



Girl Scout Gold Award | Project Proposal

Your Name: Chris GSOH

NOTE: BEFORE COMPLETING THIS FORM, CHECK WITH YOUR COUNCIL TO DETERMINE IF THEY REQUIRE GOLD AWARD TRAINING AND/OR ONLY ACCEPT APPLICATIONS ONLINE. IF YOUR APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE, PLEASE GO TO: [HTTPS://GOGOLD.GIRLSCOUTS.ORG](https://gogold.girlscouts.org).

Prior to starting your project, submit this proposal to:

Council Name: Ohio's Heartland

Street Address: 1700 WaterMark Drive

City: Columbus

State: OH

Zip Code: 43215

Email: highestawards@gsOH.org

Phone: (614)487-8101

NOTE: BE SURE TO SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL BY THE DATE ESTABLISHED BY YOUR COUNCIL

Your Name: Chris GSOH

Country: United States

Street Address: 123 Gold Award Lane

City: Mansfield

State: OH

Zip Code: 44907

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Age: 15

Grad Year: 2022

School: High School of Champions

Troop/Group Number: 123

Troop/Group Volunteer: Tammy Wharton

Troop/Group Volunteer's Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Girl Scout Gold Award Project Advisor: AOC

Project Advisor's organization: House Representative

Project Advisor's Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]



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Prerequisites: You must have either completed A) the Girl Scout Silver Award and one Senior or Ambassador Journey, or B) two Journeys. Please list the prerequisites you completed below and obtain your troop/group volunteer's signature.

Senior/Ambassador Journey	Date Completed	Troop/Group Leader Approval Date
1. Your Voice, Your World (English)	1/2021	

Girl Scout Silver Award Completion Date	2/1/2019
Council Where You Earned The Award	Ohio's Heartland
Troop/Group Leader Approval Date	

Your Team: List the names of individuals and organizations you plan to work with on your Gold Award project. This is a preliminary list that may grow over the course of your project.

Individual (if applicable)	Organization	How my team will help
Sarah Ries	WSSC	connecting me with female politicians
Person	DNC	workshops for potential political candidates
ACORN	ACORN	community organizing for female candidates
Steve	county board of elections	workshops on becoming a candidate
School Board President	School Board	all female mock government for students

Proposed Project Description



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Gold Award Title: Shatter the Ceiling

Proposed Start Date: 4/1/2021

Proposed Completion Date: 8/15/2022

The theme(s) my Gold Award will address is/are:

Civic Engagement

Education

Human Rights

Life Skills

My Gold Award aims to address this issue:

There are far fewer women holding elected office than men. In Ohio alone, only 27 out of 99 members of the House of Representatives are women, and only 7 of the 33 members of the Ohio Senate. In my city of Wooster, we have 9 city council members and only 2 are women. At the national level the problem is even more stark: Out of 100 elected senators, only 24 are currently women. In our nation's history there have only been 58 female senators altogether. The U.S. House of Representatives is made up of 119 women to 316 men.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 50.8% of the U.S. population is female. For women to be equally represented in government, we should have at least a 50/50 split in elected office, but as you can see from the statistics above, that is far from the case. Women deserve to be fully represented in matters of local, State, and National interests.

My Gold Award Project, Shatter the Ceiling, aims to increase the number of women both running for political office and winning their races.

The reason I selected my issue are:

I have always loved politics!

I believe women need and deserve a seat at the table when creating policies.

Government increasingly attempts to regulate women's bodies.

I want to see a female president in my lifetime.

Root Cause

The root cause of my issue is:

I have identified a number of root causes for the lack of women in elected office. Women are not taught to leverage their networks in the same way men are, many men won't vote for a woman because we are seen as "too emotional," many women growing up are told they could be president but don't have strong female politicians to look up to as role models, women are not encouraged to run for office by local or national party machinery, and possible future female politicians don't know where to start.

The root cause I will specifically address is the last one listed: that girls and women who are passionate about issues don't know how to get started in running for office.

I will address the root cause by:

I plan to work with the local DNC and RNC offices, as well as the Green Party and the local county election boards across the state to run a series of candidacy workshops aimed at women. These workshops will cover the basics of running for local offices, state offices, and national offices, including fundraising, networking, promoting, and details right down to filling the paperwork correctly.

I am also working with my local school board (confirmed) to put together an all-female mock government program that will be a safe and empowering place for politically curious students. I am currently networking with other school boards across Ohio to replicate the program with a plan for taking it to the Ohio Board of Education and asking them to implement it across the State.

Finally, I am working with the League of Women Voters and the Women's Centennial Suffrage Commission to produce and promote a series of PSAs about female politicians, their unique viewpoints, and how to get more information. These will reach women all across the state with the message that they can and should get into politics, and will direct women to the workshops we're running.

Target Audience

The target audience(s) for my Gold Award project is/are:

My target audience for the school program is female teens aged 14-18.

My target audience for the workshops is adult women aged 18-45.

The skills, knowledge, and/or attitudes my target audience will gain are:

The ability to fill out basic paperwork for adding themselves to a ballot.

What levels of local, state, and national government cover which areas of policy.

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What level of government is ideal for their interests.

How to stand out in a campaign.

Campaign fundraising basics, tips, and tricks.

Teens will learn how government works, how to propose new bills, and how to work across the aisle.

I will know that my audience has gained the desired skills/knowledge because:

After workshops, we will monitor the progress of attendees. We will track how many start a campaign within 2 years of the workshop, as well as their fundraising efforts.

Immediately after workshops we will provide mock paperwork for entering a local political race and have workshop attendees fill it out to ensure they have learned that skill.

We will also include a short survey about their area of interest and where they might consider elected office (i.e. school board, city council, etc.) to ensure they are aligning their interests with the right office. Skills for girls who take place in mock government will be seen in their working government. Each girl will hopefully have signed onto at least one bill passed by the body, and if not, will be able to explain why their bills were not passed by the entire group.

Proposed Impact-National and/or Global Link

My Gold Awards's national and/or global link is:

As identified in my issue description, this is not an issue that Ohio alone faces. Throughout the United States, women make up less of the elected bodies than they should. However, our nation can learn from other nations and cities. For instance, the city of Paris was recently fined for having too many women in top civil service positions in the city (11 out of 16 appointees were female).

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/12/16/world/europe/paris-too-many-women-fine.html>

Additionally, many other countries have had women in top positions, like Angela Merkel as the chancellor of Germany or Theresa May and Margaret Thatcher as Prime Minister in the United Kingdom. According to the Council on Foreign Relations, 66 countries have "at least one female head of state or government" since 1966 (<https://www.cfr.org/article/womens-power-index#chapter-title-0-2>). While the U.S. is one of 127 countries that have NOT achieved this goal, the numbers clearly show that it can be done.

We will analyze the lives and campaigns of the 66 women who have led a country to learn how they set themselves apart, and use the information we glean in our workshops.

Once the programs I've outlined show success, I already have buy-in from my partners to help spread these programs across the country to help women outside of Ohio work toward the same political gender parity.

Proposed Impact-Measurable Goals

Measurement of my project's success:

What my audience will learn/gain	How I will measure impact	When I will measure impact
My audience will learn to fill out the paperwork to get themselves on the ballot for elected office.	Workshop attendees will be asked to fill out mock paperwork during the workshop.	During the workshops.
My audience will gain confidence in running for office.	A survey sent out after workshops, asking attendees where they are in the process of running.	Suveys will be sent out at 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, and 12 months after workshop.
My audience will learn about gender disparity in politics.	Through workshop attendance, using sign-in sheets.	During workshops.
My audience will learn who to contact when they are interested in running for office.	Workshop attendance, since representatives of local parties will be present.	During workshops.
Teens will learn how political compromise happens.	New bills in mock government will only be passed with 60% voting yes.	At the end of the year of mock government, by counting how many bills are passed.
Teens will learn by political compromise is necessary.	By counting the number of bills passed as well as the number put forth by each "party."	At the end of the government session.

My Gold Award project goals are:

My goals are:

- At least 150 women take part in workshops
- 5% increase in female candidates running for local/state offices in 2022
- 40 girls participating in mock government

Proposed Impact-Sustainability

My Gold Award will be sustained beyond my involvement by:

While I hope to remain actively involved in this work for a long time, I recognize that circumstances may change. That is why I have already spoken with my community partners -- the school board, the League



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of Women Voters, the Wayne County BOE, the RNC and DNC local offices, and the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission -- to make sure they are willing to keep these programs running after my formal Gold Award has ended.

The LWV and WSCC have agreed to use their own funding to run the PSAs we will create through 2022. The LWV in Ohio has agreed that at the end of that time period, if we have seen projected workshop attendance of at least 150 women between April 2021 and December 2022, they will revise PSAs and continue to run them for another year. When I am wrapping up my Gold Award, we will review success and whether they will continue to edit and run PSAs beyond 2023.

Similarly, the Wayne County Board of Elections has agreed to continue working with the DNC and RNC to run the workshops as long as workshop attendance remains over 150 women per calendar year and/or if there is a measurable upward trend in female candidates (an increase of 5% or more) for 2022 elections. Each of my community partners has an analog in state and national positions, and plan to work during my project on a plan for furthering our reach at progressive levels based on the measured increase of female candidates.

Create Your Plan

I will put my plan into action by:

Date	Activity	Teammate(s) Needed	Resources Needed	Hours of Work
2/1/2021	Research	Contacts at each community org.	Computer	10.00
2/1/2021	Filling out proposal paperwork	None	Computer	3.00
2/1/2021	Submit Proposal	Myself, Project Advisor, Troop Leader	Computer	1.00
3/1/2021	Make proposal revisions based on feedback from committee	Myself	Committee feedback email, computer	2.00
3/1/2021	Resubmit proposal	Myself, Project	Computer	1.00



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		Advisor, Troop Leader		
4/1/2021	Proposal Approved, get started!	Myself	Approval email	1.00
4/1/2021	In-depth planning meeting x2	All	Computers, Zoom account	6.00
5/1/2021	Write workshop curriculum	DNC, RNC, BOE	Computers, research from around the world, Zoom	15.00
5/1/2021	Write and record PSAs	WSCC, LWV	Computers, audio recording studio time	7.00
6/1/2021	Get PSAs on air	WSCC, LWV	Written proposal for radio networks, phone, computer	5.00
6/1/2021	Practice Workshop Run-through	All!	Workshop space	4.00
6/1/2021	Write surveys for use in and after workshops	BOE, DNC, RNC	Computer, Zoom	5.00
7/1/2021	1st Workshop	All!	Workshop space, computer, printer, AV equipment for slideshow	4.00
7/1/2021	Write mock government structure and curriculum	School board president, government teach from high school	Computer, Zoom	20.00
8/1/2021	Send mock government material to local households	School principal	Computer	3.00
9/1/2021	Hold mock government elections	Government teacher, principal, school board	Unsure	5.00
9/1/2021	2nd workshop for adults	All!	Same as previous workshop.	4.00



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10/1/2021	Check in with govt teacher about mock government	Government teacher, Principal	Computer or phone	1.00
11/1/2021	3rd workshop for adults	All	Same as previous workshops	4.00
1/1/2022	4th workshop for adults	All	Same as previous	4.00
1/1/2022	Mock government check-in	Government teacher, principal	Computer or phone	1.00
2/1/2022	Send post-workshop surveys	None	Computer, formstack subscription	2.00
3/1/2022	Mock Government Check-in	Mock Gov't Advisor	Computer, zoom	1.00
3/1/2022	5th Workshop for adults	All	Same as previous	4.00
5/1/2022	6th workshop for adults	Same as before	Same as before	4.00
5/1/2022	Final Mock Gov't check-in	Mock gov't advisor	Zoom	1.00
6/1/2022	Gather data and info from mock gov't and adult workshops	All	Zoom, laptop, excel	5.00
6/1/2022	Create measurable impact report for partners	Myself	Computer	5.00
7/1/2022	Send program report to partners	myself	computer	1.00
7/1/2022	Follow-up meetings with program partners	All	Computer, Zoom, measurable impact report	6.00
8/1/2022	Reflect on project	Myself	Computer or notebook and pen, reports, notes from follow-up meeting	3.00
8/1/2022	Adapt programs for future	All	Reports, reflection	10.00



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8/1/2022	Final Report!	Myself	Computer, all notes and reports from project	2.00
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Total Hours: 150.00

Estimate your project expenses and how you plan to meet those costs (e.g., donations, cookie proceeds, money-earning project):

Item	Source of Funding	Amount
Printed materials	Girl Power Fund	\$400.00
Time in recording studio for PSAs	Fundraiser -- details in extra materials.	\$500.00
Zoom Subscription	Girl Power Fund	\$400.00
Room rental for workshops	Space donated by local library	\$0.00

Total Expenses: \$1300.00

The strengths, talents and skills I currently have and will put into action are:

- Project Management
- Public Speaking
- Budgeting
- Confidence
- Character
- Collaboration
- Community Building
- Implementation
- Presentation Skills



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- Research
- Problem Solving
- Organization

The skills I plan to develop as I work towards earning my Gold Award are:

Program Management -- I have never managed anything this scale before.

Fundraising

Leadership -- I will further develop my leadership skills by leading a team of professional adults.

Empowering others

Tell the World!

I will let others know about my Gold Award (the impact of my project, what the Gold Award is, and what I learned in earning it) by promoting via :

Note: This is NOT about your Gold Award's sustainability.

- Social Media
- Workshops
- Articles
- Public Demonstrations

Project Advisor Name:

Date of Validation:

Date of Proposal Submission: