



Isabella Barnes

Kansas City, Missouri



## Liftoff!

Isabella Barnes has been a Girl Scout for 13 years and is in Troop 2091 in Service Unit 620. She is currently a senior at Pembroke Hill High School.

**Isabella's Gold Award project** addressed lack of literacy and emphasis on fostering the love of learning in at-risk communities in Kansas City. Prior to the sessions, children would spend time on their phones during Harvesters-sponsored **Kid's Café, only to return** to their computers after their meals. After observing a **few sessions of Kid's Café in the summer of 2016**, Isabella realized that their time could be put to better use, and could be a catalyst for change.

Isabella worked with the Bluford Branch of the Kansas City Public Library **and the Kid's Café to plan and** execute the interdisciplinary literacy outreach program using arts-based curriculum. These bi-monthly sessions will continue to happen and Isabella is currently training another youth facilitator!

**Because of Girl Scouts...I am** empowered to enact change in my community.