

# 2015 National Young Women of Distinction

## Information for GSGLA Applicants

*Please review this information before completing the application on the following page.*

1. **What is a National Young Woman of Distinction (NYWOD)?**

National Young Woman of Distinction is the designation, and special honor, conferred by Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) on ten Girl Scout Gold Award recipients whose final projects demonstrated extraordinary leadership, had a measurable and sustainable impact, and addressed a local challenge that related to a national and/or global issue.

2. **Who is eligible to apply for this honor?**

Any Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles (GSGLA) Girl Scout who completed her Girl Scout Gold Award from **March 1, 2014, to April 1, 2015.**

3. **How do I apply?**

The application can be found on the following page and on our website. *Be sure to include all of the requested documents when you submit the completed application.*

4. **What is the application deadline?**

All submissions wishing to be considered must be **received at [NYWOD@girlscoutsla.org](mailto:NYWOD@girlscoutsla.org) by 11:59pm on May 1, 2015.**

5. **Where do I submit my application?**

Applications **MUST** be submitted **by email** directly to:

Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles  
c/o Elizabeth Chadwick  
[NYWOD@girlscoutsla.org](mailto:NYWOD@girlscoutsla.org)

6. **What do I title my application file when I submit it?**

We would like all submissions to be submitted by email as an attachment using a Word document. Please title your attachment in the following way: First Initial.Last Name. NYWOD2015.doc  
EXAMPLE: **G.Scout.NYWOD2015.doc**

7. **What happens after I submit my application?**

GSGLA has a committee that reviews the applications received by the deadline, and selects up to **three** nominees. The council will work with the selected three girls to prepare their submissions as GSGLA nominations to GSUSA. During the selection process at GSUSA, a panel of corporate and community leaders will assist in choosing the ten NYWOD from the pool of national nominees.

8. **When will the council's (GSGLA) nominees be chosen?**

GSGLA will review submissions and select the *top three* applicants as our nominees for the NYWOD. These nominees will be forwarded to GSUSA May 15th. The council will notify all applicants of their status at that time. Please note: If you are chosen as one of the three GSGLA nominees, you will be asked to create/submit a one-minute video about your Gold Award project and complete an additional online registration form.

9. **How will the National Young Women of Distinction be recognized?**

Each National Young Woman of Distinction will receive:

- A \$5,000 academic scholarship made possible by the Kappa Delta Foundation
- A \$10,000 Distinction scholarship award from GSUSA
- Training in public speaking
- Recognition at an award ceremony held on October 7, 2015, in New York City or other destination(s) as indicated by GSUSA

- The opportunity to present a TED-talk-style live-stream presentation about her Gold Award project to a national audience during International Day of the Girl on October 8, 2015, in New York City
- The opportunity to be featured in a video that will be streamable on GSUSA's website, YouTube, and Facebook . A profile featured on GSUSA's Facebook page, blog, and other social media outlets

10. **Where can I find information on past Young Women of Distinction and their projects?** Please visit the highest awards homepage [www.girlscouts.org/program/highest\\_awards/](http://www.girlscouts.org/program/highest_awards/)

11. **What if I need more information?**

Please refer to the website. If you still have questions please email [NYWOD@girlscoutsla.org](mailto:NYWOD@girlscoutsla.org)

## **NATIONAL YOUNG WOMEN OF DISTINCTION REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS**

- If I am selected as a National Young Woman of Distinction I will agree to serve for one full year. I will also, to the best of my ability, make myself available on the dates requested by GSUSA, and I agree to do the following:
- Travel to New York City or other destinations as needed – all expenses paid for the girl by GSUSA
- Respond to public relations requests—e.g., telephone or in-person interviews, or written articles for newspapers, magazines, websites, etc.
- Provide written blog posts or news articles upon request (Note that all articles will be professionally edited)
- Serve as a representative for the national organization at speaking engagements and/or other Girl Scout-related events
- Sign and return, prior to award conference, all required documents, including photo/media release forms and W9 tax forms for disbursement of scholarship funds

# Application Form

Thank you for applying to be a National Young Woman of Distinction.

**IMPORTANT:** Your application *must* be submitted by EMAIL to Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles [NYWOD@girlscoutsla.org](mailto:NYWOD@girlscoutsla.org). Do NOT send your application to GSUSA, all applications must be submitted by the council. All submissions wishing to be considered must be received by 11:59pm on May 1, 2015.

## I. General Information

Name:		Age:	Grade/College Year:
Home Address:		Date of Birth:	
City:	State:	Zip:	Telephone:
Country:			
Mailing Address ( if different from above):			Email:
Date Gold Award project was completed (project is "completed" when council gives final approval):			
<p>Information on racial/ethnic background will be used by Girl Scouts of the USA to ensure a diverse representation when selecting the National Young Women of Distinction.</p> <p><i>Please check as many as apply:</i></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaskan Native  <input type="checkbox"/> Asian  <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American         </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Hawaiian or Pacific Islander  <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic  <input type="checkbox"/> White         </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____         </div> </div>			

## II. Gold Award Application Questions

1. How and why did you choose your project (explain how is it linked to a national and/or global issue)?
2. What was the impact of your project and how will that impact be sustained?
3. How has working on your project strengthened your leadership skills?

**NOTE:** Answer each question, each response should be no more than 200 words.

### III. Application Checklist (Be sure to keep a copy of all documents submitted for your own records.)

For an application to be considered, it must include:

- Completed application form
- Answers to Gold Award application questions (see section II above)
- Gold Award final report; you are encouraged to attach pictures
- Letter of recommendation (from outside Girl Scouting/family) such as your project advisor, project beneficiary or organization representative, etc. Please attach your letter as a **PDF** file in your email submission.

[NYWOD@girlscoutsla.org](mailto:NYWOD@girlscoutsla.org)