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Girl Scouts to Receive Prestigious Gold Awards

80 Girls to be recognized at annual Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania Gold Award Ceremony

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Miquon, PA (May 14, 2021) — [Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania](https://www.gsep.org) (GSEP) announced that 80 girls from across its council territory earned the prestigious Girl Scout Gold Award – the highest honor and award a Girl Scout can achieve – during the 2019 – 2020-member year. The hybrid in-person and virtual ceremony will take place on Sunday, May 16 at 2 p.m. EST. Kim E. Fraites-Dow, CEO of GSEP, and Debbie Hassan, Board Chair at GSEP, will be at the ceremony to share remarks and honor the girls with this prestigious award.

The Girl Scout Gold Award recognizes Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors (grades 9-12) who demonstrate extraordinary leadership through sustainable and measurable Take Action projects. The Gold Award is the culmination of a girl's demonstration of leadership ability, time management, creativity, initiative, and a significant mastery of skills. Gold Award Girl Scouts individually identify a community problem, develop a plan to solve it, recruit a team to assist them, and create sustainable solutions that last for years beyond their project.

"We are proud to recognize 80 inspiring Girl Scouts who have earned the prestigious Gold Award," stated Kim E. Fraites-Dow, CEO of GSEP. "While this was a year of extreme change and uncertainty, these girls persevered through it all and saw their ambitious projects to completion. Through their capstone Take Action projects, they have demonstrated the five leadership outcomes we hope every Girl Scout will achieve: developing a strong sense of self, displaying positive values, seeking challenges and learning from setbacks, forming and maintaining healthy relationships, and becoming community problem solvers. These Girl Scouts join an elite group of dreamers and doers exemplifying the Girl Scout promise of making the world a better place. We know that our Gold Award Girls Scouts will step in when they are confronted with injustices of any kind, big or small, and will provide solutions...they will not step aside."

The Girl Scouts' Take Action projects provide benefits with sustainable impact to their communities which truly emphasizes the remarkable power of Girl Scouts. Projects range in topic from providing younger girls with workshops and opportunities to share their experiences about body image and self-esteem, to tracking the feeding patterns and rolling out prevention techniques to mitigate the costly damages Spotted Lanternflies are causing to the environment and the local economy. Together, this year's Gold Award Girl Scouts completed 7,400 leadership hours of community service. Based on the latest service worth estimate of one volunteer hour (\$28.54), this represents a value of more than \$200,000 in community problem solving investment for the nine counties that GSEP serves.



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For more information on the Girl Scout Gold Award, visit: <https://www.gsep.org/en/about-girl-scouts/our-program/highest-awards/gold-award.html>

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About Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania

Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania (GSEP) is the largest girl-serving organization in Pennsylvania and builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. GSEP serves close to 40,000 girls in partnership with more than 15,000 adult volunteers in Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Delaware, Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton and Philadelphia counties. For further information about Girl Scouting, how to join, volunteer, reconnect, or donate, call 215-564-2030 or visit www.gsep.org.

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