



2023 Girl Scout Humanitarian



Sophia Gledhill

Gold Award Girl Scout
Graduate of Quaker Valley High School
Gold Award Project: *Eco Brick Initiative*

For her Gold Award, Sophia created a website and held workshops which provided information concerning the global plastic crisis and a potential solution, the eco brick—a small water bottle filled with non-biodegradable plastic which is used as a building material.

As a student growing up during the height of environmental pollution, Sophia knew that she needed to make a change. Unfortunately, misinformation and general disinterest in the plastic pollution crisis amongst her peers and citizens worldwide has led to the continuation and exacerbation of plastic pollution.

Her workshops taught students at her high school how to create their own eco bricks, as well as how to reduce their personal environmental impact. Sophia created an eco brick bench containing over 6,000 plastic bags at a local basketball court in her community which further continues to educate people on plastic pollution.

Thanks to Girl Scouts, Sophia learned how to advocate for the things she believes in and how to create and accomplish her goals while being supported by her peers. Without Girl Scouts, Sophia would not be where she is today. Because of these skills, Sophia held many leadership positions at her high school in Mock Trial, Peer Jury, Student Council, Varsity Tennis, and Cultural Alliance.

Sophia would like to thank the people who have created opportunities to get her to this point, especially her family, her Girl Scout troop, her troop leaders, Sewickley Presbyterian Church, and her teachers. She would also like to thank Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania for awarding her this distinct honor. Currently, Sophia is working on her degrees in international & global studies and political science at Elon University. She hopes to one day earn a law degree and continue to help people across the globe.