



DEEP SOUTH GARDEN CLUBS AWARDS HANDBOOK

2023-2025

Rev 6.26.2024

DEEP SOUTH GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
AWARDS PROCEDURES 2023-2025
Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee
www.deepsouthgardenclubs.com

Chairperson: DSGC Awards Chair, Roxanna Champagne
220 Farmington Dr., Lafayette, LA 70503
roxannachamp@cox.net, (337) 298-5099

GENERAL INFORMATION

This document is the complete guide to the application process and a complete list of awards.

Applications – *unless otherwise noted* – will be **emailed** to:
DSGC Awards Chair, Roxanna Champagne, roxannachamp@cox.net, (337) 298-5099

Awards Year: January 1 to December 31 annually.
All awards may be presented annually, if merited. Any exceptions will be noted.

Eligibility: Only Deep South Garden Clubs (DSGC) members are eligible to apply for DSGC awards. Those members are Individual Garden Clubs, Groups of Garden Clubs, Individuals, Circles or Councils affiliated with a State Garden Club Organization. The State Garden Clubs or Federation of any of the six states of Deep South Garden Clubs of National Garden Clubs, Inc. shall be referred to as State Garden Club Organizations. The National Garden Clubs, Inc. may be referred to as NGC.

National Garden Clubs: Check with National Garden Clubs, Inc. for information on their awards and contests. (www.gardenclub.org/awards-and-grants) An exact application and/or Book of Evidence cannot be submitted for more than one award.

THE APPLICATION FORM & BOOK OF EVIDENCE

- The **DSGC application form** is a cover sheet only. It is not counted in the Book of Evidence (BOE).
- The application form is a fillable PDF on the DSGC website.
- The BOE should include pertinent information and supporting photos, if applicable.
- Read the **Scale of Points** on p. 4 for what should be included in the BOE.
- The BOE shall be a **maximum of three** pages, one side only, *unless otherwise stated in the award requirements*.
- Application form and BOE **must** be typed.
- Application form and BOE are to be emailed to the **DSGC Awards Chair**, *unless another chairman is stated in the award requirements*.
- **Email** application and BOE, *unless otherwise stated in the award requirements*.
- Email **one** award per email and include the **award number** and **name of state** submitting the award in the subject line
- **State Awards Chairman** must email a **complete list of award entries** from your state to the DSGC Awards Chairman.
- If using your state's application cover sheet, it is to be counted as page 1. **Only** the DSGC Award Application Cover Sheet is not counted.

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS

Only **one** application may be submitted for each size category (based upon membership) per award for evaluation by the State Awards Chairman.

CLUB CATEGORIES* BY SIZE (NGC Category Sizes)

Small Club:	1-20 members
Medium Club:	21-50 members
Large Club:	51+ members

Size determined by the number of members for whom NGC and state dues are paid, including Active, Associate, Inactive, Honorary, etc.

*An individual is **not** a category. If an individual is eligible for an award, it will be stated in the award description.

STATE GARDEN CLUB CATEGORIES BY SIZE

State Garden Clubs shall be judged according to size determined by number of members for whom NGC Dues are paid.

Small State:	1-55 clubs
Medium State:	56-149 clubs
Large State	150+ clubs

DEADLINES FOR STATE AWARDS CHAIRMEN*

- JAN 15:** Award #30, Member Award of Honor
- JAN 25:** Award #1 School Grounds Improvement Award
Award #20, Intermediate Gardeners Award
Award #22, DSGC Club of the Year
Award #26, DSGC Mentor of the Year
Award #27A and B, DSGC Flower Show Schedule
Award #28 DSGC Small Standard Flower Show
Award #31, DSGC Yearbook Award
- FEB 1:** All other applications

*Only State Awards Chairmen may send DSGC Awards to the DSGC Awards Chairman or specifically designated chairman in the award description.

DEADLINE FOR DSGC CHAIRMEN

- FEB 15:** **DSGC Chairmen** must send DSGC winners to DSGC Awards Chair Roxanna Champagne for inclusion in the DSGC Awards Book at the DSGC Convention.
This includes a list of winners of the following awards:
Award #1
Award #15
Award #20
Award #24
Award #27, 28
Award #29
Award #31
NGC Youth Poetry Contest
NGC Youth Sculpture Contest
Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest

EXCEPTIONS TO WHOM THE APPLICATIONS ARE SENT

- Award #1, DSGC School Grounds Improvement Award
- Award #15, Junior Garden Club Award
- Award #20, Intermediate Gardeners Award
- Award #27, DSGC Flower Show Schedule
- Award #28, DSGC Small Standard Flower Show
- Award #29, Publicity Press Book
- Award # 31, DSGC Yearbook Award
- NGC Poetry Contest
- NGC Youth Sculpture Contest
- Youth Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest
- 2023-2025 DSGC Unified Project (see [DSGC](#) website)

THE FOLLOWING AWARDS MUST BE SENT BY MAIL

When mailing award applications and Books of Evidence, **do not request signature confirmation** as proof of receipt as this may result in the material being returned to you, and thus becoming ineligible, if the Chairperson is not home. Binders are only allowed for Award #31 DSGC Yearbook Award.

- Award #27A and #27B, DSGC Flower Show Schedule
- Award #28, DSGC Small Standard Flower Show
- Award #29, Publicity Press Book
- Award #31 DSGC Yearbook Award
- 2023-2025 DSGC Unified Project (see [DSGC](#) website)

REQUIRED FOR AWARDS # 28, 29 AND DSGC Unified Project

- Use a lightweight, solid color, theme type binder, size not to exceed 8.5×11 -inch. See rules for individual awards for number of pages required. *No ring binders.*
- Outside label should include number and name of DSGC Award, size of category (if applicable) and name of club, city and state.
- Complete the necessary information on the DSGC awards application form cover sheet. Attach with a paperclip a copy of the completed application form to the inside front cover.
- Vinyl sheet protectors are **only** allowed for **Award # 29, Publicity Press Book.**
- Use standard 8.5×11 -inch paper
- All material must be attached to pages, no loose material, with no pullouts or foldouts.
- Do not add extra information in the back pocket.
- Secure all photographs and/or neatly gather other materials.
- All text must be typed, concise and follow all requirements in award description and Scale of Points (see p. 4).
- BOE must include text and not just photos with labels.
- Photocopies are permitted.
- Photos may be interspersed throughout text or following text.

BOOK OF EVIDENCE

SCALE OF POINTS*

A **Book of Evidence** is required for all awards unless otherwise noted in the award description. All text must be typed, concise and follow all requirements in the award description and the following Scale of Points.

- **Presentation – 5 pts:** neat, concise, includes all required information on the DSGC Awards Application Form (four sheets total), unless otherwise stated in the award description.
- **Achievement – 65 pts:** scope of project; need and fulfillment; benefit; accomplishment; comprehensiveness of work; activities to attain goals; evaluation of goals reached; educational; prior planning; very brief history if continuing project; financial report; other.
- **Participation – 15 pts:** size of club; involvement of members, community, government agencies, professionals, youth, residents in facilities, others. Not all of these have to be involved.
- **Record or Documentation – 15 pts:** supporting data (as applicable), clear, well-labeled and neatly attached before and after photographs if applicable, landscape plan (does not have to be professionally drawn), financial reports, letters of appreciation, community awards, newspaper/magazine articles (if possible), radio or TV script (if possible), etc. Photocopies are permitted.

*Exceptions: Flower Show Achievement Awards, DSGC Garden Club of Year, DSGC Mentor of the Year, DSGC Member Award of Honor, DSGC Unified Project, Publicity Press Books, Yearbooks, Junior Garden Club Award

————— END OF PROCEDURES —————

DEEP SOUTH GARDEN CLUBS AWARDS LIST

All applications are sent to DSGC Awards Chair Roxanna Champagne unless otherwise noted in individual award. The Deadline for inclusion in the Convention awards book is February 15.

1. School Grounds Improvement Award *Donor: The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.*

Class A: Less than 30 members

Class B: 31 members or more

State winners must be **emailed** to the DSGC School Grounds/Outdoor Classroom Chair **Peggy Tucker**; wotucker@hartcom.net; 706-436-5454 to arrive no later than **January 25**. An annual cash award of \$25.00 may be awarded to the overall winner. Certificates may be awarded in each Category for the beautification and improvement of the grounds of any school building (old or new). They may be awarded to an individual garden club, council or group of clubs, a garden club circle, or group of circles acting as a sponsor for this project and who are members of their State Garden Club. Book of Evidence is required.

2. Historic Preservation and/or Restoration Landscape Award

Donor: The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.

An annual cash award of \$25.00 may be awarded to an individual member of a garden club, a club, or group of clubs for a Historic Preservation or Restoration Landscaping project. Book of Evidence is required.

3. Public Relations Award

A certificate may be awarded in each category for accomplishments in garden club related activities with one or more non-member groups or organizations in promoting good public relations. These should be projects of the State Garden Club, Deep South Garden Clubs, or NGC, Inc. Competition will be judged on ONE selected cosponsored project in a field such as Conservation, Horticulture, Litter Control, Environment Improvement, Youth Involvement, Historic Restoration, or any other meritorious activity promoting garden club goals which will broaden the scope of public relations. Book of Evidence is required. **The identical project is not eligible to win this award for two consecutive years.**

4. Membership Award

A certificate will be awarded to the State Garden Club with the greatest percentage increase in membership during the year. The winner will be determined by official membership records of NGC as of October 31, before the Deep South Garden Clubs Convention. No application necessary.

5. Litter Control Award

Donor: Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

An annual cash award of \$25 may be awarded to a garden club, council or group of clubs affiliated with one of the State Garden Clubs of the DSGC for sponsoring a project in the field of litter control, encompassing such activities as waste reduction, recycling, and endeavors for a quality environment. **Youth involvement** to be **emphasized**. Book of Evidence is required.

6. Bird Award

Donor: Jane Hersey, Eatonton, Georgia

An annual cash award of \$100 may be awarded to an individual member of a garden club, garden club or group of clubs for outstanding activity in the protection or care of birds, such as establishing, maintaining, identifying, or marking sanctuaries; or promotion of legislation relative to bird welfare. If sanctuary is by official ordinance (new or maintained), a copy of the ordinance must be included. If it is a continuing project, detail the plans. Book of Evidence is

required.

7. Tree Planting Award

In Honor of Mrs. Thomas C. Lacey (Virginia) DS Regional Director 1979-1981

Donor: The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc.

An annual cash award of \$25 may be awarded to a garden club for the most outstanding tree planting project. Emphasis to be on low maintenance, quality trees suitable to local climatic and ecological conditions. Project may be started at any time but must be completed within the award year in which application is made. Book of Evidence is required.

8. Special Achievement Award

In Honor of Annette Stanbery, DS Regional Director 2005-2007 Donor: Ann McCormick

An annual cash award of \$100 may be awarded in each category for the most outstanding achievement in **ONE** of the following: civic development, conservation, beautification, garden therapy, or any other garden club related project.

Youth involvement will be an asset. Book of Evidence is required. **The identical project is not eligible to win this award for two consecutive years.**

9. Horticulture Award

In Memory of Mrs. Carroll O. Griffin (Ellen) DS Regional Director 1977-1979

NGC President 1987-1989

Donor: Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

An annual cash award of \$25 may be awarded to a garden club for the most outstanding activities in the field of horticulture. The award is given to promote planned gardening activities in the study of horticulture BY CLUB MEMBERS. Membership participation shall be emphasized. Summary outlining year's plan, activities to implement the plan, goals, and results should be included in description of project. Book of Evidence is required.

10. Landscape Design Award

Donor: Carol M. Bullard

DS Region Director, 2015-2017

An annual cash award of \$100.00 may be awarded to a garden club, council or group of clubs in the Deep South Garden Clubs sponsoring the most outstanding activity in the area of Landscape Design. The activity may be in the area of Landscaping Education or in actual project(s) – (a series of related activities /projects promoting Landscape Design). Book of Evidence is required.

11. Historic Preservation and Restoration of Building Award

A certificate may be awarded to a garden club, council, or group of clubs for the most outstanding promotion and/or project involving the preservation and/or restoration of a historic building. Book of Evidence is required.

12. High School Gardeners Award

A certificate may be awarded to the State Garden Club registering the greatest number of high school gardeners within the Deep South Garden Clubs, according to the DSGC High School Gardeners Chair as of three (3) weeks before the DSGC Convention. Established procedure for organizing High School Gardeners must be observed. No application necessary.

13. Environmental Education Award

Certificates may be awarded in each category for the most comprehensive program in the field of environmental education with emphasis on Youth. **The identical project is not eligible to win this award two consecutive years.** Book of Evidence is required.

14. Butterfly Conservation

Donor: Tricia Mitchell

An annual cash award of \$50 may be awarded to an individual garden club for the most outstanding work in the field of butterfly conservation stressing community involvement. Book of Evidence is required.

15. Junior Garden Club Award

Donor: The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

An annual cash award of \$25 may be awarded to the highest scoring Junior Garden Club sponsored by a State Garden Club, which, through its own efforts, has been successful in promoting all phases of garden club work.

Grades: preschool through sixth.

State winners must be sent to **Diane Harbin**, 11 Ridgewood Road, Rome, GA 30165 706- 346-6510 dianejharbin@comcast.com no later than **January 25**.

Scale of Points

Year-round balanced programs (2 or more)	30
(Flower Show participation or workshop; horticulture workshop, growing projects for individuals; field trips; others)	
Conservation (2 or more)	30
(Nature study, birds, trees, water, field trips, others)	
Civic (1 or more)	20
(Community involvement projects; assisting sponsoring club; anti-litter campaigns; Arbor Day celebration, etc.)	
Other	10
(Garden therapy, world gardening, poster participation, 6-9 meetings with 7 or more members)	
Presentation of materials (Include yearbook)	<u>10</u>
TOTAL	100

16. Adopt-A-Park Award

In Memory of Marilyn Carlton DS Regional Director 1985-1987

Donor: Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.

A certificate and annual cash award of \$25 may be offered to an individual garden club for the establishment of city, mini, pocket, or subdivision parks and/or enhancement of specific areas in existing parks. Book of Evidence is required.

17. Community Action Award

A certificate may be given annually to a garden club for the most outstanding program/project relating to garden club objectives; involvement of community is a major consideration. This may be a continuing project, but the major portion of worthiness must have been accomplished within the year of application. Examples: Arbor Day activities, Blue Star Memorial Marker and or Historical Markers erection/dedication, beautification of community buildings, churches, or cemeteries, etc. Book of Evidence is required.

18. Wildflower Award

A certificate may be awarded in each category for the most comprehensive activity in the area of wildflowers. This project shall be a concentrated effort in the protection, planting, growing and/or identification of wildflowers within the Deep South Garden Clubs. **The same project is not eligible to win this award two consecutive years.** Book of Evidence is required.

19. Historic Trails Award

In Memory of Mrs. Charles H. Blanchard (Van),

Former President, Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. Donor: Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

A certificate and an annual cash award of \$50 may be awarded in each category to an individual garden club for a worthwhile project of lasting value involving a historic trail such as the Bartram Trail, The Natchez Trace, etc. Book of Evidence is required.

20. Intermediate Gardeners Award

In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. Frank T. Lowe Donor: Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.

State winners eligible for Intermediate Gardeners Award must be sent to **Gale Moore, 662-417-6198, mogirl103@gmail.com** to arrive no later than **January 25**.

Class A: An annual cash award of \$50 may be awarded to the Overall Winner in the Intermediate Gardeners Award sponsored by a garden club in the region for an outstanding project or program worthy of recognition.

Class B: An annual cash award of \$50 may be awarded to a State Garden Club registering the greatest number of Intermediate Gardeners with the DSGC Chair as of three weeks before the Deep South Garden Club Convention. (Established procedure for organizing Intermediate Gardeners must be observed.) The award is calculated on a percentage basis of state membership dues paid to NGC as of October 31. No application necessary.

21. Conservation Award

In Honor of Mrs. Noel T. Cumbaa (Eloise) DS Regional Director 1991-1993

Donor: The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc.

An annual cash award of \$25.00 may be awarded to an individual club for the most outstanding conservation project using "NATIVE" and/or "TOUGH" PLANTS. Project may be started at any time but must be completed within the award year in which application is made. Consideration given to appropriateness of plant material, quality of project, member participation and community involvement. Book of Evidence is required.

22. DSGC Club of the Year

Donor: Debby Cooper, DSGC Director 2023-2025

Entries to arrive no later than **January 25** to DSGC Awards Chair Roxanna Champagne

An annual cash award of \$100.00 and a certificate will be given to a garden club that excels in the following categories: membership increase, service to members, club programs, projects, members attending club, district, and state meetings and/or sponsored programs. The garden club shall produce substantiating evidence of the club's accomplishments in the stated categories in the Scale of Points. **A Book of Evidence is required, up to six pages, front and back.**

Scale of Points

Service	10
Continuing service provided by club for members Communications (describe briefly)	
Other (describe briefly)	
Club Programs (number _____)	30
Horticulture _____ Design _____	
Environmental Concerns _____ Special and/or Regional Projects _____	
Members presenting programs/workshops _____	
Describe briefly (include copy of yearbook page showing programs)	
Club Representation	20
Average attendance at garden club meetings _____	
Number attending Spring/Fall district meetings _____	
Number attending environmental or other State Programs _____	
Members attending State Convention _____	
Members attending Deep South Garden Clubs Convention _____	
Members attending National Convention _____	
Club Project	30
Describe briefly on one page. Two photos may be included on an additional page.	

Club Finances – Funding club activities	10
Fundraisers (describe briefly) Number _____ Amount \$ _____	
TOTAL	100

23. Arbor Day Award

A certificate may be awarded to a garden club or group of garden clubs for the most comprehensive program celebrating Arbor Day. Book of Evidence is required.

24. Deep South Garden Clubs Life Membership Award

A certificate will be awarded to the State Garden Club with the greatest per capita increase in Deep South Garden Clubs Life Memberships from March 1 to March 1. Winner will be determined by the Deep South Gardens Clubs Life Membership Chair. No application necessary.

25. Roadside Beautification Award

Donor: Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc. A certificate and cash award of \$25 may be awarded for the most outstanding Roadside Beautification project in each category. The beautification project may be continuous but must have reached an advanced degree of completion in the year of application. **This award may be given only once for the same project.** Book of Evidence is required.

26. Deep South Garden Clubs Mentor of the Year

In Honor of Phyllis J. Wood Donor: Deep South Clubs, NGC

Entries to arrive no later than Jan. 25 to DSGC Awards Chair Roxanna Champagne

An Award may be given to an outstanding Mentor, who as a DSGC garden club member is an individual that often goes above the call of normal garden club duties, assignments and/or activities, one who is known as a loyal member that is always available as a willing adviser giving invaluable assistance and/or support to garden club officers and members across their state and the DSGC.

A DSGC garden club member may be nominated by any DSGC garden club member in the nominee's state by submitting a **Book of Evidence** of up to four pages, front and back, detailing how the nominated individual has been a Mentor in garden club work within the state.

No more than three actual photographs or media pictures may be included in the book. Send to your state's Awards Chair by their deadline. Each State Garden Club shall select one of the nominees to submit to the DSGC Awards Chair by the DSGC deadline. An overall DSGC winner shall be selected from those submitted by the State Garden Clubs within the DSGC.

27. DSGC Flower Show Schedule

Honoree: Carol M. Bullard

Donor: Mississippi Design Masters Study Club

State winners must be **mailed to DSGC Flower Show Schools Chair Gina Jogan, 6727 Highway 99 Molino, Fl 32577-4048, gvjogan@panhandle.rr.com, 850-587-2621**, to arrive no later than **January 25.**

A certificate and an annual cash award of \$50.00 may be awarded to the garden club, council or group of garden clubs submitting the highest scoring schedule for a Standard or Small Standard Flower Show, including General or Specialized. Use standard DSGC Award Application Cover Sheet. Include completed DSGC Application Form and send one schedule. Refer to Rules and Requirements as published in *Handbook for Flower Shows*, current edition.

- A.** Small Standard Flower Show
- B.** Standard Flower Show

28. DSGC Small Standard Flower Show

In Honor of Bonnie T. Borne

DS Regional Director 2003-2005

Donor: Mississippi Flower Show Judges' Council

State winners must be **mailed** to **DSGC Flower Show Schools Chair Gina Jogan**, 6727 Highway 99 Molino, Fl 32577-4048, gvjogan@panhandle.rr.com, 850-587-2621, to arrive no later than **January 25**.

A certificate and an annual cash award of \$50.00 may be awarded to the garden club, council, or group of garden clubs for the highest scoring flower show designated as a Small Standard Flower Show. Firmly clip 1 copy of the completed DSGC Application Form Cover Sheet to the inside front cover of the Book of Evidence (10 pages front and back). Refer to Rules and Requirements as published in *Handbook for Flower Shows*, current edition for preparing Book of Evidence.

29. Publicity Press Book

State winners must be **mailed** to **DSGC Publicity Press Book Chair Kathy Sudduth**, 33507 U.S. Hwy.31, Spanish Fort, AL 36527, kathysudduth@gmail.com, 251-978-0661, to arrive no later than **February 1**.

Certificates may be awarded to winning Books of Evidence exhibiting quality, quantity, and diversity of coverage in the print media promoting garden clubs and DSGC goals and objectives. Deadline: to State Chairman by their deadline; first place winners in each category sent to DSGC Publicity Press Book Chair by **February 1**.

Categories:

Single member garden club Small Club: 1-20 members

Medium Club: 21-50 members

Large Club: 51+ members

Group of member clubs, councils, districts Affiliated Garden Center

Requirements for Preparing Publicity Press Book:

1. Label on outside cover: name of award, category, name of club/s, city and state.
2. Submit in report cover or folder; 8" X 11" or 9" X 12". No heavy scrapbooks or oversized portfolios. There is no limit on the number of pages. **Vinyl sheet protectors may be used.** No 3- ring binders.
3. Materials consist of any of the following: newspaper, magazine, newsletter, notices or flyers for one-time events or any printed publication clippings (*e.g.* your state or regional official publication, *The National Gardner*, etc.), with the name and date of publication over each article. Clear photocopies or reduced photocopies of large or lengthy articles are permitted. Downloading of published newspaper articles from the Internet is permitted.
4. No Table of Contents or page numbering necessary. Affix contents in chronological order January 1 through December 31.
5. Clippings evenly cut. No loose clippings permitted.
6. Each published item must contain the name of organization and/or individual/s identified as a member of the organization. Underline first use of name of organization and/or member in each article.
7. Articles should include who, what, when, where etc. Publicity should relate to organization's or individual's projects and/or activities; promotion of State Garden Club and DSGC objectives and goals.

Scale of Points

Presentation:

Meets all requirements, neat.

15

Quality:

Articles well written; publicity related to projects and/or activities

40

Quantity:	25
Articles for each month (take in consideration dark months), use of varied publications and media (newspaper, magazines, newsletters, journals, etc.)	
Diversity:	<u>20</u>
TOTAL	100

30. Member Award of Honor

A certificate may be awarded to one member in the region whose efforts during a period of five or more years, has made outstanding contributions to club and community in one or more of the following areas:

- Civic development
- Horticulture therapy
- Youth activities
- Conservation
- Landscape design
- Horticulture
- Floral design
- All around excellence

Eligibility: Any member of a State Garden Club who has NEVER been a member of the NGC Board of Directors.

Electronic application, 5 pages maximum, one-sided, must include:

- Title page
 - Name of State Federation and Region
 - Area(s) of nominee's outstanding contribution/s
 - Name, complete mailing address, phone number of nominee
 - Sponsoring club name, president's name, address, and signature
- Short, typed description of nominee's accomplishments, **1 page**
- Supporting information
 - Maximum **3-page outline** listing accomplishments of nominee (including offices and chairmanships held) Photos need not be included.

NOTE DUE DATE OF **JANUARY 15**.

Entries are submitted to State Awards Chair by **January 1**.

State Awards Chair emails one entry to DSGC Awards Chair, Roxanna Champagne, by

January 15. DSGC emails one entry to NGC Awards Chairman by **January 25**.

The eight regional winners will receive an NGC certificate and Pin and be recognized in *The National Gardener*.

31. DSGC Yearbook Award (three-ring binders are accepted)

NOTE: Yearbooks will be recognized at the DSGC Level ONLY. No NGC certificates will be provided. Club member categories/sizes are listed below.

State winners must be **mailed to DSGC Yearbook Chair**, Sassy Mauldin, 65 Getwell Rd., Hernando, MS 38632, 662-514-5014, yayamauldin@gmail.com to arrive no later than January 25.

31-A. Yearbook (Clubs)

NOTE: On the Award Application, the number of members which is entered will determine the Single Member Garden size category. Size categories are listed below.

A Certificate of Merit may be awarded to outstanding yearbooks in each of the following categories, determined by number of members, including Life Members, on whom NGC dues are paid. Yearbooks may be accepted for competition on the calendar year or the club year (the same

yearbook may be submitted only one time in awards year).

Single member garden club:

1. Club under 20 members
2. Club 20-29 members
3. Club 30-44 members
4. Club 45-69 members
5. Club 70-99 members
6. Club 100-299 members
7. Club 300 or more members

SCALE OF POINTS - CLUBS

FORMAT:

Book Structure: Practical, convenient size for membership, durable, neat.

Yearbooks may be stapled, spiral, or 3-ring binders. Material should be well placed with ample margins, and font size suitable for members to read. **2 pts.**

Cover: Include name of club, town, state organization, year, and appealing design. If 3-ring binder cover is used, substitute with paper cover and include required information listed above and so note. **2 pts.**

Title page: Include name of club, town, state organization, year, number of dues paying members, and affiliated organizations (district, region, NGC, other).
If state and national dues are paid on associate/inactive/honorary members, they are counted in total membership. **2 pts.**

Table of Contents: Number the yearbook pages and list topics on Contents Page. **1 pt.**

Subsequent pages:

In any order most useful to members and best fit for page placement. Information in a club yearbook should be in logical order. National, DSGC and State information does not have to be in front.

Membership Roster with complete mailing addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses (if applicable). Avoid crowding. Suggestion to save space, "All area codes are (insert) and postal zip codes are (insert) unless otherwise noted." **2 pts.**

List of Club Officers and Committee Chairmen **1 pt.**

NGC Information: Name of NGC President with **city, state** and email address, theme, and projects. List address and phone number of NGC Headquarters in St. Louis. List NGC website address. (Locate above information at www.gardenclub.org). **1 pt.**

Other Information: Name, address, phone number, and email of Deep South Garden Club Director, State President, State District Director, Council President (if applicable). List themes for Region Director and State President. List website addresses for state and region. **2 pts.**

Calendar of Events: List dates and locations for district/state/region/national meetings and events to encourage members to attend and to eliminate the setting of conflicting dates. **2pts.**

Programs: Topics should cover a variety of NGC goals and objectives such as Birds, Blue Star Memorials, Butterflies, Conservation, Environment, Floral Design, Horticulture, Therapy, Recycling, NGC, and State President's projects, etc. (Indicate if special interest club, *e.g.*, Horticulture only; Design only; Faith based; etc.)
Meets minimum number of meetings required by state **3 pts.**

List date and time of meeting, location with address	3 pts.
List name of speaker/s, qualifications (brief), program title	4 pts.
Variety of program topics (theme not required)	14 pts.
Variety of styles of programs (lectures, slides, power point, tours, etc.)	12 pts.
Variety of speakers (specialists, members, panel, etc.)	14 pts.

Projects: Projects involve actual membership participation that **benefit the community** and further NGC Goals and Objectives. Some fund raisers (sale of bulbs, bedding plants, herbs, etc.) may help to beautify the community, as well as produce revenue for clubs. Some fund raisers may help promote NGC Member Services as well as publicize our organization and goals. Certain social activities may lead to membership increase. State such in descriptions.

1. List Continuing and New Projects (a club is not required to have new projects) **15 pts.**
2. Give brief word description of projects. Include location, name of Chair, how members participate, list of donations if applicable, in-kind donations if applicable, plans for maintenance if applicable, etc. **20 pts.**

For example, as how this would appear in final form:

Establish a Teaching Garden at Atkins Elementary School, after school program with planned curriculum, 4 days a week from 3:30-5:00 p.m., Laurie Benson, Chair

TOTAL **100 pts**

Options: (no points given) Could fill available space.

Some clubs include bylaws, budget, fund raising, roll call, former club presidents.

Club theme: if theme is used, it should be evident throughout the book. Themes may be interpreted with monthly program topics and/or titles, graphics, quotes. Projects do not need to be limited to theme.

NGC Mission Statement NGC Conservation Pledge

NGC Environmental Mission Statement NGC Water Conservation Platform Club Collect

List of members who are Life Members in state, DSGC and NGC Awards received previous year

31-B. Yearbook (Group of Member Clubs, Council, District)

A state may submit only **ONE** yearbook (the highest scoring yearbook) from this category.

SCALE OF POINTS

FORMAT:

Book Structure: Practical, convenient size for members, durable, neat.

Yearbook may be stapled, spiral, or 3-ring binders. Material should be well placed with ample margins and font size suitable for members to read. **3 pts.**

Cover: Include name of organization, state, year, and appealing design.

If 3-ring binder cover is used, substitute with paper cover and include required information listed above, and so note. **3 pts.**

Title Page: Include name of group, number of clubs involved, affiliations including NGC, region, state, other. Include name of NGC President, DSGC Director, State President with each affiliation **2 pts.**

Table of Contents: Number the yearbook pages and list topics with respective page number. **2 pts.**

Subsequent Pages: Order that is pleasing to your organization and best fit for page placement.

Organizational Information: List organizational officers and committee chairmen.

Include complete mailing addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses, and club affiliation for each. List addresses for state garden club website, DSGC website and NGC. **10 pts.**

Calendar of Events: List meeting dates for your organization, for your state meetings, region, and national meetings, as well as schools, symposiums, and special events. This will eliminate the setting of conflicting dates. **10 pts.**

Bylaws, policies, and objectives. **10 pts.**

Programs: List meeting topics, include dates, time, and place (give address). Give name of speaker. Indicate if program is a presentation, tour, workshop, sharing activity, etc. **20 pts.**

Projects: List projects as continuing or new, including name of Chair, location and description of project. Indicate if fundraising is a part of the project. (Some fund raisers may help with beautifying the community or education of public, as well as produce revenue for your organization). **20 pts.**

Member Club Information: List of member clubs, including club president names, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses. Include meeting dates for each club. List total number of dues paying members. **20 pts.**

TOTAL **100 pts.**

Options: (no points given): Former presidents, Yearly themes, Collect, Mission Statement

31- C. Yearbooks for State Garden Club

1. With Advertisements
2. Without Advertisement

SCALE OF POINTS

FORMAT:

Book Structure: Practical, convenient size for membership, durable, neat. Yearbooks may be stapled, spiral, or 3-ring binders. Materials should be well placed with ample margins and font size suitable for members to read. If 3-ring binder cover is used, substitute with paper cover and include required information listed above, and so note. **2 pts.**

Cover: Include name of State Garden Club, year, appealing design. If 3-ring binder cover is used, substitute with paper cover and include required information listed above, and so note. **2 pts.**

Title Page: Include name of State Garden Club, year, total membership, number of clubs, affiliation including NGC, region, other. Include name of NGC President, DSGC Director, State President with each affiliation. **3 pts.**

Table of Contents: Number the yearbook pages and list topics with respective page numbers. **3 pts.**

Subsequent Pages: In any order most useful and best fit for page placement.

State Information: List names, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses of state officers, Committee Chairmen, and District Directors (if applicable). List State President's theme and project/s. List business office address, phone number, and email address, if applicable. List state website address (if applicable). **10 pts.**

National and Regional Information: List name, theme, and projects of NGC President. List address, phone number, and email address of NGC Headquarters in St. Louis. List NGC website address: www.gardenclub.org and DSGC website address:

www.deepsouthgardenclubs.com List Deep South Garden Club Director's name, address, phone number, email address. Include theme and projects. **10 pts.**

Calendar of Events: Include list of state meeting dates, schools, symposia, workshops, and special events. Include national, regional, state and district conventions/board meetings. This eliminates conflicts in scheduling. **10 pts.**

Projects: List projects as continuing or new, including name of Chair, location, and description of project. New projects are not required. **20 pts.**

NGC Sponsored Schools: Course information should be listed and explained. **20 pts.**

Member Club Information: Roster to include name, address, phone number and email address of each club president (choice of alphabetical by district, etc.) List Youth Garden Clubs along with a person's name and contact information. List Affiliates and Plant Societies along with a person's name and contact information. **20 pts.**

TOTAL **100 pts.**

Options: (not points given)

Budget

Bylaws

Former State Presidents

List of NGC Consultants and NGC Judges

NGC and DSGC Awards Chairmen with contact information

31-D. Yearbooks for Clubs/Councils of Judges or Consultants

A state may submit only **ONE** yearbook (the highest scoring yearbook) for this category.

SCALE OF POINTS

FORMAT:

Book Structure: Practical, durable, neat. Yearbooks may be stapled, spiral or 3-ring binder. Material should be well placed with ample margins and font size suitable for members to read. **2pts.**

Cover: Include name of organization, state, year, and appealing design.

Table of Contents: Number the yearbook pages and list topics with respective page numbers. **3 pts.**

Subsequent Pages: In any order most useful and best fit for page placement.

Organizational Information: List Officers and Committee Chairmen (club affiliations optional). **10 pts.**

National and Regional Information: List name, city, state and email address of NGC President, DSGC Director, and State President. List NGC and Deep South Garden Club Websites. **10 pts.**

Calendar of Events: Include list of national, regional, and state conventions, schools, and special events. **10 pts.**

Policies and Objectives: Include policies and objectives of organization. (Bylaws and history are optional). **10 pts.**

Member Information: Include membership roster with complete addresses, email, telephone numbers. (Status, refresher dates, club affiliations optional). **10 pts.**

Projects: List projects as continuing or new, including name of Chair. State location and description of project, sponsored courses, donations. **20 pts.**

Meetings/Programs: List meetings, include date, time and place of meeting. Give title of program, speaker with brief qualifications. Describe program as workshop, tour, panel, etc. **20 pts.**

TOTAL **100 pts.**

Options: (no points given)

Collect, Mission Statement, Former Presidents

YOUTH CONTESTS

Rev. Summer 2024

NGC POETRY CONTEST

Jean O'Shields, DSGC Poetry Contest Chair 400 Valley View, Fort Valley, GA 31030
jeanoshields7@gmail.com 478-397-7660

2024-2025 Theme: “My Garden Has Vegetables to Spare That I Can Share – *Helping Fight Hunger by Sharing Vegetables From Our Garden*”

Excite and encourage our Youth to express and explore their creative thoughts through different types of poetry. NGC's Poetry Contest enables our Youth to embrace their creativity through the art of writing. Be imaginative and join the winners to see your poetry in a booklet.

Only regional winners are considered in the judging for national winners. Contest winners will not be allowed to win two consecutive years. All of the winning entries will be compiled into a booklet, which will be made available to the winners.

ELIGIBILITY:

- Youth in grades K-12 compete by grade-level in one of three categories:
 - General Education
 - Special Education
 - English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

DEADLINES:

- All poems are submitted to a local garden club affiliated with NGC. Local clubs send their winning poems (1 per grade level in each category) to their State Chairman by the published State deadline.
- State winning poems are sent to the Regional Chairman by **February 1, 2025**.
- Regional Winners must be sent to National Chairman by **March 1, 2025**.

GUIDELINES:

- Include name, address, age, grade, school, sponsoring local garden club and state garden club of the poet on the back of the entry.
- Poet's family does not have to be a member of the local sponsoring garden club.
- Poems should be no more than 24 lines (including title) with a max of 42 letters/spaces per line in order to fit on single page of booklet.
- Poems do not have to rhyme. They may be traditional verse, acrostics, blank verse, cinquains, diamond poems, limerick, or haiku.
- When choosing poem title, please be creative and incorporate the theme: “My Garden Has Vegetables to Spare That I Can Share -*Helping to Fight Hunger by Sharing Vegetables From Our Garden*.” The theme should not be used as the title to any poetry. When judging, the title is worth 10 points.
- All entries become the property of National Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Sending Region winning entries to NGC: All Regional winning entries must be typed, titled, and sent to National Chairperson (James Pavelka, jamespavelka@comcast.net) in Word format via email, and the original hard copy mailed for judging.
- National winners will be announced at the NGC 2025 National Convention and the local garden club contact person will be contacted regarding the winning entry.

SCALE OF POINTS

- Title: 10%
- Content: 40%
- Creativity: 30%
- Style: 20%
- Total: 100%

TIPS:

1. Often the club and the child's school are in different towns. It is important to know the exact addresses of both, so that notification to the clubs of the winners can be completed.
2. Start early on this contest. Poetry must be judged at the state level first, then regional, then national.
3. The information on the back of each entry is very important. The requirements for the back of the page are listed in the rules above. If a question arises, a method of contact for each entry is needed.
4. Make copies of all poems for each student to keep. The poems sent for judging will not be returned.

Note: Only DSGC winners are considered in the judging for National winners. All of the winning entries will be compiled into a booklet, which will be made available to the winners.

NGC YOUTH SCULPTURE CONTEST

Rosemary Maulden, DSGC Youth Sculpture Contest Chairperson, 302 Bushoan Road, Brunswick, GA 31525-9447 | rosemarymaulden@bellsouth.net | 912-267-9623

PURPOSE:

This contest encourages students to keep our planet green and to get involved with saving the environment. Students in grades 4 through 8 are eligible to create a sculpture of recyclable, reused, and reduced materials. The sculpture is limited in width to 8 1/2 inches by 11 inches.

CONTEST RULES:

- Children in 4th through 8th grade will be eligible to enter the contest
- Sculptures must consist of recyclable, reused and reduced materials
- Width of the sculpture can be no more than 8 1/2 x 11 inches
- Height should be in proportion to width
- Entries should include as many photographs as can be printed on the back of the entry form, but two 4x6 photographs are recommended
- Club entries must be sent to State Chairman. Observe State Deadlines.
- First place entries must be sent to Youth Sculpture Contest Chairman Rosemary Maulden by **February 1, 2025** and Region first place entries must be sent to National Chairman by **March 1, 2025**.
- Click on the link to download the Entry form:
<https://gardenclub.org/sites/default/files/2023-05/ngc-youth-sculpture-contest-entry-form-2023.pdf>

SCALE OF POINTS:

- Creative use of materials and self-expression: 60%
- Description of sculpture and materials used: 30%
- Craftsmanship and technique: 10%
- Total 100%

2025 SMOKEY BEAR & WOODSY OWL POSTER CONTEST

Mary Ogden, DSGC Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Chair, 51 Horton Rd., Odum, GA 31555
mjogden@hotmail.com Home: 912-586-6125 Cell: 912-294-4144

CONTEST RULES:

- Competition may include students from first to fifth grade.
- Posters are to be completed by individual student artists.
- Posters must have correct spelling (posters with spelling errors will be disqualified).
- Posters must feature Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl but may not feature both together.
- Smokey Bear posters must be based upon and include, Smokey's fire prevention message: Only YOU Can Prevent Wildfires! Woodsy Owl posters must be based upon and include, Woodsy's conservation message: Lend a Hand – Care for the Land!
- All posters should encourage children to take a personal role in preventing wildfires or conserving natural resources.
- Smokey Bear must be presented in his correct colors (he is an official icon protected by law); check the colors on the website www.fs.usda.gov/learn/kids or www.symbols.gov
- Each entry must be 11 x 17 inches in size (no exceptions)
- Materials that can be used include: crayons, markers, poster paints, watercolors, etc.
- The choice of the paper color and texture is up to the child.
- No three-dimensional posters, computer-scanned, or electronically generated images will be accepted.
- All poster entrees must be sponsored by a recognized local garden club.
- The following information should be written on the back of the poster in the lower-right corner (do not use a dark marker for this information as it may show through):
 - The name, address, phone number, and email of the sponsoring local garden club.
 - The artist's name, address, contact phone number, grade level, school, teacher's name, city, and State. (Should school policy preclude giving students' addresses and phone numbers, please include the school address and phone number).

POSTER TIPS:

- A good poster has a bold and simple design.
- The poster's message should be easily understood and delivered both in the picture and in text.
- An educator, parent, guardian, or other adult should provide 11" x 17" paper for a child to create their poster.
- Find inspiration for your poster with promotional and educational products from the National Symbols Cache, www.symbols.gov
- Posters will be judged for originality, design slogan, artwork and overall effectiveness of the message.
- **Copy your winning poster as they are not returned.**

DEADLINES:

The local garden club chairperson must submit the poster entries to his or her state chairperson no later than **January 20, 2025**. The state garden club chairperson must submit the five winning posters from his or her state to DSGC Chairman Mary Ogden by **February 10, 2025**. DSGC Poster Chair submits winners to DSGC Awards Chair Roxanna Champagne by **February 15, 2025**.

RECOGNITION:

- Smokey Bear should be present at these award ceremonies if possible. The Forest Service conservation education or fire prevention regional coordinators can help you identify local Forest Service offices that may assist you when planning for a Smokey Bear appearance at your event. A list of coordinators is available upon request via email at sm.fs.symbols@usda.gov
- Certificates of participation are free of charge. You can download them from www.symbols.gov or by requesting hard copies via email at sm.fs.symbols@usda.gov
- The National Garden Clubs will announce the first-place national winners for each grade level and the national grand prize winner at their 2024 Annual Convention.
- Certificates and prize money (\$50) for the five national winners will be mailed following the National Garden Clubs' 2025 annual convention. The national grand prize winner will get the certificate, a trophy, and a framed copy of the winning poster during a recognition ceremony in Washington, DC.
- The Forest Service conducts the recognition ceremony for the national grand prize winner, which takes place every year in Washington, DC, typically during the summer.