



GFWC Awards, Contests, and Grants

2010-2012 GFWC Club Manual

The General Federation of Women's Clubs encourages all State Federations, clubs, and individual members to pursue the various recognition opportunities offered through GFWC awards, contests, and grants. The Awards, Contests, and Grants section of the *GFWC Club Manual* contains information for clubs and members to assist in participating in and competing for the various awards, contests, and grants offered.

Awards

GFWC awards are a way GFWC demonstrates its appreciation of and provides recognition for the work done by our GFWC State Federations, clubs, and individual members.

Contests

GFWC contests are a way for GFWC to demonstrate its appreciation of and provide recognition for the work done by GFWC members.

Grants

GFWC provides grants that are funded by GFWC directly or by GFWC Partners to assist clubs in their Community Service Programs.

If you are interested in a specific GFWC contest, please follow the guidelines provided in the *GFWC Club Manual*, and subscribe to *GFWC News & Notes* to receive the latest updates and information about these and any other contests. You can subscribe to *GFWC News & Notes* at www.GFWC.org.

INDEX OF AWARDS, CONTESTS, AND GRANTS

Awards, Contests, and Grants	Location of Information in <i>GFWC Club Manual</i>	State, Club, or Individual	Annual or Per Administration Award	Amount of Award or Non-monetary
Special Project Awards				
Signature Project: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Signature Project: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Signature Project: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Club Award	Signature Project: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention	Club	Annual	\$50
Signature Project: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Fund Award	Signature Project: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Signature Project: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Fund Club Award	Signature Project: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention	Club	Annual	Non-monetary
Juniors' Special Project: Advocates for Children-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Juniors' Special Project: Advocates for Children	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Juniors' Special Project: Advocates for Children Club Award	Juniors' Special Project: Advocates for Children	Club	Annual	\$50
Emergency Medical Services for Children-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Juniors' Special Project: Advocates for Children	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Community Service Program Awards (Arts, Conservation, Education, Home Life, International Outreach, and Public Issues)				
Arts Collaboration Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Arts Community Service Program	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Arts Partnership Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Arts Community Service Program	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Arts Partnership Club Award	Arts Community Service Program	Club	Annual	\$50
Arts Collaboration Club Award	Arts Community Service Program	Club	Annual	\$50

Awards, Contests, and Grants	Location of Information in <i>GFWC Club Manual</i>	State, Club, or Individual	Annual or Per Administration Award	Amount of Award or Non-monetary
American Mural Project-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Arts Community Service Program	State	Administration	Non-monetary
Conservation Collaboration Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Conservation Community Service Program	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Conservation Partnership Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Conservation Community Service Program	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Conservation Collaboration Club Award	Conservation Community Service Program	Club	Annual	\$50
Conservation Partnership Club Award	Conservation Community Service Program	Club	Annual	\$50
Education Collaboration Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Education Community Service Program	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Education Partnership Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Education Community Service Program	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Education Collaboration Club Award	Education Community Service Program	Club	Annual	\$50
Education Partnership Club Award	Education Community Service Program	Club	Annual	\$50
Education-Epsilon Sigma Omicron (ESO)-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Education Community Service Program	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Home Life Collaboration Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Home Life Community Service Program	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Home Life Partnership Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Home Life Community Service Program	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Home Life Collaboration Club Award	Home Life Community Service Program	Club	Annual	\$50
Home Life Partnership Club Award	Home Life Community Service Program	Club	Annual	\$50
Home Life-Canine Companions for Independence Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Home Life Community Service Program	State	Annual	Non-monetary

Awards, Contests, and Grants	Location of Information in <i>GFWC Club Manual</i>	State, Club, or Individual	Annual or Per Administration Award	Amount of Award or Non-monetary
Home Life-Canine Companions for Independence Award-Club Recognition	Home Life Community Service Program	Club	Annual	Non-monetary
Home Life-March of Dimes Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Home Life Community Service Program	State	Annual	Non-monetary
International Outreach Collaboration Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	International Outreach Community Service Program	State	Annual	Non-monetary
International Outreach Partnership Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	International Outreach Community Service Program	State	Annual	Non-monetary
International Outreach Collaboration Club Award	International Outreach Community Service Program	Club	Annual	\$50
International Outreach Partnership Club Award	International Outreach Community Service Program	Club	Annual	\$50
International Outreach-Heifer Project International Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	International Outreach Community Service Program	State	Annual	Non-monetary
International Outreach-Operational Smile: Paula Cutler Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	International Outreach Community Service Program	State	Annual	Non-monetary
International Outreach-PlanUSA Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	International Outreach Community Service Program	State	Administration	Non-monetary
International Outreach-PlanUSA Global Women's Fund or Because I Am A Girl Campaign Club Award	International Outreach Community Service Program	Club	Annual	Non-monetary
International Outreach-UNICEF Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	International Outreach Community Service Program	State	Annual	Non-monetary

Awards, Contests, and Grants	Location of Information in <i>GFWC Club Manual</i>	State, Club, or Individual	Annual or Per Administration Award	Amount of Award or Non-monetary
International Outreach-UNICEF Club Award-Club Award	International Outreach Community Service Program	Club	Annual	Non-monetary
Public Issues Collaboration Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Public Issues Community Service Program	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Public Issues Partnership Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Public Issues Community Service Program	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Public Issues Collaboration Club Award	Public Issues Community Service Program	Club	Annual	\$50
Public Issues Partnership Club Award	Public Issues Community Service Program	Club	Annual	\$50
Advancement Area Awards–Fundraising, Leadership, Membership, Public Affairs (Communications and Identity and Public Policy), and Women’s History and Resource Center				
Fundraising-One state per membership category (Category I to VI)	Fundraising Advancement Guide	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Fundraising Club Award	Fundraising Advancement Guide	Club	Annual	\$50
Endorsed Fundraising Awards	Fundraising Advancement Guide	Club and State	Annual and Administration	Details available in the GFWC Fundraising Advancement Guide
Leadership Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Leadership Advancement Guide	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Leadership Club Award	Leadership Advancement Guide	Club	Annual	\$50
Membership Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Membership Advancement Guide	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Membership Club Award	Membership Advancement Guide	Club	Annual	\$50
Membership Award-One state with the largest percentage increase of members based on dues to GFWC	Membership Advancement Guide	State	Administration	\$2,000
Membership Award-One state per membership category with largest increase in new clubs (Category I to VI)	Membership Advancement Guide	State	Administration	\$500

Awards, Contests, and Grants	Location of Information in <i>GFWC Club Manual</i>	State, Club, or Individual	Annual or Per Administration Award	Amount of Award or Non-monetary
Communications and Identity-One state per membership category (Category I to VI)	Public Affairs Advancement Guide (Communications and Identity)	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Communications and Identity Club Award	Public Affairs Advancement Guide (Communications and Identity)	Club	Annual	\$50
Legislation and Public Policy Award-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Public Affairs Advancement Guide (Legislation and Public Policy)	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Legislation and Public Policy Club Award	Public Affairs Advancement Guide (Legislation and Public Policy)	Club	Annual	\$50
Women's History and Resource Center Club Award	Women's History and Resource Center Advancement Guide	Club	Annual	\$50
Women's History and Resource Center-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Women's History and Resource Center Advancement Guide	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Community Improvement Program Award				
Community Improvement Program Award-First Place	Awards, Contests, and Grants	Club	Administration	\$5,000
Community Improvement Program Award-Second Place	Awards, Contests, and Grants	Club	Administration	\$3,500
Community Improvement Program Award-Third Place	Awards, Contests, and Grants	Club	Administration	\$2,500
Community Improvement Program Award-Fourth Place	Awards, Contests, and Grants	Club	Administration	\$1,500
Community Improvement Program Award-Fifth Place	Awards, Contests, and Grants	Club	Administration	\$500
Community Improvement Program Award-Juniorette Club	Awards, Contests, and Grants	Club	Administration	\$250
Community Improvement Program Award-International Affiliate	Awards, Contests, and Grants	Club	Administration	\$500
Community Improvement Program Award-States	Awards, Contests, and Grants	Club (on the State Level)	Administration	First Place: \$50 Second Place: \$35 Third Place: \$25 Per State Federation
GFWC Jennie Awards				
Jennie Awards	Awards, Contests, and Grants	Individual	Administration	See GFWC Jennie Award for details

Awards, Contests, and Grants	Location of Information in <i>GFWC Club Manual</i>	State, Club, or Individual	Annual or Per Administration Award	Amount of Award or Non-monetary
Contests				
Newsletter Contest–Club	Awards, Contests, and Grants & Public Affairs Advancement Guide (Communications and Identity)	Club	Annual	\$50
Newsletter Contest-State-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Awards, Contests, and Grants & Public Affairs Advancement Guide (Communications and Identity)	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Photography Contest-A Year in Pictures	Awards, Contests, and Grants	Individual	Annual	Non-monetary
Photography Contest-GFWC Volunteers in Action	Awards, Contests, and Grants	Individual	Annual	First Place-\$100 Second Place-\$75 Third Place-\$50
Photography Contest-The World in Pictures-Feature	Awards, Contests, and Grants	Individual	Annual	First Place-\$100 Second Place-\$75 Third Place-\$50
Photography Contest-The World in Pictures-Natural History	Awards, Contests, and Grants	Individual	Annual	First Place-\$100 Second Place-\$75 Third Place-\$50
Photography Contest-The World in Pictures-Scenic	Awards, Contests, and Grants	Individual	Annual	First Place-\$100 Second Place-\$75 Third Place-\$50
Publicity Book Contest	Awards, Contests, and Grants & Public Affairs Advancement Guide (Communications and Identity)	Club	Annual	First Place-\$150 Second Place-\$100 Third Place-\$75 Honorable Mention-Certificate
Writing Contest-GFWC Member Poetry Contest	Awards, Contests, and Grants	Individual	Annual	Non-monetary
Writing Contest-GFWC Member Short Story Contest	Awards, Contests, and Grants	Individual	Annual	Non-monetary
Writing Contest-Youth Poetry Writing Contest	Awards, Contests, and Grants	Individual	Annual	Non-monetary
Writing Contest-Youth Short Story Contest	Awards, Contests, and Grants	Individual	Annual	Non-monetary

Awards, Contests, and Grants	Location of Information in <i>GFWC Club Manual</i>	State, Club, or Individual	Annual or Per Administration Award	Amount of Award or Non-monetary
Website Contest-Club	Awards, Contests, and Grants & Public Affairs Advancement Guide (Communications and Identity)	Club	Annual	\$50
Website Contest-State-One state per each membership category (Category I to VI)	Awards, Contests, and Grants & Public Affairs Advancement Guide (Communications and Identity)	State	Annual	Non-monetary
Grants				
Literacy Grant	Awards, Contests, and Grants & GFWC Education Community Service Program	Club	Annual	\$150
Membership Recruitment Grants-Club	Awards, Contests, and Grants & Membership Advancement Guide	Club	N/A	\$50
Membership Club Building Grants-District	Awards, Contests, and Grants & Membership Advancement Guide	District	N/A	\$100

Community Service Programs and Special Project Awards

GFWC gives awards for outstanding achievements in each GFWC Community Service Program (Arts, Conservation, Education, Home Life, International Outreach, and Public Issues) and Special Projects (Signature Project: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention and Juniors' Special Project: Advocates for Children). Most awards are offered annually, though some are offered on an administration basis. Select GFWC Partners may also provide awards and other recognition in these areas. Awards are granted to eligible State Federations, clubs, and individuals.

GFWC Community Service Program and Special Project awards for states are determined based on reporting, so it is important for you to submit your GFWC Reporting Form to provide GFWC with this information.

GFWC club awards in GFWC Community Service Program and Special Project areas are determined based upon the narratives submitted with your GFWC Reporting Forms, so providing detailed information is important in this process.

Detailed information regarding state and club awards can be found in each of the GFWC Community Service Program (Arts, Conservation, Education, Home Life, International Outreach, and Public Issues) and Special Projects (Signature Project: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention and Juniors' Special Project: Advocates for Children) in the GFWC Club Manual and online at www.GFWC.org/GFWCMembers.

Advancement Awards

GFWC bestows annual awards for outstanding achievements in each GFWC Advancement area.

- Fundraising
- Leadership
- Membership
- Public Affairs (Communications and Identity & Legislation and Public Policy)
- Women's History and Resource Center

GFWC Advancement awards for states are determined based on reporting, so it is important for you to submit your GFWC Reporting Form to provide GFWC with this information.

GFWC club awards in Advancement areas are determined based upon the narratives submitted with your GFWC Reporting Form, so providing detailed information is important in this process.

Detailed information regarding state and club awards can be found in each of the Advancement Guides in the *GFWC Club Manual*.

Community Improvement Program Award

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CONTEST PRINCIPLES

GFWC’s Community Improvement Program Award (formerly the Community Improvement Contest) aims to enhance the lives of GFWC’s neighbors around the world by meeting community specific needs, and elevating our clubs’ status within those communities. The Community Improvement Program Award is the heart and soul of GFWC. The Community Improvement Program Award is our longest standing project. It provides a club with the opportunity to development the leadership skills of its members, increase membership, and promote community awareness of the club’s activities. It aims to meet the needs of individual communities. The Community Improvement Program Award provides a vision for the future of the relationships between clubs and their communities.

RECOMMENDED CONTEST IDEAS

The Community Improvement Program Award does not lend itself to recommendations for project ideas because the project should be specific to the club’s community. However, there are a few things to consider in participating in the Community Improvement Program Award.

- Every club is capable of creating a Community Improvement project.
- Almost any project can be turned into a Community Improvement project.
- These projects should address a specific need within the community.
- Club should establish partnerships within the community to address the community’s need.
- Partnering with the community provides our members with leadership skills and allows GFWC to establish itself within the community.
- Clubs can partner with local organizations and GFWC’s national partners.
 - Professional or other membership organizations
 - Governmental organizations
 - Other nonprofit organizations

You are encouraged to consider your Community Improvement Project as an ongoing community effort that lasts as long as the community need remains.

For more information on how you can create a fundraising program to assist in seeking donations and assistance to support your Community Improvement project, review the GFWC Fundraising Advancement Guide in the GFWC Club Manual.

For more information on how you can help your club evaluate how it can best use its resources to meet a community need and for information on project planning, please review the GFWC Leadership Advancement Guide in the GFWC Club Manual, which includes information on conducting a SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) and sample project plans and strategic plan templates that may assist you in measuring your achievements

For more information on how you can use your Community Improvement project planning to retain and recruit members, review the GFWC Membership Advancement Guide in the GFWC Club Manual.

For more information on useful tools for working with external audiences, please review the GFWC Public Affairs Advancement Guide in the GFWC Club Manual, which includes information on public relations strategies, sample club press releases, and instructions on how to create a communications plan.

For more information on how you can access information about and inspiration from previous Community Improvement Program Award winners, review the GFWC Women's History and Resource Center Advancement Guide in the GFWC Club Manual.

HOW TO ENTER

- Review and adhere to all criteria and deadline outlined.
- Reference the Advancement Guides (Fundraising, Leadership, Membership, Public Affairs, and the Women's History and Resource Center) in the *GFWC Club Manual*, which is also available at www.GFWC.org/ClubManual, and/or the publication *Programming with a Purpose*, available at www.GFWC.org/GFWCMembers.
- Complete the official GFWC Community Improvement Program Award Form.
- Attach a narrative and accompanying materials if desired.

CONTEST RULES

- The project book must not exceed seven pounds, nor measure more than 15 x 20 inches.
- This project covers the period March 1, 2010, to February 28, 2012.
- Club entries must be sent to your state's GFWC Community Improvement Program Award chairmen, postmarked by March 10, 2012.

State Contest Rules

- Rules are determined by your State Federation.
- Club entries must be sent to your state's GFWC Community Improvement Program Award chairmen, postmarked by March 10, 2012.

National Contest Rules

Each state's first-place entry must be postmarked by April 1, 2012, and sent to:

Community Improvement Program Award
GFWC
1734 N Street NW
Washington, DC 20036-2990.

CLARIFICATIONS AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Entries forwarded to GFWC become the property of GFWC and will not be returned. Winning entries will be housed in the GFWC Women's History and Resource Center.
- Judges of Community Improvement Contest Award submissions on the state and national level may not be members of GFWC.
- All monetary awards must be used to further community improvement initiative.

Joint Entries

Projects involving two to six GFWC clubs qualify as joint entries. Only one entry form shall be submitted, with all club presidents signing the single form. Clubs involved in joint entries are not eligible to submit individual club entries. Joint entries selected as national winners shall send one representative to the GFWC Annual International Convention.

Previous Winners of the GFWC Community Improvement Contest Award

Clubs that have won this national award at a previous GFWC Annual International Convention must submit an entirely different project entry for consideration in 2012. Winning projects that have been expanded will not be considered.

CALENDAR

January 15, 2012	State judges' names, mailing addresses, e-mail addresses, and other contact information is due to the national GFWC Community Improvement Program Award chairman;
March 10, 2012	Club entries are due to state GFWC Community Improvement Program Award chairmen, postmarked by March 10, 2012.
March 10-20, 2012	Entries judged on state level.
March 25, 2012	List of first, second, and third place winners on a state level due to GFWC. Checks from GFWC for state winners will be issued to the GFWC club upon receipt and sent to the state presidents for awarding at their respective state conventions.
April 1, 2012	State's first place entry due to GFWC. Send to: Community Improvement Program Award, GFWC, 1734 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036-2990.
Spring 2012	State award presentations at state conventions
April 2012	Two-day national judging at GFWC Headquarters in Washington, D.C.
June 2012	GFWC Community Improvement Program Awards presented at GFWC Annual International Convention

TIPS FOR WINNING ENTRIES

- Identify and define the community need.
- Describe the process of choosing the project.
- Describe how the club engaged community support.
- Describe how the club financed the project and obtained media support.
- Recount how the club overcame obstacles.
- Provide a list of collaborating partners, including government agencies, other service groups, and professional organizations.
- Describe the results and successes, and the club's continuing role in this project.
- Explain the long-term effects of the project on the community.
- Describe how the contest influence changes in the community, e.g., increased awareness, willingness to work together, etc.
- Content is more important than appearance.

AWARDS

GFWC awards a total of \$19,250 to state and national winners of the GFWC Community Improvement Program Award.

GFWC National Awards

First Place	\$5,000
Second Place	\$3,500
Third Place	\$2,500
Fourth Place	\$1,500
Fifth Place	\$500
International Affiliate Award	\$500
Juniorette Award	\$250
Total National Monetary Awards	\$13,750

One member representative from each winning club will have the following expenses covered:

- Roundtrip transportation to attend the GFWC Annual International Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina.
- One night's lodging at the GFWC Convention hotel, ticket to attend the award ceremony, and GFWC Convention Registration fee.

GFWC State Awards

First Place	\$50
Second Place	\$35
Third Place	\$25
Total per state	\$110
Total for 50 State Federations	\$5,500

JUDGING CRITERIA

Project Selection—25 points

- Community Need: Judges will look for clearly identified community issues that were considered in the project selection phase and review how the needs were addressed.
- Selection Process: Judges will look at the selection process and methodology used in choosing the projects.

For more information on how you can help your club evaluate how it can best use its resources to meet a community need, please review the GFWC Leadership Advancement Guide in the GFWC Club Manual, which includes information on conducting a SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats).

Project Development—50 points

- **Community Collaboration:** Judges will look for projects that create and sustain working relationships with other organizations and/or government agencies in the community. List all partners involved in your Community Improvement project.
- **Plan of Action:** Judges will evaluate how the club worked to execute its plans and accomplish its goals. Provide the details of your efforts and other documentation including photos, letters, project plans, news clippings, etc.

For more information on useful tools for working with external audiences, please review the GFWC Public Affairs Advancement Guide in the GFWC Club Manual, which includes information on public relations strategies, sample club press releases, and instructions on how to create a communications plan.

For more information on project planning, please review the GFWC Leadership Advancement Guide in the GFWC Club Manual, which includes sample project plans and strategic plan templates that may assist you in measuring your achievements.

For more information on how you can use your Community Improvement project planning to retain and recruit members, review the GFWC Membership Advancement Guide in the GFWC Club Manual.

For more information on how you can access information about and inspiration from previous Community Improvement Program Award winners, review the GFWC Women's History and Resource Center Advancement Guide in the GFWC Club Manual.

For more information on how you can create a fundraising program to assist in seeking donations and assistance to support your Community Improvement project, review the GFWC Fundraising Advancement Guide in the GFWC Club Manual.

- **Persistence of Effort:** Judges are interested in knowing what obstacles the club encountered and how it addressed such challenges.

Project Evaluation—25 points

- Degree of Success: The judges will look for the specifics of your achievements. They will examine how the effort differed from what was originally envisioned. They will also look at what criteria were used to measure success, and for future plans for the project.

For more information on project planning, please review the GFWC Leadership Advancement Guide in the GFWC Club Manual, which includes sample project plans and strategic plan templates that may assist you in measuring your achievements.

- Permanence of Achievement: Judges will want you to explain the long-term effects the project will have on the community.
- Changed Attitudes and Practices: Judges are interested in whether or not the project resulted in increased community awareness; specifics are recommended here.

GFWC Jennie Award

SHERRY WELLMAN, GFWC JENNIE AWARD CHAIRMAN

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The GFWC Jennie Award honors one clubwoman from each GFWC Region for outstanding commitment to club, community, and family. They are chosen by their clubs to compete at state, region, and national levels for their outstanding personal commitment to club, community, and family.

The GFWC Jennie Award is named in honor of GFWC's founder, Jane Cunningham Croly, who wrote for national newspapers under the pseudonym, "Jennie June." The award is an occasion to highlight those extraordinary clubwomen who epitomize her spirit of independence, courage, and persistence in purpose through their roles as volunteers within their clubs, elsewhere in the community, and as members of a family or extended family. Although GFWC has many awards for states and clubs, the GFWC Jennie Award is the only national honor that recognizes individual members for personal excellence. In fact, it is the highest honor bestowed by GFWC.

RECOMMENDED AWARD IDEAS

As 2010-2012 marks the third award opportunity for GFWC members to receive a Jennie Award Medal of Honor, it may not be as familiar to clubs as other GFWC recognition opportunities. Since it is an award for lifetime personal excellence, club presidents should consider utilizing the knowledge of your club historian for GFWC Jennie Award nominees. Club presidents should be mindful of first impressions and make the nominee's packet of supporting materials as professional as possible because it may be judged at the different levels by influential community leaders.

JENNIE AWARD CONTEST RULES

- Clubs may nominate one member who has demonstrated the qualities outlined under the judging criteria for this award.
- Nominations should emphasize a member's entire lifetime of service.

- Clubs must complete and submit the official GFWC Jennie Award Nomination Form along with a maximum 500-word written narrative. Narratives should include descriptions of the nominee's:
 - Club activities
 - Participation in community groups and organizations, both volunteer and professional
 - Commitment to her nuclear or extended family
 - Clubs must submit the following supportive materials along with nomination form and narrative:
 - Photograph of nominee (no larger than 5x7 inches)
 - Clips of two-three newspaper (or other media) stories about successful projects to which the member contributed (it is not necessary for such articles to mention the member by name.)
 - Letter of endorsement from club president
 - Letter of endorsement from a representative of another organization

The GFWC Jennie Award Nomination Form can be found in the Resources Section or downloaded from www.GFWC.org/GFWCMembers.

- Nomination forms and supporting materials, including photographs, will not be returned.
- Clubs must submit nomination materials to their respective state presidents postmarked by June 15, 2011, for state-level judging.
- State presidents must submit nomination materials (one per state) to their respective GFWC Region Presidents postmarked by August 15, 2011, for region-level judging. State presidents must forward the name of their states' finalists to the national GFWC Jennie Award Chairman.
- Each GFWC Region should submit nomination materials (two per GFWC Region) to the national GFWC Jennie Award Chairman, postmarked by December 15, 2011. The national GFWC Jennie Award Chairman will forward the nomination materials for the 16 2010-2012 GFWC Jennie Award finalists to GFWC, where the nominations will be reviewed and scored by a panel of judges.
- One clubwoman from each of the eight GFWC Regions will be selected for national recognition as a GFWC Jennie Award winner.
- All eight GFWC National Jennie Award honorees will be awarded:
 - Roundtrip transportation to attend the 2012 GFWC Annual International Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, in June 2012.
 - A Medal of Honor and a special certificate presented by the GFWC International President and GFWC Jennie Award Chairman at the 2012 Annual International Convention.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Nominations will be evaluated on the following criteria.

Commitment to Club

The nominee should have an outstanding record of success and achievement, not only in terms of her club's volunteer programs and projects, but also her role in a leadership position, her activity to build membership and promote the club to others, and her overall spirit of volunteerism. She should be kind, loyal, and positive in her relationships with other clubwomen, and her commitment should be continuous, rather than a one-time activity.

Commitment to Community

Community service must address real community needs and concerns. This service should go beyond club activities and be carried out through other community organizations (*e.g.* schools, hospitals, an elected/appointed position, scouts, etc.) as well as through the workplace. Activities should reflect an innovative or unique approach to volunteerism.

Commitment to Family

Recognizing that families come in many different forms, the nominee might be a single parent, a grandparent raising her grandchildren, an adult caring for an elderly relative, or an adult without children. The definition of a family member may include persons who are older or younger than the nominee. It may include nuclear as well as extended family members. The nominee should exemplify outstanding concern for the well-being, health, and welfare of one or more persons by providing aid and comfort on an on-going basis, separate and apart, from club and community work.

PUBLIC RELATIONS OPPORTUNITIES

An important reason for participating in the GFWC Jennie Award is the tremendous public relations impact it can have on the club, state, region, and national levels. Here are some public relations suggestions for each stage during the 2010-2012 administration:

Club

Once a club selects its GFWC Jennie Award winner and is ready to submit its narrative describing a nominee's qualifications in June 2011, it should send a news release or article about the person to local media outlets. Clubs might also consider having a ceremony during a club meeting and inviting a reporter to cover the event, or sending a photo and caption of the session to local newspapers.

State

State presidents should appoint a state GFWC Jennie Award Chairman to assist in publicizing and managing the award process. State presidents or chairmen who receive multiple entries for review should, whenever possible, form an outside panel of judges comprised of leading citizens to assist in selecting the single state

nominee. This stage offers an opportunity to honor all nominees, either at a state meeting in August/September 2011, or at some other meeting, such as the state convention, where each finalist is awarded a special certificate. Reporters should be invited to cover the event or a photo and caption should be sent to local papers.

Region

Upon receiving the state nominations, each region president should call on a committee of outside judges to help select the two regional finalists whose applications will be forwarded to GFWC on the national level. The region presidents should consider planning an event to honor all state nominees in her region. The 2011 GFWC Region Conferences might be an ideal occasion to honor all state nominees with introductions by state presidents, presentation of special certificates, and photo opportunities. Invite local reporters to interview the two region finalists or send news releases to nominee's local papers. Reminder—entries to GFWC Headquarters must be postmarked by December 15, 2011. GFWC will prepare certificates for the 16 region finalists and list their names in a future issue of *GFWC Clubwoman Magazine*.

National

At the time of the awards ceremony during the GFWC Annual International Convention in June 2012, which all eight national honorees are expected to attend, a news release will be issued by GFWC to major U.S. newspapers as well as to media in the states, cities, and regions of all eight honorees. Clubs and State Federations with GFWC Jennie Award medal recipients as well as each GFWC Region, should also take the opportunity to inform their local press about the national honor. Club public affairs (public relations) chairmen of the national recipients should notify local officials and organizations such as the mayor, Chamber of Commerce president, and state representative, to arrange photo opportunities and recognition events.

For more information on useful tools for working with external audiences, please review the GFWC Public Affairs Advancement Guide in the GFWC Club Manual, which includes information on public relations strategies, sample club press releases, and instructions on how to create a communications plan.

GFWC Newsletter Contest

SUE HASS, GFWC COMMUNICATIONS AND IDENTITY COMMITTEE MEMBER, NEWSLETTER CONTEST COORDINATOR

322 Main Street | Peterson, IA 51047

P (day): 712-295-6552 | E: JSHass@iowatelecom.net

CONTEST PRINCIPLES

Newsletters are one of the most effective and efficient methods of informing GFWC members about current, ongoing, and new initiatives. Newsletters need not be fancy, custom-designed, or lengthy. Substance is more important than style. A newsletter should be informative and conveys knowledge, generates enthusiasm, and contributes to your public relations outreach; membership recruiting and retention; program development and reporting; and operational planning. The GFWC Newsletter Contest encourages clubs and State Federations to establish a strong newsletter program aimed at increasing awareness about ongoing projects, programs, events, and issues that affect GFWC members, clubs, and communities.

RECOMMENDED CONTEST IDEAS

- Appoint a club newsletter chairman.
- Identify a format that works best for your membership and your budget. Possibilities ranged from a plain, one page, photocopied document to more elaborate multi-page, colorful newsletter with photos.
- Newsletters should convey knowledge, generate enthusiasm, and enhance your club's public relations outreach; membership recruiting and retention; program development and reporting; and strategic plan.
- Determine the newsletter's frequency (i.e., monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly).
- Create an editorial calendar and set deadlines for article submission. Suggested topics include: President's Column, Member Profiles, Calendar of Events, Club News, Program Updates, Headquarters Highlights, and Club Accomplishments.
- Assign article writing to club members based on responsibilities as leaders and project organizers.
- When appropriate, solicit an article from a community leader (i.e. elected officials, chamber of commerce president) or program partner.
- Consider publishing thank you notes or letters of praise.

- Share information found in GFWC publications, using the appropriate copyright information, which can be found in the *GFWC Stylebook*.
- Include action photos, when possible, as they add interest to your newsletter.

For more information on creating an informative and engaging newsletter, review the GFWC Public Affairs Advancement Guide in the GFWC Club Manual.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Entries will be judged and award points on the following elements

- Content quality, including timeliness, clarity, and member impact
- Presentation
- Design
- Inclusion of entry requirements

NEWSLETTER CONTEST ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Only one newsletter per club/State Federation may be submitted.
- Newsletter must have been printed and clearly dated during the reporting year.
- Front page for each newsletter must contain prominent display of the official GFWC emblem and mention of membership in the General Federation of Women's Clubs. Refer to the *GFWC Stylebook* for GFWC Trademark Use Policies.
- Newsletter entries must include contact information for at least one member, defined as e-mail address, telephone number, and/or mailing address.
- All entries must be printed and sent via postal mail, postmarked no later than March 15 in the year in which they will be judged, to GFWC Newsletter Contest, GFWC, 1734 N Street NW, Washington, DC, 20036-2990. Envelope must be clearly marked *GFWC Newsletter Contest*.
 - Cover letter must include:
 - Club or State Federation president's name and contact information
 - Name and contact information of individual submitting the entry
 - Number of members in the club/state
 - Approximate circulation
 - An essay of no more than 250 words describing the club's/State Federation's approach to utilizing its newsletter.
- Clubs and states with electronic newsletter must follow the same entry rules. Printed copies of electronic newsletters are required.

AWARDS

Clubs

A \$50 award is given annually at the GFWC Annual International Convention to one club in the nation to recognize creativity and outstanding achievement in producing a club newsletter.

State

GFWC certificates are awarded annually at the GFWC Annual International Convention to one State Federation in each membership category to recognize creativity and outstanding achievement in producing a State Federation newsletter.

GFWC Photography Contests

GAYLE HANNA, CHAIRMAN

227 North First Street | Guttenburg, IA 52052

P (day): 563-252-2383 | P (eve): 563-880-0945

E: asbda@alpinecom.net

CONTEST PRINCIPLES

The GFWC Photography Contests encourage our members' artistic expression, and recognize and support members' achievements in photography. GFWC offers three opportunities to participate in the Photography Contests:

- The World in Pictures encourages members to capture the beauty of the world and people around us in three categories:
 - Feature
 - Natural History
 - Scenic
- GFWC Volunteers in Action provides members with the opportunity to demonstrate their volunteer activities during the year through photography.
- A Year in Pictures—also known as the GFWC Calendar Contest—allows members to showcase their talents while supporting GFWC through the fundraising calendar.

Each contest provides opportunities for members to express their creativity.

RECOMMENDED CONTEST IDEAS FOR CLUB CHAIRMEN

Each club should appoint a Photography Chairman to encourage members to participate in the GFWC Photography Contests. This chairman will also remind the club members of deadlines for the national and local contests, as well as encourage the development of local contests, such as having members take photos of a selected subject. They can also develop a way to recognize member contributions by awarding certificates, ribbons, and other awards. This chairman's most important task is to forward photo submissions to the State for judging.

CONTEST RULES

- All photographers must be dues paying members of active GFWC clubs.
- Photos must be taken during the contest year. Contest year runs from January 1-December 31 (i.e., January 1-December 31, 2011, for entries judged in 2012).
- Each photo must have a label affixed to its back with the following information:
 - Contest name;
 - Photographer's name, e-mail address, mailing address, phone number;
 - Name and State of sponsoring club;
 - Brief caption giving location and other notes about the photo; and photo title.
- Each entry must include a signed GFWC Creative Arts Waiver (available at www.GFWC.org or by contacting GFWC at 1-800-443-GFWC or GFWC@GFWC.org).
- Photos may be taken using film or digital cameras.
- Prints must be submitted. Electronic submissions will be not considered.
- Please protect your photo entry, as damaged photos will not be judged.
- Date stamps should not appear on photographs.
- Contestants must be amateur photographers; earning from photography may not exceed \$500 annually.
- Photos will not be returned.

The above stated rules apply to A Years in Pictures, A World in Pictures, and Volunteers in Action photography contests. Read the information below for specific rules and requirements pertaining to each respective contest.

A YEAR IN PICTURES PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

- Photos must be horizontal or landscape.
- Entries must be in color.
- Each GFWC club may submit one photo to GFWC Headquarters by May 1, 2012.
- Photos must measure 8 x 10 inches.
- No matting is allowed.
- All entries will be considered. Judges will look for photos particularly suitable for calendars, such as photos relevant to particular months or seasons.
- -
 - Include a photo title and brief caption providing location and other notes about the photo.
-

- The same image may be submitted to multiple photo contests, but separate photos must be entered into each contest.

By submitting your photo to GFWC, you are providing GFWC with a royalty-free perpetual license to use, reproduce, post display, create derivative works, sell, license, or sub-license the work in any media now known or later invented without limitation for commercial or non-commercial purposes.

The GFWC Photography Contest Chairman or your State photography contest chairman can provide more information and answer any questions regarding the GFWC Creative Arts Waiver Form and its submission.

The GFWC Creative Arts Waiver can be found in the Resources Section or downloaded from www.GFWC.org/GFWCMembers.

Deadlines for A Year in Pictures Photography Contest

Each GFWC club may submit one photograph to GFWC Headquarters by May 1, 2011, and May 1, 2012, for judging for the A Year in Pictures Photography Contest.

Awards for 'A Year in Pictures' Photography Contest

The 12 winning photographs will appear in the GFWC calendar and be featured in *GFWC Clubwoman Magazine*. A GFWC award will be presented to each winner at the GFWC Annual International Convention.

GFWC VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

- Clubs must submit photos directly to its respective State Federation.
- States will submit winning photos to GFWC Headquarters no later than **May 15**. Special consideration will be made for States with conventions scheduled on/after this date.
- Entries can be either black and white or color photos.
- Judges look at overall creativity of subject and quality of photograph.
- All photos must be matted.
- Size of entry (including matting) must be at least 10 x 12 inches but no larger than 14 x 16 inches. All others will be disqualified. No frames nor glass allowed.
-
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-
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- The same image may be submitted to multiple photo contests, but separate photos must be entered into each contest.

By submitting your photo to GFWC, you are providing GFWC with a royalty-free perpetual license to use, reproduce, post display, create derivative works, sell, license, or sub-license the work in any media now known or later invented without limitation for commercial or non-commercial purposes.

The GFWC Photography Contest Chairman or your State photography contest chairman can provide more information and answer any questions regarding the GFWC Creative Arts Waiver Form and its submission. Note that only the winning State photography submissions may be forwarded to GFWC and must be accompanied by the GFWC Creative Arts Waiver.

The GFWC Creative Arts Waiver can be found in the Resources Section or downloaded from www.GFWC.org/GFWCMembers.

Deadlines for the GFWC Volunteers in Action Photography Contest

State Level Contest: Clubs must send entries to their State photography chairman for judging. State entry deadlines are determined by your State.

National Level Contest: To be eligible for national judging, one State winner for each photography contest, along with a cover letter from the State photography contest chairman listing the names of the winning submissions and the signed GFWC Creative Arts Waivers from each State winner, must be postmarked on or before May 15, 2011, and May 15, 2012, and sent to:

GFWC
Attn.: The World in Pictures Contest
1734 N Street NW
Washington, DC 20036-2990

Awards for GFWC Volunteers in Action Photography Contest

State Level Contest: A GFWC certificate will be presented annually to the first place winners in each State. While digital photos are not submitted, we encourage states to contact their winners and inquire about whether a digital copy is available in case the photo is selected for replication.

National Level Contest: Cash awards and GFWC certificates will be presented annually at the GFWC Annual International Convention to the top three national entries in the GFWC Volunteers in Action Photography Contest:

First Place	\$100
Second Place	\$75
Third Place	\$50

The first, second, and third place winning photographs in each category will be featured in the *GFWC Clubwoman Magazine*.

THE WORLD IN PICTURES PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

There are three categories in which members may participate in The World in Pictures Photography Contest:

- Feature—human interest pictures, including people, events, and other features
- Natural History—flowers, animals, insects, birds, trees, and similar natural scenes
- Scenic—vistas, landscapes, seascapes, cityscapes, snow scenes, bridges, parks, mountains, farm land, and similar settings

Contest Rules

- Clubs must submit photos directly to its respective State Federation.
- States will submit winning photos to GFWC Headquarters no later than **May 15**. Special consideration will be made for States with conventions scheduled on/after this date.
- .
- Entries can be either black and white or color photos
- All photos must be matted.
- Size of entry (including matting) must be at least 10 x 12 inches but no larger than 14 x 16 inches. All others will be disqualified. No frames nor glass.
 -
- States are entitled to one entry in each of the three categories.
- The same image may be submitted to multiple photo contests, but separate photos must be entered into each contest.

By submitting your photo to GFWC, you are providing GFWC with a royalty-free perpetual license to use, reproduce, post display, create derivative works, sell, license, or sub-license the work in any media now known or later invented without limitation for commercial or non-commercial purposes.

The GFWC Photography Contest Chairman or your State photography contest chairman can provide more information and answer any questions regarding the GFWC Creative Arts Waiver Form and its submission. Note that only the winning State photography submissions may be forwarded to GFWC and must be accompanied by the GFWC Creative Arts Waiver.

The GFWC Creative Arts Waiver can be found in the Resources Section or downloaded from www.GFWC.org/GFWCMembers.

Deadlines for The World in Pictures Contest

State Level Contest: Clubs must send entries to their State photography contest chairman for judging. State entry deadlines are determined by your State.

National Level Contest: To be eligible for national judging, one State winner for each photography contest, along with a cover letter from the State photography contest chairman listing the names of the winning submissions, their categories, and the signed GFWC Creative Arts Waivers from each State winner, must be postmarked on or before May 15, 2011, and May 15, 2012, and sent to:

GFWC

Attn.: The World in Pictures Contest

1734 N Street NW

Washington, DC 20036-29990

Awards for The World in Pictures Contest

State Level Contest: A GFWC certificate will be presented annually to the first place winners in each State.

National Level Contest: Cash awards and GFWC certificates will be presented annually at the GFWC Annual International Convention to the top three national entries in each category of The World in Pictures Photography Contest:

Feature

First Place \$100

Second Place \$75

Third Place \$50

Natural History

First Place \$100

Second Place \$75

Third Place \$50

Scenic

First Place \$100

Second Place \$75

Third Place \$50

The first, second, and third place winning photographs in each category will be featured in the *GFWC Clubwoman Magazine*.

GFWC Publicity Book Contest

JANICE ADLER, GFWC COMMUNICATIONS AND IDENTITY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

185 Laurel Avenue | Providence, RI 02906

P (day): 401-723-2277 ext. 230 | P (eve): 401-383-0161 | F: 401-475-4832 | E: JLAdler@aol.com

CONTEST PRINCIPLES

Publicity books provide documentation of a club's media coverage and promotional materials. While a publicity book is a great way to record your club's projects, programs, and accomplishments from throughout the year, its purpose is to demonstrate your public relations outreach. It is not meant to be a scrapbook.

RECOMMENDED CONTEST IDEAS

- Appoint a publicity book chairman to compile all materials. She should coordinate with each chairman and committee to ensure she receives a copy of all promotional materials.
- Ask club members to clip newspaper articles featuring your club and members to your monthly meetings.
- Create a Google alert to capture web-based publicity.
 - Go to www.Google.com/Alerts.
 - In the Search Items box, type your club name.
 - In the Type Box, select "Everything."
 - In the How Often box, choose the frequency in which you would like to receive the alert (as-it happens, once a day, or once a week).
 - In the E-mail length, choose how many results you would like to receive: up to 20 results or up to 50 results.
 - Identify the e-mail address to which the alerts will be sent.
- Determine how to set-up the book (i.e., by month, program, publicity type).
- Only include photos that were published or submitted as part of a press release or press kit.

For more information on garnering media relations, review the GFWC Public Affairs Advancement Guide in the GFWC Club Manual.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Entries will be judged and award points on the following elements

- Newspaper and website articles
- Television and radio coverage
- Publicity materials, such as brochures, signs, fliers, paid advertisements, public service announcements, new member kits, membership cards, special event materials, and creative web pages
- Presentation and ease of handling

PUBLICITY BOOK CONTEST ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- State GFWC Communications and Identity Chairmen may submit only one entry per State (the best in the State) to GFWC.
- Materials in the books should have been prepared and printed or aired between January 1, 2010, and December 31, 2010, for the 2011 entry; and between January 1, 2011, and December 31, 2011, for the 2012 entry.
- Include the name of the publication and date the article appeared on EACH clipping.
- Include all electronic media coverage. Video, audiocassettes, and CDs can be submitted, but do not put them in the book.
- Although publicity books are judged mainly on content, it is important that material is presented in an organized fashion, with articles securely fastened to pages and key information highlighted.
- Provide a one or two sentence explanation of a project or program you have publicized.
- On the front page of the book, please include the following:
 - Club name
 - Club contact information
 - Number of club members
 - City in which club is located along with population figures
 - Media outlets (*i.e.*, radio, television, newspaper) to which press release was sent.
- Print the name of your club and the contest year on the outside cover of the book.
- Entries should be in a lightweight, 8.5 x 11 inch binder or cover. Points may be deducted if the book is oversized and/or difficult to handle.
- All materials should be placed in one book. Multiple books will not be considered.
- Enclose a self-addressed stamped package of the necessary size with appropriate postage to ensure the return of the publicity book.
- Only those entries that include a self-addressed stamped envelope will be returned.

- Club entries must be sent via postal mail, postmarked no later than March 15 in the year in which they will be judged, to the respective State GFWC Communications and Identity Chairman.
- Winning State entries must be sent via postal mail, postmarked no later than April 1 in the year in which they will be judged, to Publicity Book Contest, GFWC, 1734 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036-2990. Include a cover letter stating that the book is the first place State winner. When submitting the winning book to GFWC, each State GFWC Communication and Identity Chairman should include a note detailing the number of entries she received from the clubs in her State.

AWARDS

GFWC awards a total of \$325 to national winners of the GFWC Publicity Book Contest.

First Place	\$150
Second Place	\$100
Third Place	\$75
Honorable Mention	Certificates

Winning books will be displayed at the GFWC Annual International Convention (June 2011, and June 2012).

GFWC Website Contest

JO ANNE REID, GFWC COMMUNICATIONS AND IDENTITY COMMITTEE MEMBER, WEBSITE CONTEST COORDINATOR

PO Box 420 | Ackerman, MS 39735

P (day): 662-285-6293 | P (eve): 662-418-3606

E: JoAReid@dwcweb.net |

CONTEST PRINCIPLES

Effective outreach to members and communities increasingly relies on the ability to share information via the Internet. Clear-cut, well-organized, and frequently-updated websites convey credibility, enthusiasm, and effectiveness, and can be a key component in your club's public relations outreach; membership recruiting and retention; program development and reporting; and operational planning. The GFWC Website Contest aims to challenge clubs and States to employ their websites as membership tools with organized and updated content that presents a professional and credible source of information.

RECOMMENDED CONTEST IDEAS

- Appoint a website chairman for your club.
- Create contact e-mail account (i.e., GFWC@GFWC.org, GFWCStudyClub@gmail.com) and assign someone to check it regularly.
- Identify a technology solution that works for your level of knowledge—possibilities include full technological support by a professional, assistance provided by tech-savvy friends or family, volunteers from local schools looking for practical experiences, to running and maintaining the website on your own.
- Secure a domain name that properly portrays your federated name in an uncomplicated manner, and includes 'GFWC.' Refer to GFWC Club Website Basics located in the GFWC Public Affairs Advancement Guide in the *GFWC Club Manual* or online at www.GFWC.org/ClubManual.
- Link to www.GFWC.org to show that your club is a part of GFWC.
- Include your website address to all printed materials, including press releases, business cards, brochures, fliers, and posters.
- Provide the following information on your website:
 - Compile all of your existing resources and collateral materials

- Announce meetings, events, and project-related activities
- Club, State, and GFWC federation history, noting important milestones and accomplishments, officers, past presidents, and other notable achievements
- Develop a plan for updating the website, sharing responsibilities for writing new content among the group.

WEBSITE CONTEST RULES

- Website homepage must contain a link to www.GFWC.org.
- Only one website per club/State Federation may be submitted.
- Website must include contact information for at least one member, defined as e-mail address, telephone number, and/or mailing address.
- Website may continue to be updated after contest deadline date.
- Submissions must be made via e-mail to GFWC Public Affairs Department at PR@GFWC.org.
- Subject line of submission e-mail must read *Website Contest Entry*.
- Submission e-mail must be received by 11:59 p.m. EDT on March 15 in the year in which they will be judged.
- Submission e-mail must include:
 - Club/State Federation name
 - Website address
 - President's name and contact information
 - Name and contact information of person submitting the entry
 - Number of club/State Federation members
 - 250-word essay describing the club's/State Federation's approach to updating and using its website

WEBSITE CONTEST AWARDS

Clubs

A \$50 award is given annually at the GFWC Annual International Convention to one club to recognize outstanding achievement in the GFWC Website Contest.

State

GFWC certificates are awarded annually at the GFWC Annual International Convention to one State Federation in each membership category to recognize outstanding achievement in the GFWC Website Contest.

GFWC Writing Contests

MARIANNE POTTER, CHAIRMAN

1031 Hearthstone Place | Plover, WI 54467

P: 715-344-4863

E: *MariannePotter@charter.net*

CONTEST PRINCIPLES

The GFWC Writing Contests seek to provide an avenue for GFWC members and community members of all ages to freely express themselves, as well as draw upon their experiences through writing. These submissions illustrate the talent of GFWC members and are a reflection of our communities.

HOW TO ENTER ALL GFWC WRITING CONTESTS

State Level Instructions

Clubs must send entries to their State's Writing Contests Chairman for State judging.

State entry deadlines are determined by States.

State Writing Contest Chairmen shall select judges, who will evaluate submissions and select a first place winning entry in each category.

State Writing Contest Chairmen should keep in mind the national deadline when arranging for State judging.

National Level Instructions

One winning State entry per writing contest, per category, must be postmarked on or before April 1, 2011, and April 1, 2012, and sent to the national GFWC Writing Contest Chairman.

All entries must be accompanied by a cover letter from the State GFWC Creative Writing Contest Chairman with a complete list of Writing Contest State winners.

By submitting your writing submission to GFWC for the GFWC Writing Contest on the national level, you are providing GFWC with a royalty-free perpetual license to use, reproduce, post display, create derivative works, sell, license, or sub-license the work in any media now known or later invented without limitation for commercial or non-commercial purposes.

The GFWC Writing Contest Chairman or your State's Writing Contest Chairman can provide more information and answer any questions regarding the GFWC Creative Arts Waiver Form and its submission. Note that only the State's winning writing submissions must be forwarded to GFWC with the GFWC Creative Arts Waiver.

The GFWC Creative Arts Waiver can be found in the Resources Section or downloaded from www.GFWC.org/GFWCMembers.

GFWC MEMBER WRITING CONTESTS

GFWC Member Short Story Writing Contest

- Authors must be dues-paying members of an active GFWC club.
- Short stories are limited to 2,000 words.
- Entries must be typed, double-spaced, printed on one side only, with minimum margins of one-inch on all four sides, on 8.5 x 11-inch paper.
- Entries must be written during the contest year.
- Entries must have the following on the top right hand corner of each page:
 - Author's Name, e-mail address, mailing address, and phone number
 - Name of author's GFWC club and State Federation
 - Category
 - Title of work
- Authors must be amateurs; earnings from writing may not exceed \$500 annually.
- Entries may not have been published prior to the competition and must be original works by the authors.

GFWC Member Poetry Writing Contest

- Authors must be dues-paying members of an active GFWC club.
- Poetry entries can be any style, with a minimum length of eight lines and a maximum of 50 lines.
- Entries must be typed, double-spaced, printed on one side only, with minimum margins of one-inch on all four sides, on 8.5 x 11-inch paper.
- Entries must be written during the contest year.
- Entries must have the following on the top right hand corner of each page:
 - Author's Name, e-mail address, mailing address, and phone number
 - Name of author's GFWC club and State Federation
 - Category

- Title of work
- Authors must be amateurs; earnings from writing may not exceed \$500 annually.
- Entries may not have been published prior to the competition and must be original works by the authors.

YOUTH WRITING CONTESTS

Youth Short Story Writing Contest

- Short stories are limited to 2,000 words.
- Youth authors may enter one short story for club contests.
- Entries must be typed, double-spaced, printed on one side only, with minimum margins of one-inch on all four sides, on 8.5 x 11-inch paper.
- Entries must be written during the contest year.
- Entries must have the following on the top right hand corner of each page:
 - Author's Name, e-mail address, mailing address, and phone number
 - Name of the GFWC club and State Federation submitting author's work
 - Category
 - Title of work
 - Category
 - Category 1: Grades K, 1, and 2
 - Category 2: Grades 3, 4, and 5
 - Category 3: Grades 6, 7, and 8
 - Category 4: Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12
- Authors must be amateurs; earnings from writing may not exceed \$500 annually.
- Entries may not have been published prior to the competition and must be original works by the authors.

Youth Poetry Writing Contest

- Poetry entries can be any style, with a minimum length of eight lines and a maximum of 50 lines.
- Youth poets may enter one poem for club contests on the local level.
- Entries must be typed, double-spaced, printed on one side only, with minimum margins of one-inch on all four sides, on 8.5 x 11-inch paper.
- Entries must be written during the contest year.
- Entries must have the following on the top right hand corner of each page:
 - Author's Name, e-mail address, mailing address, and phone number
 - Name of the GFWC club and State Federation submitting author's work

- Category
- Title of work
- Category
 - Category 1: Grades K, 1, and 2
 - Category 2: Grades 3, 4, and 5
 - Category 3: Grades 6, 7, and 8
 - Category 4: Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12
- Authors must be amateurs; earnings from writing may not exceed \$500 annually.
- Entries may not have been published prior to the competition and must be original works by the authors.

CLARIFICATIONS AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Manuscripts will not be returned. Authors should keep a copy.
- By submitting your short story or poem to GFWC, you are providing GFWC with royalty-free perpetual license to use, reproduce, post, display, create derivative works, sell, license the work in any media known or later invented without limitation, for commercial or non-commercial purposes.
- Please remember to complete the GFWC Creative Arts Waiver if you are a State winner with an entry being submitted to GFWC for national awards.

DEADLINES FOR GFWC WRITING CONTESTS

State Level Contest: Clubs must send entries to their State's Writing Chairman for judging. State entry deadlines are determined by your State. State Writing Chairmen should keep in mind the national deadline when arranging for State judging.

National Level Contest: To be eligible for national judging, one State winner, along with a cover letter from the State Writing Contest Chairman listing the names of the winning submissions, must be postmarked on or before April 1, 2011, and April 1, 2012, and sent to the national GFWC Writing Contests Chairman.

AWARDS FOR GFWC WRITING CONTESTS

State Level Contest

In the Youth Writing Contests, a GFWC certificate will be presented annually to the top entry in each State, in each category for:

- Youth Poetry Writing Contest
 - Category 1: Grades K, 1, and 2
 - Category 2: Grades 3, 4, and 5

- Category 3: Grades 6, 7, and 8
- Category 4: Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12
- Youth Short Story Writing Contest
 - Category 1: Grades K, 1, and 2
 - Category 2: Grades 3, 4, and 5
 - Category 3: Grades 6, 7, and 8
 - Category 4: Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12

A GFWC certificate will be presented annually to the top entry in each State for GFWC Member Writing Contests for:

- GFWC Member Poetry Writing Contest
- GFWC Member Short Story Writing Contest

GFWC National Awards

In the Youth Writing Contests, a GFWC certificate will be presented annually at the GFWC Annual International Convention to the top entry in each contest in each category for:

- Youth Poetry Writing Contest
 - Category 1: Grades K, 1, and 2
 - Category 2: Grades 3, 4, and 5
 - Category 3: Grades 6, 7, and 8
 - Category 4: Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12
- Youth Short Story Writing Contest
 - Category 1: Grades K, 1, and 2
 - Category 2: Grades 3, 4, and 5
 - Category 3: Grades 6, 7, and 8
 - Category 4: Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12

A GFWC certificate will be presented annually at the GFWC Annual International Convention to the top three national entries in each GFWC Member Writing Contest:

- GFWC Member Poetry Writing Contest
- GFWC Member Short Story Writing Contest

Grants

GFWC currently offers grants in the following areas:

- GFWC Club Recruitment Grants, funded by GFWC. Information provided in the GFWC Membership Advancement Guide.
- GFWC District Club Building Grants, funded by GFWC. Information provided in the GFWC Membership Advancement Guide
- GFWC Literacy Grants, funded by Procter & Gamble. Information provided below and detailed information about creating a GFWC Education Community Service Program can be found in the *GFWC Club Manual*.

For detailed information about these grants, please see the appropriate section of the *GFWC Club Manual*, or go online to www.GFWC.org/GFWCMembers for more information.

GFWC LITERACY GRANTS

Interested in funding to help improve literacy efforts in your community? Thanks to Procter & Gamble Company, GFWC is able to offer up to \$150 for club literacy programs.

Literacy club grants of up to \$150 are available to GFWC clubs, and funds may be used for purchasing books for tutors to use, providing books to kids and/or a variety of other literacy needs. Review the application for a number of other suggestions. Read the guidelines below, evaluate and determine what your community needs, and complete and submit an application to GFWC. Following implementing your project, complete an evaluation form.

Guidelines

- Funding is limited. Grants will be awarded based on merit and project sustainability as outlined on the application.
- Clubs that apply must hold active membership (per capita dues paying) in their State Federations and in the General Federation of Women's Clubs.
- Clubs must complete an application. Funding is available until it is gone.
- Clubs must use the funding to start or continue a literacy project. Funding may be spent on training, materials, program promotion, or a related literacy project expense.

- Funding may be up to but not exceed \$150 per club.
- Clubs must complete an evaluation, which will be included with the grant check if the club application is approved.

Applications Are Available

- By calling the GFWC Membership and Programs Department at 202-347-3168
- By e-mailing GFWC at GFWC@GFWC.org
- By reviewing information on the GFWC website at www.GFWC.org/GFWCMembers

GFWC gratefully acknowledges Procter & Gamble for its support of the GFWC Focus on Literacy Program.

GFWC Literacy Club Grant Application

Name _____
 Mailing Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Phone _____ E-mail _____
 Club Name _____

Mail, fax, or e-mail completed application to:

Literacy Grant Application
 GFWC
 1734 N Street NW
 Washington, DC 20036-2990
 F: 202-835-0246 | E: GFWC@GFWC.org

Provide a brief but detailed response to each of the following:

- 1) Write a brief description of the proposed literacy project. Include basic goals.

2) List how the money will be spent. Specify amounts for things like printing, materials, rental costs, refreshments, etc.

3) List any organizations the club plans to work with on the proposed project (local government, PTA, schools, other literacy groups like Reading is Fundamental, etc.)

Questions? Contact the GFWC Programs Director at 202-347-3168 or GFWC@GFWC.org.

For information on how you can create and implement a successful literacy program in your community, review the GFWC Education Community Service Program in the GFWC Club Manual or download the information at www.GFWC.org/ClubManual.

Resources

Creative Arts Waiver

With my signature I declare that:

- I have created the submitted work, entitled _____, and I own the full copyright. The work has not been published before.
- With my work, including pictures, tables, or additional media, I do not violate or infringe the copyright or other persons or entities.

The work in question is (please check one): Photography Poetry Short Story

- I grant the General Federation of Women’s Clubs a royalty-free perpetual license to use, reproduce, post, display, create derivative works, sell, license, or sub-license the work in any media now know or later invented without limitation, for commercial or non-commercial purposes.
- I agree that I shall not release the work to any other publication in the same or substantially similar form, without prior written and explicit consent from the General Federation of Women’s Clubs.

This agreement shall become effective and binding at the date of formal acceptance of the work for publication by the General Federation of Women’s Clubs.

Print Full Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

E-mail Address _____

Daytime Phone with Area Code _____

Signature

Date