

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTESTS

AWARDS, CONTESTS, AND GRANTS

2024-2026 GFWC CLUB MANUAL



GFWC
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GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

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.

2024-2026

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTESTS

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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.

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.

CLUB CHAIRMAN RESPONSIBILITIES

- Encourage members to participate in the GFWC Photography Contests.
- Foster participation in the photography contests. Consider selecting a subject for all members to photograph. Possibly suggest a different shape for each week—circles, straight lines, etc.
- Recognize member contributions by awarding certificates and/or ribbons.
- Remind members of deadlines for judging in the local and state contests.
- Forward the submissions for state and national judging as instructed.
- Verify that all rules for the contests have been followed. Entries that **do not** follow the contest rules will be disqualified.



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.)

ARTWORK GUIDELINES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY CONTESTS

- 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.

DEADLINES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY CONTESTS

State Level: Clubs must send entries to their respective State Photography Contest Chairman for judging. State entry deadlines are determined by the respective State Federation.

National Level: To be eligible for national judging, each State Federation may submit one winner for each contest and category, along with a cover letter from the respective State Photography Contest Chairman listing the names of the winning submissions and the signed GFWC Creative Arts Waiver from each state winner.

New: If available, please email the photographs in high-resolution/300 dots per inch or pixels per inch using Dropbox, Hightail, or other large-capacity format software.

The submission must be postmarked or emailed by **May 15**.

Digital Submissions and accompanying documentation should be emailed to Programs@GFWC.org with "Photography Contest" in the Subject Line and copied to: theepe@aol.com.

Print submission should be sent to:
GFWC Photography Contest
1734 N Street NW
Washington, DC 20036-2990

National level submitted photographs will not be returned.

** If your State Convention takes place on or about this deadline date, contact GFWC at Programs@GFWC.org or 1-202-347-3168).*



AWARDS FOR PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

The following awards will be presented at the GFWC Annual Convention for the top three national entries in each contest and category:

FIRST PLACE \$100

SECOND PLACE \$75

THIRD PLACE \$50

DISCLAIMER

By submitting your photographs to GFWC for the GFWC Photography Contests on the national level, you are providing GFWC with 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 non-commercial purposes.

GFWC CREATIVE ARTS WAIVER FORM

The GFWC Creative Arts Waiver Form is attached to this Photography Contests program. For further information contact GFWC at Programs@GFWC.org or call 202-347-3168.

HELPFUL RESOURCES:

Top Seven Smart Phone Photography Tips That Will Make You Forget Your Camera: <https://fstoppers.com/mobile/top-7-smartphone-photography-tips-will-make-forget-your-camera-626557>

Tips and tricks to help you take better smartphone photos: <https://www.popsci.com/take-better-smartphone-photos/>

Top five photography lighting tips: <https://www.simplebooth.com/blog/photography-lighting-for-beginners/>

Photography Tips and Tricks: How to Take Good Pictures: <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/expeditions/get-inspired/inside-look/photography-tips-tricks-how-to-take-good-pictures/>

