

Arts 2024-2026

“Luminescent Arts”



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Arts and Culture Community Service Program

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District Chairmen

Northeastern
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Southeastern
Arts
Bridgit Petrauskas, Co Chairman
7427 Boyertown Pike, Douglasville, PA 19518 bridgitnunan@yahoo.com 610-247-7043

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Photography
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Northcentral
TBD

Southcentral
Emily Schwartz
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Northwestern
TBD

Southwestern
Dot Hoffman
325 W. Water Street, Saxonburg, PA 16056 tolebrush@aol.com 724-316-2104

ARTS CHAIRMAN RESPONSIBILITIES

GENERAL RULES FOR ALL 2024-2026 CONTESTS

- The General Rules should be reproduced for member and student contestants and given to school contacts along with rules, Entry Form(s) and *GFWC Creative Arts Waiver* (if applicable).
- Member contests are open to all per capita dues-paying members of GFWC Pennsylvania.
- Members and/or students may only submit entries to one club.
- Students must be sponsored by a per capita dues-paying club of GFWC Pennsylvania.
- A completed Member Entry Form must be attached to each photography entry. **Please do not glue!** Only use removable painter's tape.
- All Literature entries and Member Photography entries **MUST** have a completed, signed *GFWC Creative Arts Waiver* submitted with the entry. **Do not attach to photos.**
- Entries must not have been previously entered in any GFWC club, district, county, state or international Festival of the Arts contest.
- Literature must be original and unpublished.
- Authors and photographers must be amateur status – earnings from writings or photography may not exceed \$500 annually.
- Each contest entry will be judged by at least two (2) judges who are qualified in some aspect of the contest. A copy of the rules shall be supplied to each judge at least one week prior to the contest. Uncontested entries meeting all qualifications based on the rules will advance to the next level of competition.
- Judges may judge at only one level of competition. No clubwoman may judge at any level.
- At each level, disqualification is determined by the particular Chairman based on the rules. The Chairman's decision is final.
- Each entry must be completed in its entirety by the contestant, excluding photography, which may be professionally developed.
- If for any reason a First-Place winner cannot advance to the next level of competition, notification to the Chairman must be made immediately. It is the responsibility of that level's Chairman to arrange for the Second-Place winner to advance.
- The Arts Department Chairman at each level of competition is responsible for assuring that the *GFWC Creative Arts Waiver* (member photography and all literature entries), and **two (2) blank Judging Sheets** are supplied to the next level Chairman within five (5) days following their respective competition.
- A contestant may enter more than one category of competition but may only have one entry per category.
- Neither GFWC Pennsylvania nor its chairmen are responsible for loss or damage of any kind to items submitted for competition at any level.
- Entries will advance from Club to District to State to National levels (depending on the category) and will be released only at the conclusion of the last event.
- All GFWC Pennsylvania general rules are in compliance with those of GFWC.
- Completed Judging Sheets will be returned to the student or member after each contest level.

CONTEST DEADLINES - All contests to be completed by the following dates:

Club and County Deadlines:
District Deadlines:

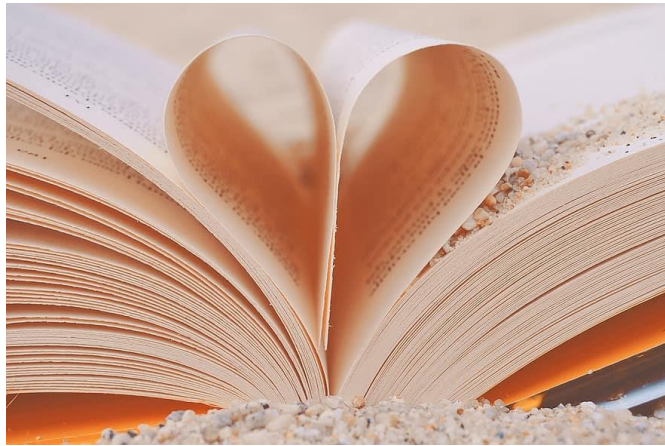
February 24, 2025
April 1, 2025

Please Note: Each district may have additional contests in addition to the GFWC Pennsylvania sponsored contests. Any questions regarding district contests should be directed to your District Arts Chairman.

County Festival of Arts

GFWC Pennsylvania policy:

- A. Each federated club shall be entitled to submit one entry in each category to the District Festival of Arts.**
 - B. Organized counties which hold a separate Festival of Arts shall be entitled to submit one entry in each category to the District Festival of Arts.**
 - C. A club whose entry is selected as the County entry shall not be entitled to submit an additional entry and such entry shall be considered to be a co-entry from the federated club and county.**
- Note: A club and/or club member does not have to enter the county contest. The entry will advance from the club to the district.**



WRITING CONTESTS

GFWC MEMBER CONTESTS

Authors must be dues-paying members of an active per capita club.

Entries must be:

- Typed, double-spaced, and one-inch minimum margins on the top, bottom, and both sides.
- Printed on white 8.5 x 11-inch paper, one side only.
- If emailed, use Microsoft Word files only.
- Entries must be written during the contest year (January 1-December 31).

Entries must include the following information on the top right-hand corner of each page:

- Author's name, email address, mailing address, and phone number
- Name of author's GFWC club and State Federation
- Category
- Title of work
- Page number

Authors must be amateurs. Earnings from writing may not exceed \$500 annually. Entries may not have been published prior to the competition and must be original works by the author. A completed, signed GFWC Creative Arts Waiver must be included with each submission. Short stories are limited to 2,000 words. Word count must be included at the end of the story. Poetry entries can be any style with a minimum length of eight lines and a maximum of 50 lines. Entries are limited to one per member per category.

YOUTH WRITING CONTESTS ENTRY GUIDELINE

Requirements:

- Typed, double-spaced, one-inch minimum margins on the top, bottom, and both sides.
- Printed on white 8.5 x 11-inch paper, one side only.
- If emailed, use Microsoft Word files only.
- Entries must be written during the contest year (January 1-December 31).
- Entries must include the following information on the top, right-hand corner of each page:
 - Author's name, email address, mailing address, and phone number
 - Name of the GFWC club and State Federation submitting the author's work
 - Category
 - Title of work
 - Page number
 - Grade Level Category
 - Category 1: Grades K, 1, and 2
 - Category 2: Grades 3, 4, and 5
 - Category 3: Grades 6, 7, and 8
 - Category 4: Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12

Authors must be amateurs. Earnings from writing may not exceed \$500 annually. Entries may not have been published prior to the competition and must be the author's original work. A completed, signed GFWC Creative Arts Waiver must be included with each submission. Entries are limited to one per person per category. Short stories are limited to 2,000 words. Word count must be indicated at the end of the story. Poetry entries can be any style with a minimum length of eight lines and a maximum of 50 lines.

Deadline for ALL entries is March 1, 2025, to Cheryl Brooks, 41 Russell Street, Baden PA 15005

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTESTS

TELL YOUR STORY WITH PHOTOGRAPHS The GFWC Photography Contests encourage members' artistic expression and visual storytelling while recognizing originality, visual impact, and technical skill in photography. You don't need an expensive camera to take great pictures. Today's cell phones provide a way to take creative photographs that are contest worthy. GFWC offers two opportunities to participate in the Photography Contests.

THE WORLD IN PICTURES CONTEST These photographs showcase the people, places, and things at home and around the world that impact our lives in a meaningful way, as expressed in these three categories:

- **Our World Up Close**—Create a visual that offers a novel viewpoint or a macro image that takes the viewer into a whole new, tiny world. Macro photography creates photos of small items that appear to be larger than life-size. Some common examples are bugs or parts of flowers.
- **Natural Wonders**—Use wide angles and panoramas, or landscape images, to showcase mountains, meadows, sandhills, rivers, waterfalls, oceans, deserts, or any other magnificent vista. The emphasis is on NATURAL.
- **Reflections**—Feature an object, setting, situation, or landmark that is reflected in glass, water, or another mirrored surface. These photographs capture the special moments in the lives of GFWC clubwomen as they actively meet, plan, advocate, volunteer, or celebrate in groups or one-on-one.

GFWC LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT CONTEST

These photographs capture the special moments in the lives of GFWC clubwomen as they actively meet, plan, advocate, volunteer, or celebrate in groups or one-on-one.

RULES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY CONTESTS

- Photographs must be the original work of the member submitting the photograph.
- All contest photographers must be dues paying members of an active GFWC club.
- Photographs submitted for the first year of the administration must be taken between January 1, 2024 and December 31, 2024. Photographs submitted for the second year of the administration must be taken between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025.
- Contestants must be considered an amateur photographer. (Pursuing photography for pleasure versus for financial benefits.) • Photographs may be vertical/portrait or horizontal/landscape.
- Photographs must be the original work of the member submitting the photo.
- Digital submissions are highly recommended.
- If print photographs are submitted, they must be:
 - An 8 X 10-inch high-resolution print.
 - Mounted on a rigid 8 X 10-inch board and overall thickness may not exceed 3/8 inch. No mattes, frames, or hangers are allowed.
- Qualified judges will look at the overall creativity of the subject while recognizing originality, visual impact, and quality of the photograph and technical skills in photography.
- Photographs may be taken using film or digital cameras and may be color or black and white.
- Photographs will NOT be returned.
- Print photographs must have a label affixed to its back with the following information:
 - Contest name: The World in Pictures with category or GFWC Living the Volunteer Spirit
 - Photographer's Name, Email Address, Mailing Address, and Phone Number • Name and State of the sponsoring club
 - Title and brief caption giving location, date, and other pertinent info about the photograph • Arrow indicating top of the photograph
- Creative Arts Waiver Form for each submission is found at the end of this segment of the Club Manual and in the Member Portal under Resources in the Awards and Contests section.
- Digital prints must include the same information within the email to which the digital print is attached.

Districts must send winning entries by April 1, 2025 to:

Shelly Smolnery, 49 Russell Street, Baden, PA 15005

2024-2026 GFWC PENNSYLVANIA Arts Scholarship

1. Establish an Arts Scholarship for graduating high school seniors.
2. Awarded annually at the District Spring Meeting/ Arts Day.
3. One Scholarship per district.
4. Funds will be raised at the fall district meetings, Summer Leadership Conference or by corporate sponsorship.
5. The fund shall be titled, "Silver for Scholarships."
6. All money raised will be divided equally among the six districts.
7. District Arts Chairmen will select a committee of at least two to judge the applications.
8. **Application deadline will be February 1st of each year.**
9. If there are no applicants in a district, the funds will remain in the scholarship fund.
10. This scholarship is awarded based on ambition/educational goals, artistic ability, leadership, and community involvement.
11. Sponsoring an Arts Scholarship within our six Districts provides our organization with an opportunity to promote not only our brand, but our support for our communities statewide, our commitment to the Arts, and students as well.

**Member Photography
Entry Form – Part 1**

A contestant may enter more than one category of competition, but may only have one entry per category.

World in Pictures: Check one per entry Title of Photo _____

Our World Up Close _____

Natural Wonders _____

Reflections _____

GFWC Living the Volunteer Spirit _____

Name of Contestant _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ email _____

Sponsoring Club _____ State _____

Club Arts Chairman _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

**Member Photography
Entry Form – Part 2**

A contestant may enter more than one category of competition but may only have one entry per category.

World in Pictures: Check one per entry Title of Photo _____

Our World Up Close _____

Natural Wonders _____

Reflections _____

GFWC Living the Volunteer Spirit _____

Name of Contestant _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ email _____

Sponsoring Club _____ State _____

Club Arts Chairman _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

Note: Both parts of this form are required for each entry. Part 1 stays attached to the entry at all levels. Part 2 is sent to the Arts Chairman at the next level of competition.

**Member Photography
Judging Form**

Chairman Checklist to be completed before judging; photos not including ALL of the following must be disqualified.

- ___ Photo is 8"x10"
- ___ Photo is mounted on mount board not to exceed 3/8"
- ___ Photo is not matted or framed
- ___ Photo must have a label affixed to its back with the following:
 - o Contest name and category
 - o Photographer's name, email address, mailing address, phone number
 - o Name and State of sponsoring Club
 - o Title and brief caption giving location, date, and other notes about the photo
 - o Arrow indicating top of photo
- ___ A properly completed Entry Form Part 1 must be attached to the back of the photo
- ___ Each photo must have a signed *GFWC Creative Arts Waiver* attached to the back of the photo

Check one per entry:

World in Pictures:

Our World Up Close _____

Natural Wonders _____

Reflections _____

GFWC Living the Volunteer Spirit _____

Entry # _____

Title of Photo _____

Last name of entrant _____

Points

Originality/Creativity 1 - 25 Points

Balance/Composition 1 - 25 Points

Impact 1 - 50 Points

Total Points (Maximum 100)

Comments:

Judge's Signature _____

**Member Short Story and Poetry Contest
Entry Form – Part 1**

A member may enter more than one category of competition, but may only have one entry per category.

Check one:

Short Story _____ Title _____

Poetry _____ Title _____

Name of Contestant _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ email _____

Sponsoring Club _____ State _____

Club Arts Chairman _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

County _____ District _____

**Member Short Story and Poetry Contest
Entry Form – Part 2**

A member may enter more than one category of competition, but may only have one entry per category.

Check one:

Short Story _____ Title _____

Poetry _____ Title _____

Name of Contestant _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ email _____

Sponsoring Club _____ State _____

Club Arts Chairman _____	
E-mail _____	Phone _____

Note: Both parts of this form are required for each entry. Part 1 stays attached to the entry at all levels.
Part 2 is sent to the Arts Chairman at the next level of competition

**Member Poetry
Judging form**

Chairman Checklist to be completed before judging; Poems not including ALL of the following ust be disqualified.

- _____ Poem must be typewritten, double-spaced, with minimum margins of 1” on all four sides, one side only, on 8 1/2” x 11” paper.
- _____ Three (3) copies must be submitted with Entry Form and waiver.
- _____ Minimum 8 lines and maximum 50 lines.
- _____ Each submission must have a signed *GFWC Creative Arts Waiver* attached.
- _____ Entries must have the following in the top right-hand corner of each page:
 - author’s name
 - e-mail address
 - mailing address
 - telephone number
 - name of author’s GFWC club and State Federation
 - category
 - title of work
- _____ A properly completed Entry Form Part 1 must be attached to the poem.

Title of Poem _____

Poetry Contest Rules

- Entries of poems can be any style, with a minimum length of eight (8) lines and a maximum of fifty (50) lines.

Entry # _____

Last name of entrant _____

Award 1-10 points in each area	Points
Theme Development	_____
Choice of Words/Phrases	_____
Rhyme/Rhythmic Flow	_____
Originality of Thoughts	_____
Impact of Poem	_____
Total Points (Maximum 50)	_____

Comments:

Judge’s Signature _____

**Member Short Story
Judging Form**

Chairman Checklist to be completed before judging; Short stories not including **ALL** of the following must be disqualified.

- _____ Short story must be typewritten, double-spaced, with minimum margins of 1" on all four sides, one side only, on 8 1/2" x 11" paper.
- _____ Maximum 2,000 words.
- _____ Three (3) copies must be submitted with Entry Form and waiver.
- _____ Each submission must have a signed *GFWC Creative Arts Waiver* attached.
- _____ Entries must have the following in the top right-hand corner of each page:
 - author's name
 - e-mail address
 - mailing address
 - telephone number
 - name of author's GFWC club and State Federation
 - category
 - title of work
- _____ A properly completed Entry Form Part 1 must be attached to the short story.

Title of Story _____

Entry # _____ Last name of entrant _____

Rules: Any Subject – 2000 Words

Award 1-10 points in each area	Points
<u>Beginning</u> : Does the writer engage the reader's attention immediately? Are tone, setting and character established quickly?	_____
<u>Characterization</u> : Are characters believable, well rounded? Actions and interactions consistent and well-motivated?	_____
<u>Plot</u> : Does progression seem inevitable without being too predictable? Is the story interesting and compelling to read?	_____
<u>Conflict</u> : Does protagonist have a problem serious enough for the reader to care about? Is it solved satisfactorily?	_____
<u>Style</u> : Is writing fresh and free of clichés? Does it reveal the writer's own vision and attitude clearly? Are viewpoint changes and pacing handled smoothly?	_____
<u>Mechanics</u> : Is grammar and punctuation, correct? Spelling accurate? Is the manuscript professionally prepared? Are historical details consistent, and correct?	_____
 Total Points (Maximum 60)	 _____

Comments:

Judge's Signature _____

**Student Short Story and Poetry Contest
Entry Form – Part 1**

A contestant may enter more than one category of competition but may only have one entry per category.

Check one: Category 1: Grades K, 1 and 2 _____ Category 3: Grades 6, 7 and 8 _____
Category 2: Grades 3, 4 and 5 _____ Category 4: Grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 _____

Check one: Short Story _____ Title _____
Poetry _____ Title _____

Name of Contestant _____

Address _____

School Contact _____ email _____ Phone _____

School _____ Grade _____

Sponsoring Club _____ State _____

Club Arts Chairman _____
E-mail _____ Phone _____

**Student Short Story and Poetry Contest
Entry Form – Part 2**

Check one: Category 1: Grades K, 1 and 2 _____ Category 3: Grades 6, 7 and 8 _____
Category 2: Grades 3, 4 and 5 _____ Category 4: Grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 _____

Check one: Short Story _____ Title _____
Poetry _____ Title _____

Name of Contestant _____

Address _____

School Contact _____ email _____ Phone _____

School _____ Grade _____

Sponsoring Club _____ State _____

Club Arts Chairman _____
E-mail _____ Phone _____

Note: Both parts of this form are required for each entry. Part 1 stays attached to the entry at all levels. Part 2 is sent to the Arts Chairman at the next level of competition

**Student Short Story
Judging Form**

Chairman Checklist to be completed before judging; Short stories not including **ALL** of the following must be disqualified.

- Short story must be typewritten, double-spaced, with minimum margins of 1" on all four sides, one side only, on 8 1/2" x 11" paper.
- Maximum 2,000 words.
- Three (3) copies must be submitted with Entry Form and waiver.
- Each submission must have a signed *GFWC Creative Arts Waiver* (page 34) attached.
- Entries must have the following in the top right-hand corner of each page:
 - author's name
 - e-mail address
 - mailing address
 - telephone number
 - name of author's sponsoring GFWC club and State Federation
 - category
 - title of work
- A properly completed Entry Form Part 1 must be attached to the short story.

Title of Story _____

Rules: Any Subject – 2000 Words

Entry # _____ Last name of Entrant _____

Check category: Category 1: Grades K - 2 Category 3: Grades 6 – 8
 Category 2: Grades 3 – 5 Category 4: Grades 9 – 12

Award 1-10 points in each area	Points
Originality of thoughts/phrases	_____
Content/Originality	_____
Theme/Plot Development	_____
Grammar/Punctuation/Spelling	_____
 Total Points (Maximum 40)	 _____

Comments:

Judge's Signature _____

Student Poetry Judging Form

Chairman Checklist to be completed before judging; Poems not including **ALL** of the following must be disqualified.

- _____ Poem must be typewritten, double-spaced, with minimum margins of 1" on all four sides, one side only, on 8 1/2" x 11" paper.
- _____ Minimum 8 lines and maximum 50 lines.
- _____ Three (3) copies must be submitted with Entry Form and waiver.
- _____ Each submission must have a signed *GFWC Creative Arts Waiver* (page 34) attached.
- _____ Entries must have the following in the top right-hand corner of each page:
 - author's name
 - e-mail address
 - mailing address
 - telephone number
 - name of author's sponsoring GFWC club and State Federation
 - category
 - title of work
- _____ A properly completed Entry Form Part 1 must be attached to the poem.

Title of Poem _____

Poetry Contest Rules - Entries of poems can be any style, with a minimum length of eight (8) lines and a maximum of fifty (50) lines.

Check One:

_____ Category 1: Grades K – 2

_____ Category 3: Grades 6 – 8

_____ Category 2: Grades 3 – 5

_____ Category 4: Grades 9 -12

Entry # _____

Last name of entrant _____

Award 1-10 points in each area	Points
Theme Development	_____
Choice of Words/Phrases	_____
Rhyme/Rhythmic Flow	_____
Originality of Thoughts	_____
Impact of Poem	_____
 Total Points (Maximum 50)	 _____

Comments:

Judge's Signature _____



High School Senior Arts Scholarship Application

Name _____ **Date of Birth:** _____
Last First MI

Address: _____
Street City State Zip
Telephone (h) Cell Email

Parents/Guardians: _____

School Attending: _____

Sponsoring Club: _____

Please respond to the following:

1. List any high school organizations in which you have been involved, with dates of involvement include any offices or positions of responsibility you have held in these organizations.

2. Do you have any special talents and how have you pursued them? (i.e., art, dance, music drama, academic contests, sports)

3. Have you held a paying job while in high school? If so, how long have you been employed and how many hours a week do you work?

Job Description	Company	Hours per week	Dates of Employment

4. Tell us about your family and/or volunteer experiences.

Volunteer Experiences	Place	Hours	Date(s) of experience

5. To what college or school have you applied and why? Have you been accepted?

School	Why	Accepted?

6. Senior Scholarship Essay - Please include a one-page essay to help us to get to know you. This is your chance to share information that was not addressed in the application. Include information regarding what aspect of the Arts you wish to pursue and plans and ambitions for your future and why you feel that you deserve this scholarship.

The scholarship applicant will be considered with the following criteria:

Leadership, Ambition/Education Goals, Artistic Ability, and Community Involvement.

Applications must be received no later than *February 1st*.

Mail or email completed applications to:

Scholarship will be announced at GFWC Pennsylvania District Spring Meeting/Arts Day.



With my signature I declare that:

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

The work in question is (please check one): Photography Poetry Short Story

- I grant the General Federation of Women's Clubs a royalty-free perpetual license to use, reproduce, post, display, create derivative works, sell, license, or sublicense the work in any media now known or later invented, without limitation, for commercial or noncommercial purposes.

This agreement shall become effective and binding on the date of formal acceptance of the work for publication by the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

Full Name		
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip Code
Phone	Email	

Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature (if submitter is under 18 years of age)

Date

