



Northern Star Council

Diversity Award: Purpose and Requirements

Northern Star Council's Definition of Diversity:

The existence of human differences (including but not limited to) race, culture, religion, gender, language, family status, economic status, physical and cognitive ability) which affect our relationships, institutions, and interactions with others.

The symbol on the Diversity Award patch is the mythical Sankofa bird of West Africa. The Sankofa teaches us that we must go back to our roots in order to move forward. That is, we should reach back and gather the best of what our past has to teach us, so that we can achieve our full potential as we move forward. Whatever we have lost, forgotten, can be reclaimed, revived, preserved, and perpetuated.

The Diversity Award was created to strengthen inclusiveness and create cultural awareness and understanding.

There are six different program levels of the Diversity Award:

Cub Scouts and Webelos
Scouts BSA under the age of 14
Scouts BSA age 14 and older

Venturers / Sea Scouts
Explorers
Adults

NOTE: Scout may earn the award at each level as they proceed through the Scouting program. Each level of the award requires that you submit a journal of the activities you did to earn this award as well as a summary of what you learned while earning this award. If you have questions, contact info@northernstar.org or bthielen@northernstar.org.

Recognition: The requirements for each Diversity Award are specific to each Scouting program level. The award for Cub Scouts, Venturers, Sea Scouts, and their adult leaders is a temporary patch which may be worn on the right pocket of a Scout uniform. A single patch design is earned for all levels, and different colored borders and program designations are used to distinguish each program level. The cost of each patch is \$2.00.

Exploring: The recognition for Explorers and Exploring leaders is a full color certificate of achievement. The cost of each certificate is \$2.00.

Each program area has a requirement to research family ancestry. We encourage you to use your own ancestry, that of family members, or of a close friend.

If you have questions regarding the award or requirements, please contact Bob Thielen at bthielen@northernstar.org.



Scouts BSA under age 14:

Diversity Award Requirements and Application

Applicant's Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

Troop #: _____

Date of Application: _____

Requirements:

- ☐ Complete one of the following Merit Badges:
 - ☐ American Cultures – Date Earned _____
 - ☐ Disabilities Awareness - Date Earned _____
- ☐ Complete your Ancestry family tree going back three to four generations. Each program area has a requirement to research family ancestry. We encourage you to use your own ancestry, that of family members, or of a close friend. (This must be shown to the Scoutmaster, but not submitted with this application.)
- ☐ Complete **one** of the following research activities:
 - ☐ Research the cultural impact of sports from a different culture on U.S. sports.
 - ☐ Research the cultural impact of music from a different culture on U.S. music.
 - ☐ Research the cultural impact of art from a different culture on U.S. art.
 - ☐ Research the cultural impact of food from a different culture on U.S. food.
- ☐ Submit a journal of the activities you did to earn this award to your troop leader.
- ☐ Submit a written summary of what you learned while earning this award to your troop leader.

Unit Leader Sign Off: _____



Instructions for receiving your award:

- ☐ Review the program level of the Diversity Award that you are applying for to ensure all requirements are completed.
- ☐ Provide documentation to the Unit Leader as indicated by the requirements for your award level.
- ☐ Obtain the required signature of your Unit Leader.
- ☐ Return the completed form for the award to:

Northern Star Scouting – Diversity Award
Attn: Riley Firman
6202 Bloomington Road, Fort Snelling, MN 55111

Upon receipt of the completed application, we will send you an email with a link to pay \$2.00 for each award earned. When payment is received, the awards will be mailed to you. Please provide the correct email address and mailing address on the award form to ensure we get the award to you.

Please call 612-261-2370 with questions.

Congratulations and thank you for completing the Northern Star Scouting Diversity Award!