

# GCI Award Application Form 2021

Award #: 69

Award Name: The Des Plaines Garden Club Award for Best Promotion of Your Local Garden Club in a Public Space

Award Submitted by: Marion Garden Club    Number of members in club: 44

Date: October 12, 2021

1. New project: Yes    Beginning date: May 29, 2021    Completion date: May 29, 2021

2. Brief summary and objectives of project: Marion Garden Club participated in Marion Carnegie Library's kickoff of their summer reading program, which had a theme of "Reading Colors Your World" and had programs for all ages. The programs included a color run, displays, and games. There were 21 sponsors and 201 participants.

Marion Garden Club members set up a display including a poster of past youth activities the club held in cooperation with the library for their Children's Story Hours and a publicity press book containing articles of past club meetings and activities. A single, colored sheet of paper noting the Club's association with Garden Clubs of Illinois and National Garden Clubs, Inc., the objectives of the club, and general information about the club was placed on the table. This year's calendar of club meetings and activities was printed on a separate, colored sheet of paper and also placed on the table. Both sheets of information were for interested participants to take.

One objective of the project was to cooperate with the library and other community organizations to promote a summer reading program for youth. Another objective was to showcase past activities of cooperation with the library including their Children's Story Hour. A final objective was to publicize the presence of a garden club in our city of Marion and educate the public about what the club is doing and has done through the years to stimulate interest in the club.

3. Involvement of club members, other organizations, etc.: The library provided the table and pavilion for the club's display. The club president gathered the materials and had the hand-outs printed. A member had made the youth activities poster for a previous project, and the publicity press book was for 2019 as 2020 activities were limited due to the coronavirus pandemic. The president and a member set up and took down the display. Two members split duties of answering questions at the display. One member, who regularly volunteers at the library, worked at the table for registration in the summer reading program. Another member took pictures and posted them on the Club's website. Library personnel took pictures and posted them on their Facebook page.

4. Project expenses and means of funding: The poster of youth activities with pictures was donated by a member. Expenses totaled \$40.50. The publicity press book expenses totaled \$32.50: plastic page savers, \$16.00; black card stock, \$3.00; double-sided archival tape, \$8.00; and folder, \$5.50. Printing for the colored handout sheets cost \$8.00.

5. Continuing involvement, follow-up, maintenance: The club has worked with the Marion Carnegie Library for a number of years to provide garden related programs for the library's children's story hour twice a year as well as other youth activities. The club in cooperation with the library also planted and maintains a pollinator garden on the library grounds. A couple members regularly volunteer at the library and 9 members serve on the pollinator bed committee. A member took pictures of the

activities at this year's summer reading kickoff and posted them on the club's website. Library personnel also took pictures, which they posted on their Facebook page.

#### 6. Photos and Support Articles

Marion Carnegie Library is excited to announce this year's summer reading theme is "Reading Colors Your World." Our library staff has been busy preparing a summer packed full of exciting and colorful programs for all ages!

Join us for our Summer Reading Kickoff Color Run on Saturday, May 29 to register for summer reading!



Top: Excerpt from Marion Carnegie Library Facebook page announcing the Summer Reading Program. The page was downloaded May 15 and included logos of 21 sponsors.  
Middle: Excerpt from article about Marion Garden Club's May meeting, which announces the club's participation in the summer reading kickoff.  
Bottom L: Club president and member hold poster while waiting for table and pavilion to be set up.  
Bottom R: A long shot of some pavilions. The club's display is under the second pavilion. The finish line for the color run is at entrance to the library parking lot. Another pavilion and a fire truck, not shown, are on the opposite side.



THE MARION STAR — June 24-30, 2021

## Marion Garden Club returns to in-person meetings

At the end of the program, Lattuca presented Youth Activities Chairman Twila Couey with a framed article noting that she was honored by the Marion Carnegie Library as an Unsung Hero for her work with the youth in the Children's Story Hour.

She also read a thank-you from Marion Library Director Loretta Broomfield for the Club's help with the Summer Reading Program kick-off and their dedication of the Pollinator Garden. Additionally,

Anyone wanting more information about the club, which is part of District VII, Garden Clubs of Illinois and Central Region, National Garden Clubs, Inc., is encouraged to visit the club website at [mariongardenclubofillinois.weebly.com](http://mariongardenclubofillinois.weebly.com).

Top L: Club member on left talks to visitor at display table. Top R: Club member at registration table for summer reading program. Middle L: Games area at west end of library parking lot. Middle R: Children's pollinator garden planted and maintained by the club is just to the right of the games area. Bottom: An excerpt from an article about the club's June meeting, which notes the club president read a thank-you from the Marion Library Director.