girl scouts
of eastern washington
and northern idaho

Annual Girl Scout Gold Award Celebration to be Held at Governor's Mansion
Four Local Girl Scouts to be recognized at May 31 reception

(Spokane, Wash−May 29, 2012): Four girls from the Girl Scouts Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho council will attend the annual Girl Scout Gold Award Celebration at the mansion of Washington state Governor Christine Gregoire, Thursday, May 31 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in Olympia, Wash.

May 31, 2012 has been officially proclaimed as Girl Scout Gold Award Day in Washington. This is the fourth year that Governor Gregoire has hosted the Gold Award event for Girl Scout recipients, their families and volunteers. The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest achievement in Girl Scouting. It recognizes girls who demonstrate extraordinary leadership through remarkable take-action projects that have sustainable impact in their communities and beyond. Each Gold Awardee spends more than a year on her project and although there are approximately one million Girl Scouts who have earned the Gold Award or its equivalent since 1916, only six percent of Girl Scouts earn their Gold Award each year.

Four Girl Scouts from the Girl Scouts Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho council have earned their Gold Award this past year and will be attending the May 31 reception along with 36 other Gold Award recipients from around the region. The GSEWNI delegation includes:

Rachelle Bradley, Spokane, WA, Project Title-*Building Confidence in Women*
Karissa Elliot, Spokane Valley, WA, Project Title-*Spreading Sunshine*
Courtney Grant, Pasco, WA, Project Title-*Pink Ribbon Ride for Hope*
Janelle Meier, Moscow, ID, Project Title-*Virgil Phillips Farm Educational Signs*

Governor Gregoire will be joined by Girl Scouts Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho CEO Pam Lund and the CEOs from Girl Scouts of Western Washington and Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington, who will be honoring girls from their respective councils.

"This annual event is a wonderful opportunity for the Girl Scouts who have achieved this highest honor to meet a woman and fellow Girl Scout who holds the state's highest office and who believes in fostering leadership and setting goals," said Lund. "It is a very special evening for Girl Scouts of all ages to come together and celebrate their achievements."

Governor Gregoire is a Girl Scout alumna and a strong supporter of the Girl Scout mission to build girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place.

About Girl Scouts Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho

This is the Centennial year for Girls Scouts and Girl Scouts USA has declared 2012 the *Year of the Girl,* with Centennial celebrations and campaigns held in our council region throughout the year. Girl Scouts Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho serves nearly 8,000 girls and 2,600 adult volunteers in a region encompassing 20 counties in central and eastern Washington and 10 counties in northern Idaho. Girl Scouts builds girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place. Girl Scouts Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho is committed to discovering, celebrating and fostering the leader in every girl. Follow and "like" us on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. For more information about the council and the many ways to be involved with Girl Scouts Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho visit www.gsewni.org.

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