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## Local Girls Awarded Gold Award, Scouts Highest Honor

Submitted by Yuka Akeru



Campolindo students Kenna Sherman and Iman Sigman were honored with their Girl Scout Gold Award. Photo Lori Sherman

In May, two girls in the Orinda/Moraga Service Unit earned their Girl Scout Gold Award. This year's recipients were Kenna Sherman, a junior at Campolindo High School and Iman Sigman, a senior at Campolindo High School. They were recognized on May 22 during an awards ceremony.

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest award that a Girl Scout may earn and is completed by a Senior or Ambassador Scout between the ages of 14 and 18. To earn the Gold Award, which some compare to the Boy Scout Eagle Award, the Scout must identify a Take Action Project that reaches beyond the Girl Scout organization and provides lasting benefit to the girl's larger community.

Kenna created a mentoring program at a local homeless shelter. For this program, teens from the Moraga area were paired with children at the shelter to become positive influences for the kids. Kenna trained her peers on how to work with children in less-fortunate situations. The team of mentors then went to the shelter for the first week of summer vacation in 2015. They exposed the kids to many activities, some of which they never would have been able to experience.

Iman worked with Loaves and Fishes, an organization based in Sacramento that tries to create a safe space for the homeless. Her project was designed to benefit the Mustard Seed School, which is an elementary school for homeless children in Sacramento where the rates of water-related accidents are incredibly high. Since many of the kids at this school did not have easy access to swim lessons, they were especially at risk. In 2015, she created a swim program for the summer program at Mustard Seed School. Since she is a swim coach, she thought she could do something to help. The program she created included games geared towards making kids more confident and able in the water and taught their summer team how to teach basic freestyle and backstroke. She also created a pamphlet for parents on how to keep their children safe around water.

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