



Barbara Ann Turner “Service from the Heart” Scholarship 2026 Application Packet



Girl Scouts of Southeast Florida is honored to award the “Service from the Heart” Scholarship in memory of Barbara Ann Turner, a dedicated volunteer. Barbara had many interests in her life, but nothing was as dear to her as the Girl Scouts. She served as a leader, council trainer, service unit manager, and women’s history committee member.

She shared her enthusiasm and commitment to the Girl Scout volunteer spirit in the many service projects she organized. Her wish was that an ongoing scholarship be established to recognize a local Girl Scout who has given exceptional service in her community.

This dream was realized when the first scholarship was awarded in 2008 for \$500.00 and thanks to the generosity of ongoing donations, the scholarship has increased to \$1,500.00. This is our first and longest-running scholarship opportunity and has inspired other donors.

The scholarship presentation will be made at the GSSEF Gold Award Ceremony on May 9, 2026. The scholarship recipient is expected to attend this event in person. The scholarship recipient and two guests are invited to attend the event for free. Additional guest tickets will be available online for purchase.

Donations are gratefully accepted and will help fund this scholarship for many years to come. Mail your tax-deductible donation made payable to: “Girl Scouts of Southeast Florida” with “Barbara Ann Turner Scholarship” in the memo line.

Application deadline is **April 6, 2026 at 11:59 p.m.**



Barbara Ann Turner “Service from the Heart” Scholarship

Thank you for your interest in the Barbara Ann Turner “Service from the Heart” Scholarship. This is awarded annually to a one GSSEF Girl Scout who has given exceptional volunteer service to her community.

Eligibility Qualifications:

- Be a currently registered member of Girl Scout in the Girl Scouts of Southeast Florida (GSSEF);
- Have maintained GSSEF membership for a minimum of 3 years;
- Be a current 11th or 12th Grader in the 25/26 academic year; and
- Has demonstrated commitment to community service with a minimum of 100 hours of service; with the majority of service dedicated to one organization in the local community.
- The recipient is expected to attend the ceremony on May 9, 2026 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Deerfield Beach Boca Raton, 100 Fairway Dr, Deerfield Beach, FL 33441 from 9 - 11:30 a.m.

Application Procedure:

- Submit a personal essay with the required information (see list below) and submit it to: customercare@gssef.org with subject line “Barbara Ann Turner Scholarship” by April 6, 2026 at 11:59 p.m.
 - Provide this information at the top of the essay page, a simple bulleted list in this order will be sufficient:
 - Applicant's full name, home address, cell phone number, and email address
 - Applicant's age, current school grade, and full name of High School
 - Applicant's total years as a Girl Scouts member
 - *For 12th graders only:* name of the college/university selected for attendance in the 25/26 academic year
 - Name of the organization where most of the volunteer service was performed, the organization's Mission Statement, and the organization's website address
 - Date range of volunteer service: Month/Year to Month/Year
 - Total number of hours of volunteer service for this organization
 - A brief description of the type of volunteer service performed
 - Essay, maximum of 500 words:
 - How you believe your primary organization provides a service to the community?
 - What did your service to the organization entail? Please be very specific.
 - Did you have any special training to perform this service? If yes, describe it.
 - What did the organization gain by your donation of service?
 - What did gain from your service and this experience?
 - How do you plan to use the scholarship money?
- Provide the Reference Form to 2 individuals who agree to support your application and return a letter of recommendation by April 6, 2026 at 11:59 p.m.

Fund Allocation and Distribution:

- Should the recipient be in 12th grade, planning to enter college/university in Fall 2026, the form will be provided in June 2026 and funding allocated in August/September 2026.
- Should the recipient be in 11th grade, planning to enter college/university in Fall 2027, the form will be provided in Summer 2027 and funding allocated in August/September 2027. Please keep GSSEF updated with preferred email contact information.
- Scholarship funds will be forwarded directly to the institution in the student's name.



Barbara Ann Turner “Service from the Heart” Scholarship 2026 Reference Form

Part 1: To be completed by applicant; and then given to the potential reference.

Reminder: Two references are required. Please make copies of this form.

Applicant Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

I am applying for the Girl Scouts of Southeast Florida’s Barbara Ann Turner “Service from the Heart” Scholarship, which is awarded to a local Girl Scout for giving exceptional service to her community. I would appreciate it if you would provide a reference for me using the following guidelines and describing my service to your organization.

Part 2: To be filled out by the reference person.

Thank you for supporting my application. Please submit answers to these questions (in a separate letter on organization stationary, preferred) and return to: customercare@gssef.org by **April 6, 2026 at 11:59 p.m., with this cover sheet.**

- Your name, title and contact information (or relationship to applicant)
- Name, address and mission of the organization
- How did this applicant give service to the organization? Please be specific
- During what dates was service given?
- How did her service benefit the organization?
- How well did the applicant perform her service duties for the organization?
- How do you believe she benefited from her service experience?
- Feel free to add additional comments about this applicant and the service she provided to the organization, that you would like us to consider.

Print Name: _____

Organization: _____

Title: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Thank you!