

# GSNYPENN Gold Award Final Report Rubric



To earn a Gold Award each category must score at least a “2” however all candidates are encouraged to submit the strongest and most comprehensive final report possible as scholarship recipients are determined using the Gold Award final report scores. Check your final report against the rubric before you submit and provide as much detail as you can. Scores are determined by adding up the eight individual scores from each category.

**1. National and/or Global Link** - The nominee explained how their project connects to an issue that is relevant beyond their own community, and ideally used research to inform the project itself.

<b>0</b> <b>Does not meet requirements</b>	<b>1</b> <b>Meets requirements marginally</b>	<b>2</b> <b>Meets requirements well</b>	<b>3</b> <b>Exceeds expectations</b>	<b>4</b> <b>Far exceeds expectations</b>
The nominee did not connect the project to a larger national and/or global issue. They did not convey research that helped to shape their project.	The nominee showed limited understanding of the connection between their project and a national and/or global issue. They demonstrated limited research on their issue.	The nominee specifically connected their project to a larger national and/or global issue. Their solution contributes to solving that problem.	The nominee specifically connected their project to a larger national and/or global issue. They have examined solutions to the same or similar problems in other communities or countries and used this research to inform their project.	The nominee connected their project to a larger national and/or global issue, used thorough research to inform their project, and has replicated or shared their project beyond their immediate community.

**2. Measurability/Impact** – The nominee demonstrated their impact through data and other information. They used numbers to say, “Here’s the change I planned to make, and here’s how I know I made it.”

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The project solution demonstrated little or no impact on the problem identified. The nominee may not have measured impact, or the impact was not meaningful.	The project solution had limited impact on the problem identified; or the nominee made a clear effort to explain the problem, but the project solutions does not match the problem well, or the impact is unclear.	The project solution successfully addressed the problem identified and the nominee explained how they measured their impact.	The project solution successfully addressed the problem identified for a significant number of individuals and/or to a significant degree. The nominee identified their success criteria and built them into their project planning.	The project successfully addressed the problem identified for a significant number of people to a significant degree. The nominee identified her success criteria and used data and analytics to demonstrate her project’s impact over time.

**3. Root Cause** – The nominee identified a root cause of their issue and addressed it through a well-constructed and researched project plan.

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The nominee did not identify a root cause of their issue. Their project addressed an immediate need with a short-term or one-off solution.	The nominee identified a root cause of their issue, but their project did not address it.	The nominee showed careful consideration of a root cause of a problem identified through a well-constructed approach.	The nominee presented a well-constructed and well-researched plan with careful attention to detail that described the problem, formed a well-reasoned solution that addressed a root cause, and executed on a plan to implement their solution.	The nominee presented a well-constructed and well-researched project plan that showed both careful attention to detail and creative thinking in addressing a root cause of her issue and the solution was especially innovative and/or the impact was profound. Their project may have addressed a new/underserved area.

**4. Resources** – The nominee used the resources (technical, natural/environmental, financial, social, subject matter experts/human, infrastructure, local organizations and more) available to her in a creative and effective way to increase their project’s reach or expand its impact.

<b>0 Does not meet the requirements</b>	<b>1 Meets requirements marginally</b>	<b>2 Meets Requirements Well</b>	<b>3 Exceeds Expectations</b>	<b>4 Far Exceeds Expectations</b>
The nominee did not describe the connect between their project and appropriate resources.	The nominee made limited use of available resources but there was some attempt to use available resources to enable or inform their work.	The nominee demonstrated a well-considered use of resources	The nominee demonstrated a well-considered use of resources and showed some innovation in finding or using resources in her project.	The nominee showed remarkable innovation or ingenuity in the use of their resources – making great use of existing resources or overcoming a significant lack of resources available to them.

**5. Sustainability** – The nominee’s project has continued to have an impact after they have completed their part.

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No plan was put in place to continue the project and the solution cannot be maintained following this project.	There may be some impact beyond her involvement, but it’s not very significant or solid. There may be a vague sustainability plan, but there is little evidence to back it up.	The project included a clear, thoughtful plan for sustainability.	The project has had a significant and lasting impact beyond her involvement.	The project has had a significant and lasting impact beyond their involvement, and that impact is strong and self-sustaining.

**6. Community Engagement** – The nominee exercised leadership by involving appropriate members of the community they served in their project.

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<p>The nominee did the project for their target audience. They did not engage appropriate members of the community in the solution, before, during, or after the project.</p>	<p>The nominee may have attempted to work with appropriate members of the community for their project, but it was not a core element of their project’s work. This project may have conveyed some benefit to the target audience, but it was not a partnership.</p>	<p>The nominee engaged appropriate members of the community before, during and after the project and they have demonstrated that their target audience is benefiting from their project.</p>	<p>The nominee engaged their community before, during, and after the project. There are demonstrated ways that appropriate community members are benefiting from and participating in her project.</p>	<p>The nominee engaged her community before, during, and after the project. There are demonstrated ways that appropriate community members are benefiting from and participating in their project. The community has taken their idea and replicated it or established it as an ongoing service.</p>

**7. Team Leadership** – The nominee led a team to accomplish their goals. They explained how they attracted people to help with their project, delegated the work, and managed their team.

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<p>The nominee did not lead a team or engage others to help with their project – the nominee did it by themselves or this project appears driven by an adult (parent, mentor, or existing organization that the nominee served.)</p>	<p>The nominee did not convey significant effort to engage a wider team from the community or the nominee led her project team with outsized support or direction (excessive help from an adult). Teamwork might have been limited to people from their immediate network performing only peripheral tasks, but it was not a functioning team.</p>	<p>The nominee recruited and led a team to complete their project. There is evidence that the team performed their assigned roles.</p>	<p>The nominee effectively led a team that included at least one expert, along with a diverse representation of skill sets. They sparked action within their larger community.</p>	<p>The nominee thoughtfully assembled and engaged a team with diverse skill sets and areas of expertise. They showed extraordinary effort in inspiring others outside of their immediate network to take action on their chosen issue.</p>

**8. Personal Growth and Development** – The nominee described the new skills they gained, qualities they learned about themselves, and how these discoveries will help them in the future.

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<p>The nominee did not describe or exhibit meaningful personal growth as a result of completing their project.</p>	<p>The nominee gave general/non-compelling examples of personal growth.</p>	<p>The nominee described how their project changed their experience or outlook, and there is some evidence that this development will continue.</p>	<p>The nominee was able to articulate the impact completing the Gold Award had on them, including skills gained, how the project helped them learn about themselves, and how these discoveries connect with their future plans.</p>	<p>The nominee expressed concrete examples of how they will apply lessons from their Gold Award in future endeavors. They have demonstrated ongoing civic engagement that is tied to or inspired by their project.</p>