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## **PRESS RELEASE**

## FIFTY GOLD AWARD GIRL SCOUTS MARCH IN PASADENA TOURNAMENT OF ROSES® PARADE

Ambassador Girl Scout Ana Marie Acosta, 17, serves as 2014 Rose Queen

**PASADENA, CA, Dec. 20, 2013 –** Fifty Girl Scouts representing Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles (GSGLA) will usher in the new year on Jan. 1, 2014 by marching in the 2014 Pasadena Tournament of Roses® Parade as part of the event's prestigious Tournament Troop.

The young women are the 30th group of Gold Award Girl Scouts to be a part of the elite Tournament Troop, which also consists of Eagle Scouts from the San Gabriel Valley Council. In what has become a distinctive tradition, the Tournament Troop has the unique honor of carrying the banners announcing the award-winning floats through the 5.5-mile parade route. (Click here for the list of 2014 Tournament Troop Girl Scout members by city.)

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest award in Girl Scouts earned by girls who demonstrate impeccable leadership by leading impactful projects that address community or global issues in sustainable ways. These Gold Award Girl Scouts implemented projects that have local, national, and global impacts that spotlighted critical issues such as the needs of underprivileged children in Africa and here in the poorest areas of greater Los Angeles, emergency preparedness, afterschool programs, environmental and animal care awareness, and improvements to our schools and communities, just to name a few.

In 2013, a record-high 298 young women of the Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles council achieved the Gold Award, equaling a total of roughly 24,000 community service hours. The 2014 class of Gold Award Girl Scouts will be applauded in an official ceremony on June 8, 2014.

Ambassador Girl Scout Ana Marie Acosta, also a Gold Award recipient, will serve as the 96th Rose Queen. The Rose Queen and Royal Court were selected based upon a combination of qualities, including public speaking ability, poise, academic achievement, and community involvement. These are all qualities girls can gain while in Girl Scouts, the premier leadership organization for girls. Since 2009, three of the Rose Queens were Girl Scouts—and many others have served in the Rose Court.

"We look forward to honoring so many amazing girls for stepping up to make this world a better place," said Lise L. Luttgens, chief executive officer, Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles. "We are very proud of all of our girls who choose to 'Go Gold."

## **About Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles:**

Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles serves more than 40,000 girls in partnership with more than 23,000 volunteers throughout the diverse communities of Los Angeles County and parts of Kern, San Bernardino, and Ventura counties. The council's programs engage girls in the areas of Leadership, Arts & Culture, Business Smarts, Environment & Outdoor Adventure, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math), and Wellness & Healthy Living. To join, volunteer, reconnect, or support, visit <a href="https://www.girlscoutsLA.org">www.girlscoutsLA.org</a> or call 1-888-GSGLA-4-U.