



Amanda Johnson

Raytown, MO

The Dance of Diversity

Amanda Johnson was a Girl Scout for 12 years as a member of Troop 779 in Service Unit 640. She is currently a freshman at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University.

Amanda's Gold Award project addressed the issue of social exclusion and the lack of embracing diversity in our society. She hoped that through her Gold Award project, she would inspire kids to become more culturally aware of their community and to explore their own culture. To do this, she held dance workshops where she not only had instructors teaching the choreography, but also the history and cultural relevance within the dance styles. She invited youth of diversity to attend the workshops, learning from the instructors as well as each other.

Amanda worked with League of Lifestyles to record her workshops. From their footage, Amanda created a YouTube video so that others may learn from her project. In surveying the participants, she found that attendees left more aware and accepting of other cultures than when they arrived. Because of her Gold Award project, Amanda found her passion for social justice and advocacy for social inclusion and diversity.