

***Be Inspired to Do Great Things
...Like Jane!***

**Colleen Janssen
President
Orange District, CFWC**





**Recipient of the GFWC
2025 Jane Cunningham Croly Award
for Excellence in Journalism**



Here comes the Bride

By: Colleen Janssen

Before you think this story is from the distant past, or in another country, know that this is about the United States of America, today, now. This is about a girl who is guided by a parent to stand in front of an officiant and get married. This is not the happiest day of her life.

At only 17, she is being forced to marry a man who is 21. This is not her choice. She is scared and under extreme duress. As a minor, she has no rights and no ability to stop what is to come. Her parents hold all the rights, and they have decided she is getting married.

"Marriage certificates show that 300,000 minors were wed in the U.S. from 2000-2018, mostly girls married to adult men," said Fraidy Reiss, Founder and Executive Director of Unchained at Last, a nonprofit organization working to stop forced and child marriage.

The reasons for these forced marriages can vary, but according to Reiss, "Only seven states have laws protecting minors from this practice." She continued, "Forty-three states, do not. The effective marrying age in California is zero." This means a child in California can be forced to marry someone at any point after they are born.

They found cases in other states with a zero-marriage age where children as young as ten were forced to marry. This is legalized rape, and can be a motivation for pedophiles and violent predators. For victims, this can become a horrific, and traumatic situation. Reiss states, "We have created a nightmarish legal trap for these girls."

Reiss cited an example of a 16-year-old girl in Idaho whose father paid a man to marry his daughter. "He wanted to get out of paying child support," said Reiss. "The mother filed in court and the Idaho Supreme Court (Carver v Hornish, 2021) upheld the marriage, and refused help."

Children who are in this situation have no rights. In most states, their minor status means they are pulled out of school, raped on their wedding night and thereafter, cannot open a checking account, cannot sign a contract, cannot file for divorce, cannot go to a domestic violence shelter, can be stopped from using birth control, and more. Often, girls become pregnant, which stops them from trying to leave because they won't leave their children alone to face the spouse.

With no money, and no ability to get out of the situation, a victim can be forced to face repeated rape and control by a person who is an adult, and who has all the rights that come with that status. Should the person leave the relationship, they may face parents who will no longer speak to them or help them.

"Often, there is a money reason," said Reiss. "The marriage occurred because the parent was in debt, or as a favor for a relative." Also, if a girl has been raped, sometimes the

Here Comes the Bride continued

the parent will force her to marry the rapist to save the family from the embarrassment of an unwed pregnancy. Immigration can also be a motivator that gives the new spouse the ability to move to the U.S. and become a citizen.

Reiss shares that, "This is a huge imbalance of power...and a human rights violation." Her organization is working to enact laws to stop this practice. Unbelievably, she has run into resistance from law makers and the ACLU.

"We tried to get the law changed in California...the ACLU of Northern California wrote a memo extolling the virtues of child marriage, in support of this civil rights abuse. They said marriage is a civil liberty," said Reiss. "We want to keep the minimum age at 18 but eliminate dangerous loopholes. This harms no one, costs nothing, and ends a human rights abuse."

Why is Reiss so passionate about this problem? She was a young-adult victim of a forced marriage to a stranger who was violent. When she finally got a divorce, her parents shunned her. She and her children were alone. Imagine the hopelessness a teenager would have who has no skills or help,

facing that same situation. Sadly, self-harm or suicide can be the result.

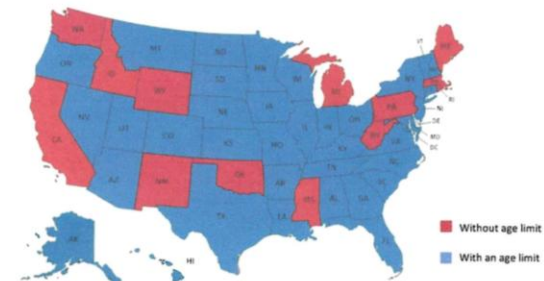
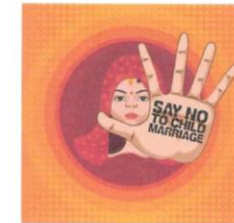
The biggest challenge, cites Reiss, is "making people aware that this is happening nationally, and we need to end this human rights abuse. We need more awareness." Currently, women's organizations are partnering to help with awareness. Unchained at Last is scheduling an awareness event called a Chain-In in California in 2023.

The organization's website, www.unchainedatlast.org, has a comprehensive explanation of the problem and how we can help. The three most important things Reiss wants readers to do is: 1) Follow them on social media and retweet or share their posts; 2) Go onto the website and join their coalition personally, and with your nonprofit organization; and 3) Donate. There is a list on their website of other ways you can help. Educating your state senator and assembly member is crucial. The organization is a

tiny nonprofit of only five people, trying to change an entire country's laws regarding forced and child marriage to end this human rights abuse. Your help is vital.

"Ending child marriage seems so obvious and basic," said Reiss. "Many human rights abuses have no simple solution, but child marriage in California and the U.S. can end in our lifetime. We need to insist our legislators do the right thing."

Her organization can be reached through the website, by email at admin@unchainedatlast.org, or by phone at (908) 481-HOPE.



map @Indy100



**GFWC Convention
June 9, 2025
Atlanta, GA**



**GFWC President Suellen Brazil &
Croly Award Recipient Colleen Janssen**



GFWC California Clubwoman Subscription (Handout)



GFWC California Clubwoman Magazine Subscription Form

Please Print

Name: _____ Club: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Are you a Member of Federation? ☐ Yes ☐ No, I am a non-member.

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Opportunities for You and Your Club!



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**GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**

EDUCATE. ENGAGE. EMPOWER.

2024-2026 CLUB MANUAL



GFWC Club Manual



2024 – 2025 Procedure Manual Yearbook

CFWC Yearbook



GFWC Club Manual

Table of Contents

[Letter from the President](#)

[Administration Calendar](#)

[Annual Giving Program](#)

[Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention](#)

[Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children](#)

[Arts and Culture Community Service Program](#)

[Civic Engagement Community Service Program](#)

[Education and Libraries Community Service Program](#)

[Environment Community Service Program](#)

[Health and Wellness Community Service Program](#)

[Honorary Chairmen](#)

➡ [Affiliate Organizations](#)

[Communications and Public Relations Advancement Plan](#)

[Fundraising Advancement Plan](#)

[Leadership Advancement Plan](#)

[Legislation/Public Policy Advancement Plan](#)

➡ [Membership Advancement Plan](#)

[Women's History and Resource Center](#)

➡ [Community Impact Award](#)

[Jennie Award](#)

[Newsletter Contest](#)

[Photography Contest](#)

[Website Contest](#)

[Writing Contest](#)

[Creative Arts Waiver](#)

[Deadlines for GFWC Awards and Contests](#)

Community Service Programs

Awards, Contests, & Grants

Community Service Programs



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GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

AFFILIATE ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

2024-2026 GFWC CLUB MANUAL



ORANGE DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING



- DATE:** Friday, September 19, 2025 (*one week later than usual*)
- TIME:** Doors open at 9:30 am. Meeting begins at 10:00 am
- COST:** \$40
- PLACE:** Ebell Club of Anaheim Clubhouse, 226 N. Helena St., Anaheim.
- INVITED:** All Club Presidents and Deans are voting members of the council and should be in attendance to represent their club. All club members are welcome, too.
- RSVP:** **NEW!** To Marilyn Mocilnikar, marilyn.mocilnikar@gmail.com
- PAY:** With one club check at the door made out to "Orange District CFWC"
- LUNCH:** Please tell Marilyn which lunch option is desired for each member.

Lunch Choice: Beef Lasagna OR Vegetarian Lasagna

All lunches include:
California salad with four berry vinaigrette on the side
Roasted vegetables, bread, and chef's choice dessert

"GFWC AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS"

Our speaker will be our very own Linda Queen, Orange District 1st VP/Dean.



Strategic partnerships are a key component of GFWC's (*General Federation of Women's Clubs*) advocacy and public policy strategy. Like other organizations, GFWC uses its limited resources to maximize our impact for the benefit Community Service Projects undertaken by members.

GFWC Affiliate Organizations provide the issue-expert insight, as well as important tools and resources, such as messaging, toolkits, graphics, speakers, and much more for social marketing campaigns.

Clubs are encouraged to support the work of these organizations. Linda will talk about these organizations, how they are vetted by GFWC, and how we can get involved. Some of our local clubs will share their involvement with Affiliates.



Club RSVPs are due to Marilyn Mocilnikar,
marilyn.mocilnikar@gmail.com, by September 10, 5:00 pm.
RSVP questions: (817) 946-1461. No late RSVPs, please.

Orange District Council Meeting

Friday, September 19, 2025

Newsletter emailed yesterday (*Handout*).

Membership Grant Money

\$50

\$50

GRANTS

GFWC grants are available to clubs to assist with recruitment efforts and to State Federations to assist in the development of a new membership recruitment project/campaign at the state level. Designated for each GFWC fiscal year, which begins July 1 and ends June 30, GFWC offers \$50 to clubs for member recruitment programs and \$100 to State Federations for new state-level membership projects/campaigns.

To apply, download the Membership Grant Application for clubs or State Federations from the Member Portal.

Return the form to GFWC at least 45 days prior to the event. GFWC will award no more than one grant per club or State Federation per GFWC fiscal year. If you have any questions or need help accessing the grant application, contact GFWC@GFWC.org or call 202-347-3168.

AWARDS

GFWC recognizes State Federations for outstanding projects and clubs for creative projects in implementing effective Membership Advancement Plan projects as follows:

- A certificate to one State Federation in each membership category
- A \$50 award to a single club for the most creative and effective project

Award winners will be determined by entries into the Award Program. Each State Federation may submit one State Award Entry and one Club Creativity Award Entry for Membership Advancement Plan projects. Clubs do not submit entries directly to GFWC.

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

An award certificate will be given at the 2026 GFWC Annual Convention to each state that federates one or more new clubs with GFWC during the 2024-2026 Administration, plus a financial award of \$50 for each club that is federated. State Membership Chairmen must send the completed New Club Form to GFWC Headquarters within 60 days of the new club's federation date for the new club to qualify, with a copy to the GFWC Membership Chairman. The award is based on information provided to GFWC via the New Clubs Forms submitted between July 1, 2024, and February 15, 2026, and with new club dues paid by February 15, 2026.

Additionally, each state federation that retains at least 90% of its membership between July 1, 2024, and February 15, 2026, will be recognized onscreen at the 2026 GFWC Annual Convention. The recognition is based on information provided via the State Retention Form, submitted by February 15, 2026.

Refer to the Awards section of the Club Manual for more information, including the Award Entry Cover Sheet and guidelines.

COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAM AWARDS

AWARDS, CONTESTS, AND GRANTS

2024-2026 GFWC CLUB MANUAL

THE GFWC COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAM AWARD OFFERS GFWC CLUBS FINANCIAL INCENTIVES TO IMPLEMENT PROJECTS DESIGNED TO IMPACT A SPECIFIC PROBLEM IN THEIR COMMUNITY.

Introduced in 1949 as the "Build a Better Community Contest," and later known as the "Community Improvement Program Award," this program has provided GFWC clubs with a platform for developing and implementing projects that meet the varying and changing needs of their communities. As GFWC's longest standing project, it has also presented opportunities for growing club membership, enhancing leadership skills, building relationships with individuals and groups, and creating public awareness of club activities and GFWC.

Community Impact Projects should make a visual, physical, or emotional impact at the grassroots level. These projects should raise awareness of GFWC volunteering and the impactful efforts made by clubwomen.

SELECTING THE PROJECT AND PLANNING

Any grassroots project that makes a measurable impact in your local community and fits the criteria will be accepted for judging purposes.

GFWC clubs are encouraged to consider the Community Connection Initiative highlighted in each of the Special Program Areas and/or Community Service Programs. These Community Connection Initiatives can be found in each of their respective sections in the Club Manual under the area of interest.

- **Signature Program: Become a Champion** - Be the Voice for Those That Have No Voice
- **Juniors' Special Program:** Be A Champion in the Lives of Children
- **Arts and Culture:** Developing Community Orientated Art
- **Civic Engagement and Outreach:** Preparation Saves Lives
- **Education and Libraries:** Support High-Quality Early Learning Programs
- **Environment:** National and State Parks Engage in Nature
- **Health and Wellness:** Caregivers' Circle



2024-2026 COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAM AWARDS

Katie Moydell, Chairman
200 Conrad Circle
Columbia, SC 29212
Katiemoydell1020@gmail.com



AWARD PERIOD

January 1, 2024 to
December 31, 2025



COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAM AWARDS

2024-2026 GFWC CLUB MANUAL

DESIGN YOUR OWN GRASSROOTS COMMUNITY IMPACT PROJECT

Here is an example of how a club can design a project eligible for Community Impact Program Awards.

BRAINSTORMING AND RESEARCH

Club members meet to discuss the needs of their local community by looking for grassroots projects that will require community partnerships, additional funds, and planning implementation. Clubs can also select a Community Connection Initiative from one of the Special Program Areas and/or Community Service Programs as noted in the GFWC Club Manual guides.

After brainstorming possible projects, ask club members to narrow the discussion to a couple of possible focus areas. Club members research the grassroots issues of focus with input from the community (schools, churches, local leaders and governments, businesses, etc.) and reconvene to finalize a targeted project.

OUTLINE THE PROJECT TO CREATE A PLAN OF ACTION

The club creates a project plan that may include:

- Project goal statement describing a clear picture view of what is to be accomplished by the project and what benefits will be gained when the project is completed.
- Community connections for collaboration.
- Funding needed and possible sources.
- Media outlets and plan to promote the project in the news, online, and social media.
- Timeline for the project.

CONTEST DESCRIPTION

Each Community Impact Program Award Entry Form can feature one project based on community need or the Community Connection Initiative from one of the Special Program Areas and/or Community Service Programs. The selected project must be undertaken by a club and accomplished during the award period of **January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2025**.

Award Entry Form highlights the following:

- Brief description of the project and the issue/problem you are trying to solve.
- Project scope including:
 - the plan of action.
 - costs to implement and how the project was funded.
 - community collaboration, if any.
 - obstacles, if any, you overcame to implement the project.
- Results achieved and the long-term effects of the project on the community.
- Public relations and media (include internet, newspaper articles, social media, television, etc.) including pictures of the project activities.

Total entry cannot exceed 10 pages, including photos, media, etc.

OTHER GUIDELINES

- Clubs that have previously won this award must submit entirely new projects for consideration; expanded projects will not be considered.
- International Affiliates may submit an Award Entry to be judged in conjunction with other International Affiliates.



- All deadlines and other rules must be followed.
- Joint entries of clubs and state-sponsored projects are not allowed.
- All monetary awards must be used to advance the winning Community Impact Project.
- Award entries of national winners will be kept in the GFWC Women's History and Resource Center.

CALENDAR

JANUARY through FEBRUARY 2026

State Community Impact Program Award Chairman must obtain three judges.
Judges may not be members of GFWC.

MARCH 1, 2026

Club entries must be sent to the State CIP Chairman via email (if digitally accepted by State Chairman) or mail, postmarked/timestamped no later than this date, to Community Impact Program Award State Chairman.

MARCH 5-15, 2026

Club entries are judged at the state level.

MARCH 20, 2026

Community Impact Program State Chairman – The Award Entry of the **first-place state winner only** must be emailed, or postmarked/timestamped no later than this date, to GFWC CIP Chairman AND to Second Vice President.

After award winners are announced at their respective State Conventions, GFWC will issue checks to the winning state clubs. **There can be no "ties" submitted; only one winning club is accepted by GFWC for the award process.**

Award Entries at the national level will be judged by a non-GFWC panel of judges and overseen by the Community Impact Program Chairman.

Mail to:
Katie Moydell
200 Conrad Circle
Columbia, SC 29212
katiemoydell1020@gmail.com

AND

Mail to:
Mary Beth Williams
8 Sequoyah Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80906
MBWilliams@GFWC.org

SPRING 2026

State Community Impact Program Awards are presented at State Conventions.

APRIL 2026

National judging takes place by a judging panel overseen by the CIP Chairman.

JUNE 2026

National and International Community Impact Program Awards will be presented at the 2026 GFWC Annual Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona.

SUGGESTED JUDGING CRITERIA FOR STATE JUDGING

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT - 25 POINTS

- Procedures, plan of action, and input in choosing projects
- Plan details, execution, and effort
- Community collaboration with other groups and/or individuals

PROJECT COMPLETION - 50 POINTS

- Project completed within timeframe
- Financial support obtained
- Obstacles, if any, overcome

PROJECT CHANGE - 25 POINTS

- Increase in community awareness
- Degree of success of project and measurable impacts
- Viability of long-term efforts

AWARDS

GFWC awards up to \$21,100 to winners of the GFWC Community Impact Program Award. Nationally, only first place winners are given monetary awards within the six membership categories.

GFWC STATE AWARDS:

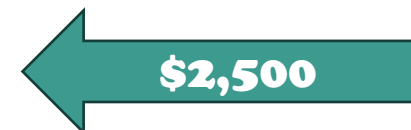
First Place \$100

Total for 50 State Federations and District of Columbia \$5,100

GFWC NATIONAL AWARDS:

Category 1: \$2,500
Category 2: \$2,500
Category 3: \$2,500
Category 4: \$2,500
Category 5: \$2,500
International Affiliate: \$1,000

Total National Awards: \$13,500



GFWC

Awards, Contests & Grants

Jennie Award

JENNIE AWARD

AWARDS, CONTESTS, AND GRANTS

2024-2026 GFWC CLUB MANUAL

THE GFWC JENNIE AWARD HONORS ONE CLUBWOMAN FROM EACH GFWC REGION FOR OUTSTANDING COMMITMENT TO CLUB, COMMUNITY, AND FAMILY.

"I have never done anything that was not helpful to women, so far as it lay in my power." - Jane Cunningham Croly (placed on grave marker dedicated at GFWC's Centennial in 1991)

The GFWC Jennie Award is the only national honor bestowed by GFWC that recognizes individual members for personal excellence. Club members are nominated by their clubs to compete at State, Regional, and National levels for the Federation's highest honor.

The 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 extraordinary clubwomen who epitomize Croly's spirit of independence, courage, and persistence through their roles as volunteers within their clubs, representatives of their 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. Since it is an award for lifetime personal excellence, club presidents should consider utilizing the knowledge of club historians or members of long-standing for Jennie Award nominees. Club presidents should be mindful of first impressions and make the nominee's packet of supporting materials as professional as possible as it may be judged at the different levels by influential community leaders.

The GFWC Jennie Award Nomination Form is included on the last page of this section and may be downloaded from the GFWC Member Portal.



JENNIE AWARD

2024-2026 GFWC CLUB MANUAL

JUDGING CRITERIA

Nominations will be evaluated on the following criteria:

COMMITMENT TO FAMILY

Recognizing that families come in many different forms, the nominee might be a single parent, a grandparent raising 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 immediate 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 ongoing basis, separate and apart, from club and community work.

COMMITMENT TO GFWC

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 effort 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 occurrence.

COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

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

PUBLIC RELATIONS OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to recognizing the outstanding achievements of a club member, an important reason for participating in the GFWC Jennie Award is the tremendous public relations impact it may have on the club, State, Regional, and National levels. Below are some public relations suggestions for each stage during the 2024-2026 Administration:

CLUB

GFWC encourages clubs to recognize one member each administration who has excelled not only in club duties but in their personal life and in the community. Once your club selects its GFWC Jennie Award nominee and is ready to submit its narrative describing a nominee's qualifications, a news release or article about your nominee should be submitted to local media outlets. Consider holding 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 media. GFWC clubs may submit only one Jennie Award nominee to their State.

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 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 summer 2025, or at another appropriate venue, such as your State Convention, where each finalist is awarded a special certificate. Reporters should be invited to cover the awards event, or a photo and caption of the event should be sent to relevant media.



REGION

Region Presidents should consider appointing a Jennie Award Chairman to assist in publicizing and managing the award process, including assisting the Region President in choosing a committee of outside judges to help select the two regional finalists whose applications will be forwarded to GFWC Headquarters for consideration at the national level. The Region President and/or Jennie Awards Chairman should plan an event to honor all state nominees in their Region during the 2025 Region Conferences. Honor all state nominees from the Region and make them feel special by introducing them to the attendees, presenting special certificates to each one, and offering photo opportunities that they can share with their local media.

Reminder— Region entries to GFWC Headquarters must be postmarked by December 1, 2025. GFWC will prepare certificates for the 16 Region finalists and highlight them in the Spring 2026 issue of *GFWC Clubwoman Magazine*.

NATIONAL

At the time of the awards ceremony during the GFWC Annual Convention in June 2026, 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 media about the national honor. Club Communications and Public Relations Chairmen of the national recipients should notify local officials and organizations such as the mayor, Chamber of Commerce president, and state elected officials to arrange photo opportunities and recognition events.

The GFWC Jennie Award Nomination Form is included on the last page of this section and may be downloaded from the GFWC Member Portal.

AWARD RULES

Clubs may nominate one member who has demonstrated the qualities outlined under the judging criteria above for this award.

- The nominee must be a member in good standing of a GFWC club for a minimum of five years. Her tenure of service may be with several clubs. Years of service must be consecutive not concurrent.
- GFWC Executive Officers (past or present) are not eligible for nomination.
- Nominations should emphasize a member's entire lifetime of service.
- Clubs must complete and submit by June 1, 2025, the GFWC Jennie Award Nomination that contains no more than **25 pages total** (printed single-spaced) of required documents and supportive materials including the following:
 - **Title Page** - Cover sheet that could include basic information as:
 - GFWC Jennie Award Nomination 2024-2026 as heading
 - Nominee's Name, Club Name, State Federation
 - Picture (if desired)
 - **Letter of Introduction** - Provide information about the nominee that describes the reason for the nomination. Maximum of 500 words.
 - **Official GFWC Jennie Award Nomination Form** which includes narrative descriptions of the nominee's:
 - **Commitment to Family** - To her nuclear or extended family. Maximum of 250 words.
 - **Commitment to GFWC Club** - Through involvement in activities. Maximum of 250 words.



- **Commitment to Community** - Participation in community groups and organizations, both volunteer and professional. Maximum of 250 words.
- **Digital color photograph** of nominee (high-resolution/300 dots per inch or pixels per inch) submitted for use by GFWC
Note: If the photo does not meet the required specifications, it will not be used.
- **Clips** of two or 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 the club president
- **Letter of Endorsement** from a representative of another organization
- Nomination packet, including all forms, supporting materials, and photographs, will not be returned.
- The 16 Region Finalists will be featured in the Spring 2026 issue of *GFWC Clubwoman Magazine*.
- One clubwoman from each of the eight GFWC Regions will be selected for national recognition as a GFWC Jennie Award honoree and is expected to attend the 2026 GFWC Annual Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona.
- All eight national GFWC Jennie Award honorees will be awarded roundtrip transportation to attend the June 2026 GFWC Annual Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona.

CALENDAR

August 2024 - State Presidents/Region Presidents

Encourage clubs to start looking for candidates to propose. Announce the call for nominations at state meetings and publish reminders in newsletters, magazines, social media, and emails.

June 1, 2025 - Clubs

Submit nomination materials (1 per club) to respective State President, POSTMARKED by this date.

August 1, 2025 - State Presidents

Submit nomination materials (1 per State) to respective GFWC Region President, POSTMARKED by this date.

December 1, 2025 - Region Presidents

Submit nomination materials (2 per Region) to GFWC Headquarters, 1734 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036-2990, POSTMARKED by this date.

March 2026 - 16 Region Finalists

Featured in *GFWC Clubwoman Magazine*.

March/April 2026

GFWC National Selection Committee Meets.

June 2026

One clubwoman from each of the 8 Regions will be chosen as a National Jennie Award honoree. All eight are expected to attend and will be honored at the 2026 GFWC Annual Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona. A special remembrance and certificate will be presented to the honorees by the GFWC International President and GFWC Jennie Award Chairman.



Follow instructions in the Award Rules for completing the Nomination along with required documents and supportive materials. Please attach a Letter of Introduction with a maximum of 500 words, double-spaced, using 12-point Arial font, and one-inch margins on all four sides.

1. NOMINEE

Please note that the nominee must attend the 2026 GFWC Annual Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona, if selected as a national award winner.

Nominee Name

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip Code

Phone

Email

Club

Current State Federation

Year Nominee Joined GFWC

First State Federation

Region

2. NOMINATOR/CONTACT PERSON

Nominator/Contact Name

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip Code

Phone

Email

3. COMMITMENT TO FAMILY

Include examples separate and apart from GFWC club and community work. 250 word limit

4. COMMITMENT TO CLUB

Name(s) of project(s), duration, and results, if any, including leadership and positions held. 250 word limit

5. COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

Non-GFWC club service, names of the organization(s), titles held, unique approach to volunteer service. 250 word limit

Clubs: Submit the title page, completed nomination form, letter of introduction, photos, press clippings, letters of endorsement, and materials by **June 1, 2025**, to your State President. Please note: materials will NOT be returned.

Contact the national GFWC Jennie Award Chairman (Deborah Allen, debgfwc@gmail.com) or the GFWC Programs Department with any questions: 1-800-443-GFWC or Programs@GFWC.org.

NEWSLETTER CONTEST

AWARDS, CONTESTS, AND GRANTS

2024-2026 GFWC CLUB MANUAL

NEWSLETTERS ARE ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT METHODS OF INFORMING GFWC MEMBERS ABOUT CURRENT, ONGOING, AND NEW INITIATIVES.

This 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 and communities. This type of publication need not be elaborate or lengthy. Substance is more important than style. A newsletter should be informative and generate enthusiasm, all while contributing to public relations outreach, membership recruitment and retention, and program development. The newsletter should always display the GFWC emblem.

CONTEST RULES

- Each Club or State Federation may submit one newsletter issue for entry.
- The newsletter must have been published and clearly dated during the contest year (January 1-December 31).
- The front page of the newsletter must prominently display the official GFWC emblem and mention membership in GFWC. Refer to the *GFWC Style Guide* for GFWC Trademark Use Policies at www.GFWC.org.
- Newsletter entries must include the contact information of at least one member, including an email address, telephone number, and/or mailing address.
- Printed entries must be sent via postal mail, postmarked no later than March 15 in the year in which they will be judged to:
Becky Bolden, GFWC Newsletter Contest Chairman:
4510 Hidden Meadows Lane, Monroe, GA 30656 and a copy to
GFWC Programs: 1734 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036
The envelope must be clearly marked GFWC Newsletter Contest.
- Electronic entries must be emailed by 11:59 on March 15 in the year in which they will be judged to CPRentries@gmail.com and Programs@GFWC.org. The subject line must include GFWC Newsletter Contest and the name of the club or state.
- Your entry must include the attached cover letter with your 250 word essay describing the club's/State Federation's approach to utilizing its newsletter for members.



For ideas on creating an informative and engaging newsletter, refer to the Communications and Public Relations Toolkit by visiting the Member Portal.



2024-2026 NEWSLETTER CONTEST

Becky Bolden, Chairman
4510 Hidden Meadows Lane
Monroe, GA 30656

Correspondence:
beckybolden11@gmail.com

Contest Entries:
CPRentries@gmail.com and
Programs@GFWC.org

JUDGING CRITERIA

Entries will be judged and awarded points on the following elements:

- Content quality, including timeliness, clarity, and member impact (30%)
- Presentation (30%)
- Design (25%)
- GFWC emblem Included (5%)
- Adherence to rules (10%)

DEADLINE

Entries must be postmarked or emailed by **March 15** in the year in which they will be judged.

AWARDS

CLUB LEVEL

A first, second, and third place certificate will be awarded annually at the GFWC Convention to three clubs in the nation.

STATE LEVEL

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



GFWC NEWSLETTER CONTEST

2024-2026 GFWC ADMINISTRATION

1. ENTRY

Date Submitted

State Federation or Club Name

State / Club President's Name

Number of Members in State / Club

Approximate Circulation

Type of Newsletter ☐ Electronic ☐ Printed

2. NOMINATOR/CONTACT PERSON

Nominator/Contact Name

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip Code

Phone

Email

3. ESSAY

Include an essay describing the club's/State Federation's approach to utilizing its newsletter for members as well as expanding GFWC's mission and brand. *250 word limit*

If mailed, send the submission to Becky Bolden, GFWC Newsletter Contest Chairman, 4510 Hidden Meadows Lane, Monroe, GA 30656, and a copy to GFWC Programs, 1734 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036. The envelope must be clearly marked GFWC Newsletter Contest.

If Emailed, the subject line must include GFWC Newsletter Contest and the name of the club or State and be sent to CPRentries@gmail.com with a copy to Programs@GFWC.org.



PHOTOGRAPHY CONTESTS

AWARDS, CONTESTS, AND GRANTS

2024-2026 GFWC CLUB MANUAL

TELL YOUR STORY WITH PHOTOGRAPHS

The GFWC Photography Contests encourage members' artistic expression and visual storytelling while recognizing originality, visual impact, and technical skill in photography. You don't need an expensive camera to take great pictures. Today's cell phones provide a way to take creative photographs that are contest worthy.

GFWC offers two opportunities to participate in the Photography Contests.

THE WORLD IN PICTURES CONTEST

These photographs showcase the people, places, and things at home and around the world that impact our lives in a meaningful way, as expressed in these three categories:

- **Our World Up Close**—Create a visual that offers a novel viewpoint or a macro image that takes the viewer into a whole new, tiny world. Macro photography creates photos of small items that appear to be larger than life-size. Some common examples are bugs or parts of flowers.
- **Natural Wonders**—Use wide angles and panoramas, or landscape images, to showcase mountains, meadows, sandhills, rivers, waterfalls, oceans, deserts, or any other magnificent vista. The emphasis is on NATURAL.
- **Reflections**—Feature an object, setting, situation, or landmark that is reflected in glass, water, or another mirrored surface.

GFWC LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT CONTEST

These photographs capture the special moments in the lives of GFWC clubwomen as they actively meet, plan, advocate, volunteer, or celebrate in groups or one-on-one.



2024-2026 PHOTOGRAPHY CONTESTS

Patricia (Tric) Heepe, Chairman
5145 Esteb Rd
Richmond, IN 47374
theepe@aol.com

CLUB CHAIRMAN RESPONSIBILITIES

- Encourage members to participate in the GFWC Photography Contests.
- Foster participation in the photography contests. Consider selecting a subject for all members to photograph. Possibly suggest a different shape for each week—circles, straight lines, etc.
- Recognize member contributions by awarding certificates and/or ribbons.
- Remind members of deadlines for judging in the local and state contests.
- Forward the submissions for state and national judging as instructed.
- Verify that all rules for the contests have been followed. Entries that **do not** follow the contest rules will be disqualified.



PHOTOGRAPHY CONTESTS

2024-2026 GFWC CLUB MANUAL



PHOTOGRAPHY CONTESTS

2024-2026 GFWC CLUB MANUAL

RULES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY CONTESTS

- Photographs must be the original work of the member submitting the photograph.
- All contest photographers must be dues paying members of an active GFWC club.
- Photographs submitted for the first year of the administration must be taken between January 1, 2024 and December 31, 2024. Photographs submitted for the second year of the administration must be taken between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025.
- Contestants must be considered an amateur photographer. (Pursuing photography for pleasure versus for financial benefits.)

ARTWORK GUIDELINES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY CONTESTS

- Photographs may be vertical/portrait or horizontal/landscape.
- Photographs must be the original work of the member submitting the photo.
- Digital submissions are highly recommended.
- If print photographs are submitted, they must be:
 - An 8 X 10-inch high-resolution print.
 - Mounted on a rigid 8 X 10-inch board and overall thickness may not exceed 3/8 inch. No mattes, frames, or hangers are allowed.
- Qualified judges will look at the overall creativity of the subject while recognizing originality, visual impact, and quality of the photograph and technical skills in photography.
- Photographs may be taken using film or digital cameras and may be color or black and white.
- Photographs will NOT be returned.
- Print photographs must have a label affixed to its back with the following information:
 - Contest name: The World in Pictures with category or GFWC Living the Volunteer Spirit
 - Photographer's Name, Email Address, Mailing Address, and Phone Number
 - Name and State of the sponsoring club
 - Title and brief caption giving location, date, and other pertinent info about the photograph
 - Arrow indicating top of the photograph
- Creative Arts Waiver Form for each submission is found at the end of this segment of the Club Manual and in the Member Portal under Resources in the Awards and Contests section.
- Digital prints must include the same information within the email to which the digital print is attached.

DEADLINES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY CONTESTS

State Level: Clubs must send entries to their respective State Photography Contest Chairman for judging. State entry deadlines are determined by the respective State Federation.

National Level: To be eligible for national judging, each State Federation may submit one winner for each contest and category, along with a cover letter from the respective State Photography Contest Chairman listing the names of the winning submissions and the signed GFWC Creative Arts Waiver from each state winner.

New: If available, please email the photographs in high-resolution/300 dots per inch or pixels per inch using Dropbox, Hightail, or other large-capacity format software.

The submission must be postmarked or emailed by **May 15**.



Digital Submissions and accompanying documentation should be emailed to Programs@GFWC.org with "Photography Contest" in the Subject Line and copied to: theepe@aol.com.

Print submission should be sent to:
GFWC Photography Contest
1734 N Street NW
Washington, DC 20036-2990

National level submitted photographs will not be returned.

* If your State Convention takes place on or about this deadline date, contact GFWC at Programs@GFWC.org or 1-202-347-3168).



AWARDS FOR PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

The following awards will be presented at the GFWC Annual Convention for the top three national entries in each contest and category:

FIRST PLACE \$100

SECOND PLACE \$75

THIRD PLACE \$50

\$50-\$100

DISCLAIMER

By submitting your photographs to GFWC for the GFWC Photography Contests 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 sublicense the work in any media now known or later invented without limitation for commercial or non-commercial purposes.

GFWC CREATIVE ARTS WAIVER FORM

The GFWC Creative Arts Waiver Form is attached to this Photography Contests program. For further information contact GFWC at Programs@GFWC.org or call 202-347-3168.

HELPFUL RESOURCES:

Top Seven Smart Phone Photography Tips That Will Make You Forget Your Camera: <https://fstoppers.com/mobile/top-7-smartphone-photography-tips-will-make-forget-your-camera-626557>

Tips and tricks to help you take better smartphone photos: <https://www.popsi.com/take-better-smartphone-photos/>

Top five photography lighting tips: <https://www.simplebooth.com/blog/photography-lighting-for-beginners/>

Photography Tips and Tricks: How to Take Good Pictures: <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/expeditions/get-inspired/inside-look/photography-tips-tricks-how-to-take-good-pictures/>



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 on the copyright of 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 sublicense the work in any media now known or later invented without limitation, for commercial or noncommercial purposes.

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

Full Name		
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip Code
Phone	Email	

Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature (if submitter is under 18 years of age)

Date



WEBSITE CONTEST

AWARDS, CONTESTS, AND GRANTS

2024-2026 GFWC CLUB MANUAL

“A WOMAN WITH A VOICE IS BY DEFINITION A STRONG WOMAN. BUT THE SEARCH TO FIND THAT VOICE CAN BE REMARKABLY DIFFICULT.”
MELINDA GATES

Club and state websites can offer an almost unlimited amount of information for prospective, new, and current members. Having an online presence helps increase your club and state outreach while promoting the GFWC Brand.

The GFWC Website Contest aims to challenge clubs and State Federations to employ their websites as membership tools with organized and updated content that presents a professional and credible source of information. A website that is updated weekly presents the information to your members and potential members in a timely manner. This is a great source to spread the word of the Federation on the web.

CONTEST RULES

- Only one website per club or State Federation may be submitted.
- The website homepage must contain a link to www.GFWC.org and display the GFWC emblem.
- The website must include contact information for at least one member, an email address, telephone number, and/or mailing address.
- The website may continue to be updated after the contest deadline date.
- Submissions must be made via email to CPRentries@gmail.com and Programs@GFWC.org
- The subject line of the submission email must read Website Contest Entry and the name of your club/state.
- The submission email must be received by 11:59 p.m. on March 15 in the year in which website entries will be judged.
- The submission email must include the attached completed entry form, which includes the 250-word essay.

**Private Member Only areas will not be judged.*

DEADLINE

Entries must be received via email by **March 15** in the year in which they will be judged.



For ideas on creating an informative and engaging newsletter, refer to the Communications and Public Relations Toolkit by visiting the Member Portal.



2024-2026 WEBSITE CONTEST

Becky Bolden Chairman
4510 Hidden Meadows Lane
Monroe, GA 30656

Correspondence:
beckybolden11@gmail.com

Contest Entries:
CPRentries@gmail.com and
Programs@GFWC.org

JUDGING CRITERIA

Websites will be judged on the following elements:

- Ease of navigation
- Overall appearance
- GFWC emblem is prominently displayed.
- Links to GFWC website and State website (if applicable)
- Links to GFWC/State/club affiliate organizations
- Current and relevant information
- Ease of ability to contact
- Ease of discovery via search platforms

AWARDS

CLUB LEVEL

A first, second, and third place certificate will be awarded annually at the GFWC Annual Convention to three clubs in the nation.

STATE LEVEL

GFWC certificates will be awarded at the GFWC Annual Convention to one State Federation in each membership category to recognize outstanding achievement in website implementation and maintenance.



GFWC WEBSITE CONTEST

2024-2026 GFWC ADMINISTRATION

1. ENTRY

Website URL

State Federation or Club Name

State / Club President's Name

Phone

Email

Number of Members in State / Club

2. NOMINATOR/CONTACT PERSON

Nominator/Contact Name

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip Code

Phone

Fax

Email

3. ESSAY

Include an essay describing why the club's/State Federation's website is a valuable resource to members and potential members. 250 word limit

When Emailed, the subject line must include GFWC Website Contest and the Name of the Club or State and sent to CPRentries@gmail.com with a copy to Programs@GFWC.org.



WRITING CONTESTS

AWARDS, CONTESTS, AND GRANTS

2024-2026 GFWC CLUB MANUAL

**"EITHER WRITE SOMETHING WORTH READING
OR DO SOMETHING WORTH WRITING."
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN**

Inspire creativity. Educate, engage, and empower members and your school communities through self-expression. Promote participation in GFWC-sponsored writing contests to foster community spirit, talent, and growth as writers. Contest entries in short stories and poetry are open to club members and youth in grades K-12. Encourage members and youth to write a story or a poem to express their thoughts and share their voices.



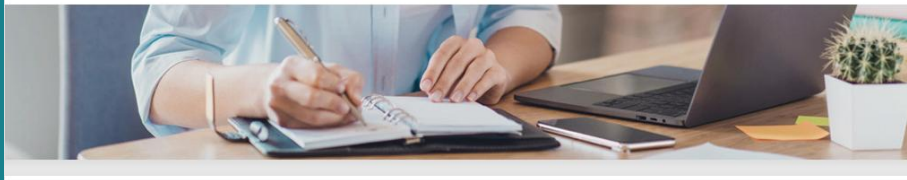
**2024-2026
WRITING CONTESTS**

Hope Royer, Chairman
700 Hermitage Road, Manakin
Sabot, VA 23103
hoperoyer@aol.com

GFWC MEMBER CONTESTS

Authors must be dues-paying members of an active per capita club.

- Entries must be:
 - Typed, double-spaced, and one-inch minimum margins on the top, bottom, and both sides.
 - Printed on white 8.5 x 11-inch paper, one side only.
 - If emailed, use Microsoft Word files only.
- Entries must be written during the contest year (January 1-December 31).
- Entries must include the following information on the top right-hand corner of each page:
 - Author's name, email address, mailing address, and phone number
 - Name of author's GFWC club and State Federation
 - Category
 - Title of work
 - Page number
- 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 author.
- A completed, signed **GFWC Creative Arts Waiver** must be included with each submission.
- **Short stories** are limited to 2,000 words. Word count must be included at the end of the story.
- **Poetry entries** can be any style with a minimum length of eight lines and a maximum of 50 lines.
- Entries are limited to one per member per category.



WRITING CONTEST
2024-2026 GFWC CLUB MANUAL

YOUTH WRITING CONTESTS

- Requirements:
 - Typed, double-spaced, one-inch minimum margins on the top, bottom, and both sides.
 - Printed on white 8.5 x 11-inch paper, one side only.
 - If emailed, use Microsoft Word files only.
- Entries must be written during the contest year (January 1-December 31).
- Entries must include the following information on the top, right-hand corner of each page:
 - Author's name, email address, mailing address, and phone number
 - Name of the GFWC club and State Federation submitting the author's work
 - Category
 - Title of work
 - Page number
 - Grade Level 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 the author's original work.
- A completed, signed **GFWC Creative Arts Waiver** must be included with each submission.
- Entries are limited to one per person per category.
- **Short stories** are limited to 2,000 words. Word count must be indicated at the end of the story.
- **Poetry entries** can be any style with a minimum length of eight lines and a maximum of 50 lines.
- The "Six Traits of Writing" will be used in the judging of the Youth Writing Contest writing entries in categories 2,3, and 4.

ENTRY GUIDELINES AND DEADLINES

STATE LEVEL

- Clubs must send entries to their respective State Writing Contests Chairman for state-level judging.
- State entry deadlines are determined by the respective State Federation.
- State Writing Contest Chairmen shall select judges, who will evaluate entries 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-level judging.

NATIONAL LEVEL

- One winning state entry per writing contest, per category, must be sent to the national GFWC Writing Contest Chairman, postmarked no later than April 1 each year.
- All entries must be accompanied by a cover letter from each State GFWC Creative Writing Contest Chairman with a complete list of state writing contest winners.
- All entries may be mailed or electronically sent to the GFWC Writing Contest Chairman and Programs@GFWC.org.



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www.GFWC.org

227

GFWC Contest Sample (Handout)

CLARIFICATIONS AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Manuscripts will not be returned. Authors should keep a copy.
- By submitting a short story or poem to GFWC, the author is providing GFWC with a royalty-free perpetual license to use, reproduce, post, display, create derivative works, sell, license the work in any media known at the time of entry, or later invented, without limitation, for commercial or non-commercial purposes.
- A completed, signed **GFWC Creative Arts Waiver** must be submitted with each entry.

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 on the copyright of 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 sublicense the work in any media now known or later invented, without limitation, for commercial or noncommercial purposes.

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

Full Name		
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip Code
Phone	Email	

Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature (if submitter is under 18 years of age)

Date

DEADLINES FOR GFWC AWARDS AND CONTESTS

2024-2026 GFWC CLUB MANUAL

This is a one-stop reference for all GFWC Awards and Deadlines. Please read the relevant sections in the GFWC Club Manual and all Award Entry forms for details. All deadlines call for emails to be sent by 11:59 p.m. Eastern on the due date, or for mailed entries to be postmarked no later than that date.



MARCH 15, 2025 & 2026

Statistical Report (one per state, sent by State President) Available in the Member Portal, send to Programs@GFWC.org AND jfrankfurth@gfwc.org

Community Service Program Award Entries (one per state Overall Award Entry and one per Club Creativity Entry, Awards presented in Membership Categories) Send to Programs@GFWC.org and Community Service Program Chairmen:

- **Arts and Culture:** Billie Williams, Chairman, bmwtfwc62@gmail.com or 4620 McGuire Road, Liberty, TX 77575
- **Civic Engagement and Outreach:** Vicky Ann Trimmer, Chairman, vtrimmer@daleyucker.com or 600 East Winding Hill Road, Mechanicsville, PA 17055
- **Education and Libraries:** Dana Jones, Chairman, Danajones64@yahoo.com or 6585 Settlement Drive S, Indianapolis, IN 46250
- **Environment:** Sharon Oliphant, Chairman, Solip561@aol.com or 871 NW 251st Drive, Newberry, FL 32660
- **Health and Wellness:** Lynn Foreman, Chairman, lforeman.gfwc22@gmail.com or PO Box 647, Ennis, MT 59729

Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention Advancement Plan Award Entries (one per state Overall Award Entry and one per Club Creativity Entry, Awards presented in Membership Categories) Send to Programs@GFWC.org and Carrie Zimmerman, GFWC Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention Chairman, Czim22@gmail.com or 605 White Oak Farms, Tamasee, SC 29686

Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children Award Entries (one per state Overall Award Entry and one per Club Creativity Entry, Awards presented in Membership Categories.) Send to Programs@GFWC.org and Suzanne Hooser, GFWC Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children Chairman, suzhoosergfwc@gmail.com or 4307 Washington Road, Kenosha, WI 53144

Communications and Public Relations Advancement Plan Award Entries (one per state Overall Award Entry and one per Club Creativity Entry, Awards presented in Membership Categories) Send to Programs@GFWC.org and Becky Bolden, Chairman, beckybolden11@gmail.com or 4510 Hidden Meadows Lane, Monroe, GA 30656

Newsletter Contest Award Entries (one per state Overall Award Entry and three awards presented to clubs, Awards presented in Membership Categories) Send Award Entries to Programs@GFWC.org and Becky Bolden, Chairman, beckybolden11@gmail.com or 4510 Hidden Meadows Lane, Monroe, GA 30656

Website Contest Award Entries (one per state Overall Award Entry and three awards presented to clubs, Awards presented in Membership Categories) Send Award Entries to Programs@GFWC.org and Becky Bolden, Chairman, beckybolden11@gmail.com or 4510 Hidden Meadows Lane, Monroe, GA 30656

Fundraising Advancement Plan Award Entries (one per state Overall Award Entry and one per Club Creativity Entry, Awards presented in Membership Categories) Send Award Entries to Programs@GFWC.org and Judy Martin, GFWC Fundraising Chairman, jmaartago@gmail.com or PO Box 472, Raleigh, MS 39153

Juniorette Recognition Form (Each Juniorette Club that submitted statistical information for the state statistical form) Send to Programs@GFWC.org and Darlene C. Adams, Juniorette Chairman, darlenecadams.gfwc@gmail.com or 101 Woodridge Lane, Picayune, MS 39466 AND Second Vice President Mary Beth Williams, mbwilliams@gfwc.org or 8 Sequoyah Road, Colorado Springs, CO 80906

Leadership Advancement Plan Award Entries (one per state Overall Award Entry and one per Club Creativity Entry, Awards presented in Membership Categories) Send Award entries to Programs@GFWC.org and Ann Landis, Chairman, alandis@ec.rr.com or 117 Clippership Drive, NC 28462

LEADS Candidate Submittals - Application for the GFWC Leadership, Education, and Development Seminar is available in the GFWC Club Manual. One LEADS candidate may be submitted per State or International Affiliate. Send candidate bio and photo to Programs@GFWC.org and Ann Landis, Chairman, alandis@ec.rr.com or 117 Clippership Drive, NC 28462

Legislation and Public Policy Advancement Plan Award Entries (one per state Overall Award Entry and one per Club Creativity Entry, Awards presented in Membership Categories) Send to Programs@GFWC.org and Mary Pat Marcello, Chairman, njsfwmarypat@aol.com or 1848 Wildcat CV, Hutchinson Island, FL 34949

Membership Advancement Plan Award Entries (one per state Overall Award Entry and Club Creativity Entry, Awards presented in Membership Categories) Send to Programs@GFWC.org and Karyn Charvet, Chairman, njwckaryn@gmail.com or 716, Wildflower Circle, Naperville, IL 60540

Women's History and Resource Center Advancement Plan Award Entries (one per state Overall Award Entry and one per Club Creativity Entry, Awards presented in Membership Categories) Send to Programs@GFWC.org and Marian St.Clair, Chairman, marian.stclair@gmail.com or 357 Riverside Drive, Greenville, SC 29605

APRIL 1, 2025 & 2026

Affiliate Organizations State Data Form, Affiliate Organizations National Club Data Form, and Affiliate Organizations International Club Data Form sent to Wendy Carriker (wcarriker@gfwc.org) And Jolie Frankfurth (jfrankfurth@gfwc.org)

Writing Contest Award Entries (one entry per state for each contest and category) To be eligible for judging, entries must be accompanied by a cover letter from the State GFWC Writing Contest Chairman along with the GFWC Creative Arts Waiver (found in the GFWC Club Manual) from each state winner. Entries will not be returned by GFWC. Please see GFWC Club Manual for all rules. Send to Hope Royer, Chairman, hoperoyer@aol.com or 700 Hermitage Road, Manakin Sabot, VA 23103

MAY 15, 2025 & 2026

Photography Contest Award Entries (One entry per state per category) To be eligible for judging, entries must be accompanied by a cover letter from the State Photography Contest Chairman along with the GFWC Creative Arts Waiver (found in the GFWC Club Manual) from each state winner. Entries will not be returned by GFWC. Please see the GFWC Club Manual for all rules. Send to GFWC Photography Contest, 1734 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036-2990.

JUNE 30, 2025 & 2026

Annual Giving Program Cumulative Contributions

GFWC will present recognitions as outlined in the program description and as determined by the donations submitted using the Annual Giving Program Form received and tabulated by GFWC.

2025

Jennie Award Nominations (All deadlines are 2025 - see GFWC Club Manual for details)

- **June 1** - Clubs send Jennie Award Nomination Form to State Jennie Award Chairman.
- **August 1** - States send ONE Jennie Award Nominee to GFWC Region President.
- **December 1** - Regions send TWO Jennie Award Nominees to GFWC Headquarters.
- **June 2026** - One nominee per Region will be recognized at the GFWC Annual Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona.

2026

Community Impact Program Award Entries (All deadlines are 2026 - see GFWC Club Manual for details)

- **March 1** - Clubs send entries to the State Community Impact Program Award Chairman.
- **March 20** - State/International Affiliate CIP Chairmen send the Award Entry to GFWC CIP Chairman Katie Moydell at katiemoydell1020@gmail.com and GFWC Second Vice President Mary Beth Williams at mbwilliams@gfwc.org (Awarded by Membership Categories and one International Affiliate.) State Chairmen forward the winning entry to addresses listed on the CIP Award Form. GFWC will issue checks to winning state clubs after GFWC Annual Convention.
- **June 2026** - GFWC Community Impact Program Awards will be presented at the 2026 GFWC Annual Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona.

IMPORTANT!

Check regarding DEADLINES with your:

- **District**
- **CFWC (CA Federation of Women's Clubs)**
- **GFWC (General Federation of Women's Clubs)**

Not everything goes straight from a club to GFWC. Many contests begin with club judging, then District judging, then CFWC judging, and finally, submission to GFWC.

HOW TO FORM A NEW JUNIORETTE CLUB

PART 1. GETTING STARTED - BEFORE YOUR FIRST MEETING

The age range of potential Juniette Club members will determine where and how to recruit prospective members.

Potential members might be:

- Children or grandchildren of club members.
- High school students with a community service requirement for graduation.
- Those looking for scholarship opportunities through clubs, Districts, or State Federations.
- Young people responding to volunteer opportunities posted on the club website.

Potential members might be recruited through the assistance of:

- Using Social Media.
- Post in the school paper.
- Teachers and school administrators.
- Home school groups.
- Local business leaders.
- Referrals sent from GFWC Headquarters.

Another membership recruitment strategy:

- Like other society clubs at schools where students are selected to join, send potential members an invitation letter stating that they have been "selected" to join the Juniette Club. One successful club's advisor states, "This has increased their membership because students see that it is an honor to be a member."

Finally:

- Remember that "Juniettes come in pairs."
- Encourage initial contacts to provide additional names to grow a list of potential members.
- Do not limit membership to one school; consider recruiting members in all public, private, and home school groups in the area.

Typical platforms Juniettes use to communicate are Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat, and Facebook with the majority of teens using TikTok and Instagram. Remember platforms most often used by club advisors and keep them informed. These can be used as communications or for club meetings.

Juniette social media pages are beneficial as a recruitment platform for potential Juniette members. They can reach Woman's Clubs and Junior Woman's Clubs, as well as community, business, and municipal leaders that typically use Facebook and other popular social media platforms.

Juniette Clubs are established by the same method as other GFWC clubs. However, the sponsoring GFWC club and advisor are key components of the club's formation, development, and success.

THE ROLE OF THE SPONSORING CLUB:

- Accepts responsibility for ensuring the success of the Juniette Club.
- Serves as a model of leadership, cooperation, and understanding.
- Ensures that the Advisor of the Juniette Club is also included in the sponsoring club's Directors and Officers Liability Insurance Policy.

Form a Juniette Club and Gain New Members for Your Club, too!

MEMBER DISCOUNTS ON GFWC WEBSITE

GFWC.org



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QUESTIONS

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Thank you!

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