

THE LADY BADEN-POWELL AWARD

Purpose:

The purpose of the Lady Baden-Powell Award is to foster a friendly and productive long-term relationship between USA Girl Scouts Overseas (USAGSO) and the host nation World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) organization as they live together in a country other than the United States. By working toward a common goal, the Lady Baden-Powell award allows both USAGSO and the host nation WAGGGS organization members, the opportunity to use their leadership skills to make a tangible difference in the world.

Participation:

Girls and adult volunteers who would like to earn this award must be motivated by their desire to know individuals from a culture different from their own. The individual must be willing to commit herself/himself to attending a minimum of three separate activity meetings plus an award ceremony. Participation should be based on contacts between local host nation WAGGGS organization and USAGSO members over a period of time, not in a single activity, to foster sister Girl Guides/Girl Scouts friendships and understanding.

The Requirements:

- First thing first! Before you do anything else, be sure to form a Lady Baden-Powell Award Planning Group. This group should consist of both WAGGGS and USAGSO girl and adult members. At minimum, at least two co-leads (one adult member from USAGSO and one adult member from WAGGGS) are required.
- The Lady Baden-Powell Award may only be earned by registered USAGSO members with local host nation WAGGGS members while living overseas. The Award can be earned by any adult member and girl members at all program grade levels (Daisies through Ambassadors).
- A closeratio of hostnation and USAGSO girls should partnerto earn the award. By maintaining the same (or closeto the same) ratio between groups, girls are better able to partner with and interact with girls from the partner organization, fostering better relationships.
- Girl Guides and Girl Scouts will work in partnership to earn the award by creating planned events, which must include a minimum of three separate events/programs, plus a final award ceremony. Host country Girl Guides/Girl Scouts or USAGSO events can be modified to meet Lady Baden-Powell Award requirements, such as day camps, World Thinking Day events, WAGGGS camporees, etc.
- Girls and adults work together to create Discover, Connect and Take Action activities in each of the categories described below.

Activity Focus:

Complete activities in each of the following categories, keeping in mind that there should be a minimum of three separate events/programs.

Discover Self Through Culture and Crafts

Outcomes: Group learns about and reflects on the rich history of the traditional customs and culture on both side of the partnership as it pertains to the arts. They develop a strong sense of self as they explore their cultural identity and begin to make a connection between themselves and the world.

CULTURE: Girls choose a cultural activity that is important to them (history, art, tradition, dance, festival, etc.). Girls then teach the other girls about this cultural activity, share why this cultural activity is important, and how it makes them who they are.

CRAFTS: Girls select a craft representative of their culture. Girls share the craft, its cultural importance and/or history, and teach the other girls how to make it.

Connect With Others Through Communication and Camping

Outcomes: Group works cooperatively. Girls feel connected to their communities, locally and globally.

CAMP: Girls plan and participate in an event outdoors, such as a hike, cookout, campout, or a nature exploration where they explore native plants, animals or the environment. Length of time should be age appropriate and determined by girls and adults. Girls should teach each other specific outdoor skills unique to their Girl Scout or Girl Guide experience.

COMMUNICATION: Girls share what in their communities is important to them and why. Together, girls identify a problem or need that they would like to make better in their host nation community. If facing a language barrier, consider sharing ideas and feelings by creating a scrapbook, drawing pictures, sharing photos, etc.

Take Action in Your Host Nation Community

Outcomes: The group is able to identify community needs. They feel empowered to make a difference and they educate and inspire others to help in their cause.

COMMUNITY TAKE ACTION PROJECT: Based on what is important to them in their community, girls decide together to work on a project that helps solve a problem or reduces a need in the host nation community. The project should involve all of the girls and should be significant in length and impact.

Procedures for Earning the Award:

- The Lady Baden-Powell Award planning group should consist of both WAGGGS and USAGSO girl and adult members. This group should review these guidelines and the [online application](#).
- The Lady Baden-Powell Award is earned by USAGSO girls working with girls from a WAGGGS group and a minimum of two adult co-leads working with them (one from each of the two organizations).
- The Lady Baden-Powell Award planning group should submit the [online application](#) for approval at least one month before the date of the first proposed activity.
- The designated contact person on the application will receive an email response from USAGSO within 2-4 weeks from the date of application.
- Once approved, applicants may begin their planned activities to earn the award. Upon completion of all requirements, the Lady Baden-Powell Award planning group will submit the [online final report](#).
- The designated contact person on the final report will receive an email response from USAGSO within 2-4 weeks from the date of submission.
- Once approved, the designated contact person on the final report will also receive the group's award certificates and instructions on how to purchase girl patches/adult pins from the shop.

History/Background:

In 1959, Lady Baden-Powell visited Panama and created a Lady Baden-Powell Award to be earned by three groups: Las Muchachas Guías (Girl Guides of Panama), the International Girl Scouts of Panama, and the Canal Zone Girl Scouts of the USA. Lady Baden-Powell conceived the idea for an International Friendship Award based upon the 5 "C's" - Communication, Community, Camping, Crafts, and Culture. The award still bears her name today and is called the Lady Baden-Powell Award.

Las Muchachas Guías and USAGSO – Panama have given permission for this unique award to be shared with other Girl Guides and Girl Scouts around the world. This award exemplifies international friendship and encourages Girl Guides and Girl Scouts to work together in the spirit of Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting.

Today, in Lady Baden-Powell's honor, we continue to use the 5 "C's" in conjunction with the Girl Scout Leadership Experience's three keys to Leadership – Discover, Connect, and Take Action – as the foundation for the Lady Baden-Powell Award. With leadership as the focus, the Lady Baden-Powell Award strives to bring together USAGSO with their sister host nation WAGGGS organization to work together to **Discover** more about themselves and others, **Connect** to define and address a community issue, and **Take Action** to make a viable impact in that community.

The Award:

Each girl completing the requirements for the Lady Baden-Powell Award will receive a patch with the original design from Panama. The figure on the patch is a "huaca." People in Panama and pre-Columbian Indians consider the Golden Frog sacred and make golden clay figures known as huacas. Historically, huacas were revered objects along with holy springs and rocks where the water gods resided and considered petrified forms of heroes, temples and sanctuaries, ceramic objects, etc. The golden huacas were also items of adornment.



The girl patch is worn on the back of the uniform.

Today the Golden Frog is the national symbol of Panama, similar to the American Bald Eagle, and is also a symbol of conservation and environmental awareness. Andean cultures believe objects not only have a physical presence but two spirits. It is therefore very appropriate that two sister WAGGGS/USAGSO troops work together and share their experiences in the spirit of this award.

Each adult completing the requirements for the Lady Baden-Powell Award will receive an adult pin. The bar is a gold plated pin with the engraved initials, "LBP" above a photo of Lady Baden-Powell.



The adult pin is worn on the right side below the name tag.

The pin and the patches are ordered by the Lady Baden-Powell planning group through USAGSO, once the final report and order forms are submitted. Both Girl Guides and Girl Scouts can receive the award.

Linking the Lady Baden-Powell Award to the National Core Program:

Earning the Lady Baden-Powell Award is a great way to foster a life-long relationship between Girl Scouts and Girl Guides in your host nation. Along your path to earning this award, why not work on the following Girl Scout Badges and Journeys while you're at it? We think you'll find that the Badges and Journeys highlighted below complement each step of the Lady Baden-Powell Award requirements.

Culture and Crafts



Daisy Flower Garden Journey Award, Brownie Celebrating Community Badge, Brownie Potter Badge, Brownie A World of Girls Award, Junior Jeweler Badge, Cadette Finding Common Ground Badge and Cadette Book Artist Badge, USAGSO Origami Patch

Camp and Communication



Outdoor Badges for all Program Grade Levels, Outdoor Journeys for all Program Grade Levels, Leave No Trace/Environmental Stewardship Badges for all Program Grade Levels, Outdoor STEM/Citizen Science Journeys for Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors

Community



Journey Take Action Projects for all Program Grade Levels, My Promise My Faith Awards for all Program Grade Levels, Community Service Bar for Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors

Examples of Past Activities:

Discover Self Through Culture and Crafts

A Philippine Rondalla was performed by the Girl Scouts of the Philippines at International Friendship Day. A Rondalla is a native string band typical in the Philippines. It is best known for providing music for Philippine folk dances, fiestas, weddings and other civic/social functions.

In Saudi Arabia, girls visited a local camel farm and enjoyed a traditional Arabic meal in the desert. Many experienced riding a camel, holding falcons and seeing Saluki hunting dogs for the very first time! Girls also got to experience traditional Bedouin and Sword Dances.

At this event, the Sta Luiza Scouts invited the Terceira Girl Scouts to participate in a traditional mass ceremony. The girls joined an age-old procession led by the elderly community from the Spirit Houses waving palms to the church. The procession is steeped in tradition, taking place for centuries on the island.

In Cairo, the girls completed a project where they could slide a card through an envelope and show the different phases of the moon during Ramadan. This served as an educational as well as fun craft! Girls also created Ramadan Iftar greeting cards to give to friends.

Connect with Others Through Communication And Camping

The Apsan Fitness Trail in Korea has six stops along the way, equipped with rope bridges, climbing towers, swings and other sports equipment to challenge participants in balance, coordination, strength and agility. By completing the trail together, girls learned the importance of teamwork and cooperation!

After a briefing on outdoor/hiking safety, girls worked together to plan their day at Nasamsam Mountain in Seoul. For many girls, it was a rare treat to be outside, surrounded by nature and they decided to take advantage of the opportunity by planning lots of outdoor activities. Activities included compass navigation, a "scavenger hunt" for Korean bird/wildlife and native trees and plants, and a Korean craft project, ujeong weaving.

The local Bund der Pfadfinderinnen in Germany invited members of USAGSO – Bamberg to their annual camporee held at a local campingplatz. During the weekend event, USAGSO girls learned about pitching tents and the age-old sport of "wandern" (hiking) from the Pfadfinders and in return, the Bamberg Girl Scouts taught the German Guides about the Leave No Trace philosophy and s'mores!

Take Action in Your Host Nation Through Community

The American and Japanese Girl Scouts were on hand at the Okinawa Marathon to pass out water to runners. They (wo)maned the station at the 31.2 km mark. This marathon is an official event of the Japan Association of Athletics Federations (JAAF) with over 10,000 runners. The marathon helps the international and inter-cultural exchange between the Okinawans, the Japanese, the Americans and other foreign visitors. (www.okinawa-marathon.com)

The Korean people take great pride in their trees since many were lost during the Japanese occupation and plant more each year on Arbor Day. The Korean Girl Scouts and USAGSO-Daegu gathered on Camp Henry to replant trees transported from Camp Hialeah before its closure in August 2006. Four days later, they joined their sister Korean Girl Scouts in planting flowers near the Sincheon River in Daegu.