



During the Oakland Girl Scout First Annual Gold Award Ceremony held on Sunday, June 1, 2008, VFW Post 5702 Commander Robert Talan presented Scouts Samantha Albala and Lauren Gibli with \$50.00 checks as well as certificates noting their accomplishments.

Samantha Albala is the first young woman from Oakland to earn the Gold Award. Lauren Gibli is the first girl from Franklin Lakes in the Oakland Service Unit to earn the Gold Award.

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest award that a Girl Scout fourteen to eighteen years of age may earn. To merit the award, the candidates must follow a program of seven steps that develops leadership skills, organizational skills as well as a sense of community. Included in the steps is the completion of a service project that provides lasting benefit to the community. Samantha's project was called Save the Arts and was devised to enhance art programs for the young. Lauren's project was entitled Think Pink and involved breast cancer awareness, as well as gift bags for cancer patients.

VFW Post 5702 congratulates these two exceptional young women for their achievement, and commends them for their character, commitment, hard work, leadership, and citizenship.
