EMILIE MCCLYMONDS EARNS THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD

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Emilie McClymonds, of Amsterdam, was awarded the Girl Scout Gold Award on June 4.

The Gold Award is the highest award that can be earned in Girl Scouting and demonstrates exceptional leadership impacting sustainable change in the girl's community.

McClymond's Gold Award project was bringing music into the lives of children who otherwise would not have the opportunity. She started a program to give free piano lessons to youth at the Creative Connections Clubhouse on East Main Street in Amsterdam. She arranged to have the pianos tuned, got piano books donated, made flyers and solicited students, found other piano teachers besides herself, and started giving weekly lessons to the youth at the clubhouse. Although McClymonds stopped giving lessons herself in May, the program continues to be taught by other volunteer piano teachers. McClymonds encourages any other people willing to donate their time to help give lessons to please contact the Creative Connections Clubhouse.

McClymonds is a member of Girl Scout Troop 2316 in Amsterdam. She has been in scouting for 11 years, starting as a Brownie in second grade, and has earned her Bronze Award and Silver Award. She will graduate from Ballston Spa High School in June 2017 as a candidate for Full International Baccalaureate Diploma, earning a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation with Honors and a Mastery in Science, the US Presidential Academic Award, and the Seal of Biliteracy. While at Ballston Spa HS she was a member of the National Honor Society, the Art Club, and the Envirothon. She is a member of the 4-H Club and Venture Scout Crew 13, and plays piano, classical guitar and drums. She will attend SUNY ESF in Syracuse in the fall.



Photo submitted Emilie McClymonds holds up her certificate after receiving the Girl Scout Gold Award.

McClymonds would like to thank everyone who helped her earn her Gold Award and everyone who supported her in her 11 year journey in girl scouting that ended with the Gold Award.