



# Celebrate Gold



## Ghada Bishtawi

Olathe, KS

### Muslim Student Association

Ghada has been a Girl Scout for 11 years in Troop 4162 in Service Unit 672. She is currently a senior at Olathe Northwest High School and plans to attend the University of Kansas to study Biochemistry after graduation.

As a student at Olathe Northwest, Ghada identified a need for greater diversity and representation among her classmates. Some of her peers reported that they felt that their school may not be a safe place for them to flourish as a minority. Ghada addressed this need by creating the Muslim Student Association, a club where Muslim students and others could learn about different cultures and religions. Club attendance continues to grow, and the members are working on creating a prayer room at the school for Muslim students to pray.

Ghada has worked with club members to form a board and officers, so the club can continue on after her graduation. She has also connected her club with the National Muslim Student Association Network to continue to increase participation. The group also looks forward to future events, such as hosting an Imam as a guest speaker to learn more about Muslim culture and create a safe and welcoming space for all students.



**Because of Girl Scouts...I learned how to be more confident and communicate with others.**