

2020 Women of Distinction

Boots & Pearls

Nomination
Packet

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Karen H. Mitchell Women of Distinction Award

2020 Nomination Packet



Background

The Karen H. Mitchell Women of Distinction Event is a recognition and fundraising event that celebrates and honors outstanding women from the Cherokee, Spartanburg, and Union areas for their professional accomplishments, service to others, and impact on their community. The Girl Scouts of South Carolina—Mountains to Midlands is calling upon the public to help identify women who exemplify excellence both through their achievements as well as their community voluntarism. Honorees will be chosen based on the following criteria which aligns with the Girl Scout mission: Building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

One of the highlights of this unique event will be a video presentation in which selected honorees have the opportunity to share the contributions they have made in improving the quality of life in our community. Their achievements and visibility set a powerful example for our girls and volunteers involved in Girl Scouting.

Today, Girl Scouts of South Carolina—Mountains to Midlands serves girls ages 5-17 throughout 22 counties of the Midlands and Upstate regions of South Carolina. Girl Scouting exists to transform today's girls into tomorrow's leaders. Girls today face many critical issues including bullying, childhood obesity, teen pregnancy, issues of self-esteem, substance abuse, and pressure to perform in school. Participation in Girl Scouting has been proven to make a lifelong difference. Our board, staff, and volunteer leadership remain committed to being advocates for every girl, everywhere, and building girls of courage, confidence, and character so that they may make the world a better place.

Karen has most recently served girls as Chair of the ToGetHerThere Capital Campaign to create the Cathy Novinger Girl Scout Leadership Center in Columbia, which opened in October 2019.

Eligibility

Nominees must reside or work within the Spartanburg Regional Service Area of the Council's service jurisdiction (including Cherokee, Spartanburg, and Union counties), but DO NOT have to be former Girl Scouts. Once all nominations are submitted, a panel will review each nomination and make selections based on the following criteria:

1. Courage: Bravery, valor, and resolution
2. Confidence: Self-assurance, self-confidence, poise, assurance, and buoyancy
3. Character: Charm, appeal, charisma, personality, an "Unsung Hero"

Names are removed before nominations are sent to the selection committee to make the process as non-biased as possible.

Karen H. Mitchell

The Boots & Pearls Women of Distinction Award is named in honor of long-time community volunteer and supporter, Karen H. Mitchell. She was the first chair of the Board of Directors of the newly aligned Girl Scouts of South Carolina—Mountains to Midlands Council in April 2007. Prior to that, Karen served as a Girl Scout leader, Board member, and Chair of the Legacy Girl Scouts of the Piedmont Area Council, which served Cherokee, Chester, Spartanburg, and Union Counties. In fact, she is largely credited with having sustained that council through rough times when resources and stable leadership were lacking. As the epitome of a woman of courage, confidence, and character, and thanks to her tireless efforts, Karen provided the crucial leadership needed during the transition from three legacy councils and three counties from a fourth council, to form today's council spanning 22 counties in the Midlands and Upstate. She formerly served as Chair of the Mary Black Foundation Board and on the boards of the University of South Carolina Upstate Foundation, United Way of the Piedmont, and League of Women Voters.

Checklist for Nominators

Please note:

Only complete nomination packets can be forwarded to the committee for consideration. Please include:

- Nominator contact information
- Statement of Nomination
- Any additional supporting information

Karen H. Mitchell Women of Distinction Award 2020 Nomination Form

1. Nominee Information

Name (Ms./Mrs./Miss/Dr./Rev./Other): _____

Home Address:

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Business Address:

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Title: _____

Employer: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

2. Nominator Information

Name: _____

Address:

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Relationship to the Nominee: _____

3. Statement of Nomination

Using the guidelines below, tell us in writing about your nominee and why she should be chosen as one of this year's Women of Distinction. This statement should be 1,000 words or less in 12 pt. font.

- Briefly describe the nominee's background and accomplishments.
- Briefly describe the nominee's volunteer contributions to her community.
- Identify organizations (professional and/or volunteer) in which nominee has taken a leadership role and briefly describe the work performed by the nominee.
- List any awards/recognitions the nominee has received.
- Identify how this nominee has demonstrated courage, confidence, and character in the community, her experience or interest in Girl Scouts, how she is a role model for today's girls, and how her traits and accomplishments align with the Girl Scout mission.

Additional Materials (optional but extremely helpful in selection process): One letter of support may be submitted. The letter should refer to your nominee by name, refer to Girl Scouts of South Carolina—Mountains to Midlands' Women of Distinction Award, describe the accomplishments of your nominee, and state reasons she is a role model for today's girls and women.

***Confidentiality Statement:** All Nominees and their information shall be kept confidential by staff and volunteers of the Girl Scouts of South Carolina—Mountains to Midlands, Inc., and we request Nominators withhold sharing nominations until our selection process is complete.

Application Deadline: Friday, September 4, 2020

Please mail, fax, or email your completed application packet
by **Friday, September 4, 2020 to:**

Girl Scouts of South Carolina—Mountains to Midlands
Spartanburg Service Center
Attn: Alyssa McKenzie
349 East Blackstock Road
Spartanburg, SC 29301

Questions?

Contact Alyssa McKenzie
Fund Development Manager
amckenzie@gssc-mm.org
864.208.2704

**Building girls of
courage, confidence,
and character,
who make the world
a better place.**