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Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland Honors 2017-18 Gold Award Recipients

WICHITA, Kan. — Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland honored three new Girl Scout Gold Award recipients during the Recognition Breakfast and Annual Meeting on April 7, two awardees from South Central and one from Northwest Kansas.

Earning the Gold Award is one of the most challenging, exciting and rewarding experiences a Girl Scout can have and one of the most prestigious recognitions she'll accomplish. The Girl Scout Gold Award stands as the highest achievement a Girl Scout can earn, comparable to the Eagle Scout rank in Boy Scouts. The award recognizes girls in grades 9 through 12 who demonstrate extraordinary leadership through Take Action projects that have a sustainable impact in their communities and beyond. Girl Scout Gold Award recipients who join the armed forces enter one rank higher than other recruits, and they qualify for exclusive scholarships.

"Earning the Girl Scout Gold Award is truly a remarkable achievement, and the young women who earn this award exemplify leadership in all of its forms," said Liz Workman, chief executive officer of Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland. "They saw a need in their communities and around the world, and took action. Their extraordinary dedication, perseverance and leadership are making the world a better place."

Rachelle Lumpkins of Hays noticed a rising trend in children between the ages of 3-17 being diagnosed with ADHD. After researching methods and practices, she found that music therapy could help children with the disorder. She created a portable sound garden for preschools to utilize and include in the daily routines of children ages 2-4. The Hays Area Children's Center partnered with her on the project, where she provided musical instruments to interact with and raise cognitive functioning in those with ADHD.

Lumpkins, now in college, stresses the importance of this project on her development of key skills helping her today. "I have already stepped into leadership roles in college because of what I've been taught," said Lumpkins.

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About Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland

Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland serves more than 14,500 girls and adults in 80 Kansas counties through its operational headquarters in Wichita, Kan., and regional offices in Salina, Hays, Emporia and Garden City. Founded in 1912, Girl Scouts is the leading authority on girls' healthy development and is the pre-eminent leadership development organization for girls. Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place.



About the Girl Scout Gold Award

Since 1916, Girl Scouts have been making meaningful, sustainable change in their communities and around the world. The Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest honor a Girl Scout can earn, acknowledges the power behind each recipient's dedication to not only empowering and bettering herself, but also to making the world a better place for others. These young women are courageous leaders and visionary change makers. *They are our future, and it looks bright!*

