

PRESS RELEASE

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Golden Ideas Turned to Action by L.A. Area Girls

High school Girl Scouts spend nearly 21,000 hours on projects addressing community issues, earning them Girl Scouts' highest honor, the Gold Award

LOS ANGELES, May 30, 2017 – Since 1916, thousands of Girl Scouts across the country have earned Girl Scouts' highest honor—now called the Girl Scout Gold Award—for demonstrating extraordinary leadership and making change in their communities. On **Saturday, June 3** in Pasadena, 256 Girl Scouts in Greater Los Angeles—the largest Gold Award class in the nation—will be honored by the regional Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles (GSGLA) council.

([Click here](#) for a list of Gold Award recipients by city.)

Nationally, only six percent of all eligible Girl Scouts achieve the Gold Award. Girls who earn the Gold Award automatically enter the military one rank higher and qualify for college scholarships, additional national service awards, and more.

Earning the Gold Award requires the planning and implementation of a challenging, large-scale project that is innovative, engages others, and has a lasting impact on its targeted community. In Greater LA today, Gold Award projects tackled issues such as illiteracy, homelessness, sexual assault, discrimination, pollution, and more. This year, one girl spearheaded a successful initiative to get hand sanitizer in China's community hospitals; another taught children how to build computers to donate to low-income schools; and another led a distracted driving awareness campaign after her best friend was struck and killed by a car, for example.

([Click here](#) for a sampling of 2017 Gold Award projects.)

"Girl Scout Gold Awardees show grit like go-getters, problem-solve like innovators, embrace new challenges like risk-takers, and display empathy and integrity as leaders," said Lise L. Luttgens, GSGLA CEO. "Their projects have left a permanent effect on their communities, and the process has made an impression on each of them."

MEDIA NOTES:

- Gold Award recipients are available for interviews regarding their unique, impactful projects and overall Girl Scouting experiences. To obtain more information about Gold Award projects in specific Greater Los Angeles cities or communities, please contact Melanie Larsen: mlarsen@girlscoutsla.org.
- Please note: Media is invited to Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles' Gold Award Ceremony, June 3, 3–5 p.m. at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium, 300 E. Green Street. Keynote address by Christine Simmons, WNBA Sparks President & COO. NBC4's Carolyn Johnson, Girl Scout alumna, will emcee. RSVP with Melanie Larsen.

About Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles

Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, serves more than 40,000 girls in partnership with 24,000 adult volunteers throughout the diverse communities of Los Angeles County and parts of Kern, San Bernardino, and Ventura counties. Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles is the largest girl-serving nonprofit agency in Los Angeles. Through the council's programs in entrepreneurship, life skills, outdoors, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), Girl Scouts prepares girls to practice a lifetime of leadership. To join, volunteer, reconnect, or support, visit www.girlscoutsla.org or call 213-213-0123.