

Prophet Elias Adult Recognition Program



ORTHODOX SCOUTING COMMISSION
EASTERN ORTHODOX COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING
of the Standing Conference of Orthodox Bishops in the Americas

"With us everything is secondary compared to our concern with young people and their upbringing in the instruction and teaching of the Lord. After all, what greater work is there than training the mind and forming the habits of the young?"

St. John Chrysostom (+407)

PURPOSE

With these words of St. John Chrysostom as our guide, the Eastern Orthodox Scouting Commission and the Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting seek to recognize and honor not only youth members of the three national youth agencies [Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., and Camp Fire Boys and girls], but also to recognize outstanding service by adults in the promotion and use of these programs for our Eastern Orthodox young people.

The Prophet Elias (Elijah in the English form) is traditionally held to be the greatest of the Hebrew Prophets. He maintained the importance of the worship of the true God in the face of pagan cults and temptations (I Kings 18) and upheld the claims of moral uprightness and social justice (I Kings 21). His passing of his mantle to the younger Eliasha showed that these teachings were to be continued. It is in the image of the Prophet Elias that recipients of this award pass on their religious heritage and teachings to younger Eastern Orthodox members of these national youth agencies.

These national youth agencies provide programs which our churches and other civic and religious groups may use in their ministry and service to young people. The leader chosen by the sponsoring group is the one who permeates the youth agency with the meaning of the name "Elias" - "Yahweh is my God"; especially since belief in God is one prerequisite to serving as a leader.

ELIGIBILITY

The Prophet Elias recognition is for both:

1. Actively registered adult lay volunteers for at least 8 years who serve young people in one or more of the three national youth agencies: Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., and Camp Fire Boys and Girls [whether sponsored by Eastern Orthodox Churches or another sponsoring group], and
2. Adult members of other religious bodies who are active registered leaders for at least 8 years of one of the three national youth agencies who are performing an exceptional service to Eastern Orthodox young people.

Recognition of an adult in either group is a true recognition of devoted service, not merely an "honor" for someone serving as a leader.

REQUIREMENTS

1. A letter of recommendation from the Eastern Orthodox Priest in the community served, and
2. A letter of recommendation from a professional Scouter or the Camp Fire organization including the tenure as a registered adult Scouter or Camp Fire leader, and [must be an active registered adult leader for at least 8 years.] These letters must be submitted on letterhead.
3. Complete the official application on the last page including the proper signatures and addresses of the nominators.

SECURING AND PRESENTATION OF EMBLEM

1. The completed nominations, endorsements, and application form should be sent to:

The Prophet Elias Emblem
c/o P.R.A.Y.
8520 Mackenzie Road, Suite 3
St. Louis, MO 63123-3413

(314) 638-1017

The application must be accompanied by a \$30.00 application fee (payable to P.R.A.Y.). If approved, this fee will cover the cost of the emblem with ribbon, and if not approved, the fee will be returned.

2. The emblem should be presented in an Eastern Orthodox Church, preferably by the Bishop, a Diocesan or Deanery Official, or by the pastor of the sponsoring church.
3. Since the Prophet Elias Emblem is a church award sanctioned by the national Scouting agencies, and not an award of those organizations, it is appropriately presented at a church ceremony, and an agency ceremony. It may be presented at an Ecumenical Boy Scout, Girl Scout, or Camp Fire religious observance, Religious Feast Day of Community, Pan Orthodox Vesper Services or, in case of a non Eastern Orthodox recipient, at a religious observance of the recipient's faith.

Publicity is appropriate, in Diocesan publications, fraternal newspapers, or local, regional, or national publications.

**OFFICIAL APPLICATION
PROPHET ELIAS ADULT RECOGNITION PROGRAM**

NOMINEE:

Name of Nominee _____
(print exactly as it should appear on the certificate)

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

SPONSORING PARISH:

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mailing Information: [for mailing of award and additional information if needed]

Name of Nominator _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number (work) _____ Home Number _____

GUIDELINE CHECKLIST (Initial and date)

- _____ 1. Actively participates in his/her religious institution and is a member in good standing.
- _____ 2. Encourages Eastern Orthodox youth to join Scouting or Camp Fire Boys and Girls. Encourages Orthodox Churches to sponsor Scouting units or Camp Fire Boys and Girls.
- _____ 3. Aids Eastern Orthodox Scouts in earning the St. George, Chi-Rho and Alpha Omega awards.
- _____ 4. Promotes religious observance and participation at Scouting or Camp Fire functions.
- _____ 5. Is a fully trained Scout or Camp Fire leader.
- _____ 6. Has organized, promoted, and participated in the appropriate Boy Scout, Girl Scout or Camp Fire Sunday observances.
- _____ 7. Has promoted service projects and assisted in training and recruiting leaders.
- _____ 8. Has served Orthodox Scouting for a minimum of 8 registered years.
(Actual dates served: _____)
- _____ 9. Has given exemplary service to the spiritual, physical, and moral development of Orthodox Youth through service to the church and Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and/or Camp Fire Boys and Girls.
- _____ 10. Signature and addresses of all nominators:

Parish Priest _____

Local Unit Leader _____

Scout District/Council _____