



**RED, WHITE, AND BLUE ACROSS ILLINOIS**  
**AMERICA'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY**  
The Garden Clubs of Illinois, Inc.  
**2026 Annual Convention**

# GCI 2026 Annual Convention

## Awards Ceremony

# District I

## Algonquin Garden Club

#28. Gardening Consultants' Community Project 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#46. Mary Zgonena Memorial Award for Environmental Excellence 1<sup>st</sup> Place (NGC: EC-11)

#48. Environmental Consultants Award 1<sup>st</sup> Place (NGC: CE-1A1)

# District I

## Bull Valley Garden Club

#62. Club Achievement: Purple Seal

80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District I

## Countryside Garden Club

#62. Club Achievement: Purple Seal

# District I

**The Council of Rockford Gardeners, Inc.**

**#66. GCI Garden Walk: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place**

# District I

Rockford Garden Club

110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District I

## Rock River Garden Club

#22. Myrtle R. Walgreen Memorial Award for Civic Project HM

#32. Gardening Consultants' Community Project HM

# District I

Winnebago Garden Club

20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District II

## Cress Creek Garden Club

- #21. Blue/Gold Star Memorial or Byway Marker Landscaping Marker: 3<sup>rd</sup> Place
- #26.a. Mabel M.A. Fitzsimmons Memorial Award for Home Garden or Nursing Home Design
- #28. Gardening Consultants' Community Project 3<sup>rd</sup> Place
- #30. Garden Club of Downers Grove Military Memorial Award 2<sup>nd</sup> Place
- #43b. Historic Preservation 1<sup>st</sup> Place (cont. next slide...)

# District II

## Cress Creek Garden Club

#45. Wildflower and Roadside Improvement 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
(NGC: EC-31)

#62. Club Achievement: Gold Seal

#63. Club Horticulture: Gold Seal

#64. Naperville Garden Club Scholarship (large): 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#68. Garden Club of Downers Grove National Garden  
Week: HM (cont. next slide...)

# District II

## Cress Creek Garden Club

#69. Des Plains Garden Club for Best PR 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

#70. Garden Club of the Year (large)

#82a. Publications/leaflet 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

#82c.i. Educational: 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#82.c.v. Other 1<sup>st</sup> Place tie Member Recognition: Joanne Sapadin

# District II

Crestview Garden Club

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District II

## Darien Garden Club

#22 Myrtle R. Walgreen Memorial Award for Civic Project  
HM

#26a. Mabel M.A. Fitzsimmons Memorial Award for  
Home Garden/Nursing Home Design 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#28. Gardening Consultants Community Project HM

#41. Violet M. Dawson Award for Environmental  
Education 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#47c. Planting for Pollinators 1<sup>st</sup> Place (cont...)

# District II

## Darien Garden Club

#50. Carmen and Jessie McDonald 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#52. Youth Leadership Award 1<sup>st</sup> Place Cathy Streett

#53. Youth Activities 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#62. Club Achievement: Gold Seal

#63. Club Horticulture: Gold Seal (cont...)

# District II

## Darien Garden Club

#68. Garden Club of Downers Grove National Garden Week 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#80. Certificate of Merit for Best Garden Oriented Video

#81. Certificate of Merit for Best Video 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#82c.i. Educational 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#82.c.v Digital Media Presentation 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#103. Individual Recruitment 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

# District II

## Darien Garden Club

Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest:

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – Ferin McKinely

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – Noah Brazee

4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Thomas McKinely

# District II

Elgin Garden Club

110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District II

Elmhurst Garden Club

100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District II

## Garden Club of Downers Grove

#62. Club Achievement – Gold Seal

#63. Club Horticulture – Gold Seal

# District II

Garden Club of Hinsdale

105<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District II

## Garden Club of Oak Park & River Forest

#62. Club Achievement: Purple Seal

#64.b Naperville Garden Club Scholarship 101+ members: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

#66. GCI Garden Walk: HM

#67b. Gloria Greene Advanced Design Award (51 or more): 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
(NGC: FD-21)

#82.c.vi. Other: 1<sup>st</sup> Place Club Recognition

#91.a.1. Garden Therapy: 1<sup>st</sup> Place

# District II

## Geneva Garden Club

- #24. Ruth Y. Benson Memorial Award 1<sup>st</sup> Place (NGC: CE-1B1)
- #28 Gardening Consultants Community Project HM
- #32c. Food Bank/Pantry Support HM
- #62. Club Achievement: Purple Seal
- #63. Club Horticulture: Silver Seal
- #64. Naperville Garden Club Scholarship up to 100 members:  
1<sup>st</sup> Place
- #91.a.2. Garden Therapy 1<sup>st</sup> Place

# District II

## LaGrange Garden Club

#62. Club Achievement: Gold Seal

#63. Club Horticulture: Silver Seal

# District II

Lombard Garden Club

100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District II

## Naperville Garden Club

#61. Best History: HM

#62. Club Achievement: Silver Seal

#63. Club Horticulture: Gold Seal

# District II

## Pleasantdale Garden Club

#62. Club Achievement: Blue Seal

# District II

Riverside Garden Club

105<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District II

## Tri-Village Garden Club

32.a.ii. Food Bank/Pantry Support: 1<sup>st</sup> Place (NGC: CE-3B2)

#53. Youth Activities: 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

#62: Club Achievement: Purple Seal

#63. Club Horticulture: Silver Seal (Cont...)

# District II

## Tri-Village Garden Club

Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest:

1<sup>st</sup> Grade – Ziva Tierl

5<sup>th</sup> Grade – Annabelle Bennett

# District II

Tuesday Garden Club of Aurora

90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District II

Village Gardeners of Hinsdale

65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District II

## Western Springs Garden Club

#43c. Historic Preservation 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#62. Club Achievement: Gold Seal

#63. Club Horticulture: Silver Seal

#64 Naperville Garden Club Scholarship (small) 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

#91b. Garden Therapy 1<sup>st</sup> Place

100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District II

Winfield Garden Club

30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District II

Woodridge Garden Club

10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District III

## Bloomington-Normal Garden Club

#21. Blue/Gold Star Memorial or Byway Marker Landscaping  
1<sup>st</sup> Place NGC: CE-71Large

#47c Planting for Pollinators 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

#62. Club Achievement: Purple Seal

#63. Club Horticulture: Silver Seal

#82a. Publications/leaflet: 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#82b.iii. Newsletter (13-24 pages): 1<sup>st</sup> Place (NGC: MAE-4C1)

#82c.iv. Social Media 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

# District III

Farmer City Garden Club

#101 Margaret Tamillo 1<sup>st</sup> Place

# District III

## Garden Club of Decatur

#28 Gardening Consultants' Community Project HM

#32.b. Food Bank/Pantry Support: 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#42. Bird Protection: 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#62. Club Achievement: Gold Seal

#63. Club Horticulture: Silver Seal (Cont...)

# District III

## Garden Club of Decatur

#68. Garden Club of Downers Grove National Garden Week 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

#69. Des Plaines GC Award for Best PR 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#71. GCI Garden Club Anniversary Celebration 1<sup>st</sup> Place

# District III

Morgan County Garden Club

85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District III

## Springfield Civic Garden Club

#22. Myrtle R. Walgreen Memorial Award for Civic Project 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
(NGC: CE-5B1)

#24. Ruth Y. Benson Memorial Award 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

#27. Arbor Day 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

#32c. Food Bank/Pantry Support: 1<sup>st</sup> Place (NGC: CE-3A2)

#62. Club Achievement: Gold Seal

#63. Club Horticulture: Silver Seal

#67b. Gloria Greene Advanced Design Award (51 or more) 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

# District IV

## Twin City Garden Club

#62. Club Achievement: Blue Seal

# District V

Lakeview Garden Club

70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District V

## O'Fallon Garden Club

#62. Club Achievement – Gold Seal

#63. Club Horticulture – Silver Seal

15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District V

## St. Clair County Garden Club

Youth Sculpture Awards:

4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Cora Jenkins

5<sup>th</sup> Grade – Isabella Schmidt

6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Milania Scarborough

# District VII

#9 Illinois Judges Council Flower Show Schedule Award  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place

# District VII

## Anna-Jo Garden Club

- #21. Blue/Gold Star Memorial or Byway Marker 2<sup>nd</sup> Place (NGC: CE-71)
- #26. Mabel M.A. Fitzsimmons Memorial Award for Home Garden: 1<sup>st</sup> Place
- #27. Arbor Day: 1<sup>st</sup> Place
- #30. Garden Club of Downers Grove Military Memorial Award: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place
- #47c. Planting for Pollinators: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place
- #62. Club Achievement – Gold Seal
- #63. Club Horticulture – Gold Seal

# District VII

Carbondale Garden Club

40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District VII

## Du Quoin Garden Club

- #23. Civic Concern (medium): 2<sup>nd</sup> Place
- #28. Gardening Consultants' Community Project HM
- #53. Youth Activities 2<sup>nd</sup> Place
- #62. Club Achievement: Purple Seal
- #63. Club Horticulture: Silver Seal

# District VII

## Eldorado Garden Study Club

#62. Club Achievement: Gold Seal

#63. Club Horticulture: Silver Seal

80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District VII

Garden Gate of Benton

15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District VII

## Marion Garden Club

#10. Flower Show 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#62. Club Achievement: Gold Seal

#63. Club Horticulture: Gold Seal

# District VII

## Metropolis Garden Club

#62. Club Achievement: Purple Seal

#63. Club Horticulture: Gold Seal

# District VII

Oak Lawn Garden Club

70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District IX

## Arlington Heights Garden Club

#22. Myrtle R. Walgreen Memorial Award for Civic Project 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

#27. Arbor Day 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

#30. Garden Club of Downers Grove Military Memorial Award 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#62. Club Achievement: Purple Seal

#63. Club Horticulture: Gold Seal

#82a. Publications/leaflet: Honorable Mention

#82c.iv. Social Media 1<sup>st</sup> Place

# District IX

## Buffalo Grove Garden Club

#62. Club Achievement: Purple Seal

#63. Club Horticulture: Silver Seal

# District IX

## Des Plaines Garden Club

#61. Best History: 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#62. Club Achievement: Gold Seal

#63. Club Horticulture: Silver Seal

#82b.ii. Newsletter (3-12 pages) 2<sup>nd</sup> Place (NGC: MAE-4B)

#82c.iii. Website 1<sup>st</sup> Place (NGC: MAE-2A1)

95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District IX

## Garden Club of Lake Zurich

#23. Civic Concern (medium) 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#62. Club Achievement: Gold Seal

#63. Club Horticulture: Gold Seal

# District IX

## Garden Club of Mount Prospect

#23. Civic Concern (large) 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#62. Club Achievement: Gold Seal

#63. Club Horticulture: Silver Seal

# District IX

## Grayslake Greenery Garden Club

#10 Flower Show Educational Exhibit Award 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

#62. Club Achievement: Gold Seal

#63. Club Horticulture: Silver Seal

# District IX

Garden Guild of Winnetka

85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District IX

Highland Garden Club

75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District IX

Kenilworth Clippers

85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District IX

Long Grove-Kildeer Garden Club

55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District IX

Palatine Garden Club

80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# District IX

## Park Ridge Garden Club

- #22. Myrtle R. Walgreen Memorial Award for Civic Project 3<sup>rd</sup> Place
- #32.a.ii. Food Bank/Pantry Support: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place
- #32c. Donates food, non-perishable food and non-food items  
HM
- #41. Violet M. Dawson Award for Environmental Education:  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place
- #62. Club Achievement – Gol Seal
- #63. Club Horticulture: Silver Seal
- #103. Individual Recruitment: 1<sup>st</sup> Place

# District IX

## Town and Country Garden Club of Libertyville

#46. Mary Zgonena Memorial Award for Environmental Excellence HM

#47a. Planting for Pollinators Butterfly Garden 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#62. Club Achievement: Gold Seal

#63: Club Horticulture: Gold Seal

#66. GCI Garden Walk: 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#67a Gloria Greene Advanced Design Award: 1<sup>st</sup> Place (NGC: FD21)

#70. Garden Club of the Year (medium): 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#82b.ii. Newsletter (3-12 pages): Honorable Mention (NGC: MAE-4B1)

# District IX

## Wauconda Garden Club

#62. Club Achievement: Gold Seal

# District IX

## Woodlands Garden Club of Lake Forest IL

#28. Gardening Consultants' Community Project 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

#47b. Planting for Pollinators: 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#67a. Gloria Greene Advanced Design Award: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

# THANK YOU AWARD REVIEWERS

- Maggie Bailey
- Jennifer Fiske
- Claudia Edwards
- Paulette Dominick
- Mary Nelson
- Anita Bierbaum
- Mary Peglow
- Susan Cleary
- Kathy Rewerts
- Nancy Burke
- Tracey Schroeder
- Gayle Hedlund
- Lisa Cederoth
- Deb Hall-Reppen
- Coleen Piggott
- David Robson
- Sue Beach
- Linda Archibald
- Tori Corkery
- Carol Yee
- Nancy Slatin