GFWC
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GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS
FLORIDA

Arts and Crafts Competition Handbook

2026-2028

GENERAL RULES

1. Only GFWC Florida dues-paying club members may enter the competition.
2. The work must have been completed within the past year.
3. No item may be entered in more than one category. The category assigned at the local level may not be changed at the district or state level.
4. Each member is responsible for entering her work in the proper category.
5. Use 2026-2028 forms only. Current forms are available on the GFWC Florida website.
6. Members that have grossed $1,000 or more from sales of arts and crafts, paintings and/or photography or teaching classes of this type in the twelve months preceding the competition, may not compete.
7. Members entering arts and crafts in the competition must have signed the *Release Form.* If entering photographs, members must sign a *Creative Arts Photography Waiver* for each photo.
8. You may display multiple pieces together: i.e., teapot with cup & saucer, necklace with earrings, etc. OR you may display one piece along with a photograph of the complete set. Group multiple pieces together on a mat, poster board or stand.
9. If an item is an original, please write a brief description that explains the planning and execution of the design on a 3 X 5-inch card and attach it to the item.
10. If the item incorporates an unusual technique or material, please write a brief description on a 3 X 5-inch card and attach the card firmly to the item.
11. Smaller items (like jewelry) may be mounted on a display board.
12. Doll clothes may be displayed on a doll. If both are handmade, attach a 3 X 5-inch card indicating that fact.
13. Mark your item with a directional arrow, if necessary, showing which direction is up.
14. Size Requirements:
    a. Craft items may not be larger than nor weigh more than one person can carry.
    b. Paintings and Drawings, categories 70 through 75, should be no larger than 36 inches on any side and can be no smaller than 12-inches on any side, including the frame.
    c. Each photograph must be an 8 X 10-inch print. All photographs must be mounted on a rigid 8 X 10-inch board and overall thickness may not exceed 3/8 inch. No mats, frames, or hangers are to be included. Include the following information on the back: Member's name, name of club, district number, division, and category name. Mark your item with an arrow indicating the top of the photograph.

JUDGING CRITERIA

It is important to secure qualified judges. Sources may include local artists and craftsmen, school art teachers, craft associations, craft shops, photography or art clubs, members of embroidery guilds, and museum staff. Do not use members of your own club as judges.

Compensation for judges is entirely up to the club, district, and state; however, an honorarium of $50 is suggested. Many clubs and districts include lunch. A thank you card is always appropriate.

AWARDS

1. Items in each category may be awarded first, second, third, and honorable mention ribbons, depending on the number of items in a category and as deemed by the judges.
2. Even if there is only one entry, it does not necessarily mean the entry is to receive a 1st place ribbon.
3. The decision of the judges will be final.
4. Club and District levels may award additional ribbons, such as Best of Show, etc.

STATE LEVEL:

A Rosette for Best of Show for the CRAFTS shall be selected by the Craft Judges. A Rosette for Best of Show for the ARTS shall be selected by the Arts Judge.

A Rosette for Best of Show for the PHOTOGRAPHY shall be selected by the Photography Judge.

The Jeannine C. Faubion Award of Excellence shall be chosen by all judges.

The President's Choice shall be selected by the current GFWC Florida President.

The Director of Junior Clubs Award shall be selected by the current GFWC Florida Director of Junior Clubs.

State level awards will be announced at the Saturday luncheon at our Annual Convention.

CLUB GUIDELINES

The club must follow the General Rules. Forms referenced in *italics* below are available in the GFWC Florida Member Center on gfwcflorida.org.

Duties of the Club's Arts Chairman:

- Schedule a Club Arts and Crafts Competition, preferably in January.
- Encourage members of your club to enter, share *Category Form* with them.
- Purchase 1st, 2nd, 3rd place ribbons.
- Make arrangements for judges.
- Prepare *Judging Forms* ahead of time.
- Attach a completed *Entry Card* to each entry. Excel *Entry Cards* on the website are 4 to a page. What you type in the top section of each card will mimic in the bottom section.
- Collect *Release Forms* and *Creative Arts Photography Waivers.*
- Be sure NOT to show the member's name during the judging.
- Accompany judges and help them in any way possible, including attaching the proper ribbons to each entry. (Clipboards are helpful.) Respond to their questions but do not influence their selection of winners.
- Announce winners.
- Thank your judges.

After the Club Competition is over, send your District Arts Chair a completed *Certification Form* and a *Category Form* with only the Club 1st place winners, and *Creative Arts Photography Waivers*. Keep the completed *Release Form*s for your records.

DISTRICT GUIDELINES

The district must follow the General Rules. Each District must have an Arts and Crafts Competition to be eligible for the State Competition. Forms referenced in *italics* below are available in the GFWC Florida Member Center on gfwcflorida.org.

Duties of the District Arts Chairman:

- Work with your District Director to schedule a District Arts and Crafts Competition, preferably in February.
- Purchase 1st, 2nd, 3rd place ribbons.
- Make arrangements for judges.
- Prepare *Judging Forms* ahead of time.
- Attach a completed *Entry Card* to each entry. Excel *Entry Cards* on the website are 4 to a page. What you type in the top section of each card will mimic in the bottom section.
- Be sure NOT to show the member's name during the judging.
- Accompany judges and help them in any way possible, including attaching the proper ribbons to each entry. (Clipboards are helpful.) Respond to their questions but do not influence their selection of winners.
- Announce winners.
- Thank your judges.

After the District Competition is over, send your State Chairman a completed *Certification Form* and a *Category Form* with only the District 1st place winners. Also send along the Creative Arts Photography Waivers for each first place photo. **The deadline is March 20th.**

Please plan to assist with Arts and Crafts registration at GFWC Florida Annual Convention, usually Friday afternoon and Saturday morning.

STATE RULES

The state must follow the General Rules. Entries should be brought to the GFWC Florida Annual Convention and registered during the time noted in the Convention Program, usually Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. The person(s) checking in the entries is responsible for making sure the items are tagged with correct *Entry Card*.

Duties of the State Arts Chairmen:

- Purchase 1st, 2nd, 3rd place, honorary mention ribbons.
- Make arrangements for judges.
- Prepare *Judging Forms* ahead of time.
- Prepare *Entry Card*s ahead of time, per the District Arts Chairman *Category Form*
- Prepare Category markers ahead of time and note each marker with expected number of entries
- Remind District Arts Chairmen to assist with registration
- Accompany judges and help them in any way possible, including attaching the proper ribbons to each entry. (Clipboards are helpful.) Respond to their questions but do not influence their selection of winners.
- Forward 1st place photographs from categories 90-93, along with their signed waivers, to GFWC Headquarters to be entered into the GFWC contest.
- Announce State level Awards at the Saturday luncheon
- Thank your judges.

Questions? Please contact Creative Arts & Crafts Exhibit Awards Chairman:
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