



ICGB 2026: The Girls' Brigade International Trailblazer Awards

The International Presidents' Committee (IPC) recognises the tireless dedication and selfless service of the thousands of volunteers around the world that make Girls' Brigade happen on a weekly basis. The IPC would like to honour this through the 2026 Trailblazer Awards.

Awards

Nominations are welcomed for the following awards:

- For Members: Rising Star Award ○ An award recognising a current GB member (under 18) who embodies the spirit of Girls' Brigade – to Seek, Serve and Follow Christ.
- For Young Leaders: Inspiring Leader Award ○ An award recognising a current young GB Commissioned Officer or Trainee Officer (between the age of 18-35) who has inspired others through her Christian leadership within GB.
- For Leaders: Long Service Award ○ An award recognising the long-standing commitment of a GB Commissioned Officer for 25, 30, 40 and 50 years.

Each country will be eligible to submit one nomination in both the "Rising Star" and "Inspiring Leader" categories. Long Service Awards will be issued to all eligible Officers by their individual country.

Fellowship winners will be announced on International Women's Day 2026 (8th March 2026) with their stories celebrated at ICGB.



Nomination Process

For “Rising Star” and “Inspiring Leader” Award

Each country can only put forward to GBI one eligible nominee within each category. The process for choosing your nominee should be determined internally and is set out as below for Girls’ Brigade NI:

1. Nominees must be registered as a current member/Officer/Trainee Officer within Girls’ Brigade NI. Officers/Trainee Officers details must be on ‘My Brigade’.
2. Nominees’ age must be appropriate for the award category as of 1st December 2025.
3. Nominations, submitted through the attached nomination form, should outline why the member/Officer is eligible for the award and be accompanied by three high-quality photographs (JPEG/PNG) showing how they fulfil the ethos of the award. An additional reference from their Company Chaplain/Captain/Leader in charge (separate form) is also required.
4. By accepting a nomination, the nominee (or their parent/guardian if under 18 years old) agrees to both The Girls’ Brigade International and Girls’ Brigade Northern Ireland sharing their story and photographs with the wider family, including at ICGB and on social media. Relevant permissions must be sought.
5. Individual nominations for each category should be forwarded to your District Secretary no later than 10th October.
6. The District Executive whilst referring to the judging criteria, will determine internally how it will select one nomination for each award to be put forward to the GBNI Board of Trustees.
7. If the district decides not to participate in the Award process, they must notify GBHQ by 10th October that no nominations will be forwarded from the district.
8. District Nominations for both awards should be forwarded to info@gbni.co.uk by 31st October 2025.
9. The GBNI Board will then select one GBNI nominee from the district nominations. This nomination will then be forwarded to GBI by 1st December for Fellowship selection, with this winner being forwarded to the IPC for the final round for overall winner.
10. Fellowship winners of the “Inspiring Leader” award will also be asked to provide a short video explaining their GB story to assist with the overall judging process.

For Long Service Awards

1. All Commissioned Officers fulfilling the length of service requirement as mentioned on page 1 will be eligible for a long service award; there is no limitation in numbers per country.
2. Officers receiving the long service award must be registered on 'My Brigade' as a current Commissioned Officer within Girls' Brigade NI.
3. Only years of leadership will contribute towards length of service; years as a member should not be counted.
4. Officers with 25-29 years' service can claim the 25-year award, those with 30-39 years' service can claim the 30-year award, those with 40-49 years' service can claim the 40-year award and those with 50-plus years' service can claim the 50-year award.
5. The Company Captain/Leader in Charge should send the details of any eligible leaders via MS Forms using this link to notify GBNI of their service by 16th February at 9.30am, <https://forms.office.com/e/ZpnhDLyDwn>
6. For those attending ICGB, a list of eligible leaders from within the Fellowship will be collated by the International Vice President (IVP).
7. For those not attending ICGB, a digital certificate template will be made available from GBI for the Fellowship/individual country to distribute as appropriate within their context. GBHQ hopes to have the printed certificates available for collection from early March 2026 and, where possible, will be issued with Company badge/shop orders.