



TFGC Award Rules

2025–2027

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TFGC AWARD RULES 2025–2027

Key Rules for Awards

1. Eligibility for Awards

- a. Unless otherwise noted in the award description, only TFGC members and clubs in good standing are eligible to apply. Club dues must be paid by due date. The treasurer will send a list of delinquent clubs to the awards chair.
- b. The same club or individual is ineligible to win the same award two consecutive years for the identical project.
- c. Each project must have been completed during the awards year unless otherwise noted.

2. Awards Year

- a. The awards year covers January 1 through December 31. This applies to all projects submitted unless otherwise indicated in the awards description. See each award to determine if the project can be started before the current year.

3. Application Forms for Awards

- a. All applications must be submitted on the current, official TFGC form. Make sure you fill out ALL required information and the complete award number.
- b. Application forms can be obtained from the state awards chair or downloaded from the TFGC website.
- c. Junior Standard Club certification and yearbooks are to be sent to your District Awards chair first. The district chairs will send them on to the State Awards chair after they are judged in the district.

4. Applications for Flower Shows

- a. Flower show application forms, staging forms, and evaluation forms will come in your “Flower Show Packet,” which is sent to the club after the club submits a “Letter of Intent.” This packet includes all necessary forms needed for your flower show, plus more information.
- b. Flower show Books of Evidence (BOE) are 20 pages, front and back; binders and vinyl covers can be used,
- c. **ALL** flower show BOEs are due to the State Awards chair by January 1.
- d. Include postage for returning the BOE.

5. Deadline

- a. ALL BOES ARE DUE TO THE STATE CHAIR NO LATER THAN JANUARY 1.
- b. There are some exceptions. Read your awards rules completely to see when your BOEs are due.

6. Book of Evidence (BOE)

- a. There is a 3-page limit, front side only.
- b. Applications will NOT be returned. So, make copies for your records.
- c. Binders and vinyl sheets are not allowed on the 3-page BOE.
- d. SEND ONE HARD COPY TO STATE AWARDS CHAIR BY JANUARY 1.

7. Press Book

- a. No limit to number of pages.
- b. Articles should be in the order they were published in.
- c. Binders are suggested.
- d. ONLY NEED ONE COPY OF THE PRESS BOOK.
- e. INCLUDE POSTAGE FOR RETURNING THE PRESS BOOK

8. Descriptions of Project

- a. What prompted you to do this project? Did a member see a need for an herb garden at a senior home? Or did the senior home contact your club because they saw a newspaper article and asked you to do this?
- b. What kind of project is this? Is it a garden? Did you have a workshop with the youth? Did you give a demonstration?
- c. Where is this project? Did the club work on the herb garden at the senior home, did they hand out trees at a local hardware store, or did they work on an adopt-a-park area?

9. Photos

- a. **IMPORTANT! YOU MUST HAVE A RELEASE FORM FOR EVERYONE IN THE BOE!**
Release forms are online on the NGC and TFGC websites, or the state awards chair can send you one.
- b. If you do not have a release form, then you need to blur out the faces of those whom you don't have forms for.
- c. When taking photos, take from an angle where the faces do not show.
- d. You can do one release form for club members, as long as all members sign.
- e. Take photos of the beginning, middle, and end of the project, and take them from lots of different angles. (Some projects are eligible for different awards, but the BOE has to be different.) Take photos of members working on the project, as well as in group photos.
- f. Photos can be as large or small as room allows. Enlarging photos on pages with blank spaces will make the BOE look better. Do not leave blank spaces.

10. State Awards Chairman Information

Debbie Shaver
349 Sharpe Lane
Dayton, TN 37321-7728
H: 423-775-0102
C: 423-322-8565
buffiescorner@bellsouth.net

IMPORTANT: The best way to get in touch with me is by email. Do not leave messages on my cell phone. I will not get messages in a timely manner!

I am here to help you. Please do not hesitate to call or email me. If I do not answer by the next day, email me again. You are not bothering me! Looking forward to seeing your BOE.

NGC General Scoring Rubric

TFGC has adopted this [rubric](#), and your BOE will be based on this form.

TFGC Awards Application

You can find this [2025-2027 Awards Application](#) on the TFGC website.

TFGC AWARDS 2025–2027

No. 1: Civic Achievement—Due January 1

A certificate will be awarded to:

- A. Club**
- B. Council or Group of Clubs**

This award is for distinguished civic or conservation work making permanent improvements for public benefit. Projects may have been started prior to the current year, but must show completed results during the award year in which the application is made or is a continuing project. Include before-and-after pictures. Projects that charge fees for the sole purpose of maintenance are eligible, but commercial projects are not. Projects include downtown planters, experiential forests, municipal gardens, landscaping around public buildings, and places of worship etc.

NOTE: No commercial projects are eligible.

No. 2: Member of Honor—Due December 1

A certificate will be awarded to one member in the state 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, or all-around excellence.
Eligibility: any member of TFGC who has NEVER been a member of the NGC Board of Directors, including the State President. The Book of Evidence should not exceed 6 pages total and must be secured in a folder. For complete rules, visit the NGC website.

No. 3: Horticulture—Due January 1

A certificate may be awarded to a:

A. Individual

Must show the individual working in gardens (describing the garden), working with youth in garden-related projects, giving programs on horticulture, participating in a flower show, participating in club activities, or attending horticulture classes.

B. Club

C. Council or Group of Clubs

Must show members working on gardening projects, touring garden centers/greenhouses, attending seminars on horticulture, working with youth with topics on gardening, studying horticulture. Member participation should be emphasized.

No. 4: Alice Wray Taylor Award (State Award Only)—Due January 1

May be awarded to an individual for outstanding horticulture accomplishment in the field of Horticulture. A framed certificate may be awarded annually to an individual member of a Garden Club belonging to TFGC. Nominations will be accepted from garden clubs, district boards, or councils of TFGC. Evidence of some outstanding horticulture accomplishment will be required with the nomination.

Fill out the nomination form and attach evidence, including the following: positions held, plant/landscape/affiliations, awards received, types of services rendered, such as science research, horticulture education projects, environmental concerns, author, editor, grower, exhibitor, hybridizer, etc.

The following information must be on the application:

Nomination for the Alice Wray Taylor Award

Nominee Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Member of _____ District _____

Presented by _____

No. 5: Public Relations—Due January 1

A certificate may be awarded to a:

- A. Club**
- B. Council or Group of Clubs**
- C. Individual**
- D. District**

For accomplishments in garden-related activities and **CO-SPONSORED with one or more nonmember groups** or organizations to promote good public relations. These projects should be projects of NGC, DS, or TFGC. Projects involve conservation, horticulture, litter control, environmental improvement, youth involvement, historic preservation, or other projects promoting garden club goals.

No. 6: Conservation—Due January 1

A certificate may be awarded for:

- A. Education or legislative activity in the field of conservation by one or more clubs.**
- B. A conservation field project, natural resources development, such as water shed, erosion control, reforestation, wildlife refuge, etc., by one or more clubs.**
- C. Outstanding work in conservation by an individual**
- D. Club attending Conservation Camp** (State Awards chair gets this information.)
 - 1. Club with the most attending entire camp
 - 2. Club with the most attending one day of camp

No. 7: Special Achievement—Due January 1

A certificate may be awarded to a:

- A. Club**
- B. Council or Group of Clubs**
- C. Individual**
- D. District**

For outstanding civic garden club work or projects that further NGC objectives and is not provided for in another TFGC award. A Special Achievement can be, but is not limited to, ONE of the following: civic development, conservation, beautification, garden therapy. Youth involvement is a plus.

No. 8: Promotion of Gardening Among Youth—Due January 1

A certificate may be awarded to a:

- A. Club: for a club that exhibits the most outstanding promotion of gardening among youth. Youth should be educated on the objectives of NGC**
- B. Club: for working with youth garden clubs**
- C. Junior Garden Clubs**

An award of \$10 is given to the district that has the largest increase in Junior and/or Intermediate garden clubs. Each club must send a list of the membership along with dues to the TFGC treasurer.

No. 13: Historic Preservation—Due January 1

A certificate may be given to a:

- **Club**

13A—for promotion and/or a project involving a historic building or trail

13B—for decoration of a historic building and/or grounds

- Presentation (10 points)
- Value and scope of project (40 points)
- Accomplishment of goals (35 points)
- Percentage of member participation (15 points)

No. 16A: Yearbook—Club—Due January 1

NOTE: Yearbooks will no longer be judged or awarded on the national level. Deep South is as high as they go.

A certificate may be awarded to:

16A1: clubs under 20 members

16A2: 21-29 members

16A3: 30-44 members

16A4: 45-69 members

16A5: 70-99 members

16A6: 100-299 members

16A7: over 300 members

A certificate may be given for outstanding yearbooks. Determine the correct category by number of members, including life members. Include all members whose state dues are paid. The yearbook can run from either calendar year or club year.

NOTE: Please submit 1 copy.

Scale of Points A—Format

1. **Book Structure** (2 points)
Practical, convenient size for membership, durable, neat. Yearbooks may be stapled or in a spiral or 3-ring binder. Material should be well placed with ample margins, and font size suitable for reading.
2. **Cover** (2 points)
Include name of club, town, state organization, year, and appealing design. If a 3-ring binder is used, substitute it with a paper cover and include required information listed above and note it.
3. **Title Page** (2 points)
Include name of club, town, state organization, year, number of dues-paying members, and affiliated organizations (district, DS, NGC). If state and national dues are paid for associate, inactive, or honorary members, they are counted in total membership.
4. **Table of Contents** (1 point)
Number the yearbook pages, and list topics on a contents page.
Subsequent pages can be in any order most useful to members and the best fit for page placement. Information in a club yearbook should be in logical order. NGC, DS, and TFGC information does not have to be in front.
5. **Membership Roster** (2 points)
Roster should be complete with mailing addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses. Avoid crowding.
6. **List of Club Officers and Committee Chairs** (1 point)
7. **NGC Information** (1 point)
Name of NGC president with home and email address, theme, and projects. List the address and phone number of NGC headquarters in St. Louis. List the NGC website address.
8. **Other Information** (2 points)
Name, address, phone number, and email address of the Deep South director, state president, district director, council president, along with their themes. List the DS website address.
9. **Calendar of Events** (2 points)
List dates and locations for district/state/DS/NGC meetings and events to encourage members to attend.

10. 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, or NGC, DS, TFGC president's projects. (Indicate special interest clubs, such as horticulture-only, design-only, or faith-based.)

- a. Meets a minimum of 7 meetings a year (3 points)
- b. List date, time, location (with address) of meeting (3 points)
- c. List name of speakers, qualifications (brief), program title (4 points)
- d. Variety of program topics, theme not required (14 points)
 - Variety of styles of programs (e.g., lectures, tours) (12 points)
 - Variety of speakers (e.g., specialists, members) (14 points)

11. Projects

Projects involve actual membership participation that benefit the community and further NGC goals and objectives. Some fundraisers (sale of bulbs, bedding plants, herbs) may help to beautify the community, as well as produce revenue for clubs.

Some fundraisers may help promote NGC Membership Services, as well as publicize our organization and goals. Certain social activities may lead to a membership increase.

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

12. Options (no points given)

Some clubs include bylaws, budget, fundraising, roll call, or former club presidents. Club theme: if a theme is used, it should be evident throughout the book. Themes may be interpreted with monthly programs, topics, titles, graphics, or quotes.

Projects do not need to be limited to theme. Other information you may use include the NGC Mission Statement, Conservation Pledge, Environmental Mission Statement, and Water Conservation Platform. You can also list life members and plant society members.

No. 16E: Yearbook—Group of Clubs, Council, District—Format—Due January 1

1. Book structure (2 points)

Practical, convenient size for membership, durable, neat. Yearbooks may be stapled or in a spiral or 3-ring binder. Material should be well placed with ample margins, and font size suitable for reading.

2. Cover (2 points)

Include name of organization, state, year and appealing design. If a 3-ring binder cover is

used, substitute it with a paper cover and include required information listed above and note it.

3. **Title Page** (3 points)

Include name of group, number of clubs involved, affiliations, including NGC, DS, TFGC, or other. Include name of the NGC president, DS director, and TFGC president.

4. **Table of Contents** (3 points)

Number the yearbook pages, and list topics with respective page numbers. On subsequent pages, choose an order that is pleasing to your organization and the best fit for page placement.

5. **Organizational Information** (10 points)

List organizational officers and committee chairs. Include complete mailing addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses, and the club affiliation for each. List website addresses for TFGC, DS, and NGC.

6. **Calendar of Events** (10 points)

List meeting dates for your organization, NGC, DS, TFGC, schools, symposiums, and special events. This should eliminate conflicting dates.

7. **Bylaws, Policies, and Objectives** (10 points)

8. **Programs** (20 points)

List meeting topics, dates, times, and addresses. Note the name of the speaker, and indicate if the program is a presentation, tour, workshop, or sharing activity.

9. **Projects** (20 points)

List projects as continuing or new, including the names of chairs, locations, and project descriptions. Indicate if fundraising is part of the project.

NOTE: Some fundraisers may help with beautifying the community or educating the public, as well as producing revenue for your organization.

10. **Member Club Information** (20 points)

List member clubs, including club president names, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses. Include meeting dates for each club. List the total number of dues-paying members.

No. 19: Garden Therapy—Due January 1

- A. Landscaping projects **with** client participation
- B. Project other than landscaping **with** client participation
- C. Variety of projects **with** client participation
- D. Garden-related projects done for clients **without** participation

Applications in ALL classes may be made for a:

- 1. Club**
- 2. Council or Group of Clubs**
- 3. Individual**
- 4. District**

A certificate may be awarded for an outstanding program of garden therapy where physically-challenged, learning-disabled and institutionalized individuals have received noteworthy benefit.

Scale of Points

- Presentation and record (neat, concise, history, plan) (15 points)
- Membership participation (between outside and club) (25 points)
- Includes individual ingenuity, imagination, leadership, cooperation with institution
- Program quality (scope, number reached) (30 points)
- Achievement (degree of participation, duration, future) (30 points)

No. 20: Maggi Burns Plant Garden with Your Senses Edible Gardening— Due January 1

A certificate of merit and \$25, sponsored by Maggi Burns, TFGC president 2019–2021, may be awarded annually for the most outstanding garden of edibles (fruits, herbs, vegetables, and edible flowers) that recognizes “Plant Gardens with Your Senses—Hear, See, Smell, Taste, and Touch.”

Award information presents a garden plan, selection of plants, growth and maturity of plants, successful incorporation of edibles, successful production of edibles, overall health and attractiveness of the garden, and notes if private or planted in a public location. The overall winner from the four categories receives one \$25 award.

- A. Garden of edibles grown by an individual**
- B. Garden incorporating edibles in an ornamental landscape grown by an individual**
- C. Garden of edibles grown by a club**
- D. Garden incorporating edibles in an ornamental landscape grown by a club**

No. 25: National Garden Week—Due January 1

A certificate may be awarded to:

- A. Clubs**
- B. Districts**

This award is for the most promotion of National Garden Week. Entries should show community awareness throughout the entire week and include local and/or state proclamations.

Scale of Points

- Scope of Participation (30 points)
- Community Awareness (25 points)
- Educational Value (20 points)
- Presentation (10 points)
- Publicity (10 points)
- Any Proclamation in Perpetuity (5 points)

No. 28: Church & Synagogue Gardens—Due January 1

A certificate may be awarded to a:

- A. Club**
- B. Council or Group of Clubs**
- C. Individual**

For the planning and/or planting of a church or synagogue garden. Fitness of the garden to meet the needs of the congregation, rather than the size of the garden, is considered. Good landscape design that ensures the permanent beauty of the garden is a major consideration.

A sketch of the landscape design plan (does not have to be professionally drawn) indicating proportions and material used, together with one or more photographs of the garden must accompany the application.

Scale of Points

- Design, fitness, suitability, beauty (25 points)
- Plant material (low maintenance, hardy, suitable) (25 points)
- Fulfillment of purpose (25 points)
- Maintenance (25 points)

No. 29: The Jo Lawrence Blue Star Marker Award—Due January 1

This award includes Memorial, Memorial Highway, Byway, and Gold Star markers.

Certificates may be awarded for:

- A. Installation of a Blue/Gold Star marker, including dedication and landscaping.**
- B. Landscaping/beautification of an existing marker site.**

Choose one of the following club-size categories:

- 1. Small (fewer than 25 members)**
- 2. Medium (25-50 members)**
- 3. Large (over 50 members)**
- 4. Group of Clubs**
- 5. District**
- 6. Individual**

NOTE: The Blue Star Marker Award was sponsored by member and longtime Blue Star chair Jo Lawrence.

No. 30: The Annette Stanbery Community Beautification Award—Due January 1

This award is in honor of Annette Stanbery, TFGC president 1987–1989. A certificate may be awarded for the most outstanding program or project relating to garden club objectives. This can be a continuing project or a one-time project. If continuing, the major part of the project must be completed in the awards year.

Examples are Arbor Day activities, Blue Star Memorial marker or Historical marker erection/dedication, and beautification of community buildings, churches, and cemeteries. Involvement of youth is a plus.

A. One-Time Project

- 1. Club**
- 2. Individual**
- 3. Group of Clubs**

B. Continuing Project

- 1. Club**
- 2. Individual**
- 3. Group of Clubs**

No. 31: Pam Dowd Blue & Gold Star Families Memorial Marker Award—Due January 1

A certificate and \$50 may be awarded **annually** out of the categories listed below for the most comprehensive and effective contribution to this NGC program. Work may be for any type of marker and any type of participation, such as planning an installation of the marker, raising funds for the marker, planning dedication of the marker, landscaping of the marker, beautification of the existing marker, or upkeep/landscaping of the marker area.

Award Categories

- A. Small club (under 30 members)**
- B. Medium club (31 -50 members)**
- C. Large club (over 51 members)**
- D. Group of clubs**
- E. District**
- F. Individual**

This award is sponsored by former TFGC President and former NGC BS & GSF Memorial Marker Chair Pamela L. Dowd.

No. 35: The Juanita Allinder Pollinator Award—Due January 1

This award is in honor of Juanita Allinder, TFGC president 1999–2001. A certificate is awarded for conducting the most comprehensive and effective project for pollinators, which includes bees, butterflies, and other pollinating insects and animals. Involvement of youth is a plus.

Awards go for:

- A. Habitat protection, including migratory routes**
- B. Public education**
- C. Establishment of a butterfly garden in communities, schools, or parks**
- D. Establishment of a butterfly garden in an individual's yard**

Award Categories

- 1. Club**
- 2. Individual**
- 3. Group of Clubs**
- 4. District**

No. 42: Bird Protection—Due January 1

A certificate may be awarded to a:

- A. Club**
- B. Individual (eligible for the Iris Smiley award plaque)**

This award is for the most comprehensive and effective program of activities for bird protection and welfare. Projects include sanctuaries, legislation for bird welfare, furnishing food and houses, and establishing bird trails.

No. 43: The Helene Gardner Bluebird Trail—Due January 1

A certificate may be awarded to a:

- A. Club**
- B. Council or Groups of Clubs**
- C. Individual**

This award is given for installing and monitoring a bluebird trail to attract nesting bluebirds. Document the nesting species, number of eggs, number of nestlings.

NOTE: Do not monitor when nestlings are older than 12 days to avoid premature fledglings. Non-native species (like house sparrows) may be evicted, but it is illegal to disturb nests of native birds (like swallows, titmice, chickadees).

The Bluebird Trail was sponsored by Helene Gardner.

Scale of Points

- Number of boxes: minimum of 4, at least 300 feet apart (25 points)
- Location/size of trails/types of posts, not trees (25 points)
- Installation: facing north or east to avoid midday sun, away from prevailing winds, opening at eye level (25 points)
- Monitoring: cleaned in February, checked weekly to evict non-native species (25 points)

No. 45: Litter Control—Due January 1

A certificate may be awarded for:

- A. Club**—with the best ongoing program with such activities as waste reduction, reclamation and/or recycling, and endeavors for a quality environment. Youth participation and community involvement are emphasized.
- B. Club**—outstanding cleanup/recycling project

- C. **Group of Clubs**—outstanding cleanup/recycling project
- D. **Individual**—should actively promote litter control and a quality environment

No. 49: Landscape Design—Due January 1

A certificate may be awarded for an outstanding landscaping project pertaining to:

- A. **School grounds**
- B. **Parks or community gardens**
- C. **Public buildings and areas** (such as libraries, courthouses, city halls, roadsides) or entryways to subdivisions, apartments, or condominiums. A landscape design must be included in the BOE, but does not have to be professionally drawn.
- D. **Habitat for Humanity**

No. 50: School Grounds Improvement—Due January 1

A certificate may be awarded for a:

- A. **Club (12-30 members)**
- B. **Club (more than 30 members)**

This award is for an outstanding project of beautification and improvement of the grounds of any school building, old or new.

No. 52: The Marion Bloomer Publication Award—Due January 1

This award is given in honor of Marion Bloomer, TFGC District IV director, 2007–2009. A certificate may be awarded for the following:

- A. **Manuals and handbooks**—Duties of officers, procedural, awards
- B. **Flyers or handouts**—Call letters, flyers for special events
- C. **Newsletters**—Club or District
- D. **Brochure**—Club or District
- E. **Calendars**—Club or District
- F. **Educational**—NGC objectives, horticulture, environmental, landscape, judging

Award Categories

- 1. **Club**
- 2. **Individual**
- 3. **Group of Clubs**

No. 53: Club Programs—Due January 1

A certificate may be awarded for a:

- A. Most outstanding program by a member**
- B. Most outstanding audiovisual program by a member**

The program must stimulate interest in the purposes and objectives of TFGC, DS, and NGC. It must be original with the applicant, but may involve others in its presentation. It must be presented at a single club meeting, but should be adaptable for presentation to other clubs.

For the two items above, use the General Scale of Points.

NOTE: A copy of the text or video must be sent to the State Programs chair, and a confirmation must be attached to the BOE.

C. Best series of programs

Briefly outline the programs (title/subject and speaker), manner of presentation, field trips to garden, greenhouse, pilgrimage, council, district- or state-sponsored program. Give a percentage of member participation. Distinguish between member and guest speakers.

Scale of Points for Series

- 6 programs with overall adherence to garden club projects (30 points)
- 5 programs or workshops with member participation (25 points)
- 1 program devoted to horticulture, birds, conservation, nature (10 points)
- Field trip to garden, TEC (10 points)
- Originality and distinction of program subjects and presentation (20 points)
- Horticulture program by member (5 points)

No. 54: Environmental Education—Due January 1

A certificate may be awarded for a:

- A. Club**
- B. Council or Group of Clubs**
- C. District**
- D. Individual**

This award is given for the most comprehensive program in the field of environmental education with emphasis on/evidence of youth participation.

E. For full time attendance at an Environmental Education workshop:

- 1. Club with largest attendance**
- 2. District with largest attendance**

IMPORTANT: Starting in 2022 (for the 2021 awards) a \$25 award will be offered to one best BOE. This money award will be offered only in the second year of each term; it is sponsored from Conservation Camp funds.

No. 56: The Dorothy Chandler Wildflower Award—Due January 1

A framed certificate may be awarded to a:

- A. Club**
- B. Council or Group of Clubs**
- C. Individual**
- D. District**

This award is given for notable environmental preservation and civic enhancement using wildflowers, with a concentrated effort in the protection, planning, growing, and identification of wildflowers.

NOTE: All entries must include before-and-after photos of the project.

No. 63: Parks—Due January 1

A certificate may be awarded for:

- A. New Park Projects**
 - B. Continuing Park Projects**
 - C. Completed Parks**
- 1. Club**
 - 2. Group of Clubs**

For an outstanding parks project, before-and-after and current photos are required.

No. 64: Historic Gardens—Due January 1

A certificate may be awarded for a:

- A. Club**

The award is given for a club's participation in the restoration and/or maintenance of historic areas, including gardens, parks, trails, and neighborhoods. This may include landscaping or plantings. Before-and-after photos are required. Consideration is given to the suitability of plant material to the chosen historic period. Landscape design is required but does not have to be professionally drawn.

No. 65: President's Citation

Certificates may be presented, at the discretion of the state president, to any person who has made an outstanding contribution to garden club activities.

No. 66: New Club Sponsorship

A certificate may be awarded to the TFGC district with the largest percentage gain of new members in a new club sponsored during the garden club year, April 1–March 31. This award was sponsored by Jean Thompson.

No. 67: District Membership

A certificate may be awarded to the district with the largest total increase in membership during the garden club year, April 1–March 31.

No. 68: Journalism—Due January 1

A certificate may be awarded to:

- A. **A literary production of horticultural interest.** Books on the subject of horticulture or garden design must have been written within three years of application. Magazine articles are ineligible.
- B. **A member whose article have appeared in *The Volunteer Gardener*.** These articles must be deemed worthy in the field.
- C. **A member whose exceptional photography has appeared in *The Volunteer Gardener*.**
- D. **A member whose poetry has appeared in *The Volunteer Gardener*.**

NOTE: Nominations shall be made by the editor of *The Volunteer Gardener* and approved by the State Awards chair.

No. 69: Floral Design—Due January 1

A certificate may be awarded to:

- A. The district with the most effective program focusing on floral design for everyday use**
(for beautifying the home, for recreation, for therapy, etc.) with demonstrations or workshops open to the public.
- B. The most effective club project involving Youth Floral Design for:**
 - 1. Preschool through grade 3
 - 2. Grades 4-6
- C. Individual**

No. 70: Tree—Due January 1

A certificate may be awarded to:

- A. Individual**
- B. Club**
- C. Group of Clubs**

This award is given for the most comprehensive and outstanding work relating to trees in each of the following categories.

- 1. Best planned course of action relating to trees**
- 2. Most unique tree-planting project**
- 3. Participation in TFGC, DS, NGC, and tree projects**

NOTE: This can be a one- or two-year project.

Scale of Points

- Scope of plan or project (40 points)
- Participation (30 points)
- Educational value (10 points)
- Presentation (20 points)

No. 72: Publicity Press Book—Due January 10 (to the TFGC Awards Chair)

A certificate may be awarded to a:

A. Club

1. With under 29 members
2. 30-99 members
3. 100 members and over

B. Group of Clubs, Council, District

Press Book rules include the following:

1. There is no limit on the number of pages.
2. Label must state “No. 72 Publicity Press Book, club name, town.”
3. State the number of members on the application.
4. Submit in report cover sized 8 1/2 x 11 or 9 x 12.
5. Do not submit heavy scrapbooks or oversized portfolios.
6. You can use plastic page protectors.
7. Material must consist only of newspaper, magazine, newsletter, or any printed publication clippings with the name and date of publication over each item.
8. Legible photocopies are permitted; reduced-in-size photocopies of large or lengthy articles are permitted. Copies of published newspaper articles are permitted.
9. Include a table of contents. Affix the contents in chronological order, January 1 through December 31.
10. Clippings must be evenly cut. No loose clippings are permitted.
11. Each publication item must contain the name of organization and members of the organization identified.

Underline or highlight the first use of the name of the organization and/or club member in each article. Articles should include who, what, when, and where. Publicity should relate to the organization’s or individual’s projects or activities, promoting NGC objectives and goals.

No. 76: Garden Club of the Year—Due January 1

Deep South GCOTY In Honor of Juanita Allinder (TFGC President 1999-2001, DSR Treasurer 2005-2015) Donor: Pamela Dowd (TFGC President 2015-2017). DS winner receives \$50.

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.

NOTE: A Book of Evidence is required, up to 6 pages, front and back.

Scale of Points

1. Service (10 points)
 - a. Continuing service provided by club for members
 - b. Communications (describe briefly)
 - c. Other (describe briefly)
2. Club Programs (30 points)
 - a. Number
 - b. Horticulture/design
 - c. Environmental concerns
 - d. Special or regional project
 - e. Membership participation in presenting either programs or workshops
 - f. Describe briefly (include yearbook page showing programs)
3. Club Representation (20 points)
 - a. Average attendance at garden club meetings
 - b. Number of members attending Spring/Fall district meetings
 - c. Number of members attending environmental or other state programs
 - d. Number of members attending the TFGC Convention
 - e. Members attending the Deep South Convention
 - f. Members attending the National Convention
4. Club Projects (30 points)
 - a. Describe briefly on one page; two photographs may be included on a second page
5. Club Finances—funding club activities (10 points)
 - a. Fundraisers (describe briefly), including the number and amount raised

Total is 100 points.

No. 77: Friends of Racheff S.C.O.O.P. Award—Due January 1

Garden Club (GC) members are encouraged to contribute \$76 per “Friend” to “Friends of Racheff” to help maintain the state headquarters, Ivan Racheff House and Gardens. “Friends” do not have to be garden club members.

Memorials and Special Recognitions for individuals are encouraged. The amount of \$76 was Mr. Racheff’s first garden investment. Certificates may be awarded to:

- A. GC with the most creative campaign to enlist “Friends”**
- B. GC that enlists the most “Friends”**
- C. GC that enlists the most “Friends” to a percentage of club members**
- D. Individual whose project/plan enlists the most “Friends”**

Send all information/BOE to the Friends of Racheff chair.

No. 79: The Valerie Tipps Gardening Gifts Award—Due January 1

A certificate and \$100 may be awarded to the best BOE out of the three categories listed below:

- A. Small club—under 30 members**
- B. Medium club—31-50 members**
- C. Large club—over 51 members**

This is a two-year project, awarded in the second year of each term, for any worthy project of NGC objectives.

This award is sponsored by former State President Valerie Tipps.

No. 80: Flower Show Recognition—Due January 1

A certificate of recognition is presented to any TFGC club having sponsored or participated in a NGC Flower Show in the awards year, whether they have applied for a flower show award or not. This state award does not take the place of any other state flower show award. It is to recognize a club’s commitment, work, and expense of having a flower show.

NOTE: All clubs having a flower show **MUST** submit a “Letter of Intent” to the state Awards Chair (Debbie Shaver) and the state Evaluations Chair (Kathy Rychen).

Smokey Bear Woodsy Owl Poster Contest—Due December 1

Posters are due to your TFGC Smokey Bear chair (Phyllis Allen) by January 21.

This poster contest is open to first through fifth grade students. It can be school groups, church groups, or scout groups. Complete information on this contest is on the [NGC website](#). The NGC winner wins a trip to Washington, D.C. Posters must feature Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl. Certificates are awarded to the clubs that participate in this contest.

Youth Poetry Contest—Due November 15

Poetry contributions are due to the State Youth chair (Kay Cox) by November 15.

This contest is open to kindergarten through ninth grade students and special education students. National winners' entries will be published in a book of poetry. Complete information about this contest may be found on the [NGC website](#), including a scale of points. Certificates are awarded to the clubs who participate in this contest.

Youth Sculpture Contest—Due November 15

Sculpture submissions are due to the State Youth chair by November 15. This contest is open to children in fourth through eighth grade. Sculptures must consist of recycled, reused, and reduced materials. Complete rules can be found on the [NGC website](#).

TFGC Flower Show Award Rules

1. The Club President or Flower Show chair must write or email the State Awards chair and the State Evaluations chair a "[Letter of Intent](#)" at least 45 days prior to the show. This letter (available on the TFGC website) must contain the following:
 - a. Sponsoring organization
 - b. Name and address of the flower show chair
 - c. Show date and location
 - d. Theme (title of the show)
 - e. Name and number of the award sought, including size of the club
 - f. Complete list of judges with addresses and name of clubs they belong to
2. The State Awards chair then sends out a *Flower Show Packet* that includes all forms needed for the show and other helpful information.
3. The State Evaluations chair notifies the Flower Show chair and the president, by email if possible, the names of the judges who form the evaluating panel.
4. To be eligible for an award, the Flower Show must have achieved a score of 95 or above. Consult the [2017 handbook](#) for all requirements pertaining to the specific award the application is for.

5. Application form:
 - a. Completely fill out 2 copies of the current NGC Flower Show application form. One must be glued to the inside cover, and one must be paper-clipped to the inside cover.
6. Judges' evaluation forms:
 - a. Members of the evaluating panel send these forms directly to the TFGC Awards chair. The TFGC Awards chair then inserts the forms in the BOE before they are sent to NGC.

NGC Flower Show awards are noncompetitive. Books of Evidence (BOEs) are NOT compared to or judged against one another. Like an exhibit at a Flower Show, BOEs are judged on their own merit. If the Flower Show scored 95 or above on the NGC level, it will be honored with an NGC Flower Show Achievement Award.

NGC Flower Show Awards Offered

Standard Flower Shows

Club Standard Flower Show

- FS-1A—Club Standard Flower Show—fewer than 21 members
- FS-1B—Club Standard Flower Show—21-49 members
- FS-1C—Club Standard Flower Show—50-99 members
- FS-1D—Club Standard Flower Show—100 or more members

Holiday Standard Flower Show

Spirit of the holidays must be featured.

- FS-2A—One member club
- FS-2B—Two or more member clubs

Patriotic Standard Flower Show

The United States flag must be correctly and predominantly displayed.

- FS-3A—One member club
- FS-3B—Two or more member clubs

Petite Standard Flower Show

All horticulture and design exhibits qualify as petite divisions.

- FS-4A—One member club
- FS-4B—Two or more member clubs

Small Standard Flower Shows

Club Small Standard Flower Show

- FS-5A—Club Small Standard Flower Show—less than 21 members
- FS-5B—Club Small Standard Flower Show—21-49 members
- FS-5C—Club Small Standard Flower Show—50-99 members

Holiday Small Standard Flower Show

- FS-6—Club Small Standard Flower Show

Patriotic Small Standard Flower Show

The United States flag must be correctly and prominently displayed.

- FS-7—One member club with fewer than 100 members

Petite Small Standard Flower Show

- FS-8—One member club with fewer than 100 members

Near-Club, Council or District Flower Shows

Near-Club Standard Flower Show

NOTE: Councils and districts are not eligible for this award.

Clubs must share sponsorship of the show.

- FS-9—Near-Club Standard Flower Show
 - Two or more member clubs located near each other

Council Standard Flower Show

- FS-10A—Sponsored by at least 3 member clubs belonging to an association, federation, group circle, and recognized by the State GC
- FS10B—Judges' Councils Standard Flower Show

District Flower Show

- FS-11A—District/region consisting of 15 or fewer NGC member clubs
- FS-11B—District/region consisting of 16 or more NGC member clubs

State Flower Shows

State Flower Show

- FS-12A—Small state: more than 100 member clubs with 10 percent of adult clubs participating
- FS-12B—Large state: 100 or more member clubs with 10 percent of adult clubs participating
 - **Horticulture Division**: minimum of 20 classes with at least 80 exhibits total
 - **Design Division**: minimum of 20 classes with at least 4 exhibits in each class

Youth Flower Shows

Youth Flower Show or Youth Section of an Adult Standard FS

- FS-13A—Youth Flower Show held by one NGC youth club or youth group, sponsored by an NGC member club
- FS-13B—Youth Flower Show held by two or more NGC youth clubs or youth groups, sponsored by an NGC member club
- FS-13C—Youth participation in a standard flower show.

Youth section/subsections must be evaluated separately from the adults on a separate Scale of Points for an “Evaluating Standard Flower Shows” form by a panel of three accredited flower show judges.

The BOE must provide evidence of youth participation in the Youth portion of the Flower Show Schedule and in staging or clerking of the Youth Division. (Photos may serve as evidence.)

Plant Society Flower Shows

Plant Society Standard Flower Show

- FS-19—Plant Society affiliated with NGC on a local, state, regional, or NGC level; or an NGC organization co-sponsored with a non-NGC affiliated Plant Society

Specialty Flower Shows

Horticulture Specialty Show

- FS-15A—One club
- FS-15B—Two or more clubs
- FS-15C—Council, district, state, or regional sponsoring organization

Design Specialty Show

- FS-16A—One club
- FS-16B—Two or more clubs
- FS-16C—Council, district, state, or regional sponsoring organization

No. 75: Flower Show Schedule

A certificate may be awarded for the best schedule of any NGC Flower Show. First, second, and third place may be awarded provided the schedule scores 95 or above. The scoring sheet for schedules is included in the *Flower Show Packet*.

This award applies to a:

- A. Club**
- B. Council or Group of Clubs**
- C. District**

The Scale of Points can be found on the NGC website.

No. 78: Flower Show Staging Award

A certificate and Gold Rosette is awarded to each district winner. The Flower Show must score 95 or above to be eligible. The form is included in the *Flower Show Packet*.

NOTE: These forms are mailed to the State Awards chair by the judging panel within two weeks after the show.

Classes considered for the award:

- 1. Club with 30 members or less**
- 2. Club with more than 30 members**
- 3. Council or Group of Clubs**
 - A. A council with 10 clubs or less
 - B. A council with more than 10 clubs
 - C. A group of clubs

How to Apply

1. Secure a *Staging* form from the TFGC Awards chair.
2. Have the evaluating panel of three judges fill out the Staging form at the show, and provide the panel with an addressed envelope addressed to your State Awards chair. The judges sign the form and mail within two weeks.

Scale of Points

- Method of displaying exhibits (15 points)
- Practicability: spacious displays, adequate and unobstructed aisles, and sufficient lighting (25 points)
- Unity: uniform containers, neat staging, related color, general order and balance, uniform place cards (40 points)
- Beauty: pleasing to the eye, appropriate, in good taste, simple (20 points)

NOTE: All three judges must vote on the final score. The majority rules, all judges contribute to the comments, and then all sign the form.

The Kitty Anderson Best of Shows Award

Each year, \$300 will be awarded to the sponsor of the most outstanding Flower Show held in the current awards year. The Flower Show must be a first-place state winner and the recipient of an NGC Flower Show award. The winner is selected by a committee outside of the state of Tennessee. No club or group of clubs is eligible for this award two years in a row.

NOTE: This award is sponsored by the family of Kitty Anderson.

Scale of Points

- Distinction (30 points)
- Originality (20 points)
- Creative Expression (20 points)
- Public Appeal (15 points)
- Schedule (15 points)