



Other Awards and Special Recognitions

Venturing Leadership Award

The Venturing Leadership Award is presented by BSA local councils, areas, regions, and the National Council to Venturers, Advisors, committee members, and other adult leaders who have made exceptional contributions to Venturing and who exemplify the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Unlike the Summit, TRUST, Ranger, and Quest awards, this award cannot be directly earned. It is an award based on nominations for distinguished Venturing youth members and only the most exemplary Venturing leaders. Nominations are to be made on the official nomination form available at <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsourc/venturing/awards/leadership.aspx>.

Letters of recommendation are an important part of the nomination process. The person nominating should submit, in the addition to the nomination form, letters of recommendation from those in Scouting and in the community who have detailed knowledge of the candidate's contribution and values. A picture of the nominee should be submitted with the nomination form.

The qualifications to be considered for selection are:

- Be a registered member when nominated for the award.
- Hold a leadership position or an office at the unit, district, council, area, region, or national level (as appropriate for the level of the award presented).
- Show exceptional dedication and give outstanding leadership and service to Venturing and to Venturers for at least one year (on the level appropriate for the award).

Council Leadership Award recommendations are to be sent to the local council office. Area Leadership Award recommendations are to be sent to area Venturing staff advisors. Regional and national Leadership Award recommendations are to be sent to:

Boy Scouts of America
Regional Ops, S426
P.O. Box 152079
Irving, TX 75015-2079

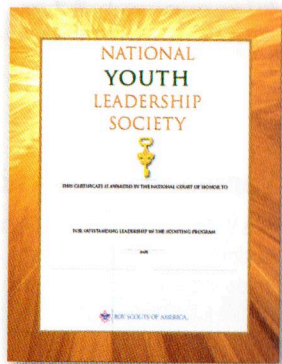
A limited number of awards can be presented in any calendar year. Councils may present four awards for Venturing youth and Venturing adults per year for up to 50 crews, and one additional award per year for each fraction of 25 crews above 50 (e.g., for 51 registered crews, a total of three awards may be presented; for 78 crews, four awards may be presented).



Areas, regions, and the National Council each may present eight awards per year. Visit with the crew Advisor to help nominate a youth who has rendered distinguished service to Venturing. At least 50 percent of the awardees must be Venturers.

National Youth Leadership Society

To recognize youth members of the BSA who have learned and practiced outstanding leadership skills—Scouting’s elite—the Boy Scouts of America has established a National Youth Leadership Society. Only those youths who have successfully completed qualifying leadership development courses and performed eligible leadership roles may be nominated for induction into the National Youth Leadership Society. This national honor is bestowed upon deserving youth members and only upon recommendation by the council, not from units or individuals. The nomination form is available at http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/Natl_Youth_Leadership_Society_512-354.pdf.



International Spirit Award

For youth and adult leaders, the International Spirit Award seeks to broaden knowledge of international Scouting and increase appreciation and awareness of different cultures and countries. The requirements and application form are available at http://www.scouting.org/filestore/international/pdf/130-044_WB.pdf.



Interpreter Strip

A Venturer wearing the interpreter strip must be able to carry on a conversation in a foreign language or in sign language, write a letter in the foreign language (not required for signing), and translate orally and in writing from one language to another.



World Conservation Award

The World Conservation Award provides an opportunity for individual Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, and Venturers to “think globally” and “act locally” to preserve and improve our environment. This program is designed to make youth members aware that all nations are closely related through natural resources and that we are interdependent with our world environment.



Hornaday Awards for Conservation

Conservation and the Boy Scouts of America have been partners for a long time. Camping, hiking, and respect for the outdoors are part of the Scouting heritage. Many former Venturers have become leaders in conserving the environment and protecting it from abuse. Right now Venturers are involved in learning about environmental problems and actively working to make a difference.

William T. Hornaday Unit Award

A Hornaday unit certificate is awarded to a pack, troop, team, or crew of five or more Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, or Venturers for a unique, substantial conservation project. At least 60 percent of the registered unit members must participate. These units may be nominated, or they may apply to their BSA local council for recognition.

William T. Hornaday Badge

The Hornaday badge is awarded, upon approval of the local council, to a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturer for outstanding service to conservation and environmental improvement. Applicants meeting all requirements receive a certificate and the William T. Hornaday badge.



William T. Hornaday Bronze or Silver Medal

These individual awards are granted by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America to a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturer for exceptional and distinguished service to conservation and environmental improvement. The silver medal, the most distinguished in Scouting for exceptional conservation service, will be awarded for clearly outstanding efforts in planning, leadership, execution of plans, involvement of others, and opportunities taken to help others learn about natural resource conservation and environmental improvement. The distinction between the bronze and silver medals is based primarily on the number and quality of the projects and their impact on the local community. The William T. Hornaday Awards Committee may award a bronze medal if the application does not meet the standard of exceptional service required for the silver medal. There is no limit on the number of bronze medals that may be awarded each year. Both awards include the medal (bronze or silver), a certificate, and an embroidered square knot.



William T. Hornaday Gold Certificate

This conservation award is granted to organizations or individuals by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Nominations are accepted from any recognized conservation or environmental protection organization. The organization or individual should have demonstrated leadership and a commitment to the education of youth on a regional, national, or international level reflecting the natural resource conservation and environmental improvement mission of the William T. Hornaday Awards program.

An extensive set of resources is available at <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsorce/Awards/HornadayAwards.aspx>

Nova and Supernova Awards

Venturers with an interest in STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) have exciting opportunities to explore those fields and work toward a Nova or Supernova award. From amazing experiments to awesome field trips, working with counselors and mentors makes this awards program bring to life concepts like projectiles, velocity, and force.

The Boy Scouts of America's Nova Awards program incorporates learning with cool activities and exposure to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venturers. The hope is that the requirements and activities for earning these awards stimulates interest in STEM-related fields and shows how science, technology, engineering, and mathematics apply to everyday living and the world around us. Counselors and mentors help bring this engaging, contemporary, and fun program to life for youth members.

The Nova Awards

There are four Nova awards for Venturers: Launch!, Power Up, Hang On!, and Numbers Don't Lie. Each award covers one component of STEM—science, technology, engineering, or mathematics.

For their first Nova award, Venturers earn the distinctive Nova award patch. After that, a Venturer can earn three more Nova awards, each one recognized with a separate pi (π) pin-on device that attaches to the patch. The patch and the three devices represent each of the four STEM topics—science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.



The Supernova Awards

The Supernova awards have more rigorous requirements than the Nova awards. The requirements and activities were designed to motivate youth and recognize more in-depth, advanced achievement in STEM-related activities.

Venturers may earn the Dr. Sally Ride Supernova Bronze Award, the Wright Brothers Supernova Silver Award, and the Dr. Albert Einstein Supernova Gold Award. For earning the Supernova award, Venturers receive a medal and certificate.

All requirements may be found in the Nova awards guidebooks, available through local Scout shops. The requirements can be completed with a parent or an adult leader as the counselor (for the Nova awards) or mentor (for the Supernova awards). Each guidebook includes a section for the counselor and mentor.

For more information and the full requirements, visit <http://www.scouting.org/stem.aspx>, <http://www.scouting.org/stem/awards/venturer.aspx>, and http://www.scouting.org/stem/Awards/Venturer_Supernova_Awards.aspx.

BSA Lifeguard

This award recognizes Boy Scouts and Venturers age 15 and older and adult volunteers who have successfully completed the BSA Lifeguard course and demonstrated the ability to perform each of the skills taught in the course. For more information, see http://www.scouting.org/scoutsorce/Awards_Central/Lifeguard.aspx.



Outdoor Ethics Action Award

The Outdoor Ethics Action Award challenges Venturers and Venturing Advisors to take affirmative steps to improve their outdoor skills—so that they can leave no trace and achieve the goals of the Outdoor Code.

SCOUTStrong Presidential Active Lifestyle Award

The SCOUTStrong Presidential Active Lifestyle Award challenges candidates to meet a daily activity goal of 30 minutes a day for adults and 60 minutes a day for young adults under 18 for at least five days a week, for six out of eight weeks.

Visit <http://www.scouting.org/scoutstrongpala.aspx> for more information.



Heroism and Merit Awards

Honor Medal

The Honor Medal may be awarded to a youth member or adult leader who has demonstrated unusual heroism and skill in saving or attempting to save a life at considerable risk to self.

Honor Medal With Crossed Palms

The Honor Medal with Crossed Palms may be awarded in exceptional cases to a youth member or adult leader who has demonstrated unusual heroism and extraordinary skill or resourcefulness in saving or attempting to save a life at extreme risk to self.



*Honor Medal
With Crossed Palms*



Medal of Merit

Medal of Merit

The Medal of Merit may be awarded to a youth member or adult leader who has performed some outstanding act of service of a rare or exceptional character that reflects an uncommon degree of concern for the well-being of others.

National Certificate of Merit

The National Certificate of Merit may be awarded to a youth member or adult leader who has performed a significant act of service that is deserving of special national recognition.

International Scouting Awards

Messengers of Peace

Messengers of Peace is a World Scout Committee initiative designed to promote and recognize service projects that contribute to world peace. The goal of Messengers of Peace is to inspire millions of young men and women throughout the world to work closer toward achieving peace. Using state-of-the-art social media, the initiative lets Scouts from around the world share what they have done and inspire fellow Scouts to undertake similar efforts in their own communities. The result is a mosaic of stories, data, and outcomes showing the impact of the Scouting movement—a tool for recruiting members, assuring parents, inspiring donors, and making existing members proud to be Scouts.



Messengers of Peace

More information can be found at <http://scoutmessengers.org/en/welcome/front>. The requirements are outlined at <http://www.scouting.org/sitecore/content/Home/International/messengersofpeace.aspx>.

Scouts of the World Award

The Scouts of the World Award is an initiative to help National Scout Organizations with their older youth programming by giving young people more opportunities to face the challenges of the future as identified by the Millennium Declaration unanimously adopted by the 189 member countries of the United Nations in 2000.

The Scouts of the World Award is granted to young people having successfully accomplished a “Scouts of the World Discovery” and a “Scouts of the World Voluntary Service.” This special award shows that a young person is aware of world issues (Scouts of the World Discovery) and has acquired through a voluntary service the necessary experience and skills to become a citizen of the world.

For details on how to achieve this recognition, visit <http://www.scout.org/node/6339>.

The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award (International Award Association)

Founded in 1956 in the United Kingdom by Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, the international Duke of Edinburgh’s Award is a noncompetitive, self-development program for youth ages 14 to 25. Dedicated to achievement in community service, physical fitness, special skills, and adventurous journey, the award aims to build self-esteem and promote character development within every participant. The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award is an exciting experience that cultivates and instills confidence and self-worth. Participants enjoy an unparalleled experience that hones their talents and skills and instills within them a crucial sense of belonging and achievement.

More information can be found at <http://www.intaward.org> and <http://www.usaward.org>. The requirements are outlined at <http://www.usaward.org/do-the-award/award-requirements>.

Other Awards of Interest to Venturers

Congressional Youth Award

The Congressional Award is the United States Congress' award for young Americans. It is nonpartisan, voluntary, and noncompetitive. The program is open to all 14- to 23-year-olds. Participants may earn Bronze, Silver, and Gold Congressional Award certificates and medals. Each level involves setting goals in four program areas: volunteer public service, personal development, physical fitness, and expedition/exploration. Earning the award is a fun and interesting way for participants to get more involved in something they already enjoy or something they would like to try for the first time. Participants move at their own pace, on their own or with friends. This is not an award for past accomplishments. Instead, participants are honored for achieving their own challenging goals.

More information can be found at <http://www.congressionalaward.org>. The requirements are outlined at <http://www.congressionalaward.org/youth/requirements.php>.

James M. Stewart Good Citizenship Award

This award has been established by the James M. Stewart Museum Foundation with the consent and cooperation of the Boy Scouts of America, Penn's Woods Council, and the family of James M. Stewart. Its purpose is to introduce Boy Scouts to the life of a great American, James Maitland Stewart. The Jimmy Stewart Museum offers this award to a Boy Scout or Scouter who has exemplified the characteristics necessary to live the life of a good citizen. To earn the award, Scouts are required to complete the Jimmy Stewart Museum quiz, write an essay of not less than 500 words, and do a good citizenship project in their community in honor of James M. Stewart.

More information can be found at <http://jimmy.org/citizenship-award>.

Religious Emblems

To encourage members to grow stronger in their faith, religious groups have developed religious emblems programs. The Boy Scouts of America has approved of these programs and allows the emblems to be worn on the official uniform. The various religious groups administer the programs. Check with your local council service center or contact the religious organization directly to obtain the curriculum booklets.

More information can be found at <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Awards/ReligiousAwards.aspx>.

The President's Volunteer Service Award

This volunteer awards program encourages United States citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of the United States through presidential recognition to live a life of service. More information can be found at <http://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov>.

Trail Awards

More than 200 trails have been approved for Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, Venturers, and family campers. The Boy Scouts of America strongly recommends that hikers use only historic trails that have been nationally approved. Trails that have not been approved often do not meet Scouting standards.

Each trail is different. They vary considerably in length, overnight accommodations, markings, terrain, and awards. This type of information is available from the contacts indicated, or from <http://scout-wire.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/Nationally-Approved-Historic-Trails>.

Many trail awards are offered across the nation. Venturers can do research to learn of any trails near the crew in their local area or in places where the Venturers may be visiting. Here are some examples:

- History of Scouting Trail—Washington, D.C., <http://historyofscoutingtrail.org/openhikes/livingstone-hike/>
- Gettysburg Heritage Trails—New Birth of Freedom Council, Pennsylvania, <http://newbirthoffreedom.org/gettysburg-heritage-trails-program/>
- Pea Ridge National Military Park Historic Trail—Westark Area Council, Arkansas, <http://www.nps.gov/peri/planyourvisit/scouts.htm>

