



IT'S YOUR
WORLD—
CHANGE IT!



While journeying toward **GIRLtopia**, girls have the option of earning a major award—Senior Visionary Award. The Senior Visionary Award is an important step on the Girl Scout leadership ladder; it signifies that girls have a firm leadership foundation. They understand themselves, are able to make ethical decisions, build teams, care about others, envision change and take action toward it.

GIRLtopia Leadership Award: Visionary

To earn the **Visionary Award**, Seniors will complete three steps, which they can accomplish—as a team or on their own—one by one or simultaneously:

1. **Create it:** Make a **Create it Project**, a unique vision and artistic representation of an ideal world, and then share it with others.
2. **Guide it:** Guide a mini-discussion or group activity that engages other girls in thinking about visionary leadership.
2. **Change it:** Do a **Change It Project** (Take Action Project) that moves the world (or their community) one step closer to ideal.

Here are some ideas for sample sessions for the **GIRL-topia** Journey. They are merely suggestions and are not meant to be the only way to take this Journey. It is extremely important that you get girl input before making any decisions about the activities and steps to earn these awards. It is also very important to let the Seniors take the lead whenever possible for decision-making, ceremonies, presentations, meetings and celebrations. Girls can choose to work on this Journey alone, in pairs, in mini-teams, or as a larger group. Page numbers in the headings refer to the page the session starts in the adult guide.

Mission 1: Map of Girltopia

Girls will read page 4&5 of their books and create a map of what their GIRLtopia would be like if it were an actual place.

Mission 2: Global Girls Bill of Rights

Girls will read page 9 on the statistics about the state of the world for girls. As a group girls will then turn to page 55 in their books and come up with a "Global Girls Bill of Right."

Mission 3: Where is your Shangri-la?

Girls will read page 22 and their journey book and fill in the blank about Where is your Shangri-la?

Girls will think about a popular song that does not empower girls and re-write the lyrics of this song to have a message of girl empowerment.

Mission 4: Who is a Visionary?

Girls will read page 17 of their journey book and make a list of the top 10 qualities, values, skills, and talents that they feel encompass a visionary.

Girls will then decorate an inspirational tote bag with all the qualities, values, skills, and talents that they came up with.

Mission 5: Pieces of Me

Girls will utilize materials to decorate the outside of a jewelry box (or picture frame) to describe THEMSELVES. Girls through this piece of art, will share with the world parts of their identity that represent who they are.



Mission 6: Girl Rising

Girls will watch a couple of stories from the film Girl Rising as a group, (the clips can be found on You Tube or if you prefer watching the entire movie it can be found on Netflix.

Give girls the attached handout and have them answer the questions about the film on the hand-out.

ABOUT THE MOVIE: GIRL RISING journeys around the globe to witness the strength of the human spirit and the power of education to change the world. Viewers get to know nine unforgettable girls living in the developing world: ordinary girls who confront tremendous challenges and overcome nearly impossible odds to pursue their dreams.

The feature film includes stories from Egypt, Afghanistan, Nepal, India, Sierra Leone, Haiti, Peru, Ethiopia and Cambodia, written by acclaimed female writers and voiced by some of the world's finest actors.

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Take Action Project

To earn the Visionary Award, girls must complete the three part "must do" list. This involves creating a GIRLtopia art project and sharing it; guiding others through a GIRLtopia discussion; and completing a Take Action Project. The activities highlighted below are mandatory to take part in. Don't hesitate to stop the girls along the way and explore additional activities that interest them.

Step 1: Create It!

Girls must complete a GIRLtopia art project (in any medium, and as an individual or team effort and share it. Once you have your art project idea write it down on page 28. See pages 20-27 for ideas. Again, girls will complete their art project at home—right now they are just writing down their idea.

Step 2: Guide It!

Guide others through a GIRLtopia topic. Plan to organize a discussion, lead a meeting, or share a topic that interest you from this journey.

'THINK ABOUT IT-- TALK ABOUT IT' Go to page 53 and write down your selected topic of discussion. Sample discussion topics are located throughout the book under the sub headings 'THINK ABOUT IT-- TALK ABOUT IT' Have the girls turn to pages 12, 18, 22, 24, 31, 33, 35, 41, 43, 50, 56, 60, 61, 73, and 75 for topic ideas.

Step Three: Change It!

Ask girls to turn to page 80 and review the 12 stages of the Take Action Process. They should read thoroughly the Take Action Planning Chart in pages 80 and 81. They should start planning for their Take Action Project. They should read, review and fill in the blanks on the following pages 82, 83, 92, 93, 94. These exercises will help them map out their community, write their take action statement, and develop a timeline.

After completing these exercises it will help them identify an issue they care about and come up with possible solutions - that's their take action project! Once they've completed their take action project (at home or troop meetings) they sign and date page 108.

Group Reflection

Ask girls to share how has this experience changed them?

Congratulate the girls!

They learned about the state of the world for girls, they discover their YOUtopia and made real connections along the way to GIRLtopia!



Self-esteem means how a girl feels about herself -her abilities, her body, her capacity to seek and meet challenges in the world. Supporting and strengthening Seniors' self-esteem are goals of this Journey. With strong self-esteem, girls are likely to avoid any drop in confidence as they move through adolescence. Instead their confidence will soar! Girl Scouting is guided by a positive philosophy of inclusion that benefits all. On this Journey especially, it is hoped that girls will increase their feelings of being powerful, capable, and strong as they enhance their skills and develop new ones. So, as the Girl Scout Law says, "Be a sister to every Girl Scout."

During the **Mission: Sisterhood Journey**, girls have an opportunity to earn the prestigious Girl Scout Senior Sisterhood Award. **The Sisterhood Award** is an important step on the Girl Scout leadership ladder. To earn the **Sisterhood Award**, Seniors will:

- Define a sisterhood issue.
- Create a plan for how to Take Action on that issue
- Take Action !

What it means for Seniors:

Girls understand the power of sisterhood in their own lives and in the world. As with all leadership awards earned on Girl Scout Journeys, the **Sisterhood Award** gives girls the planning, teamwork, and networking skills they need to pursue the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest award in the Girl Scouts.



The steps to the **Sisterhood Award** are:

Mission 1: Sisterhood Smorgasbord

Girls will take 3-5 minutes to consider the following questions:

1. What does the word sisterhood mean to any of us?
2. What does it really mean to "be a sister to every Girl Scout?"
3. Has this definition and meaning changed as you got older?

After discussion, girls will utilize magazines, write, and draw on butcher paper or poster board what sisterhood means to them.

Mission 2: Measure of Friendship

Girls will turn to page 17 in their journey book and take

3-5 minutes to silently answer the questions on the page. Girls will then take 2 index cards and write a **VALUE** they look for in a friendship on each card. Girls will then gather all the cards together and rank the cards based on most to least important and discuss their reasoning utilizing the questions below.

- Why did you rank certain things high?
- Why were some low?
- How many of the values listed echo the ones in the Girl Scout Law?

Mission 3: The Many Faces of Friendship

Girls will read about *The Many Faces of Friendship* on pages 12 and 13. Girls will then write a mood on a index card, fold it in half, and take turn picking a card and acting out the mood without speaking using just one body language. Once they are done they will pair up with another girl in their group and pick a scenario from an envelope and act it out for the rest of the group.

Mission 4: Defining YOU!

Girls will read page *Defining You* on page 30 and complete quiz on page 31. Girls will then decide on a personal power that they believe they bring to the world, and then make a symbol, logo, or design of their personal power.



Take Action Project

Mission 5: Finding the BEAUTY in Images of BEAUTY

Girls will read page 20 and as a group find two films or TV shows (one from USA and one from another country) that include girls that are friends, and see if and how the characters portray beauty in themselves and in their relationships with other girls and women.

Mission 6: Time Capsule

Girls will read pages 60 and 61. As a group girls will gather news stories (online) about sisterhood issues they care about. Girls will then create a time capsule that will be unearthed by a future generation of Girl Scouts.

Girls will now complete their Take Action Project by reviewing *Sample Sisterhood Projects* throughout the journey that suggest possible sisterhood issues that were tackled. (All of these issues are listed on page 68 of the journey book).

Girls will then use pages 68-77 to come up with a project that they can do to create Sisterhood in their community.

Girls at the completion of their ideation process will present to the group!



***For detailed information on
Mission Implementation and
Curriculums please contact***

Marlinda Cesar-Wiley

Manager of Teen Leadership Opportunities

mcesar@girlscoutsnyc.org

or

Leslie Field

Girl Leadership Program Coordinator

lfield@girlscoutsnyc.org

