

## New Girl Award Transitional Information:

GSUSA has introduced new guidelines for the Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards. More information can be found on our website at: [www.girlscoutshh.org/girl\\_recognitions.php](http://www.girlscoutshh.org/girl_recognitions.php) Here is the simplified information:

### Bronze Award:

The Bronze Award was previously a troop award done at the troop level. This will stay the same. This means that it is overseen and approved by the Troop Leader. The first requirement for a Bronze Award project is to complete a Junior level Journey. Girls have the opportunity to earn this award when they are a registered Junior Girl Scout in grades 4 and 5. More information on the project requirements can be found on our website.

### Silver Award:

The Silver Award was previously a troop award done at the community level. It is now an individual or small group award done at the troop level. This means that it is overseen and approved by the Troop Leader and no more than 4 girls may work on a project. Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson **strongly** recommends working with a Silver Award Mentor during the Silver Award process. These are volunteers who have been trained by GSHH on the Silver Award requirements and have worked with girls on their Silver Award projects in the past. Girls have the opportunity to earn this award when they are a registered Cadette Girl Scout in grades 6-8. Final Reports can be submitted at any time after the girl finishes her project to the Middletown Regional Office or [silveraward@girlscoutshh.org](mailto:silveraward@girlscoutshh.org). All final reports must be received by September 30<sup>th</sup> following the completion of the girls' 8<sup>th</sup> grade year in order to earn the award. After September 30<sup>th</sup>, the girl has aged-out and can no longer earn the award.

### Gold Award:

The Gold Award was previously an individual award done at the council level. This will stay the same. Each girl is required to submit her own paperwork with an individual project. Each girl will work on the requirements before the project. Once she is ready to start her project, she will submit a Girl Scout Gold Award Application to the Middletown Regional Office or [goldaward@girlscoutshh.org](mailto:goldaward@girlscoutshh.org) to be scheduled for an interview with the committee at one of the five locations: Kingston, Middletown, New City, Pleasantville, or Poughkeepsie. After meeting with the committee, she will be assigned a Gold Award Mentor to assist her through the process. Once the project is complete, she will submit a Girl Scout Gold Award Final Report to the Middletown Regional Office or [goldaward@girlscoutshh.org](mailto:goldaward@girlscoutshh.org) to be scheduled for an interview with the committee. Girls have the opportunity to earn this award when they are registered Senior or Ambassador Girl Scout in grades 9-12. Girls can make an appointment any time after they finish their project. All girls must exit by September following the completion of the girls' 12<sup>th</sup> grade year in order to earn the award. After September, the girl has aged-out and can no longer earn the award. Please be sure to check submission deadlines for meeting with the committee on our website in order to plan accordingly.

Girls who have already started the award prior to March 2010 are "grandfathered" in and do not need to start over with the new process. These girls must be finished by December 2011 with the award. This includes meeting with the committee for the Gold Award. All girls starting the awards now must use the new guidelines. Please see the chart attached to this page if you have any questions.

### GSHH Council-Wide Ceremonies:

Silver Award Ceremony 2010: Girls must submit their final report to the Middletown Regional Office or [silveraward@girlscoutshh.org](mailto:silveraward@girlscoutshh.org) by September 30<sup>th</sup> in order to be invited to this ceremony in the fall.

Gold Award Ceremony 2011: Girls must exit with the committee in January 2011 in order to be invited to this ceremony in March. Please see below for information on how to meet with the committee for a certain month.

### Gold Award Submission Deadlines:

In order to meet with the committee for that month, paperwork needs to be received by the following date:

For Kingston, Middletown, and New City: 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month

For Pleasantville and Poughkeepsie: 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month