

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

AWARDS HANDBOOK



2012

Judy Grotts, Regional Director
Mary Ann Moreno, Immediate Past Regional Director
Suzy Andrego, Awards Chairman
Barbara Baker, Immediate Past Awards Chairman

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION AWARDS RULES

1. **ELIGIBILITY:** Only federated clubs, members of federated clubs, and groups of federated clubs in good standing are eligible to apply or sponsor applicants.
2. **AWARDS YEAR:** January 1 through December 31.
3. **SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:** Adult Awards are sent to South Central Region Award Chairman.
4. **Youth Poetry, Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Posters, Speech, etc.** Contest entries are sent to appointed SCR Youth Chairmen, published in *The Communicator* NOT to the SCR Awards Chairman.
5. **DEADLINE:** Entries must be received on or before February 1st, of each year.
6. Entries may be continuing projects, but must document and show significant work in the current awards year.
7. Your club must apply. No award will be given without an entry prepared according to SCR Rules; SCR awards are separate from NGC awards.
8. **LENGTH OF ENTRY Change** An entry may not exceed 12 surfaces, using front and back of 6 sheets of paper or 12 sheets of paper may be placed back to back in top loading plastic sheet protectors but not required. No loose materials! The entry is submitted in a theme binder. Include yearbook, only if required.
9. **ENTRY PAGE:** Staple a 8.5 x 11 sheet of paper to front cover of binder with following information:
 - a. Number and Name of Award, Name of club/group of clubs, City, Population, State,
 - b. Number of club members, Year club federated, Name and Address of current president,
 - c. Name and Address of Person Submitting Entry (if different), Date state dues paid for current year.
10. **POSTAGE:** Enclose return postage only if entry cannot be picked up at the Regional Convention by a club member or the state president.
11. **AWARDS:** Monetary awards are offered only for designated awards. Only first place winners grading 90 or above are eligible to receive cash awards.

SAMPLE ENTRY PAGE INFORMATION:

Title of Award

Club Name: Sun and Fun Garden Club
Club Address: 12 Beach Blvd, Coastal, CA 00000

Club Contact: Mary Smith
Contact Phone no.: (505) 000-0000

Members _____ Club Class: _____

SCALE OF POINTS FOR ALL AWARDS

(Exceptions noted)

Presentation 5 pts neat, concise, includes all required information, does not exceed 6 pages/12 surfaces.

Achievement 65 pts scope of project; need and fulfillment; benefit; accomplishment; comprehensiveness of work; activities to attain goals; evaluation of goals reached; educational; prior planning; very brief history if continuing project; financial report; other.

Participation 15 pts size of club; involvement of: members, community, government agencies, professionals, youth, residents in facilities, others

Record or Documentation 15 pts supporting data (as applicable), clear, well-labeled and neatly attached before & after photographs, landscape plan, financial report, letters of appreciation, community awards, newspaper/magazine articles, radio or TV script, etc. Photocopies are permitted.

SCR AWARD #1 ARBOR DAY DEDICATION

May be presented for dedication ceremony for the planting of tree/s. May be part of a new or continuing project, e.g. public buildings, highway or esplanade beautification, schools, other civic buildings. Must show community involvement and educating the public about importance trees. Invite the Mayor, public officials, Park & Recreation officials. FFA, youth, Scouts, et al. Special consideration will be given to more unusual or unique dedications.

Award: 1st place, Single Club \$25.00

SCR AWARD #2 CIVIC DEVELOPMENT

May be presented to a single club for a city landscape project: such as public buildings, Municipal parks or gardens, median strips, libraries, museums, hospitals, schools, etc. Commercial projects are not eligible. May be a continuing project but must show significant work during this award year. Entries must contain “before” and “after” pictures.

Award: 1st place, Single Club \$25.00

SCR AWARD #3 CLUB PROGRAM

May be presented to a single club having the most outstanding program given by a **member/s** of that club. Program must stimulate interest in purpose and objectives of NGC. Program must be adaptable for presentation to other clubs of comparable size. Entry must be a typewritten text that can be read at a meeting not just a concept or description of a demonstration.

Award: 1st place, Single Club \$25.00

CLUB PROGRAM SCALE OF POINTS

CONFORMS TO GENERAL RULES: neat and attractive presentation	15
DATE, PLACE, & BY WHOM presentation given	5
TEXT OF ACTUAL PROGRAM	70
INTEREST to clubs of comparable size in the future	<u>20</u>
TOTAL POINTS	100

SCR AWARD #4 CLUB YEARBOOK THEME

May be presented to the single garden club for the most creative use of a theme carried throughout the programs for the year, incorporating the objectives of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Yearbook must be submitted that was in effect for the awards year.

- Awards: 1st place, Single Club, Small Club, less than 29 members \$25.00**
- 1st place, Single Club, Medium Club, 31-49 members \$25.00**
- 1st place, Single Club, Large Club, 50-99 members \$25.00**
- 1st place, Single Club, Extra Large Club, 100+ members \$25.00**
- 1st place, Group of Clubs \$25.00**
- 1st place, Judges Organization \$25.00**

CLUB YEARBOOK THEME SCALE OF POINTS

CONFORMS TO GENERAL RULES	5
CREATIVITY/originality of theme - new concept	25
USE OF THEME in yearbook - consistent, evident, relevant	15
CORRELATION between theme and all club programs, projects, and activities -consistent, evident, relevant	45
YEARBOOK sturdy, well prepared, easy to use	<u>10</u>
TOTAL POINTS	100

SCR AWARD #6 COMMUNITY CONCERN

May be presented to a single club for year-long project to make the day brighter and surroundings more pleasant for residents of nursing homes, retirement homes, school for challenged youth or adults, children's hospitals, etc., by presenting program/s, decorating, taking gifts and plants, holding special parties. Hands on participation required.

- Award: 1st place, Single Club \$25.00**

SCR AWARD # 7A SINGLE CLUB FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULE

May be presented to a Single Garden Club for a well prepared Flower Show Schedule. To be judged by NGC #29H Scale of Points for Evaluating Flower Show Schedules.

- Awards: 1st place, Single Club, Small Club, less than 29 members \$25.00**
- 1st place, Single Club, Medium Club, 31-49 members \$25.00**
- 1st place, Single Club, Large Club, 50-99 members \$25.00**
- 1st place, Single Club, Extra Large Club, 100+ members \$25.00**

SCR AWARD #7B MULTIPLE CLUBS FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULE

May be presented to a Group of Clubs for a well prepared Flower Show Schedule. To be judged by NGC #29H Scale of Points for Evaluating Flower Show Schedules.

Award: 1st place, Group of Clubs \$25.00

SCR AWARD #8 GARDEN THERAPY

May be awarded to a single club for the best work in garden therapy. Most important factor should be the involvement of the students or residents; how the club worked with the students/residents instead of doing for or giving to them. All entries must show actual participation and be garden related such as: growing, artistic use of plants, study of birds, nature, conservation and landscaping.

Award: 1st place, Single Club \$25.00

SCR AWARD #9 LANDSCAPE DESIGN

May be awarded to a single club for beautification of community site. Award must reflect quality of design, arrangement of plant material and the functional choice of plant material for easy maintenance. Landscape design plan is required.

Award: 1st place. Single Club \$25.00

SCR AWARD #10 RECYCLING/LITTER CONTROL

May be awarded to a single club for the best recycling and/or anti-litter project; must include community involvement and evidence of community education.

Award: 1st place, Single Club \$25.00

SCR AWARD #11 MEMBER OF HONOR

The Member Award of Honor recognizes those NGC members, whose volunteer efforts, during a period of five years, have made outstanding contribution(s) to club and community in one or more of the following areas:

Civic Development

Conservation

Design

Horticultural Therapy

Horticulture

Landscape Design

Youth Activities

All Around Excellence

ELIGIBILITY: Any member of a State Garden Club, who has never served as a member of the NGC Board of Directors, including State Presidents

RULES: Send Book of Evidence to your State Awards Chairman. Book of Evidence is not to exceed 6 pages (total) to be typed and secured in a folder. No loose pages.

Include the following:

1. A short typed description of nominee's accomplishments.

2. Title Page -to include:

The name of your State Federation and Region, The area/s (listed above) of nominee's outstanding contribution(s). Name, complete mailing address and phone number of nominee.

Sponsoring club: including club president's name, address and signature.

3. Supporting information - to include: Maximum 2 page outline listing accomplishments of nominee (including offices and chairmanships held).

4. A picture of nominee...name of nominee/ complete mailing address must be on back of picture. Please secure picture by stapling so it does not get lost.

DEADLINE DATES:

Send entries to your State Awards Chairman by *January 1*.

State Winners: Each state winner will receive a certificate from their State Awards Chairman

Regional Winners: State Awards Chairman will forward the state winner and book of evidence to the Regional Awards Chairman by February 1, to be judged by a panel on the Regional level.

REGIONAL WINNERS AUTOMATICALLY BECOME THE NATIONAL WINNER FROM THAT

REGION: The Regional Chairman will notify the winner and send their Book of Evidence to the National Member Award of Honor Chairman by February 20.

AWARDS:

Regional/National Winners will be presented with a certificate and pin at the National Convention and will be listed in the *Awards Booklet* and *The National Gardener*. The books of evidence will be returned at that time.

SCR AWARD #12 MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

May be presented to a single garden club in each state with the greatest percentage of new members. In addition another cash award may be presented to the overall winner in the four states. Send Xerox of last year's yearbook title page and the current year's yearbook title page, each showing clubs total membership.

Awards: A. 1st place. Single Club \$25.00, in each state

B. 1st place to Club with greatest membership increase of all states combined. \$25.00

SCR AWARD # 12 NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK

May be presented to a single garden club for best promotion of National Garden Week throughout the **ENTIRE WEEK**. Must show evidence of educating the public about NGC, State and the local club about the garden club movement, our projects and objectives.

Award: 1st place, Single Club \$25.00

SCR #13 YOUTH PROGRAM

May be presented to a single club best meeting the challenge of youth during the awards year. Must show direct work with youth, e.g. series of environmental meetings; Adopt a School; a complete program for youth (nature hikes, Flower Show, sponsored contest), or through High School, Intermediate or Junior Gardener activities.

Award: 1st place, Single Club \$50.00

SCR #14 PUBLICATION AWARD

May be awarded for the best publication, bulletin, cookbook, procedure manual, handbook, or history. If submitting bulletin, you must submit three different issues. May use envelope - binder/folder not necessary.

Award: 1st place, Single Page Publication/Newsletter \$25.00

1st place, Multi Page Publication/Newsletter \$25.00

1st place, Any Other Worthy Publication \$25.00

Presentation (as applicable)	5 pts
Achievement (as applicable)	65 pts
(educational, informative, accuracy, clarity of subject; quality of printing, photography, and/or graphics; general appeal)	
Promotes NGC Objective/s	15 pts
Record or Documentation (as applicable)	<u>15 pts</u>
(Number of copies distributed/sold, how distributed, financial information: cost of publishing, price if sold, market seen/heard, recognition from radio/TV station.)	
Total points	100

SCR AWARD # 15 PUBLICITY PRESS BOOK AWARD

First Place winners from each club category, from each state, are sent to South Central Region Awards Chair by February 23, annually.

CRITERIA:

May be awarded to winning books of evidence exhibiting quality, quantity and DIVERSITY of coverage in the print media, promoting garden clubs, and National Garden Clubs goals and objectives.

DOCUMENTATION:

1. Award Entry Cover Page clipped to front of entry. See example on page XX of SCR Awards Handbook.
2. Submit in report cover or notebook, 8.5" x 11". Nor heavy scrapbooks or oversized portfolios. There is NO limit on the number of pages. Sheet protectors may be used.
3. Materials MUST consist of the following: newspaper, magazine, newsletter notices, fliers for one time events, or any printed publication clippings. (Ex: your state or regional publication, the national gardener, etc.) with the name and date of each publication over each and every article. Clear photocopies are permitted; reduced photocopies of larger or lengthy publications are permitted.
4. No page numbering or table of contents are needed. Affix contents in chronological order, January 1 through December 31 of the year.
5. Cut clippings evenly. No loose clippings permitted.
6. Each published item must contain the name of the organization and/or the individual's identified as a member of the organization. UNDERLINE the first use of the name of the organization and/or member in EACH article.
7. Article should include who, what, when, where, etc. where applicable; publicity should relate to organization/clubs, and/or individual's projects and/or activities; promote National Garden Clubs objective and goals.

AWARD:

- 1st Place, Single Club in small club category (29 members and under)
 - 1st Place, Single Club in medium club category (30 - 99 members)
 - 1st place, Single Club, in large club category (100 members and up)
- 2nd, 3rd and Honorable Mention certificates will be awarded.

SCALE OF POINTS:

Presentation: Meets all requirements, neatly presented	15
Quality: publicity related to projects and/or activities	40
Quantity: articles for EACH month, use of varied publications and media, magazines, newspapers, notices, fliers, journals, etc.	25
Diversity; local, council, district, state, regional, national, other	<u>20</u>
Total Points	100

SCR AWARD # 16 REGIONAL DIRECTORS PROJECT AWARD

See Bi-Annual (TERM) Insert

SCR AWARD #17 YOUTH BIRD AWARD

**ALL Essay ENTRIES Submitted to SCR Chairperson
NOT Awards Chairperson**

**South Central Bird of the Year will be announced at the beginning of each SCR term
By the Bird Awards Chairman and published in the Communicator**

1. All poster entrees must be sponsored by a local Garden Club.
2. Posters must feature the "SCR Bird of the Year".
3. Each entry should be 11 x 17 inches in size.
4. Materials that can be used include: crayons, markers, poster paints, water colors, etc. The choice of paper is up to the child.
5. No three-dimensional posters, computer scanned, or electronically generated images will be accepted.
6. Put the following information on the back of the poster in the lower-right corner: The artist's name and grade, the name of the sponsoring local garden club, and the name, address, phone number, and email of the contact at the local garden club (such as the Club President or the Youth Chair). If it is permissible, please include the teacher's name, and the address, phone number, and email address for the artist and/or their parent or guardian. Be cautious if using a dark marker as it may show through. This information may be either written directly on the back of the poster or written on a separate sheet of paper that is then pasted in place.
7. Posters are to be completed by individual student artists. Competition may include students from first to fifth grade.
8. The Local Garden Club Chair must submit the poster entries to his or her state Chairman no later than January 24, annually. The State Garden Club Chair must submit the five winning posters from his or her state to Regional Garden Club Chairman by February 15, annually.
9. Posters will be judged 25 percent each for: originality, method, artwork, and overall effectiveness of the piece.
10. Any group of children can participate. Scout troops, after-school programs, and the like are perfectly appropriate. Please make sure the child's grade is included on the poster so that the participant can compete in the correct grade category.
11. Please copy your winning posters as they will not be returned.
12. Posters may include artwork pasted upon a second piece of paper. However, they must be flat. 3D posters are not allowed.

SCR AWARD #18 YOUTH ESSAY CONTEST

**ALL Essay ENTRIES Submitted to SCR Chairperson
NOT Awards Chairperson**

**Youth Essay Theme will be announced at the beginning of each SCR term
By NGC Awards Chairman and published in the Communicator**

ESSAY CONTEST RULES

Length of essay: Between 600-700 words. The entry will be penalized if the essay does not conform to the required length. All words are to be counted. All entries must be typed and titled. Students should write the essay so it is suitable to be published in the NGC publication, The National Gardener.

Eligibility: Contests are open to High School students attending 9th through 12th grades. The contest must be sponsored by: single garden club, group of member clubs, councils or districts; or a State Garden Club. All entries become the property of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

A \$1000 National Garden Club Scholarship will be awarded to the National Winner. If the Winner is an underclassman, the \$1000 Scholarship will be held by NGC, Inc. without accrued interest, until such time that the student enters college. At that time, the money will be forwarded to the Financial Aid Officer of the college that the student will enter. The second place winner will receive \$100.00.

Contest Deadlines: Club entries must be sent to State Chairman. Observe State Deadlines.

State Winners must be sent to Regional Chairman by January 1, annually

Regional Winners must be sent to National Chairman by February 1, annually

SCR AWARD #18 YOUTH POETRY CONTEST

ALL Poetry ENTRIES Submitted to SCR Chairperson NOT Awards Chairperson

**Youth Poetry Theme will be announced at the beginning of each SCR term
By NGC Awards Chairman and published in the Communicator**

Eligibility: Special Education & English as a Second Language: Kindergarten through Ninth Grade. General Education: Kindergarten through Ninth Grade.

Contest Rules: 1. All entries must be typed and titled. 2. Include name, address, age, grade, school of participant on the back of entry. 3. Sponsoring garden club and state federation/club name must also be identified. 4. 'Generations of Gardeners' sponsoring garden club may be that of a Grandparent. 5. All entries become the property of NGC, Inc. 6. Poems do not have to rhyme. 7. Poems may be traditional verse, acrostics, blank verse, cinquains, diamond poems, limerick or Haiku.

Scale of Points: Title - 10; Content - 40; Creativity - 30; Style - 20

Deadlines: Entries to YOUR State Youth Chairman - Observe Your State Deadline.

State Winning Entries to Regional Junior Chairman - January 1st, annually

Regional Winners to National Chairman - February 1st, annually

SCR AWARD #19 YOUTH SCULPTURE CONTEST

ALL Sculpture ENTRIES Submitted to SCR Chairperson NOT Awards Chairperson

The purpose of this contest is to encourage youth to keep our planet green and to get involved with saving our environment.

Contest Rules:

1. Children in 4th grade through 8th grade will be eligible to enter the contest
2. Sculptures must consist of recyclable, reused and reduced materials
3. Width of the sculpture can be no more than 8 1/2 x 11 inches
4. Height should be in proportion to width
5. Entry form can be found on the NGC website, www.gardenclub.org
6. Entries should include as many photographs as can be printed on the back of the entry form but 2-4x6 photographs are recommended
7. Club entries must be sent to State Chairman. **Observe State Deadlines.**
State Winners must be sent to **Region** Chairman by January 15, 2012 and
Region Winners must be sent to **National** Chairman by February 15, 2012

8. Scale of Points

Creative use of materials and self expression-60 points
Description of sculpture and materials used-30 points
Craftsmanship and technique-10 points

SCR AWARD #20 YOUTH SMOKEY BEAR & WOOSY OWL POSTER CONTEST

ALL Sculpture ENTRIES Submitted to SCR Chairperson NOT Awards Chairperson

1. All poster entrees must be sponsored by a local Garden Club.
2. Posters must feature Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl and must not feature both together.
3. Smokey Bear posters **must include** Smokey's fire prevention message: *Only you Can Prevent Wildfires!* Woodsy Owl posters **must include** Woody's conservation message: *Lend a Hand, Care for the Land!*
4. Posters should encourage children to take a personal role in preventing wildfires or conserving natural resources.
5. Each entry should be 11 x 17 inches in size.
6. Materials that can be used include: crayons, markers, poster paints, water colors, etc. The choice of paper is up to the child.
7. No three-dimensional posters, computer scanned, or electronically generated images will be accepted.
8. Put the following information on the back of the poster in the lower-right corner: The artist's name and grade, the name of the sponsoring local garden club, and the name, address, phone number, and email of the contact at the local garden club (such as the Club President or the Youth Chair). If it is permissible, please include the teacher's name, and the address, phone number, and email address for the artist and/or their parent or guardian. Be cautious if using a dark marker as it may show through. This information may be either written directly on the back of the poster or written on a separate sheet of paper that is then pasted in place.
9. Posters are to be completed by individual student artists. Competition may include students from first to fifth grade.
10. The Local Garden Club Chair must submit the poster entries to his or her state Chairman no later than January 24, 2013. The State Garden Club Chair must submit the five winning posters from his or her state to Regional Garden Club Chairman by February 15, 2013.
11. Since Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl are official icons protected by law, the colors of their clothing need to be accurate. Check the colors on the Web site www.fs.usda.gov/conservationeducation
12. Posters will be judged 20 percent each for: originality, design, slogan, artwork, and overall effectiveness of the message.
13. Please check spelling. Posters with spelling errors will be disqualified.
14. Any group of children can participate. Scout troops, after-school programs, and the like are perfectly appropriate. Please make sure the child's grade is included on the poster so that the participant can compete in the correct grade category.
15. You are encouraged to offer certificates of appreciation to all participants. Certificates are available for download at www.fs.usda.gov/conservationeducation and at www.gardenclub.org. You are also encouraged to organize a recognition ceremony. If you have a national forest nearby, you can contact them and ask if Smokey or Woodsy can come and join the recognition ceremony. You can find a national forest near you by visiting www.fs.fed.us.
16. The Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl poster contest is an opportunity for local Garden Clubs to connect with their communities. We encourage you to use the contest to promote your club, attract children and their parents, and raise awareness of the importance of caring for the environment.
17. Please copy your winning posters as they will not be returned.
18. Past winners are permitted and encouraged to participate again.
19. Posters may include artwork pasted upon a second piece of paper. However, they must be flat. 3D posters are not allowed.
20. A poster may include just the head of Woodsy or Smokey.

21. Posters that compete for the National Grand Prize become property of the Forest Service. They ARE NOT returned to the participants. We encourage participants and state and regional poster contest chairmen to make copies or scan and save the posters they submit.
22. If you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Elaine Dates at elainedates@comcast.net or Iris Velez at ivelez@fs.fed.us.

SCR SWEEPSTAKES AWARD

May be awarded to a single adult club winning the highest number of points for awards won at annual SCR Convention. Sweepstakes winner will be determined on these values:

Each 1st Place 3 pts + Each 2nd Place 2 pts + Each 3rd Place 1 pts = Total points

Award: 1st place, Single Club \$25