

## **Congressional Award 2009 Gold Medal Program Book**

The program book consists of biographies from *every* Gold Medalist. As there are over 250 Gold Medalists every year, we have asked that you complete your biography for the program book. The biographies should follow the format listed below (**maximum 175 words**). Below is also a sample biography. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the biography, please contact the National Office at 202/226-0130 or [Gold@CongressionalAward.org](mailto:Gold@CongressionalAward.org). **If you do not submit a biography by the deadline, it will not be included in the program book.**

### **Biography Format**

Your Name

City, State

Advisor: Your Current Advisor

Affiliations: (4-H, AmeriCorps NCCC, Army, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, HOBY, Migrant Education, People to People International, State Council, etc.)

- Please complete two sentences regarding your Voluntary Public Service activities.
- Please complete two sentences regarding your Personal Development activities.
- Please complete two sentences regarding your Physical Fitness activities.
- Please complete two sentences regarding your Expedition/Exploration activities.
- You may add an additional sentence regarding your overall experience in the Congressional Award.

### **Sample Biography**

**John Smith**

Phoenix, AZ

Advisor: Jane Miller

Affiliation: (Boy Scouts, 4-H, Girl Scouts, etc.)

In earning his Congressional Award Gold Medal, John completed over 800 hours of Voluntary Public Service in his extended international communities. As the cultural liaison, he helped raise substantial funds and provided translations to support youth from underprivileged aboriginal descent to participate in cultural festivals. For Personal Development John learned to play Mozart's 'Sonate in C,' which he also performed at his school's recital. John also learned the basic skills and requirements for sailing and using row and motorboats. John's Physical Fitness goal was to decrease his time in running the mile, which he accomplished by exercising daily and completing different outdoor activities. John put on his hiking shoes for the Expedition portion of his Award. He planned and then executed a 50-mile hike to the summit of Mt. Whitney, where he camped and explored for nine days.

## **History of the Cannon Caucus Room**

Built in 1903, the Caucus Room in the Cannon House Office Building is an excellent example of the Beaux Arts style of architectural design. Grand, well-ordered, and richly detailed, the room provides a dignified environment in which important political meetings and social functions are held. The room is the oldest and among the largest assembly rooms built for the House of Representatives outside of the Capitol. Before the construction of the Caucus Room, caucuses and other meetings took place in cramped committee rooms in the Capitol.

The Cannon Caucus Room is the site of numerous dinners, receptions, and other events each year. Unlike its counterpart in the Russell Senate Office Building, this room does not host public hearings. One prominent event that took place in the Cannon Caucus Room date back to 1943 when 350 women were sworn in as members of the Women's Army Corps.

## **Group Picture Set Up**

On the day of the Ceremony, pictures of all 2009 Gold Medalists will be taken at the Capitol Reflecting Pool located west of 1<sup>st</sup> Street, NW, in between Maryland and Pennsylvania Avenues. A map has also been included for use.

The pictures will begin promptly at 12 NOON with the group picture and then partnership pictures. If you are affiliated with any of our sponsoring organizations, please listen for your group, as these pictures are sent to the sponsoring organizations and news outlets for press purposes. We understand that the middle of June in the middle of the day is not the ideal temperature to take a picture. We ask for your cooperation and patience as we try to capture your accomplishments with your fellow medalists in front of the Capitol.

The following groups will be included in group pictures (*not necessarily in this order*):

4-H

Air Force

American Red Cross

AmeriCorps\*NCCC

Boy Scouts of America

Boys and Girls Clubs of America

Civil Air Patrol

Girl Scouts of the USA

HOBY

Home school Students

Migrant Education Students

People to People International

Some states

St. Louis Irish Arts