

A. RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. **Eligibility:** Only federated clubs, members of these clubs, and groups of federated clubs in good standing are eligible to apply or sponsor applicants.
2. **Awards Year:** January 1 to December 31 annually (calendar year). Entries due on Jan. 1, 2020 are for 2019 work.
Exception: #10 Yearbook
3. **Submit Award Entries to:** All AFGC, SCR and NGC Adult Award entries to AFGC Awards Chairman.
Submit all AFGC Youth Award entries to the individual AFGC Youth Chairman.
4. **Deadlines:** All AFGC, SCR and NGC Adult Awards are due January 1.
See each individual AFGC Youth Award information sheet in Presidents' Packet or www.arkansasfgc.net for its due date.
5. **Entries:**
 - A. Must include significant work in the current award year, even if a Continuing Project.
 - B. Projects with commercial work, will not be considered. Donations are not to be considered projects.
 - C. May be prepared and submitted electronically (exception: #10 Yearbook) or may be mailed.
 - D. Keep a copy of entries, as most will not be returned.
6. **Application Forms:**
 - A. Each entry requires its own AFGC Award Application Cover, found in the President's Packet or on state website. When the same project is eligible for various awards, do not submit an exact duplication of the application. Emphasize the aspects of the project that meet the criteria of that particular award with each individual entry.
 - B. All applications which include photographs with youth under 18, **MUST** be accompanied by a signed Publications Release Form for each young person. This form may be found in President's Packets or at www.gardenclubs.org in the Forms Library (bottom of page). Publication Release Forms are optional for adults in photos. Release Forms are not included in the 3-page limit.
 - C. Entries have a 3-page limit and must be single sided. Application Cover (form) is NOT included in the 3-page limit.
Exceptions: #10 Yearbook & #14 Membership Awareness.
 - D. Binders, folders, sheet protectors and staples are no longer allowed (paper clips suggested).
7. **Certificates:** Will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners.
8. **Cash Awards:** Are provided by sponsors within our organization, whose names will be published each year.
Cash awards will be for designated awards only. 1st place winners scoring 80 and above, except #8 Membership Increase which is not point based, are eligible to receive cash awards.
9. **Special Awards:** May be offered to individuals but must be approved by the President. Contact Awards Chairman.
10. **Size Categories:** Are only applicable within AFGC for #10 Yearbook and #14 Membership Awareness, but do apply at SCR & NGC.
11. **Scale of Points (Scoring Rubric):** Used for AFGC, SCR and NGC. Exceptions: #10 Yearbook, #14 Membership Awareness
Presentation: 5 pts.: Cover sheet included with all sections completed (2), adheres to page limit unless other size specified in award description (2), application neat and concise (1).
Achievement: 65 pts.: Meets NGC mission/goals (6), scope of project defined (4), need identified (7), benefit to target (members, recipients, community, etc.) (10), accomplishment of goals (8), comprehensiveness of work (6), activities to attain goals explained (8), evaluation of goals reached (4), educational (3), prior planning (4), very brief history if continuing project (give full credit if not a continuing project) (3), other (2).
Participation: 15 pts.: % of member participation from total size possible (may include any type of support given) (12), involvement of others (community, government agencies, professionals, youth, facility residents, others) (3).
Record or Documentation: 15 pts.: Clear, well-labeled, neatly attached photos when applicable (4), landscape plan when applicable (give full credit if plan not applicable) (4), financial report (5), other (letters of appreciation, community awards, publicity, etc.) (2).
12. **SCR Award Entries:**
 - A. Follow SCR Award Guidelines, available on the SCR website, www.scr.gardenclubs.org
 - B. The NGC Award Application Cover **MUST** be used for SCR entries. Enter the appropriate SCR award name and number. Write SCR in upper right hand corner.
 - C. Submit SCR Adult Award entries to AFGC Awards Chairman by January 1. Adult awards are not progressive from AFGC to SCR. Youth awards are progressive from AFGC to SCR and will be forwarded by contest chairman.
 - D. SCR Flower Show Achievement Awards will follow NGC Handbook For Flower Show, Revised 2017 requirements.
13. **NGC Award Entries:**
 - A. Follow NGC Award Guidelines, available on the NGC website, www.gardenclub.org
 - B. The NGC Application Cover (form) **MUST** be used. Many NGC awards have their own specific Scoring Rubric, use the correct one.
 - C. All NGC award applications **MUST** be submitted electronically. Exceptions: FD-1, MAE-1, MAE-3, MAE-4 and SR-4. Only PDF or WORD format accepted.
 - D. All NGC award entries **MUST** be submitted to the AFGC Awards Chairman by January 1. Do not be late on this. No adult award is progressive from AFGC or SCR to NGC.
 - E. NGC Flower Show Achievement Awards will follow NGC Handbook For Flower Show Revised 2017 requirements. www.gardenclub.org

B. AFGC ADULT AWARDS

#1. CIVIC ACHIEVEMENT, \$25, is awarded to a club for the completion of an outstanding civic gardening project. This project may cover one, two or more years, with significant work in current award year. Entries must show before and after pictures. Sponsor: Judi Davis (SCR #7, NGC Award Section CE)

#2. COMMUNITY GARDENS, will be awarded to the most outstanding overall community garden project providing public education in the garden, or growing food for civic use. Sponsor: Derenda Stanley (NGC Award Section CE)

#2-A. \$25, Completion of a new community garden.

#2-B. \$25, Continuing participation in a community garden.

#3. CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION, \$25, may be given for best effort on a previously completed beautification project, providing continuing maintenance. Application should show significant work in current award year. Sponsor: _____ (SCR #7, NGC Award Section CE)

#4. SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT, \$25, to be awarded for the most outstanding one time public event furthering NGC objectives and/or projects. Sponsor: Derenda Stanley (NGC #CE-5)

#5. BUILD UP-REACH OUT, \$25, is given to any club sponsoring a new AFGC affiliated adult club or any type junior garden club, K-12. Minimum of 10 members, verifiable by roster for adults, or pictures (without faces) for juniors. Include new club objectives on application. District of the sponsoring club should sponsor this award with the proper donation.

#6. GARDEN THERAPY, \$25, presented for the best overall scope of projects with residents of nursing or assisted living homes, challenged youth or adults, prisons, low income housing, etc. This work should be horticultural, environmental or conservation related with hands-on projects. Participation by residents should be clearly evident on application. Include work/project dates, project topics and number of residents involved. Sponsor: Nancy Voyles (SCR #6, see NGC #G-3)

#7. CONSERVATION CONCERNS, \$25, will be presented to the club with best overall activities for conservation or natural resource development such as; erosion control, reforestation, water conservation etc. May be projects or education. Sponsor: Garden Club of Rogers in honor of founder Miss Vera Key (NGC Awards Section EC)

#8. MEMBERSHIP INCREASE, \$25 each, may be awarded annually to the two clubs with the greatest percentage increase in membership. Provide member roster as of 12-31 of previous year (A) and a membership roster as of application date (B). Sponsor: Bobbie Verser
(Calculated by: $(B-A)/A \times 100\%$ = Percentage of increase (move decimal place to right 2/10th/s))

#9. NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK, \$50, may be awarded for the best promotion of National Garden Week and NGC objectives. Entry to show how community was made aware of projects throughout the week. Include any local, state or national proclamations. Sponsor: Village Pines Garden Club (SCR #2, NGC #MAE-5)

#10. YEARBOOK, \$100 divided, may be presented to the winner in each of six size categories. This award is not calendar based as all other AFGC awards, this award is based on club year. Check Presidents' Packet or AFGC website for Yearbook Guidelines, Scoring Rubric (Scale of Points) and size categories. Sponsor: Dorothy Ames, in memory of her mother, Aileen Brinkerhoff May (SCR # 15, NGC no longer offers this award)

#11. JUNIOR GARDENERS, presented for the most outstanding work with a junior garden group, Pre-K-12 eligible. Sponsor: Sherrie Eoff (SCR #18, NGC Award Section YW)

#11-A. \$25, Awarded to an AFGC member club providing a year-long program promoting the widest range of horticulture, environmental and/or conservation education to the same group of youth. Indicate grade/s, meeting dates, list of programs and number of youth involved. Hands on participation by students must be evident.

#11-B. \$25, Presented to an AFGC member club sponsoring a youth group having completed the best single horticultural or gardening project. Indicate grade/s, work dates, number of youth participating, along with before and after pictures. The majority of the work having been done by the youth should be evident.

#12. LANDSCAPE DESIGN, \$25, is presented to a club for the creation of a specific type of garden, ie; natives, sensory, container, historic, edible, etc., on civic grounds. Judging based on quality of design, arrangement of plant material and the choice of functional plants for easy maintenance. Landscape design plan required, but does not have to be professionally drawn. Sponsor: Phyllis Byrum (see NGC Awards Sections CE & G)

#13. ARBOR DAY, \$25, may be presented for the best dedication ceremony for the planting of tree/s at civic buildings, parks, schools, public green spaces, etc. Application must show community involvement (invite your mayor etc.) and public education on the importance of trees. Tree planting may be part of a new or continuing project. Sponsor: Jeanette Golden (SCR #1)

#14. MEMBERSHIP AWARENESS, \$25, will be awarded to the 1st Place entry, 80 points or above, in each of three size categories. Awarded for best effort to increase public visibility and/or increase membership. See the #14 Membership Awareness Guideline sheet in the Presidents' Packet for size categories, Scoring Rubric (Scale of Points) and further details. Sponsors: Jo Krallman (Small), Rose Knight (Medium), NW District (Large) (NGC #MAE-1)

#15. TURTLE AWARD, \$25, is awarded to the oldest member being a first time winner of a blue ribbon in the design division of a Standard Flower Show sponsored by a member club/s. Entry card must be completely filled out, signed by one judge and chairman of show and accompany the application form. Questions 1-6 on application do not apply, but birth date and year of entrant must be included. Sponsor: Lake & Plantation Garden Club in memory of Myrtle Cox

#16. JUDGES' COUNCIL FLOWER SHOW ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS. Open to AFGC member clubs, the AFGC state flower show is not eligible for this award. Sponsor: AFGC Judges' Council (NGC Award Sections FD & FS)

#16-A. \$25, to be presented to a garden club sponsoring a Standard Flower Show (Less than 25 members)

Include pictures of the show in the three-page award application and submit a copy of the schedule.

#16-B. \$25, to be presented to a garden club sponsoring a Standard Flower Show (More than 25 members)

Include pictures of the show in the three-page award application and submit a copy of the schedule.

#16-C. \$25, awarded to the club with the most innovative flower show staging.

Include pictures of the staging in the three-page award application and submit a copy of the schedule.

#16-D. \$25, awarded for the most well prepared Standard Flower Show Schedule, using NGC Scoring Rubric.

Include pictures of the show in the three-page award application and submit a copy of the schedule. (SCR # 12, 13)

#17. FLORAL DESIGN, presented to the club with the best program or workshop teaching floral design to club members and/or the public. AFGC & NGC Flower Show Schools and Symposiums are not eligible. (SCR #11, NGC Award Section FD)

#17-A. \$25, by a floral design study group. Sponsor: Floralia Arrangers' Guild

#17-B. \$25, by general garden club. Sponsor: Rose Knight

#18. LITTER BUG BEWARE, \$25, is awarded for the best litter and/or recycling project/s to benefit a community. Community involvement encouraged. Sponsor: Harrisburg Garden Club in memory of Norma Weems
(See SCR #10, NGC Award Section EC)

#19. POLLINATORS, \$25, awarded for conducting the most comprehensive and effective project on pollinating insects and/or animals, such as habitat or migratory route protections, public education or establishment of pollinator gardens at a community site, etc. Sponsor: Terri Waterman (NGC Award Section EC)

#20. HERITAGE, \$25, is presented to the club having the best garden preservation project or decorating project of a historic property. Property may be of local, state or national importance. May be either a new or continuing project. Plantings nor decorations are required to be of the period, but should harmonize with the building's style.
Sponsor: Paris Town & Country Garden Club (NGC #CE-6, CE-9)

#21 Website/Social Media may be presented for the most outstanding club website or social media page promoting the applicant and NGC objectives. At least a portion of the site/page must be available to the public. Include website/media address, who maintains the site, frequency of updates and cost of the site. Ease of navigation will be considered.

#26-A. \$25, for website. Sponsor: _____

#26-B. \$25, for social media page. Sponsor: _____

(NGC Award Section MAE)

#22. BRAVO, \$25, is given to one outstanding member each year who willingly and frequently says "okay" to committee service, shares knowledge with other club members for the good of the club and quietly serves without accolades. Club presidents will nominate by including up to one page describing the nominee's contributions with the application.
Sponsor: Village Pines Garden Club

#23. INDIVIDUAL SERVICE may be given each year in each district to a member who has made a clear and outstanding contribution specifically to their district. Anyone may nominate by including up to one page describing the nominee's contributions with the application cover. District Director will select the winner if more than one nomination is received for that district.

#24. PRESIDENT'S PROJECT: Will be presented each year of Terri Waterman's two-year administration. Terri's project promotes public education, which will enlighten communities on the benefits of being a part of AFGC, Inc.
Sponsor: Terri Waterman

#24-A. \$150, presented to a club sponsoring the best continuing project providing education to the public on horticulture, landscape design and/or floral design.

#24-B. \$100, presented to a club sponsoring the best single project providing education to the public on horticulture, landscape design and/or floral design.

#24-C. \$100, presented to a club sponsoring the best continuing or single project providing youth education on horticulture, landscape design and/or floral design (Pre-K through 12th).

#25. PRESIDENTIAL CITATIONS; AFGC president may choose to give citations in appreciation for service and/or projects.

C. AFGC YOUTH AWARDS: Open to Junior, Intermediate, High School or College age gardeners. All applications which include photographs with youth under 18, **MUST** be accompanied by a signed Publications Release Form for each young person. This form may be found in President's Packets or at www.gardenclubs.org in the Forms Library (bottom of page). Release Forms are not included in the 3-page limit. **Specific rules for each youth award will be found in the Presidents' Packet.** All AFGC Youth Award 1st Place winners are progressive to SCR and/or NGC and will be forwarded by the youth chairman. Keep copies for your files, as entries may not be returned.

#26. BIRD POSTERS: Open to grades 4-8. Drawings judged for correct markings, shape, color, neatness and creativity.
Sponsor: Bobbie Verser, up to \$100.

#27. POETRY: Open to grades K-9. Poems with an environmental theme are judged for content, creativity and style. Sponsor: Dardanelle Garden Club, up to \$100.

#28. RECYCLED SCULPTURE: Open to grades 4-8. Creative use of recycled materials. Photos submitted, not sculpture. Sponsor: Nell Freeman, up to \$100.

#29. SMOKEY BEAR OR WOODSY OWL POSTERS: Open to grades 1-5. Drawings judged for child's basic understanding of wildfire prevention or environmental conservation principles, quality and creativity. Sponsor: Greenkeepers Garden Club, up to \$100.

#30 AFGC SCHOLARSHIP, \$1000 or more, may be awarded to offer financial aid to a college student pursuing a Master's Degree in Horticulture, Landscape Design, Environmental Concerns, Botany, Agricultural Education and/or other allied subjects. See www.gardenclub.org for full details and application form. The AR Scholarship winner will be sent to NGC for further competition. **Applications are submitted to the AFGC Scholarship Chairman by February 1st.** Sponsor: AFGC