

THE MARYLAND *Clubwoman*



GFWC
est. 1890
**GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**
MARYLAND

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The Maryland Clubwoman Staff

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The Maryland Clubwoman will now be emailed to any member with an email address on file. Email Rebecca Zarrelli, Corresponding Secretary at bz.mdcorrespondingsec@gmail.com an updated address to ensure receipt of each publication.

Anyone wishing for a print version of the magazine may print this, or the black and white version directly.

Clubwoman Connection

Any club project or activity which is scheduled through the end of July 2026 may be submitted for inclusion.

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From The President's Desk

Dear Maryland Clubwomen,

I hope you are enjoying this fall weather; it has really felt like an extension of summer. As some of you know, I fractured my shoulder on the 22nd of September and by the time you receive a copy of this magazine I will hopefully be out of the sling and able to drive. The good part is no surgery required. The bad part is sleeping in a chair and physical therapy. It has definitely been quite the year; one of the hardest summers I've ever had. Thank you all for your thoughts and prayers regarding my family's difficulties, especially my mom and my sister. We have been busy this year since the Spring edition of the Clubwoman magazine. I have been thrilled to attend meetings, conventions, BOD meetings, workshops, retreats, and still stay focused on my commitment to make Maryland shine. As always, your friendship and support have meant the world to me. As we anticipate the winter months with the holidays and what the season will bring, please remember those less fortunate, those with illnesses and those who are lonely. It only takes a minute for a text, phone call or card. That caring and kindness will mean so much. Also, remember my platform of "Anchor of Hope" Mental Health Awareness and this President's challenge. Just a small gesture of involvement in any Mental Health issue today will be appreciated. Please keep focusing on all the Community Service Programs and the GFWC Signature Program along with the Juniors' Special Project. Our website continues to be updated and is a great resource. This past year we have focused on so many projects with so many great ideas that this State can work together to promote leadership, mental health awareness, advocate for children, stop human trafficking, promote education, and instill the GFWC motto of Engage, Educate and Empower. I am proud to serve Maryland and as State President I hope to create a path with purpose, promoting the 3 C's of Communication: Collaboration, Cooperation and Coordination. We will be GFWC MARYLAND strong!

In Federation Love & Friendship

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrea".

Andrea Lilly

GFWC Maryland President, 2024-2026





From Your Junior Director

Dear Maryland Clubwomen,

“Autumn shows us how beautiful change can be.” As autumn paints Maryland in shades of gold and crimson, I am reminded how this season mirrors the work we do together, each of us contributing our own unique color to create something beautiful and lasting. Fall invites us to pause and appreciate the friendships, service, and shared purpose that unite us as Maryland Juniors. Together, we embody the heart of the Federation, women lifting one another up and creating ripples of kindness that reach far beyond our communities. This past year has been one filled with inspiration. Across Maryland, Junior Clubs have embraced the theme “Be the Wave of Change, Shaping Education’s Future” in creative and meaningful ways. You have turned compassion into action and ideas into impact, whether through literacy drives, children’s outreach, environmental projects, or advocacy for mental health and women’s empowerment. Your work is a testament to the power of collective service, proving that when we lead with kindness and purpose, we truly can shape brighter futures for others. As we move deeper into this season of gratitude and giving, I encourage each of you to take a moment to reflect on the ripple effects of your work. Every meeting, every donation, every hour volunteered creates change, sometimes small, sometimes profound, but always meaningful. Together, we embody the spirit of leadership through service. Like waves joining together to form a tide, our collective efforts reach farther and touch more lives than we may ever realize. Let’s continue to ride this wave of positivity into the months ahead. Keep inspiring others through your example, supporting one another with grace, and leading with compassion. The work you do matters, not just for today, but for generations to come. I am so grateful for each of you. For your creativity, your dedication, and your unwavering belief in the power of service. May this fall bring you moments of warmth, reflection, and renewal. Together, we are shaping the future: one wave, one project, one act of kindness at a time.

With heartfelt appreciation,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amanda".

Amanda Krantz

Maryland Director of Junior Clubs 2024-2026



2025 Summer Workshop

This summer, on a beautiful day in August, GFWC Federation members from across the state of Maryland gathered for an informative fun filled day at the beautiful Carroll County Non-Profit Center in Westminster.



Westminster Juniors provided delicious refreshments for breakfast and the Westminster

Woman's Club decorated with a beach nautical theme. We held three fabulous workshops. The first was a much-needed membership workshop. We had the privilege of having the Outstanding Maryland Clubwoman, Gloria Crowley, speak on how to gain new members, how to retain members and tips on how to keep members interested. It was very informative. Next, we had a report from the Membership Chairman who serves on the GFWC Membership Task Force, followed by a membership activity game played with starburst candy. The color starburst you had depended on the question you were asked. It was very lighthearted but a good important way to get to know people. We then delved right into the Reporting Workshop. The Executive Committee met in July and came up with the Top Ten Tips on Reporting. A copy was presented to every member, and a skit was performed by the Executive Committee called "The Reporting Rescue Squad: Mission Possible." Diane Hill, 1st Vice President, Dean of Chairman, gave a slide show presentation that was very informative and entertaining on important tips to remember when reporting and used an analogy of spelling the word reporting. Next, Amanda Krantz, Leadership Chairman, presented a LEADS activity created by Babs Condon, and then spoke on leadership and gave ideas on traits for a good leader. She wrapped up the workshop with a leadership activity. We learned a lot about the three important topics that shape the future of our great state. Everyone provided their own lunch to keep costs minimal. Christy Swiger provided 3 fun games of bingo in between workshops with prizes awarded and she also had a few fundraising items to sell. The State President provided three gifts for each member attending to coordinate with the three workshops: A turtley awesome pen for membership, a reporting folder and a leadership trait bracelet. An update/report was shared on the Maryland Presidents Special Project – Mental Health Awareness Challenge along with reminders for the GFWC IDS on September 27, 2025. We had a very informative, fun filled great day!



2025 Anchor Award Winners



1st Anchor Award - Babs Condon – Parliamentarian, GFWC MD Handbook Committee, the Strategic Planning Committee. Always ready to lend a hand, be a mentor or cheer leader. Whether it's serving as a chairman when one has stepped down, making beautiful decorations for a BOD meeting, offering to help with reports, or offering up her lake house as she has for the last two years for our EC retreat. Even with her own health issues she was willing to go above and beyond.



2nd Anchor Award - Janet Morgan - GFWC Maryland Finance Chairman. One of the longest serving positions in the state held by one person. She sends reminders and is the voucher queen. She is so organized and thoughtful over finances that it's amazing to see. Always has an answer and solution. Even when her personal life wasn't easy she kept the state going financially.



3rd Anchor Award- Anne Yakaitis- GFWC Maryland Recording Secretary and State HOBY Chairman. A talented recorder who knows when to ask questions and when to listen. Types the minutes of every meeting and sends them in a timely manner. Serves as the HOBY chairman and as always does a fantastic job with that. Her laugh, smile and talents are a great asset to the state.



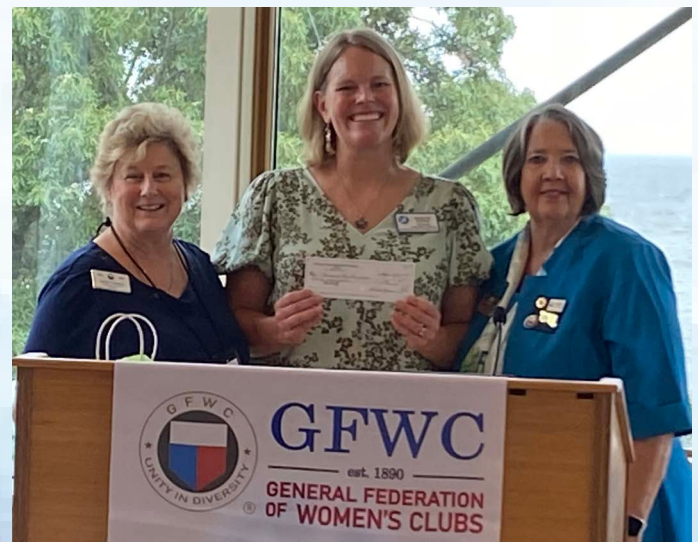
4th Anchor Award-Jeanne Pim – GWFC President Elect, Youth Art Chairman, Photography Chairman, Strategic Planning Chairman. This lady is such a great asset to the state and the Federation. This lady has executed a leadership role nicely. Serving on numerous committees and even President of the Frederick Club, she has strategized, organized and decorated with ease. It's amazing to see all her talent and commitment while she serves. Although life has been difficult, she made it seem like a breeze with her laugh & smile.





September Board of Directors Meeting

September 16, 2025



September Board of Directors Meeting

September 16, 2025

The GFWC Maryland Board of Directors met at the beautiful Chesapeake Bay Foundation in Annapolis, Maryland, a LEED Green Facility. A total of 37 members and 3 guests were in attendance and there were 2 first time attendees recognized. The three Districts split the duties of table favors, table centerpieces and agenda participation for the meeting. Creating an ocean centerpiece animal and the ocean to hang them on was a great team building activity as well as a recycling initiative to support this Presidents vision for this meeting. Western District President, Mimi French came up with the idea.

The Executive Committee reported it had been busy meeting, approving minutes, renewing CD's and planning programs along with planning the next calendar year. Reports of the officers were given along with a report on International Convention. Dean of Chairmen Diane Hill gave a reporting update followed by reports from Youth Art, the Photography Contest and HOBY. Also, reports on the Junior Special Project, the Signature Program Domestic Violence, and Fundraising were presented.

A wonderful lunch was had by all and introductions were made of the Honorary Presidents in Attendance and the Guest

Speaker. Guest Speaker Jocelyn Tuttle from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation was introduced by President Lilly. She spoke about the education program within the Chesapeake Bay foundation, and we presented her with a small gift and \$500 check for the CBF from Maryland. Donations were collected for UNICEF, Shot@Life, and the Juniors recycling initiative.

President Lilly presented the first 4 Anchor awards to Babs Condon, Anne Yakaitis, Janet Morgan and Jeanne Pim. Everyone in attendance received an environmental awareness bracelet from the State President. An optional tour was offered of the CBF Facility after the meeting. It was a wonderful fun filled, informative day, on the beautiful Chesapeake Bay.



Southeastern Region Meeting

October 24-26, 2025

The Southeastern Region (SER) Conference was held the last weekend in October at the Roanoke Hotel in Virginia. It was a beautiful setting in the Shenandoah Mountains and Maryland had a wonderful showing as we were 20 ladies strong at this Conference.



We were so proud of our own Reno Eitel, the SER President, as she presided over this two day meeting. The theme was “Women Creating Positive Change through Living the Volunteer Spirit” and I believe we all came home with renewed enthusiasm. There were informative and entertaining workshops on Membership, Leadership and Communications & Public Relations which provided good ideas we can each take back to our local clubs. We also enjoyed dressing up for the Friday and Saturday night dinner banquets that included a delightful musical group and an inspirational speech by Wendy Carriker, GFWC President-Elect. Besides learning and having fun, Mimi French, the President’s Special Project Chairman, arranged for Rob Scheer to speak to us. Rob is the founder of Comfort Cases and his story motivates all of us to do more for children that are in the foster care system. We had fun packing backpacks which will benefit foster children in the state of Virginia and we also raised money for college scholarships for these young people.



If you think you want to attend the SER Conference next year, please ask any of the ladies to tell you more about it: Reno Eitel, Andrea Lilly, Amanda Krantz, Babs Condon, Karen Wasik, Sandra Matttocks, Mimi French, Christy Swiger, Trish Rodriguez, Jeanne Pim, Diane Hill, Anne Yakitis, Lorraine Kelly, Dawn Walsh, Wilsonia Cherry, Joyce Houpe, Carol Banella, Kaye Shoemaker, Nancy Keller-Bonde and Gena Wade.



Southeastern Region Meeting

October 24-26, 2025



2025 Junior Fall Conference

The GFWC Maryland Juniors gathered on November 8, 2025, at the historic Poplar Hill Mansion in Salisbury, Maryland, for the annual Junior Fall Conference, a day filled with friendship, inspiration, and gratitude. Themed “Planting Seeds of Kindness, Harvesting Hope,” the conference celebrated the spirit of volunteerism and the power of small acts of service to create lasting change. Director of Junior Clubs Amanda Krantz called the meeting to order, welcoming members from across the state and expressing heartfelt thanks to the GFWC Junior Woman’s Club of Pocomoke for hosting the event. She reminded attendees that “each act of service begins as a single seed,” and that through compassion and collaboration,



those seeds can blossom into a greater harvest of hope and love. Highlights of the conference included reports from Junior Club Presidents, updates from Southeastern Region and Maryland Federation leaders, and The Seven Deadly Sins presentation by Sarah Meyer, curator of Poplar Hill Mansion, followed by a donation to support the historic site. Members also heard from Celeste Savage, Director of HALO (Hope and Life Outreach), and contributed to the Color Their World project, donating children’s items to benefit the organization’s outreach ministry.

In keeping with the fall theme, participants enjoyed a Thanksgiving Leadership Quiz titled “Which Thanksgiving Dish Are You?” — a fun and reflective activity designed to help members identify their leadership styles and appreciate the balance of strengths within their organization. Through laughter and self-discovery, the women explored how each “dish” brings a vital ingredient to the table, just as every member contributes to the success of the Federation. The day concluded with a touching reminder about the power of growth, change, and gratitude. Each attendee received a wildflower seed card symbolizing renewal and kindness — a keepsake to plant and watch bloom in the seasons ahead. As Maryland Juniors continue to “Be the Wave of Change,” the 2025 Fall Conference served as a beautiful reminder that when women come together in service and sisterhood, they develop communities full of hope, compassion, and purpose.



2025 Junior Fall Conference



Mid-Winter Rally

March 7, 2026

The Maryland Juniors Mid-Winter Rally is tentatively set for Saturday, March 7th, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Edgewater Library Community Meeting Room in Edgewater, MD. Lunch will be catered by Panera Bread, and the Edgewater location offers a central, convenient spot for many Maryland clubwomen to gather. This year's rally will be especially meaningful as we kick off Women's History Month together celebrating the remarkable women who came before us and the difference we continue to make today. It's the perfect time to reconnect, share ideas, and be inspired by the strength and spirit of our Federation sisters. More details and registration information will be shared after the new year—but for now, save the date and get ready to celebrate women, service, and community!

International Day of Service

STATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT - MARYLAND

Andrea Lilly

International Day of Service

This President was thrilled to be able to register the State of Maryland for the International Day of Service on September 27, 2025. As a state we focused on a local Rape Crisis Center. We donated \$100 of merchandise from a wish list provided by the Rape Crisis Center. Clubs throughout Maryland helped support this center by collecting donations and delivering or by giving a monetary donation or shopping online from the wish list. So far, a total of \$500 worth of donations has been received. We also made copies of the state flyers that were created for our state within the Southeastern Region and passed out during celebrations that day. It felt wonderful to be able to publicize this worthy cause. We have learned so much through this experience that I hope we always have a day of service each year.





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**GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**

SOUTHEASTERN REGION

Your safety matters.

You Are Not Alone; Help is Available

If you are experiencing **domestic violence**, please reach out. There are organizations ready to help you find safety and support.

Seek Assistance:

Campus Sexual Assault

- Clery Center for Security on Campus
www.clerycenter.org

Child Abuse

- National Child Abuse Hotline
www.childhelpusa.org; 1-800-422-4453
- Children's Defense Fund
www.childrensdefense.org; 202-628-8787

Elder Abuse

- Prevention of Elder Abuse (NCPEA)
www.preventelderabuse.org
- Elder Abuse - National Institute on Aging
www.nia.nih.gov/health/elder-abuse
- Elder Care Locator www.eldercare.gov or 1-800-677-1116

Human Trafficking

- National Human Trafficking Hotline
www.humantraffickinghotline.org;
1-888-373-7888

Intimate Partner Violence

- National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) www.nsvrc.org

Teen Dating Violence

- National Domestic Violence Hotline
www.thehotline.org; 1-800-799-7233

Military Sexual Assault

- Protect Our Defenders Foundation
www.protectourdefenders.com

Violence Against Native American Women

- Strong Hearts Native Helpline
www.strongheartshelpline.org;
1-844-762-8483



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**GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**

MARYLAND

Sponsored by:

February Board of Directors Meeting

February 17, 2026



We are thrilled to have Suellen Brazil, GFWC International President, as our guest speaker for our GFWC State Board of Directors Meeting on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at The Woman's Club of Chevy Chase. (Look for The Call in early January). It is a privilege for us to host her and we hope many can attend to hear her vision for our organization. As GFWC International President, Suellen leads over 60,000 club members in every state, the District of Columbia and 20 countries. Under her administration banner of "EDUCATE, ENGAGE, EMPOWER", she is encouraging us to engage others in purposeful conversations, equip them with knowledge and skills

to make notable differences and empower members to unite with others to unleash a commanding force to address today's issues. Suellen is a 50-year member who is passionately dedicated to leadership development. Her leadership was broadened as she acquired diverse perspectives while serving in all Alabama and Southern Region elected offices, including State President and Regional President. As GFWC President-Elect and First and Second Vice President, she expanded her resolve to enhance the understanding and skills necessary for 16 Region Officers, 51 State Presidents and 107 GFWC chairmen and committee members to be successful. She recognizes that by strengthening our leaders we strengthen our organization. During the last twelve years, ten of which have been on the GFWC Executive Committee, Suellen has connected with leaders and grassroots members and had various opportunities to represent the organization; she participated in The White House Summit United State of Women in Washington, DC, 2016, participated in the groundbreaking ceremony of the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial, participated in the 2017 State Department Briefing, represented GFWC with the Hugh O'Brien Youth Foundation (HOBY), which began 12 years of continued national service with the HOBY's International Leadership Seminar, including the 1985 National Volunteer Chairman in Los Angeles, California, and she attended multiple functions with the GFWC Women's Club of Aruba and conducted a GFWC LEADS workshop for various International Affiliates and dignitaries attending the Women's Leadership Conference.

We are fortunate to have Suellen Brazil join us for our February State Board meeting and we hope to see you there!



Maryland President's Special Project

GFWC Maryland launched the Mental Health challenge during which clubs will compete for prizes at the 2026 Convention in April. The activities listed on the challenge sheet align to GFWC Community Support Programs and provide concrete options to improve resiliency of our club members and vulnerable groups in their communities. There have been many questions about the point scale and how to assign group and individual points. To make it fair and equitable across clubs, Group points are awarded for projects planned and executed as a club, Individual points are awarded when 1/3 of a club's members complete the outlined activity, these activities do not need to be scheduled and completed with other club members. Although competition is important, the importance of executing this program is to build and sustain positive mental health resiliency. Club leaders at all levels have a responsibility to set the tone in their organizations by prioritizing the mental well-being of their members. At a time of lower membership, higher need in our communities, and greater life challenges, we need to consider the following strategies to sustain our clubs by leveraging the passion of our members while also balancing our goals. **Set Boundaries:** Establish clear boundaries to prevent burnout and ensure you can maintain a healthy work-life balance. Learn to say "No" when there are time conflicts with planned activities.

Prioritize Self-Care: Dedicate time for self-care activities to recharge and prevent burnout. Leverage the Mental Health Matrix for ideas on helping members create routines that will increase mental, physical, social, emotional and financial resilience. **Explore Your Interests:** Volunteer in areas that resonate and align with your passions to enhance your experience and commitment. Find work the feeds your soul. **Manage Time:** Use tools like planners or apps to manage your time effectively and allocate specific hours for volunteering. Publish an activity calendar so members can plan and manage their time for volunteer commitments. **Seek Support:** Talk to friends, family, or colleagues about your volunteer commitments to ensure they align with your personal and professional life. Rally your network to attend and support your volunteer organization. **Reflect and Adjust:** Regularly reflect on your volunteer activities and adjust your commitments as needed to maintain a fulfilling balance. Recognize when you are overwhelmed or your priorities must change due to life circumstances. Do the best job possible at forecasting and communicating changes that affect others. Doing the things we love can fulfill our hearts but can also cause us stress. Our passion for helping others should not come at the expense of our mental well-being. Reassure those club women that taking care of themselves comes first. Mental well-being is a team sport.



Donation Reminders

Save the Bay

The Maryland Federation has been dedicated to assisting the Chesapeake Bay Foundation in its efforts to preserve the Chesapeake Bay since 1984. All our clubs have been generous in donating over \$125,000 to the Foundation. This accomplishment was celebrated by over 40 Federation Sisters gathering at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Phillip Merrill Environmental Center at the State Board meeting in September, located on the shores of our greatest natural resource. Our speaker, Jocelyn Tuttle, Maryland Student Leadership Coordinator at the Bay Foundation, enlightened us on the outstanding educational and leadership opportunities provided for all ages and its importance for the success of the bay's health for generations to come. Our state federation awarded the foundation with a \$500 check, as well as some clubs, and individuals presenting checks. Please have your clubs consider donating to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation this year, especially if it has been absent from your budget. I challenge all our clubs to make a generous donation this year of at least \$41 or more to mark our celebration of 41 years! If your club wishes to donate \$100 or more special recognition will be made at our convention in April. Don't forget to "Double Report" on giving to the foundation on the "Save the Bay" special report form and in your Environment CSP report form! Thank you all for your support over the last four decades.

Please make your check out to the "Chesapeake Bay Foundation" and mail it to the chairman at: Christy Swiger, 117 Comanche Circle, Millsboro, DE 19966. I will forward your check to the Foundation. You can also contact Christy with questions at Specht21@aol.com or 301-461-8986.

Bettie M. Sippel Memorial Endowment Fund

Every club is encouraged to include a contribution to this fund in its yearly budget as a line item. Contributions can be voluntary, in honor or memory of former club presidents or deceased members or individually. You can give a contribution for someone in your club that has done outstanding work on a project or program. An acknowledgement is sent to the donor as well as the person in question.

Contributions to the Betty M. Sipple Memorial Endowment Fund (BMSMEF) helps to keep our Federation running.

Mary Lou Hodges
BMSMEF State Chairman



Donation Reminders

Tree-Mendous Maryland

Fall is the perfect time to provide a beautiful gift to the environment by planting a tree in your community.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources has many interesting programs and project ideas on their website (<https://dnr.maryland.gov>) that your club members can participate in. There is easy access to order forms, coupons and purchase payment for trees is also available on the website. The most popular program since 1989 is the Tree-Mendous Maryland Program. Just a small donation of \$40.00, a tree will be planted throughout Maryland in Honor of or Memory of a beloved family member or friend. These trees will be planted within the county in which the recipient of the certificate lives. Species to be planted are chosen based on what will flourish at each specific planting location. A beautiful certificate will be issued and mailed out announcing your gift. **Thank you for participating and keeping Maryland so beautiful.**

Julie Gibbs, Chairman

HOBYS

This year's 47th annual Maryland Leadership Seminar (HOBYS) will be held in early June 2026, at Towson University. Approximately two hundred forty students from schools across the state will have the opportunity to experience a four-day seminar filled with leadership activities. The program includes three levels of leadership: Personal leadership, Group leadership, and Social Responsibility. Each level of leadership will include an Introduction, Keynote Speaker, Activity and Reflection. Service activities, a talent show and dance round out the 4-day Seminar.

The HOBYS program is a completely volunteer organization and depends entirely on donations from companies, organizations and individuals. GFWC-Maryland has been a consistent supporter of this program since the 1980's. Registration fee per student is \$250 if paid by December 1st. Each school is eligible to send one student. (A second student will be on a waiting list.)

Donations (club or individual) of any amount are always welcome. If your club would like to donate, make your check payable to: Maryland Leadership Seminar Foundation, or HOBYS and send it to Anne Yakaitis, 7802 Cypress Landing Rd, Severn, MD 21144.



HOBYSponsorship

All clubs wishing to participate in the HOBYSponsorship program should read and follow the below procedures carefully.

DATE: HOBYSponsorship 2026 will be held in early-June, 2026.

LOCATION: Towson University, Towson, MD

COST: The total student registration cost is \$400 (paid by sponsoring club, including registration). If paid by December 1, 2025, the student registration fee is \$250. After December 1, the registration fee is \$300.

If a club would like to pay only the \$250 registration, please contact the school to let them know of your wishes. Some schools prefer that you send the registration check to them, others let the HOBYSponsorship state organization (Anne Yakaitis for MFWC clubs) handle collecting this fee. In any case, let Anne know if your club sends the money to the school so the club will get proper credit for their donation.

PROCEDURE:

1) Make your check payable to **Maryland Leadership Seminar Foundation** and mail it to:

Mrs. Anne Yakaitis
7802 Cypress Landing Road
Severn, MD 21144

2) Attach a piece of paper with your club name and the name of the school you wish to sponsor (can be found on next page).

Please contact the high school(s) you wish to sponsor to determine if they are participating and are selecting a student. By the time of this publication, each school should have received a nomination packet via email, addressed to the Principal. Anne will make every effort to accommodate sponsorship requests.

If you have questions, please contact Anne at 410-969-7506 or ayakaitis@aol.com. Thank you for your continued support of HOBYSponsorship.





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MARYLAND

2026 Maryland HOBY Leadership Seminar

GFWC Maryland Sponsor Form

Club Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

The cost per student attending the four-day seminar is a \$250 school registration fee if paid by December 1, 2025. After this date it is \$300. Total sponsorship is \$400.

Our club will help students from our community attend the seminar by:

_____ Donating \$_____ towards the sponsorship of students to the seminar

_____ Donating \$_____ towards the registration of students to the seminar

Please list the high schools in your local area*:

Please mail this form with your check or money order payable to Maryland Leadership

Seminar Foundation (official 501c(3) name) or HOBY MARYLAND to:

Anne Yakaitis
7802 Cypress Landing Road
Severn, MD 21144
ayakaitis@aol.com | 410-969-7506

*Every effort will be made to use your donation to support the schools that you have listed. However, in the event that your local schools were able to cover their registration fee, have been sponsored by another local business or organization, or did not register to attend, your donation will be used to support the next closest school to your community. All donations **will** be used to support students in your community.*

GFWC Maryland Club Treasurer Payment Form

2025-2026

Part 1: Dues and Donations to submit to GFWC MD State Treasurer

Date: _____
Club: _____
District: _____ General: _____ Junior: _____ Juniorette: _____
Treasurer's Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone Number: _____
Email: _____

A) Dues: (Please forward dues for new members as received.)

General Clubs: \$25.00 x _____ # of members = \$ _____
Junior Clubs: \$25.00 x _____ # of members = \$ _____

B) Annual Website Renewal Fee: \$10

C) Donations: (These are the only donations made through the State Treasurer)

The Maryland Clubwoman Magazine \$ _____
Youth Art Fund of GFWC MD \$ _____
Outstanding Maryland Clubwoman \$ _____
Bettie M. Sippel Memorial Endowment Fund \$ _____

For Convention recognition, please submit all donations at least three (3) weeks prior.

Add totals for A, B, and C. Indicate **TOTAL PAID** here: \$ _____

Remit your payment for the TOTAL PAID amount above by **December 1, 2025**.

Make checks payable to **GFWC MD Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc.**

Mail this form and your payment to:

Anita Becker
GFWC MD Treasurer
1601 Delvale Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21222

Please keep a copy for your club records

Continued on next page

GFWC Maryland Club Treasurer Payment Form

2024-2026

Part 2: Donations for Projects, Magazine, & Meetings

A. Submit any of the following to the GFWC MD CHAIRMAN as noted:

1) **Chesapeake Bay Foundation (Save The Bay)**

Payable to: Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Mail to: Christy Swiger
117 Comanche Circle
Millsboro, DE 19966

2) **Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY)**

Payable to: Maryland Leadership Seminar Foundation

Mail to: Anne Yakaitis
7802 Cypress Landing Road
Severn, MD 21144

3) **The Maryland Clubwoman Magazine**

Each club should keep their membership roster, including e-mail address, up-to-date with GFWC Maryland Corresponding Secretary, Becca Zarrelli, bz.mdcorrespondingsec@gmail.com. Club members without e-mail should receive a copy of The Maryland Clubwoman Magazine through their local club.

B. Submit Directly to ORGANIZATION:

Include a contact name with full address. Write "GFWC" on memo line of each check so GFWC/GFWC MD will receive credit for the donation.

1) **CARE**

Payable to: CARE
Mail to: 151 Ellis Street, NE, Atlanta, GA 30303-2440

2) **Tree-Mendous Maryland**

Payable to: Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Mail to: Tree-Mendous Maryland
Tawes State Office Building E-1,
Annapolis, MD 21401

Mail Copy to: Julie Gibbs
P. O. Box 419
Ocean City, MD 21843

Questions? Contact Anita Becker 410-804-6268 or anitaLbecker@gmail.com

GFWC-MARYLAND CLUB YEAR 2025-2026 REPORTING GUIDELINES

FOR CLUB PROGRAMS/PROJECTS NARRATIVES & STATISTICS

GFWC Maryland clubwomen are encouraged to showcase their club's activities by submitting a record or report that summarizes the projects and programs that have been undertaken during the calendar year. Club reports are submitted annually. When you take the time to write and submit reports you are recording your club's history.

Annual reporting period is January 1 – December 31.

Please observe the deadline of January 31, 2026, as the State Vice President/Dean of Chairmen must compile and forward to the State Chairmen the reports so they will have them for inclusion in their GFWC annual reports and for the GFWC-MD annual convention awards.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE STATE STATISTICAL FORM.

All clubs should complete the statistical form, even if you choose not to submit narratives.

The Five Areas of Information:

- Complete the top of the form with the club's official name, number of dues paying members, and your district. Check the appropriate box for General or Junior club and complete the President/Chairman contact information.
- Fill in the total number of programs and projects for your each of your Community Service Program (CSP), Special Programs (SP) and/or Advancement Plans (AP).
- Fill in the number of hours. Report only those hours spent by each member in approved club program and projects. This includes the time spent telephoning, running errands, writing letters and reports. Travel time may be included, EXCEPT for travel time to and from regular meetings. Hours for club programs may be counted as the length of time of the program multiplied by the number of members present. Example: ½ hour program x 24 members present = 12 hours. If you write an article for the newsletter that is distributed to all, it is the time to read x the number of members + the time to write it. Do not include hours spent in regular business sessions.
- Fill in total amount of money donated and report any In Kind donations made. (See GFWC In Kind Donation Guide for assistance in the valuation of commonly donated items.)
- Check the box to enclose a narrative.

Continued on next page

GFWC-MARYLAND CLUB YEAR 2025-2026 REPORTING GUIDELINES

FOR CLUB PROGRAMS/PROJECTS NARRATIVES & STATISTICS

AFFILIATES ORGANIZATION DATA FORM

Now included on the State Statistical Form.

Complete this section to include total statistics from your club's support of each Affiliate Organization. A separate narrative may be included with the appropriate GFWC Special Program or Community Service Program.

Club Program/Project Narratives

A good club program/project narrative should include:

- A brief description of the programs or projects with statistical information about that program/project underneath the narrative.
- If you have more than one (1) program/project in that area, the grand total of the statistical information of all club programs/projects in that area should be at the top of the narrative reporting form.
- The narrative should include a detailed report describing each project or program sponsored by the club or state Special Program, Community Service Program, and Advancement Plan. Each will include the following: number of members participating (**the total number of members participating may NOT exceed the total number of dues paying members in the club**); volunteer hours of clubwomen; dollars donated for a CSP; dollars spent for an AP; in-kind donations given for a CSP or for the WHRC Advancement Plan; and total number of projects or programs within each area. (**Dollars raised are only reported under fundraising.**) **Think journalism: who, what, where, when, how and why; and "Dragnet": all we want are the facts, ma'am. Be concise, state the facts,** write your "story" and tell everyone what your club did.
- Narrative should not exceed two (2) pages, 11-12 font, typewritten, and single-spaced. Each program narrative must have its own page. All pages of narratives must have the proper identifying heading. Please refer to the sample **Club Narrative Report Form** in the club president's packet.
- Remember to state if this is a NEW project that your club has undertaken or if you have made changes to an ongoing project.

Continued on next page

GFWC-MARYLAND CLUB YEAR 2024-2025 REPORTING GUIDELINES

FOR CLUB PROGRAMS/PROJECTS NARRATIVES & STATISTICS

Club Program/Project Narratives, Cont.

- Be sure to include the **number of club members who participated, and how many people benefitted from your efforts, if possible**. It is important to include the number of people who were the recipients of the services provided. (Example: 15 of your members held a bingo at a nursing home. There were 50 residents who came to play bingo and each were given a little goody bag.) This will tell the reader who and how many benefited from the project.
- Activities listed in GFWC programs/projects should be reported in the appropriate program/project areas. **Use the GFWC Club Manual as a guide.**
- Affiliate Organizations. Be specific in reporting projects involving GFWC Affiliate Organizations. **You are to record them in the most appropriate Community Service Program or Special Program according to the intent of the project. Then you will compile these and put it on the special GFWC Affiliate Organizations Data Form section of the Maryland Statistical Form.** Note the specific affiliate organization in your narrative and heading.
- **Activities not listed in GFWC program materials** should be reported in the program/project area which most closely relates to the activity. Include any other groups that the club partnered with, including local government, other service groups (Kiwanis, Elks, etc.), and other nonprofit organization. Remember you can give overall results of a project, BUT you must be sure to include only statistics regarding member participation and contribution to the project.
- Report **hours** that were spent ONLY on club-adopted programs/projects. Describe how the time was used, be sure to include planning, implementation, results and evaluation. Include any promotion or PR that was achieved.
- **AVOID CROSS or DOUBLE REPORTING – Exception Fundraising and Maryland Special Projects.** Choose the Community Service Program (CSP), Special Program (SP) or Advancement Plan (AP) that a project or program best fits and list only once. If you raised money and then used the funds raised for a CSP, SP or AP, you can list the amount raised under fundraising and amount donated or spent under the CSP, SP or AP. Maryland Special Projects should be reported under the appropriate CSP or SP, and also on the Special Project forms.

Continued on next page

GFWC-MARYLAND CLUB YEAR 2024-2025 REPORTING GUIDELINES

FOR CLUB PROGRAMS/PROJECTS NARRATIVES & STATISTICS

Club Program/Project Narratives, Cont.

- **Report all money that was raised or donated and all in-kind donations** for club programs/projects. Estimate the value of in-kind gifts. See the GFWC In-kind donation guide.
- If the club donates money **from the treasury to a project**, use the total number of members in the club under “participating members”. Count one hour for the treasurer to write and mail the check. Hours spent raising the money are reported under Fundraising.
- Have members read over the narratives to insure the proper use of **grammar, spelling and punctuation**. Edit, edit, edit! Do a check list: Is anything missing from the report? Make sure the statistics on your narratives match the numbers entered on your statistical report.
- Prepare reports for mailing. Each packet should contain 1 copy of your statistical report form, your narratives, and your Maryland special project forms. Send 1 copy to the State President, 2 copies to the Dean of Chairmen, and Juniors also send 1 copy to the Director of Junior Clubs. **Be sure to keep a copy for your club files. Mailing addresses are on the statistical report form.**

Please adhere to ALL deadlines! Reports must be postmarked no later January 31, 2026.

Be sure to keep track of information on your reporting activity. It can be included on next year’s Leadership report!



Maryland Statistical Form

Annual Reporting Period: January 1 - December 31

☐ 2024

☐ 2025

Club Name: _____

Number of Members^{**}: _____ District: _____

(Please check one) ☐ General Club ☐ Junior Club

Club President: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

^{**} According to list of clubs by category

GFWC Special Programs	# of Projects	Volunteer Hours	Dollars Donated	In-Kind Donations	Narrative Enclosed
GFWC Signature Program: Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness & Prevention					☐
GFWC Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children					☐

GFWC Community Service Programs	# of Projects	Volunteer Hours	Dollars Donated	In-Kind Donations	Narrative Enclosed
Arts & Culture					☐
Civic Engagement & Outreach					☐
Education					☐
Environment					☐
Health & Wellness					☐

GFWC Advancement Plans	# of Projects	Volunteer Hours	Dollars Spent	Narrative Enclosed
Communications & Public Policy				☐
Leadership				☐
Legislation & Public Policy				☐
Membership				☐
	# of Projects	Volunteer Hours	Dollars Raised	Narrative Enclosed
Fundraising				☐

	# of Projects	Volunteer Hours	Dollars Donated	In-Kind Donations	Narrative Enclosed
Women's History & Resource CTR					☐
		Volunteer Hours		Books Read	
Epsilon Sigma Omicron					

Please report each **GFWC Affiliate** program or project under the appropriate Community Service or Special Program. Copy statistical totals for each Affiliate to the **GFWC Affiliate Organizations Data Form** on the next page. Statistics should be reported on both forms.

Maryland Special Projects	# of Projects	Volunteer Hours	Dollars Donated	In-Kind Donations	Narrative Enclosed
Maryland President's Special Project: Mental Health and Suicide Prevention					☐
Tree-Mendous Maryland					☐
Save the Bay					☐

GFWC Affiliate Organizations Data Form		# of Projects	Volunteer Hours	Dollars Donated	In-Kind Donations
Alzheimer's Association	All Club Programs & Projects				
Canine Companions	All Club Programs & Projects				
Heifer International	All Club Programs & Projects				
Hope for Justice	All Club Programs & Projects				
March of Dimes	All Club Programs & Projects				
Operation Smile	All Club Programs & Projects				
St. Jude Children's Res. Hosp.	All Club Programs & Projects				
UNF Shot @ Life Campaign	All Club Programs & Projects				
UNICEF USA	All Club Programs & Projects				

Instructions

- Complete page one to include total statistics for each Special Program (SP), Community Service Program (CSP), and Advancement Plan (AP).
- Transfer statistics for each GFWC Affiliate to the GFWC Affiliate Organizations Data Form on page 2.
- Narratives are optional, but they will enhance chances of recognition and are necessary to be considered for GFWC Maryland and GFWC awards. If you submit a narrative description of your project or activity, please mark the "narrative enclosed" box for the program area and attach the narratives to this Statistical Form. You need prepare only **one statistical form** to submit with your narratives.
- A narrative may not exceed two (2) pages and must be typewritten and single-spaced. **Please do not combine all narratives into a single document. Each SP, CSP, or AP should have its own page(s), and all projects under that subject should be submitted together.**
- **FORMS AND NARRATIVES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JANUARY 31, 2026.**
- All clubs mail:
 - 1 copy to: Andrea Lilly, GFWC Maryland President
2933 Nassawango Rd., Pocomoke, MD 21851
andrealillygfwcmd@gmail.com
 - 2 copies to: Diane Hill, GFWC Maryland Dean of Chairmen
16201 Bond Mill Rd., Laurel, MD 20707
nuggetpal@aol.com
- Junior clubs also need to mail:
 - 1 copy to: t



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MARYLAND

Tree-Mendous Maryland Report Form 2025

Annual Reporting Period: January 1 - December 31

Club Name: _____

MD District: _____

Prepared by: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Number of members in club: _____

Number of members participating: _____

Total number of projects/programs: _____

Total number of hours: _____

Total \$ donated: \$ _____

Total in-kind value of donations: \$ _____

Narrative:



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MARYLAND

State President's Special Project: Mental Health Awareness Report Form 2025

Annual Reporting Period: January 1 - December 31

Club Name: _____

MD District: _____

Prepared by: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Number of members in club: _____

Number of members participating: _____

Total number of projects/programs: _____

Total number of hours: _____

Total \$ raised/donated: \$ _____

Total in-kind value of donations: \$ _____

Narrative:



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MARYLAND

Save the Bay Report Form 2025

Annual Reporting Period: January 1 - December 31

Club Name: _____

MD District: _____

Prepared by: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Number of members in club: _____

Number of members participating: _____

Total number of projects/programs: _____

Total number of hours: _____

Total \$ donated: \$ _____

Total in-kind value of donations: \$ _____

Narrative:



Club Categories for Awards

GFWC Maryland Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc. Membership Statistics for 2025 Awards. Membership is based on dues paid on December 1, 2024 and reflects the number of registered members for the majority of 2025.

Category 1 - Members 15 and under:

Total Clubs: 7

GFWC Jr. Woman's Civic Club of Cumberland, Inc.	8
GFWC Jr. Woman's Club of Pocomoke City	12
GFWC Jr. Woman's Club of Dundalk, Inc.	9
GFWC Centennial Club of Western District*	13
The Town and Country Club of Greensboro	9
GFWC Wicomico Woman's Club	15
GFWC The Wednesday Club of Sandy Spring	14

Category 2 - Members 16-30:

Total Clubs: 6

GFWC Laytonsville Woman's Club	22
GFWC Silver Spring Woman's Club	18
GFWC Joppatowne Woman's Club	19
GFWC Jr. Woman's Club of Westminster, Inc	21
The Woman's Club of Perry Hall, Inc.	25
GFWC Metropolitan Community Club of Montgomery County	29

Category 3 - Members 31-60:

Total Clubs: 5

Frederick Woman's Civic Club, Inc.	38
University Park Woman's Club, Inc.	40
The Woman's Club of Glyndon, Inc.	46
GFWC Woman's Club of Laurel, Inc.	54
Woman's Club of Bethesda, Inc.	55

Category 4 - Members 61 and Over:

Total Clubs: 4

GFWC Woman's Club of Westminster, Inc.	70
GFWC Civic Club of Oakland, Maryland, Inc.	68
GFWC Woman's Club of Linthicum Heights, Inc.	122
GFWC Woman's Club of Chevy Chase, MD, Inc.	286

*Clubs designated with an asterisk are clubs composed of Past District Presidents.



GFWC Award & Contest Deadlines

Unless otherwise indicated, members or clubs must submit entries for state judging prior to entering GFWC contests. After the state judging, GFWC Maryland Chairmen will submit winning entries to GFWC for national judging. Your club may be a winner! Please see your **GFWC Club Manual** for complete details on all contests and awards. Entry guidelines may vary.

GFWC Creativity Awards

GFWC presents a \$50 Club Creativity Award to one club in the nation in each of the Community Service Programs (CSP), Special Programs (SP), and Advancement Plans (AP).

Each state is permitted one entry in each CSP, SP, and AP. These entries are selected by the state chairmen from the reports submitted by the individual clubs.

The deadline for club reports is **January 31, 2026** to the vice President/Dean of Chairmen.

Special Programs

GFWC Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention
 Juniors' Special Project: Advocates for Children

Community Service Programs

Arts & Culture
 Civic Engagement & Outreach
 Education & Libraries
 Environment
 Health & Wellness

Advancement Plans

Communication & Public Relations
 Fundraising
 Leadership
 Legislation & Public Policy
 Membership
 Women's History & Resource Center

Community Impact Program Contest *(January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2025)*

One club in each state receives a \$100 first place award. One club in each of the GFWC state membership categories receives a \$2,500 award.

Deadline: March 1, **2026** to State Chairman, Karen-Marie Wasik.

<u>GFWC Contests</u>	<u>GFWC Award</u>	<u>Deadline</u>	<u>State Chairman</u>
<u>For Clubs:</u>			
Newsletter Contest	Certificate	March 1, 2026	Jo Miller
Website Contest	Certificate	March 15, 2026	Becca Zarrelli
<u>For Individuals:</u>			
Photography Contest	\$50-\$100	Enter at convention	Jeanne Pim
Writing Contest		March 15, 2026	Jo Miller
Member	Certificate		
Youth (K-12)	Certificate		



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Outstanding Maryland Clubwoman Rules & Nomination Form

The opportunity to review happy memories can start now. Choosing an Outstanding Club Member is a time to remember the wonderful accomplishments your club has had this past year by looking back at your members' participation in them. All active members are Outstanding Club members but there are always those who go that extra mile. Every club has at least one outstanding club member. Maybe she is the one who greets everyone with a kind word or smile, is involved in most club projects, is a good organizer or a good leader or just a well-rounded individual who is willing to help, generally doesn't complain, is dependable, and does more than her share for the club. It can be an officer, a member who has been in the club for a long time, or a new member.

The following is given as a help to you in selecting your club's nominee for Outstanding Maryland Club Woman 2025.

- Each club may have only one nominee. It can be someone who has been a nominee in the previous year, as long as she did not receive the Award.
- It can not be a current member of the GFWC Maryland Executive Committee, honorary GFWC Maryland State President, former recipient of the OMC Award, or any Junior club member, as the Juniors have their own award.
- All general club presidents will receive the GFWC Maryland Outstanding club Woman Award rules and cover sheet in January 2026. If a club needs another copy, they will be available on the GFWCMD website.

A Brief Review of the Rules for OMC Award:

- Make sure the cover sheet is fully filled out and signed by the club president or designated person in case the president is the nominee.
- The separate narrative of 500 words or less must not mention the nominee's name, the club's name or any information that would identify the person. Nor should any name of club members, nor any identifying agencies in your community be given in order that the judges, who are also club members chosen by the state president, will be impartial in the selection process.
- The narrative's main emphasis should be on what the member did for the club this past year. Additional background including club involvement over the years, along with any district and state activities may be included.
- All nominees will be recognized, and one nominee will be chosen as the GFWC Maryland Outstanding Club Woman for 2025 and honored at the GFWC Maryland Convention in April 2026.

Deadline for all entries and for the narrative must be postmarked by **March 1, 2026** and mailed to:

Andrea Lilly, GFWC Maryland President.
2933 Nassawango Road
Pocomoke City, MD 21851

Thank you,
Karen-Marie Wasik, Chairman
If you have any questions, please contact me at: sweetiekw104@gmail.com



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GFWC Maryland LEADS Application Instructions

The GFWC Leadership, Education, and Development Seminar identifies GFWC members at the local level who have the potential and desire to assume leadership positions in their State Federations and/or GFWC on the national level. Participation in GFWC LEADS can help up-and-coming leaders gain the capabilities, confidence, and commitment necessary to pursue and achieve higher offices and serve with distinction. It is held on the day before the official opening of the GFWC Annual International Convention.

Criteria for LEADS Participation

It is highly recommended that each LEADS candidate meets the following criteria:

- Demonstrates leadership capabilities at the club level as a club project committee member or chairman, club officer, an incoming or active club president.
- Exhibits a commitment to the Federation.
- Exhibits an understanding of the GFWC mission of community service, illustrated by programs and projects in which she is or has been involved.
- Demonstrates leadership skills, including, but not limited to, organization, responsibility, trustworthiness, enthusiasm, and flexibility.
- Exhibits an interest in and willingness to pursue higher leadership positions in district or GFWC-MD.
- Agrees to share information gained from participation in LEADS with others in the State/District.
- Understands and accepts potential expenses involved in participation.
- Has not held elected positions at or beyond the state level. (This criterion is recommended in order to encourage potential leaders at the club level to apply.)
- Has not attended a previous LEADS program. Members are eligible to attend GFWC LEADS Seminar only once.

Anyone who is interested in LEADS is encouraged to apply using the GFWC MD LEADS Application on the next page. The application is also available on the state website, gfwcmd.org. The chairman's contact information is at the bottom of the application. Feel free to contact the chairman with questions.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: MARCH 1, 2026



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MARYLAND

GFWC Maryland LEADS Application

Application Form

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: March 1, 2026

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Club: _____ District: _____

Above information should be concealed during judging process.

Please answer the following questions in as much detail as possible:

List all local club offices and/or chairmanships held:

List all district offices and/or chairmanships held:

List GFWC club/district programs/projects in which involved:

List positions at the district, state, and/or national level in which you are interested:

Please state why you would like to take part in the LEADS Seminar as a state representative:

Are you willing to (circle one):

Attend the GFWC LEADS program on the day at the GFWC convention?	Yes	No
Defray costs to attend GFWC LEADS not covered by GFWC or state?	Yes	No
Share what you have learned at LEADS with your state's members?	Yes	No

If more space is needed for answers, attach additional sheets. Return this form, along with two letters of support from active GFWC club members to:

Amanda Krantz
GFWC Maryland Director of Junior Clubs
337 Winter Quarters Dr.
Pocomoke, MD 21851
msakrantz@gmail.com
443-783-7485



State Youth Art Contest

Rules & Guidelines

1. Students should submit one piece of flag, two-dimensional, art in the Drawing/Painting Category OR the Photography/Computer Art Category. Due to transportation logistics, Sculpture, Ceramics, and other three-dimensional entries cannot be accepted.
2. There is no designated theme for the contest and artists may choose their own subject.
3. Artwork may be of the following media: oil, lead, pencil, pen, ink, charcoal, pastels, acrylic, watercolor, mixed media, photography, and/or computer art. If necessary, the work should be sprayed with a fixative.
4. Teachers should jury and select top art work for submission from each school.
5. All entries must be original work that is completed by the student.
6. Rearrangements of existing work to create new compositions will be accepted (Observance of copyright laws is expected).
7. Entries must have a firm backing of heavy cardboard or foam core. Canvas board or wood framed canvas is also accepted, however, no frames or glass will be accepted.
8. Maximum size is 24" x 36" in its entirety (including matting).
9. All submissions must have the ENTRY CARD and the CREATIVE ARTS WAIVER completed and securely attached to the back of the artwork, otherwise it will not be accepted.
10. All First, Second, and Third Place Winners agree to allow their works to be entered into the Maryland State Competition, Students should not expect artwork to be returned until the end of April 2026.

Goals of Contest:

- Stimulate an interest in art
- Recognize artistic talent in students
- Encourage students to pursue an education in art

Categories:

- Middle School Drawing or Painting
- Middle School Digital or Photography
- High School Drawing or Painting
- High School Digital or Photography

Awards

Judging will take place on March 18, 2026. The top three winners in each category will be displayed at the GFWC Maryland State Convention on April 25, 2026. Students are invited to receive their awards and pick up their artwork at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Annapolis, Maryland at 2:00PM on April 25, 2026.



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State Youth Art Contest

STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE AND ATTACH BOTH FORMS

GFWC-MD Student Art Program
Entry Card 2026
Please print clearly

Artist's Name: _____
Title of Art: _____
Medium: _____
Personal Email: _____ Home/Cell Phone: _____
Home Address: _____

Parent's Name: _____
School: _____ Grade: _____ Teacher: _____
Student Art Contest Chairman: _____
Sponsoring:
Club: _____
District: _____
General Federation of Women's Clubs
www.gfwc.org

Creative Arts Waiver

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

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____
(if submitter is under 18 years old)



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State Photography Contest

Once again we will have the GFWC Maryland Photography Contest at the State Convention this year. Follow the guidelines listed here and let me know if you have any questions.

- Photos must be taken during the 2025 year;
- Photos may be in color OR black & white
- Photos should be 8x10 size, printed and matted on a sturdy backing
- Photos must have the completed information form attached to the back (extra forms will be available at Convention)
- Entries will be accepted on Saturday morning, April 25th, 2026 at the Convention, though you may send your photo submissions with another member if needed.

There are four categories for this contest: "Living the Volunteer Spirit", "The World Up Close", "Natural Beauty", "Reflections". The First Place Winner in the four categories will receive a blue ribbon and the photo and paperwork will be submitted to GFWC Headquarters for national judging.

Thank you,

Jeanne Pim
301-219-5873

Photography Contest Information Form

Category: _____

Name of Photo: _____

Your Name: _____

Your Club Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email address: _____



State Newsletter and Writing Contests

Federation Ladies,

Hard to believe another year of Federation work is coming to an end. Time to think ahead of reporting. A time each club can shine with the many projects and programs they have accomplished. It is also time to think ahead to deadlines for The GFWC Maryland Newsletter Contest and Writing Contest.

Please note new address. Send a copy of your newsletter by email or mail to:

Jo Miller
2568 Mosser RD
McHenry, MD 21541
jjmil68@verizon.net
301-268-4668

Deadline for the Newsletter Contest is March 1, 2026 and the Writing Contest is March 15, 2026.

To review the guidelines for both contests just visit gfwc.org.

In Federation Friendship,

Jo Miller
GFWC MD Newsletter Contest Chairman
GFWC MD Writing Contest Chairman



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MARYLAND

Community Impact Program Awards

The GFWC Community Impact Program Award offers GFWC clubs financial incentives to implement projects designed to impact a specific problem in their community.

Contest Description

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

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.
- 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.

Deadline to State Chairman: March 1, 2026. Entries must be postmarked by this date. The CIP Awards Entry Form can be found in the GFWC Club Manual, or as a stand-alone form, both available in the GFWC Member Portal. It will also be posted on the GFWC Maryland website. Please consult the GFWC Club Manual for ideas on how to select and plan your CIP project.

Mail to:
Karen-Marie Wasik
GFWC Maryland CIP Chairman
9303 Westcott Place, Unit C
Rockville, MD 20850

240-620-9227
sweetiekw104@gmail.com



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MARYLAND

Resolutions & Bylaws

Resolutions

Proposed resolutions and/or changes thereto must be presented to the Resolutions chairman and committee on or before **January 15, 2026** pursuant to the Article XIV, section 7 of the Bylaws of the GFWC Maryland Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc. (The Federation). Resolutions must be pertinent to the work and objectives of The Federation. These proposals may be presented by any of the following: the Executive Committee; the Resolutions Committee; a district; a federated club; or a chairman of a program or committee of The Federation. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the resolutions chairman:

Karen-Marie Wasik, GFWC MD Resolutions Chairman
9303 Westcott Place, Unit C
Rockville, MD 20850
Phone: 240-620-9227 | Sweetiekw104@aol.com

Bylaws

Pursuant to the Bylaws of the Maryland Federation (the Federation), Article XVII: Amendments to the Bylaws, any such proposed amendments must be received by the chairman of the bylaws committee on or before **February 1, 2026**. Said proposed amendments may be proposed by the bylaws committee, the executive committee or by a federated club. The current Federation bylaws as amended through April 26, 2025, can be found on the Federation website at www.gfwcmd.org. If you are unable to access the website, reach out to me and I can email you a copy.

Additionally, again I am reminding all districts and clubs that pursuant to Article XIV, Section 3, the bylaws chairman must be provided with a copy of the bylaws of all districts and clubs of the Federation to make certain they are not in conflict with those of the Federation. To date, I have received from only two (2) clubs. Again, I am asking all clubs and districts to furnish me with these as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact me for further clarification. Thank you so much.

Cynthia Ann Dykes, GFWC MD Bylaws Chairman
1407 W. Sandy Acre Dr.
Salisbury, MD 21804
H: 410-742-4658 | C: 301-351-7752 | Cynad1@yahoo.com

THE CLUBWOMAN *Connection*

January 31, 20262025 Reporting Deadline
February 17, 2026..... February BOD Meeting
March 7, 2026Mid-Winter Rally
April 25-26, 2026Maryland Convention
June 26-29, 2026..... International Convention



GFWC

est. 1890

**GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**

MARYLAND