate young girls so they feel encouraged to remain confident in themselves.”

Outcome: “I have not only learned how to communicate with and organize a group of volunteers, but also how to budget and maximize the number of supplies I could provide for the girls.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and am looking forward to new opportunities in this next chapter of my life. I also hope to travel to new places.”



L. LEADER

KELSEY BURKE

Project: Reorganizing Hallway/Putting Together Scrapbook

Summary: “For my project, I designed and administered the complete reorganization and function of the kitchen hallway at the Pasadena Ronald McDonald House and custom-created scrapbooks for the families. I hope my work will help them have an easier time accessing supplies they need and help them feel more at home during their time there.”

Outcome: “The greatest personal outcome I have gained from my experience in earning the Gold Award is that I realized that I was a lot more independent and capable than I thought I was. This new independence will definitely benefit me in the future as I go on to college.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and am thinking about pursuing a degree in economics.”



L. LEADER

CAMILLE BURTON

Project: Healthy Habits Lead to Healthy Lives

Summary: “My project addressed poor nutrition. I provided the low-income women at Mother’s Club with knowledge about healthier eating through a series of workshops. I hope my work will continue to have an impact because the information I taught the mothers will be passed down to the rest of their families to end the cycle of poor nutrition.”

Outcome: “The most important skill I developed was the ability to effectively communicate with the adults I was working on my project with through phone calls, voicemail messages, and emails. This project also strengthened my public speaking skills.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in engineering or applied physics. I hope to become an engineer or develop another career in STEM.”



L. LEADER

ERICA BUYALOS

Project: Champions!

Summary: “My project was hosting a sports camp day for the kids and families at Many Mansions. My project allowed them to be mentored by high school students, and play games while learning the rules and skills of sports that they can use later in their life, as well as having a great family bonding experience and a ton of fun!”

Outcome: “Through my project, I learned the extreme value of time management, as well as being a leader, and getting a taste of how to be successful in a business environment. Throughout each and every obstacle I encountered, I learned new lessons.”

Future: “Next year I will be attending the University of San Diego, where I will pursue a degree in business with a minor in nutrition. I am passionate about what I will be studying in the fall, and I am extremely excited for what the future holds.”



L. LEADER

CAROLINE CALLAN

Project: Juan Bautista de Anza Trail

Summary: “My project was inspired by my interest in becoming a park ranger for one of our national parks. For my project, I cleaned and restored the Juan Bautista de Anza Trail in the Santa Monica National Recreation Area. I added and repainted the posts along the trail, led hikes, and wrote an article for the park newsletter.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned while working on my project was that I should always have a backup plan.”

Future: “My goal is to attend a four-year university to get a degree in forestry. I would like to be able to do scientific research for the National Park Service, preferably in Yosemite.”



L. LEADER

JORDYN CARPENTER

Project: Children's Resource Room for Beacon for Him

Summary: "My project was creating a children's resource room for the homeless outreach center 'Beacon For Him.' I renovated a room in their facility and organized all their donations into a new system that allows kids and their family access to school supplies."

Outcome: "One of the greatest lessons I have learned from my Gold Award journey is how strong of a leader I can be. I have learned to stick up for what I think is best and work with others to make sure it happens."

Future: "I plan on attending college and working toward a degree in psychology and hopefully becoming a therapist, and someday writing a best-selling novel."



L. LEADER

JESSICA CASTRO

Project: Marian Grotto for Children in Nicaragua

Summary: "For my project, I built a Marian Grotto while on my church's mission trip to Nicaragua. My love for children, nature, and God inspired me to provide them with a beautiful safe space. I hope this project will share the beauty of prayer, nature, friendship, and love to the children."

Outcome: "This project has helped me to develop strong communication skills and has given me the courage to step up as a leader. I have gained more confidence in myself, learned more of what I am capable of, and discovered my passion for service and my desired career path."

Future: "I plan to attend a four-year university and go to medical school so that I can become a pediatric physician and go on medical mission trips to provide health care to children in developing countries. I also hope to create a nonprofit organization that provides love and care for disabled and abandoned children in other developing countries."



L. LEADER

CELESTE CHAN

Project: Science Adventures for Kids

Summary: "Inspired by my passion for STEM, I presented a variety of fun and interactive workshops at Alhambra Library for elementary-school students to expose them to different types of sciences. To sustain my project, I created YouTube videos of the experiments."

Outcome: "The euphoria I experienced when the students linked all the ideas together is indescribable. This project inspires me to create bigger projects impacting my community, and I hope to do so through engineering."

Future: "I am passionate about making a difference in the world as an engineer, and plan to attend college and pursue a degree in civil engineering. As part of this pursuit, I would like to also travel the world and capture my experience and the beauty of nature through photography."



G. GO-GETTER

ELIZABETH CHASE

Project: Nicole's Garden

Summary: "My project was inspired by the lack of outdoor time many special needs program students receive while at school. I decided to create a plan to get the students outside and also involved in nature while learning about self-sustainability. I created a garden where the students learn how to garden and about the positive effects of gardening."

Outcome: "During the process of obtaining my Gold Award, I discovered that anything is possible with the support of my friends and family. During stressful times, their dedication and loyalty to my successes helped me greatly."

Future: "I am currently attending University of California, Santa Cruz as a politics major. I plan to attend law school after my undergraduate education and practice environmental law."



XOSHIL CHEN-MARQUEZ

Project: Renovating a Therapy Room for Battered Women

Summary: “My project involved improving the atmosphere of a therapy room at the YWCA. I strove to make the room a more comfortable and welcoming place in which clients could feel safe and at ease, ultimately motivating them to get the help they need.”

Outcome: “I developed leadership skills such as responsibility, courage, and proficiency. Through emailing countless organizations and planning out my busy schedule to fit in the long amounts of time it took to paint or set up furniture, I learned how to be responsible, organized, and strong.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in computer science. I hope to obtain a profession in the programming field and contribute to the increasing number of women in the STEM field.”



LINDSEY CHHENG

Project: Recycling For the Future

Summary: “The inspiration for my Gold Award project is the love of our environment. I saw fellow students throw away recyclables due to the lack of recycle bins around my school campus and I decided to do something about it. I organized and carried out a fundraiser at Pieology to buy recycling bins for my school.”

Outcome: “The biggest lesson was finding the time to organize and get people involved. I gained confidence with public speaking and community organizing.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a medical career. I hope to receive a scholarship and attend a university in the state of California, preferably UC Berkeley or Stanford.”



KATIE CHIU

Project: Women’s Self Defense

Summary: “With my project, I aim to spread awareness about the importance of self-defense, especially for women. My project included hosting an interactive Krav Maga workshop and the creation of a website with safety tips and instructive self-defense YouTube videos. Through my YouTube channel, I’ve reached over 18,000 people around the world!”

Outcome: “I learned some basic skills such as video editing, web design, and event planning. However, the greatest thing I learned during this project was my self-worth; I was able to fully realize my capabilities and become more confident in myself as a leader and a girl.”

Future: “I plan to attend the California Institute of Technology to earn a degree in electrical engineering and minor in computer science. I ultimately want to become a computer engineer.”



JASMINE CHRISTENSEN

Project: Boating & Water Safety

Summary: “I love sailing and developed a four-part boating- and water-safety curriculum to teach young sailors how to be safe around the water while boating. I focused on the proper fitting of personal flotation devices and keeping our oceans and waterways environmentally safe and clean.”

Outcome: “I learned I can’t do everything myself and it’s okay to reach out for help, and I learned that I enjoy working with elementary-aged students.”

Future: “I enjoy working with young children, especially special needs students. I want to become an elementary-school special education teacher.”



JULIA CHUN

Project: The Streets Speak

Summary: “For my project, I focused on changing the stigma associated with the homeless community. The focal point of my project was writing a book composed of short stories I collected through interviews. I hope that this book will break unjust homeless stereotypes and allow us to move forward in aiding our homeless communities.”

Outcome: “I learned how to be a true leader and how to be self-motivated to achieve a goal. In being the ‘boss,’ directing others, and offering guidance, I felt empowered to make all the economic and creative decisions in this process.”

Future: “I plan to attend a four-year university to explore my multiplicity of interests. I would love to focus my learnings on dance, medical sciences, and psychology.”



LISA CHUNG

Project: Cooking in the Sun

Summary: “My Gold Award project was created by my interest in preserving the environment. I hosted a bake sale to raise money for solar oven supplies and taught kids how to make solar ovens. I hope my work will educate people about the diminishing ozone layer and inspire others to reduce carbon emissions.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson that I learned from my experience in earning my Gold Award was the importance of communication.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in physiology. I plan on becoming an optometrist.”



GASSIA COOPER

Project: Dare to be Aware

Summary: “My Gold Award project came as a result of fatal injuries due to several bike/car accidents in my community. I thought that if an area was created for the children of the next generation to learn about traffic safety, it would lessen the chance of them being hurt on the road. I hope my work will spur further initiatives.”

Outcome: “I learned doing things alone doesn’t always end up with the best results. I began this project thinking I could coordinate everything by myself. But I quickly realized that the help that was being offered to me by my mentor and fellow Girl Scouts was deeply needed and appreciated.”

Future: “As of right now, I attend Moorpark College and will be transferring to a CSU in the next two years. I chose anthropology as my major with the hopes of having a career in a museum or as a professor.”



BRIGITTE CORBELL

Project: Kids who Code

Summary: “My Gold Award project was inspired by my interest in computer coding and the realization that many communities did not have the resources or know-how to learn this valuable skill. I created and ran various week-long summer coding camps for elementary-age children and taught educators how to teach coding.”

Outcome: “The most rewarding part of my Gold Award was witnessing the happiness and excitement the kids experienced when they figured out a coding task on their own.”

Future: “I plan to attend the University of Georgia and major in finance. I hope to attend business school and work in finance.”



JULIA CORONADO-KING

Project: Girl Scouts for Farm Workers

Summary: “I surrounded my project around the many hardships that immigrant farm workers face. More specifically, I worked to provide farm workers and their families with basic goods that they struggle to provide for themselves due to unjust wages and working conditions. I organized food drives and educated my community on how they could support farm workers.”

Outcome: “My Gold Award helped me to realize that much more can be accomplished with the help from others.”

Future: “I will be attending the University of California, San Diego where I will pursue a degree in sociology. I plan to travel and will look to the skills I acquired as a Girl Scout to help me achieve success in all of my future endeavors.”



CRISTINA CORRAL

Project: Books Under the Stars

Summary: “My project consisted of renovating the library at Camp Mariastella and gathering books for the girls through book drives. By renovating the library, I am helping promote recreational reading among the campers.”

Outcome: “I learned how to manage a large-scale project with other people. This project posed new challenges, as it required a time commitment on the weekends at a camp that is nearly two hours away from my city.”

Future: “I am currently a sophomore at UCSD because AP credits have allowed me to skip a year. I plan to graduate in 2020. After that I will either go to medical school or graduate school as I want to intern and volunteer at a few places to see what I want to pursue.”



GRETA COX

Project: Toberman Theater Project

Summary: “My Gold Award project was sparked by my love for theater. I came across Toberman, a program that provides underprivileged kids with different summer activities. However, I noticed Toberman did not have a theater summer program. I wanted to bring theater to these students because theater has helped me with public speaking skills and confidence.”

Outcome: “I have learned that patience is very important. I had a different plan for my project until I learned some of my students were unable to read. Through patience and resilience, I was still able to achieve my goal and teach the students theater skills.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue my passion for musical theater.”



BRENNA COYLE

Project: Murals at Millers Children's and Women's Hospital

Summary: “For my Gold Award, I really wanted to show the positive effects art has on hospital patients. I worked in several playrooms at Millers Children's and Women's Hospital in Long Beach, creating murals with patients in the hematology and oncology wards. In total, the amazing patients were able to paint 108 paintings that were hung all around the hospital.”

Outcome: “I came away learning a lot about the power of positivity and positive thinking. Even when being faced with life-threatening diseases, all of the kids I worked with had an amazing outlook on life, looking to their futures and going back to school.”

Future: “I plan to receive a master's or even a Ph.D. in psychology in order to be a practicing therapist. I hope to then work for nonprofits like Peace Corps or go into a private practice with a focus on teen mental health. I really want to raise awareness for teen mental health and fight the stigma around therapy.”



R. RISK-TAKER

MEGAN CRAWFORD

Project: GirlCode

Summary: “My Gold Award project was sparked by my passion for computer science. I designed a coding curriculum and taught it to less-fortunate middle school girls at the Boys and Girls Club. My goal was to inspire them to consider computer science or STEM classes in high school or college and to educate them on the career opportunities available.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned from my Gold Award is the belief and confidence in my ability to make a change in the world. It was very rewarding for me to take an idea and dream and to create it on my own.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and participate in an interdisciplinary program where I can combine computer science with the humanities. I hope to play softball at the collegiate level. After college, I plan to use my knowledge and skills to make a positive impact on the world and to help as many people as I can.”



I. INNOVATOR

MADELYN CRIPPS

Project: Aloe Vera Garden Trail

Summary: “My Gold Award project addressed the condition of a beloved small discovery center. I created an educational trail through its aloe vera garden in hopes that my addition would help bring the center to its former glory and help educate the community.”

Outcome: “Based off of my experiences earning the Gold Award, I would say the greatest lesson I learned was how much hard work pays off.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in animal science.”



R. RISK-TAKER

SAVANAH CRIPPS

Project: Cactus Trail Restoration

Summary: “A cactus garden was overgrown and the trail through it was indistinguishable. For my Gold Award project, I defined a pathway through the garden. I removed the overgrowth, bordered the trail, and created an educational eye spy pamphlet for the visitors.”

Outcome: “Because I took on this project, I have learned much about myself and became a better problem solver, a better communicator, and a better organizer.”

Future: “In the years ahead, I plan to attend college to receive a degree in education, become a teacher, and raise a family of my own.”



L. LEADER

KATE CROWELL

Project: The Homelessness Project

Summary: “I worked with local schools to collect 50 backpacks that I filled with food and toiletries and donated them to Union Station Homeless Services. I also worked with two younger troops to create 25 blankets and scarves that were donated as well.”

Outcome: “With the completion of my Gold Award, I have learned that with dedication and hard work, you can accomplish anything you set your mind to. As long as you are willing to put in the effort, results will show. Also, never be afraid to ask for help. During the Gold Award process, I faced several challenges that I needed the help of others to overcome.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a major in marine biology with a double minor in political science and conservation biology. I plan on studying plastic pollution in the Pacific Ocean and its harmful effects. I hope to create an organization dedicated to finding solutions for this major issue.”



SIENA DANCSECS

Project: Heart of Gold

Summary: “My Gold Award project was inspired by my passion to help children in the hospital. I wanted to bring some light to their dark days in treatment. To do this, my team and I decorated the rooms of four patients, as well as replenished the unit’s playroom toys and games. I also implemented a new sanitizing system for the toys to minimize infection.”

Outcome: “I have learned how to lead others through service and how to inspire them to serve. I hope this experience is something they will remember and that they will choose to continue some form of service. I have also learned perseverance and conflict resolution when adverse situations arise.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in business. Wherever my career takes me, I would like to continue to serve those in need and take the time to do so.”



KYLA DANG

Project: Foothills Middle School Makerspace

Summary: “My Gold Award project aimed to help promote creativity and inspire healthy learning in middle schoolers at my alma mater. The makerspace included different stations for the students to use that would encourage them to socialize and create so that they can take this healthy social learning with them into future years.”

Outcome: “I learned how to effectively communicate, plan, and perform under a time restriction. Balancing school, my extracurriculars, and other responsibilities at the same time was a challenge that I had to face head-on, so my leadership and management skills definitely improved.”

Future: “I plan to attend college to eventually earn a master’s degree and want to major in business administration or management.”



KELLY DANIELS

Project: Caring for Our Troops

Summary: “For my project, I partnered with Operation Gratitude to honor the troops by hand-making 100 paracord bracelets and 100 cool-ties, and leading two presentations to educate students on the importance of respecting military. I shared both with the first-grade teachers and presented them myself, then collected letters from all 90 first-graders for the troops.”

Outcome: “Through this project, I have found a great passion in helping others, especially in connection with the military. I was lucky enough to discover a cause that is now very dear and important to me, and with which I will certainly continue to work in the future.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in forensic psychology. I hope to find a job in the criminal justice system in the future.”



ANNEMARIE DAPOZ

Project: Waste Reduction at American Martyrs

Summary: “For my project, I worked on reducing waste at a group of meeting facilities. I did research and created a series of educational resources for people to use when checking out the rooms and started a zero-waste program at the monthly pancake breakfast.”

Outcome: “Earning my Gold Award showed me how to stick with a project until completion. The process taught me I’m the one who can make a difference and I don’t have to wait for anything; and in the end it was incredible to see my idea turned into a reality.”

Future: “This fall, I will start college at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. I plan to pursue a degree in engineering or computer science. I hope to use my knowledge and skills to develop new technologies to explore our world and improve the lives of others.”



L. LEADER

AMY DAVIN

Project: The Science Cart

Summary: “I created a portable cart with 50 pre-packaged science experiment kits along with instruction books and videos to be used in the pediatric ward of Torrance Memorial Hospital. I hope my cart inspires these kids to pursue a career in science like I am doing.”

Outcome: “I learned persistence, as there were obstacles and many times I was tempted to give up while trying to reach my goals. I also learned how to manage money and balance my schedule. I can be very focused and productive when I put my mind to it.”

Future: “I plan to major in nursing at a university and receive a master’s degree to become a nurse practitioner, specializing in either pediatrics or emergency care. I would also love to travel the world.”



L. LEADER

KAITLIN DAY

Project: Pet Pals for Seniors

Summary: “Inspired by my relationship with my grandparents and their own experiences with pets, I researched and presented on the benefits of pet companionship to the senior community and organized a pet interaction event with an animal rescue. My efforts resulted in pet adoptions, benefiting both the seniors and pets.”

Outcome: “An important lesson I learned was identifying the appropriate people to collaborate with and support my project goals throughout the process. Surrounding myself with individuals who shared their time, knowledge, and resources was integral to the success of my project.”

Future: “My plans are to attend a college and major in mathematical sciences in order to pursue a STEM career. Through work and involvement in the community, I hope to improve the lives of others and continue to develop my leadership skills.”



L. LEADER

NARCH DEHARTOUNIAN

Project: Smiles of the Future

Summary: “I partnered with Focus on Children Now to provide 450 dental health kits for kids in Armenia. Through hosting a bake sale and concert fundraiser, I bought toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, and materials for pamphlets to teach the kids about dental health and nutrition.”

Outcome: “Life is not always easy and as an individual, as a community, and as a people we should support those around us who are struggling. The children I helped through my Gold Award project have done more for me than I did for them; their resilience and strength drives me to do more.”

Future: “After attending a university and studying biomedical sciences, I plan on becoming a hematologist, and hopefully find cures to blood-related diseases.”



R. RISK-TAKER

LYSETTE DESILVA

Project: Ending the Stigma

Summary: “I took action against mental health stigmas by teaching fourth graders about the importance of talking about it. My hopes are that the students will carry this knowledge with them and be healthier themselves, while encouraging open-minded discussion with others.”

Outcome: “Through my Gold Award, I was able to become more mentally healthy myself. I can be anxious, especially in communicating with other people, but during my project I overcame this worry and successfully communicated, completing what I had started.”

Future: “I plan to go to college and perhaps become the first in my family to get a doctorate. My dream is to be a school psychologist.”



RACHEL DEVER

Project: Serving and Equipping to Serve

Summary: “My project’s aim was to teach young people an alternative to the self-obsessed norm. I organized groups to pack things for kids in need, spoke on ‘The Heart of a Servant,’ led a children’s outreach in Ensenada, and wrote a booklet. I hope that through my efforts, many more will be encouraged to live selflessly and serve others.”

Outcome: “Through earning the Gold Award, I learned to keep going and never give up—to ‘do it afraid.’ It has taught me the value of persistence even when the going gets tough.”

Future: “I plan to pursue a degree in cross-cultural and biblical studies, and perhaps midwifery. I also hope to serve as a missionary in a foreign field.”



LINDSEY DI SILVESTRI

Project: The Paraclete High School Campus Ministry Center

Summary: “My project was inspired by my love for bringing others closer to God. I created a new space and system for kids to get involved in their faith, through a \$15,000 reconstruction of an unused room, at my local Catholic high school. The room is now used for meetings, classes, and overnight retreats.”

Outcome: “With perseverance and faith, all things are possible. Several times during my project I was ready to quit, but I pushed through and my project turned out more beautiful than I would have ever thought possible.”

Future: “I will move to Ventura and continue my education. I know if I have faith and follow my passions I will end up where I am meant to be.”



ELIZABETH DICK

Project: Staff Lounge at La Cañada High School

Summary: “Knowing the amount of time my mother and Girl Scout leader spend volunteering at school and the time our staff spends there daily, I wanted to give back.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I have learned from my Gold Award project wasn’t the actual project itself, but the time I spent remembering how wonderful the whole Girl Scout journey has been for the past 12 years.”

Future: “I plan to attend college in the fall. While I haven’t declared a major yet, I find myself leaning toward entrepreneurship. I am excited for this new chapter in my life.”



MORGAN DICKSON

Project: Water Worthy: Developing A Water Conscience

Summary: “Inspired by the chronic drought in California, I reconstructed a community garden to be drought-tolerant by adding water-wise plants, implementing a drip irrigation system, and making a brochure to teach community members how to use less water. I hope that my garden will act as a reminder to save water.”

Outcome: “I learned how to be an effective communicator—how to get my point across efficiently while also being respectful.”

Future: “I plan to pursue a degree in elementary education, and potentially go on to earn a master’s. As an elementary school teacher, I’d want to inspire children to be the best versions of themselves on an everyday basis.”



CAMERON DIRKSE

Project: Raising Awareness About Teen Domestic Violence

Summary: “I created resource books for domestic violence victims and educated teens at my school and in the community about the prevalence of domestic abuse. Since this violence is born from previous violence, my goal is to break the cycle at the adolescent age.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson that stood out to me was probably the awareness—not everyone lives the ‘white picket fence’ kind of life. Also, some victims might not seek help, as their abusers use love to take advantage of them.”

Future: “I plan to attend a university and obtain a master’s in education.”



AMY DOMAE

Project: Robotics + Underrepresented Students = Bright Futures

Summary: “I created a robotics course for kids in an underserved area of Artesia, teaching basic programming/engineering with LEGO robotics. I also wrote lesson plans, activities, and a pictorial guide to build a basic robot for future use.”

Outcome: “Through this project, I found confidence in managing a group of people and gained the skills to be an effective leader.”

Future: “Next year, I will pursue a bachelor’s degree in chemistry with aspirations to later attend grad school and attain a Ph.D. I hope to become a researcher in chemistry and to make a positive impact on society.”



TARA DONAGHY

Project: Creating Happiness for CHLA and UCLA

Summary: “I used my passion for the arts to decorate and personalize lap trays for kids in the hospital. I also left behind lap trays, paint pens, and a book of step-by-step drawings. I hope that these desks will provide a creative outlet for pediatric patients stuck in bed.”

Outcome: “My Gold Award taught me the importance of communication. Alongside initiative, communicating with the people around you, whether peers or adults, is what a true leader exhibits.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and either pursue my passion for kids and teaching or politics and government.”



SABRINA DUNCAN

Project: Pediatric Playroom Makeover

Summary: “My project was a complete makeover of Valley Presbyterian Hospital’s pediatric playroom, including donated commodities, painted walls along with murals, and a happier environment. It benefited the children of Van Nuys, those who have no say in where they live and no ability to make a change.”

Outcome: “I have learned that everything does not always go as planned, sometimes you have to improvise and fix things last-minute in order to make sure everything runs smoothly.”

Future: “I will attend UC Irvine in the fall for nursing. I plan to be a pediatric nurse practitioner working in the ER at Children’s Hospital, Los Angeles one day.”



ALEXANDRA EHRHART

Project: Home of Hope

Summary: “I repainted and redecorated the living and dining rooms at Door of Hope homeless shelter, repainted shelves, made two collages, and did an interactive art project with the residents. My project has improved the overall atmosphere of the homeless shelter, and given the residents a happier home.”

Outcome: “Going through the Gold Award process helped me become more self-reliant and sufficient, and challenged me to take initiative in my own tasks to get things done well.”

Future: “I plan to attend a four-year university and pursue medicine with a minor in language, specifically Spanish. I would potentially like to play a sport in college as well as become involved in the college community.”



EMILEE ESTOYA

Project: Music: A-G

Summary: “Channeling my strong love for music, I held a summer class where I taught students in grades 6–12 about music theory. I wanted to educate today’s youth on music because budget cuts in many schools prohibit (and will continue to prohibit) them from doing so.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned is to not overwhelm myself.”

Future: “I plan to attend college, major in nursing, and minor in musical theater. I want to be able to perform while having a stable job and becoming a nurse can take me anywhere, even to New York where I would love to get a lead role in a Broadway musical.”



KAELA FISCHER

Project: Tutoring Program at Sato

Summary: “I started a tutoring program at Sato Academy of Math and Science. The program both helped students learn the material and provided them with upperclassmen role models, since the school only served freshmen and sophomores in 2016–17.”

Outcome: “Now, not only can I communicate effectively and efficiently, but through my Gold Award, I also learned I am capable of managing large groups of people.”

Future: “I currently attend UC Davis, pursuing a dual major in mathematics and education with a music minor. I’d love to become a math or elementary school teacher. I am also super excited to be a unit counselor at El Ranchito this summer!”



ABBY FISHER

Project: Battling Plastic Pollution

Summary: “My project was aimed to raise awareness about plastic pollution. I visited various elementary schools in LA and taught over 300 students about this issue. Following a slideshow I created, I led the students through an art activity in which they decorated recycled plastic bottles as monsters, to remind them of plastic’s monstrous effects.”

Outcome: “Earning my Gold Award made me feel empowered; this experience taught me that I truly can make a difference in the world!”

Future: “I plan to pursue a degree in environmental sciences or engineering with the goal of becoming an environmental scientist and work for an organization dedicated to the protection of the environment.”



L. LEADER

MADYSON FISHER

Project: Library for Literacy

Summary: “My project addressed the issue of literacy in low-income areas. I put together a library in a community center, where I gave each child that came in a book to take home, and the parents with an informational pamphlet on literacy, to help them better understand the importance of reading in their child’s life.”

Outcome: “Doing my Gold Award project has given me much more confidence when it comes to speaking with adults.”

Future: “I plan to attend a four-year college, where I will get a degree in health sciences. From there, I plan to become a physician assistant, hopefully within a hospital.”



L. LEADER

HARPER FOX

Project: Prom Perfect

Summary: “My project was a result of my love for volunteering within my community and my desire to help kids my own age. I collected thousands of dollars, 300 dresses, 75 pair of shoes, and more for an organization that makes it possible for low-income teens to go to prom.”

Outcome: “By helping these teens find their dream outfits, I learned how to deal with different situations as well as create positive relationships with new friends.”

Future: “I plan on graduating from college with a degree in environmental studies, then going to law school in hopes to be an environmental lawyer. I am also interested in working with a nonprofit environmental agency.”



L. LEADER

AMARIS FRANCIA

Project: Cultivating Change in the Lives of Students

Summary: “My project is aimed at teaching elementary school students learn the benefits of gardening. They will learn the science behind growing fruits and vegetables of their own and how to maintain a balanced diet with vegetables they’ve grown themselves.”

Outcome: “Through this process I learned the importance of time management and independence.”

Future: “I am currently attending the University of La Verne and I am working towards my bachelor’s degree. After graduation I look to pursue a career in law enforcement and become a detective.”



G. GO-GETTER

CAYLA FUJITA-HAFFNER

Project: Fostering and Instilling a Love for Reading

Summary: “My goal was to instill and foster a love for reading in children and youth in the community. I partnered with the Boys and Girls Club of Monrovia, obtaining books for their members which will be read many times, over many years.”

Outcome: “The Gold Award experience really helped build my self-confidence.”

Future: “I am currently at Citrus College with the goal of eventually transferring to the nursing program at UCLA.”



JACLYN GABELA
Project: A Safe Space

Summary: “For my project, I redesigned the school psychologist waiting area. It was a dull and saddening space that I transformed by painting the walls calming colors, installing comfortable furniture, and adding decorations.”

Outcome: “I learned to communicate and collaborate with others in order to execute a goal, and followed through on my commitment. Most of all, I gained the confidence to pursue challenges and long-term goals in the future.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and earn a degree in communications. I wish to become an event planner who organizes conventions and expositions.”



ALYSSA GALANG
Project: Outdoor Sustainable Landscape

Summary: “My project addressed a global issue, water conservation, in hopes to bring more awareness to my local community. The sustainable outdoor garden provides a natural water supply source for landscape areas at La Casa de San Gabriel. My project demonstrates alternatives for addressing water conservation issues in our society.”

Outcome: “This project has helped me develop leadership skills while promoting teamwork and strong values.”

Future: “I am going to pursue my lifelong dream of becoming an architect with an emphasis in sustainability and urban design.”



CLAIRE GANGUIN
Project: The Brain Dance

Summary: “I was inspired to do my project after spending my summer at the University of Irvine. There I learned about an initiative that teaches basic dance and yoga movements to orphaned children in Africa. I was inspired by this concept and adjusted the model for children with special needs in my community.”

Outcome: “From my experience with earning my Gold Award I’ve learned that I enjoy helping younger children and those less fortunate than I am.”

Future: “As an aspiring dancer, I plan to attend the Joffrey Ballet and join a professional dance company, while also pursuing a degree in English.”



KAYLA GARCIA
Project: Make Your Mark

Summary: “For my project, I partnered with the Covina Public Library to facilitate a love of art and reading in children as well as beautify the community. I devised a series of three workshops that involved children helping me paint murals on two industrial-sized waste baskets and the library book drop.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned during my project was to stay organized and how to adjust to changes on a whim.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a double major in art and business. I want to become a graphic designer and create custom clothing, logos, and business advertisements.”



BRIANA GARDEN

Project: Veteran's Resource Guide

Summary: "My project was encouraged by my desire to work with those who serve or have served in the military. The goal was to help local veterans find phone numbers, emails, information, and resources easily by creating a resource guide."

Outcome: "Throughout this project, I learned the value of dedication, thoroughness, and the joy of helping others in research."

Future: "I will be attending California State University Maritime Academy to major in global relations maritime affairs and minor in pre-law. I am passionate about pursuing a military career after college and this project helped to strengthen that passion and focus."



JACQUELINE GARRITY

Project: Breaking Barriers Building Community through Language Immersion

Summary: "I value foreign languages as well as the importance of welcoming immigrant students. For my project, I taught the Rassias language instruction method to ELD teachers and immersion students. I also shared a graphic novel about my foreign-exchange experiences with English speakers to build empathy and motivate them to learn a new language."

Outcome: "My Gold Award project helped me develop a stronger sense of self through public speaking, writing, and sharing my experiences with students and teachers. I feel more connected to my community, locally and globally. Most importantly, I feel empowered to make a difference in the world."

Future: "I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in foreign languages and politics. Ultimately, I hope to work for a peace-keeping force such as the United Nations."



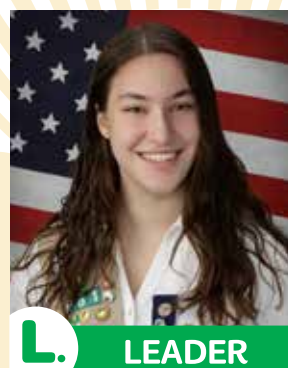
CATHERINE GAYNOR

Project: Public Outreach to Dispel Misconceptions of Vision

Summary: "For my Gold Award project, I informed parents and teachers about vision issues unrelated to visual acuity. By doing this, children were able to get the vision help they needed to make learning and day-to-day activities much easier."

Outcome: "The greatest lesson I have learned from my experience is that one needs to persevere. I learned that in order to prove yourself you need to stand firmly with what you believe in."

Future: "I plan to study health or biology in college earning a degree that will allow me to become a physical therapist. I then hope to work with a professional sports team or work at a hospital."



TALIA GOLDSTEIN

Project: Dancing with Camp Splash!

Summary: "I chose to combine my passion for dance with helping others. After seeing disabled children get turned down from studios, I provided classes for them and around 50 others at the Rose Bowl Aquatics Center's Camp Splash! In these classes, which spanned four weeks at two hours a week, my goal was to show the students that their disabilities don't need to stop them from doing what they want."

Outcome: "In earning my Gold Award, I learned the importance of patience, as the kids I was working with required repetition, patience, and slow learning in every class."

Future: "I plan to go to college and get my business degree so that one day, I can use my leadership skills to run a large business."



I. INNOVATOR

RACHEL GRAVES

Project: Friendship Foundation Teen Leadership Program

Summary: “My project was inspired by the beautiful smiles of my special needs friends and their parents. I developed an advanced training program for teen leaders in the South Bay who support special needs children. I hope this program will educate teens about disabilities and provide tips for them to effectively work with these children.”

Outcome: “As a result of my project, I learned that I have the ability to successfully lead a discussion as well as stay organized in a professional setting. This project has allowed me to gain confidence in my leadership skills and realize that I can make a difference in the lives of others.”

Future: “I plan to attend a four-year university and major in art or design. I would like to eventually work in a field where I can be creative and help others.”



L. LEADER

RACHEL GRAY

Project: Get Up and GO!

Summary: “My project was sparked by my love for outdoor activity and sports. I donated new sport equipment to a local elementary school that was in need. I planned and directed a three-day workshop for students where I taught them fun games, as well as good nutritional and mental health habits. I hope my work will inspire them to live their healthiest life.”

Outcome: “I’ve learned that I am capable of being a powerful voice despite being so young.”

Future: “After earning my business degree, I plan to be a leading entrepreneur in my community while continuing to feed my artistic side through jewelry design.”



L. LEADER

KATIE GRIFFITH

Project: No Stress Game Night

Summary: “My Gold Award project focused on relieving stress for teens by sharing effective coping skills. I hosted a weekly game night at the library and shared activities on how to deal with stress in their lives. I provided a bound instruction manual and identified key games so that the program may be repeated.”

Outcome: “I learned how to put together a weekly event and how much planning goes into running an educational program.”

Future: “I plan to attend college for either creative writing or psychology. In the future, I hope to be a published author of a best-selling novel.”



G. GO-GETTER

HEATHER GRIFFITHS

Project: Stemming Out From Kids Program

Summary: “To show kids that STEM is fun, I created a repeatable interactive program for the Stevenson Ranch Library and the Boys & Girls Club of Santa Clarita. I hope kids will be inspired to promote STEM throughout the community because of the excitement caused by my program.”

Outcome: “I learned how to be an effective project manager and put my passion for STEM into action. I learned the value of planning meetings, prototypes testing, providing advanced agendas, and engaging outside experts.”

Future: “I plan to attend college to pursue a career in either forensic science helping to solve crimes, or bioengineering, to find unique ways to integrate prosthetics into human physiology.”



L. LEADER

JULIE GUAN

Project: Words of Wisdom

Summary: “As a student who values education highly, I was inspired to provide equal educational opportunities for underprivileged students. I dedicated my Gold Award project to creating and teaching a writing program for students at a local family resource center as well as built a library at the center.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I have learned is that any goal is possible if you believe in yourself and continue to work toward it. When I first developed the idea for my project, it was extremely daunting, but as I worked towards my goal, I realized that with hard work and motivation, I could achieve it.”

Future: “I am planning to attend college, where I will either pursue a degree in economics or in business. Over the next four years I plan to take advantage of all the opportunities that I receive and to continually work to improve myself.”



L. LEADER

AVA GUTIERREZ

Project: La Casa Preschool Library

Summary: “For my Gold Award project I installed a library for the preschool at La Casa Community Center. I love to read and my passion started when I was young as we had many books and my parents were always reading to me. I want other children to have the same opportunity.”

Outcome: “My Gold Award project helped me feel more confident while leading others, and taught me how to manage a project from beginning to the end. The best outcome, which I will remember forever, is seeing the faces of the preschoolers as I welcomed them into their new library.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and become a doctor. I hope to travel the world and live a happy fulfilling life.”



L. LEADER

SARA HALEBLIAN

Project: Cooking with Kids at Hillsides

Summary: “My project was sparked by my love for cooking. I taught foster kids how to prepare simple, healthy, affordable recipes and I explained proper nutrition. I hope my project will help educate kids about cooking and the importance of healthy recipes.”

Outcome: “I have learned how to be a leader, how to manage a budget, and how to plan classes targeted for young kids.”

Future: “I plan to attend a four-year college and pursue a degree in food science or hospitality and hope to have my own restaurant one day.”



G. GO-GETTER

ELISABETH HALES

Project: Descanso Gardens Accessibility Pathway

Summary: “My Gold Award project was in interest of creating a safe and beautiful way for disabled people to get from a parking lot to an entrance by a pathway. The idea was generated from the thought of my grandpa who visits the gardens nearly every day but has trouble walking on uneven roads. I hope that the pathway helps accomplish a safe walking area.”

Outcome: “I have never been much of a leader but this opportunity has made me gain more confidence in that area. I had to plan and delegate work to people. I was the head of the operation.”

Future: “I plan to attend BYU Provo and become a mechanical engineer. I also hope to play on the lacrosse club. I want to be able to build and design things that improve our world.”



MIA HARDER

Project: Beautification and Film

Summary: “My Gold Award project was based around a Japanese preschool that I once attended. With this project, I wanted to give back to the community that helped me to connect back to my Japanese roots. I remodeled a cubby and storage area, and created a video showcasing all the programs that they have to offer.”

Outcome: “From this Gold Award, I was able to learn that hard work comes with resilience, and the importance of staying organized.”

Future: “I plan to attend college at Loyola Marymount University and pursue a degree in communications and minor in journalism. I hope to become involved in the television news business to become a social media manager.”



MARY HARMON

Project: Prayer Intentions Board

Summary: “My Gold Award was sparked through my faith and passion for my school. I created the board with the goal of providing a safe platform for all walks of life to come together and pray as a community to ultimately create a more inclusive community.”

Outcome: “I developed my critical thinking skills by considering what the needs were in my school community, and how I could bring about positive change.”

Future: “I plan to earn a degree in business or pre-law, while continuing my passion for music and my faith. Though I expect to become a lawyer, I’ve had a dream since I was a little girl to perform on Broadway. I would love to see this dream become reality!”



ALEXIS HARRIS

Project: The Caring Community Cookbook

Summary: “My Gold Award project was inspired by my passion for healthy eating, cooking, and helping others. I assessed the food preferences of homeless persons and reviewed what the common food donations were like at the shelter. With this information I created a cookbook that volunteers can use when they volunteer for years to come.”

Outcome: “From working with the homeless shelter, I have learned that even though we all come from different walks of life, we all have a plethora of similarities at the same time.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a career in pediatric nursing.”



HOLLY HARRIS

Project: Sun Safety

Summary: “I addressed the issue of skin cancer through writing, illustrating, and self-publishing a children’s book about sun safety. My book is accessible at my local library district, children’s hospital, and is available for purchase on Amazon, Barnes & Noble, with purchases internationally. Additionally, I’ve personally read my book to 200 kids and it has reached 500 kids total.”

Outcome: “I learned to always persevere and that a person can accomplish anything they set their mind to!”

Future: “I plan to attend college, majoring in biology, with the intention of becoming an orthopedic or plastic pediatric surgeon. I hope to volunteer with Doctor Without Borders and conduct medical research.”



L. LEADER

MIA HASENMAYER

Project: EMPOWER U!

Summary: "Through EMPOWER U! I wanted to provide tools for girls ages 10-13 to build and strengthen healthy self-esteem. Through a series of five workshops, I addressed specific areas of possible uneasiness in pre-teens and provided tools and resources to help instill lasting skills, knowledge, and confidence."

Outcome: "What I learned is that making mistakes can sometimes be good and asking for help is not only okay, but that people generally want to lend a hand."

Future: "I plan to attend a four-year university and major in law with a minor in business. I hope to run my own law firm one day, possibly specializing in government law to help protect and uphold the Constitution."



L. LEADER

MASOOMA HASNAIN

Project: Building Bridges

Summary: "Several religious scholars have spoken about tolerance, understanding, and the importance of learning. My Gold Award project, Building Bridges, was founded to fight ignorance and intolerance."

Outcome: "People change people. In stories of terrorism and hate crimes, I learned that if you let the hatred of others grow within you from the seed of ignorance, you will break relationships that people have tried so hard to defend. Every word has the power to change a single person and every person has the power to change themselves and their community."

Future: "After college, I plan to work as a medical researcher at the National Institutes of Health. Additionally, I want to identify affordable health care options for poor communities."



L. LEADER

KASSIDY HATA

Project: MPCC Sunday School Rooms Makeover

Summary: "I wanted to help my church by renovating two Sunday school rooms. I held fundraising opportunities and raised enough to repaint the walls and purchase new furniture and supplies. Our youth now have comfortable rooms with games and activities to help them learn."

Outcome: "I learned critical leadership skills through planning out a project and building a budget."

Future: "I plan to attend college as a geology major and continue my passion of playing sports."



L. LEADER

TARA HEJAZI HASHEMI

Project: Remodeling the John C. Fremont Elementary Garden

Summary: "I constructed three courtyard picnic tables with umbrellas, painting the side wall, removing weeds, and making a binder for gardening tips. Elementary school is where children find out who they are based off their interests and dislikes. I hope this garden will provide opportunities for students to be more involved in school programs."

Outcome: "I have learned that there will always be obstacles that stand in your way, but if you have determination and leadership skills, you will succeed."

Future: "My future goals include attending university, majoring in nursing, and becoming a nurse practitioner."



KRISTINA HIRAISHI

Project: Preparing for the Future

Summary: “My Gold Award project aimed to inform high school students about practical business and financial information. I created a club that taught members topics like taxes, credit, resumes, and brought in expert guest speakers. I envision my club continuing to advise and prepare students to become independent, informed, and confident adults.”

Outcome: “Through my Gold Award, I have been able to take initiative and lead others in the right direction. For the club, I had to come up with all of the lesson plans, find guest speakers, and address audiences. From this project I have become more confident in public speaking and now can prepare and organize events as a leader.”

Future: “In the future, I plan on attending a four-year university to get a degree in finance or math. I also plan on obtaining a master’s and doctorate degree to further my education.”



ELIZABETH HO

Project: Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

Summary: “I decided to encourage people to love themselves and others. I painted a mural on my church wall that said ‘Love Your Neighbor As Yourself’ and taught four lessons to the children in the church centered around the biblical verse on my mural. Hopefully, my project will encourage others to improve their relationships.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned was to plan ahead.”

Future: “I aspire to go to a decent college and hopefully find my passion. I hope to become a contributing member of society and be happy in what I do.”



JANICE HO

Project: Career Exploration: Art and Technology

Summary: “I held workshops with high school students to create a four-by-eight-foot mural that stressed the importance of careers in the collaboration of art and technology. I also shared my project with a middle school community, in hopes of encouraging them to pursue such paths as they are starting to consider future plans.”

Outcome: “Undertaking this allowed me to recognize my strengths as a leader.”

Future: “I am majoring in computer science game design, where I can challenge my eye for design and computer science skills, at the University of California, Santa Cruz. I plan to earn a master’s degree in business, so I can learn the fundamentals of potentially creating a product of my own and build a corporation upon my ideas.”



ELEANOR HOLDSWORTH

Project: Young & Healthy Readers

Summary: “I collected household supplies for residents of Centennial Place, Union Station’s facility for adults transitioning to independent living—as well as arranged for a financial advisor to consult the residents and held a blanket-making workshop.”

Outcome: “I learned that leadership is about adapting to changes and solving problems before they escalate. During this project, I also discovered that leadership is not merely repeating instructions, but assuming responsibility in all situations.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in political science. I hope to have a career in law or the nonprofit sector while continuing my involvement in Girl Scouts.”



R. RISK-TAKER

MADISON HOLLERS

Project: Honor Wall

Summary: “I went to my principal and talked to him about adding this wall to our courtyard of courage and from there we started collecting donations and names of anyone who attended Saugus High School who are first responders.”

Outcome: “I have learned a lot while working on this project, one of them being that it is okay to ask for help. This project helped me truly realize my passion for my future career and motivates me to one day be added to the wall myself.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in criminal/forensic physiology. I plan to use this degree and work for law enforcement before becoming a FBI agent. Which will not only make my dreams a reality but I will then get my name added onto my honor wall at Saugus High School.”



G. GO-GETTER

BRITTANY HONIG

Project: Operation Golden Girls

Summary: “I renovated the homework and art room at Maryvale, an organization that houses and supports girls in the foster care system. They had trouble getting the girls to do their homework in the drab, uninspiring room they had at the time. I painted the walls, bought and constructed furniture, decorated the room, and filled it with art supplies.”

Outcome: “I learned the importance of being flexible and being able to adapt plans. I have also gained a sense of empowerment.”

Future: “I hope to pursue writing and art in my future. In college I would like to study literature and journalism, along with philosophy and psychology.”



L. LEADER

AMBER HOOL

Project: HOPE--Help Oncology Patients Excel

Summary: “The first part of my project involved organizing a booth at the Relay for Life event and distributing bags of HOPE to cancer survivors and their families. The second part of my project involved creating a website that provides valuable information and messages of hope.”

Outcome: “I have become more self-confident and compassionate. I have learned practical life skills by working with others, learning to organize my team, and accomplishing a goal.”

Future: “In the future, I would like to pursue a career in medicine. It will allow me to do medical research, help patients get well, and make a difference in the world.”



G. GO-GETTER

JESSICA HOSLER

Project: Growing a Better Life

Summary: “I built two square-foot garden boxes for the WomenShelter Of Long Beach to encourage a connection to a healthier food source, as well as to give those in the shelter access to a type of therapy that would allow them a feeling of control over their lives.”

Outcome: “I have learned how to adapt better to unforeseen outcomes and work around obstacles that may arise.”

Future: “I wish to attend college and double-major in biochemistry and chemistry. I wish to work in medical research and be an activist in any place politics and medicine blend.”



MADELEINE HOTALING

Project: Refurbishing a Library at Our Lady of Guadalupe

Summary: “I refurbished a library at a K-8 school. I re-painted all of the walls and ripped out one wall of cupboards to create four computer stations and installed an accelerated reading program. I believe my project has created a fun and encouraging environment that inspires children to develop a love of learning and reading.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned is that communication is key.”

Future: “I will be attending Elon University in the fall. I plan on majoring in exercise science or psychology. Although I am not aware of what I want to do as I get older, I plan on attending graduate school.”



KIRA HUM

Project: Growing Green

Summary: “I was inspired to dedicate my project to the seconders at my church’s elementary school. I taught them lessons about keeping our environment safe, growing vegetables in a garden, and harvesting vegetables to cook. I hope that my students will take my project’s information and emerge as the true leaders they are.”

Outcome: “I was exposed to the burdens that come with independence, and now I feel prepared to take on anything and everything.”

Future: “Next year, I will be attending UCLA with the intended major of pre-business economics. I have high hopes for my future journey in college, and I look forward to the new experiences that I have yet to encounter—both academic and extracurricular.”



SARRAH HUSSAIN

Project: The Kindness Project

Summary: “My project focuses on cultivating kindness and normalizing kind actions in our community. I carried out kind actions in order to inspire others to continue a kindness chain and created a website about kindness and my project to promote kindness in the community.”

Outcome: “I am generally a very shy person, and from this project, I think I’ve pushed outside of my comfort zone and gained much more confidence in speaking to people I don’t know.”

Future: “I would like to attend a university, and though I am unsure about the degree I would like to pursue, I would like to study pre-med, in hopes of attending medical school. I plan to become an OB/GYN or a trauma surgeon, and find a cure for paralysis.”



ISABELLA IGNATIAN

Project: School in Africa

Summary: “My project was inspired by my passion to help those in underdeveloped countries, lacking the many opportunities that we have here in the United States. I raised money to buy school supplies to send to Uganda in an effort to better the education of local village children.”

Outcome: “I have learned to be a better leader and take on tasks independently, yet also rally the support of friends and family.”

Future: “I plan to attend college to further my education, but I am still unsure of what I want to pursue. I would love to be able to travel to new places, including Africa, particularly to see the village I have impacted.”



L. LEADER

AUTRY ISOM

Project: Preserving the Beauty of SoCal

Summary: “I created a native plant garden at my temple to act as a model for others. I wanted to address the drought and importance of native plants by informing others on native plants and sharing my passions. I also created a website to provide others with the resources that they would need to make a difference themselves.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I have learned is to recognize I have a voice.”

Future: “I plan to attend a four-year university to pursue a degree in ecology and evolutionary biology, conservation biology, or environmental studies. I hope to be able to participate in immersive research and possibly study abroad during my college career.”



L. LEADER

SELENE JALALIANFARD

Project: Lunches with Love

Summary: “My project was sparked by the homelessness issues I was accustomed to seeing growing up. I made lunches to pass out to homeless people in my community. I hope my program will continue to expand and raise awareness of the issue of homelessness.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson learned was how sometimes I can be unknowingly unappreciative while others so close to me have nothing. I have learned to appreciate everything in life, no matter how big or small.”

Future: “I am currently an English major at University of California, Santa Barbara, hoping to further my education by attending law school after receiving my bachelor’s degree.”



G. GO-GETTER

CLAIRE JENNESS

Project: Ticktocker Thrift Shop Web Work

Summary: “I volunteer at the Ticktocker Thrift Shop and realized the store needed to attract more customers. I designed a website and utilized social media forums to increase business. I set up an email and created fliers to notify customers of sales. In the store, I refurbished signs. The result was a significant increase in foot traffic to the thrift shop.”

Outcome: “I learned more about the computer world, how to design a web page, and the effects of social media on a nonprofit business.”

Future: “I plan to attend college after high school and study science or business. Having been diagnosed with a genetic defect through testing at birth, I am interested in the study of genetics. I hope to cure many diseases through this field of study.”



I. INNOVATOR

COURTNEY JOHNSON

Project: A Mural that Matters

Summary: “I renovated a children’s art therapy room by designing and painting a wall mural, creating a storage bin full of new art supplies and providing new furniture. Now, it is a bright, fun space for art and play!”

Outcome: “I learned that we all have the ability to help others in some way. It takes desire, time and perseverance. Obstacles may come along, but you can work through them.”

Future: “I plan to attend a university and study business and fashion. I want to study abroad and intern in Paris for a semester. After college, I plan to work in the New York fashion business. Later, I want to own a ranch with lots of animals and write and illustrate children’s books.”



KRISTEN JOHNSON

Project: Beautification and Inspiration through Art

Summary: “For my Gold Award project, I worked with Casa Pacifica, a home for children who have been abused and neglected. The children painted tiles with meaningful designs that were then placed on light poles throughout the campus.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I have learned from my Gold Award is to never give up. When an obstacle comes your way, it is important to stay calm and find ways around it. There is always a solution to every problem.”

Future: “I plan to attend and graduate from the University of Wisconsin. I have yet to decide which career path I will follow. Whichever path I may choose, I will make a positive impact among society.”



SAMANTHA JOHNSON

Project: Let's Lend!

Summary: “I built three Little Free Libraries and installed them in and around my community. I hope my libraries inspire people to read more.”

Outcome: “I have learned that it's really important to be assertive and ask for what you want and to not be shy while doing it.”

Future: “I plan to attend Pasadena City College and transfer to Art Center to earn my bachelor's degree in character design. I want to design attractions and theming for amusement parks, restaurants, stores, and museums. I hope to work as an Imagineer for Disney.”



EMILY KASMAN

Project: Comfort for Canines

Summary: “For my Gold Award project, I worked with Guide Dogs of America as a puppy raiser and created a year's supply of blankets for the puppies in training. The blankets provide the puppies with a sense of warmth and comfort, protect them against harmful diseases, and serve as a training marker.”

Outcome: “I have developed extensive leadership qualities and a greater sense of confidence through Girl Scouts while completing my Bronze, Silver, and Gold Award projects.”

Future: “I plan to attend a four-year university to pursue a business marketing degree. I hope to become a marketing executive for a large company.”



HAILEY KEIDEL

Project: Little Scientists

Summary: “I created and implemented a STEM workshop program in the transitional kindergarten classroom at my elementary/junior high school alma mater in order to spark the students' interest, especially in young girls, in these fields.”

Outcome: “Earning my Gold Award taught me how to enhance and use my leadership skills to the best of my abilities in order to work well and to communicate with others and to share my ideals to all those involved.”

Future: “I plan to attend Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and obtain a degree in hotel, parks, and tourism administration with a focus in event planning to allow me to work in large-name resorts in Hawaii. It is my dream to spread the Aloha Spirit to all.”



I. INNOVATOR

EMMA KESSNER

Project: The TinkerTrack

Summary: “I worked with the Culver City reDiscover Center to create, prototype, and build a portable racetrack activity. This project allowed me to introduce younger children to STEM in a fun and engaging way, and will be utilized by as many as 300 students per year in 11 schools per semester.”

Outcome: “I learned how to balance my strong desire for independence with the need to collaborate with others. I recognized that it was essential to have the feedback from my friends and mentors in order to improve my project, for they helped me focus my general ideas into something more achievable and sustainable.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in a STEM-related field. I would like to continue being active in community service by mentoring future female leaders interested in science and technology.”



L. LEADER

LAILA KHAN

Project: Hats for Refugees

Summary: “I knitted beanies and collected toiletries for refugees arriving in Greece with the help of church groups, school clubs, and friends, knitting a total of 200 beanies. I hope my project has a major impact on Syrian refugees to make them feel loved and spread awareness.”

Outcome: “I learned how to manage time since there is a deadline and I had a huge goal to reach. I also learned how to approach people and not be afraid to ask for help or their input on certain ideas.”

Future: “I plan to attend a University of California and attend law school. With that law degree I want to become an entertainment lawyer.”



I. INNOVATOR

DEBORAH KHAW

Project: FECA Painting, Murals, and Posters

Summary: “Sparked by my love of art, I helped transform my church’s children’s ministry hall with paintings, murals, and posters. With paint donated from Dunn-Edwards and poster materials, I was able to complete the transformation. I hope my work will create a welcoming space, as well as bring the kids closer to God.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned is to not give up no matter how hard the situation is. I realize that fussing over obstacles that get in the way is not worth it, and focusing on the goal is what’s most important.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree. I’m not sure which field I will study in yet, but I want to be able to express my creativity in my future career.”



I. INNOVATOR

ASHLEY KIM

Project: Blankets and Clothes

Summary: “My project aimed to have a positive effect on mothers and their children who face abuse and/or homelessness and are now living at a homeless shelter. I made over 100 blankets and donated around 40 bags of clothes to The Sheepfold women’s shelter, in hopes that they will be encouraged to stay strong and know that people love them.”

Outcome: “I learned that even though things may not go as planned, there is always a way to fix and make the situation better. Making these blankets and donating these clothes to the shelter has opened my eyes to real problems in the world and I will continue to support families facing this issue.”

Future: “I plan to attend a four-year University of California to study biochemistry. Also, I hope to attend graduate school to have a career in the medical field.”



KRISTY KIM

Project: A Mission for a New Kitchen

Summary: “I painted a kitchen for the Ronald McDonald House and collected new utensils, a table and chairs, curtains, and canned foods. I wanted the kitchen to be a cozy and welcoming place for families staying there. I hope the kitchen becomes a happy place for families to interact with each other with lots of laughter.”

Outcome: “I learned a lot about patience and learning to do things on my own, without relying on other people, like my mom, to do everything for me. I feel much more independent and outgoing.”

Future: “My future plans are to attend college and pursue a degree in occupational therapy. I love to help people out and rehabilitate them and make them stronger. I also plan to publish a book one day.”



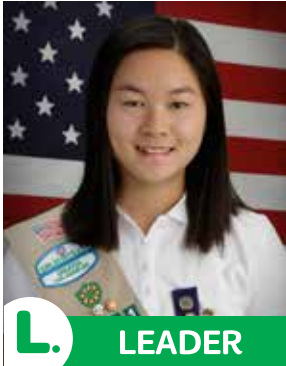
SOPHIE KIM

Project: From AIDS to Advice: LGBTQ+ Seniors Tell Their Stories

Summary: “I directed and edited a short film about the experiences of LGBTQ+ senior citizens. Combining archival photos and footage with first-person accounts, my film is both a historical record of the community, and a contribution to the sociopolitical dialogue of today. By increasing awareness, I hope to increase acceptance and celebration of the community.”

Outcome: “I learned that being a supportive listener and having empathy for people whose experiences are different from your own may initially be difficult. However, making these connections and being able to support each other is vital to bringing about social change together.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and possibly study English, gender studies, film, and/or theater. I would ultimately like to bring about the acceptance of different marginalized groups, such as LGBTQ+ people/women/people of color, by utilizing art and law as forms of social activism.”



STACEY KIM

Project: Spreading Joy to People in Need

Summary: “I worked with Ronald McDonald House and helped provide families with 50 welcome bags, each filled with hygienic supplies and daily supplies. I hope that my project will impact and provide each family with support and comfort.”

Outcome: “You can do a lot more than you think for communities. There is so much that can be done, and now that I’ve gained the knowledge of being a leader, I hope to lead more organizations in the future.”

Future: “I plan on going to a four-year university to continue studying and pursuing my career. In the future, I would like to help more organizations and provide more for the community.”



KATIE KIRKENDALL

Project: Operation Rescue

Summary: “I worked with the San Gabriel Valley Humane Society. I designed and created a welcome sign with color-coordinated and directional paws painted on the ground leading to the animals. I led younger Girl Scouts on a tour to bring awareness.”

Outcome: “Working on my Gold Award project taught me to be more independent and confident in reaching out to others to get a job done. I learned that helping others is very rewarding.”

Future: “I plan to attend a university and pursue a degree in science. I hope to become a physical therapist, occupational therapist, or sports medicine specialist.”



L. LEADER

DIANA KNOBLER

Project: Billy Foreman Instructional Kids Kitchen

Summary: “My project was inspired by my love of engineering and my passion for helping those affected by cancer. Using my background in engineering, I designed and built two ADA-compliant picnic tables for Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times, and raised over \$1,600 to purchase equipment for their instructional kitchen.”

Outcome: “Overall, this project has taught me to appreciate good health and even better support systems.”

Future: “This coming fall, I plan to begin college as a biomedical engineering major and eventually pursue a master’s degree. I want to continue to help those who are struggling, not just with cancer, but with any medical issue.”



G. GO-GETTER

LUNA KOHUT

Project: Cut It Out, Prevent A Drought!

Summary: “I focused on the California drought—an issue close to home. In fourth- through eighth-grade classes, I conducted seminars and taught them what it means to be in a drought, and how water shortages affect Los Angeles.”

Outcome: “I learned that being inspired about a topic is one of the most important aspects to fuel a project. I also learned the importance of having support in a task like this.”

Future: “I plan to attend a university and pursue a degree in political science with a focus in international relations. I am fluent in Spanish and have been speaking it for 12 years and have enjoyed learning about the Spanish culture throughout my education and hope to learn more languages throughout my life. After college, I hope to join the Peace Corps.”



L. LEADER

PATRICIA KU

Project: Find Your Forte

Summary: “Find Your Forte stemmed from my goal of building confidence through music in children of low-income families who may not be able to afford costly music lessons. Over 10 weeks, my students made big progress musically and personally, as we bonded over various aspects of their lives.”

Outcome: “The greatest personal outcome I have gained is discovering abilities I never thought I would have. I never thought I would be capable of leading a group of amazing children and helping them realize their passions and goals. At the end of it all, my journey was such a gratifying experience I would never forget.”

Future: “I plan to pursue a career in the hospitality industry. Through my college career, I also plan on continuing my passion for music by joining my college orchestra or chamber group as well. I also look forward to studying abroad and traveling.”



L. LEADER

KENDAL KULLY

Project: Let’s Get Informed!

Summary: “As part of the LGBTQ community, I recognized how much bullying is directed towards kids who are LGBTQ. I wanted to combat that so I held a panel discussion at Vroman’s Bookstore to talk about these issues and how, as a community, we can support LGBTQ people. I also held a panel at my school to discuss what progress needs to be made.”

Outcome: “I learned that I can be the leader that I needed growing up. I can show kids who grew up questioning their sexual orientation that it is okay to be whoever you are. I learned how important it is to have someone to look up to as you mature.”

Future: “I plan to attend college to study gender studies or maybe English literature. I hope to become a professor in those fields, or maybe to start a nonprofit to help end LGBTQ bullying.”



L. LEADER

HANNAH LAM

Project: Fueling the Curiosity to Learn Through Reading

Summary: “I saw that Cleveland Elementary School was in need of upgrades in the library and decided to add a comfortable reading area in hopes it would encourage students to read more. I also collected 1,000+ books for the library and for each student to bring one home.”

Outcome: “I have learned many things about both myself and about the impact I can make throughout the process of earning my Gold Award. This has been the most rewarding experience as I have been able to see my ideas come to life and impact real people.”

Future: “In the future, I plan to attend college as well as graduate school (and perhaps get a Ph.D). I want to pursue ethology, which is the study of animal behavior.”



R. RISK-TAKER

SARAH LAPEDIS

Project: Valley Friendship Circle Community Backyard

Summary: “My project began because of my desire to help special needs children strengthen their social skills. I wanted to create a space for people of all ages and abilities to feel accepted and included. I created and painted a sustainable mural for Valley Friendship Circle. I hope the children will build friendships in this special space.”

Outcome: “While earning my Gold Award, I’ve learned that when problems or miscommunications arise, it is best to be patient.”

Future: “After I graduate high school, I plan to attend college and pursue a career in education, psychology, or nursing. I look forward to helping others.”



G. GO-GETTER

MINDY LAPOINTE

Project: Emergency Medical Education and Action

Summary: “I built my Gold Award project around the need for medical equipment and know-how. I coordinated a CPR and first-aid certified volunteer emergency medical team, as well as a community health fair to teach and promote healthy lifestyles. I hope that my efforts will inspire wellness and preparedness, along with compassion towards those in need.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I gleaned from my Gold Award is to constantly look for new solutions. Becoming frustrated with timing or anything else will not solve the problem, but remembering the Girl Scout Law and being resourceful, respectful, and responsible will.”

Future: “I plan to study liberal arts in college to become a teacher. I also plan to be a Girl Scout troop leader one day in order to inspire new generations of young girls.”



L. LEADER

MIKAELA LARECY

Project: Think Responsible, Act Sustainable

Summary: “My project was driven by my love for our environment. I saw the environmental degradation in my community and decided to take action through education. I created a two-week camp which consisted of sustainable art projects and lessons which I took to a nearby Boys and Girls Club. I hope this project inspires my community to act sustainably.”

Outcome: “From my project, I was able to put my passion into action and learned even more about my love for our environment. I also learned more about my love for teaching children and arts and crafts.”

Future: “I plan to attend California Polytechnic University at San Luis Obispo and pursue a degree in recreation, parks, and tourism administration.”



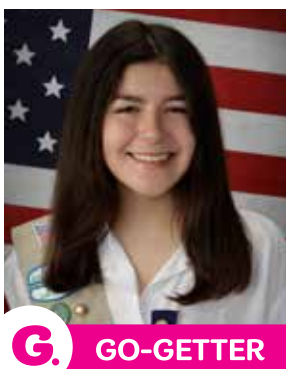
MEGAN LAU

Project: Living a Healthy Lifestyle

Summary: “My project aimed to educate children about the food they were putting in their bodies. I handed out recipe booklets and worksheets to reinforce the importance of healthy eating. I hope my work will educate and inspire others to make healthier choices.”

Outcome: “I discovered a stronger sense of self because I was in charge and responsible of all the classes. I was able to identify and attempt to solve a community and global issue by advocating for my cause, educating and inspiring others to act, and in the end, I felt empowered that I made a difference.”

Future: “I plan to attend a four-year university to pursue international relations. I would like to become a political commentator or ambassador because I want to specialize in how policies affect other states.”



MAYA LEDESMA

Project: Lego Play Day

Summary: “My project was inspired by my enthusiasm for the library. I hosted a program at my local library where children could come in and play with Legos every Friday during the summer. My goal was to create a community space where people felt comfortable to engage creatively. The program still continues as a way to encourage families to visit the library.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I’ve learned is the importance of community. Through my project, I discovered just how significant community spaces are. I also became a better leader and improved my communication skills as a result of my time spent working with families and librarians.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in political science. I would like to attend law school and become a lawyer with a focus on human rights cases.”



CAITLIN LEE

Project: All Are Welcome Community Fair

Summary: “My project focused on those in my community who have special needs, including the elderly, the disabled, and anyone who has mental or physical needs outside of the normal domain. I planned, organized, and executed a community fair that had food, games, and representatives to speak about local resources available.”

Outcome: “I’ve always had an ability to connect and empathize with others, but my Gold Award gave me an overwhelming desire to do something compassionate for the sake of bettering my community.”

Future: “I plan to attend a four-year university and pursue a degree in communications with a minor in political science. I hope to attend grad school, and afterward, pursue a career based upon my field of study.”



JESSICA LEE

Project: Enjoying Nature’s Beauty Indoors

Summary: “I made 300 self-watering pots with recycled bottles to help seniors be able to enjoy nature indoors and without stress. I hope that this will inspire others to help the planet and the seniors.”

Outcome: “I’ve learned from earning the Gold Award that communication is extremely important. I also realized that the smallest actions of kindness have the biggest reward.”

Future: “In the future, I plan to go to a good engineering school. I want to major in mechanical or software engineering so that I can work at a car company (I have my eyes set on Tesla). I wish to be able to take a part in the creation of self-driving cars or other cool and sustainable ways of transportation.”



G. GO-GETTER

KAELYN LEE

Project: Ascencia Play Area

Summary: “I renovated the children’s play area at my local homeless shelter, Ascencia, providing games, bean bags, puzzle mat flooring, and stocked bookshelves I created a sustainable, colorful, and easily maintainable area for children to enjoy.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson that I’ve learned was the importance of giving back. Finding an issue you care about and taking action to create change can motivate others to do the same. Being able to see it come to fruition can be a reward all on its own. The key is to take initiative and passion will guide you to completion.”

Future: “I plan to attend a university and pursue a degree in business. Then as a graduate, I plan to earn my MBA. I’d like to be employed in the entertainment industry.”



L. LEADER

SARAH LEE

Project: Classroom Makeover

Summary: “For my project, I organized the libraries of first- and second-grade classrooms at my former elementary school to match a reading-leveling program. By having the books organized in different levels, I hope students will not read books that are more difficult and be discouraged but instead fall in love with reading at a young age.”

Outcome: “I have learned many valuable lessons about responsibility and leadership. While interacting with teachers and students, I’ve become a better listener and communicator.”

Future: “I plan to study global affairs with a focus on health, while exploring art, writing, and music. One day I hope to travel the world and experience different cultures. Ultimately, I would like to have a career where I can contribute the solution for global inequality.”



R. RISK-TAKER

SYDNEY LEIB

Project: Playing Our Way To The Top

Summary: “My project idea stemmed from my love of tennis. I wanted to share my knowledge and skills with others that were not given the same opportunities. I taught tennis to kids of military families. My hope is for them to have the confidence to be on a high school sports team. I filmed YouTube videos so that the kids can go back and watch them.”

Outcome: “I learned to never give up. No matter where you start, the outcome will be worth it. I also learned patience; things may not work out the first time but if enough time is put into something, you will succeed.”

Future: “My plan is to attend college and pursue a degree in business or communications. I plan to start a clothing company and flip houses. I also want to travel the world by the time I am 25.”



L. LEADER

ANELA LEIS

Project: A.I.M. - Art in Motion

Summary: “I created a free afterschool dance club for my local elementary school and organized two performances to showcase their dance moves. My hope is for the gift of dance to be shared and for self-expression to be used to face a problem in a creative and unique way.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned from my project was the difference between being proactive and active. I learned that I must have a proactive mindset so that I accomplish what needs to be done but also do more than the bare minimum. As a result, I am more confident and optimistic.”

Future: “I plan to attend college, pursue a career in health and medicine, and perhaps become a pharmacist. I hope to continue to give back to communities in need through volunteer work. I hope to travel around the world to visit new places and experience different cultures.”



JILLIAN LERMA

Project: Mission: Appreciation!

Summary: “My project focuses on our veterans who have devotedly served our country. I chose this project because our modern culture spends an excessive amount of time on things I believe to be less important such as material goods or social media. Our veterans deserve more recognition and attention.”

Outcome: “I have learned time management, budgeting, team building, organization, and leadership. I have also learned about our military branches and how we can now give back to our veterans who have dedicated and served our country for our freedom and safety.”

Future: “I plan to pursue a degree in criminal justice at college and someday work for the FBI. I also plan to take courses in theater/stage crew design and construction.”



EMMIE LEW

Project: Oral Care for Bone Marrow Transplant Patients

Summary: “My project was inspired by my love for helping kids. I collected toys and prizes for bone marrow transplant patients for an incentive program needed at CHLA. It was amazing to see the strength that these young children have and hope that this helps end the struggles they deal with.”

Outcome: “I’ve learned how to communicate more effectively with adults and work with them through calls and emails. I’ve also learned to be more organized with my time and meet deadlines.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree with interest in science and math. I hope that I find a career that I enjoy and am passionate about.”



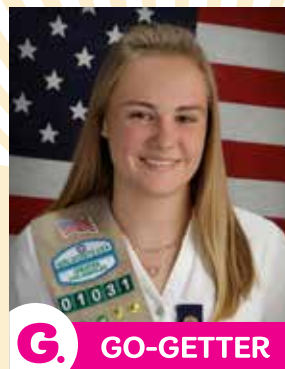
ISABEL LEWIS

Project: Health, Fitness, and Fun for Homeless Children

Summary: “Inspired by my active lifestyle and love of helping my community, I started a program at a nearby family homeless shelter. The program provided healthy food and fun activities for children and their families.”

Outcome: “My experience has taught me the importance of giving back to the community. Every time I came to the shelter, the kids were already at the playground, excitedly waiting for our arrival. Seeing the joy we inspired in these kids, and being able to watch them grow, was incredibly rewarding.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and study in math or economics. I aspire to find a career and lifestyle that satisfies my love of community service and interest in math and economics.”



MADELINE LEWIS

Project: K.A.P.O.W.

Summary: “My project taught children the dangers and effects of climate change in the global community. I researched climate change, created a curriculum, and taught the four-hour curriculum at two sites. I hope my project will help spread awareness about climate change and what we as a community can do to stop it.”

Outcome: “The most rewarding part of the Gold Award project was learning how to manage an enormous project over a long period of time. I am proud to say that I can come up with ideas, create a budget sheet, correspond with agencies, build a curriculum, and work around challenges.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in environmental studies, marine biology, or psychology.”



MICHELLE LIANG
Project: Bridging Generations

Summary: “My Gold Award project strove to connect the youth in my community with the elderly. I also wanted to show the seniors in senior centers that others care for them. This was accomplished through five performances at three different senior centers. I hope that the experience will encourage students to visit senior centers themselves in the future.”

Outcome: “I have more of a leader in me than I thought I did. If I set my mind and my heart to a goal, I can accomplish almost anything. I also learned that although I am only one person, if I can inspire others, I really can make a difference.”

Future: “I want to become an engineer who works with both hardware and software. I also want to continue to play the piano and use my talents to help others.”



ASHLEY LIKINS
Project: Lighting the Way Toward Literature

Summary: “My Gold Award project began with a desire to change the world through the next generation. I wanted to give them the same chance to learn as I had when I was growing up. This led me to create a book drive, bring them a new reading area to promote a love of learning and reading, as well as redoing their classroom for a more updated look.”

Outcome: “I have overcome fears of public speaking through obtaining my Gold Award. I have also found an inner strength in knowing I have the ability to change the world.”

Future: “I plan to get a Bachelor of Arts in music with an emphasis in vocal performance. I want to later get my master’s and doctorate as well. I plan to work in an opera house full-time bringing music to the world as I travel from performance to performance.”



SIDNEY LIM
Project: The Girl and the Stars

Summary: “Insecurities can become a barrier in our lives, and I wanted to ensure that every girl is not hindered from unlocking her potential because of her insecurities. I created an educational website and YouTube video that I hope will inspire people.”

Outcome: “I have learned that many people hide their true feelings about themselves from others. Having insecurities seems to be a stigma in our society, making it difficult for people to reveal them. I hope that my project helps get rid of this stigma.”

Future: “It has been my lifelong dream to work in the education field as a teacher or an administrator. I love working with children and teenagers, and deeply wish to make their learning experience as great as it can possibly be. I hope to one day become an inspiring and impactful educator.”



ISABELLA LIU
Project: The Speak Up Project

Summary: “I noticed many young children were afraid of public speaking. Even I, myself, was afraid of public speaking until I joined the speech and debate team in high school. This project was meant to expose public speaking to kids at a younger age so they can develop better leadership skills early on.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I’ve learned is that there can be fun in anything. I thought that because I was a teacher, I wouldn’t be able to connect with my students. However, this was completely untrue, as during my project I became friends with my students and we all had a great time.”

Future: “I plan to attend college to pursue a degree in economics. After, I either hope to go to graduate school or find a job as an economist. However, I am still open to finding new majors and passions in college.”



CHATHUNI LIYANAGE

Project: Literacy Through the Power of Technology

Summary: “My Gold Award project was prompted by my love of children and my desire to make an impact. I, along with my kindergarten teacher made games that are suitable for the ages 5-7 to help kids get more affiliated with technology and also improve their literacy. I hope my work will lessen the fear many students have of advanced technology.”

Outcome: “I truly learned what it means to be a leader and how important it is to be a positive influence in your community. I have also learned many skills including communication, organization, and creativity throughout the process of my Gold Award.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a career in medicine. I aim to become a neurosurgeon!”



SAMANTHA LOMEN

Project: Sam's Sports Storage

Summary: “I provided sports equipment and clothing for low-income children between the ages of 5-18. I also educated parents and children on the importance of playing sports and nutrition. I hope my project inspires parents to sign their children up for sports and maintain a healthy lifestyle.”

Outcome: “I have learned the importance of teamwork and perseverance. I have enhanced my time management, public speaking, and writing skills. I have also learned how hard it is to put on events and how to properly communicate with adults.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a career in medicine. I plan to become a physical therapist or nurse. One day I hope to perhaps open up my own practice.”



CAROLINE LOMONACO

Project: The Crayon Craft

Summary: “After seeing a lack of art education in elementary schools. I developed a curriculum that connected simple crafts with professional styles of art and artists, while also teaching the importance of recycling. I conducted a crayon collection from restaurants and incorporated those into all of my crafts.”

Outcome: “I have learned how to best communicate with people of all ages, and how to clearly convey what I mean to say. I learned how I can best teach and connect with children and explain myself to adults and teachers.”

Future: “I hope to go to a university in Spain, major in international relations, and minor in education. I want to work in developing countries and help to establish education programs.”



ALICE LOUSEN

Project: Preventing Food Waste: One School at a Time

Summary: “My Gold Award project addressed the issue of food waste. By separating the waste stream at my high school into compost, recycling, and landfill, I was able to analyze the type of waste that was most abundant and produce solutions for reduction. Students now have the opportunity to minimize the impact of food waste on their environment.”

Outcome: “The Gold Award has taught me many lessons, but one in particular, is that nothing goes as planned in the real world! In the face of this stumbling block, the only option is to push forward, making compromises along the way without sacrificing your goal. Even if something does not happen how you had hoped, it will work out in a fulfilling way.”

Future: “This fall, I plan to study and attain degrees in dance and environmental science. I would like to pursue dance professionally and work for a nonprofit organization.”



G. GO-GETTER

ERIKA LUU

Project: Stay & Play!

Summary: “I revamped an unused corner of the Monrovia Public Library to create a children’s literacy activity area. I made a sensory board, alphabet wall, and hosted parent-child engagement workshops. I hope that my work will invigorate a lifelong love of reading for children in the community.”

Outcome: “Anything is possible if you set your mind to it. I have always had a lot of self-doubt growing up, but being able to plan out and accomplish such a big project has shown me that I am capable of shooting for the stars. I wouldn’t be the person I am today without this project.”

Future: “I plan to attend the University of California, Irvine, study chemistry in the Campuswide Honors Program, and then go to medical school. I hope to become a dermatologist so that I can help people feel comfortable in their own skin. I want to continue giving back for the rest of my life.”



I. INNOVATOR

EMILY LYONS

Project: Music Brings The Desert to Life

Summary: “My love of music helped me create my Gold Award project. I taught kids how to read and play music, as well as advocated for music as a viable career option through the City of Palmdale’s Summer Lunch Program.”

Outcome: “I have learned that you should always expect the unexpected. Be prepared to handle any situation that could come, no matter how odd it may be.”

Future: “I hope to continue my goal of pursuing a degree in nursing and become a nurse practitioner in the field of dermatology.”



G. GO-GETTER

OLIVIA MACDOUGALL

Project: Succulent Wall Garden

Summary: “I created a beautiful garden in my community while addressing the drought and being water-wise. With limited space to work with, I used succulents because of their drought-tolerant properties and function in vertical wall gardening. Any blank wall can be turned into a beautiful garden.”

Outcome: “I discovered a way to face challenges in my world through beautification of my community. I feel more connected to my community by stressing the problem of the droughts throughout the world. I also feel like the kids learned about drought tolerant plants.”

Future: “I plan on attending a four-year college and earn a degree in business. I would also like to continue my education and earn a master’s degree.”



I. INNOVATOR

KATELYN MAHEIA

Project: Think Outside The Bachs

Summary: “The idea for my Gold Award project came from my love for music. I taught a music class for senior citizens at my local community center. My goal was to bring a fun, inspirational, and educational program to senior citizens who love to learn new things, but rarely get the opportunity.”

Outcome: “When we’re young, we are taught that you must respect people who are older than you. The greatest lesson I learned from my Gold Award project is that, as a leader, you can’t let people take away your power just because they are older than you. As a leader, there must be mutual respect, and if that is broken it must be addressed.”

Future: “I plan to attend the California Institute of the Arts this fall to study music technology and earn my BFA. I then plan to become a sound engineer and/or producer, as well as an electronic musician.”



KAITLIN MAIRE

Project: Outdoor Classroom

Summary: “My Gold Award was created based on helping kids who struggle with school-related anxiety, which is something I struggle with even as a senior. Creating an outdoor classroom, with vegetables, trees, a chalkboard, and stumps as seats from real trees I hope to educate kids in the importance of learning but in a less stressful environment.”

Outcome: “My Girl Scout Gold Award has taught me the lesson of responsibility. As a senior I had to step it up and show that I’m old enough to be proactive about my project and school. I think this was the most valuable lesson that I can use in college and beyond.”

Future: “I plan to pursue a degree in meteorology, as it has always been a burning passion of mine.”



DENSEL MARTIN

Project: Kids ‘n’ Kraft

Summary: “My project was to address the lack of self-expression and reading. I collected books and art supplies to hand out to kids that attend the Boys and Girls Club. I also repainted a room to make into a theater and art gallery. I hoped to show that reading is fundamental to education, and that imagination can create new forms of expression.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I have learned throughout this whole journey is that I have learned to take charge and thoroughly explain what I wanted from every volunteer that came to help me. I also learned that being a leader comes with lots of responsibility.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and travel the world. I want to go into veterinary medicine, or possibly computer programming.”



JACLYN MARTINEZ

Project: Safety in Athletic Performance

Summary: “My Gold Award project stems from my passion for sports medicine. I raised money to purchase televisions and other equipment to go in my school weight rooms. I wanted to help athletes exercise with correct technique and form to avoid injuries and to help them perform at their best, and created workout videos to be displayed on the TVs to do so.”

Outcome: “I took it upon myself to complete this project because of my passion to help athletes. This project showed me that even when things may not work out at first, I am capable of accomplishing my goals.”

Future: “I plan to study medicine at a university, and later, become a medical professional. My number-one goal in life is to see the world, experience new things, and help people as much as possible.”



ANABEL MASSABKI

Project: Room of Hope

Summary: “For my project, I chose to work with the Door of Hope, one of my favorite organizations. They provide transitional housing for homeless families, and having served dinner there numerous times, I wanted to do something more. I raised money by holding a garage sale, then painted and refurbished one of their rooms, and added an essentials basket.”

Outcome: “Just because I live in an affluent community, that doesn’t mean homelessness and poverty are not there. The Door of Hope is a 10-minute drive from where I live, and I found myself counting my blessings, and was grateful for the things that I take for granted.”

Future: “I plan to attend college for psychology, and move on to medical school to work in pediatrics.”



L. LEADER

KEILA MCCABE

Project: Brush Start: Dominican Republic

Summary: “My Gold Award project was oriented around the lack of art in the Dominican Republic. Children in the DR do not have much access to creative outlets. For my project, I traveled to the DR and taught art to kids and set up a studio for them to be able to create masterpieces.”

Outcome: “The most important lesson I learned was being able to adapt to situations thrown at me. Traveling to a foreign country and working with kids who don’t speak English, it was a challenge to even communicate on a base level. I needed to work with everything I had and be very flexible.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in foreign affairs, business, or medicine. I would love to play softball in college.”



L. LEADER

DELLA MCDUGAL

Project: Helping You Help Yourself: Common Core Summer Prep

Summary: “I was motivated by the need for students to be prepared for a shift in math curriculum. I created and ran a series of math lessons over the summer in which I taught rising sixth graders how to navigate and succeed in the new curriculum. I hope that I have helped this group of students, as well as created an avenue for future grades to succeed.”

Outcome: “Initially, I was terrified of being responsible for teaching the students the material—I didn’t consider myself competent enough to actually succeed. However, I pushed through, and I learned that I can be a strong leader and take on heavy responsibilities.”

Future: “I intend to study for a Bachelor of Fine Arts in studio art at Southern Methodist University. In the future, my goal is to work as a professional artist, exhibiting in galleries, or working for a company.”



L. LEADER

MARISA MCGOVERN

Project: Community Garden and Tile Project

Summary: “My Gold Award project was inspired by my *Sow What Journey* where I met with community members making an impact by locally sourcing food. I created a mural and built a living garden with tiles painted by local children. The tiles promote eating locally-sourced food and sustainable gardening.”

Outcome: “My Gold Award project taught me how I can make a difference in my local community using my artistic talents, working with others, and sharing my knowledge through in-face interactions and art activism. I gained confidence as a leader.”

Future: “I plan to go to college and get a fine arts degree in dance and pursue a professional career in dance and eventually own my own dance studio. I am currently working with my dance studio to reach out to an economically-disadvantaged community to shared dance with others.”



R. RISK-TAKER

MEGAN MCKIERNAN

Project: Inspiring Innovation

Summary: “My Gold Award project was inspired by the impact art has made on my life. I wanted to share that impact with the children in my community, so I painted murals in two of my local elementary schools. I hope my art will bring the same joy to these students as it brought to me.”

Outcome: “I learned the importance of being assertive as a leader amongst those I am working with in order to get something done.”

Future: “I plan to attend the Barrett Honors College at Arizona State University, where I will major in environmental engineering. I intend to pursue a career where I will allow my talents in STEM to shine and know that I am creating a more sustainable future for the world.”



MARISSA MCPHAUL

Project: Dance Training for Richstone

Summary: “I love dance and have trained for over 10 years. For my Gold Award project, I designed and taught a three-week ballet and jazz camp for children who could not afford dance lessons. I documented my lesson plans and made DVDs of the dance recital for the children and their families. I hope my program can make dance lessons accessible for all children.”

Outcome: “I grew so much as a leader by earning my Gold Award. I learned how to work well with my team, parents, staff, friends, and the children in the dance camp. I gained confidence in my ability to lead.”

Future: “I plan to attend a university and pursue studies in nutrition and biochemistry. I hope to find a career path in nutrition and continue to enjoy my love of dance.”



SKYLAR MCVICAR

Project: Occupation Exploration

Summary: “Since most high schoolers feel immense pressure to plan accurately for the future, I founded the Career Club at my school to introduce lesser-known career options to students through a panel discussion event entitled, Occupation Exploration. I hope my work educated, inspired, and helped attendees.”

Outcome: “I learned that delegating is an essential part of effective leadership. I also learned that sheer perseverance and determination can produce positive outcomes, especially with the right motivation.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a career in law and/or government. I am very interested in becoming a lawyer for an NGO focused on human rights, veteran causes, and/or environmental issues.”



TAYLOR MICHEL

Project: Pet Pantry

Summary: “My project was influenced by my passion for animals. I fundraised and gathered pet food and pet supplies to put into a homeless pantry which had no resources for homeless pet owners to care for their pets. I was also able to make a flyer to give out at the pantry with vet resources that pet owners could go to with low-cost vaccines and checkups.”

Outcome: “Through this project I have been able to see a more sociable side of myself, and have gained more confidence in being able to talk to adults through emails, phone calls, and meetings. I have also been able to not take it personally when I hear the word ‘no’ from different organizations.”

Future: “I plan to attend college in pursuit of film and digital media. I plan to be a film director and script writer, and on the side will be a choreographer.”



CLARISSA MILLER

Project: Mobile Library for Special Needs Students

Summary: “My project addressed access to books to students with developmental and intellectual disabilities at Villa Esperanza Services. I created a mobile library of 280 interactive books for students as well as teachers. Essential life skills are gained through reading and interaction with others as they prepare to enter their community.”

Outcome: “I have developed leadership skills; how to be organized, communicate, delegate, and be responsible for the task at hand. I learned that procrastination is not aligned with being successful, and that perseverance and determination are essential life skills.”

Future: “I plan to attend college for kinesiology to become a physical therapist so I can help people manage pain and recover from sports-related injuries. My experience as an intern at an orthopedic and physical therapy office has taught me how to interact and help patients.”



G. GO-GETTER

TIFFANY MIN

Project: Remembering Your Korean Past

Summary: “I created a Korean culture program at my church by teaching the students about the different holidays, traditions, etc. I hope this project makes people proud of who they are and of their diversity.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned from my experience in earning the Gold Award is patience. I had to work with elementary school children during my project. At times, they would not listen to me or would goof off. Throughout these times, instead of getting mad at the students, I had to learn to be patient and better understand the students.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in dentistry. I plan on becoming a pediatric dentist, combining my love for children and a career in which I am interested.”



L. LEADER

JACINDA MOLINA

Project: First Responders Wall of Honor

Summary: “Inspired by my father and the first responders who protect our communities, I organized a wall mural and ceremony in dedication to law enforcement, firefighters, and EMTs who had attended my high school. This project includes an application that will allow more names to be placed upon it in the future.”

Outcome: “During my project, it was my responsibility to keep my team on-task and make sure all aspects of my project were being completed. Being an active listener and taking suggestions is crucial to success.”

Future: “I plan to attend San Diego State University and study business management and entrepreneurship this fall. I hope to one day either start my own company or be in charge of someone else’s. My Gold Award project gave me a taste of what I would like my future to be like by having an opportunity to lead.”



L. LEADER

GIANNA MOR

Project: One Girl, One Goal

Summary: “My mission was to help the girls of the Zondle orphanage in Swaziland gain individual strength as well as build teamwork skills through the game of soccer, which is a male-dominated sport in most countries.”

Outcome: “I gained an appreciation for my freedom and living in the United States of America, and as a young woman, I truly understand how fortunate I am to have the liberty to be able to follow my dreams.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in kinesiology. I plan to become a doctor in the field of sports medicine.”

GEORGIA MORAN

Project: Teens for Social Inclusion (#T4SI)

Summary: “My project arose from my childhood hobby of volunteering with Shane’s Inspiration (a nonprofit that builds playgrounds for children with disabilities). I created an ambassador program for teens to endorse social inclusion for children with disabilities and to foster a bias-free world.”

Outcome: “I have truly developed empathy from this project. I’ve learned that exclusion is a genuine problem in society, especially for those who are disabled. I want to educate people to see that everyone is a person regardless of their differences.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in psychology. I then will study to receive my law degree while interning with the FBI. Later I will hopefully obtain a job there and then start a family with my husband. I would like to serve my country and believe that would be the best way for me to.”



L. LEADER



I. INNOVATOR

MARGARET MORDECAI

Project: The Calming Garden

Summary: “My Gold Award project sought to bring calm, safe outdoor space to special needs children residing at Hillside Home for Children. I took a mostly unused, unsecured concrete patio space and turned it into a comfortable retreat with rocking chairs, shade, quiet activities, and security.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned was that sticking with something, no matter how frustrating it might seem or how many road blocks stand in my way, can ultimately bring a much-needed resource to people with needs greater than my own.”

Future: “I plan to attend a college where I will study fine arts and perhaps biological sciences. I want to make a difference in the world by sharing my creative vision, my belief in the humane treatment of animals, and continuing to use my voice and talents for good.”



I. INNOVATOR

GABRIELLE MORETA

Project: We Got Art To Do!

Summary: “I taught an afterschool art program for underprivileged children, brought much-needed supplies, and created a binder full of lesson plans. This way, the program could continue after I leave, and art will continue to be a staple in these kids’ lives.”

Outcome: “I have learned three things: The first was patience when dealing with stressful situations. The second was how to think on the fly and make an unexpected situation into a manageable one. And finally, the third lesson I learned was that it is always okay to ask for help.”

Future: “I plan to attend college on the West Coast and major in art history with a minor in English. I plan to study and work abroad and using the experiences I have gone through, write a young adult series that breaks the mold.”



G. GO-GETTER

KENDALL NAKAI

Project: Initiating Catholic Involvement

Summary: “My Gold Award project stemmed from wanting to bring together my Catholic church community. I created a parish welcoming committee to create a friendly environment; wrote, filmed, and edited 10 videos as parishioner resources; assisted in modernizing the parish website; and collected 200 pairs of jeans for the homeless in the area.”

Outcome: “I developed time management and communication skills, creativity, flexibility, and perseverance. Most importantly, I learned project management and damage control.”

Future: “In college, I aspire to major in electrical and computer engineering then work as an engineer in a creative business environment. I strive to continue volunteering within my community, run a photography business, and travel as much as my means will allow me—capturing my adventures by video along the way.”



L. LEADER

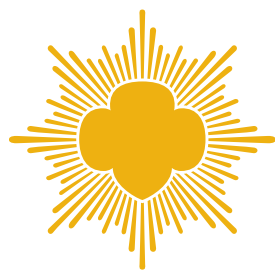
ALLISON NAKAMOTO

Project: Eat This, Not That

Summary: “My project was inspired by a friend who has a severe food allergy. I educated my community in hopes of helping other people in similar situations. I am saddened by how anyone with a food allergy is separated from their peers and forced to eat alone, when a simple solution would be to ask everyone not to bring that particular food.”

Outcome: “While working on my project, I was able to finetune the leadership skills I gained during my seven years as a Girl Scout. I utilized communication, motivation, delegation, positivity, creativity, and responsibility to effectively complete my project. I learned that through hard work and perseverance, I can achieve anything I set my mind to.”

Future: “I am attending California State Polytechnic University, Pomona and pursuing a degree in biology. I plan to attend medical school after graduating and become a surgeon.”



G. GO-GETTER

KIARA NECESSARY

Project: Buddy Bench

Summary: “My Gold Award came from my desire to see students have a place where they belong. I created a way for lonely children to have a risk-free way to start friendships. I built a buddy bench and made a video to explain the concept: Someone who needs a playmate can use the bench to show that, and children who are open to new friends see who needs them.”

Outcome: “I have learned that even when it feels like there are too many hurdles, the only way to be successful is to keep on tackling each problem as it comes.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and graduate with my engineering degree. Although I am not positive exactly how, I plan to work in a field where I can use my degree to work on protecting our environment.”



R. RISK-TAKER

AMANDA NISHIMURA

Project: Weather Kids

Summary: “I was inspired to select this project due to my love of children and as a way to give back to a place that I attended for preschool and kindergarten. I made a weather unit that includes weather chants, songs, art activities, books, and manuals for teaching weather. I hope that this will give students a fun way to learn about weather for many years.”

Outcome: “I discovered that I really want to be a teacher. I also realize how much work goes into being a teacher and this has made me mentally prepared for this big responsibility. It will be such a rewarding career because I will have the opportunity to have a positive impact on so many children.”

Future: “I plan to graduate from California State University, Fullerton and become an elementary school teacher. My goal is to teach first through third grade.”



L. LEADER

AMANDA OLIVAR

Project: Where Your Imagination Grows

Summary: “For my Gold Award, I wanted to make a difference in a community other than my own. For this reason, I chose to volunteer at Our Lady of Guadalupe (OLG) placing my focus on the kinder classroom. I followed the theme of ‘Let Your Imagination Grow’ to turn this philosophy into something tangible, and designed a garden displaying the development of creativity.”

Outcome: “To become more involved during the process of my project, on Sundays I would attend mass at OLG and talk about the progress I made to the congregation. In addition, I often took breaks to speak with members of the community. This exposure allowed me to become more confident and gain leadership skills as I often had friends assisting me.”

Future: “After high school, I plan to attend the college for biology. In the future, I hope to become an athletic trainer and work for a professional sports team in Los Angeles.”



L. LEADER

KATE O'MALLEY

Project: Lemons to Lemonade

Summary: “My Gold Award was inspired by my mother’s passing my freshman year. I heavily relied on the support made available by my family and community and I wished to create a website that would mirror that for someone dealing with a similar form of grief. I also hosted a workshop to teach younger girls about good self-esteem and emotional well-being.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I have learned throughout the Gold Award process is that if you put your mind to it, anything is achievable. I rejoined Girl Scouts my freshman year with no understanding of the Gold Award process, but through many meetings with my troop leader and with my fellow sister Girl Scouts, I was able to piece together a path.”

Future: “I plan to attend a university and pursue a degree in peace studies. I plan to find a career in law. I hope to become a human rights lawyer, specifically dealing with immigration.”



EMILY ONG

Project: T-Shirt Totes

Summary: “My Gold Award project was inspired by Tote4Friendz, a nonprofit organization that gives totes to the homeless. I collected toothbrushes, toothpaste, and sanitary napkins; and created 400 T-shirt totes as hygienic packs for the homeless.”

Outcome: “Throughout my 13 years in Girl Scouts, I have become a courageous and confident leader. I have learned to respect others while staying true to myself, and I discovered a hidden passion for helping others. I am grateful for Girl Scouts to give me this opportunity to become involved with my community and brighten others’ lives.”

Future: “I plan to travel around the world and experience new perspectives. I plan to attend college and involve myself with the community by joining clubs and volunteering for the underprivileged.”



JAEL OSBORNE

Project: Meditative Garden for Homeless Women

Summary: “My project began from a desire to help impoverished women who had faced great difficulty. I worked with the Elizabeth House to create a garden that gave them a space to relax and reflect. I also replanted a vegetable garden so the women and children could have nutritious food.”

Outcome: “I am capable of making a difference. By going through all of the steps that ended in a finished project, I understood that I could do much more than I believed as an individual.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in political science or law. I want to have a career that involves civil rights and helping those who deserve justice. I plan on traveling to Cambodia and directly teaching and improving the lives of its citizens.”



DANA OTERA

Project: Bringing Hope and Awareness to Pancreatic Cancer

Summary: “My Gold Award project was inspired by my passion to help others and honor my grandfather. I created two educational programs about pancreatic cancer, assembled care packages for pancreatic cancer survivors, and visited hospitals to deliver information to patients. I”

Outcome: “Initially, my goal was to help educate pancreatic cancer patients like my grandfather. But as my involvement became more extensive with the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, I became more passionate about raising awareness and making an impact on those who have been affected by this disease in hopes to find a cure.”

Future: “I plan to attend a university and pursue a business degree, aspiring to earn my master’s in business administration and become a CEO of a healthcare company.”



ALICIA PALIZA

Project: Voices of LA

Summary: “The 2016 presidential election caused tension in the country; I compiled interviews from people of both sides in hopes of finding the source of their views. In the end, each person was asked if they would have a conversation about it; they all said yes. I hope those who read these interviews will do so as well.”

Outcome: “I have learned that everyone is willing to have a conversation about their opinions, but people are unwilling to be attacked. I’ve also been surprised by some and shocked by others, but their willingness to discuss their differences and acknowledge each other brought me hope.”

Future: “I plan to continue studying English in the United Kingdom. I wish to enter the field of journalism to focus on and highlight voices that are only ever heard as an afterthought. When these voices are heard, we will come to validate the different perceptions of the world we share.”



LINDSAY PALM

Project: Sense of Nature

Summary: “My Gold Award focused on educating and supporting autism awareness. The main goal of my project was to create a sensory garden for Golden Heart Ranch in Agoura Hills. Also, I talked to my community and educated my fellow Girl Scouts on autism.”

Outcome: “Through the journey of completing my Gold Award, I learned perseverance. By having many obstacles block my way, I had to work around them and find a new path. I had a support system that helped me and I was able to ask for what I wanted and needed to complete my project.”

Future: “I plan on attending a four-year university in the fall. Although I am entering college undeclared, I hope to pursue public health. My goal is to take my degree and help underprivileged communities obtain a better and healthier lifestyle.”



NICOLE PARKS

Project: Operation: SCIC Food Pantry

Summary: “My Gold Award project emphasized the struggling Native Americans within my community. I renovated the entire food pantry and outreach area for a nonprofit Native American organization, Southern California Indian Center (SCIC). My goal was to highlight how a good workspace can help SCIC reach out and help more Natives who are in a fight against poverty.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I have learned is to share your passion with others: what you might be passionate about might be utterly foreign to a different girl. Share your passion with others and it just might become their passion as well.”

Future: “My future endeavors include attending college and obtaining a degree in business management, with a minor in culinary arts, and eventually opening a bakery somewhere in sunny California.”



ISABEL PEINADO

Project: Women Empowerment Mural

Summary: “I painted a women empowerment mural to bring back arts education, remind everyone we are a country of immigrants, and empower women to seek any job they want. I chose 16 influential women of different backgrounds and cultures because I wanted everyone who passed by the mural to feel represented and connected. The mural became a historical site.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson and personal outcome I have gained from my experience in earning the Gold Award is determination, motivation, and hard work can get you anywhere in life. I learned that I made a difference and gave hope and inspiration to so many people by painting the mural.”

Future: “After I graduate from high school, I plan to go to an art college and major in interior design, fashion design, photography, or architecture. I would also like to learn about Chicano art. No matter what my job is, I want to be happy and to help and inspire others.”



CHARLOTTE PIZANTE

Project: Spread the Word to Conserve

Summary: “I created educational literature and a physical interactive space in our city where people can learn about water-wise gardens. I hope it will inspire others to ‘Spread the Word to Conserve’ water.”

Outcome: “I learned a great deal about how city government works and how as a citizen you can effectively get involved in the decisions your government makes. I realized that South Pasadena represents more to me than just a place to live; it’s a special community that shares my view on the environment and how citizens should support the greater good for all.”

Future: “I plan to attend a college where I can pursue a combined major in entrepreneurial and film studies. I am interested in having an independent career in entertainment and new media technology. It is also my goal to continue playing competitive athletics in college.”



MIRANDA PLA

Project: LACES Anti-Bullying Animation Short Film

Summary: “My project addresses the issue of bullying at my middle and high school. I interviewed students and created a 20-minute live action and animated film that incorporated their experiences. I presented my film in classes and started discussions about this issue and what can be done to combat bullying in schools so that students can feel safe.”

Outcome: “My film attempted to inspire the school community to come together on the issue of bullying. It was a lot of work, but I succeeded in impacting my school in a lasting and positive way.”

Future: “I am currently a student at Brown University pursuing dual degrees in literary arts and philosophy. I plan to become a lawyer because I have a great interest and passion for the schematics in law and in assisting people on how to navigate and employ it, especially those who have been underrepresented and unsupported.”



SIDNEY POLZIN

Project: Creative Corner

Summary: “I created an arts and crafts booklet with more than 40 crafts. I held craft sessions where I taught the children how to make the crafts. I hope that my work will help give the children at the homeless shelter a place to express themselves through art.”

Outcome: “My project made me want to follow in my passion to teach children.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in early childhood development and education.”



ASHLEY PROKEY

Project: Project Helping Hand

Summary: “I helped my local animal care center by making improvements and spreading adoption awareness. Through my project, we added garden boxes with fresh vegetables, a paved path to the rabbit cages, and a small table and chairs. To spread adoption awareness, I held an event that provided information on the center.”

Outcome: “Through my Gold Award, I learned that when planning/managing projects, it is necessary to set some extra time aside just in case plans change or unexpected events come up.”

Future: “I plan to go to college to major in animal science and eventually study veterinary medicine. I hope to work with and help many animals as a veterinarian. I am particularly interested in livestock and common pets like dogs and cats, basically any animal you can find on a farm.”



NICOLE PUENTE

Project: Santa Teresita Community Gardens

Summary: “I chose to build a vegetable garden at a preschool and nursing home. Initially, my plans were to get the senior citizens involved so that they would have an outdoor activity by maintaining the garden. But more importantly, I wanted to promote healthy eating.”

Outcome: “My Gold Award taught me how to tackle challenges when your first plan doesn’t work out. There is always a dilemma that occurs and you need to have a second plan.”

Future: “I plan to major in biology as a pre-med student. I will apply to medical school to become a gynecologist.”



SHERIDAN QUAN

Project: Summer Soccer Camp 2017

Summary: “I held a summer soccer camp to help children in my community further their learning in the sport. My goal was to educate children who wanted to learn more and help my friends want to become coaches in the sport.”

Outcome: “The Gold Award taught me how to be a leader. It taught me how to be patient with others and how to be calm when problems appeared. Additionally, I learned how to think on my feet because there were several times where soccer drills did not work out.”

Future: “I plan on earning my degree in business management and human resources. Furthermore, I plan to pursue a career for the County of Los Angeles in the parks and recreation department.”



ALEXA QUILLIAM

Project: The Accessible Art Cart

Summary: “My project addressed mental health for hospital patients at the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. I designed 10 re-printable activity books, worked with the director of volunteer services to design a donation tab on the UCLA Medical center website, conducted multiple donation drives, and found generous donors to purchase recordable books.”

Outcome: “I learned that organization and time management are keys to success. Without a plan, it is difficult to accomplish your goals and to coordinate with others.”

Future: “I plan to pursue a degree in biomedical engineering. I am considering a career in the Air Force and plan to foster my love of crafting and my love of animals, especially elephants, horses, and dogs. Most of all, I hope to make the world a better place.”



RHEA RAHIMTOOLA

Project: Therapeutic Garden for Children

Summary: “I built a therapeutic garden, focused on the five senses, which gives students with behavioral disorders a more prosperous learning environment. I hope my work will allow the Stepping Stones community to keep their students focused in the classroom and better educate them.”

Outcome: “My Gold Award experience taught me that things rarely go exactly as initially planned. Although all aspects of my project had the same foundational ideas throughout, a lot of small details changed. In my future, I will prepare myself to be flexible to change, allowing for a smoother process.”

Future: “My aspirations include attending college and pursuing a degree in biology or another major. I hope to become an orthopedic surgeon to help patients continue athletic careers or live pain-free lives. I would love to travel to third-world countries to perform pro-bono surgeries.”



JAYLEEN RAMOS

Project: FLL Robotics Tournament

Summary: “I noticed that my high school had a lack of STEM-related extracurricular activities and I believe that by bringing FIRST Lego League Robotics to Hoover High, it would expand STEM and bring the middle and elementary schools together.”

Outcome: “The personal outcome that I gained was how to become more independent and sure of myself. With the Gold Award project, I realized that I had to make my own decisions and set everything myself.”

Future: “I am currently enrolled at Mount Saint Mary’s University and am pursuing my bachelor’s degree in criminology. In the future, I aspire to be a part of the FBI after having experience in the police department. I hope to graduate with honors and make my parents proud.”



I. INNOVATOR

AUDREY RAULLI

Project: Read Well

Summary: “I developed and designed 100 reading kits for the Literally Healing program for Children’s Hospital Los Angeles patients. I wanted to make sure the patients don’t fall behind in their education while sick.”

Outcome: “Watching patients who are battling an illness learn to read has been such a positive experience and inspiration. These kids are my heroes. I have learned many life skills as well, including leading a group, public speaking, organization, and budgeting.”

Future: “I plan on attending a four-year college to pursue a degree in art. Someday I would like to become a graphic media artist and become PTA president. I hope that I will be able to serve my community as I did in Girl Scouts.”



G. GO-GETTER

CASSANDRA REANO

Project: Project Awareness

Summary: “I advertised my organization, created a video emphasizing their mission to combat domestic violence, and compiled a manual of their resources. I hope my work will allow greater efficiency within the organization and increase education of relationship abuse.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned was to not give up and to take the initiative. I worked by myself for a lot of research and maintained my own timeline, which means the only reason things happened was because I made them happen, and asked questions and kept on trucking when things went wrong.”

Future: “I plan to graduate from the University of Washington with a degree in science (still undecided) and go to medical school to become a doctor.”



R. RISK-TAKER

SARAH REEVES

Project: Lunada Canyon Restoration

Summary: “I wanted to give the California gnatcatcher a sustainable home where it can thrive in the Lunada Bay Canyon. Volunteers and I spent laborious hours pulling out invasive plants to create this beautiful restoration, but it was worth the hours because now there is a safe home for these endangered birds.”

Outcome: “I learned that if you have dedication and believe in a certain cause, there is no telling what you can do.”

Future: “I hope to graduate high school and pursue a certain field in college. Though I am still figuring out the field I want to be in, I aspire to be a leader and leave a positive impact on my community and others around me.”



G. GO-GETTER

SYDNEY REISCH

Project: Philanthropy Options Fair

Summary: “I organized a fair that allowed Girl Scouts, schools, and the greater community to view a wide range of philanthropies where volunteers were needed. I hope that my project will help those philanthropies gain more volunteers and inspire more people to volunteer.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned was to think on my feet because at times, the event I was hosting did not always go as I had planned, but instead of giving up, I managed to come up with a solution. I have also learned how to be more confident. At first I was afraid to talk with others on the phone, but the more I challenged myself, it became easy.”

Future: “I aspire to attend college and seek a degree in nursing. I intend to become a nurse and work in a hospital caring for others. I hope to one day in the future, start a family.”



LAURYN REYES

Project: Let's Get Reading!

Summary: "At a small school in Pacoima, I collected over 1,000 books to update their old library and placed the books according to grade levels. In addition, we remodeled the inside of the library by decorating it, adding bean bag chairs, and hanging posters to motivate the students."

Outcome: "The greatest lesson I learned is that through hard work, patience, and determination, you will always produce your best work. Seeing the outcome of my project boosted my motivation—I was able to see what I am capable of when I am in the position to lead a large task such as my project."

Future: "I am attending California State University, Channel Islands to further my education in nursing. I plan on becoming a pediatric nurse practitioner."



CATHERINE RIEGEL

Project: For the Love of Dance

Summary: "I taught dance classes and created a costume closet with 344 costumes that can be used for years to come for the San Pedro community's dance and arts program. I believe I made a difference in the lives of young people at the Boys and Girls Club in San Pedro."

Outcome: "I learned important lessons about planning to lead a group, and then throwing the whole plan out and making it up on the spot to cater to your audience. I also learned how rewarding it is when people are excited about what it is you are teaching them!"

Future: "I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in journalism with a minor in Spanish."



KATHERINE RIPLEY

Project: The Golden Girls Project

Summary: "My project is a YouTube series focusing on self-care and self-love for teenage girls in our modern world. The series follows a group of high school girls as they learn key life lessons in love, confidence, sex ed, and safety. I hope the work I've done will help others to change their perspectives on themselves and inspire them to better themselves."

Outcome: "The most amazing thing I have learned is my own strength and love. By telling others to love themselves, I saw all the reasons I should love myself. I also realized through some tough situations I went through during the project that I am strong and fierce, and that strength will always be within me."

Future: "I plan to attend a university and pursue a future in social work, majoring in psychology or sociology. I want to create a world that I can be proud of, one that my children will feel safe and loved in. I want the world to have as much love for itself as I have for it."



DANIELA ROBLES

Project: Helping To Find A Furever Home, One Paw At A Time

Summary: "My project's purpose is to educate others about animal overpopulation. I presented a speech to elementary schools, created a brochure with facts about the issue, and organized an animal adoption event. I also helped a local rescue by constructing a meet-and-greet fence and assembling care packages for families who adopted pets."

Outcome: "The greatest lesson I learned in earning the Gold Award was communicating, being organized, and realizing that not everything goes as planned. I learned to be more independent and to get the job done."

Future: "I plan to attend college and study animal behavior. I plan to work with animals in some type of capacity."



I. INNOVATOR

KYRA ROSEN

Project: Creation of a Junior Counselor Curriculum

Summary: “I decided to pursue my Gold Award when I noticed an issue in a community which I adore—my summer camp in Massachusetts. The curriculum for the teen leadership program was not as effective as it could be. I decided to seize this opportunity and educate my peers in leadership and teamwork skills by rewriting this curriculum.”

Outcome: “My project primarily taught me that a strong community is my best resource. I strongly believe that a project can almost always be bettered when subjected to an outside opinion, just as my project was improved by the thoughts of my friends and family.”

Future: “I’ll be attending college next year and hopefully majoring in neuroscience and physics. I would love work as a neurologist in the future, and hope to teach at the college level later in life.”



L. LEADER

HELEN ROSSI

Project: The Story of Juvenile Arthritis

Summary: “I wanted to help children with arthritis like me, as it’s something I struggled with as a child. I also loved creative writing and design, so the idea to write a storybook came naturally to me. So, I wrote the storybook in English and French and distributed it at more than a dozen locations globally.”

Outcome: “Completing my Gold Award has taught me more about who I am and has propelled my leadership skills. Doing my project for kids with disabilities like my own has inspired me to want to go even further and eventually start a nonprofit for kids with arthritis.”

Future: “This summer, I hope to expand my project by distributing it to as many places as I can and work with professors who focus on ethical business strategies to help me jumpstart a nonprofit. In the future, I plan to go to college, study business, and then work in the nonprofit sector.”



L. LEADER

MADISON ROWE

Project: #HowULearn

Summary: “My project was prompted by my personal experience during elementary school and focuses on differentiated learning styles in second graders. I introduced children to learning through auditory/kinesthetic/visual means and produced material to distribute to Palmdale School District and local libraries.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned through this experience was the importance of scheduling and time management.”

Future: “I plan to join the Marine Corps and pursue a military police career. I will also obtain my degree in criminal justice.”



I. INNOVATOR

HANNAH RUIZ

Project: Keeping Safe and Busy in an Emergency

Summary: “My project focused on renovating the emergency bins at Hugo Reid Elementary/Primary School. I was able to store the bins with grade-level activity booklets, and created a PSA safety video. My project will help keep the kids safe and occupied during an emergency, and the video will inform them of what to expect during one.”

Outcome: “I have learned that being your own person and never being afraid to lead yourself through any obstacle good or bad is very important in society. Having confidence to lead a group, voice your opinion, and work with others is crucial in life.”

Future: “Next year I am attending the University of La Verne where I will be playing volleyball. I plan to major in nursing and become a registered or neonatal nurse.”



I. INNOVATOR

ATHENA SANDOVAL

Project: Animals of the Southern California Coastal Ocean

Summary: “I created a guide book and scavenger hunt with 21 sea animals that live in the aquarium so as kids are walking to the displays, they are able to learn interactively. I also created a marine safety pamphlet of what to do when finding an animal on the beach or if you get injured.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson learned is that public speaking is not scary at all. When I had to call or approach strangers or the director, I had to feel comfortable and be friendly when asking if their kids wanted to draw animals for my book. I learned to be confident with others and myself.”

Future: “I plan on attending college to major in biology or physics and then go to medical school. I am interested in becoming a physical therapist with my own practice or an orthopedic surgeon.”



L. LEADER

SARA SANTOS

Project: Wall of Peace

Summary: “My project focused on furthering peace. I had 160 tiles created by individuals, mostly youth, with an image of their definition of peace. This was aimed to go against discrimination and inequality. I hope that the participants hold a better understanding of the problems that are prevalent.”

Outcome: “Time management has always been a challenge of mine but with school, sports, a job, and my Gold Award, I was practically forced to drastically improve my time management skills. I’ve also developed better communication skills as I’ve had to interact with numerous people and personalities.”

Future: “I plan to attend Cal Poly Pomona and be part of the Kellogg Honors Program. I plan to major in management and human resources. As a leader, I would like to join, or even create, programs that further equality and help others.”



I. INNOVATOR

ALINA SARATOVA

Project: Uniting Generations

Summary: “My project was created with the intention to unite all generations in an activity that would be personal and speak with everyone—art. So, I started with gathering a diverse group of people of all ages and created designs of cards and bookmarks that people could take home or sell to fund the seniors who were part of the group.”

Outcome: “I learned that before you do anything, planning is key. Before rushing into a project or idea, especially a large one, it’s always important to plan and see what you’re starting with, what you hope to accomplish, and what do you need to do to get from start to finish.”

Future: “Although nothing is set in stone, I plan on getting a law degree and later on pursue a career as a governor or Congressmember. I want to take a more active role in changing policies and influencing laws that will guide our nation toward a brighter future.”



L. LEADER

NICHOLETTA SARKISSIAN

Project: Sunday School Helping Souls

Summary: “My project was initiated by my passion for educating children, spreading the word of God, and making a difference. I donated school supplies to St. Mary’s Armenian Sunday School in order to allow students to gain a better understanding by creating arts and crafts projects.”

Outcome: “Throughout my project, I learned to communicate effectively with children, to coordinate lesson plans with arts and crafts projects in order to allow students to learn visually, and that even the simplest things can positively impact a child’s life.”

Future: “I have applied for graduate study in order to further educate myself. I plan to graduate from high school with excellent grades, receive my bachelor’s degree, double major in biopsychology, and receive a degree in pharmacy as I plan to become a successful pharmacist.”



L. LEADER

BROOKE SASAKI

Project: Growing Healthy Families

Summary: “My project was geared to inspire young children to eat healthy and for their families to be involved in their health as well. I connected what they learned in class (through a lesson plan) to what they should do at home by creating a children’s book, installing planters at a child care center, and pamphlets for their parents.”

Outcome: “I learned that communication is so important, especially when working with so many people. Talking to advisors, leaders, and others helped me get the support I needed.”

Future: “I currently have started my first year of college and am aiming to be an elementary and special education teacher. I want to make an impact in the future generation.”



L. LEADER

AUBURN SCHMIDT

Project: PAWS4Purpose

Summary: “I created a PTSD awareness project for military, law enforcement, and first responders. I spent four years on my Gold Award gaining knowledge and resources. I learned PTSD is an epidemic and socially taboo. My event connected individuals with valuable resources, and raised awareness.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned is the power of one Girl Scout. I changed thousands of lives and believe in myself more. I learned how to have confidence in my ability to change the world and how to lead others. I gained the ability to advocate for others, and gained a large network of impactful allies.”

Future: “I plan to own my own photography company that will help rehabilitate at-risk veterans with TBI and PTSD, as well as teach others with disabilities. I am currently working with the Phoenix City Council to help write policies that assist veterans, and prevent chronic homelessness, suicide, and substance abuse.”



G. GO-GETTER

ALTANA SCHWEITZER

Project: Protecting Pollinators

Summary: “I built a native plant garden, created educational materials, and led guided tours on the subject of pollinator conservation. I hope my project will not only promote the wellbeing of these animals and their habitats, but educate my community about their plight as well.”

Outcome: “You don’t have to go big to make a difference. That is, you don’t have to take a giant risk or build something vast and complex to create meaning. Some of the most powerful changes can come from a single, thoughtful idea—one that, if pursued from the heart, will undoubtedly instill change.”

Future: “I plan to pursue both my academic and musical endeavors in college. My other goals include becoming a digital underwater photographer, publishing a science-fiction/fantasy novel, and releasing an album of contemporary classical music.”



R. RISK-TAKER

MARISOL SCIARONI

Project: Let’s Not Break a Leg Backstage

Summary: “I spent many hours in the backstage area of my middle school’s theater, and I was very familiar with the space’s faults. I added hooks, built benches, installed mirrors, renovated cabinets, and put in surfaces for hot tools—all in strategic places—to create more organized dressing rooms that the kids could safely enjoy.”

Outcome: “I improved my communications skills, both over email and in person. Before earning the Gold Award, I hadn’t had much experience sending emails to officials. Emailing the school’s principal was at first intimidating but was much easier with time. Additionally, I got much better at explaining my project to family, and to all the friendly workers at Lowe’s.”

Future: “I committed to Northern Arizona University for next year and plan to major in chemistry. After my undergraduate, I hope to attend medical school to become a dermatologist.”



ASHLEY SCOTT

Project: Community Cares

Summary: “Driven by my endearment for senior citizens as well as a commitment to community volunteerism and pride, my project focused on bringing multiple generations together to beautify their community. Together, we revitalized and improved the women’s garden and benches in Artesia Park.”

Outcome: “Community Cares taught me to be responsible, empathetic, determined, and an effective communicator. By successfully working with multiple generations, I learned I could build community pride and respect for each other as well as unify diverse people to positively and collectively impact their city.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in marketing. During that time, I hope to study abroad in South America and use my knowledge and skills to impact the local community.”



JORDAN SHANG

Project: Rags to Bags

Summary: “My Gold Award project was inspired by my want to help those in need. I made 1,582 T-shirt bags for Inland Valley Hope Partners. They use these bags to distribute food from their various food banks/pantries. My hope is for people to become more aware that a small act can make a large impact on someone’s life.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I have learned from my Gold Award is being able to rely on others. I would not have accomplished and completed this project without the help I received.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue speech and language disorders or psychology. I would like to work in a school setting and become a speech and language pathologist, or work in a family setting and become a family counselor.”



MEGHAN SHEN

Project: Fine Arts for Kids

Summary: “I created an art program at my local elementary school, where I taught art lessons several times a week. I hope to combat the lack of emphasis on creativity in public schools. Being able to work with kids, act as a mentor, and impact them positively was one of the best experiences of my life.”

Outcome: “As a senior in high school I learned that happiness is a state of activity. No matter how busy my life became with extracurriculars, I found that being a mentor to kids was an extremely rewarding experience. I learned that I could take on the world, and as long as I put my mind to it.”

Future: “I plan to attend a four-year university, then obtain my Ph.D. I want to work in the biomedical engineering field and conduct research projects of my own. I would also like to start a nonprofit.”



JOYCE SHIN

Project: Women Leaders at the Ronald Reagan Library

Summary: “I have an avid interest in history and women’s leadership, and I wanted to share my passion with younger children. I worked with the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library to create a booklet on different women leaders showcased at the library in order to educate how the younger visitors could become leaders themselves.”

Outcome: “By working with such a large organization, while intimidated at first to voice my opinion, especially one of disagreement, I’ve learned to speak up when necessary, and that I am a part of the conversation because others want my honest input.”

Future: “I will attend college next year where I plan to major in political science with a concentration in international relations. I hope to work for the government or for an international nonprofit organization where I can influence foreign policy.”



KATIE SHUE

Project: Eyes on the Prize

Summary: “My Gold Award project was sparked by my desire to help the children within the sight-impaired community. I made 20 sensory cubes with different textured fabrics, colors, and small things like buttons and velcro. I hope that my project will help the children further develop their tactile skills so that they may become successful braille readers.”

Outcome: “I’ve found what it means to be a strong and supportive leader as I had to take initiative and spread knowledge about my project to others within my community.”

Future: “I plan to attend university and pursue a degree in history. I am not sure which field within the subject, but I am looking forward to becoming a teacher in order to inspire young students to pursue their dreams just like my teachers did for me.”



CHLOE SMIGLA

Project: Girl Power

Summary: “I wrote and produced a fairytale for children demonstrating girl power with diverse, strong, female role models. I also made a documentary series *Inspirational Women Talk to Teens*. I hope to empower young children/teens to believe in themselves and their potential.”

Outcome: “Through the process of earning my Gold Award, I gained leadership skills that will help me throughout my life. Presenting the entire project to various audiences has really helped me develop as a leader.”

Future: “My goals include going to college and being successful and happy in my chosen profession. I am interested in the fields of science, acting, teaching, leadership, social activism, and communications. I plan to continue volunteering at both the community and global levels.”



CAMERON SMITH

Project: Teddy Bear Wellness

Summary: “Influenced by my desire to be a pediatrician and empathy for children that live their lives in hospitals, I hand-made 25 teddy bears to give to hospitalized children. I hope they will appreciate the bears and pass them down once they get out of the hospital.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned when working on my Gold Award was that not everything is going to go as planned. Before starting the project I thought it would be relatively simple, but I was completely wrong. The amount of sewing I had done in the past did not prepare me for all that my project required.”

Future: “I plan to attend Howard University, major in nursing, and eventually go to medical school to become a pediatrician.”



LAUREN SPENSIERO

Project: Growing in Community

Summary: “For my Gold Award project, I updated the garden at my parish and my previously-attended middle school. I laid down mulch, planted drought-tolerant plants, painted the grotto, and implemented benches. I chose this project because I wanted to give back to the community which has done so much for me.”

Outcome: “Throughout the process of my Gold Award, I became more confident and grew in my leadership and communication skills. I learned how to work well with others, and the importance of keeping your ground when it comes to your ideas.”

Future: “After high school, I plan to major in elementary education in hopes of becoming an elementary school teacher. I would also focus on mathematics as my main subject area.”



I. INNOVATOR

MALAIKA STAMBLER

Project: CREATIVEMPOWERMENT

Summary: “I addressed the lack of attention paid to the ideas of young people. I created a workshop for students to brainstorm and work with their peers to create models of their ideal world, giving them a new sense of empowerment to be strong future leaders and vehicles for change.”

Outcome: “Creativity is never a bad idea. My Gold Award project was more unconventional than expected. But I followed through with my plan, and the creativity of my project ended up leading to its success.”

Future: “I hope to pursue a degree that focuses on how media and technology effect our society. I plan to continue creating documentaries and other media related to those issues, and be a lifelong learner and educator with the priority of making the world a better place.”



L. LEADER

SOFIA STELLAR

Project: Life Would B (Flat) Without Music

Summary: “My Gold Award project was sparked by my desire to provide a means for learning music to children without the resources. I created a music room with many different instruments and CDs for the children at Five Acres.”

Outcome: “My project has helped me acquire many leadership skills. It also showed me that even when something goes wrong, there is always a solution or compromise. Finally, I learned that even though it is a lot of hard work, the joy of knowing that I am able to help these children was well worth it.”

Future: “I plan to attend college in Fall 2019. I hope to be pre-med and go on to medical school to become a surgeon or anesthesiologist, eventually opening my own practice. While in college, I hope to minor in piano or musical theater.”



I. INNOVATOR

SJ STEPHENS

Project: Social Justice and Self-Care Presentations

Summary: “My Gold Award project consisted of an event with informed speakers on a variety of topics regarding the topics of social justice, mental health, and navigating an LGBTQ+ identity. These presentations seek to raise awareness as well as give tips to activists in the community. I also livestreamed the entire event on Facebook.”

Outcome: “The greatest personal outcome I’ve gained has been learning to think on my feet when things don’t go my way. A variety of logistical errors occurred while planning my event, and I learned to fix them on the spot.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and eventually get a Ph.D. in clinical sexology. I would like to either teach sex education at a school, conduct research in the field of clinical sexology, or become a sex therapist while continuing to raise awareness about inclusive sex education.”



I. INNOVATOR

BETHANY STITT

Project: Supplies for Success

Summary: “My Gold Award project was inspired by my desire to help students who needed a little extra push in school. I know how hard school can be especially when one is unprepared and in need of support. I helped out the children in my own community by raising money to give these kids 34 new backpacks and more than 100 supplies to fill them with.”

Outcome: “I have learned that I am more of a leader than I thought I was, that teaching kids is also really fun, tutoring some of these children helped me get a better insight on what it would be like to teach an art class in the future.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and major in fine arts. I hope to show the world what I can create and that anyone can be an artist if they are passionate enough. I would like to practice many types of art, possibly having a career in animation or teaching art as a college professor.”



ASHLEY SUE

Project: Whitney High School Theater Light Racks

Summary: “My Gold Award project arose from an observation of a safety hazard within my high school’s theater. I created light racks to hang theater lights previously stored on the ground and made easier use of lights. I hope my project helps encourage the growth of the performing arts so that the importance of the arts in education is recognized worldwide.”

Outcome: “I learned that despite any obstacles I may face, there is always a way to achieve my goals if I use a little creativity and determination.”

Future: “I am a freshman in college earning a degree in music performance with a minor in English. I am also studying film music composition. I would like to earn a master’s in music therapy and go on to do research within this growing field.”



LAUREN SUGIYAMA

Project: Knocking on Hope’s Door

Summary: “My Gold Award project addressed the issue of homeless children and their families in my community. I painted, updated, and furnished a one-bedroom apartment at the Door of Hope, an organization that provides food, shelter and resources to help families restore their lives. My project and resource binder will serve to end homelessness and give hope.”

Outcome: “Each of us can make a difference, and as a community we can raise awareness of issues and institute change. I developed my leadership skills and gained confidence as I took action and involved the community to partner with me to help address family homelessness.”

Future: “My goal is to become an eye doctor, or a pediatric ophthalmologist specializing in helping children. My Girl Scout journey has inspired me to continue to be active in service and, provide a voice for children, homeless families, and others.”



MADELYN SUSANK

Project: Choirs of Angels

Summary: “My Gold Award was inspired by my love of music, learning, and my faith. I found a Catholic school in Los Angeles where there was no music offered and started a music program. I hope I have opened a whole new world to these children who now can appreciate music and incorporate it in their lives.”

Outcome: “I finished my Gold Award in my sophomore year. I had many extracurricular activities, which made time management a huge accomplishment. If I wasn’t at dance or volunteering or doing homework, then I was working on my Gold Award project.”

Future: “My future includes going to college and pursuing a career in a math-related study. This could be anywhere from engineering to accounting.”



WHITNEY TANQUARY

Project: A Place Called Home

Summary: “I led a four-week dance camp at A Place Called Home. I had seen that several of the students have great potential, but they were hindered with a lack of guidance. My mission was to provide them with a sense of stability, structure, and a creative outlet.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I have learned earning the Gold Award is that I need to be comfortable with change and flexible with my original plan. In the beginning, the kids did not see me as an authoritative figure because I am young; however, by the end, the classes went smoothly and they treated me with respect.”

Future: “I am unsure of what my future holds, but I hope to never stop learning and become the best version of myself. I see myself trying many different things in order to find what best fits me and I will go from there!”



G. GO-GETTER

INGRID TENG

Project: Sharpen the Mind

Summary: “I played brain games (chess, sudoku, memory games) with the residents at my local senior center. My project aimed to promote higher-level thinking in the elderly, as these games can delay the onset of dementia. I hope to raise awareness about the prevalence of dementia in our country and what to do about it.”

Outcome: “I’ve learned that communication is very important in about any circumstance. Not only did I have to communicate well with the seniors, I also had to coordinate with the volunteers. My Gold Award project has helped me develop these skills that will benefit me in my future career.”

Future: “I hope to major in biology or biochemistry in college. I also want to be either an orthodontist or ophthalmologist.”



L. LEADER

PEYTON THOMAS

Project: ACL Prevention Program at Arcadia High School

Summary: “My Gold Award project was focused on preventing student athletes from tearing their ACL. I created PowerPoint presentations, brochures, and exercises for the teams to complete and read in order to understand the seriousness of this injury. My goal is to decrease the number of ACLs torn each year at Arcadia High.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson that I learned when earning my Gold Award was to follow what I am passionate about and to not be afraid of speaking up and help others.”

Future: “I will be attending college this upcoming fall and plan to get a degree in business administration. In college, I hope to study abroad and travel all around Europe. After college, I plan to own a business.”



G. GO-GETTER

JULISSA TIRADO

Project: The Inspirational Garden

Summary: “My project was sparked by my motivation to show kids what it is like to grow your own fruits and vegetables. I wanted to get kids motivated to spend time outdoors and learn about gardens. Nowadays kids are addicted to technology and do not spend much time outside, and I hope my work inspires them to change.”

Outcome: “Don’t quit when things get hard. There are times where the only way you will accomplish something is by being persistent. My project got a bit postponed due to some complications with the school it was at, but I had to be patient and persistent to complete my project.”

Future: “I plan to pursue a degree in psychology. I currently am in my first year of college. I plan to become a police officer in the near future. I am currently involved with a sheriff’s station and constantly train with them.”



G. GO-GETTER

ARIANNA TOGELANG

Project: Hour to Empower

Summary: “I empowered elementary-school students through public speaking, gender equality, and self-defense workshops. I corresponded with the police department, Taekwondo institute, speech and debate team, and the Gender Equity Movement to teach that no matter what gender a child may be, their voice can resonate powerfully.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I’ve gained in my Gold Award journey is that absolutely anything is possible if you put your heart in it. I’ve faced so many obstacles that I hadn’t planned to, but finding a way to push through them has taught me resilience and drawing from passion to speak louder as I advocated my cause.”

Future: “I’m really interested in pursuing constitutional or business law, or engaging as an entrepreneur in the startup industry.”



MICAELA TOMARO

Project: Mustangs4Change

Summary: “My project emerged through my love for health, sports, and international policy. I created a club called Mustangs4Change, held art and equipment drives, presented to more than 200 Model United Nations students and younger girl soccer players in a summer camp, and held petition signings.”

Outcome: “I learned that my community is not limited to neighborhood. The premise of my award was to provide hope and a voice to those who are unable to fight for themselves. Most importantly my project has taught me to fight for my passion no matter the of obstacles.”

Future: “I plan to pursue a degree in biology, and eventually become an international doctor. My ultimate goal is to research and work with refugees, specifically in Eastern Chad.”



I. INNOVATOR

KATRINA TORREALBA

Project: ELA Victim/Witness Waiting Room Transformation

Summary: “My project sought to transform the East LA court victim/witness waiting room from a place of stress to a room providing comfort. My hope is that the renovated waiting room will help victims find their voice in court and prevent them from feeling re-victimized.”

Outcome: “I learned how to renovate a room by motivating the local community and being an effective communicator. My project initially seemed intimidating but once I began working with the courthouse personnel and researching the issues, my project quickly became a reality.

Future: “I plan to attend college and remain active in projects that address diversity issues, homelessness, and animal needs. I also plan to incorporate photography into my collegiate experience.”



ELIZABETH TRAVERS

Project: Holiday Brain Games

Summary: “My project addressed that people learn in different ways. While some work best with structure, others thrive with hands-on experiences. My project consisted of a series of eight afterschool sessions where elementary school students were able to utilize hands-on activities and implement them into their work habits.”

Outcome: “By getting my feet wet with this project, I have fully recognized that education is the career I want to pursue. I gained the positive value of patience when working with children, along with the practical skill of managing time.”

Future: “I fully intend to continue with the path of volunteer work Girl Scouts had started for me. Following high school, I plan to attend a university where I will earn a master’s degree in education.”



JOY UEHARA

Project: Inspiring Interest in STEM

Summary: “When I visited Pacific Elementary in Fall 2016, I noticed a 3D printer collecting dust in the corner. When I was brainstorming my project a few months later, I recalled that printer and decided to make use of it. I taught elementary students how to design and 3D print through mutiple workshops and a full-color manual inspiring them to pursue STEM.”

Outcome: “I learned how to communicate with principals and district teachers. I practiced writing professional emails and meeting with important people. I learned how to explain technical concepts to fifth graders. I learned how to engage my young audience and keep them interested in their work.”

Future: “I plan to pursue a degree in mechanical engineering. I hope to work at one of the many South Bay aerospace compaines and mentor a FIRST Robotics Competition team in the area.”



L. LEADER

KESTREL VALDEZ

Project: Save the Rain!

Summary: “My project was inspired by my passion for environmental sustainability. I established a community garden with drought-tolerant and native species. Additionally, I created a video series focusing on water conservation for teens. Hopefully my work will educate teens to use water more mindfully.”

Outcome: “I learned a lot about reaching out to others and not being afraid to ask for help. There are so many kind people in our communities and it is impossible to do everything alone. On the same note, using the resources available to oneself is very helpful.”

Future: “I plan to attend college in the Midwest or on the East Coast. I am interested in majoring in sociology, environmental studies, or international relations.”



I. INNOVATOR

EVA VALERO

Project: Helping Hands

Summary: “My project focused on defining a person by who they are, and not by their disability. I created an informative picture book (physical and electronic) to help children and their parents understand the surgical options for congenital hand differences. By showing animals that also have these differences, I hope to remove the stigma children may feel.”

Outcome: “Children are incredibly adaptable. If given the opportunity and resources to look past a disability, they can lead happy and productive lives even if they have health problems.”

Future: “I will attend college to study animal sciences. This will prepare me to work for the welfare and ethical treatment of all animals. I plan to work in an animal sanctuary or wildlife preserve to ensure the protection and survival of endangered species.”



R. RISK-TAKER

OLIVIA VIRGEN

Project: Will Work for the Homeless

Summary: “With the help of my school, parish, and younger Girl Scouts, I collected socks and toiletries as well as painted a mural that was donated to the Cardinal Manning Center, a homeless shelter in L.A.”

Outcome: “While working on my project, it became less of a project and more of a mission to help as many people as I could. I became extremely passionate about my cause. I also gained a new appreciation for what I have and am very grateful for all my blessings.”

Future: “After I graduate high school, I want to attend a four-year college and study abroad somewhere in Europe. I will always remember the skills I gained while working on my project and apply them to my everyday life.”



I. INNOVATOR

TAWA VOLDEN

Project: Homeless Healer

Summary: “I made hundreds of first-aid kits targeting specific health needs that each person requires that homeless people don’t often have access to. I trained the homeless on appropriate wound care to prevent further infections resulting in amputations.”

Outcome: “Although I suffer with anxiety, I learned that I am capable of overcoming those struggles. It brings me immense happiness to know that I have impacted the lives of many people that are struggling with basic needs. I learned how similar everyone’s experiences can be when we each take time to listen and appreciate the existence of another.”

Future: “I currently am enrolled in the nursing program at Cerritos College, and plan to enlist in the Air Force to become a combat medic to save lives.”



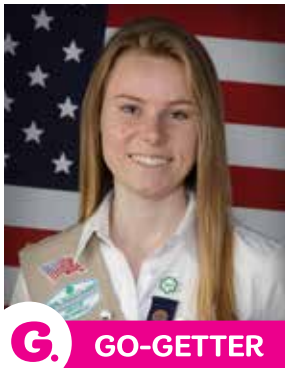
TISHANI VORA

Project: Emotional and Connection Awareness Through Dancing

Summary: “My project was influenced through my passion for helping people and through Indian dancing. I did my project at my temple as it was a focus of my project to influence little kids about the world and everyone being together. With the children’s influence they would be able to tell their parents that everyone is equal.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned from my project is to learn how to control people and the way to talk to people even when you are upset. I learned patience and leadership skills that will soon help me in the workforce in the future. The greatest lesson of all is to be aware of my surroundings and the people who are there and that all are equal.”

Future: “I plan to attend a four-year college and pursue a degree in pre-business, project management.”



ALEXANDRA VRASTIL

Project: Women’s Self Defense

Summary: “I have always had a passion for ensuring equality for women, and my Gold Award project was the perfect way to pair this passion with my skills in Taekwondo. I hope that those who took my class will feel empowered and stronger because they have the extra assurance in themselves that comes with being able to protect themselves.”

Outcome: “I learned that the limits that I thought I had don’t actually exist.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and study to be a veterinarian. I want to one day be able to take dogs and cats off the street to rehabilitate them in order to get them into forever homes where they will be loved and properly cared for.”



AMANDA WAGNER

Project: Teaching Technology to Seniors

Summary: “The lack of knowledge in technology that I saw with my grandparents inspired me to teach seniors how to use an iPhone and an iPad. I presented my tips on technology to several local assisted-living facilities. I was able to donate iPads for the seniors to use in their community.”

Outcome: “I learned a lot about myself during the Gold Award process. It was a very positive experience for me as I became aware of many of my strengths and weaknesses. The most rewarding part for me was not only helping the seniors with their technology issues, but visiting with them. They were so grateful to have someone spend time with them.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and likely pursue a bachelor’s degree in business. I’m not sure where this will take me in my career, but I know I will have a solid foundation in which to consider many options. I would also like to travel the world and experience different cultures.”



CAMERON WARD

Project: Toolbox for Success

Summary: “For the first part of my project, I created a ‘toolbox’ for third graders with supplies necessary to do homework wherever they are and keep organized. Included was a folder system to keep their work organized and ready to turn in or take home. The second part of my project was to create an AR (Accelerated Reader) library.”

Outcome: “I learned to overcome challenges and achieve the goal of finishing the project. It gave me the confidence to work with the administration and teachers so they could see my vision and create something that affects the lives of their students.”

Future: “My aspiration is to attend college in Texas, but I am keeping opportunities and options open. At this point in my life, I feel something in the sports field or government may suit me.”



CHLOE WARD

Project: Self Help for Girls

Summary: “I did hours of research, created a string of social media accounts, gave presentations, and created a supplemental brochure, all with the hopes of inspiring others and raising awareness about self-esteem.”

Outcome: “I learned to have a deeper appreciation for people through my Gold Award. I now see myself and others from a different perspective, have gained more confidence in my ability to help them, and truly understand them and their stories.”

Future: “I plan to attend a university and pursue a master’s degree in art. I want to devote my life to creating art and sharing powerful messages that I believe in. I aspire to travel the world and inspire people to be their best selves and help those who in need.”



GISELLE (GIGI) WARGIN

Project: Creating a Voice

Summary: “My project focused on spreading awareness for human rights violations. I curated a blog that has seen 850 independent visitors from 17 different countries, with 1,550 views in total. I also created a public Instagram account (@creatingavoice) to publicize the blog and share data about the current global human rights situation.”

Outcome: “I have gained a new perspective of the world from this project. I am more versed in national and global current events, and I understand and recognize many more cultural barriers and implications than I did before.”

Future: “I plan to attend a university earning a degree in humanities. From there, I plan to pursue a prosperous career driven by my passions, which may include history, English, environmental studies, or law, and live happily and adventurously with a loving family.”



ASHLEY WEI

Project: Revamp of Villa Esperanza

Summary: “My project was influenced by Villa Esperanza in Pasadena. Near the temporary classrooms, a large empty space was unoccupied due to renovations, so I revitalized that area with a hand-drawn large-scale floor map of Pasadena.”

Outcome: “I learned skills including initiating, planning, time management, and execution that improved my leadership abilities.”

Future: “I plan to attend college in the fall where I will pursue a degree in business. I am excited for new experiences as a college student and I know that I will take the skills I have learned from earning my Girl Scout Gold Award wherever I go.”



CAROLINE WIGNER

Project: Optimizing Outreach for the Whittier Museum

Summary: “After visiting the Girl Scouting exhibit at the Whittier Museum, I was inspired to complete my project for the museum. I created partnerships between the museum and local businesses and teachers, so visitors can receive an incentive for visiting. I hope my efforts will help bring more people to the museum, so they can learn about Whittier’s history.”

Outcome: “Through all of my conversations with teachers and business owners, I became a more comfortable and confident speaker. I saw the most improvement in my articulation and clarity.”

Future: I plan to attend college next fall and pursue a degree in engineering and a minor in German. I hope to do research during college and study abroad in Germany. I hope to have a job where I can use both my engineering and German skills together.”



I. INNOVATOR

SKYE WILSON

Project: California Wildlife Center Awareness

Summary: “My project was to spread awareness about the California Wildlife Center by leading a Brownie event that included activities that related to the center. I also painted signs to be hung on habitats to help volunteers find their way around the center. I hope to inspire future generations on the importance of animals.”

Outcome: “I have gained strong leadership skills, as well as learned how to work with many different people and personalities.”

Future: “I will be attending college for film and media studies. I want to pursue directing and screenwriting, and maybe one day win an Oscar.”



G. GO-GETTER

KATE WINSCHHEL

Project: Connecting the Community

Summary: “My project allowed me to explore my passions for coding and graphic design. Through the creation of a website, interviews, and graphics, I was able to connect my community.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I have learned is how to properly communicate with others and how to work creatively to complete a common goal finding new solutions.”

Future: “I plan to attend college pursuing a degree in graphic design. My ultimate life goal is to be the editor-in-chief of *Vogue* or a creative director for a major fashion brand.”



G. GO-GETTER

EMILY WONG

Project: Colorful Classroom of Children

Summary: “The desolate classrooms at my local church were insufficient for youngsters, so I repainted all of the walls and donated new art supplies. I hope my improvements will inspire children to become more involved and interactive with their community.”

Outcome: “I learned that strong managerial skills, integrity, and a positive attitude are the keys to a successful outcome.”

Future: “This fall, I will be attending the University of California, Irvine where I will be majoring in business administration. I plan to become a public relations specialist after earning a degree in business marketing, as well as communications with a focus in public relations.”



L. LEADER

GRACE WONG

Project: Little Free Library

Summary: “My project was inspired by my love of reading. I wanted to provide a way to form a community around books in a more intimate setting than a library provides. The Little Free Library organization unites a neighborhood in a unique way and cultivates new neighborhood connections that create a closer community.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned through my Gold Award project was perseverance. Through the many aspects of my project having unexpected challenges, I had to keep going. Facing these challenges fostered greater perseverance in all aspects of my life.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in costume design or French. My dream is to someday work on costumes for a Broadway show.”



I. INNOVATOR

JENNA WONG

Project: Rooted in STEM

Summary: “Inspired by my passion for learning and discovery through STEM, I devised six lessons and experiments in physics, biology, and chemistry for underserved children that I both taught in person and compiled in a website. I wanted to prove that, regardless of socioeconomic status, STEM and its values of curiosity and discovery are for everyone.”

Outcome: “This project made me realize both how important and how contagious an excitement for learning can be, and how true passion for anything can inspire others to pursue their own interests or even discover new ones.”

Future: “I plan on attending college and grad school, ultimately earning a master’s degree and/or Ph.D. in philosophy, physics, and/or business. I hope to become a researcher or lecturer similar to Neil Degrasse Tyson, in finding the marriage between advanced education and its public appeal.”



I. INNOVATOR

MELISSA WONG

Project: Take a Page Out of My Book

Summary: “I wrote and illustrated a rhyming children’s book on how to be a good citizen. I read my book to 400 students at a school assembly, donated copies, created a seven-day good citizen lesson plan, and hosted a clothing drive to benefit Operation School Bell.”

Outcome: “I learned that I am able to create amazing and professional-looking products that showcase my creativity. I was also nervous reading my book to 400 children and their teachers, but this journey helped me conquer my fear of large audiences.”

Future: “I plan to attend a four-year college and pursue a degree in accounting. I plan to become an accountant and perhaps travel around the world.”



L. LEADER

SARAH WONG

Project: Read to Learn, Read to Enjoy

Summary: “I created a literacy corner at the UMMA Clinic in South Los Angeles that gives the children of patients access to over 300 books of various reading levels. I also helped restart the Reach Out and Read program at the clinic.”

Outcome: “I learned to communicate more efficiently and fluidly with different people and organizations in order to accomplish my goals.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and continue on to medical school, where I hope to become an otolaryngologist who studies pedagogy. As a doctor, I hope to be able to help singers and people whose voices have been damaged by overuse or because of other injuries.”



L. LEADER

ASHLEY WU

Project: Bringing Dental Awareness to Tijuana, Mexico

Summary: “My project focused on educating people of the importance of good oral hygiene. I worked with HHAB, a nonprofit that provides medical care to poor Tijuana communities. From speaking at a dental convention, I raised \$750 to create brochures in Spanish and dental kits for locals in Tijuana.”

Outcome: “The Gold Award process was more than a Girl Scout milestone for me. It was a way where I could incorporate my passion for dentistry, while using the leadership skills gained from Girl Scouts. I was able to grow so much, learning to reach beyond the borders of my community.”

Future: “Next year, I am going to Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, where I hope to pursue a major in public health and a minor in Spanish. I want to become a dentist one day and start my own practice, where I can further my mission on educating those about the importance of dental hygiene.”



L. LEADER

ELIZABETH YAMARONE

Project: Little Church Book Drive

Summary: “For my project, I organized a book drive at my church and set up a new reading area. The books were for the Sunday school program at St. Finbar, called Little Church, which caters to preschool-aged children. I got to work with the kids when I redecorated the classroom and with members of the community for the book drive.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I learned from my Gold Award experience is that people want to help make a difference in their community and will be happy to help you with a task if you reach out to and encourage them.”

Future: “I am currently attending college at Loyola University Chicago, majoring in international business with a minor in sustainable business management. I hope to graduate, travel, and work for a major company that I am passionate about.”



G. GO-GETTER

FRANCESCA YAO

Project: The Sound of Happiness

Summary: “Music has had a huge impact on my life for as long as I can remember, so I wanted to share this kind of impact with others through my project. I organized four retirement home performances and one community concert to provide free music so that members of the community could also find happiness and other fulfilling emotions through music.”

Outcome: “The greatest lesson I have learned from completing the Gold Award process was to be flexible and remain calm in any situation, even when met with an unexpected obstacle.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and possibly pursue a degree relating to criminal justice. I intend on working with the criminal justice system and eventually earning a higher position of authority.”



G. GO-GETTER

SAMANTHA YASUDA

Project: All Around Arcadia

Summary: “My project was inspired by the newcomer/ELD programs at the elementary schools. I went around the city researching and taking pictures of the most significant sites, compiling this information into a 10-minute video. I hope my work will help educate newcomers about the City of Arcadia and aid in their transition to a new city.”

Outcome: “Through my Gold Award experience, I’ve learned about communication and cooperation. I’ve realized that everything in life revolves around communicating with others. Things may not always turn out perfectly, but communication helps keep everyone on the same page.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue a degree in biology or mathematics. It is my dream to pursue a profession in the medical field so that I can help find cures and improve the welfare of humanity.”



L. LEADER

ALYSSA YUNG

Project: Gardening for Change

Summary: “I wanted to introduce underprivileged preschoolers to gardening and healthy lifestyles. I built a demonstration garden at a childcare center, taught lessons to a class, and built a website.”

Outcome: “The greatest lessons I learned was realizing my leadership potential and gaining confidence. Through all the facets of my project, I became more well-versed and confident in my speaking and leadership in a variety of settings.”

Future: “I plan to attend California State University, Fullerton and study business administration with concentrations in analytics and marketing. I hope to utilize my education in the music industry, since I am so passionate about live music.”



I. INNOVATOR

EMILY ZAVALA

Project: Singing with Senior Citizens

Summary: “My idea came from my love of music. I have been a choir singer since I was in second grade and I wanted to incorporate music in my project. I started a singing group at a senior citizen home. The residents were so appreciative of my time with them. My friendships with them will have a lasting impact.”

Outcome: “One of greatest lessons is that giving back to my community was so rewarding. Spending time with the senior adults and sharing my love of music with them, made me realize the importance of giving back.”

Future: “I plan to attend a four-year university and pursue a degree in sociology. I plan to be one day be a social worker.”



G. GO-GETTER

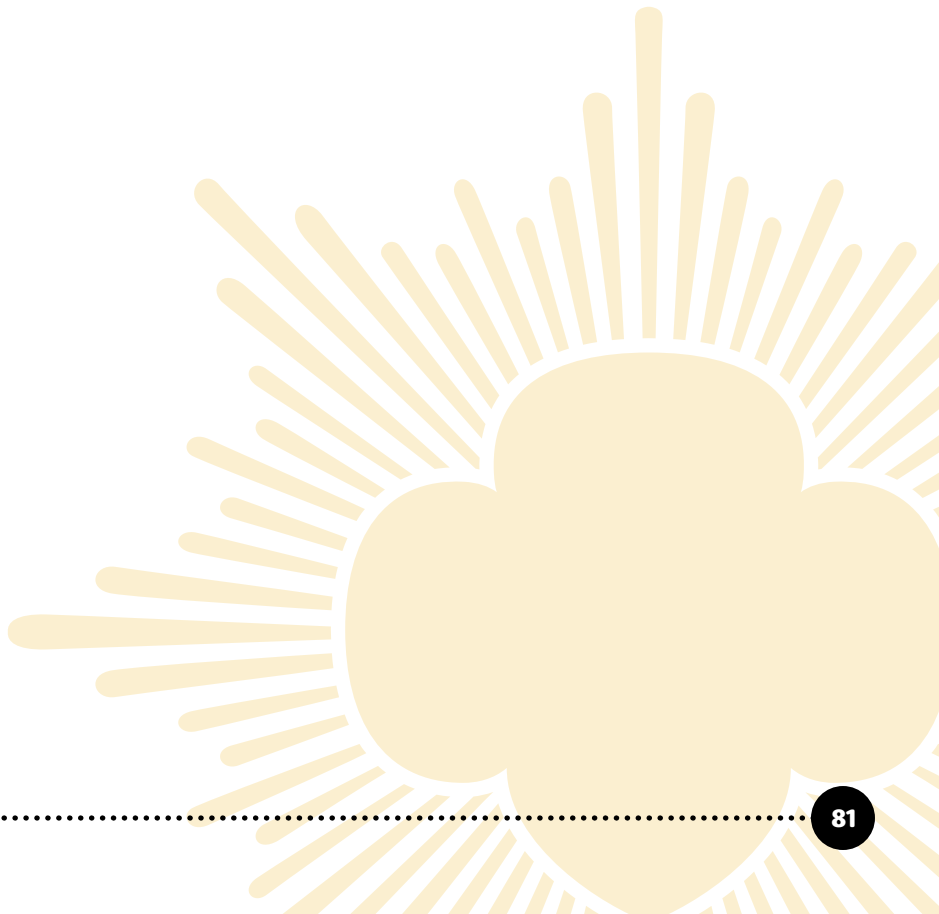
EMILY ZEPEDA

Project: Explore Science

Summary: “My project was sparked by my experience volunteering at Discovery Cube, a science education center for kids. I held a series of free STEM workshops over the summer to show kids that STEM can be fun and exciting. I hope my work has inspired kids to pursue their interests in STEM.”

Outcome: “Earning the Gold Award has allowed me to realize my potential in my ability to impact my community for the better. It has motivated me to leave my mark on the world, and make it a better place.”

Future: “I plan to attend college and pursue an undergraduate degree in urban and environmental policy. Additionally, I plan to earn a master’s of public policy in graduate school. I plan to become an environmental policy adviser to government officials, and perhaps become the director of the Environmental Protection Agency.”



2017 GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS

BIOGRAPHIES NOT AVAILABLE



MADelyn BERSTEIN
*Childrens Corner:
Hospitality for
Children Witnesses*



MICHELLE BURNS
Foster Friends



BERNADETTE CHAVEZ
Autism Awareness



JOYCELYN GEE
Lending Library



STEPHANI HOO
*Spreading STEM
Block by Bot*



JOSIE HULL
Superheros Among Us



ASHLEY KANG
Playtime Adventure



ALEXA LANK
Young Archers



EMILY MATSUI
Let's Move!

2017 GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS

BIOGRAPHIES NOT AVAILABLE



ELIZABETH MCCARTHY

*Inside Cleanup and
Revitalization of
the Seek Cottage*



SADIE MCMILLAN

SEA Lab Kid's Corner Renovation



**HANNAH
NELSESTUEN**

*Boys and Girls
Love to Read*



JULIA POWERS
*Style 12:
Hair and Nail Salon*



MAYA SAHAI
*Jumping Your Way to
Healthy Living*



BRIANNA SANFORD
House the Rabbit



KAILY SNIDER
Murals for Munchkins



BRIDGET SULLIVAN
*Simply Environment
Awareness*

Our Mission

To build girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place.

Our Movement

We're 2.6 million strong—1.8 million girls and 800,000 adults who believe in the power of every G.I.R.L. (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader)TM to change the world.

Founded in 1912, we're the preeminent leadership development organization for girls. With programs from coast to coast and across the globe, Girl Scouts offers every girl a chance to practice a lifetime of leadership, adventure, and success.



Our Council

Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles (GSGLA) serves more than 40,000 girls, grades K-12, throughout the diverse communities of Los Angeles County and parts of Kern, San Bernardino, and Ventura counties.

GSGLA operates 7 service centers, 10 program centers, 2 camps, and our headquarters in downtown Los Angeles.

Girl Scout Membership Levels

Daisies

Grades K-1

Brownies

Grades 2-3

Juniors

Grades 4-5

Cadettes

Grades 6-8

Seniors

Grades 9-10

Ambassadors

Grades 11-12



Our Program

At Girl Scouts, girls have tons of fun, make new friends, go on fantastic adventures, and do big things.

Our program centers on the Girl Scout Leadership Experience—a collection of experiences girls have as they earn badges, sell cookies, discover their talents, connect with their communities, and take action to make a positive impact.

PROGRAM AREAS



Life Skills



Science, Technology,
Math & Engineering
(STEM)



Entrepreneurship



Outdoor

Join - Volunteer - Support

Visit www.girlscoutsla.org or call 213-213-0123.



Be the role model she'll always remember.

Prepare her for a lifetime of leadership, and be the mentor she needs.

As a volunteer, you'll introduce girls to new experiences that show them they're capable of more than they ever imagined. They'll each find their inner G.I.R.L. (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-Taker, Leader)[™] after all!

There are many ways to volunteer, whether a one-time opportunity or leading a troop.
Visit girlscoutsla.org for more information.

Congratulations *Sabrina Michelle Azzuz*
on earning your Gold Award as a Juliet



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Not only have you given back to your community, but you have created an outdoor hands-on learning opportunity for the children at Saint Nicholas School. This Science and Agriculture lab which has been added in their curriculum will be enjoyed for many years to come.

WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOUR COMMITMENT!

LOVE MOM, DAD, BRANDON AND CHRISTINA



*The Culver City Service Unit
congratulates*

EMMA KESSNER (4645)
GABRIELLE MORETA (4645)
RHEA RAHIMTOOLA (4645)
MALAIKA STAMBLER (11055)

*on achieving the
Girl Scout Gold Award!
We are so proud of your accomplishments!*





Claire Jean Bogosian



*~ Congratulations Claire !!! ~
We are so proud of you for achieving
your Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards
and thrilled you walked this journey
with your sister as a fellow scout and
your mother as one of your leaders.*

*We know you will accomplish
amazing things in your future, too!!!
With much love from your family,
Mom, Dad, Edward and Audrey*



Girl Scout Gold Award :)

Rachel Marie Dever





Skye Wilson



Kirsten Johnson

Success

Isn't just about accomplishment...

It's also about how the things you do in your life
motivate and inspire others
to do something motivating and inspiring in theirs.

Congratulations on your achievements, girls!!

We're so proud of you!

Marie Wilson & Brenda Johnson

Troop 2626



*Congratulations,
Emilee!*

We thank God for His guidance and direction all these years — from a Brownie to an Ambassador and now earning your Gold Award. Because of His grace, your hard work and dedication have paid off! We are SO proud of you, Palangga. We love you and continue to support your decisions for the future.

DAD, MOM, LOLO, LOLA,
TITO JOVZ, TITA FE, TITO ARJAY,
TITA PHYRUN, ELI, & CHUEY



*Congratulations
Lauryn!
We ❤️ You*

PIC•COLLAGE

So proud of our Golden Girls!



Emilee Estoya
from Troop 2815



Daniela Robles
from Troop 11955



Marisol "Sunny" Sciaroni
from Troop 11965



***San Pedro Service Unit applauds your hard work, dedication
and joy in performing stellar community service!***



Congratulations **HEATHER GRIFFITHS** On receiving your Gold Award



FROM  daisies TO  brownies TO  juniors TO  cadettes TO  seniors TO OUR FUTURE **ambassador**

We are so very proud and blessed to have you as our daughter. Through these years of Girl Scouts, your character, motivation, and passion, combined with perseverance, class, and spirit of selfless service have empowered you to achieve the highest award in Girl Scouts. Throughout the process of creating and implementing the STEMming Out From Kids Program, it was amazing to witness your hard work, dedication, and organizational, time management, and leadership skills, as you also continued your dedication to school, church, Awana, Girl Scouts, and violin. Your Program will continue to impact children and the world for years to come. Thank you for making this world a better place. This award is a fantastic milestone along your great journey in Girl Scouts and in life. Continue to follow your passions, and your dreams will come true.

We Love You! - Mom, Dad, Auston, Amber and Kyle

*The Manhattan Beach Neighborhood Service Unit
congratulates these hard-working young women
on earning their Gold Award.*



We are so proud of you!

Rachel Alder

Brenna Coyle

Marisa McGovern

Francesca Bennett

Megan Crawford

Sadie McMillan

Hannah Bergin

Annemarie Dapoz

Alexa Quilliam

Michelle Chambers

Anna Graves

Whitney Tanquary

Julia Chun

Rachel Graves

Micaela Tomaro

Brigitte Corbel

Keila McCabe

Alexandra Vrastil



Erica Buyalos
and
Lindsay Palm
Congratulations from
Melikora!



Congratulations to Erica Buyalos and Lindsay Palm on earning the Girl Scout Gold Award. You are an inspiration to us all to make the world a better place! Demonstrating courage, confidence and most of all, character, you have exemplified the best of Girl Scouts. As you go forward, remember to keep the Promise and the Law in your hearts.

Love, from your Leaders and *Melikora* Troop sisters of 10016.



From green to gold, leaders are born.



Sheridan, Congratulations on earning your Gold Award,

You've proven yourself! You made a difference! You've come a long way! We knew you had it in you. But it wasn't easy.

You took your 12-year love for Soccer and shared it with kids in our community. You experienced coaching and then gave your soccer friends the opportunity to feel how great it was to be in charge. We are so proud that you took on the task of getting this Soccer Camp going and making sure it ran smoothly every day because to you it's important not to do things but to have done them the right way! You deserve a high-five!

There were so many people that you talked to and helped you get here, to them we say, "Thank you". Shout out to Kelly Asada for taking on the role of your Gold Award Advisor!

But your Girl Scout experience would have never been the same had it not been for the troop friendship of Rachel, Carly, Sarah, Morgan, Olivia, Jenny, Suhani and especially Mrs. Laurie!

With Love always

- Dad, Mom & Kristan (Sister/ Best friend)





**Congratulations
On your Gold
Award!!!!!!**

**WE LOVE YOU
Mom, Dad, Emma
MorMor, & Grandpa**



You made it!



CONGRATULATIONS
SARA SANTOS!

Girl Scout Gold Award 2018



*"Peace begins with a smile."
Mother Theresa*



Congratulations Ava, Alyssa and Amanda on earning
your Gold Awards!

We are so proud of you! With love from your Girl Scout Family....



Genevieve
Isabella
Karennna
Kayla
Kelly



Mrs. Gutierrez & Mrs. Wagner

Holy Family, South Pasadena
Troop 13961





SJ Stephens,
 Congratulations on achieving Bronze, Silver and now your Gold Award!
 We are thankful for your contributions to the community all these years
 from Daisy to Ambassador to establishing a Speakers Series on Social
 Justice and Self-Care. We are grateful to the Girl Scouts and our Troop
 Leaders for giving SJ the tools of Courage-Confidence-Character and the
 opportunity to serve the community.

With All of Our Love,
 Mom, Dad, Grandma Mary, Tia Michele, Caleb and Sparky.



Ingrid is a San Marino High sophomore who has recently completed her Girl Scout Gold Award Project at the Sunrise Senior Center. She played chess, sudoku and other board games with the residents, which was aimed to promote higher-level thinking and to delay the onset of dementia. She hopes to raise awareness about this increasingly common condition and the importance of an active mind.

Many Congratulations to LaBrea Heights SU own

Gold Award Recipient

Katelyn Maheia

You are an amazing Girl Scout

Good luck to you in our next endeavor



Daniela,

From a little Daisy to an Ambassador Girl Scout, you have overcome the odds and have not let life's obstacles get in your way! We are so proud of your dedication and hard work in Girl Scouts. Congratulations on achieving your Girl Scout Gold Award!

May God continue to bless you! We Love You!

Love, Your Family XOXO





Congratulations Autry!!



Santa Monica Bay
Girl Scouts #7315

Autry Isom

14 years of Girl Scouting
Awards Earned
Gold Award
Silver Award
Bronze award
850+ hours Presidential Gold Volunteer Awards
SM Bay Service Unit Girl Scouts Excellence in Service Award
Emerging Leader 2017
GS Gold Torch Leadership Pin
GS Silver & Gold Torch Leadership Pin Award
GS Silver Torch Leadership Pin Award
Ambassador Service to Girl Scouting Bar Award
Senior Service to Girl Scouting Bar Award
Cadette Service to Girl Scouting Bar Award
Ambassador Community Service Bar Award
Cadette Journey Take Action Community Service Award
Senior Take Action Community Service Award
Global Action Award
Top Cookie Seller Award for many years.



We are so Proud of you!!

Love, Santa Monica Bay Troop 7315

Congratulations Grace!



Congratulations

Lindsey Di Silvestri & Hailey Keidel



on earning your Gold Award!

We are so proud of you!

Love your GS Sisters, Troop 2902



*Congratulations,
Alyssa, on earning
the Gold Award!
We are so proud
of you!*

*Love,
Mom, Dad, James
and Sophia*



Cameron,
We are proud of everything you have done and the person you are. You are fearless, driven, accomplished and a fierce competitor. We can tell you that we are all proud of everything you have done and the woman you have become. Congratulations on another success.



Our Dearest Masooma,

We are so proud of you for accomplishing such a wonderful achievement. Your dedication to Girl Scout is a testament to your tremendous character. Once again, congratulations on your golden achievement.

Love,

Wong and Zhu family

Congratulations

To our beautiful daughter

Jessica Hosler

For earning her

Girl Scouts



Gold Award

Love, Mom Dad and Justin



Sarrah, we are so proud of you achieving the Girl Scout Gold Award and hope you continue to inspire others to perform kind actions.

Love: Mum, Dad and Adam

-XXX-



*Clarissa Lee Miller
Bronze, Silver & Gold Awards
Your contributions to the world
will be significant ...*

*Love you more,
Mom & Dad, Zuzu & Sweet Pea*





**From Brown(ie) to Gold.
Congratulations Caroline!**

We love you, Grace. We burst with pride.

You earned your Gold Award

With your friends by your side.

As you step into your future, it truly is bright.

*Your friendships are solid and you shine with God's
light.*

Love - Mom, Dad, Olivia and Joseph



Congratulations!



Congratulations on earning your Gold Award

Amanda Wagner

We are so proud of you and all of your accomplishments.

We hope you look back at the process of earning this award as a valuable life lesson. Anything is possible if you believe and are willing to work hard for it.

Build upon this achievement to chase your dreams and live your life to the fullest.

We love you so much!

*Love,
Dad, Mom, and Erik*



Troop 13961





Congratulations Emily
On your Gold Award

What a great journey and
accomplishment for you from
Daisies to your Gold Award

You have become such a
beautiful and caring young
woman

We are so proud of you!
Love,
Mom and Dad



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**Your Girl Scout has completed an amazing leadership journey.
Now help provide that legacy to more girls!**



Join the Women's Leadership Circle

The Women's Leadership Circle helps unleash the G.I.R.L.—the Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, and Leader—in every girl through investment, advocacy, and networking. This group of Girl Scout investors (\$1,000+) brings women leaders together to link girls to their potential.



Join the Juliette Gordon Low Society

Juliette Gordon Low Society recognizes individuals who create a legacy of support by including Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles as a beneficiary in their wills, trusts, retirement accounts, or insurance plans.

All members receive invitations to special events, VIP updates, and recognition in marketing materials.

Email giving@girlscoutsla.org or call 626-677-2314. Visit us at girlscoutsla.org.

CONGRATULATIONS!

TO THE 2018 GOLD AWARD GIRL SCOUTS

Thank you for inspiring us with your
creativity, tenacity, and passion for
making the world a better place.

WE'RE SO PROUD OF YOU.



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GSGLA relies on gifts to the G.I.R.L. Fund* to fuel our staying power in Greater Los Angeles and keep the Girl Scout Leadership Experience alive.

Four reasons why you should support the G.I.R.L. Fund!

1 WE NEED YOUR HELP

GSGLA invests \$467 to provide the Girl Scout Leadership Experience to every girl. Product sales, retail, and program fees raise \$418. **That leaves a gap of \$49 per girl.**** G.I.R.L. Fund gifts allow GSGLA to close this gap and provide the Girl Scout Leadership Experience to **every** girl.

2 CHOOSE WHERE YOUR GIFT GOES

The G.I.R.L. Fund supports almost every area of Girl Scouting. Give to the G.I.R.L. Fund and designate your gift to the programs that matter to you.

3 SPECIAL ADDED BONUS

Donate between April 1 and June 15 to help your troop earn early renewal rewards. Gifts given at any time also help your service unit earn the President's Award!

4 YOU GET A PATCH

As a thank you for gifts \$25+, you receive the all-new G.I.R.L. Fund patch — perfect for anyone who believes in EVERY G.I.R.L. (Go-Getter, Innovator, Risk Taker, Leader).

GIVE TODAY!

**Visit your local shop or
girlscoutsla.org/donate**



**formerly known as Family Partnership*

***Numbers based on council's operating budget to support 43,000 girls and 24,000 members, per girl, per year*



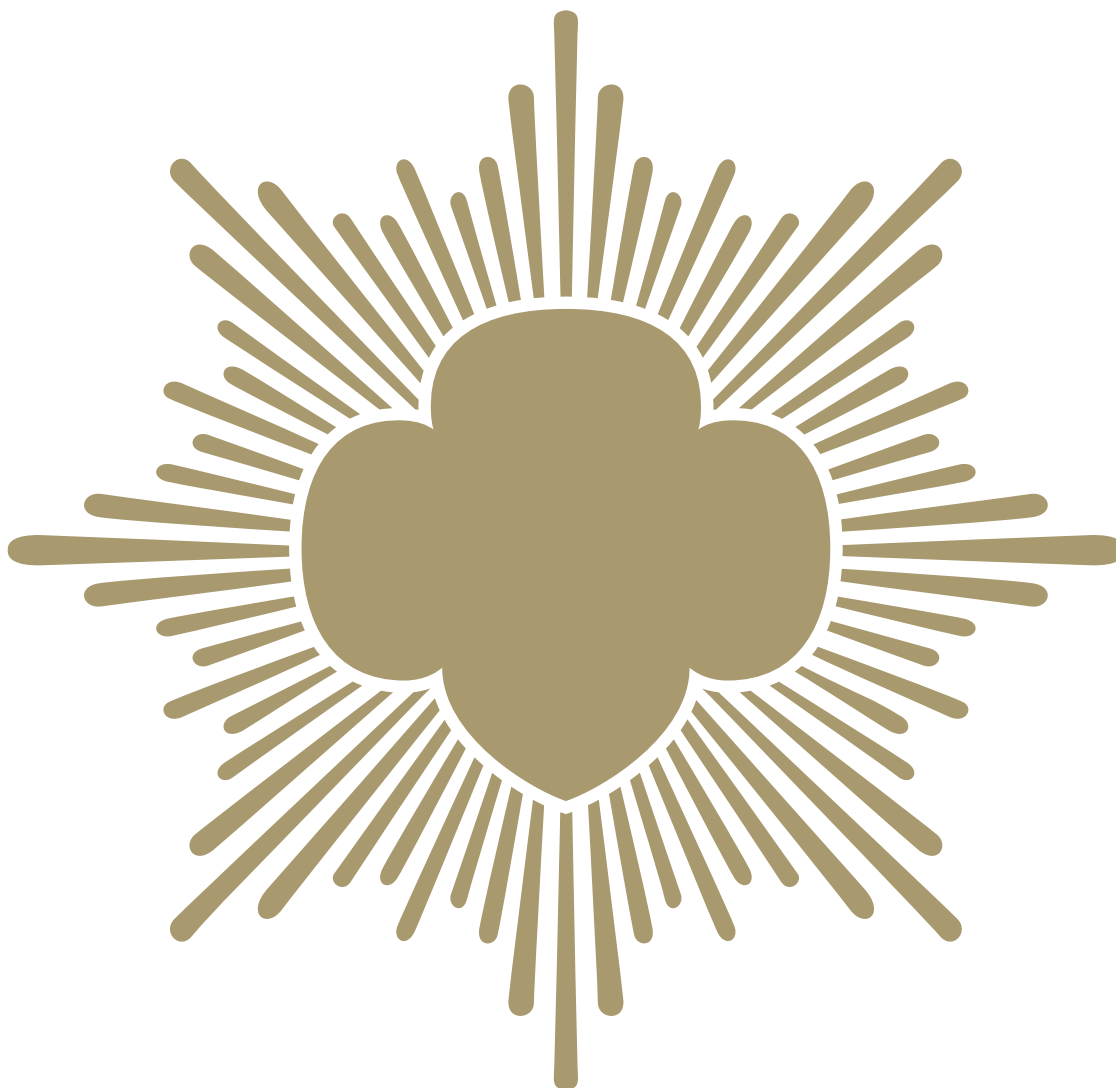
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Keep Girl Scouts with you wherever you go!

Get involved with Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles through the GSGLA Alum Network Planning Committee. Provide valuable feedback as we design an alum network that is made for you!



To get involved, email alumnae@girlscoutsla.org



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