



Let's celebrate!

You can recognize Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award Girl Scouts in many different ways—at a troop ceremony, with family and friends, during a service unit meeting, at a bridging ceremony with the entire service unit—or in any other special way you can imagine. Bronze, Silver and Gold Award Girl Scouts are recognized with:

- A certificate
- The Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award pin

Gold Award Girl Scouts will also be invited to attend and participate in our special, council-wide Award Celebration.



Basic Award Ceremony

TIP: Keep it Girl-led!

Remember that Girl Scouts includes learning by doing, cooperative learning, and girl-led activities into all that we do. It's always great to include girls in the planning and hosting of any special event or ceremony. Maybe troop members, camp friends, or other peers of the Award recipient would like to help plan!

Opening with Flag Ceremony - Younger troop members or other Girl Scouts lead a flag ceremony.

Promise and Law – You may incorporate the Girl Scout Promise and Law into the flag ceremony or incorporate a candlelight Promise & Law ceremony at another time during your celebration.

Welcome Message/Keynote speaker – Invite the project advisor, a mentor, or another special individual to speak. The welcome message may be very simple, or it may include a more detailed call to action or motivational message.

Invocation (optional) - If appropriate, invite a spiritual or religious person to lead an invocation. Please keep in mind that Girl Scouts is an inclusive organization and be respectful of all participants.

Introduction of the Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award Girl Scout(s) - You may want to offer a special seat to the Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award Girl Scout(s) and/or her guests. Include a personalized introduction of each recipient into the ceremony script.

Introduction of Honored Guests (optional) - If special guests are present, you may want to introduce them as well such as family members, Girl Scout staff or volunteers, local elected officials, etc.

Tip: Make it Virtual! – Having a virtual component to the award celebration is a wonderful way to share a girl's accomplishments with those who are not able to attend in-person but want to acknowledge her achievements!

Introduction or Definition of the Award – Explain the award merits and process to all guests. You may want to ask a previous Girl Scout who earned a highest award, troop members, another volunteer, or Girl Scout staff member, to share this.

Focus on the Recipient(s) - Have a person who knows the Bronze, Silver, or Gold Girl Scout speak about the girl's Girl Scout experience, her goals, or other basic biographical information.

Take Action Project Information – Invite the Silver or Gold Award project advisor (or another appropriate person) to talk about the specific Silver or Gold Award Take Action Project(s) being recognized.

Presentation of the Award – The Silver or Gold Award project advisor, parent/guardian, service unit manager, or Girl Scout staff member (etc.) presents the Silver or Gold Award pin to the award recipient. The Bronze Award may also be presented by Girl Scout leaders.

Acknowledgments from Recipient(s) (optional) - Invite award recipients to speak about their Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award experience and Take Action Project. They may also share encouragement or advice for younger Girl Scouts. (Please let recipients know ahead of time so they can prepare.)

Gold Award Challenge – For the Gold Award, you may want to present a “challenge” to award recipients. The following page contains challenge wording and additional information.

Congratulations and Closing Comments – Have a volunteer or troop member share additional congratulations and close the ceremony.

Closing Song (optional) - Words can be printed in the written program.

Closing Flag Ceremony - Younger troop members/other Girl Scouts.

Reception (optional) - Offer time for guests to visit. Provide refreshments or host a reception pot-luck style.

TIP: Plan, plan, plan, and plan some more!

TIP: Invite those who are in attendance to acknowledge the girl's achievements by signing a guest book or creating a kudoboard (<https://www.kudoboard.com>) for them to share their congratulations.

- Split up speaking roles for large groups or combine speaking parts for small groups.
- Substitute girls' own words and ideas for the ones printed here, when possible.
- Create visuals, use props, and decorate around a theme.
- Carry your theme through when making invitations.
- Props such as flowers, candles, flags, etc., add an element of fun to ceremonies and make them more attractive.
- In ceremonies that call for candle lighting, be especially careful. Small flashlights, battery-powered tea lights, or flowers can be substituted for candles for ceremonies with young girls.
- Plan some rehearsal time.



Sample Bronze Award Script Ideas

Speaker: The Girl Scout Bronze Award is an award that girls can earn, over and above badges and Journey awards. These awards are not earned easily, and the girls must make a commitment to themselves, their leaders, and their sister Girl Scouts to dedicate their time and effort in earning this award. We are very proud to have girls who will be receiving the Bronze Award tonight.

The Bronze Award is the highest award to be achieved by Junior Girl Scouts. To earn the Bronze Award girls must earn a Leadership Award and plan and carry out a Bronze Award project of at least 20 hours. Most of these girls have completed their projects as a group effort and in doing so have learned a little more about themselves, the world around them, and the impact they can have on others.

- Read troop project(s)
- Invite Troops forward that are receiving Bronze Awards.
- Bronze Recipients come up with leader & receive pins.

Speaker: Congratulations to our Bronze Award Girl Scouts!

Contact Us! To invite a staff representative or for additional support, please contact us via CustomerCare@sdgirlscouts.org. We're here to help, and we hope to hear from you!



Sample Silver Award Script Ideas

Welcome/Opening Comments - Silver Award:

Thank you for joining us here today. We're here to honor these exceptional girls for completing their Girl Scout Silver Award. The Silver Award is the highest award a Girl Scout Cadette can earn. These girls have shown they are committed to working toward the goals they set for themselves and improving the world around them. These girls have dedicated tremendous amounts of energy to discovering the needs in our communities, connecting with experts and volunteers and taking action to create true and meaningful change in our world. They are amazing leaders and we are glad you all can be here to celebrate their achievements.

Introduction of the Silver Award:

The Silver Award is the highest award a Girl Scout Cadette (grades 6-8) may earn. The Silver Award was first introduced in 1980 at the National Program Conferences, and requirements for the award were first found in the book "You Make the Difference: Handbook for Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts," published in June of that year. Silver Award Girl Scouts must earn the Bronze Award or a Leadership Award before beginning their Silver Award Take Action project. Then girls work either individually or in a small team to design and implement a project that solves a specific community need. While earning the Silver Award, girls connect with experts, community members and other Girl Scouts to create lasting change in her community. Silver Award Girl Scouts devote at least 50 hours to their projects and truly accomplish the Girl Scout mission of developing courage, confidence and character to make our world a better place.

While earning this award, girls explore possible careers, practice public speaking, improve communication skills, research and share their knowledge and gain practical life skills. Earning this award truly represents an incredible undertaking and a great learning experience.

Closing

Thank you and congratulations, Silver Award Girl Scout(s). We will now end with a closing song (include song title & words), followed by a closing flag ceremony. Then, we invite all participants to join us for refreshments. Thank you for being here and supporting these amazing young women along their Girl Scout journey.

Contact Us! To invite a staff representative or for additional support, please contact us via CustomerCare@sdgirlscouts.org. We're here to help, and we hope to hear from you!

Thank you to Girl Scouts of Maine for developing this Highest Awards Celebration Toolkit.