

Volunteer Recognitions and Awards

Recognition Award	Description	Scope of Service/ Nomination Forms	Impact to Girl Scout Leadership Experience Goals
GSUSA Appreciation Pin	Recognizes an individual's exemplary service in support of delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, but for this pin the impact is within one geographic area of service.	One Service Unit or Community Two Nominations	In any one or more of the following categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership growth and/or retention • Program development and/or delivery • Cookies or Fall Program participation or sales • Governance (e.g., policies, strategy) • Diversity, equity, and inclusion/racial justice • Philanthropy and fund development <div> Nominate a volunteer! gsema.org/nominate Submission deadline is Friday, February 14, 2025, 11:59 PM. </div>
GSUSA Honor Pin	Recognizes an individual's exemplary service in support of delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience; this support has had a measurable on two or more geographic areas of service to reach and surpass the mission-delivery goals of GSEMA.	Two or More Service Units or Communities Two Nominations	
GSUSA Thanks Badge	Honors an individual 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.	Council-wide or Nationwide Two Nominations	
GSUSA Thanks Badge II	Honor a previous Thanks Badge award recipient who has continued to provide exemplary service in a leadership role which resulted in a measurable impact benefitting the entire Girl Scout Movement.	Nationwide Four Nominations	



Recognition Award	Description	Scope of Service/ Nomination Forms	Impact to Girl Scout Leadership Experience Goals
GSEMA President's Award	Recognizes the efforts of a service team, committee, or volunteer team 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.	Council-wide One Nomination with Three Letters of Endorsement	In any one or more of the following categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership growth and/or retention • Program development and/or delivery • Cookies or Fall Program participation or sales • Governance (e.g., policies, strategy) • Diversity, equity, and inclusion/racial justice • Philanthropy and fund development
GSEMA Lifetime of Service Award	Volunteers who have championed the mission of Girl Scouting through long-term commitment and exemplary work at the troop, service unit or council level for fifteen or more years.	One Service Unit to Nationwide Two Nominations	
GSEMA Sustained Service Pin	Volunteers actively giving valuable service to GSEMA for 5+ or 10+ consecutive years since receiving a prior recognition (e.g., Appreciation Pin or Honor Pin).	Based on prior award received Two Nominations	
GSEMA Helen Storrow Heritage Award	Members or committees who have contributed to the growth and strength of GSEMA through their philanthropy and their efforts to preserve the vast history and legacy of GSEMA.	Council-wide Recommended by Fund Development	
GSEMA Red Rose Award	A volunteer who actively demonstrates exemplary commitment to the Girl Scout values of diversity, equity and inclusion in support of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience.	One or More Service Units or Communities Two Nominations	Focused impact on diversity, equity, and inclusion/racial justice.

Service Unit Level Recognitions

Service Unit Volunteer of Excellence

DESCRIPTION

A volunteer who has contributed outstanding service while partnering directly with youth members in any pathway to implement the Girl Scout Leadership Experience through use of the National Program Portfolio or who has contributed outstanding service in support of the council's mission delivery to youth and adult members is eligible for the GSUSA Volunteer of Excellence Award.

CRITERIA

- Is a registered and active Girl Scout adult member
- Completes appropriate training and/or demonstrated competence for the position
- Performs beyond expectations for their volunteer position by supporting the council's mission-delivery goals in any of the following areas: membership, community development, supporting volunteers, marketing & public relations, fund development, communications, program delivery, or governance

NOMINATION, APPROVAL, AND AWARD PROCESS

- Requires one recommendation submitted directly to the service unit, the format of which may vary by community.
- Review and approval are determined by the service unit, and may include a local committee to manage the process (deadlines, approval of nominations, and presentation of pins).
- The service unit purchases awards at the council shop and presents them to the volunteer.

**Service Unit
Green & Growing
Award**

DESCRIPTION

Troop leaders and assistant troop leaders who have been in their roles for less than two years.

CRITERIA

- Has been a troop volunteer for less than two years, and keeps troop(s) open to new members
- Completes the GSEMA new troop leader learning plan: New Leader Orientation and age-level Essentials
- Has participated in at least one service unit or council event or program
- Shows commitment to growing and sustaining the troop's membership by participating in spring membership renewal and extended year membership registration
- Engages youth members in the Girl Scout Cookie Program
- Implements the Girl Scout Leadership Experience within troop programming, including working toward and earning badges

NOMINATION, APPROVAL, AND AWARD PROCESS

- Requires one recommendation submitted directly to the service unit, the format of which may vary by community.
- Review and approval are determined by the service unit, and may include a local committee to manage the process (deadlines, approval of nominations, and presentation of pins).
- The service unit purchases awards at the council shop and presents them to the volunteer.

**Service Unit
Make New
Friends Award
Certificate**

DESCRIPTION

Individuals, groups, organizations, or businesses that support Girl Scouts in the local community.

CRITERIA

- Non-Girl Scouts who assist local Girl Scout troops or service units in any of the following ways:
 - Offers free meeting space
 - Provide in-kind donations for events and activities
 - Helps to further Girl Scouting in the community

NOMINATION, APPROVAL, AND AWARD PROCESS

- No nomination or approval process necessary
- Service units and troops give certificates at their discretion which can be downloaded and printed locally