



# Adult Recognition Guide

Girl Scouts of Missouri Heartland values you--our adult members and volunteers-- for your dedication towards championing girl ambition! We want to show our support for your dedication and commitment by honoring you, and celebrating you when you exceed expectations. Girl Scout Adult Recognitions are awarded to adult members who go above and beyond, resulting in exceeding the expectations of their positions and changing our organization, and even the world as we know it.

Volunteers and staff across departments and geographic areas are encouraged to nominate superb adults for GSUSA and GSMH Awards and are encouraged to hold Service Unit Recognitions in their local areas. Detailed descriptions of all awards, as well as nominating instructions and proper forms or links to forms are included in this guide.

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*All awards are for service provided in the previous membership year(s).*

## GSUSA Awards

Girl Scouts of the USA has chartered these awards for use across the Girl Scout Movement. These awards move in a progression and can be awarded to any volunteer if the nomination criteria are met. Recipients are honored at an annual recognition event.



### **Volunteer of Excellence**

This award recognizes volunteers who have contributed outstanding service while partnering directly with girls in any pathway to implement the Girl Scout Leadership Experience through use of the National Program Portfolio **or** who have contributed outstanding service in support of the council's mission delivery to girl and adult members.



### **Appreciation Pin**

The Appreciation Pin recognizes an individual's exemplary service in support of delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. This support has had measurable impact within **one geographic area of service** to help reach and surpass the mission-delivery goals of the area.



### **Honor Pin**

The Honor Pin recognizes an individual's exemplary service in support of delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience; this support has had measurable impact on **two or more geographic areas of service** to reach and surpass the mission-delivery goals of the council.



### **Thanks Badge**

The Thanks Badge honors an individual whose ongoing commitment, leadership, and service have had an exceptional, measurable impact on meeting the mission-delivery goals and priorities of the entire council or the entire Girl Scout Movement.



### **Thanks Badge II**

The Thanks Badge II honors a previous Thanks Badge award recipient who has continued to provide exemplary service in a leadership role which resulted in a measurable impact benefitting the entire Girl Scout Movement.



### **Years of Volunteer Service Pin**

The Volunteer Years of Service Pin recognizes an adult member registered with Girl Scouts of the USA for their years of active volunteer service. GSMH purchases pins for these volunteers at specific intervals (25, 30, 40, 50, etc.) and recognizes these volunteers at the Volunteer Recognition Ceremony if a Years of Service Form is submitted by the award deadline of February 1.

*Note: This pin differs from the numeral guard in that it represents the number of years an adult volunteer has actively provided service, whereas the numeral guard recognizes years of membership.*

*All awards are for service provided in the previous membership year(s).*

## **GSMH Awards**

In the 2021-2022 Girl Scout membership year, Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland began honoring volunteers who have gone above and beyond in specific categories related to supporting girls and other volunteers in their geographic areas within GSMH boundaries. GSMH Awards are nominated and endorsed by staff members, and in some cases Service Unit Volunteers, for their exceptional service throughout the previous year. Recipients will be honored at the annual recognition ceremony.



### **GSMH Diversity Award**

The GSMH Diversity Award recognizes a volunteer who not only endorses diversity within GSMH but takes active steps to encourage global diversity and inclusion within their local area. This volunteer seeks to help girls and families have a true Girl Scout Experience regardless of challenges.



### **GSMH Leadership Launch Award**

The GSMH Leadership Launch Award is awarded to a volunteer who has created a positive impact on Girl Scouting in their short time with GSMH. This leader has started strong and merits recognition for their commitment to early excellence.



### **GSMH Rising Star Award**

The GSMH Rising Star Award recognizes a first-year volunteer who has embraced the Girl Scout movement with energy and passion and has performed outstanding work in their first year.



### **GSMH Glowing Green Award**

The GSMH Glowing Green Award recognizes a volunteer who visibly exhibits a sincere commitment to the Girl Scout Promise and Law over an extended period, who repeatedly inspires others to carry out the Girl Scout Mission, and who actively supports and promotes GSMH goals and objectives. This volunteer has made a significant impact on the entirety of GSMH or GSUSA.



### **GSMH Lasting Legacy Award**

The GSMH Lasting Legacy Award is awarded to a volunteer who has spent considerable time and effort to leave a legacy of girls who have embraced and shown courage, confidence, and character across GSMH.



### **GSMH Unsung Hero Award**

The GSMH Unsung Hero Award recognizes volunteers who help wherever needed, whenever needed, and completes whatever needs to be done.



### **GSMH Product Program Partner**

The GSMH Product Program Partner Award honors volunteers who are vital in the facilitation of product programs in their troop, service unit, and community. This volunteer supports fellow volunteers throughout these programs and helps lead the way for girls to succeed! This award is nominated by Cookies+ Staff.



### **GSMH Cookie Champion Award**

The GSMH Cookie Champion Award honors volunteers who have gone above and beyond in their support of the Girl Scout Cookie Program, including being a cookie expert in their community, supporting others throughout the cookie program, encouraging girl-led activity throughout the cookie program, and facilitating cookie program engagement in their community. This award is nominated by Cookies+ Staff Members.



### **GSMH Model Service Unit Award**

The GSMH Model Service Unit Award honors an entire Service Unit for going above and beyond to deliver great experiences to girls in their area. They show uncommon initiative, while championing girl ambition through events, experiences, and community involvement. This award is nominated by Volunteer Support Staff.



### **GSMH Service Unit Volunteer of the Year Award**

The GSMH Service Unit Volunteer of the Year Award honors two volunteers each year from different geographic areas within GSMH who have gone above and beyond to champion girl ambition, support other leaders, create connections with their community, and be a leader within the GSMH sisterhood. Volunteers who earn this award have great relationships with girls, other volunteers, community members, and GSMH staff. They are truly inspiring to all of GSMH. This award is nominated by Volunteer Support Staff.

## **Community Awards**

### **Juliette Gordon Low Community Partnership Award**

The Juliette Low Community Partnership Award recognizes an outside group or person that has completed an activity or project resulting in positive community awareness for Girl Scouts.

### **President's Award**

The President's Award recognizes the efforts of a service-delivery team or committee whose exemplary service in support of delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience surpassed team goals and resulted in significant, measurable impact toward reaching the council's overall goals.

## GSUSA Awards: How to Nominate

- ❑ Decide the appropriate award for service. Criteria for each award can be found starting on page 3 of this guide.
- ❑ Complete the [GSUSA Award Nomination Form](#) and check the box for the appropriate award at the top of the form. The nomination **must** include specific information that demonstrates the nominees' service, scope, and impact. It must be specific to the award being nominated. See our tips on page 19 and reach out to your Volunteer Support Specialist if you need any assistance.
- ❑ Have the correct number of [GSUSA Endorsement Forms](#) filled out by someone other than the person who submitted the nomination. Please note that the number of endorsement forms varies by award and is listed in the chart on page 19.
- ❑ Submit nomination and endorsement forms via linked online forms by February 1.
- ❑ In mid-Summer, approved candidates will be notified that they will be recognized at the volunteer recognition ceremony.

## GSMH Awards: How to Nominate

- ❑ Decide which award is appropriate for the service. Criteria for each award is found on page 7 of this guide.
- ❑ Complete the [GSMH Award Nomination Form](#) and check the box for the appropriate award at the top of the form. The nomination **must** include specific information that demonstrates the nominees' service, scope, and impact. It must be specific to the award being nominated.
- ❑ Have one [GSMH Award Endorsement Form](#) completed in addition to the nomination form. Endorsements must be completed by someone other than the nominator. There is no save option on this form, so please have your thoughts gathered when you attempt to fill it out. *Note: some awards will be nominated by GSMH Staff Members. These are noted in the description of awards.* Please work with your Volunteer Support Specialist if you think of someone great for these awards.
- ❑ Submit nomination and endorsement forms via linked online forms by February 1.
- ❑ In mid-Summer, approved candidates will be notified that they will be recognized at the volunteer recognition ceremony.

## Community Awards: How to Nominate

### Juliette Low Community Partnership Award

1. Submit a completed [Juliette Low Community Partnership Information and Nomination Form](#) by February 1.
2. If approved, the individual or group may be recognized at the annual recognition ceremony or a private award ceremony.

### President's Award

1. Submit a completed President's Award Nomination Form by February 1.
2. If approved, the individual or group may be recognized at the annual recognition ceremony.

# GSUSA Volunteer Award Volunteer of Excellence Pin



## Description

The Volunteer of Excellence Pin recognizes those volunteers who have contributed outstanding service, while partnering directly with girls in any pathway to implement the Girl Scout Leadership Experience through use of the national program portfolio, or who have contributed outstanding service in support of the council's mission delivery to girl and adult members. The Volunteer of Excellence Pin will be presented at the annual recognition ceremony.

## Criteria

- The candidate is an active, registered Girl Scout adult member.
- The candidate has successfully completed a term of service and all requirements for the position.
- The candidate has performed beyond expectations for the position to deliver the Girl Scout Leadership Experience to girls using the national program portfolio, **OR** the candidate's performance has been beyond the expectations of the position and has supported council's mission-delivery goals in one or more of the following functional areas: membership development/community cultivation, volunteer relations and support, program, leadership and governance, fund development, and council support service (such as IT, customer service, merchandising, marketing, or communications).
- The candidate actively recognizes, understands, and practices the values of inclusive behavior.

## Potential Candidates for the Volunteer of Excellence could be the following:

- A leader whose troop, using the GSLE, progression, and girl planning executed a significant Take Action project.
- A member of the troop committee who has been the product program coordinator for many years.
- A registered parent who acts as a chaperone for all troop trips and events.

## Nomination Procedures

1. Complete a [GSUSA Award Nomination Form](#).
2. Attached **two** completed [GSUSA Award Endorsement Forms](#) (excellent sources for endorsements include teachers, ministers, leaders, staff, and other community contacts that are knowledgeable about the contribution the nominee has made to Girl Scouting.)
3. Submit completed forms to [info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org](mailto:info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org) via email by **February 1**.

## GSUSA Volunteer Award Appreciation Pin



### Description

The Appreciation Pin recognizes an individual's exemplary service in support of delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. This service, which has had measurable impact on one geographic area of service, helps to reach and surpass the mission-delivery goals of the area. The Appreciation Pin will be presented at the annual recognition ceremony.

### Criteria

- The candidate is an active, registered Girl Scout adult member.
- The candidate has performed a service above and beyond the expectations for the position held, and has made an impact on one community, geographic area, or service unit within the council's jurisdiction.

### Potential Candidates for Appreciation Pin could be the following:

- A volunteer who recruits coworkers to lead or provide career mentors for girls from an under-served community in the council.
- A community day camp coordinator whose effective management results in an increase in participation by girls and adults over a period of time.

### Nomination Procedures

1. Complete a [GSUSA Award Nomination Form](#).
2. Attached **two** completed [GSUSA Award Endorsement Forms](#) (excellent sources for endorsements include teachers, ministers, leaders, staff, and other community contacts that are knowledgeable about the contribution the nominee has made to Girl Scouting.)
3. Submit completed forms to [info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org](mailto:info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org) via email by **February 1**.



# GSUSA Volunteer Award Honor Pin



## Description

The Honor Pin recognizes an individual's exemplary service in support of delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, which has had measurable impact on two or more geographic areas of service, allowing the council to reach and surpass its mission-delivery goals. The Honor Pin will be presented at the annual recognition ceremony.

## Criteria

- The candidate is an active, registered Girl Scout adult member.
- The candidate has performed service above and beyond the expectations for the position held, and made an impact on two or more communities, geographic areas, or service units within the council jurisdiction.

## Potential Candidates for the Honor Pin could be the following:

- A program volunteer who implements a series of events and activities that bring girls together from different parts of the council.
- A volunteer support coordinator who has motivated volunteers to participate in governance resulting in broad delegate involvement in the council's democratic process.

## Nomination Procedures

1. Complete a [GSUSA Award Nomination Form](#).
2. Attached **three** completed [GSUSA Award Endorsement Forms](#) (excellent sources for endorsements include teachers, ministers, leaders, staff, and other community contacts that are knowledgeable about the contribution the nominee has made to Girl Scouting.)
3. Submit completed forms to [info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org](mailto:info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org) via email by **February 1**.

## GSUSA Volunteer Award Thanks Badge I



### Description

The Thanks Badge I honors an individual whose ongoing commitment, leadership, and service have had an exceptional, measurable impact on meeting the mission-delivery goals and priorities of the entire council or the entire Girl Scout Movement. The Thanks Badge I will be presented at the annual recognition ceremony.

### Criteria

- The candidate is an active, registered Girl Scout adult member.
- The candidate has performed outstanding service resulting in outcomes that benefited the total council or the Girl Scout organization and is so significantly above and beyond the call of duty that no other award would be appropriate.

### Potential Candidates for the Thanks Badge I could be the following:

- The longtime chair of the council's fund development committee who develops and implements a plan that significantly increases the percentage of adult-generated funding for the council.
- The experienced volunteer advisor of council programming that results in increased extension and retention of older girls and significant positive publicity for the council.
- The chair of a strategic planning task group whose leadership inspires a pluralistic, visionary plan.

### Nomination Procedures

1. Complete a [GSUSA Award Nomination Form](#).
2. Attached **three** completed [GSUSA Award Endorsement Forms](#) (excellent sources for endorsements include teachers, ministers, leaders, staff, and other community contacts that are knowledgeable about the contribution the nominee has made to Girl Scouting.)
3. Submit completed forms to [info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org](mailto:info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org) via email by **February 1**.

## GSUSA Volunteer Award Thanks Badge II



### Description

The Thanks Badge II honors a previous Thanks Badge award recipient who has continued to provide exemplary service in a leadership role, resulting in a measurable impact that benefits the entire Girl Scout Movement. The Thanks Badge II will be presented at the annual recognition ceremony.

### Criteria

- The candidate is an active, registered Girl Scout adult member.
- The candidate has received the Thanks Badge.
- Since receiving the Thanks Badge, the outstanding service performed by the candidate resulted in outcome(s) that benefited the entire council or the Girl Scout organization and is so significantly above and beyond the call of duty that no other award would be appropriate.

### Potential Candidates for the Thanks Badge II could be the following:

- A council trainer who, after directing council wide training events, successfully implements a statewide or multi-state training event.
- The experienced volunteer chair of an annual council extended trip that results in consistent increased extension and retention of older girls and significant positive publicity for the council.
- An administrative volunteer who initiates a volunteer support system that successfully retains members in the council, and which has been replicated in other councils.

### Nomination Procedures

1. Complete a [GSUSA Award Nomination Form](#).
2. Attached **three** completed [GSUSA Award Endorsement Forms](#) (excellent sources for endorsements include teachers, ministers, leaders, staff, and other community contacts that are knowledgeable about the contribution the nominee has made to Girl Scouting.)
3. Submit completed forms to [info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org](mailto:info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org) via email by **February 1**.

## **GSMH Diversity Award**



### **Description**

The GSMH Diversity Award is awarded to a volunteer who not only endorses diversity within GSMH but takes active steps to encourage global diversity and inclusion within their local area. This volunteer seeks to help girls and families have a true Girl Scout Experience, regardless of any factors that may pose challenges to that goal.

### **Criteria**

- The volunteer is a registered and background checked member in good standing with GSMH.
- The volunteer actively supports the mission delivery goals of GSMH in word and deed.
- The volunteer has actively recognized, understood, and practiced the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion within Girl Scout spaces and their community.
- Encouraged girls, and others, to recognize, understand, and practice behavior that encourages the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Actively supports and champions girl ambition.

# GSMH Leadership Launch Award



## **Description**

The GSMH Leadership Launch Award is awarded to a volunteer who has created a positive impact on Girl Scouting in their short time with GSMH. This leader has started strong and merits recognition for their commitment to early excellence.

## **Criteria**

- The volunteer is a registered and background checked member in good standing with GSMH.
- The volunteer actively supports the mission delivery goals of GSMH in word and deed.
- Candidate has been a Troop Leader or Assistant Leader for less than two years.
- In their short time with GSMH, this leader has made considerable change and shown exemplary leadership.
- Actively supports and promotes GSMH goals and objectives.
- The new leader has put effort into championing girl ambition and creating spaces where girls can lead with courage, confidence, and character, as well as sharing their commitment to the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

## **GSMH Rising Star Award**



### **Description**

The GSMH Rising Star Award recognizes a first-year volunteer who has embraced the Girl Scout movement with energy and passion and has performed outstanding work in their first year.

### **Criteria**

- The volunteer is a registered and background checked member in good standing with GSMH.
- The volunteer actively supports the mission delivery goals of GSMH in word and deed.
- The candidate has completed the required training.
- The candidate is a first-year volunteer.
- The candidate has shown willingness to do whatever it takes to promote and forward the Girl Scout Movement and has done so with energy and passion when required.

## **GSMH Glowing Green Award**



### **Description**

The GSMH Council Glowing Green Award is awarded to a volunteer who visibly exhibits a sincere commitment to the Girl Scout Promise and Law over an extended period within Girl Scouts.

### **Criteria**

- The volunteer is a registered and background checked member in good standing with GSMH.
- The volunteer actively supports the mission delivery goals of GSMH in word and deed.
- Repeatedly inspires others to carry out the Girl Scout Mission.
- This volunteer actively supports and promotes the goals and objectives of the Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland and has made a significant impact on the entirety of GSMH or GSUSA.

## GSMH Lasting Legacy Award



### Description

The GSMH Lasting Legacy Award is awarded to a volunteer who has spent considerable time and effort to leave a legacy of girls who have embraced and shown courage, confidence, and character across GSMH.

### Criteria

- The volunteer is a registered and background checked member in good standing with GSMH.
- The volunteer actively supports the mission delivery goals of GSMH in word and deed.
- This volunteer has led a troop in good standing from Daisy through Senior level **OR** has led a troop that has completed Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards **OR** is a long-term volunteer whose service has contributed immensely to the growth of GSMH and spread of the Girl Scout Mission throughout the geographic area covered by GSMH and has clearly left a legacy which honors Girl Scout values.
- Actively supports and promotes the goals and objectives of the Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland and has put considerable time and effort into championing girl ambition, helping girls develop courage, confidence, and character, as well as sharing their commitment to the Girl Scout Promise and Law to others.



## **GSMH Unsung Hero Award**



### **Description**

The GSMH Unsung Hero Award recognizes volunteers who help wherever needed, whenever needed, and completes whatever needs to be done.

### **Criteria**

- The volunteer is a registered and background checked member in good standing with GSMH.
- The volunteer actively supports the mission delivery goals of GSMH in word and deed.
- The candidate has a proven history of always being there when needed, picking up the slack, stepping in at the last moment, or volunteering for additional assignments/responsibilities.
- The candidate has made a substantial, yet unrecognized, contribution to Girl Scouts.

## **GSMH Product Program Partner Award**



### **Description**

The GSMH Product Program Partner Award honors volunteers who are vital in the facilitation of product programs in their troop, service unit, and community. This volunteer supports fellow volunteers throughout these programs and helps lead the way for girls to succeed! This award is nominated by Cookies+ Staff. Please reach out to [info@girlscoutsmohearland.org](mailto:info@girlscoutsmohearland.org) if you have a great volunteer in mind.

### **Criteria**

- This volunteer is a registered and background checked member in good standing with GSMH and holds either a troop or service unit product program role.
- This volunteer is vital in the facilitation of product programs in their troop and community, including both Fall Product Program and/or the Girl Scout Cookie Program.
- This volunteer has taken steps to increase product program engagement in their area, encouraged the participation of new troops in the Fall Product Program and Girl Scout Cookie Program, and has provided positive support to other volunteers throughout the programs.
- This volunteer is a champion for girl-led experiences and assists other troops within the community with positive support and encouragement. This volunteer is concerned with championing girl ambition in all they say and do.

## **GSMH Cookie Champion Award**



### **Description**

The GSMH Cookie Champion Award honors volunteers who have gone above and beyond in their support of the Girl Scout Cookie Program, including being a cookie expert in their community, supporting others throughout the cookie program, encouraging girl-led activity throughout the cookie program, and facilitating cookie program engagement in their community. This award is nominated by Cookies+ Staff. Please reach out to [info@girlscoutsmohearland.org](mailto:info@girlscoutsmohearland.org) if you have a great volunteer in mind.

### **Criteria**

- The volunteer is a registered and background checked member in good standing with GSMH.
- This volunteer is a cookie expert in their community and assists others across the Girl Scout sisterhood with understanding and facilitation of the Girl Scout Cookie Program.
- This volunteer has taken steps to increase Girl Scout Cookie Program engagement in their area, encouraged the participation of new troops in the Girl Scout Cookie Program, and has provided positive support to other volunteers throughout the Girl Scout Cookie Program
- This volunteer goes above and beyond ensuring Girl Scouts are positively incorporating the five skills of goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills, and business ethics in the Girl Scout Cookie Program
- This volunteer encourages and inspires other volunteers to create girl-led experiences throughout the Girl Scout Cookie Program, and champions girl ambition in all they say and do.

# GSMH Model Service Unit Award



## Description

The GSMH Model Service Unit Award honors an entire Service Unit for going above and beyond to deliver great experiences to girls in their area. They show uncommon initiative, while championing girl ambition through events, experiences, and community involvement. This award is nominated by Volunteer Support Staff. Please reach out to [info@girlscoutsmohearland.org](mailto:info@girlscoutsmohearland.org) if you have a great volunteer in mind.

## Criteria

- All volunteers in the SU are registered and background checked members in good standing with GSMH.
- Service Unit shows uncommon initiative and desire to champion girl ambition in their community through events and experiences.
- Service Unit encourages participation in Girl Scout product programs including encouraging and supporting new troop participation.
- Service Unit positively impacts the community and creates connections that bring Girl Scouts to their community and their community to Girl Scouts.
- Service Unit communicates effectively with all GSMH staff members and provides positive feedback that allows for growth in all circles of influence.

## **GSMH Service Unit Volunteer of the Year**



### **Description**

The GSMH Service Unit Volunteer of the Year Award honors volunteers each year from different geographic areas within GSMH who have gone above and beyond to champion girl ambition, support other leaders, create connections with their community, and be a leader within the GSMH sisterhood. Volunteers who earn this award have great relationships with girls, other volunteers, community members, and GSMH staff. They are truly inspiring to all of GSMH. This award is nominated by Volunteer Support Staff. Please reach out to [info@girlscoutsmohearland.org](mailto:info@girlscoutsmohearland.org) if you have a great volunteer in mind.

### **Criteria**

- Awarded to service unit volunteers each year from different geographic areas of GSMH.
- The volunteer is registered, background checked, and an officially recognized member of a SU Team or Leadership group in good standing with GSMH.
- The volunteer is a leader in their community and the GSMH community and inspires others to “rise to the occasion” in multiple contexts.
- The volunteer encourages and supports service unit participation in Girl Scout product programs and inspires excellence in all other volunteers related to these experiences.
- The volunteer communicates effectively with all GSMH staff members and provides positive, solution-focused feedback that inspires growth within GSMH and their local community.
- The volunteer encompasses what it means to be a lifelong Girl Scout in their actions and words and is a champion for Girl Ambition both in their community and in the world.



# Juliette Gordon Low Community Partnership Award

## Description

The Juliette Low Community Partnership Award recognizes an outside group or person that has completed an activity or project resulting in positive community awareness for Girl Scouts.

## Criteria

- The person/group carried out an activity/project to benefit Girl Scouts.
- The activity/project was completed in the membership year immediately preceding this nomination.
- The activity/project resulted in positive community awareness for Girl Scouts and encouraged membership growth in the service unit.
- Groups/organizations may receive this award only once for the same activity/project.

## Nomination for a group/person may include:

- Corporate partnerships
- Government agencies
- Foundations
- Small businesses
- Religious institutions
- Service organizations
- Other

## Nomination Procedures

Submit the [Juliette Low Community Partnership Award Form](#) by February 1 for consideration.

If approved, the individual or group may be recognized at the annual recognition ceremony.



# President's Award

## Description

The President's Award recognizes the efforts of a service-delivery team or committee whose exemplary service in support of delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience surpassed team goals and resulted in significant, measurable impact toward reaching the council's overall goals.

## Criteria

- All service-delivery team or committee members are registered Girl Scouts.
- All service-delivery team or committee members have met all requirements and expectations of the positions held.
- The service-delivery team or committee has significantly contributed to meeting one or more of the council's mission-delivery goals.
- The service-delivery team or committee reflects the diversity of the target audience or area it serves, in girl and adult membership, in all pathways offered.
- The service-delivery team or committee actively recognizes, understands, and practices the values of inclusive behavior.
- The support or service was delivered in the membership year immediately preceding this nomination or for longer term service, ended during the membership year preceding this nomination.

## Nomination Procedures

1. Complete [President's Award Nomination Form](#) with information that indicates how the team/committee meets the criteria for this award.
2. Submit completed President's Award Nomination Form by **February 1**. If approved, the individual or group may be recognized at the annual recognition ceremony.







## Who Can Nominate?

GSUSA Award	Who can nominate?	How do I nominate?	How many endorsements do I need?
Volunteer of Excellence Award	Anyone	Fill out the <a href="#">GSUSA Award Nomination Form</a> and the proper number of endorsements. Submit to <a href="mailto:info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org">info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org</a> by February 1.	2 endorsements completed by someone other than the nominator
Appreciation Pin	Anyone	Fill out the <a href="#">GSUSA Award Nomination Form</a> and the proper number of endorsements. Submit to <a href="mailto:info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org">info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org</a> by February 1.	2 endorsements completed by someone other than the nominator
Honor Pin	Anyone	Fill out the <a href="#">GSUSA Award Nomination Form</a> and the proper number of endorsements. Submit to <a href="mailto:info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org">info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org</a> by February 1.	3 endorsements completed by someone other than the nominator
Thanks Badge I	Anyone	Fill out the <a href="#">GSUSA Award Nomination Form</a> and the proper number of endorsements. Submit to <a href="mailto:info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org">info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org</a> by February 1.	3 endorsements completed by someone other than the nominator
Thanks Badge II	Anyone	Fill out the <a href="#">GSUSA Award Nomination Form</a> and the proper number of endorsements. Submit to <a href="mailto:info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org">info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org</a> by February 1.	3 endorsements completed by someone other than the nominator

## Who Can Nominate?

Community Awards	Who can nominate?	How do I nominate?	Do I need endorsements?
Juliette Low Community Partnership Award	Service units or troops who have worked with Community Partners on an event or program	Submit the Juliette Low Community Partnership Award Form by February 1.	No
President's Award	Any person who has knowledge of the service performed. Including: parents, community members, volunteers, and staff.	Submit the President's Award Nomination Form by February 1.	No

GSMH Award	Who can nominate?	How do I nominate?	How many endorsements do I need?
GSMH Diversity Award	Anyone	Submit a <a href="#">GSMH Award Nomination Form</a> and <a href="#">GSMH Endorsement Form</a> by February 1.	1 endorsement by someone other than the nominator
GSMH Leadership Launch Award	Anyone	Submit a <a href="#">GSMH Award Nomination Form</a> and <a href="#">GSMH Endorsement Form</a> by February 1.	1 endorsement by someone other than the nominator
GSMH Rising Star Award	Anyone	Submit a <a href="#">GSMH Award Nomination Form</a> and <a href="#">GSMH Endorsement Form</a> by February 1.	1 endorsement by someone other than the nominator
GSMH Glowing Green Award	Anyone	Submit a <a href="#">GSMH Award Nomination Form</a> and <a href="#">GSMH Endorsement Form</a> by February 1.	1 endorsement by someone other than the nominator
GSMH Lasting Legacy Award	Anyone	Submit a <a href="#">GSMH Award Nomination Form</a> and <a href="#">GSMH Endorsement Form</a> by February 1.	1 endorsement by someone other than the nominator
GSMH Unsung Hero Award	Anyone	Submit a <a href="#">GSMH Award Nomination Form</a> and <a href="#">GSMH Endorsement Form</a> by February 1.	1 endorsement by someone other than the nominator

GSMH Product Program Partner Award	Cookies+ Team	Nominations will be made by GSMH staff by February 1.  <i>Please reach out to <a href="mailto:info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org">info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org</a> if you have a great volunteer in mind!</i>	1 endorsement by staff or volunteers
GSMH Cookie Champion Award	Cookies+ Team	Nominations will be made by GSMH staff by February 1.  <i>Please reach out to <a href="mailto:info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org">info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org</a> if you have a great volunteer in mind!</i>	1 endorsement by staff or volunteers
GSMH Model Service Unit Award	Volunteer Support Staff	Nominations will be made by GSMH staff by February 1.  <i>Please reach out to <a href="mailto:info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org">info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org</a> if you have a great volunteer in mind!</i>	1 endorsement by staff or volunteers
GSMH Service Unit Volunteer of the Year Award	Volunteer Support Staff	Nominations will be made by GSMH staff by February 1.  <i>Please reach out to <a href="mailto:info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org">info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org</a> if you have a great volunteer in mind!</i>	1 endorsement by staff or volunteers

## Tips for Writing Nominations

Adult Recognition Awards: It's about the girls! The focus of all adult recognition awards is the positive impact that adults have had on girls and the Girl Scout Movement. Writing a strong nomination and endorsement is an important step to ensure that our adults are celebrated for the passion and commitment they show for Girl Scouting. This chart shows how a statement can become a strong nomination statement. Remember—the more specific the better!

<b>Initial Statement</b>	<b>Thoughtfully Consider</b>	<b>Strong Nomination Statement</b>
"She has been a leader for a long time."	How many years? Through which levels?	"For 11 years, she has led a large troop from Daisies, persevering through the difficult middle school years, to their current level of Seniors."
"She is a great leader."	What kind of leadership qualities does she bring? What makes her stand out?	"She continually brings leadership opportunities to the girls. She encourages a girl-led approach by allowing girls to vote on and implement their activities."
"She always goes above and beyond."	Be specific! Tell a story about the great benefits those around her receive due to her efforts.	"Her troop voted to start the aMuse Journey. Because she has never considered herself a "creative soul" when it came to artistic endeavors, she recruited troop parents, artists, and actors as resources for her girls to draw from. As a result, the girls have had a great time meeting community experts and discovering parent talent in their own troop! They now have several opportunities for Take Action projects because of these connections."
"He's a dad who helps whenever needed."	Be specific! Tell a story about the support given to girls, and how the girls benefitted.	"This good guy came to the rescue during a troop camp-out when the troops discovered a nest of baby rattlesnakes in the camp! He kept both the girls and leaders calm and assisted in striking camp, all the while educating the girls about the snakes and safety. The girls felt safe, and in control, thanks to the good guidance from an awesome Girl Scout dad!"

## **Adult Recognitions Frequently Asked Questions**

### **How often are adult recognitions presented?**

Formal presentation of GSUSA Awards, GSMH Awards, Community Awards, and Years of Service Awards are presented each year at an annual recognition ceremony. Service units may present local awards at any time and are encouraged to recognize volunteers informally throughout the year. Please see the Service Unit Award Guide for more information.

### **Who can nominate?**

Nominations for most awards can be made by any person who has knowledge of the service performed. This includes parents, community members, volunteers, and staff. Please look at the descriptions of each type of award above for more information on who can nominate for specific awards!

### **What is the difference between the Numeral Guard and Years of Service?**

The Numeral Guard is for the number of years a person has been a member of the Girl Scout organization, including years as a girl member. It is available for purchase by individuals and troops at any Girl Scout store or the council online store.

The Years of Service Award is given for the number of years of volunteer service as an active, registered adult member. Volunteers with 25 or more years of service, whose names are submitted on the *Years of Service Form* by the deadline, will be recognized at the GSMH volunteer recognition ceremony. Service units can recognize volunteers locally for five, ten, fifteen, or twenty years of service. Year of Service pins can be ordered through the retail store for the years below 25 years of service.

### **When do I need to have the nomination paperwork turned in, and who gets it?**

Please look at the award description form for the specific dates the nomination is due.

- All GSUSA nomination and endorsement forms are to be submitted via email to [info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org](mailto:info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org) by February 1.
- GSMH nomination forms and endorsement forms, Years of Service forms, Juliette Low Community Partnership Award nomination forms, and President's Award Nomination Forms are to be submitted via the linked online forms by February 1.
- Once submitted, all awards go through a review and approval process by our Volunteer Awards Committee, Council Leadership Team, and in some cases, Board of Directors. The approval process does take some time, so if you have questions about that process, please reach out to your Volunteer Support Specialist.

### **Can staff be nominated for an award?**

No. These awards are for volunteer members only.

### **I nominated someone last year and they didn't receive an award. Why should I do it again?**

We're so sorry that your nominated adult didn't receive the award they were nominated for last year! Our goal is to honor as many volunteers as possible at the annual recognition ceremony, and we regret that they weren't there!

Often when adults are nominated but don't earn awards, it is due to a lack of endorsements for the award they've been nominated for, or unclear information on the nomination form that we can't resolve before the deadline. You can help prevent this by reading the nomination criteria closely, making sure the proper number of endorsements are submitted, being very specific in your nomination, and letting us know when you have questions during the nomination process. We're happy to walk you through it!

We know all our adults deserve recognition for how hard they work to support girl ambition! If we missed someone last year--let us know! We'll see what we can do to make sure they get the recognition they've earned!

**If I have other questions, who should I ask?**

Contact your Volunteer Support Specialist with any questions you have that this guide does not address.