

## 2013 National Young Women of Distinction Information for Applicants

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

- What is a National Young Woman of Distinction (NYWOD)?
   A National Young Woman of Distinction is the designation, and a 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 Scout who completed her Girl Scout Gold Award through Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania (GSHPA) between January 1, 2011 and August 1, 2012.
- 3. **How do I apply?** The application can be found on the following page. Be sure to include all of the requested documents when you submit the completed application.
- 4. What is the application deadline? All applications MUST either be postmarked or emailed to <a href="https://www.nywon.august18">nywon.august18</a>, 2012.
- 5. Where do I submit my application? Applications can be mailed to Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania, ATTN: NYWOD, 350 Hale Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17104, or emailed to <a href="https://www.nywod.ny
- 6. What happens after I submit my application? GSHPA will review the applications we receive, and select up to three nominees. GSHPA will submit our nominations to GSUSA. A panel of corporate and community leaders will assist GSUSA in choosing the ten NYWOD from the pool of nominees.
- 7. What if I belong to USAGSO? Overseas committee chairs will submit applications directly to USAGSO to select the nominees.
- 8. When will the nominees be chosen? GSHPA nominees will be chosen by August 31, 2012. We will submit our nominations to GSUSA by September 3, 2012. GSHPA will notify selected girls of their nominations via email after the nominations have been successfully sent to GSUSA.
- 9. How many girls can each council/USAGSO nominate? Each can nominate up to three girls.
- 10. How will the National Young Women of Distinction be recognized? Each NYWOD will receive an academic scholarship, and will be prominently and nationally recognized during a 2013 event. *Travel, food and lodging will be paid by GSUSA.* All NYWOD are expected to attend this event.
- 11. Will they have any specific responsibilities? All NYWOD are expected to attend the State of the Girl Summit. They also will serve as consultants to Girl Scouts of the USA, and may be asked to participate in speaking engagements, surveys, webinars and/or other Girl Scout-related activities.
- 12. Where can I find information on past Young Women of Distinction and their projects? Please visit the highest awards homepage http://www.girlscouts.org/program/highest\_awards/
- 13. What if I need more information? Please call 1.800.692.7816 or email <a href="NYWOD@gshpa.org">NYWOD@gshpa.org</a>.



## 2013 National Young Women of Distinction Application Form

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

IMPORTANT: Your application *must* be submitted directly to GSHPA—not to Girl Scouts of the USA. USAGSO applicants should submit their applications directly to their overseas committee chairs. *Applications must be* postmarked or emailed to <a href="MYWOD@gshpa.org">MYWOD@gshpa.org</a> by 5:00 p.m. on August 18, 2012. The mailing address is: Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania, Attn: NYWOD, 350 Hale Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17104.

## I. General Information

| Name:  |        |      | Age:                                  | Grade/College Year: |
|--|--------|------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
|  |        |      |                                       |                     |
| Home Address:  |        |      | Date of Birth: (Month/Day/Year)       |                     |
|  |        |      |                                       |                     |
| City:  | State: | Zip: | Telephone: (Please include area code) |                     |
|  |        |      |                                       |                     |
| Country:   |        |      |                                       |                     |
| Mailing Address ( if different from above):  |        |      | Email:                                |                     |
|  |        |      |                                       |                     |
| Date Gold Award project was completed (project is "completed" when council/overseas committee gives final approval):   |        |      |                                       |                     |
| Name of Overseas Committee (for USAGSO applicants only):   |        |      |                                       |                     |
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## **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 on a separate piece of paper. Each response should be no more than 200 words. Be sure every page includes (a) your name; (b) the name of our council: Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania, or overseas committee; and (c) the question number.

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 (with head shot photo attached)
- Answers to Gold Award application questions
- Gold Award final report
- Letter of recommendation (from outside Girl Scouting/family)