



# **Adult Volunteer and Community Recognition**

## **Contents**

<b>Introduction...</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Earned Recognitions...</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Borough Level Recognitions...</b>	<b>4-5</b>
<b>Council Level Recognitions...</b>	<b>6-10</b>
<b>GSUSA Level Awards...</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>President's Volunteer Service Award...</b>	<b>12-13</b>
<b>Writing Strong Nominations and Letters of Endorsement...</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Where to Place Awards...</b>	<b>15</b>

## **Introduction**

The focus of adult recognition awards is impact on girls and the Girl Scout movement. Nominations can be submitted through the online nomination forms linked from each award description in this booklet. Anyone can nominate a volunteer.

### **Using this Booklet**

Each award is listed with information concerning who can receive the award, the criteria the candidate must meet to receive the award, and the nomination and approval process. The links to the nomination forms and/or letter of endorsement forms are embedded in the 'Nomination and Approval Process' section of each award listing.

### **General Criteria for Awards**

In addition to specific award criteria, candidates must meet the following criteria to receive recognition:

- Registered Adult Member, except for Super Service Certificate and Impact Award
- Active member of Girl Scouts of Greater New York.
- Candidate must have current background check.
- Candidate is not red-flagged by the Council (i.e. does not have council debt.)
- Embodies spirit of Girl Scout Promise and Law.
- Candidate is trained for the position held.
- Nomination and letters of endorsement (if required) must be submitted by December 1.

### **Self-nominations**

Volunteer Recognitions are a way to feel proud of hard-work and accomplishments. Self-nominating for an award is a great way to ensure you are recognized for efforts and achievements, especially for certain awards which require an intimate knowledge of your service. Awards that can be self-nominated include Years of Membership, Years of Service, and the Learning and Development Pin.

### **Adult Volunteer and Community Recognition Luncheon**

Each year in April, GSGNY hosts a Recognition Luncheon for Volunteers to celebrate their achievements and receive their awards. The luncheon rotates throughout the five boroughs. We ask that nominations be submitted on time (December 1) to ensure the Recognition Committee has ample time to review all the nominations before the event. Information with details about the luncheon are sent out in late January and the deadline to register for the luncheon is in March.

### **New Leader Recognition**

We welcome new leaders with open arms, and any new leaders that attend the Recognition Luncheon are recognized with a pin as a thank you for joining Girl Scouts of Greater New York!

### Earned Recognitions

Award	Who	Criteria	Nomination and Approval Process
<p><b>Learning and Development Pin</b></p> 	<p>Recognizes adult co-leaders who demonstrate competence, continuous improvement and participate in training that will increase their skills when working with girls.</p>	<p>Registered Adult Girl Scout.</p> <p>Candidate has completed one successful year as troop co-leader.</p> <p>Candidate has participated in at least two meetings beyond the troop.</p> <p>Candidate has completed First Aid and Outdoor training or has secured another adult who has completed this training.</p> <p>Candidate has taken at least two enrichment trainings which will benefit the troop.</p> <p>Record of training must be submitted with Nomination.</p>	<p>Can be self-nominated.</p> <p>Requires one (1) <a href="#">nomination</a>.</p> <p>Approved by Borough Recognition Committee.</p>
<p><b>Years of Membership Numeral</b></p> 	<p>Recognizes years of membership in any Girl Scout council.</p> <p>Recognizes the total years of membership by adults, including girl and adult years at <u>five year intervals</u>.</p>	<p>Registered Adult Girl Scout.</p>	<p>Can be nominated or self-nominated.</p> <p>Requires one (1) <a href="#">nomination</a>.</p> <p>Approved by Borough Recognition Committee.</p>
<p><b>Volunteer Years of Service Pin</b></p> 	<p>Recognizes years of active volunteer service in any Girl Scout council.</p> <p>Recognizes the total years of service by adults at <u>five year intervals</u>.</p>	<p>Registered Adult girl Scout.</p>	<p>Can be nominated or self-nominated.</p> <p>Requires one (1) <a href="#">nomination</a>.</p> <p>Approved by Borough Recognition Committee.</p>

### Borough Level Recognitions

Award	Who	Criteria	Nomination and Approval Process
<p><b>GSGNY Leader of Excellence</b></p> 	<p>Recognizes a troop co-leader whose performance in working with girls is outstanding and merits recognition</p>	<p>Registered Adult Girl Scout. Candidate has completed two successful years as co-leader.</p> <p>Candidate as completed appropriate training, demonstrated competence in communication, membership development, pluralism, and program delivery.</p> <p>Candidate's work with girls exceeded expectations for position.</p> <p>Candidate's troop must have participated in the Cookie program.</p>	<p>Can be nominated by an individual or group familiar with the candidate's service.</p> <p>Requires one (1) <a href="#">nomination</a>. And two (2) <a href="#">letters of endorsement</a>.</p> <p>Approved by Borough Recognition Committee.</p> <p>This recognition may only be awarded once.</p>
<p><b>Outstanding Service Team Member</b></p> 	<p>Recognizes a Service unit Team Member who has demonstrated outstanding service to her geographic service area.</p>	<p>Registered Adult Girl Scout. Candidate has completed at least two successful years on Service Unit Team.</p> <p>The Service Unit must have had a full team in place for at least three years.</p> <p>The Service Unit must have submitted the Service Unit Calendar for current year.</p> <p>Candidate's work within the geographic area has exceeded expectations for position.</p>	<p>Can be nominated by an individual or group familiar with the candidate's service.</p> <p>Requires one (1) <a href="#">nomination</a>.</p> <p>Approved by Borough Recognition Committee.</p> <p>This recognition may be awarded more than once.</p>

### Borough Level Recognitions

Award	Who	Criteria	Nomination and Approval Process
<p><b>GSGNY Outstanding Volunteer</b></p> 	<p>Recognizes an adult in a leadership position, or position other than leadership (i.e. troop cookie parent), whose service benefits the geographic area beyond the expectations of position.</p>	<p>Registered Adult Girl Scout.</p> <p>Candidate has completed two successful years in position.</p> <p>Candidate has demonstrated competence for position held and exceeds expectations of position</p>	<p>Can be nominated by an individual or group familiar with the candidate's service.</p> <p>Requires one (1) <a href="#">nomination</a>.</p> <p>Approved by Borough Recognition Committee.</p> <p>This recognition may only be awarded once.</p>
<p><b>Skyline Award</b></p> 	<p>Recognizes the contribution of a volunteer who serves at the troop or service unit level.</p>	<p>Registered Adult Girl Scout.</p> <p>Candidate has completed at least three successful years in position.</p> <p>Candidate has demonstrated competence for position held and exceeds expectations of position.</p>	<p>Can be nominated by an individual or group familiar with the candidate's service.</p> <p>Requires one (1) <a href="#">nomination</a>.</p> <p>Approved by Borough Recognition Committee.</p> <p>This recognition may only be awarded once.</p>
<p><b>Super Service Certificate</b></p> 	<p>Recognizes the contributions of an individual or group outside of the Girl Scouts organization.</p>	<p>Candidate is an individual or group outside of Girl Scouts.</p> <p>Candidate has performed superior service and creates a pronounced impact on a troop, Service Unit, or Borough.</p>	<p>Can be nominated by an individual or group familiar with the candidate's service.</p> <p>Requires one (1) <a href="#">nomination</a>.</p> <p>Approved by Borough Recognition Committee.</p>

### Council Level Recognitions

Award	Who	Criteria	Nomination and Approval Process
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Appreciation Pin</b></p> 	<p>Recognizes a volunteer giving exemplary service in support of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience which has had measurable impact on at least one geographic area of service.</p>	<p>Registered Adult Girl Scout.</p> <p>Actively recognizes, understands, and practices the values of inclusive behavior.</p> <p>The service performed by the nominee is above and beyond the expectations for the position held, and has helped the council reach and surpass its strategic priorities in one geographic area of service.</p> <p>Supports the delivery of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience.</p>	<p>Can be nominated by an individual or group familiar with the candidate's service.</p> <p>Requires one (1) <a href="#">nomination</a> and two (2) <a href="#">letters of endorsement</a>.</p> <p>Approved by Borough Recognition Committee.</p> <p>This recognition may only be awarded once.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Honor Pin</b></p> 	<p>Recognizes the contribution of a volunteer who serves at the troop or service unit level.</p>	<p>Registered Adult Girl Scout.</p> <p>Actively recognizes, understand, and practice the values of inclusive behavior.</p> <p>The service performed by the nominee is above and beyond the expectations for the positions held, and has helped the council reach and surpass its strategic priorities in two or more geographic areas of service.</p> <p>Supports the delivery of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience.</p>	<p>Can be nominated by an individual or group familiar with the candidate's service.</p> <p>Requires one (1) <a href="#">nomination</a> and three (3) <a href="#">letters of endorsement</a>.</p> <p>Approved by Borough Recognition Committee.</p> <p>This recognition may only be awarded once.</p>

### Council Level Recognitions

Award	Who	Criteria	Nomination and Approval Process
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thanks Badge</b></p> 	<p>Volunteer 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.</p>	<p>Active, registered adult Girl Scout.</p> <p>Actively recognizes, understand, and practice the values of inclusive behavior.</p> <p>The outstanding service performed by the nominee resulted in outcomes that benefitted the total council or the entire Girl Scout organization, and is so significantly above and beyond the call of duty that no other award would be appropriate.</p> <p>Supports the delivery of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience</p>	<p>Any registered adult Girl Scout member may nominate a GS adult member for this award</p> <p>Service is so significant that no other award seems appropriate</p> <p>Requires one (1) <a href="#">nomination</a>.</p> <p>Requires four (4) <a href="#">letters of endorsement</a>.</p> <p>Approved by Borough Recognition Committee.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thanks Badge II</b></p> 	<p>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.</p>	<p>Active, registered adult Girl Scout.</p> <p>The nominee has received the Thanks Badge.</p> <p>Since receipt of the Thanks Badge, the nominee has provided outstanding service in a leadership role resulting in outcomes that benefitted the entire council or the entire Girl Scout organization, and is so significantly above and beyond the call of duty that no other award would be appropriate.</p>	<p>Any registered adult Girl Scout member may nominate a GS adult member for this award</p> <p>Service is so significant that no other award seems appropriate</p> <p>Requires one (1) <a href="#">nomination</a>.</p> <p>Requires four (4) <a href="#">letters of endorsement</a>.</p> <p>Approved by Borough Recognition Committee.</p>

### Council Level Recognitions

Award	Who	Criteria	Nomination and Approval Process
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Greater New York Executive Award</b></p> 	<p>Recognizes an adult member who has previously received the Thanks Badge II and who has continued to contribute in extraordinary ways that benefit the total council or the entire Girl Scout movement.</p>	<p>Active, registered adult Girl Scout.</p> <p>The nominee has received the Thanks Badge II no less than 5 years previous to this nomination.</p> <p>Since receipt of the Thanks Badge II, the nominee has continued to provide outstanding service in a leadership role resulting in outcomes that benefitted the entire council or the entire Girl Scout organization, and is so significantly above and beyond the call of duty that no other award would be appropriate.</p>	<p>Any registered adult Girl Scout member may nominate a GS adult member for this award</p> <p>Service is so significant that no other award seems appropriate</p> <p>Requires one (1) <a href="#">nomination</a>.</p> <p>Requires five (5) <a href="#">letters of endorsement</a>; one letter must be from Borough Association Chair and one letter must from the CEO or member of the Council's Board of Directors.</p> <p>Approved by Borough Recognition Committee.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>President's Award</b></p> 	<p>Recognizes the efforts of a Service Unit in moving its assigned area toward the achievements of the council's goals during a membership year.</p>	<p>Service Unit has a Support Team in place, all registered adult members.</p> <p>All team members have completed appropriate training for position held.</p> <p>2019 CRITERIA TBD</p>	<p>Service Unit Manager(s) submit an application for the award to the council recognition committee documenting completion of criteria and results.</p>

### Council Level Recognitions

Award	Who	Criteria	Nomination and Approval Process
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Impact Award</b></p> 	<p>Recognizes an individual or group outside of the Girl Scouts organization.</p>	<p>Candidate is an individual or group outside of Girl Scouts.</p> <p>Candidate has performed superior service and creates a pronounced impact on a troop, Service Unit, or Borough.</p> <p>Candidate has previously received Super Service Certificate.</p>	<p>Can be nominated by an individual or group familiar with the candidate's service.</p> <p>Requires one (1) <a href="#">nomination</a>.</p> <p>Approved by Borough Recognition Committee.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Essential Woman Award</b></p> 	<p>Recognizes any adult volunteer who introduces an adult to Girl Scouting who then starts a troop and continues as a successful leader for at least one year.</p>	<p>Registered adult Girl Scout.</p> <p>Recruits one volunteer with the Girl Scout calendar year (Oct1-Sep 30) who starts a troop and remains in leadership for one year <i>in addition to the year of recruitment</i>.</p> <p>The new leader must have a completed background check, Getting Started and Leadership Essentials.</p> <p>The leader has a registered troop with following minimums:  Daisy Girl Scouts: at least 8 girls  Brownie Girl Scouts: at least 12 girls  Junior Girl Scouts: at least 12 girls  Girl Scout CSAs: at least 8 girls</p> <p>Each girl in the troop must complete at least one petal/badge or journey.</p> <p>New leader must complete all end of year reports (like Annual Financial Report) on time.</p>	<p>Can be nominated by an individual or group familiar with the candidate's service.</p> <p>Requires one (1) <a href="#">nomination</a>.</p> <p>Approved by Borough Recognition Committee.</p>

**Council Level Awards**

<b>Award</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Nomination and Approval Process</b>
<p><b>Volunteer of Excellence Award</b></p> 	<p>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 contributed outstanding service in support of the council’s mission delivery goals</p>	<p>Active registered adult Girl Scout.</p> <p>Completed appropriate training or demonstrated competence for the position or both.</p> <p>Actively recognizes, understands, and practices the values of inclusive behavior.</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Performed beyond expectations for the position to deliver the GSLE to girls using the National Program Portfolio,</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Performance has been beyond the expectations of the position and has supported the council’s strategic priorities in one or more of the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Membership</li> <li>• Community Cultivation</li> <li>• Volunteer Relations</li> <li>• Leadership and Governance</li> <li>• Fund Development</li> <li>• Council Support Service</li> </ul>	<p>Any registered adult Girl Scout member may nominate a GS adult member for this award</p> <p>Service is so significant that no other award seems appropriate</p> <p>Requires one (1) <a href="#">nomination</a>.</p> <p>Requires three (3) <a href="#">letters of endorsement</a>.</p> <p>Approved by Borough Recognition Committee.</p>

### GSUSA Level Awards

Award	Who	Criteria	Nomination Process and Approval
<p><b>The Juliette Gordon Low World Friendship Medal</b></p> 	<p>The Juliette Low World Friendship Medal is awarded to volunteers and councils who have enriched and leveraged the global understanding of Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting to grow responsible global citizens. This prestigious national award is approved by the Girl Scouts of the USA National Board of Directors.</p>	<p>Impact on girls: The nominee’s efforts include girl involvement resulting in increased opportunities for girl-led global opportunities and Take Action projects resulting in significant global impact.</p> <p>Commitment: The nominee has demonstrated dedication and commitment over a significant amount of time by continuously promoting and expanding the global dimension of Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting. The nominee has promoted the Juliette Low World Friendship fund or other global Girl Scouting funding opportunities.</p> <p>Global awareness: The nominee has created and promoted resources and opportunities that increase the understanding of the global dimension of Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting to the council and the larger community.</p> <p>Leadership: The nominee is recognized by girl and adult members, and the larger community, as a leader who leverages the global impact of Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting.</p> <p>Membership: The nominee is a current registered Girl Scout adult member in a council or USA Girl Scouts Overseas.</p>	<p>Any person or council may nominate a GS adult member for this award.</p> <p>Requires one (1) nomination and two (2) <a href="#">letters of endorsement</a>.</p> <p>The National Board of Directors’ approves or denies nominations</p>

# President's Volunteer Service Award

## For Volunteers

The President's Volunteer Service Award (PVSA) is an award from the Corporation of National & Community Service which recognizes incredible individuals who are committed to a high level of volunteer and service. These individuals work tirelessly to help solve some of the toughest challenges facing their communities, and our nation.

If you are interested in earning a PVSA, you must do so through a Certifying Organization (CO). Girl Scouts of Greater New York is a Certifying Organization.

As of May 2019, PVSA will no longer offer volunteer account creation and volunteer hours' tracking to individuals. They have provided [this sample spreadsheet](#) to track your hours. Send the spreadsheet to GSGNY before February 5th if you plan to attend and receive your award at the Recognition Luncheon.

Send Volunteer Hours spreadsheets to Jenna Palermo at [jpalermo@girlscoutsnyc.org](mailto:jpalermo@girlscoutsnyc.org).

## Criteria

Individuals, families and groups that meet the criteria are eligible for the PVSA.

- Recipient(s) must be a United States citizen or a lawfully admitted permanent resident of the United States.
- Awards are issued for service hours served within a 12-month time period or over the course of a lifetime.
- Awards are issued for volunteer service only; additional levels of participation with the organization (i.e., charitable support) are not a factor considered for the award.
- Court-ordered community service does not qualify for the award.
- Awards are issued by approved Certifying Organizations.
- Service must be with an approved Certifying Organization that is legally established in the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or one of the U.S. territories.

## PVSA Eligibility

Hours are measured over a 12-month period and awards are designated based on cumulative hours. The awards are offered in multiple levels and are designed to recognize each milestone of your service achievement.

<b>Hours by Award</b>	<b>Bronze</b>	<b>Silver</b>	<b>Gold</b>
<b>Kids (5-10)</b>	26 – 49	50 – 74	75 +
<b>Teens (11-15)</b>	50 – 74	75 – 99	100 +
<b>Young Adults (16-25)</b>	100 – 174	175 – 249	250 +
<b>Adults (26 and older)</b>	100 – 249	250 – 499	500+
<b>Families and Groups*</b>	200 – 499	500 – 999	1,000+
<b>President's Lifetime Achievement Award:</b> This award is under review and not currently offered at this time.			
<i>* Two or more people, with each member contributing at least 25 hours toward the total</i>			

Along with the ultimate honor of presidential recognition, recipients will receive a personalized certificate, an official pin, and a congratulatory letter from the president of the United States.

# Writing Strong Nominations and Letter of Endorsement

**Adult Recognition Awards:** It's about the girls! The focus of adult recognition awards is impact on girls and the Girl Scout movement. The Adult Recognition Committee, comprised of volunteers from throughout the Council, is serious about evaluating potential adult volunteers for the most prestigious awards a council may award to adult members. The committee relies on the completeness and accuracy of the nominations. Please let the time you take to fill out the nomination or endorsement be thoughtful as you let us know the outstanding characteristics of the person you are nominating.

**Nomination Guidelines:** GSUSA has designed the guidelines and your nomination should support the guidelines by showing results oriented, measurable and real impact stories in support of your nominee.

For nominations that require letter(s) of endorsement, one letter may be written by the nominator.

Considering some basic questions will help you write a stronger nomination or endorsement.

This chart shows how a statement, with a little thought, can become a strong nomination statement for the Adult Recognition committee's review:

Initial Statement	Thoughtfully Consider	Strong Nomination Statement
"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 the girls, and how the girls benefitted.	"This volunteer came to the rescue during a troop camp-out when the troops discovered a nest of baby snakes in camp! He kept both the girls and leaders calm as he assisted in striking camp, all the while educating the girls about snakes and safety. The girls felt safe, and in control, thanks to good guidance!"

## Where to Place Awards and Insignia

# Girl Scout Adult

