

GCI Awards Listing

FLOWER SHOW AWARDS

(A Book of Evidence is required for all Flower Show Achievement Awards – unless otherwise noted. Refer to pages 13-14 in this guide for directions on “How to Prepare a Flower Show Book of Evidence”)

More than one (1) award may be given in a category to any club scoring more 95 or more points on their Flower Show Books of Evidence. All books scoring 95+ points will be sent on to NGC, Inc.

Club may apply for **only one** (1) Flower Show Award.

All Clubs scoring 95+ points will receive a Certificate.

- 1a. Club Standard Flower Show
- 1b. Club Holiday Standard Flower Show
- 1c. Club Patriotic Standard Flower Show
- 1d. Club Petite Standard Flower Show

BEST STANDARD FLOWER SHOW (1a, 1b, 1c or 1d)

Cash Award: First Place - \$30.00 / Second Place - \$20.00 / Third Place - \$10.00

- 2a. Club Small-Standard Flower Show
- 2b. Club Holiday Small-Standard Flower Show
- 2c. Club Patriotic Small-Standard Flower Show
- 2d. Club Petite Small-Standard Flower Show

BEST SMALL-STANDARD FLOWER SHOW (2a, 2b, 2c, or 2d)

Cash Award: First Place - \$30.00 / Second Place - \$20.00 / Third Place - \$10.00

- 3. Near-Clubs (2 or more) NGC Flower Show
- 4. Council NGC Flower Show
- 5. District NGC Flower Show
- 6. Horticulture Specialty Flower Show
- 7. Design Specialty Flower Show
- 8. Plant Society Show Co-Sponsored by GCI club/council/district

- 9. **ILLINOIS JUDGES COUNCIL FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULE AWARD.** Given for best NG flowershow schedule. ***Use Award Application Cover Sheet and send to current Judges Council Chairman by January 1.*** No other requirements. NGC Schedule Scale of Points (Handbook, page 133-136) will be used.

First Place: \$35.00 Second Place: \$20.00

- 10. **FLOWER SHOW EDUCATIONAL EXHIBIT AWARD.** Certificate for the best exhibit in a standard flower show staged by an individual/s or organization. Book of Evidence NOT required. Submit award application form with pictures and descriptions of educational exhibit, date and theme of show, title of class, and any award/s won.

11. **EMILY RISING STANDARD SHOW AWARD.** \$50.00 & certificate to a sponsoring club who Staged an NGC Flower Show in 2020 but hadn't staged a show since 2015 or before **and** applied for a 2021 GCIFlower Show Award in listed above (1a-d, 2a-d, 6, 7). Submit Award Application for this Award along with your application for the GCI Flower Show Award.

12A. TABLE DESIGN AWARD FOR INDIVIDUAL EXHIBITOR TABLE DESIGNS IN AN NGC FLOWER SHOW.

Submit picture/s of winning design with caption/s, ribbon/s won, name and date of show, and plant material used, along with Award Application Form. Sponsored by GCI in memory of Veva Schreiber. \$25.00 to winning:

1. Functional Table
2. Exhibition Table

12B. DESIGN EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR INDIVIDUAL EXHIBITOR DESIGN IN A STANDARD FLOWER SHOW.

Submit picture/s of winning design with caption/s, ribbon/s won, name and date of show, and plant material used, along with Award Application Form. Sponsored by the Springfield Civic Garden Club. **\$25 to winning entry.**

13. **STAGING AWARD FOR AN NGC FLOWER SHOW.** Submit picture/s of staging with caption/s, name (theme) and date of show, and staging used, along with Award Application Form. Sponsored by GCI in memory of Veva Schreiber. **\$25.00 to winning**

- A. Club with less than 40 members
- B. Club with 41 or more members
- C. Council or group of clubs.

CIVIC PROJECT AWARDS

21. **BLUE STAR/GOLD STAR MEMORIAL OR BYWAY MARKER LANDSCAPING MARKER PROJECT.** \$25.00 cash award for the design or redesign of landscaping of a Blue/Gold Star Memorial. Completed project that may have been continuous but stresses the landscaping of the marker completed in the current award year. May be part of a highway department rest area maintained by department.

22. **MYRTLE R. WALGREEN MEMORIAL AWARD FOR CIVIC PROJECT.** Given by her daughter Mrs. Ruth Stephen. First Prize: \$100.00, Second Prize: \$75.00, Third Prize: \$50.00 (Adjusted forties).

- 23. CIVIC CONCERN.** Certificate for continuing civic project. If a landscaping project, please include a landscape plan in addition to the 3-page application form. **Sponsored by District IX. \$25.00 to winning club in each membership division.**
- 24. RUTH Y. BENSON MEMORIAL AWARD.** \$25.00 to a club that contributes the greatest service to the Lincoln Memorial Garden, or any other nature center/preserve in Illinois during the year, emphasizing member participation and publicity. (REVISED)
- 25. LANDSCAPE DESIGN COUNCIL AWARD.** Recognition of landscape design or redesign of property for public enjoyment by club(s) affiliated with GCI. The Council offers two cash prizes each year. It is intended to be a landscape design plan that will endure and serve the public in your "hometown". **Obtain application form from the State Landscape Design Council chairman. Sites must be reviewed by the Council before and after. Book of Evidence due October 1.**
- a. \$65.00 for design of 150 or more square feet
 - b. \$25.00 for design of less than 150 square feet
- 26. MABEL M.A. FITZSIMMONS MEMORIAL AWARD FOR HOME GARDEN OR NURSING HOME GARDEN DESIGN.** Design of a club member's garden could be front, back or both. Photos can show any season. Gardens designed by professional landscape firms are not eligible.
- a. \$50.00 for club member in District I, II, III, or IV
 - b. \$50.00 for club member in District V, VI, VII, VIII, or IX
- 27. ARBOR DAY.** Certificate to club(s) for an Arbor Day project or program of exceptional merit. Member participation and publicity emphasized.
First Place - \$30.00 / Second Place - \$20.00 / Third Place - \$10.00
- 28. GARDENING CONSULTANTS' COMMUNITY PROJECT.** \$50.00 to an individual or club for a garden project that benefits the community. Continuing projects are eligible, not Earth Day or Arbor Day Projects. *Sponsored by the Gardening Consultants.*
- 29. WORLD GARDENING.** \$25.00 to club(s) for most outstanding program of activity in World Gardening.
- 30. THE GARDEN CLUB OF DOWNERS GROVE MILITARY MEMORIAL AWARD.** \$100.00 and certificate to an overall winning club that designs or redesigns a garden using perennials and/or annuals at a site designated to honor the military. Must be maintained by the club, stressing member participation. Club may work in conjunction with the American Legion, VFW, or other military organization. Book of evidence must include before and after pictures. (Note: Blue Star Memorial Markers are not eligible for this award.) Sponsored by the Garden Club of Downers Grove.
- 31. GARY R. REWERTS BLUE STAR MEMORIAL AWARD.** A \$100 cash award and certificate for the placement of a new Blue Star Memorial Highway Marker at an interstate rest area in Illinois. May be awarded to a single member garden club or group of member clubs. Sponsored by Kathy Rewerts.

32. FOOD BANK/PANTRY SUPPORT (New Award based on Central Region Project) \$25 and certificate to the individual and club (per capitata) that donates the most garden produce and/or non-perishables to a local food bank/pantry. Submit receipts of items/poundage with application.

- a. Individual**
- b. Club**

CONSERVATION AWARDS

- 40. CONSERVATION.** To club for an outstanding conservation effort.
\$25.00 to winning club in each membership division.
- 41. VIOLET M. DAWSON AWARD FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION.** Two \$25.00 awards to clubshaving the most comprehensive environmental education program. May include Youth. Funded by Diane Dawson.
- 42. BIRD PROTECTION. (Revised)** Certificate and \$50 to club having the most influential project relating to bird protection, such as creating and maintaining or improving bird habitat, educating the public, positively affecting legislation, or financing that raises public awareness about protecting native bird populations. Sponsored by Darien Garden Club.
- 43. HISTORIC PRESERVATION.**
- a. \$50.00 to a club for tasteful, distinctive holiday decorations in a historic building, house, or mansion. Must conform to the building's period.
 - b. \$50.00 to a club for dedication to the continuing challenge of reclaiming and preserving a historic site. The site does not have to be developed but must be recognized by local, state, or national authorities.
 - c. Holiday Decorations Awards: Certificate to club/s for an outstanding effort to beautify thecommunity during a holiday Season.
- 44. NEW PRESIDENT'S PROJECT: PLANT AMERICA – STARTING AT HOME**
Certificate and \$25 to a club member whose planting project/s and/or beautification on private and/or public local property has made a visual impact in the community. Before and after shots required.
- 45. WILDFLOWER AND ROADSIDE IMPROVEMENT AWARD.** Certificate to club(s) for planting wildflowers on public rights-of-way. 1st place to receive \$100 sponsored by the Garden Club of Decatur.
- 46. MARY ZGONENA MEMORIAL AWARD FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE.**
\$100.00 to aclub(s) for comprehensive new or continuing programs relating to the environment.

47. PLANTING FOR POLLINATORS

- a. Certificate and \$25.00 given for preparing and maintaining a Butterfly Garden. Given to a garden club or youth garden club.
- b. Planting for Pollinators Certificate and \$25.00 given to a club specifically addressing Planting for Pollinators in any new or existing garden on public property including Blue/Gold Star Markers.)
- c. Certificate and \$50.00 given to a club specifically addressing the “Milkweed for Monarchs” project. Award is based on the club with the highest percentage of club members participating (need to provide actual headcount in award documentation) in all “Milkweed for Monarchs” projects. Cash award of \$50.00 sponsored by Cress Creek Garden Club.

48. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS AWARD. \$25.00 cash award to an individual or garden club that promotes a project in any or all of the following activities: participation, education, legislation, and/or financing that would raise the public awareness of what can be done to protect endangered species or control invasive species.

49. JODY BAILEY AWARD FOR WATER CONSERVATION AWARENESS. Certificate and \$100 cash award for first place to a club member or members who develop and present a program that endeavors to identify local, state, and national water problems that affect their community at the present time. Certificate for 2nd and 3rd place.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES AWARDS

(All youth awards may apply to Junior, Intermediate or High School clubs)

50. **CARMEN AND JESSIE MCDONALD.** \$50.00 award to District sponsoring the newest youth gardenclubs based on proportionate number of district clubs.
51. **ARBOR DAY CITATION.** \$25 and certificate for garden club who hold an Arbor Day program with emphasis on youth participation. . Note member participation.
52. **YOUTH CLUB LEADERSHIP AWARD.** Certificate may be awarded to the individual who has given outstanding service as a leader of a youth club.
53. **YOUTH ACTIVITIES. Certificate and \$50** to the Club that participates with Youth in three ways – entering youth contests, submitting photos of youth to the GCI website, and participating with a group of youth in a gardening activity. Youth can include preschoolers.

ANNUAL YOUTH-RELATED AWARDS

(Details are in the fall GCI packet, mailed to club presidents, as well as in the fall issue of *Garden Glories*) Details are on the National Garden Club Website; check the website for the specific grade levels for each contest.

All entries are due January 10.

SMOKEY BEAR AND WOODSY OWL. Local entries are judged by the member garden club and winning posters mailed to GCI Youth Activities Chairman. State winning entries are submitted for Regional and National judging by the GCI Youth Activities Chairman.

YOUTH POETRY AND SCULPTURE CONTESTS. Various poetry and sculpture contests are offered by NGC annually.

GARDEN CLUB AWARDS

60. **BEST YEARBOOK.** Two types of yearbook awards are given. Submit two copies: one copy to your district director and one copy to state awards chairman with a state award application form. *Criteria for preparing a yearbook and the scale of points used for judging yearbooks are on page 14 of this guide.* **DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING YEARBOOKS TO STATE AWARDS CHAIRMAN AND DISTRICT DIRECTOR/AWARDS CHAIRMAN IS OCTOBER 1.**
- a. District Certificate to best District yearbook. Send one copy to your District Director/District Awards Chairman.
 - b. GCI Certificate to best yearbook judged by club size. Send one copy to the State Awards Chairman. The committee will select winners according to club size. These will be sent to Central Region if merited.
\$25.00 to winning club in each membership division
 - i. 1-29 members
 - ii. 30-59 members
 - iii. 60-99 members
 - iv. 100-299 members
 - v. 300+ members
61. **BEST HISTORY.** Certificate for history that includes activities up to the present time. Photographs allowed. Club history should be submitted in a manila envelope with state award application form attached with paper clip. Book of Evidence not required. No scrapbooks or oversized books.
- a. Club with 1-29 members
 - b. Club with 30-59 members
 - c. Club with 60-99 members
 - d. Club with 10-299 members
 - e. Club with 300+ members
62. **CLUB ACHIEVEMENT.** Form is revised yearly by GCI President and available on GCI website. Clubs are encouraged to use current year form (as items can be changed). Club President should complete after reviewing club's activities for the current year. No Book of Evidence is required. Points listed after each activity are the maximum allowed. Send to Awards Chairman by December 15.
- a. Blue Seal for 200+ points
 - b. Purple Seal for 300+ points
 - c. Gold Seal for 400+ points
63. **CLUB HORTICULTURE.** Form is revised yearly and available on GCI website. No Book of Evidence is required. Complete form and return to Awards Chairman by December 15.
- a. Gold Seal for 250+ points
 - b. Silver Seal for 150+ points
64. **NAPERVILLE GARDEN CLUB SCHOLARSHIP.** Two \$25.00 awards for giving the most per capita to scholarships at the college level and beyond in conservation and horticulture.
- a. Small club up to 100 members
 - b. Large club 100 members and more

- 65. MARY WALKER AWARD FOR ACCOMPLISHMENT.** \$35.00 award to club that has joined GCI within the last five years and has established an impressive record of accomplishment in all phases of club activity.
- 66. GCI GARDEN WALK.** \$25.00 cash award and a certificate for a garden walk sponsoring the objectives of GCI & NGC. Must be part of a club project and open to the public, not a program. Sponsored by South Barrington Garden Club.
- 67. GLORIA GREENE ADVANCED DESIGNER AWARD.** \$50.00 award to member clubs providing a program/ workshop on floral design. Membership participation required.
- a. Club with less than 40 members
 - b. Club with more than 41 members
 - c. Council or group of clubs
- 68. THE GARDEN CLUB OF DOWNERS GROVE NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK AWARD.** \$100.00 cash award and a certificate to an overall winning club that promotes National Garden Week in their community. Examples may include pictures, publicity, proclamations, working with local civic organizations, and/or other activities such as placing floral arrangements in public buildings, having garden tours, etc.
- 69. THE DES PLAINES GARDEN CLUB AWARD FOR BEST PROMOTION OF YOUR LOCAL GARDEN CLUB IN A PUBLIC SPACE.** A certificate and a \$25.00 cash award will be presented to an overall winning club who has effectively promoted their garden club (using a display case, exhibit booth, etc.) to present their past and present achievements, provide a bit of club history, current projects, initiatives, and having them displayed in a public location (i.e., local community center, public library, city hall building, train station, etc.) as a way of spreading the good word about their club and possibly securing new members. Award submission should include photos along with all GCI required award documentation.
- 70. GCI “GARDEN CLUB OF THE YEAR” AWARD.** A certificate and a cash award of \$25.00 (paid to winning club in each membership division). GCI will determine the winner(s) based on awards submitted. This award is contingent on a club:
- a. Submitting at least five (5) GCI Awards: specifically awards #60 Yearbook; #62 Club Achievement; #63 Club Horticulture; #83b. – Newsletter and at least one award from any one of the following categories: Flower Show, Civic, Conservation, Club, Garden Therapy or Youth (of course more than one award can be submitted).
 - b. Members attending: State Convention; Summer Meeting and GCI sponsored schools
- 71. GCI GARDEN CLUB ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION. (NEW). A certificate and \$25 to the club who has promoted their club’s anniversary throughout the year with specials event. Award submission should include photos along with required documentation.**

PUBLICATION AWARDS

(See pages 17 for scale of points and rules applicable to these awards.)

80. BEST PRACTICES AWARD for marketing your Club and Activities. Submit to 3rd GCI VicePresident. Sponsored by Connie Klutnick. See description page 16.

81. CERTIFICATE OF MERIT FOR BEST GARDEN-ORIENTED PROGRAMS IN RADIO, TV, OR VIDEO.

82. CERTIFICATE OF MERIT FOR BEST VIDEO/CD SUITABLE FOR CLUB PROGRAMS.

83. CERTIFICATE OF MERIT FOR DISTRICT AND CLUB PUBLICATIONS. Submit consecutive issues of each publication published in the awards year under one management. Copies may be submitted in a folder or manila envelope with state award application and a 3-5 sentence summary typed on a separate sheet. Summary should include brief description of publication, club membership, and financial information including number of copies printed/sold, how distributed, cost of publishing, price if sold, use of profits. No

Book of Evidence required.

- a. Leaflet, a single sheet, if folded not more than 4 pages
- b. Newsletter/Magazine/Bulletin of 24 pages or less
 - i. 4 issues/year
 - ii. More than 4 issues/year
- c. Magazine/Bulletin over 24 pages
 - i. 4 issues/year
 - ii. More than 4 issues/year
- d. Other Publications (No periodicals, notices, or flyers with one-time events).
 - i. Cookbooks
 - ii. Manuals
 - iii. Histories
 - iv. Websites (submit URL)
 - v. Other

GARDEN THERAPY AWARDS

90. CERTIFICATE OF MERIT FOR BARRIER-FREE GARDENING. Given to a club(s) for establishing and/or financing or promoting programs or activities for barrier free gardening for the physically challenged in institutional settings.

91. GARDEN THERAPY.

- a. \$25.00 awarded to club with regular on-going project(s).
 - i. Must include patient/resident/student participation.
 - ii. Patient/resident/student participation not required.
- b. Certificate to individual in club who plans and conducts therapy projects on a regular basis; must include patient/resident/student participation.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

100. MEMBERSHIP DISTINCTION. Certificate to club showing the greatest number of new members between January 1 and December 31 of awards year. **Will be determined by GCI 1st Vice President and current end-of-year membership totals on file at GCI headquarters.**

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|---------------------------|--------------------|
| a. Clubs up to 29 members | 4. 100-299 members |
| b. 30-59 members | 5. 300 + members |
| c. 60-99 members | |

101. MARGARET TAMILLO. Certificate to the garden club with the greatest percentage increase in membership as of December 31. Will be determined by GCI 1st Vice President and current end-of-year membership totals on file at GCI headquarters.

102. CLUB RECRUITMENT. Certificate to clubs participating in adopt-a-club program or recruiting a club into GCI. Must sponsor and present more than one program for the new club.

103. INDIVIDUAL RECRUITMENT. Certificate to clubs for outstanding membership recruitment project.

NOTE: V.I.P. Award is no longer considered an award. It is a recognition of someone to be honored. Please visit our website for complete details or contact First Vice-President, Carol Ohrn. This recognition must be submitted by March 1st.

SPECIAL AWARDS

150. REGIONAL ENTRY. Certificate.

151. NATIONAL ENTRY. A single green rosette given to the club for any and all awards submitted by GCI to NGC for awards which meet the requirements for an NGC award.

152. STEPHANIE GREENE MEMORIAL AWARD. Certificate and a \$70.00 Class Credit for any of the GCI schools (Environmental School, Flower Show School, Garden School and Landscape Design School.) Is awarded to a club member who has represented their club well in the community for many years. A member who has received a VIP award (in the past) and continues to contribute to their club's success in its activities, mentors new club members, attends and promotes the GCI schools, has held several offices and/or chairman roles in their garden club.

PRESIDENTIAL CITATIONS

May be given by the GCI President to persons who have performed outstanding service to GCI.