

PRESS RELEASE

88 young men and women receive the highest award in Scouting at the BSA Catalina Council annual recognition dinner

Scouts and supporters of the BSA Catalina Council gathered to celebrate this group of young individuals who advanced to a rank that only about 3% of all scouts achieve, dedicating over 14,000 hours to service projects for 90 different beneficiaries.



BSA Catalina Council Eagle Scouts, Class of 2021-2022

TUCSON, ARIZONA – **Date** – Nearly 150 scouts and supporters gathered at La Mariposa Resort last month for the BSA Catalina Council annual recognition dinner where 88 new Eagle Scouts were recognized and awarded for their achievements. Only about 3% of all scouts advance to the Eagle Scout rank, the highest award in Scouting, which is recognized by employers, colleges, scholarship committees and service academies as a premier youth leadership credential. Each of these Eagles were required to complete a capstone leadership project that benefited a local charity, school, or church. These scouts dedicated over 14,000 hours to service projects for 90 different beneficiaries and engaged almost 2,000 volunteers. Five of the Eagle Scouts walked away with cash prizes or scholarship money for their work in the community.

The award winners for Outstanding Eagle Scout Service Project, Ravindu Vitanachchi, Cutter Papitz and Annamaria Pongratz, each won a cash prize. Jordan Orvik and Andrew Dalman, recipients of the Kasser Family Eagle Scholarship, each received an award of \$1,000 to apply toward university, trade or technical school. "I'm so delighted to support these incredible young people," said Beth Kasser. Orvik has been involved in scouting for ten years and plans to study computer science at the University of Arizona. Dalman joined Cub Scouts at age 5 and completed his Eagle rank at age 13; he aims to study STEM or business at a technical college.

“The road to Eagle Scout is not an easy one, and we are delighted to honor these young women and men,” said BSA Catalina Council Scout Executive/CEO Jeff Hotchkiss. “They have demonstrated not only a commitment to Scouting but to the community in which they live. Their Eagle Service Projects help many and are making a difference in our communities.”

The Catalina Council of BSA has been serving youth in Southern Arizona for over 100 years and offers development programs for young people from Kindergarten to age 21. For additional information, visit catalinacouncil.org or contact Jeff Hotchkiss at jeff.hotchkiss@scouting.org.

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