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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local Girls Featured at National Girl Scouts Change the World Event on October 9

*Aarohi Rastogi of Jamesville, NY, will serve as Girl Scout Silver Award Host/MC
Alexia Michitti of Vestal, NY, will be recognized as a national Girl Scout Gold Award Scholarship recipient*

Cicero, N.Y. (October 5, 2021) — Girl Scout Silver and Gold Awards are two of the highest honors girls can earn as part of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. The [Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways Council](#) is recognizing two of its Silver and Gold Award Girl Scouts who will take part in a national Girl Scouts Change the World virtual event this Saturday, October 9, in celebration of International Day of the Girl.

Jamesville-DeWitt Middle School eighth-grader **Aarohi Rastogi of Jamesville, NY**, will be recognized for earning her Girl Scout Silver Award and will serve as national Silver Award Host/MC at the event. Vestal High School graduate and current Ithaca College freshman **Alexia Michitti of Vestal, NY**, will be recognized for receiving her Girl Scout Gold Award and as a recipient of one of the inaugural national Girl Scouts of the USA Gold Award Scholarships.

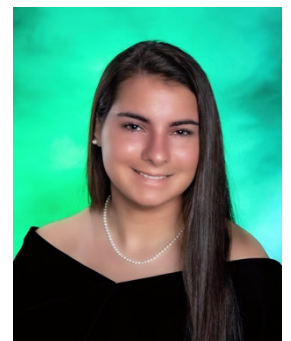
This special recognition will help both girls reach a broader audience while highlighting the lasting impact of their Silver and Gold Awards. As part of the awards process, girls engage in rigorous leadership as they tackle issues they're passionate about to create long-term, sustainable change. To earn either award, girls spend time researching and exploring the root cause of an issue and partner with the community to create lasting solutions.

“Through Girl Scouting, girls learn to face challenges head-on. They embrace failure as a learning opportunity and find solutions to social issues while building the skills and courage to take the lead every day. Earning their Silver or Gold Awards are just some of the amazing things girls can do in Girl Scouts. We could not be prouder of Aarohi and Alexia and their achievements,” says GSNYPENN CEO Julie Dale.



Aarohi's Silver Award project, Save the Animals Adoption Event, addressed a lack of education surrounding the benefits of adopting from and volunteering at animal shelters through a community partnership with Humane CNY. She created an adoption and volunteering campaign, raised funds and supplies through a bottle and can drive in her neighborhood and secured in-kind donations from a local pet shop. Through her event, eight canine and nine feline long-time shelter residents were finally adopted out, the animals were further socialized through their interactions with visitors and Humane CNY gained additional volunteers.

GSUSA's national Gold Award Scholarship recognizes one outstanding Gold Award Girl Scout per council whose project exemplifies the award's core standards. Alexia's project addressed the importance of character education and its use in our everyday lives. She created 13posiTV, an organization that helps spread positive messages through social media. She gathered a diverse team of people to create videos that address character education traits and connected them to real-life examples of hard work, determination, acceptance, skill, etc. The videos are being used at local elementary schools and are posted on a YouTube channel for global viewing. Alexia currently attends Ithaca College where she is studying sports media and is a member of the women's soccer team. She was awarded a total of \$2,000 thanks to sponsorship from Arconic Foundation and Kappa Delta Foundation.



To register for Girl Scouts Change the World, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/girl-scouts-change-the-world-registration-164879774845>.

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About Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways, Inc.

Girl Scouts is the preeminent leadership development organization for girls. We believe in the power of every girl to change the world. Our extraordinary journey began in 1912 when our Movement was founded by Juliette Gordon “Daisy” Low. Today, we continue the Girl Scout mission of building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

GSNYPENN is chartered by Girl Scouts of the USA to administer the Girl Scout program in 24 counties of New York and two in Pennsylvania. We offer every girl a chance to practice a lifetime of leadership, adventure and success. Girl Scouts serves girls in grades K-12. Annual membership is \$25. Financial assistance is available.

To start her adventure, visit gsnypenn.org/join. To become an adult volunteer, learn more at gsnypenn.org/volunteer. To help make Girl Scouting possible for girls in your community, visit gsnypenn.org/donate.