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### **Florida Panhandle “Women of Distinction” announced**

TALLAHASSEE, FL – Each year the Girl Scout Council of the Florida Panhandle honors women from across the Florida Panhandle who have distinguished themselves through service in leadership on their respective communities.

This year’s honorees are women who have distinguished themselves through service and leadership in their respective community. These women of distinction represent the areas of arts, communications, education, environment, faith, health, social services, and government. GSCFP is also pleased to present this year’s Girl Scout Lifetime Achievement Pearl Award.

“The Awards Gala is truly an event to celebrate the women in our communities whose leadership and commitment enrich the lives of many,” said Raslean M. Allen, CEO of the GSCFP. “These women are providing role models in our communities which show girls the path to rise to positions of leadership and service in their community which continues to be an important part of Girl Scouting.”

Josephine Newton, of Tallahassee, is this year’s Girl Scout Lifetime Achievement Pearl Award recipient. Newton has been very instrumental in the Girl Scout movement in the greater Tallahassee area. She has taken two Girl Scout Troops to World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGS) Centers in Switzerland and Bermuda. Newton has also served as the

Serving the  
counties of:

Bay  
Calhoun  
Escambia  
Franklin  
Gadsden  
Gulf  
Holmes  
Jackson  
Jefferson  
Lafayette  
Leon  
Liberty  
Madison  
Okaloosa  
Santa Rosa  
Taylor  
Wakulla  
Walton  
Washington

GSCFP Board of Directors President, who oversaw the merger of two legacy councils; Girl Scouts of the Apalachee Bend and Girl Scouts of Northwest Florida.

In each category, honorees exhibit a great passion for their work and for their community.

GSCFP is pleased to announce the following honorees in their respective category.

- Arts, Culture, Humanities: Adrian Fogelin, Front Proch Library, Tallahassee
- Education: Dorothy Binger, Retired Educator, Tallahassee
- Youth, Social Services: Allison Tant Richard, Keys to Exceptional Youth Success, Tallahassee
- Environment, Architecture, Engineering, Real Estate, Construction: Sandy Beck, The Wild Classroom & St Francis Wildlife Association, Tallahassee
- Health, Fitness, Wellness: Paula Fortunas, TMH Foundation, Tallahassee
- Law: Kelly O'Keefe, Berger Singerman, Tallahassee
- Government Officials: Judge Nina Ashenafi Richardson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Court Leon County, Tallahassee
- PR, Advertising, Media, Technology: Mary Ellen Klas, The Miami Herald Tallahassee Bureau, Tallahassee

The 2011 Women of Distinction Awards Gala is November 3, 2011 at Hotel Duval, 415 N. Monroe St. Tallahassee, FL at 6:30 p.m. EST.

For sponsorship or ticket information please contact Holly Jones, Communications and Marketing Director, at 888-271-8778 or [hjones@gscfp.org](mailto:hjones@gscfp.org).

Girl Scouts of the USA are celebrating 100 Years of Girl Scouting on March 12, 2012 with the Year of the Girl. The Girl Scouts of the Florida Panhandle invites girls from kindergarten to twelfth grade, to join the adventure and empower themselves through courage, confidence and

character, to make the world a better place. Currently, the council serves 6,024 girls and 1,980 volunteers across 19 counties of the Florida Panhandle. To volunteer or join Girl Scouts, contact the local council office at 1-888-271-8778 or visit [www.gscfp.org](http://www.gscfp.org).

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