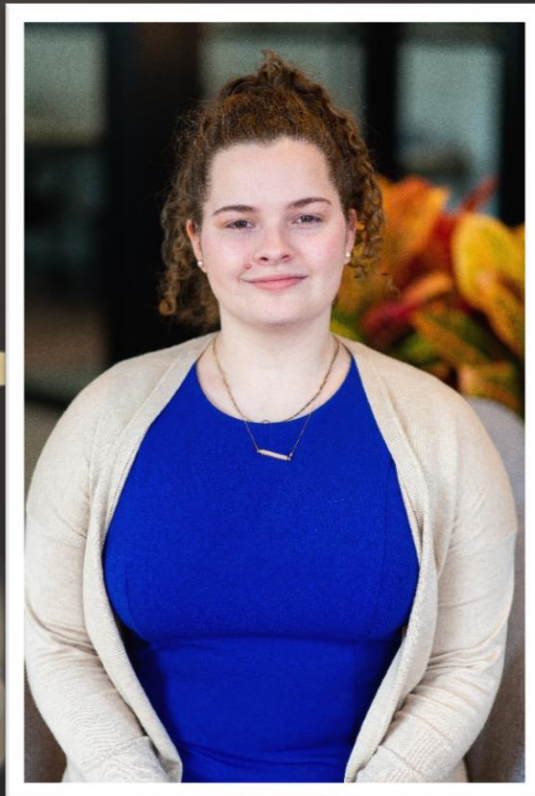




## Cecilia Talley

Lenexa, KS



## *Fueling Musical Imagination*

Cecilia Talley has been a Girl Scout for 13 years as a member of Troop 1925 in Service Unit 637. She is currently a senior at Shawnee Mission Northwest High School.

Cecilia's Gold Award project addressed the need for wider access to early arts education for young children in her community. By developing PVC marimbas, Cecilia was able to let children express their creativity through music without the traditional risks associated with providing children with expensive, fragile instruments. The PVC instruments are durable and inspire creativity as the children can use them freely.

Cecilia worked with the Lenexa Arts Council, the Kansas City Symphony and volunteers to put instruments into the hands of children. Learning to express emotions through music is a skill that can be valuable as a stress reliever and communication tool. It is also a tool that inspires creativity and encourages students to think outside the box at a young age. The instruments will be used long into the future as they were made for durability and provided to educational facilities. Thanks to her work, young students can look forward to years of inspiring music education for years to come.

**Because of Girl Scouts... I have learned the true value of hard work, especially when seeing others enjoy it.**