**Court of Awards**

 **Sample Script**

Welcome! And thank you for coming to show your support and encouragement of

 Girl Scouts.
(Service Unit Name/Troop #)

*(Emcee(s) should include a short introduction of themselves here)*

Tonight/Today we gather for our annual Court of Awards. The purpose of the Court of Awards is to celebrate the achievements of the girls and recognize the support of our adult volunteers.

**OPENING FLAG CEREMONY**

In keeping with Girl Scout tradition, we will begin with a flag ceremony. Please stand as girls from

Troop # present the flag.

**Please stand for the presentation of the flag**

*If you have an “audience”, such as at an Investiture/Rededication Ceremony (parents, invited guests, etc.), this is the signal that the ceremony is about to start*.

**Girl Scouts Attention**

*This is the signal that the girls should be ready to start.*

**Color Guard Attention**

*If the Color Guard has been standing “At Ease”, it comes to “Attention”. It is also a signal to be ready*

*to start.*

**Color Guard Advance**

*Indoors - The Color Guard carries the flag(s) toward the front of the room and stands in front of the flag stands. Outdoors - the Color Guard carries the flag to the flagpole.*

**Color Guard, Post the Colors**

*Indoors - The Color Guard places the flags in the stands; the American Flag is last. Outdoors - the*

*Flag Bearer attaches the flag to the rope and quickly hoists the flag; the American flag is raised first.*

**Color Guard, Honor your Colors**

*The Color Guard salutes the Flag and then returns to “Attention.”*

**Join me in the Pledge of Allegiance**

*The Pledge of Allegiance, songs, poems, and Girl Scout Promise are done now.*

**Color Guard Dismissed** *The Color Guard walks to the back of the room, or away from the flag pole.*

**AWARDS CEREMONY**

We are about to begin the award presentation for tonight’s program. To start, I’d like to share a quote from Juliette Gordon Lowe, the founder of Girl Scouts. One time when she was awarding badges to a group of Girl Scouts, she said the following:

*Every badge you earn is tied to your motto, “be prepared.” Badges are not awards for something you have done once. They are not medals to wear on your uniform to show what a smart girl you are. A badge is a symbol that you have done something often enough and well enough to be prepared to give service in it. You wear the badge to let people know that you have earned it, and that you are proud of your accomplishments.*

As each troop presents its awards, please hold your applause until the entire troop has finished. Congratulations to all of you and remember that with each new badge, a Girl Scout takes on new responsibility—a little more is expected at home, at troop meetings, and in your community. Strive always to be worthy of the badges you have earned and wear them with pride.

***(Presentation of earned awards)***

**BRIDGING**

Another tradition in Girl Scouting is the bridging ceremony. As a girl finishes one level of Girl Scouting and moves on to the next level, she crosses a bridge. The bridge symbolizes a transition from one level to another. To make this transition easier, an older Girl Scout troop helps the girls across the bridge, by teaching the younger girls about the next level of Girl Scouting.

**BRIDGING DAISIES**

We’ll start the bridging ceremonies with the Girl Scout Daisies bridging to Girl Scout Brownies. The Girl Scout Brownie level came into being from the Brownies of England. They were named after a clever fairy in English folklore called the Brownie. The Brownie entered a home and did a good deed by helping people clean house. When you become Girl Scout Brownies, you become a helpful person, someone who thinks of more than just herself. Girl Scout Daisies will receive their membership disk, as well as the Bridge to Girl Scout Brownies Award. Girls complete a set of activities that reflect on the past year, as well as prepare them for their next journey in Girl Scouts.

 **Brownie Troop #** is here to help  **Daisy Troop #** cross over the bridge to become

Girl Scout Brownies. *(BRIDGING: Girls cross over the bridge)*

I now present **Brownie Troop #**

**BRIDGING BROWNIES**

Now the Girl Scout Brownies will bridge to Girl Scout Juniors. As Girl Scout Brownies, you have had fun, made friends, and learned new things. Now it’s time to look forward to becoming Girl Scout Juniors. As Girl Scout Juniors there are many activities that you can plan and do with your friends. These activities will help you learn more about yourself and what is important to you. You have your own talents and skills, and by using those talents and skills you can make a difference in your own life and in the lives of others. Girl Scout Brownies will receive their membership disk and either the Brownie Wings or a Bridge to Girl Scout Junior Award to commemorate their years and experiences as a Girl Scout Brownie.

**Junior Troop #** is here to help  **Brownie Troop #** cross over the bridge to Girl

Scout Juniors. *(BRIDGING: Girls cross over the bridge)*

I now present **Junior Troop #**

**BRIDGING JUNIORS**

Next, the Girl Scout Juniors will bridge to Girl Scout Cadettes and also recognize the girls that earned the Girl Scout Bronze Award. You have had a lot of fun and learned a great deal as Girl Scout

Juniors. Now that you are becoming Girl Scout Cadettes, opportunities for new achievements, relationships, and adventures await you. You will have more freedom and responsibility as you

create goals and plans to guide your activities. You will discover more about yourselves, further build your skills for independent living, go to new places, and meet many interesting people. In addition to the membership disk, bridging Girl Scouts will receive the Bridge to Girl Scout Cadette Award. Girls explore the activities and what it means to be a Girl Scout Cadette. Juniors can also earn the Girl Scout Bronze Award. The Girl Scout Bronze Award is the highest award a Girl Scout Junior can earn and is a leadership adventure where girls use their special skills and interests to take action. Girls spend a minimum of twenty-hours building their team and exploring their community to complete a take action project.

**Cadette Troop #** is here to help **Junior Troop #** cross over the bridge to Girl

Scout Cadettes. *(BRIDGING: Girls cross over the bridge)*

I now present **Cadette Troop #**

**BRIDGING CADETTES**

Next, the Girl Scout Cadettes will bridge to Girl Scout Seniors. Girl Scout Cadettes earn their membership disk and receive the Bridge to Girl Scout Senior Award to symbolize the completion of another Girl Scout experience. Cadettes may also receive the Girl Scout Silver Award. This award challenges girls to showcase themselves as organized, determined leaders who are dedicated to improving their community. Girls dedicate fifty hours to a project either in a small group or by themselves. Earning the Girl Scout Silver Award puts a girl among an exceptional group who have used their knowledge and leadership skills to make a difference in the world.

**Senior Troop #** is here to help  **Cadette Troop #** cross over the bridge to Girl

Scout Seniors. *(BRIDGING: Girls cross over the bridge)*

I now present **Senior Troop #**

**BRIDGING SENIORS**

Next, the Girl Scout Seniors will bridge to Girl Scout Ambassadors. Bridging Girl Scout Seniors receive their membership disk and the Bridge to Girl Scout Ambassador Award. In addition, at this level girls may earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest and most prestigious award that Girl

Scout Seniors and Ambassadors can earn. Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors devote eighty hours to identify an issue, investigate it thoroughly, build a team, create a plan, present the plan, gather feedback, take action, and educate and inspire others.

**Ambassador Troop #** is here to help **Senior Troop #** cross over the bridge to

Girl Scout Ambassadors. *(BRIDGING: Girls cross over the bridge)*

I now present **Ambassador Troop #**

**BRIDGING AMBASSADORS**

Next, the Girl Scout Ambassadors will bridge to Girl Scout Adults. Bridging Girl Scout Ambassadors receive their membership disk and the Bridge to Girl Scout Adult award. In addition, at this level girls may earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest and most prestigious award that Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors can earn. Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors devote eighty hours to identify an issue, investigate it thoroughly, build a team, create a plan, present the plan, gather feedback, take action, and educate and inspire others.

**Adult Mentors** are here to help  **Ambassor Troop #** cross over the bridge to Girl Scout Adults.

*(BRIDGING: Girls cross over the bridge)*

Congratulations to all the girls and their accomplishments this year.

 **ADULT RECOGNITION**

At this time, we would like to recognize the contribution that adults have made to Girl Scouts throughout the past year.

*[Present Service Unit awards and recognitions to adult volunteers and thank them for a great year. See the Court of Awards Ceremony Planning Information for more details about adult recognition. ]*

**PHOTO PRESENTATION**

And now for one of the favorite parts of our program- the photo presentation. Please enjoy this sample of some of the fun events the girls have been involved in this past year.

**SONG**

Girl Scouts, please stand and join in singing Make New Friends.

*(When all Girl Scouts are standing, please start them in singing)*

Make new friends but keep the old

One is silver and the other gold.

A circle is round, it has no end.

That's how long I want to be your friend.

 **CLOSING FLAG CEREMONY**

Please stand as girls from Troop # conduct the closing flag ceremony.

**Girl Scouts Attention**

*This is the signal that the girls should be ready to start.*

**Color Guard Attention**

*If the Color Guard has been standing “At Ease”, it comes to “Attention”. It is also a signal to be ready to start.*

**Color Guard Advance**

*Indoors - the Color Guard walks toward the front of the room and stands in front of the flag stands. Outdoors - the Color Guard walks to the flagpole*

**Would you all please join me in the singing of Taps (optional)**

*Singing Taps, poems, other songs, are done now, if desired.*

**Color Guard, Honor your Colors**

*The Color Guard salutes the Flag and then returns to “Attention”*

**Color Guard, Retire the Colors**

*Indoors - the Color Guard removes the flags from the stands, the American Flag first. Outdoors - the*

*Flag Bearer lowers the flag slowly and with dignity. The Color Bearers fold the flag(s).*

**Color Guard Dismissed**

*The Color Guard carries the flag to the back of the room, or carries the folded flag to an appropriate place.*

**CLOSING**

Thank you to everyone for attending tonight. It is wonderful to see so much support for the girls and everything they have accomplished this year. Please join us for refreshments in

and Early Bird Registration (if being offered).