

# Messengers of Peace

## Program Overview

Launched in September 2011, Messengers of Peace is a global initiative designed to inspire millions of young men and women in more than 220 countries and territories to work toward peace. The initiative is inspired by the World Scout Committee, administered by the World Scout Bureau, and driven by youth volunteers worldwide.

## Recognition Item

Any Scout or Scouter who participates in a qualifying service project is eligible to wear a Messengers of Peace ring patch around the World Crest on his or her uniform. To buy the ring patch, a unit representative must take the unit certificate to the local Scout shop or council service center. You earn the Messengers of Peace recognition more than once, but can only wear one ring patch.

**Note: Even though the unit earns the certificate, only those who participate in a Messengers of Peace project are eligible to receive the ring patch.**

## Defining Peace

The Messengers of Peace initiative encompasses three dimensions:

1. The personal dimension: harmony, justice, and equality
2. The community dimension: peace as opposed to hostility or violent conflict
3. Relationships between humankind and its environment: security, social and economic welfare, and relationship with the environment

Any Scout or Scouter who participates in a service project that has had a significant impact on the community in any one of the three dimensions above can qualify as a Messenger of Peace.

Any project that has a significant impact on the community in any one of the three dimensions above would qualify, as long as it is undertaken within a Scouting context that impacts peace (as defined above). Messengers of Peace projects include unit-level service projects, William T. Hornaday Award service projects, Eagle Scout service projects, Scouting for Food and Feed My Starving Children when done as a Scout event.

**Note it doesn't have to be international. It only has to meet the criteria stated in one of the three dimensions.**

## How do we know if our project qualifies?

It qualifies if it meets the definition of peace given above and was done in a Scouting context. No one beyond the unit level has to approve a project's Messengers of Peace status.

## What about projects Scouts do through schools or religious institutions?

Messengers of Peace is only designed to recognize projects undertaken through Scouting. Many service projects may involve or benefit other organizations, which is fine, but there must be a Scouting connection.

## What about Girl Scout projects?

BSA members who participate in a **project organized or sponsored by the Girl Scouts** that meets the Messengers of Peace definition above are eligible to receive Messengers of Peace recognition.



# Submitting Projects

## How do I submit a Messengers of Peace project?

To designate a Messengers of Peace project, simply select Messengers of Peace as the partner organization when entering a service project through the Journey to Excellence website ([www.scouting.org/Awards/JourneyToExcellence](http://www.scouting.org/Awards/JourneyToExcellence)).

Doing so will add the project to the map on the Messengers of Peace website (<http://scoutmessengers.com>) and will generate a unit certificate.

## I haven't submitted a Journey to Excellence project before. How does the process work?

Follow these steps:

1. Go to [www.scouting.org/Awards/JourneyToExcellence](http://www.scouting.org/Awards/JourneyToExcellence) and click on the "Service Hours Website" link. (Volunteers with a MyScouting account can also reach the Journey to Excellence service hour website by clicking on the "Service Hours" link on the left side of the screen in the "Unit Tools" section.)
2. If you have login information, enter it now. Otherwise, click the "New Users Click Here" link to create an account. Note that you will need your unit ID (five to 11 digits) and your unit number four digits, no letters), which you can get by calling your council service center.
3. Once you've logged in, enter the following information:
  - Date of the project
  - Number of registered Scouts participating
  - Number of non-Scouts (brothers, sisters, friends)
  - Number of adult leaders participating
  - Number of other adults participating
  - Total hours worked (number of workers times the number of hours they worked)
  - Organizations that joined you on the project
  - Who or what organization benefited from the project
  - Number of items collected (if applicable)
4. Select "Messengers of Peace" as the partner organization.
5. Click the "Submit" button. When you submit your information, you will be asked whether you have any additional projects to record. To print a certificate, click "Print Certificate."

## Where can I get information on planning and conducting service projects?

See "Journey to Excellence Service Projects—Unit Tips for Success" at <http://www.scouting.org/sitecore/content/Home/International/messengersofpeace/ServiceProjectIdeas.aspx>

## For more information

<http://www.scouting.org/sitecore/content/Home/International/messengersofpeace/FactSheet.aspx>