

# Adult Recognition Descriptions

## TENURE AWARDS

### Membership Numeral Guards

The numerals show the total number of years (not necessarily continuous or consecutive) of registered membership, both as a girl and an adult, in any Girl Scout/Girl Guide organization. Numeral Guards are available in increments of 5 years. The Diamonds Council will provide Numeral Guards for 15 years and above.

### Volunteer Years of Service Pin

This pin shows the total number of years that a volunteer has served in Girl Scouts. They are available in increments of 5 years. The Diamonds Council will provide Volunteer Years of Service Pins for 15 years and above.

## GSUSA AWARDS

### Volunteer of Excellence

The Volunteer of Excellence award recognizes those volunteers who have contributed outstanding service while partnering directly with girls in any pathway to implement the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE) through use of the National Program Portfolio or who have contributed outstanding service in support of the council's mission delivery to girl and adult members. The nominee's performance has been beyond the expectations of the position and has supported the council's mission-delivery goals in one or more of the following functional areas: membership development/community cultivation; volunteer relations and support; program, leadership and governance; fund development, and council support service (such as IT, customer service and merchandising).

**Example of a Volunteer of Excellence candidate:** A college student volunteer who was recruited by IT to help with data entry sees a posting on the council's Facebook page encouraging recognition of volunteers on Leader's Day. She sees an opportunity to use the council's website to make this type of volunteer recognition easy and relevant for everyone to use. In coordination with council staff, she helps launch a recognition page on the website that leverages tools like e-cards and online voting campaigns, highlights real volunteer success stories and provides valuable information on ways to thank all volunteers throughout the year. As a result, 4,700 personal thank-you notes are sent to volunteers by council leadership and staff, volunteers, parents and girls in a year's time. Nominations for council and GSUSA earned awards also rise by 35 percent, and on satisfaction surveys, volunteers report feeling highly valued 22 percent more than the previous year.

### Appreciation Pin

The Appreciation Pin recognizes an individual's exemplary service in support of delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE). This service, which has had measurable impact on at least one area of service, Girl Scout community or program delivery audience, helps the council reach and surpass its mission-delivery goals for that area.

**Example of an Appreciation Pin candidate:** At an event, a Troop Leader noticed that the diversity of the girls did not match the diversity of the community. She talked with her council's staff members and found that they had identified a potential for membership increase among the Hispanic communities in her area. She partnered with the service-delivery team to create and implement recruitment strategies to reach both girls and adults and new ways of work to support new members. As a result, Hispanic girl membership rose by 14 percent and adult membership by 15 percent last year. While those new members participated in series and camps, 78 percent of them participated in troops.

## **Honor Pin**

The Honor Pin recognizes an individual's exemplary service in support of delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE), which has had measurable impact on two or more areas of service, Girl Scout community or program delivery audience, allowing the council to reach and surpass its mission-delivery goals.

**Example of an Honor Pin candidate:** A facilitator realized that, although the council created online courses and resources about the GSLE, at volunteer meetings she heard comments indicating that many volunteers still were hesitant to use Journeys to deliver the GSLE to girls. She worked with the Volunteer Experience Department to develop a GSLE Coach role, which would support all direct-service volunteers as they implemented what they learned in the courses and put Journeys into action. This role was piloted in four service-delivery teams where, after the first year, Journey sales increased by 30 percent; girls shared the impact of 14 new take-action projects via the council's website; and the volunteer-satisfaction scores increased by 12 percent.

## **Thanks Badge**

The 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. 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.

**Example of a Thanks Badge candidate:** A volunteer saw an opportunity to use Journeys to increase membership in one of the council's target markets through the camp pathway. She helped the council partner with local companies and groups to provide in-kind, financial and volunteer support to build a Take-Action Tree House at each camp. She led a task group of girls to design and develop progressive programming, based on girl-led processes and Journey content, which culminated in take-action projects. The three-year project brought in 300 new Girl Scouts, a 5 percent overall increase in camp registrations the following year, 90 new volunteers and new partnerships with 11 local organizations.

## **Thanks Badge II**

The Thanks Badge II honors a previous Thanks Badge recipient who has continued to provide exemplary service in a leadership role, resulting in a measurable impact that benefits the total council or entire Girl Scout Movement. 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.

**Example of a Thanks Badge II candidate:** After receiving the Thanks Badge, the volunteer from the Thanks Badge example was motivated by the success of the Take-Action Tree House project and submitted to present this best practice at a GSUSA conference. She then served for two years on a national task group to help educate and support all 111 other councils as they create long-term plans that integrate all council departments to implement the camp pathway growth in membership and deliver the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE) through Journey use.

## **Juliette Gordon Low World Friendship Medal**

The Juliette Low World Friendship Medal is awarded to individuals 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.

## **President's Service Unit Award**

The President's Award recognizes the efforts of a service unit team or committee 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 over all goals.

## DIAMONDS COUNCIL AWARDS

### Arkansas Governor's Volunteer Excellence

These certificates are marked with the date of our organization's recognition event and are signed by the Governor. They recognize volunteers for their hard work. Certificates recognize volunteers with 500 or more volunteer hours.

### Presidential Volunteer Service Award

Volunteers can track their hours on a national website to receive recognition for their time.

<http://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov/> Record of Service Key : RLZ-45010

### Myra Vinson Award

In loving memory of Myra Vinson, former Executive Director of Arkansas Post Girl Scout Council, this award recognizes volunteers who have made an impact on the lives of people beyond the Girl Scout community by living the Girl Scout Law and continually giving back to their community in a variety of ways. This award provides an opportunity to see the realization of our goal – to inspire girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism, and service so they may become happy and resourceful citizens.

**Example of a Myra Vinson Award candidate:** A volunteer Program Advisor works over the course of the year with a teen advisory committee of 30 current Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors. They planned and delivered four performance day camps targeted to girls in underserved areas of the council, using content from the *aMuse* Journey. As a result, those areas have a combined total of 210 new Junior girl members and 16 new adult volunteers. Ninety-two percent of the girls at camp also signed up for other opportunities during the year.

### Sally Sharpe Award

This award recognizes a volunteer facilitator who demonstrates outstanding facilitating skills in creating successful learning experiences for both new and returning volunteers.

**Example of a Sally Sharpe Award candidate:** A council facilitator sees that there is a lack of trainings in a region different than her own. This volunteer works with the Training Coordinator and Volunteer Experience Department to ensure that volunteers have educational opportunities by doing trainings and recruiting new facilitators in that region.

### Diamonds Rookie of the Year

The Rookie of the Year Award is given in recognition of the outstanding service from an individual who is new to Girl Scouts and has hit the ground running during her or his first year. This adult volunteer has been an adult Girl Scout for a short time but has made an impact on their service unit or geographic area, which merits area recognition.

**Example of a Rookie of the Year candidate:** A new volunteer participates in a Girl Scout outdoor series program in her community. She is contacted by girls and their parents who want to thank her for helping to bring the series to their area and to express their interest in finding similar opportunities. The volunteer shares the council's summer camp brochure with the families, but soon realizes that transportation to and from camp would be a definite obstacle for some families that want to attend. The volunteer decides to contact the local service unit or council to find out what the safety regulations are for transporting members in personal and rented vehicles and sets up a carpool list that coincides with each camp session. The list provides contact information for drivers that have agreed to transport registered girls to/from camp and the number of seats available in each vehicle. The council's summer camp registrations increased by 25% and other service units in the area are looking to provide something similar for girls in their area.

### **Diamonds Leader of the Year**

The Leader of the Year Award is given to recognize the outstanding service of a troop leader. This leader has been an adult Girl Scout for a period of at least (5) five years and has made a substantial impact on her service unit or Council, which merits recognition.

**Example of a Leader of the Year candidate:** A Troop Leader recognizes that there are several new volunteers in her service unit that have expressed some anxieties about becoming a new Troop Leader. The volunteer can easily relate to their concerns and asks the service unit team or local council about setting up a support group for new leaders to meet with experienced leaders. The Troop Leader establishes a social media page where new troop leaders can submit questions, ideas and concerns to a team of experienced leaders. In one year, the service unit maintained an 80% retention in new adult volunteers, and the attendance to monthly service unit meetings increased by 50%.

### **Diamonds Volunteer of the Year**

This award is in recognition of the outstanding service of any individual. This adult volunteer has been an adult Girl Scout for any length of time, but has made an impact on her service unit or Council that merits recognition.

**Example of a Volunteer of the Year candidate:** A volunteer recognizes that there are little or no active Girl Scouts in her geographical area and works with the local service unit or council to identify ways to recruit new members or introduce the Girl Scout National Portfolio Program to the area. The volunteer helped set up a local recruitment event by passing out flyers and contacted a local community partner to host a one-day Girl Scout Rally. Through the volunteers' efforts, girl and adult membership in the area grew and several girls are planning to attend a Girl Scout camp this summer.

### **24K Diamonds Trophy**

The Diamonds Council President's 24 Karat Diamond Trophy is awarded to the council's top performing service unit. These service units are recognized for exemplary leadership in all areas of membership, volunteerism, and program. The winner is selected from the service units that receive the GSUSA's President's Award.