



National and Council  
Adult Awards and Recognitions

## **National Awards**

Appreciation Pin

Honor Pin

President's Award

Thanks Badge

Thanks II Badge

Volunteer of Excellence

## **Council Awards**

Be a Sister Award

Community Service  
Award

Courage, Confidence,  
and Character Award

Mickey Hess Award

Outdoor Enthusiast  
Award

Spirit Award

Sustained Service

Nomination forms for the awards are provided separately (online) with the ability for you to type responses onto the pdf forms. There are two forms used with each award nomination:

- 1) a nomination form with the names, addresses, and contact information for the person coordinating the nomination and the contact information for the people providing endorsements
- 2) an endorsement form identifying the service provided by the nominee that demonstrates the exceptional service provided. Each person providing a supporting document for an individual's nomination completes this form and returns it to the person coordinating the nominee. Since the review is done using a blind review process, no names should appear on the endorsement that describes the nominee's activities.

The individual coordinating the nomination is responsible for attaching the nomination form and all of the endorsements to an email. Please include the name of the award in the subject line of the email. Send the email to: [adultrecognitions@gshg.org](mailto:adultrecognitions@gshg.org)

**All materials must be received by 11:59 pm on February 22.**



## Introduction

Girl Scouting would not exist without dedicated adults to help guide and mentor girls as they develop into our leaders of tomorrow. Recognizing adults in the movement is a way to acknowledge the service provided and to share the dedication, creativity, and exceptional performance. Recognition can be informal or formal; it can recognize direct service to girls, direct service to leaders, or indirect (behind-the-scenes) support. Recognition can range from a simple expression of appreciation (e.g., a sincere “Thank You” for a job well done) to awards that are nationally recognized using a formal review process.

### Informal Recognitions

Informal recognitions serve as day-to-day ways to say “thank you”. These can be on a one-to-one basis or as a “call out” from a group to an individual or group. Informal recognitions may include tangible expressions of gratitude (e.g., a thank you note, a certificate, a small memento that serves as a reminder of the activity, a feature in a local newspaper). Informal recognitions also include the awarding of national and council developed pins and other tokens of acknowledgement of specific milestones or positions (e.g., the Girl Scout Membership Pin, Volunteer Position Bar, Membership Numeral Guards, and Years of Service Pins).

#### Potential Times for Recognition Events

- ◆ February 22 – World Thinking Day
- ◆ March 12 – Girl Scout Birthday
- ◆ April 22 – Leader Day
- ◆ Last full week of April – National Volunteers Week
- ◆ October 31 – Juliette Low’s Birthday
- ◆ Immediately following the service provided
- ◆ Service Unit Meeting or Event
- ◆ Community Recognition Event
- ◆ Council Event
- ◆ Year-end Troop or Service Unit Ceremony

### Formal Awards and Recognitions

Formal recognitions and awards fall into two groups—ones developed by Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) and ones locally developed by Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia (GSHG).

All nationally developed recognitions and awards require that recipients are adult members of GSUSA. These awards and recognitions are available across all councils in GSUSA. The national awards require review by a council committee, and the higher awards must be reviewed by the council Board of Directors.

Recognitions and awards developed within the Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia are only available in this council. These tend to be for more specific types of service activities, and most of these are reviewed by a council committee.

Formal recognitions identify individuals who have been members or provided service over specified periods of time or have completed specific training courses. Formal awards recognize adults who have “performed beyond the expectations of the position”.

This document is designed to provide descriptions, consistent expectations, and the process (including the documentation needed) for awarding adult recognitions and awards in Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia.

All awards are reviewed by a council committee and recognitions for 20 or more years of service are presented at a council event. Recognitions for shorter periods of time and awards reviewed in the Service Units are presented by the Service Units.

#### GSUSA Awards and Recognitions

##### Awards:

- ◆ Appreciation Pin
- ◆ Honor Pin
- ◆ President’s Award
- ◆ Thanks Badge
- ◆ Thanks Badge II
- ◆ Volunteer of Excellence

##### Recognitions:

- ◆ Membership Numeral Guards
- ◆ Volunteer Service Award Pins

#### GSHG Awards and Recognitions

##### Awards:

- ◆ Be a Sister to Every Girl Scout
- ◆ Community Service
- ◆ Courage, Confidence, and Character
- ◆ Mickey Hess
- ◆ Outdoor Enthusiast
- ◆ Spirit
- ◆ Sustained Service

##### Recognitions:

- ◆ Daisy’s Leadership Pin
- ◆ Trained Volunteer Patch









## Adult Recognitions and Awards at a Glance (What they are and where they are presented)

- **Recognitions and Awards presented at Service Unit events**—These represent milestones of membership or accomplishments aligned with Council Awards that took place at the troop level or Service Unit level.
- ◆ **Recognitions and Awards developed by Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia and presented at Council sponsored events.** Other Girl Scout councils may not have awards similar to these or may have different names to recognize similar service.
- ◆ **Recognitions and Awards developed by Girl Scouts of the USA and presented at Council sponsored events**—These represent longevity of service or service that goes beyond the expectations for the position. Although recommended or approved by our Council Recognitions Committee (and where required reviewed by our Council Board of Directors), these recognitions and awards are recognized across the United States.

<b>Recognitions</b> <i>Presented at Service Unit Events</i>	
<b>Membership Numeral Guards (5, 10, or 15 years)</b>	
<p>A membership numeral that recognizes the total years of registered membership in any Girl Scout/Girl Guide organization at five-year intervals under 20. Years as a girl member plus years as an adult member are combined and counted toward this recognition. Recognitions for 20+ years are distributed with the Council level awards. [National Recognition]</p>	
<b>Volunteer Service Award Pins (5, 10, or 15 years)</b>	
<p>Recognizes an adult member registered with the Girl Scouts of the USA. for her years of active volunteer service at five-year intervals under 20. Recognitions for 20+ years are distributed with the Council level awards. [National Recognition]</p>	
<b>Daisy's Leadership Pin</b>	
<p>Recognizes an adult volunteer registered and active with Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia who has served as a troop leader or co-leader for three complete years. [Council Recognition]</p>	
<b>Trained Volunteer Patch</b>	
<p>Recognizes volunteers who have completed various training courses. The patch consists of a core identifying that new Troop Leaders have completed New Leader Necessities training, and other new volunteers have completed Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia Policies and Procedures. The separate “rockers” identify additional training that this volunteer has completed. The training rockers will change as new courses are introduced and old courses are replaced or revised and/or renamed. For more information about patches available and to order patches, go to:  <a href="https://gshg.wufoo.com/forms/kvbp7sulapaa&amp;n/">https://gshg.wufoo.com/forms/kvbp7sulapaa&amp;n/</a></p>	

**Council Awards**  
*Presented at Council Events*

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Be a Sister to Every Girl Scout</b></p> <p>Recognizes adult Girl Scouts who respect diversity and demonstrate inclusive behavior while providing outstanding service related to one or more mission-delivery goal. Nomination form and 2 letters of endorsement needed.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Community Service Award (Individual or Team)</b></p> <p>Recognizes a non-member, business, educational institution or other civic/community organization that has demonstrated outstanding service and support of Girl Scouting in the community and whose support impacted at least one Service Unit. Nomination form and 2 letters of endorsement needed.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Courage, Confidence, and Character Award</b></p> <p>Recognizes adult Girl Scouts who have demonstrated courage, confidence, and character in providing service to Girl Scouting while overcoming adversity. Nomination form and 2 letters of endorsement needed.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mickey Hess Award (Individual or Team)</b></p> <p>Recognizes an individual adult Girl Scout or a team that has been instrumental in organizing or substantially increasing participation in Girl Scouting in an underserved area or group for at least three years. Nomination form and 3 letters of endorsement, including 1 staff, needed.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Outdoor Enthusiast</b></p> <p>Recognizes adult Girl Scouts who have provided exceptional service that furthers outdoor education for girl and adult Girl Scouts. Nomination form and 2 letters of endorsement needed.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Spirit Award</b></p> <p>Recognizes adult Girl Scouts who have motivated and inspired others through their continuous positive attitude. Nomination form and 2 letters of endorsement needed.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sustained Service Award</b></p> <p>Recognizes Girl Scout volunteers who have continued to provide exemplary service at the Service Unit level or beyond for at least an additional three years after receiving the Appreciation Pin or the Honor Pin. Nomination form and 3 letters of endorsement needed.</p>	

<b>National Awards and Recognitions</b> <i>Presented at Council Events</i> *All GSUSA Level Awards require recipients to be registered adult Girl Scouts	
<b>Appreciation Pin</b> 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 at least half of a Service Unit, helps the Service Unit reach its mission-delivery goals. Nomination form and 2 letters of endorsement needed.	
<b>Honor Pin</b> Recognizes an individual's exemplary service in support of delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience which has had measurable impact on at least one Service Unit, allowing the council to reach and surpass its mission-delivery goals. Nomination form and 3 letters of endorsement needed.	
<b>President's Award (Service Unit Team) OR President's Award (Team other than Service Unit)</b> Recognizes teams or committees (Service Unit Teams and/or Other Teams or Committees) 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. [May be earned more than once if justification is based on non-overlapping service]. Nomination form and 3 letters of endorsement, including 1 staff, needed.	
<b>Thanks Badge</b> Honors an individual, active, registered adult Girl Scout 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 that is so significantly above and beyond the call of duty that no other award would be appropriate. Nomination form and 4 letters of endorsement needed.	
<b>Thanks Badge II</b> Honors a previous Thanks Badge recipient who has continued to provide exemplary service in a leadership role, resulting in a measurable impact that benefits the entire council or the entire Girl Scout Movement that is so significantly above and beyond the call of duty that no other award would be appropriate. Nomination form and 5 letters of endorsement needed.	
<b>Volunteer of Excellence Award (service to girls OR to adults)</b> Recognizes volunteers who have contributed outstanding service while partnering directly with girls to implement the Girl Scout Leadership Experience or who have contributed outstanding support of the council's mission-delivery goals to girl and adult members. Nomination form and 2 letters of endorsement needed.	
<b>Membership Numeral Guards (20, 25, 30,...)</b> A membership numeral that recognizes the total years of registered membership in any Girl Scout/Girl Guide organization at five-year intervals (20 and above); Years as a girl member plus years as an adult member are combined and counted toward this recognition (5, 10, and 15 year pins are presented in Service Units.)	
<b>Volunteer Service Award Pins (20, 25, 30,...)</b> Recognizes an adult member registered with the Girl Scouts of the USA for years of active volunteer service at five-year intervals (20 and above); Years are not required to be consecutive (5, 10, and 15 year pins are presented in Service Units.)	



## Recognitions to be Reviewed and Awarded at the Service Unit Level

### Recognize Recipients:

Guards (for 5, 10, and 15 years) and Volunteer Service Award Pins (for 5, 10, and 15 years) are sent to the Service Unit for presentation at a Service Unit Event.

Recognitions for at least 20 years are presented at a Council Awards event

- Daisy's Leadership Pin
- Volunteer Service Award Pin
- Council Recognitions
- Numeral Guards

The Trained Volunteer patch and rockers are available year around online at:

<https://gshg.wufoo.com/forms/kvbp7sulapaa8n/>

### Place Orders:

The Service Unit Recognitions Order Form is then submitted to [adultrecognitions@gshg.org](mailto:adultrecognitions@gshg.org) no later than 11:59pm on February 22.

NOTE: Numeral Guards, Volunteer Service Award Pins, Adult Training Patche and Daisy's Leadership Pin may also be ordered by the individual.

## Forms for All Awards Listed

All required forms for the awards will be available on our website:

<https://www.gshg.org/en/members/awards-and-honors/adult-recognitions.html>

Both nomination forms and endorsements will be in writable pdf format. You will be able to type responses into the online document, save the document, and submit it the individual coordinating a nomination. The individual coordinating the nomination is responsible for sending all of the information for a nomination as attachments to a single email (with the name of the award in the subject line) to [adultrecognitions@gshg.org](mailto:adultrecognitions@gshg.org) no later than 11:59pm on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## Service Unit Input for Awards to be Reviewed by the Council Recognitions Committee

Individuals in each Service Unit know the adult Girl Scouts in their area better than anyone else. Identifying and nominating Service Unit "stars" is a great way to thank the individuals or teams who have provided exceptional service to troops/groups, the Service Unit or the Council. Spending some time at Service Unit Meetings, talking with leaders and parents about the awards process, and following through with nominations will shine a light on these individuals and your Service Unit.

The deadline for submitting nominations for all Council Awards and all National Awards that are to be reviewed by the Council Recognitions Committee is 11:59pm on February 22. These nomination packets must be submitted by email to: [adultrecognitions@gshg.org](mailto:adultrecognitions@gshg.org) by the deadline. .

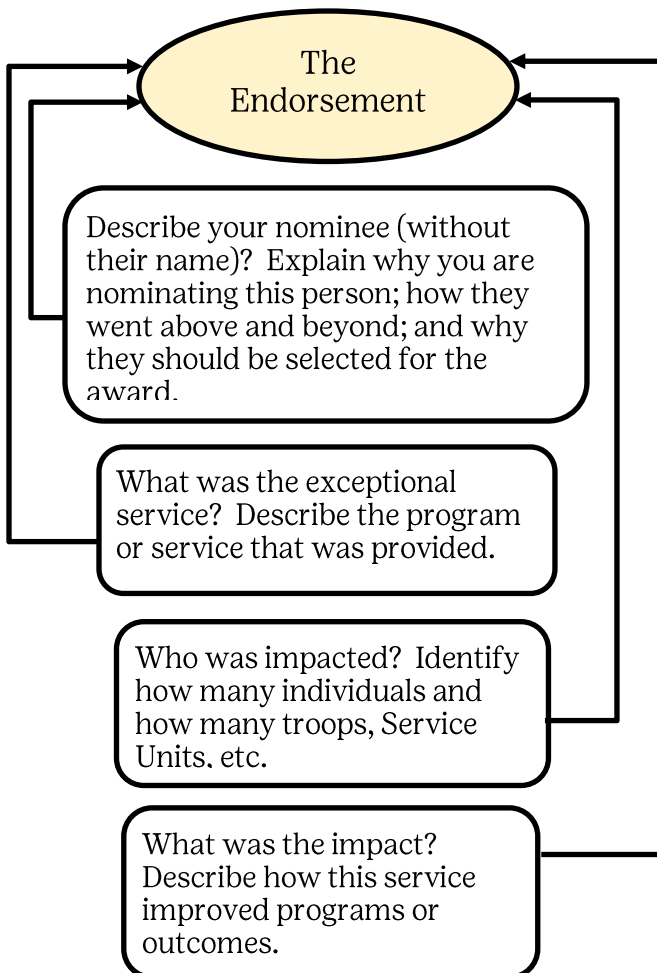


# Appendix

**Endorsement**—An endorsement should contain specific responses to the expectations for nominees for each award. Each nomination requires multiple endorsements. These endorsements **should not contain the individual's name nor the name of the person writing the endorsement** since the review team uses a blind review process.

Effective in 2023, the endorsement forms provide specific questions/contents for each award and are set up to allow responses to be typed on the pdf form found online. The diagram below provides a generic summary of the types of information that are needed.




The individual coordinating the nomination will coordinate with the individuals agreeing to provide an endorsement. Once you finish responding to the requirements for the award, return an electronic version of your responses to the individual coordinating the nomination. The individual coordinating the nomination will attach all of the material to a single email. The email needs to be sent to [adultrecognitions@gshg.org](mailto:adultrecognitions@gshg.org) no later than then February 22nd.



## Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE) ( <https://www.girlscouts.org/en/our-program.html> )

Many of the awards reference the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE). The graphic below provides an overview of what is included in the GSLE.

**Through the GSLE, girls:**

-  **Discover**—find out who they are, what they care about, and what talents they have
-  **Connect**—collaborate with others locally and globally to learn from others and expand their horizons
-  **Take Action**—to do something to make the world a better place

And through this process, they:

- Develop a strong sense of self
- Display positive values
- Seek challenges and learn from setbacks
- Form and maintain healthy relationships
- Learn to identify and solve problems in their community