




Girl Scout Highest Awards Ceremony

Sunday, May 3, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.
Presbyterian College, Belk Auditorium
503 S Broad Street, Clinton, SC

girl scouts 
of south carolina
mountains to midlands




Gold Award Girl Scouts Change the World



Gold Award Girl Scouts are change-makers. They have changed the world, changed their lives, and earned the most prestigious award in Girl Scouting.

To earn the Gold Award, a Girl Scout identifies an issue in their community, drafts a plan to address a root cause, and leads a team of volunteers to implement it. When the project is complete, the Gold Award Girl Scout and their team have made a sustainable impact on the world that continues to last beyond their involvement.

It's a huge accomplishment that also impacts the Gold Award Girl Scout as a person. How they see the world—and how the world sees them—is forever changed. It's also a credential that will be with them for the rest of their life; having the Girl Scout Gold Award on a high school transcript or resumé can make a Girl Scout stand out when it comes to college admissions, scholarship applications, internships, and job interviews.



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South Carolina

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Highest Awards Program

Welcome

Melanie Huggins, CEO

Pledge of Allegiance

Alexa Amador, Troop 990

Girl Scout Promise & Law

Allyson Amador, Troop 990

Awards

Alexa & Allyson Amador

Scholarships

Kavita Borsum, Board Chair

Chandler-Burns Scholarship

The DREAMS Foundation Scholarship

Entrepreneur Pathway Scholarship

Pauline Patterson Memorial Scholarship

Sarah Brown Cannon Scholarship

Trefoil Society Scholarship


Closing

Melanie Huggins



Girl Scout Mission

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage,
confidence, and character, who make the
world a better place.






Girl Scout Promise

On my honor, I will try:
To serve God* and my country,
To help people at all times,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.



Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be
honest and fair,
friendly and helpful,
considerate and caring,
courageous and strong,
and responsible for what I say and do,
and to respect myself and others,
respect authority,
use resources wisely,
make the world a better place,
and be a sister to every Girl Scout.



*Members may substitute for the word God in
accordance with their own spiritual beliefs.

Gold Award Girl Scouts

Since 1916, Girl Scouts have been making sustainable change in their communities and around the world. Having earned the highest award in Girl Scouts, a Gold Award Girl Scout is dedicated to empowering herself and making the world a better place for others.

These 19 young women are courageous leaders and change-makers:

Jordan Benjamin	Calliope Fenske	Ana Poor
Samantha Boyle	Ellie Fisher	Anna Sandago
Camille Cleland	Mary Hammett	Stevee Speicher
Ellie Crider	Imani Howard	Jordan Whitesides
Reagan Dawkins	Chloe Hujik	Ashby Williams
Grace Faris	Ava Grace Long	Josephine Willis
	Elliott Pearl Owens	



The Trifecta Award honors Girl Scouts who have earned all three of Girl Scouting's highest awards: the Bronze Award, Silver Award, and Gold Award!

This year, the following Girl Scouts earned the Trifecta Award:

Jordan Benjamin	Grace Faris	Anna Sandago
Samantha Boyle	Calliope Fenske	Stevee Speicher
Camille Cleland	Mary Hammett	Ashby Williams
Ellie Crider	Ava Grace Long	Josephine Willis
Reagan Dawkins	Elliott Pearl Owens	



Jordan Benjamin

Troop 1600

Promoting Mental Health Through College

Meditation Rooms: For my Girl Scout Gold Award, I focused on promoting mental health and wellness among college students by creating a meditation room at the University of South Carolina. To help

combat the growing mental health challenges faced by students, I partnered with university staff and mental health professionals to transform an underutilized room in the Russell House student center into an inclusive meditation space. I coordinated grant and donation funding and oversaw the room's redesign by adding meditation cushions, improved lighting, and QR codes to mental health resources. I ensured the room remained inclusive to students who also used the space for prayer, while expanding its purpose to support meditation and stress relief. I learned to manage a large-scale initiative involving many stakeholders, adapt my plans to respect diverse needs, and create inclusive, supportive spaces.



Samantha Boyle

Troop 3317

Literacy Support Club:

For my Girl Scout Gold Award, I created a book club focused on inspiring second-grade and third-grade students from an at-risk population to develop an interest in reading.

I designed sessions combining interactive read-alouds with hands-on activities aimed at strengthening vocabulary and reading comprehension. Each activity was planned to enhance the reading experience and help students feel confident, curious, and excited about books. Through this book club, reading became a shared, enjoyable experience rather than a challenge. Students were encouraged to participate in discussions and connect stories to their own lives, which deepened comprehension and built engagement. Through this experience, I developed leadership, organizational, and communication skills and learned how to design age-appropriate educational activities.



Camille Cleland 🌻

Troop 1344

Edible Garden: For my Girl Scout Gold Award, I created a community garden with fruit trees and berry bushes to promote healthy, accessible food options. I designed educational signage to teach community members how to incorporate the fruits into everyday meals and organized a volunteer Planting Day to install all 15 plants. Coordinating volunteers required careful planning, communication, and teamwork. Through this project, I strengthened my leadership, organizational, and time management skills while adapting to on-site challenges. I gained confidence leading others and turning an idea into a lasting community resource. This experience showed me how combining education with hands-on action can create sustainable change and promote healthier lifestyles.



Ellie Crider 🌻

Troop 990

Literacy Awareness: I earned my Girl Scout Gold Award by restoring and revitalizing an elementary school library that had become disorganized and unusable. I stepped in as a temporary librarian, reorganizing and relabeling the entire collection, redesigning the space, and creating systems that made books accessible to students of all reading levels. I also founded the 100 Book Challenge and launched a reading mentorship program pairing high school and elementary students. These efforts significantly increased student engagement and reading participation. Throughout the project, I managed volunteers, adapted to challenges such as losing my advisor mid-project, and strengthened my leadership and organizational skills. This experience showed me how one person's dedication can create lasting educational change.



Reagan Dawkins

Troop 2128

Money Matters: I earned my Girl Scout Gold Award by addressing the lack of financial literacy education for students of all ages. I created and led workshops for more than 200 elementary, middle, and high school students and designed age-appropriate materials, including workbooks and a financial literacy patch. I hosted sessions at schools, career fairs, and a Teen Summit, and organized a culminating Financial Literacy Workshop with guest speakers and interactive activities. Participants received my booklet, *The ABCs of Financial Literacy*, along with budgeting tools. I also recorded a podcast episode featuring student voices. Through this project, I strengthened my leadership, communication, and resilience. Returning to my former school to teach students was especially meaningful and reminded me how far I had grown.



Grace Faris

Troop 1344

Little Community Lending Gallery: I earned my Girl Scout Gold Award by creating the Little Community Lending Gallery to connect young children with the arts. I designed and built an outdoor gallery installed at Central Preschool for the Arts, where children could publicly display their artwork. I expanded participation by distributing over 200 art project kits and developing online resources accessible through QR codes. By collaborating with educators, churches, and community organizations, I reached more than 500 students and created a sustainable system for future involvement. Through this project, I strengthened my planning, communication, and outreach skills and gained confidence presenting my work. This experience confirmed my passion for art education and demonstrated the power of creativity and collaboration.



Calliope Fenske

Troop 1605

Bottomland Forest Renewal: Conestee Nature Preserve After the Emerald Ash Borer: For my Girl Scout Gold Award, I restored a damaged area of Conestee Nature Preserve affected by the invasive Emerald Ash Borer. This insect has destroyed many ash trees, leaving gaps in the forest canopy and allowing in invasive plants. Partnering with Conestee Nature Preserve, I led the restoration of three acres of bottomland forest by organizing community workdays to remove invasive species and replant native ones. Together, we planted more than 30 native plants to support long-term ecosystem recovery. I led volunteer trainings and wrote an article for the Conestee newsletter about invasive species, and I hosted a Tree Huggers badge workshop for Girl Scouts. Through this project, I learned to lead volunteers, communicate and plan effectively, and adapt when challenges arose. I learned individual action can contribute to meaningful environmental change through community collaboration.



Ellie Fisher

Troop 1082

Water Safety and Drowning Prevention: I earned my Girl Scout Gold Award by leading a water safety and drowning prevention project in Spartanburg. I partnered with the City of Spartanburg and the TK Gregg Community Center to address preventable drowning, especially among children from underserved communities. I created an instructional water safety video, organized a marketing campaign, and planned the community's first Water Safety Awareness Day. During the event, families received water safety supplies and learned practical, hands-on water safety skills. I created a detailed planning blueprint, so the event can continue annually. I learned I can lead a large-scale initiative from start to finish. I strengthened my leadership, communication, organizational, and problem-solving skills while coordinating volunteers, managing a budget, and adapting to unexpected challenges.



Mary Hammett

Troop 1344

Practice Playbook: To earn my Gold Award, I identified an issue in my community: many church league basketball coaches lacked the knowledge necessary to teach young girls effectively. To address this, I created a sustainable coaching playbook in collaboration with community members and volunteer coaches. The playbook aligns with the league's curriculum and provides clear instruction, drills, and teaching strategies to support beginner athletes. Throughout this project, I gained determination and perseverance as I worked through challenges and stayed committed to my goal. I also developed leadership, organizational, communication, coordination, and time management skills. The most memorable part of earning my Gold Award was watching young female athletes fall in love with basketball, while forming friendships that will last a lifetime.



Imani Howard

Troop 1179

Increasing Dog Education and Its Availability:

For my Girl Scout Gold Award, I created a project focused on increasing dog education and its availability for new and prospective pet owners.

I developed educational materials with essential information about responsible dog ownership, including basic care, training, and long-term commitment. I also assembled and distributed care packages containing blankets and QR codes to reliable resources. Through community outreach, I ensured this information was accessible, engaging, and easy to understand, helping promote better care for dogs and reduce pet abandonment. I learned I am stronger and more capable than I once believed. The most memorable part of my Gold Award journey was overcoming both project-related and personal challenges; I faced two serious injuries that limited my mobility. Despite these obstacles, I persevered. This experience strengthened my confidence, resilience, and leadership and showed me meaningful impact is possible even in difficult circumstances.



Chloe Hujik

Troop 1344



Cat Colony Construction: I earned my Girl Scout Gold Award by addressing Spartanburg's feral cat population through hands-on action and education. I built insulated shelters that protected feral cats from harsh weather and helped stabilize colonies to support trap-neuter-return efforts. These shelters made it easier for local organizations to humanely care for and manage cat populations. I also created printed and digital educational materials to help community members understand how to responsibly support feral cats. Throughout the project, I learned the value of careful planning and adaptability when construction and material challenges required redesigns. I developed skills in problem solving, basic construction, and outreach, and gained confidence persevering through setbacks. This experience showed me how education and direct action can work together to create lasting community impact.



Ava Grace Long

Troop 2707



Happy Camper Blessing Box: For my Girl Scout Gold Award, I designed and built the Happy Camper Blessing Box at Dreher Island State Park. The project created a sustainable system that reduced food waste while supporting individuals and families experiencing food insecurity. Campers could donate unopened food at the end of trips, and community members could access food freely and with dignity. I worked within park guidelines to plan, construct, and place the box in a high-traffic location to ensure long-term impact. Through this project, I gained skills in planning, construction, and collaboration and learned the importance of designing solutions that continue beyond initial implementation. This experience showed me how thoughtful planning can turn simple ideas into meaningful community resources.





Elliott Pearl Owens



Troop 785



Pearl's Path to Gold Disc Golf Course: My Girl Scout Gold Award addressed the growing disconnection between parents and teens caused by increased screen usage and reduced face to face interaction. I designed and installed a

free, accessible nine hole disc golf course at the Northwest YMCA to encourage families and community members to spend time together outdoors. I worked with YMCA staff to establish guidelines, consulted disc golf experts to design the course, and collaborated with local businesses and community members to secure various donations. I created a construction plan, organized volunteers, and oversaw every phase to ensure quality. During my project, I overcame many obstacles including self doubt and major setbacks caused by vandalism that destroyed parts of my work. With support from my advisor, family, friends, and volunteers, I persevered, regrouped, and rebuilt. I learned to establish myself as a leader, transition out volunteers to support positive group dynamics, and delegate tasks.



Ana Poor

Troop 1609

Hands-on Learning While Supporting the Community: My Girl Scout Gold Award addressed the need for hands-on science opportunities for Greenville Technical Charter High School students and for dedicated, well-educated

volunteers at Roper Mountain Science Center. I created a science club at Greenville Tech that connected students with Roper Mountain through education and volunteer service, forming a sustainable and mutually beneficial relationship. At monthly meetings, Roper Mountain guest speakers introduced students to scientific fields, followed by volunteer experiences where students worked directly with animals, exhibits, and community events. I learned to build and lead a complex, long-term project, manage communication between institutions, and stay committed despite challenges. I strengthened my leadership and organizational skills while learning to motivate others and create meaningful partnerships.





Anna Sandago

Troop 1344

Jubilee's Friends: I earned my Girl Scout Gold Award by improving the health and safety of feral cats in my community. I built feeding platforms and insulated shelters to protect cats from severe weather and partnered with a local organization to support humane population control through trap-neuter-return. By helping to keep colonies centralized, my project supported long-term population management and improved animal health. I also educated community groups about the importance of maintaining and responsibly managing feral cat colonies. Through this experience, I developed strong planning, organization, and problem-solving skills, along with basic carpentry and safe tool use. When original designs didn't work in certain locations, I adapted the structures to meet on-site needs. Completing this challenging project gave me lasting pride and confidence in my abilities.



Stevee Speicher

Troop 2375

Recognition & Early Management of Migraines in Adolescents: My Girl Scout Gold Award focused on improving how high school students manage migraines. Because migraines are often not classified as emergency conditions under school policies, many students are unable to carry or immediately take their prescribed migraine medication. This delay can cause migraines to worsen rapidly and cause students to miss multiple school days. I researched migraines and spoke with medical professionals and family advocacy organizations to understand both medical and policy based barriers. I developed migraine relief packs for school nurses to provide to students experiencing symptoms. I also collected more than 200 signatures on a petition to revise state policy, which I submitted to the South Carolina governor and legislature. I learned to conduct research, communicate with professionals, and advocate for policy change. I gained confidence in my ability to speak up for others, navigate complex systems, and create solutions addressing immediate needs and systemic challenges.



Jordan Whitesides

Troop 1198

Bridging the Digital Divide: Empowering Elders and Veterans through Computer Literacy: I earned my Girl Scout Gold Award by creating a technology education program for elders and veterans inspired by my grandparents. I taught essential computer and smartphone skills through patient, individualized instruction, adapting lessons to different comfort levels. I organized volunteers, managed logistics, and collaborated with medical professionals and community partners. The most meaningful moment was helping a participant overcome her fear of technology, restoring her confidence and independence. Through this project, I strengthened my leadership, communication, and problem-solving skills and learned the importance of patience and empathy. This experience showed me that the impact of service extends beyond skills—it builds connection, confidence, and dignity.



Ashby Williams

Troop 1443



D.W. Daniel High School Outdoor Learning Space: I designed and built an outdoor learning space at D.W. Daniel High School for my Girl Scout Gold Award to address student burnout and declining engagement. After researching educational and wellness needs, I collaborated with school leaders, educators, and community professionals to create a flexible classroom space with permanent benches and a podium. I organized fundraising through Rotary Clubs, coordinated volunteer build days, and ensured the space met safety and accessibility standards. Through this long-term project, I developed strong skills in leadership, project management, fundraising, and collaboration. I also gained hands-on construction experience and confidence navigating complex challenges. This project taught me that meaningful change comes from listening, adaptability, and commitment to improving student well-being.



Josephine Willis

Troop 1349



Ohana: For my Girl Scout Gold Award, I fundraised for, built, and installed a self-sustaining pet pantry inspired by a blessing box. I partnered with a local PetSmart and community donors to provide ongoing supplies for families facing financial hardship, helping them keep their pets. The most challenging part of my project involved rebuilding the pantry door after repeated failures caused by weather damage and incorrect materials. While frustrating, this experience taught me the importance of research, perseverance, and learning from mistakes. I gained skills in beginner carpentry, problem solving, and community outreach. This project showed me setbacks are an essential part of growth and persistence can turn challenges into meaningful successes with lasting impact.

Silver Award Girl Scouts

Troop	Girl Scout Name	Project Title
690	Olivia Singleton	Liv's Literacy Fair: Flipping Pages, Building Futures
910	Kaitlyn Keenan	IES Fun Fair
1198	Alisa Petushko	Art Is Therapy
1574	Asha Gudka	Pollinator Garden
1605	Abigail Turi	Coloring for Comfort: Educating NICU Siblings
1605 & 3377	Julianna Buurman Margaret Anne Plyler	Bat Houses and Bat Education
1798	Abby Clementson Eloise Hammett Katherine Lancaster Carter McCarthy	River Birch Trail Sensory Bike Path
1798	Clara Matz Hadley Mullman Anne Neely Madison Raynor	Technology 101
1798	Lettie Brown Colette Woodworth	Creating a Bird Sanctuary Garden & Signage for Mary H. Wright Elementary School

1902	Aubrey Britt Bailey DiMaggio Sophia Kelly Annice Lusk	Bat Box Buddie
1902	Ella Chinn Layan Hassabo Ann Reeder	Chuck Boxes Benefits
1967	Faith Graham	Scout Chef Academy: From Campfire to the Kitchen, Cooking Up Safety & Skills
1968	Caroline Clarkson Elizabeth Folk Addison Smith	Outdoor Badgework at Wistagoman
2128	Za’Niyah Hinson Kensley Simms Alivya Tucker	Keeping Storm Drains Clean
2128	Nalani Mosley Nyla Sargeant Aden Smart Caitlin Thomas	Bags of Love
2128	Monica Brunson	Monica’s Blessing Box
2169	Isabelle Brashears Haley Hicklin	Healthy Habits for Teens
2169	Emily Culp Raniyah Floyd Claudia Halford	Hope Starts Here Mural
2169	Madelyn Farrell Beatrice Jones Aubriana Woods	Healthy Cooking

3395 Aubree Pollock
Elleigh Quinn
Aaliyah Vitalis

Bee-hind the Blooms: A Pollinator
Scavenger Hunt

3404 Londyn Dogan

Little Dental Care Office

3404 Audrey Bronner
Emma Gainey
Aerin Leonard

Operation Blessing Box

Selected Project Photos



Bronze Award Girl Scouts

Troop	Girl Scout Name	Project Title
415	Skylar Acker Maxine Christian Taylor Dunbar Amina Patterson Savannah Quintero Alana Reid Madilyn Richardson Lillie Rosen Millie Rosen Luciana Sherril Rylee Smith Shelby Smith Autumn Walker	Bluebird Houses
507	Kinsley Latimore Jayla Taylor	Rainbow Row Feral Cat Houses
690	Giuliana DuPre Meah Harris Sophia Hartwig Genessa Jamison Amaya Johnson Gabrielle Le Rouzic Gracie Madden	Chemo Bags
760	Lena Laizer Allyson Fournier	Health Heroes

810	Elizabeth Alleyne Kelly Soltis	Community Church Help
1179	Karinne Howard Corinthian Latson	Pet Beds for Animal Shelters
1256	Dawnyelle Alexander Emma Hall Peyton Talton Amina White	Power in Changing
1357	London Ashley Karcyn Barnes Addison Dixon Brielle Fairley Michelle Fairley Solara Kennedy	Bears and Buddies Collection
1699	Ada Baldwin Greenlee Hart Lillie-Anne Phipps Ava Sabatini	Bat House Installation at Ruhamah United Methodist Church
1948	Roslyn Conrad	Cat Shelters
1952	Ruby McGee	A Place to Rest
1965	Ava Capeheart Sydnee Gallman Katelyn Jacobs Kyliee Lewis Jasmine Webb	Servicing Pets In Need
2105	Zoey Hill Ava Gordon	Bark-Aid
2105	Elena Bruno	Share the Spare Food Drive

2228	Georgia Brittain Holly Hoffman Genevieve Salley	Bathpacks for Lexington Foster Kids
2235	Lilliana Crawford Avery Hoover Clara Lawson Lydia Livingston KateLynn Parker Alaina Wines SaNyah Young-Reynolds	Helping Animals in Our Community
2243	Ananda Bucci Ligon Ferguson Aaryannahmariee Stacey	The Advocacy Outreach
2375	Abigail Austin Addison Jolly Rachel Kensek Addison Kirk Allison Link Addyson Mervine Vedanshi Patel Kara Pierson Gracelynd Rabon Bellamy Rooks Braylin Shook	Camping Sink
2561	Symphonie Cowart Abigail Melton Lilliana Nellist	Kindness Rock Garden
3377	Grady-Claire Cox Nora Durham Rebecca Hedrick Ella Web	Shelter Enrichment

Ellison Aldridge
Maggie Grace Baston
Elsa Dausen
Abigail Feldman
3414 Marcella Hall Cat House Covers & Kits
Olivia Hill
Arya Hillis
Emma Morgan
Taylor Stake

Hunter Bailey
Juliet Berry
Vaughn Bozard
Piper Catolico
Sloan Cox
Edna Crowther
3451 Aubree Doolittle Basic Needs, Big Impact
Hallie Foster
Millie Halliday
Drayton Hayes
Virgina Mathis
Betty Reece Pearson
Elliot Summers

Alison Buchko
Krisha Chomal
Aaliyah Love
3453 Penelope Patton Furr-ever Homes
Sawyer Petrowicz
Wendy Smith
Evelyn Weidman

17111 Scarlett Harris Wildlife Rehab Group of SC
Ellie Matt

17125	Alena Brown Hannah Clark Trinity Owens Mariah Swinderman	Love Over Hate
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17127	Elizabeth Crader Harper Crozier Zoe Goode Juniper Lucas Tiffeeny Allison Joseph-McGee Morgan Rivera Adair Stevenson Vivian Stevenson Adelaide St. Peter Jeannette "Jenna" Wallace	Central Community Garden
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43110	Addyson Flores Fiona Meekins Jessa Schwab Isabel Tarr Madolyn Tarr	Kid Kits
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Congrats to our
2026 Gold, Silver,
and Bronze Award
Girl Scouts!