

# MFGC AWARDS HANDBOOK, *as of Nov 11, 2025*

## Eligibility

Montana Federation of Garden Clubs' dues-paying members are eligible to apply for MFGC awards and contests unless otherwise stated. Members, garden clubs, study groups, or groups of clubs must be in good standing in MFGC to apply. Junior, intermediate, high school clubs, and individual youth must be a member of a federated garden club to be eligible for specific awards or contests. Member clubs or individuals may apply for each award and category, if qualified.

## Application

A blank application cover sheet/form is included in this handbook. Download this form for hand or keyboard completion from the MFGC website, [www.mtfgc.org](http://www.mtfgc.org) under AWARDS tab. An exception is for The Green Thumb nomination. This is submitted in an Email/letter sent directly to MFGC President Jeannie Bennett, [mfgc.jeanniebennett@gmail.com](mailto:mfgc.jeanniebennett@gmail.com) or 5950 LeBeau Drive, Missoula, MT 59808. Awards can be submitted digitally (except scrapbooks and similar photography projects, membership yearbooks if bound like a booklet) or by hardcopy. Digital entries and/or articles and publications are accepted but they must be in PDF or Word format, and pics are best if JPG. If digitally submitted, list the number of each award being applied for in the Email text that you attach them to. Include MFGC Awards in the subject line of the Email.

**Membership Category Basis: A: 0-18 members; B: 19-28 members and C: 29+ members.**

**Awards, if merited** Each award will be given unless otherwise stated. Each award application is eligible for one award as submitted. Prior first place project award winners must submit uniquely different award applications in subsequent years.

## Award Year Information

- A. National: January 1 to December 31 annually. This applies to all projects submitted with application forms except where otherwise indicated in the NGC awards description. Chair is Jeannie Bennett ([mfgc.jeanniebennett@gmail.com](mailto:mfgc.jeanniebennett@gmail.com)) these are listed on national website and as a link on Montana Garden Clubs Website.
- B. Regional: September 1 to August 1 annually. Chairs are Liz Smith ([mtliz52@yahoo.com](mailto:mtliz52@yahoo.com)) and Anna Brandt ([granna.mae7@gmail.com](mailto:granna.mae7@gmail.com)) these are listed on RMR website and as a link on Montana Garden Clubs Website.
- C. State: June 1 to May 31 annually (Chair is Cindy Carlton ([cdcarlton@hotmail.com](mailto:cdcarlton@hotmail.com)) 125 Rocky Creek Road, Bozeman, MT 59715. All State awards (category A,B,C,D, E) applications and supporting evidence must be sent to the designated chairperson, usually Cindy Carlton, by April 15.**

## Presentation

Application form is limited to 3 printed pages. Use one side ONLY. (No report covers/binders). Scrapbooks, Press Books, Membership yearbooks, and Flower Show Achievement Awards are exceptions to the 3-page, one side rule. Application forms are available on the MFGC website at: <http://www.mtfgc.org>. Use 2025-2027 application and send as doc/pdf as you prefer.

**Judging Procedures** MFGC Flower Show Achievement Awards and Flower Show Schedules will be judged by a committee of at least three members, including two accredited Flower Show Judges in good standing.

**Traveling Trophy:** Tiara and Ribbon are to be returned to the State Awards Chair by the annual convention.

## **Topical Information for MFGC awards.**

An award may fit into additional topics. These are listed with their primary award criteria topic. This is intended to be helpful, not restrictive.

### **APPRECIATION AND RECOGNITION**

**B-7 MFGC State Chair Leadership Award (*Changed*)**

**B-8 Circle of Green Thumbs Award (*Changed*)**

**C-1 Award of Appreciation**

**C-4 Garden Club Member of the Year**

**C-9 Award of Excellence**

### **BIRDS, POLLINATORS, WILDFLOWERS, NATIVE PLANTS**

**A-8 President's Wildflower and Native Plants Award. (2 options)**

**B-3 Dearborn Garden Club Bird Protection and Welfare Award**

**B-11 Esther Hamel Butterfly Garden Award (5 options)**

**B-14 Pollinator Garden Award (*NEW*)**

**B-16 Great Falls Flower Growers Native Plants and Native Gardens (*NEW*)**

### **COMMUNICATION and PHOTOGRAPHY**

**A-5 President's Communication Award (2 options)**

**A-12 President's Club Scrapbook Award (A,B,C categories each eligible)**

**C-8 Best Club Yearbook Award (A,B,C categories each eligible)**

**C-7 Multimedia Communication Award (*Changed*)**

**C-10 Photography Award**

### **COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION**

**A-1 President's Award for Community Beautification**

**B-2 Rainbow Garden Club Civic Beautification Award (Club of 20 or fewer members)**

**B-6 President's Living Legacy Award (2 options)**

**B-13 Anaconda Garden Club Award**

**C-6 Landscape Design Award**

### **ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION**

**A-2 President's Award for Environmental Concerns (A,B,C categories each eligible)**

**A-3 President's Award for Conservation, Preservation, Education**

**A-13 Mary J Olson TREES, a Renewable Resource Award**

## **FLOWER DESIGN, ART, AND FLOWER SHOWS**

- A-16 Darlene Skari Public Workshop Award**
- B-9 Cathy Atkinson Creative Design Award**
- B-10 Flower Show Education Award (2 options)**
- B-12 Mary Lee Award**
- C-3 Floral Design Award**
- C-5 Special Award for Artistic Expression (*NEW*)**
- E-1 through E-8 Montana Flower Show Awards (8 options)**

## **HORTICULTURE and GARDENS**

- A-6 President's Horticultural Therapy Award (A,B,C categories each eligible)**
- A-11 Marie Jones Container Gardening Award (2 options)**
- A-15 Mary Davis Patriotic Garden Award**
- A-17 Norm DeNeal Gardener of the Year Award**
- A-18 Denise Fink Past to Future Award**
- A-19 Sherry Corneliusen Dahlia/Gladiolus Award**
- A-20 Linda and James Sadler Special Rose Award**
- A-21 Diane Ward Organic Practices Award (*New*)**
- B-1 Mae Burke Magill Award**
- B-15 Sharing the Gardens Bounty (*New*)**
- C-2 Horticulture Award (2 options)**

## **MEMBERSHIP**

- A-7 President's Membership Award**
- C-11 MFGC New Members Award (*formerly B-4*)**
- C-12 Life Members Award**

## **YOUTH FOCUSED**

- A-9 President's Youth Activities Award (2 options, option 1 A,B,C categories eligible)**
- A-14 Rose Kopp Special Children Award**
  
- D-1 Youth Club Sponsorship Award**
- D-2 Youth Gardening Award**
- D-3 Youth Bird/Pollinator Award**
- D-4 Youth Participation Award**

**The MFGC Awards are divided into five categories of Sponsorship : A: Commemorative, B: Individual, C: State, D: Youth and E: Flower Show. Please note that several awards have multiple options included that are eligible to win 1<sup>st</sup> place. When indicated, these are divided into 3 size categories: A. 0-18 members; B. 19-28 members and C. 29+ members.**

## **A Awards:**

These awards are commemorative awards given by, or in honor of, Montana Federation of Garden Clubs past presidents. All applications shall be sent to the State Awards Chair by April 15. If an award to honor a past president is not funded a certificate will be given. 'MFGC past president' is added for clarification of deceased past presidents who are still being honored but may not be known to many applicants.

### **A-1 President's Awards for Community Beautification.**

Certificate and \$25 awarded to a club for the most outstanding community beautification project in a city, town, or neighborhood. May be a continuing project or special one-time project. You must include before and after pictures. This award is in honor of MFGC past presidents Grace Blend, Geneva Collins, Evelyn Mooney, Betty Shryock, Mabel Steele, Hilma White, and Charlotte Straub. Sponsored by Great Falls Flower Growers Garden Club.

### **A-2 President's Award for Environmental Concerns.**

Certificate and \$15 awarded to a club for roadside beautification on any highway, secondary road or approach to town, **OR** a club project on litter prevention, reclamation, and/or recycling which may include a year-long program, organize a recycling program, or establish a community composting site, **OR** for presenting an environmental education symposium workshop open to the public. This award is in honor of MFGC past presidents Bess Sterling, Vivian Stuart and Florence Baldwin sponsored by Jane Ereaux of Malta Dirt Daubers. (Awarded if merited to each Club Size **A, B, C**)

### **A-3 President's Award for Conservation, Preservation and Education.**

Certificate and \$25 Awarded to a club for preservation or restoration of a historical site, **OR** for outstanding conservation activities, e.g., education or legislative activity; conservation field project; natural resource stewardship and protection, such as a watershed wetland, erosion control, reforestation, wildlife refuge, **OR** presentation of several educational conservation programs by a club. This award is in honor of MFGC past presidents Lillian Swan, Jean Thomas, and Phyllis White. Sponsored by Phyllis White.

### **A-5 President's Communication Award.**

**A-5 Option I.** Certificate and \$20 to a garden club member for an article that is published in a newspaper, periodical, etc. on horticulture or related topics of value to gardeners. This award is in honor of MFGC past president Alice Hamilton. Sponsored by Thumb R Green and Sow and Grow Garden Clubs.

**A-5 Option II.** Certificate and \$20. Awarded for a publicity press book or bound newsletter exhibiting quality, quantity, and diversity of coverage in print and electronic media promoting the club and NGC goals and objectives. Added Trust funding in memory of MFGC past president Mike Riley. This Award also in honor of MFGC past president Mae Brennan Habet and is sponsored by Joyce Bakka. (Awarded if merited to each Club Size **A, B, C**)

### **B-6 President's Horticulture Therapy Award.**

Certificate and \$50 to the club which produces the best evidence of Horticulture (sunshine) Therapy, which is horticultural work in hospitals, rest homes, or similar facilities. This award is in honor of MFGC past presidents Esther Hamel and Blanche Burns. Sponsored by Esther Hamel Trust. (Awarded if merited to each Club Size **A, B, C**)

### **A-7 President's Membership Award.**

Certificate and \$25 to the one club showing the largest PERCENTAGE increase in membership. The winner is determined by the State Treasurer based on the record of the current year's dues. (No application required). This award is in honor of MFGC past president Junne Johnsrud. Sponsored by Jeannie Bennett.

### **A-8 President's Wildflower and Native Plants Award.**

**A-8 Option I.** Certificate and \$15 awarded to **an** individual member for distinguished accomplishment growing at least six wildflowers in their own garden. Include close-up pictures with the botanical and common names for the wildflowers photographed and the location in Montana where the plants are growing. Pictures taken must not be over two years old, as of awards deadline, or have been used in a previous award application. This award is in honor of MFGC past presidents Lillian Westin and Ceri Breen. Sponsored by Linda Westin Haugen.

**A-8 Option II.** Certificate and \$25 awarded to **an** individual member for photos or digital representation of at least six **Montana wildflowers or native plants taken at public sites**, such as U.S. Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management lands. Photos or digital photos must have botanical and common names, date, and location in Montana where the pictures were taken. Pictures must have been taken in the past two years, as of awards deadline, and may not have been used in a previous award application. This award is in honor of MFGC past president Ruby Benjamin. Sponsored by the Gallatin Empire Garden Club.

### **A-9 President's Youth Activities Award.**

**A-9 Option I.** Certificate and \$20 to the club organizing a new junior, intermediate, or high school garden club which is registered with the Montana Federation of Garden Clubs. No application is required; Treasurer will identify clubs that meet the requirements. This award is in honor of MFGC past president Dorothy Lechner. Sponsored by Glenna Waltee. (Awarded if merited to each Club **Size A, B, C**)

**A-9 Option II.** Certificate and \$10 to the club with the best promotion of gardening among youth (school gardens, Scouts, etc.) based on the belief that youth should be educated to become future horticulturists. This award is in honor of MFGC past president Margaret Yaw, sponsored by her family.

### **A-11 Marie Jones Container Gardening Award.**

**A-11 Option I.** A certificate and \$25 to a club or member of a garden club for planting a container of flowers or vegetables outside. A picture of the planted container with a list of the botanical and common names of the plants should be included.

**A-11 Option II.** A certificate and \$25 to a club for planting a container of flowers on a street, or in a park, nursing home, church yard, etc. A picture of the planted container with a list of the botanical and common names of the plants should be included.

### **A-12 President's Club Scrapbook Award.**

A certificate and \$25 awarded for projects that include beautification, flowerbeds, Garden Week activities, club meetings and special (Christmas or District) meetings, flower shows, symposium, and/or convention.

**a.** Accumulate up to two years prior to award deadline.

**b.** Judged on neatness of contents; club projects shown by photos, newspaper articles, personal letters, thank-you notes; at least one group photo (with club member's names and high percentage of membership shown). Cover-plain (not ornate), must have club name, dates covered and location (town) of club. Acid free paper is recommended. Must be more than a picture album. This award is in honor of MFGC past president Elizabeth Kehmeier. Sponsored by Jane Ereaux. (Awarded if merited to each Club **Size A, B, C**)

### **A-13 Mary J. Olsen TREES, a Renewable Resource Award.**

Certificate and \$25 to a garden club for planting the greatest number of trees. Identify number of trees planted, species, location, and use. Planting trees as shelterbelts, windbreaks, for soil conservation and environmental enhancement. **OR** Educational program regarding the importance of trees. Show the activity. In honor of MFGC past president Mary J Olsen. Sponsored by Cynthia Carlton.

### **A-14 Rose Kopp Special Children Award.**

Certificate and \$25 to the club showing the most involvement with special needs children/adults using garden therapy. In honor of MFGC past president Rose Kopp. Sponsored by MFGC past president Joyce Hendricks.

### **A-15 Mary Davis Patriotic Garden Award.**

Certificate and \$25 to **one** garden club member planting a red, white, and blue garden. Include several pictures with descriptions, a sketch of the design plan and a financial report.

### **A-16 Darlene Skari Public Workshop Award.**

Certificate and \$25 awarded to one garden club for a workshop on horticulture or floral design to which the public is invited. Include pictures, description of the workshop, information on publicity and number of members and non-members attending.

### **A-17 Norm DeNeal Gardener of the Year Award.**

Certificate and \$100 given to one MFGC member. Nominees can be submitted by any club or club member.

1. Submit with the application at least 3 photographs of the members' garden in any medium (digital, slide, disc.); before and after photos are especially helpful.

2. A short narrative of the garden and gardener, noting any obstacles that had to be overcome in making the garden. Mention any items that make the garden special and unique.

3. Judging Criteria: Esthetic appeal of the garden: 70 points and Story about the garden/gardener: 30 points.

### **A-18 Denise Fink Past to Future Award.**

Certificate and \$20 for a garden with an old-fashioned theme, such as an herb knot garden, victory garden, heirloom vegetable garden, or a garden with a modern theme such as a roof garden, vertical garden, or growing in an unusual container. At least three pictures with descriptions of plants and containers used must be submitted with the applications.

### **A-19 Sherry Corneliusen Dahlia/Gladiolus Award.**

Certificate and \$25 to **ONE** garden club **or** **ONE** garden club member planting dahlias and/or gladiolus in a container or garden. Include several pictures with descriptions, a sketch of the design plan and a financial report.

### **A-20 Linda and James Sadler Rose Award.**

Certificate and \$25 to **ONE** garden club **or** **ONE** garden club member planting Roses in a container or garden. Include several pictures with Rose names and descriptions, a sketch or the design plan, and a financial report.

### **A-21 Diane Ward Organic Practices Award. (NEW)**

Certificate and \$25.00 given for the most outstanding project or educational activity emphasizing and/or employing the use of organic materials and methods in gardening. Please include a brief description of the project with 2-3 pictures.

**B. Awards:** These awards are sponsored by an individual, club, or organization. All applications are to be sent to the State Awards Chair by April 15.

**B-1 Mae Burke Magill Award.**

Certificate and \$25 will be given to a club whose members toured a garden or organized a garden tour. Please include photos and description for award judging. This award in honor of MFGC past president Mae Burke Magill. Sponsored by the Gallatin Empire Garden Club.

**B-2 Rainbow Garden Club Civic Beautification Award.**

A certificate and \$50 awarded to an MFGC member club of **20 members or less** for a civic beautification project. Application must include before and after pictures. Sponsored by Rainbow Garden Club.

**B-3 Dearborn Garden Club Bird Protection and Welfare Award.**

Certificate and \$20 to any Garden Club or Garden Club Member who provides nesting boxes, food sources, plants and/or feeding stations, and a water source in their planting project or yard. Sponsored by Dearborn Garden Club.

- a. Documentation and identification of bird species nesting in boxes.
- b. Number of nesting's in a season.
- c. Pictures of birds feeding, using water source and nesting. All birds should be identified.

**B-6 President's Living Legacy Award.**

Certificate and \$25 to a club which plants a tree (at least four feet tall) or a native shrub in a public park or near a public building where it will be visible and add to the overall beauty of any existing landscaping; **OR** to a club which installs a new garden with annuals and perennials in a public area. Before and after pictures and a bill of sale for the plants must be included. This award is in honor of GG Hahn, a great Garden Club member of Central District 5. Sponsored by R&E Hahn Trust Ranch, Patricia Schlaeger.

**B-7 MFGC State Chair Leadership Award. (Changed)**

Certificate and \$30.00 awarded to one state chair demonstrating initiative and inspiring the membership by providing resources, outstanding support, leadership, and educational programming. Nominations are to be submitted by any Federation member to include a description of the chair's achievement and service to MFGC. Sponsor reserves the right to review the applications. Sponsored by Phyllis White.

**B-8 Circle of Green Thumbs Award. (Changed)**

A president-to-president special award. Certificate to a member of each Federated club who has demonstrated outstanding support within their club. Each club president may choose a member to be honored at the state annual convention. This award is NOT submitted on the standard award application. Submit the name, a photo of the award winner, and a brief statement identifying why the club member was chosen by Email to the MFGC President Jeannie Bennett [mfgc.jeanniebennett@gmail.com](mailto:mfgc.jeanniebennett@gmail.com) or mail to 5950 LeBeau Drive, Missoula, MT 59808 postmarked by April 15.

**B-9 Cathy Atkinson Creative Design Award.**

Certificate and \$25 for the best judged creative design exhibited after April 1<sup>st</sup> each year at a flower show. Application is to include a color photo (4" X 6" minimum but not larger than 8"X 10") Entry must include the title of design, location, and date of flower show. A list of all plant materials and other components must be included in the application.

Award is sponsored by Judges Council. Awards committee will include at least 2 judges in good standing to judge this award.

## **B-10 Flower Show Education Awards.**

**B-10 Option I.** Certificate and \$25 to one club having the highest PERCENTAGE of judges and/or student judges (excluding emeritus judges). Application **IS** required; club should provide a list of judges and total paid membership number as of Oct 1<sup>st</sup>. This award is in honor of MFGC past president Florence Baker and is sponsored by the Judges Council. Award Approval is verified by Susan Billmeyer who maintains the lists of judges in good standing.

**B-10 Option II.** Certificate and \$25 to one club or an individual having most advanced the work of Flower Shows and Floriculture Fairs in Montana. A Book of Evidence (limited to 6 pages) detailing the achievements of the club or individual is required. This award is in honor of MFGC past president Shirley Spildie and is sponsored by Judges Council. Awards committee will include at least 2 judges in good standing to judge this award.

## **B-11 Esther Hamel Butterfly Garden Award.**

In memory of her son, Dennis Hamel, an entomologist. Sponsored by the MFGC past president by Esther Hamel Trust. Before and after pictures are required. **A certificate and \$50 will be awarded to the club that has the most comprehensive and effective project for EACH of the categories below.** There are 5 awards.

**B-11 Option I.** Club that creates a Butterfly Habitat Garden. Include choosing a sunny location; sheltering the garden from wind; adding rocks; damp sand, gravel, or mud puddles; a diversity of plants and flowers; and other butterfly essentials!

**B-11 Option II.** Club that creates a Container Butterfly Garden at a school, adult living center, hospital, or other facility. Use a sturdy container and plant butterfly attracting plants and flowers including larval and nectar types.

**B-11 Option III.** Club member or club who develops a Certified Monarch Way-Station. The garden may be any size, but the optimum is 100 sq. feet. Plant 10 or more milkweed plants and four or more nectar plants. Maintain the garden and complete the certification process. Include a copy of the certificate. ([www.monarchwatch.org](http://www.monarchwatch.org) and [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org))

**B-11 Option IV.** Club member or club who conducts a public educational presentation on butterflies.

**B-11 Option V.** Club which supervises a junior club in creating a butterfly habitat garden using criteria named in Option I. Club that creates a Butterfly Habitat Garden. Include choosing a sunny location; sheltering the garden from wind; adding rocks; damp sand, gravel, or mud puddles; a diversity of plants and flowers; and other butterfly essentials!

## **B-12 Mary Lee Award**

Certificate and \$25 awarded to an individual for artistic expression of flowers such as a painting, quilt, or handmade flower. Sponsored by Whitehall Garden Club.

## **B-13 Anaconda Garden Club Award**

Certificate and \$50 awarded annually to one club that submits the best report on a “community beautification” project.

### **B-14 Pollinator Garden Award.**

Certificate and \$20 awarded annually to an individual garden club member for maintaining a pollinator garden. The garden must contain at least five different flowering pollinator plants, with both botanical and common names. The plants should flower at various times and be a variety of different heights, sizes, and types. It must provide habitat for nesting such as shrubs, tall grasses or low growing plants, patches of fallen branches or shrubs or small patches of bare ground. Please label pictures to demonstrate the garden's habitat. Award is sponsored by Kathy Waters.

### **B-15 Sharing the Gardens Bounty. (NEW)**

Certificate and \$25.00 to a club in each membership category (A,B,C). Montana's food security is an ongoing problem. This award recognizes clubs that donate garden produce to a local food bank or any other organization that helps fight hunger and promotes nutrition (school, senior center, daycare, senior housing, nursing home, etc.). Describe the type and weight of donated food and items other than produce donated (plants, seeds, etc.). Identify the organization that benefited, and the type of garden where the food was grown (private, community, and /or school). Must include pictures. This award is sponsored by the Belgrade Bloomers Garden Club.

### **B-16 Great Falls Flower Growers, Native Plants and Native Gardens Award. (NEW)**

Certificate and \$25 will be given to one club or individual club member who has grown a Montana native garden area. This area may be an entire yard or a garden bed. Include pictures and a short narrative about the garden. A list of the native plants is requested. Pictures should be taken within the preceding 12 months. This award is sponsored by the Great Falls Flower Growers to honor member Kerry Hovland and her native plant projects.

**C Awards:** State Awards given by the Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. These awards are funded by the Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. Applications to be sent to the State Awards Chair by April 15.

### **C-1 Award of Appreciation.**

Certificate and \$25 for outstanding work on behalf of MFGC objectives and projects throughout the club year, **OR** for a project not provided for in another award.

### **C-2 Horticulture Award.**

Certificate and \$25 to a club for contribution to the advancement of gardening and horticulture in Montana.

**C-2 Option I.** For promotion of gardening/horticulture through radio or TV/Media Broadcast.

**C-2 Option II.** For the best Horticultural Report.

## **4 Garden Club Member of the Year**

A tiara or appropriate substitution to become a traveling trophy: a. is an active club member at the local and state level (30 points); b. demonstrates an interest in floral arts (25 points); c. demonstrates an interest in horticulture (25 points) and d. promotes garden club projects for community betterment (20 points) Special note: Applicant's name must not appear on the application or anywhere in the letter of evidence. The name is to be placed in a sealed envelope and attached to the letter of evidence with a paper clip.

### **C-5 Special Award for Artistic Expression (NEW)**

Certificate and \$25 given to a club member for an outstanding project that is not covered in another award.

Award will be granted for best artistic expression in a handmade project (items may include quilts, paintings, yarn crafts, paper crafts, decorations, and similar items). In memory of former awards chair Kerin McCarver.

### **C-6 Landscape Design Award. (Changed)**

Certificate and \$25 awarded for a significant contribution in providing planning and planting for: commercial property, church or synagogue, hospital, library, therapy garden, civic center, park, waterfront, etc. A copy of the landscape plan must be included with the application.

### **C-7 Multimedia Communication Award. (Changed)**

Certificate and \$25 to a club that uses a computer and/or any two or more of the following to promote their club or conduct club meetings. Consider radio/podcasts, television, web blog, website, face book page, and/or creates videos/DVDs.

### **C-8 Best Club Yearbook Award.**

Certificate and \$25 awarded in these membership categories: (Awarded if merited to each Club **Size A, B, C**) **Yearbooks are to be sent to Awards Chair by April 15.** Books and booklets must be mailed hardcopy. A brief folding page can be sent digitally, as a PDF, or be mailed.

#### **Scale of Points for Yearbook Awards:**

- **Book Structure 2 points:** Practical, durable, neat. Yearbooks may be stapled, spiral, or 3-ring binder. Material should be well-placed with ample margins and font size suitable for members to read.
- **Cover 2 points:** Include name of organization, state, year, and appealing design. If 3-ring binder is used, substitute with paper cover and include required information listed above and so note.
- **Title Page 3 points:** Include name of organization, number of members, affiliation including NGC, region, state, other.
- **Table of Contents 3 points:** Number the yearbook pages and list topics with respective page numbers.

• **Subsequent pages:** In any order most useful and best fit for page placement.

**Organizational Information 10 points:** List officers, committee chairpersons, (club affiliates optional)

**National and Regional Information: 10 points:** List Name of NGC President, Region Director, State President. List websites for each.

**Calendar of Events 10 points:** Include list of national, regional, and state conventions, schools, and special events.

**Policies and Objectives 10 points:** Include policies and goals of organization (bylaws, and history are optional).

**Member Information 10 points:** Include membership roster with complete addresses, Email, telephone numbers (Status, refresher dates, club affiliations optional).

**Projects 20 points:** List projects as continuing or new, including name of chair, location, and description of project, sponsored courses, and donations.

**Meetings/Programs 20 points:** List meetings, including date, time, and place. Give title of program, speaker, with brief qualifications. Describe Program as workshop, tour, panel, etc.

**Options: No points given,** Mission statement, Former presidents.

### **C-9 Award of Excellence.**

Framed certificate or plaque with MFGC name and logo. This is the highest award of recognition presented to a non-member of MFGC Inc. who is nominated by an individual garden club. It may be awarded to an individual, organization, or institution that has made a significant contribution toward the advancement of the goals and purposes of MFGC, Inc. The goals and objectives are to provide education, resources and networking opportunities for its members and Montana youth, to promote the love of gardening, floral design, civic and environmental responsibility. All clubs are eligible to submit an award nomination. If your nominee does not win you should create a local certificate of appreciation for them and present it at a club meeting.

### **C-10 Photography Award.**

Certificate and \$25 for up to ten photos sent for any of the following: yard and garden beautification, entrance gates and doorways, projects to beautify your community, hanging baskets and stands, trees and shrubs, vegetable gardens, and drying flowers. Include a description of photos. Photos may be digital, matte, or glossy. Intended to stimulate garden/gardening interest, photographic ability, and NGC objectives. All exhibits should relate to horticulture, gardening, or floral design. May be 3-5 pages one side only, may be digital PDF.

### **C-11 Life Members Award.**

Certificate and \$25 to the club showing the largest percentage increase of MFGC Life Members in their club year over the year. The winner is determined from the membership list maintained by the State Treasurer and based on dues year. Club Life Members are to be identified on that list.

### **C-12 MFGC New Members Award. (Previously B-4, changed)**

Certificate and \$25 to the club that adds the most NEW members by April 15<sup>th</sup> of the current year. No application required. The winner is determined by the MFGC Treasurer based on the record of the current year's dues paid by new members.

**D. Youth Awards:** All applications to be sent to the State Awards Chair.

**D-1 Youth Club Sponsorship Award.** Certificate and \$25 to the adult Garden Club which contributed the most outstanding service toward promoting gardening among youth. Award sponsored by MFGC, Inc.

**D-2 Youth Gardening Award.** Certificate and \$25 for a new or continuing community project planted and maintained by a youth garden club. Award must include pictures of the project, number of youths participating, and information on the involvement of the adult leaders. Sponsored by the Chester Garden Club.

**D-3 Youth Bird/Pollinator Award.** Certificate and \$50 awarded to the Youth Club that has completed ANY ONE of the projects listed below: Sponsored by the Esther Hamel family.

- I. A written report on birds or pollinators presented to the club.
- II. Conducting an effective program for bird protection or increase of pollinator habitat.
- III. A project to build bird houses, bird feeders, bee and/or insect houses or other similar projects.

**D-4 Youth Participation Award.**

Certificate and \$25 awarded to a Youth Club/Clubs participating in a Standard Flower Show sponsored by an adult club. State the age of the youth on all applications. Sponsored by Judges Council.

Note: categories for Youth Awards are

- I. Pre-school through age seven
- II. Ages eight through twelve
- III. Ages thirteen through eighteen

**E Flower Show Awards.** All applications shall be sent to MFGC Awards Chair by April 15<sup>th</sup> following the flower show (that took place in preceding year). Whether electronic or hard copied it will be judged by the Awards committee to include at least 2 judges in good standing.

**Montana Flower Show Awards** MFGC will award, if merited, a Certificate and \$25 for 1<sup>st</sup> Place and a Certificate for 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in each of the Achievement Awards listed below, in each membership category (A, B, C). The Montana recognition book of evidence should be 6 to 12 pages. Requirements for achievement award are explained in the NGC Standard Flower Show Handbook. . This category is created to recognize the many flower shows in Montana held at fairs, meetings, and casual locations without being NGC standard. All Awards sponsored by Judges Council. (*Information Update-NGC now requires that the national flower show achievement awards be submitted digitally and these will be handled separately with NGC due dates.*)

- E-1 Standard Flower Show**
- E-2 Patriotic Flower Show**
- E-3 Holiday Flower Show**
- E-4 Petite Flower Show of Miniature and/or Small Exhibits**
- E-5 Horticulture Specialty Flower Show**
- E-6 Design Specialty Flower Show**
- E-7 Small Standard Flower Show**
- E-8 Flower Show Schedule Award** (*may show corrections, no book of evidence required*)

**2025-2027 Award Application**  
Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

This page is the coversheet. This information is required to process the award application.

Award : \_\_\_\_\_

Award Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**Award Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Please provide the name of the individual the **certificate and check** should be written for. If award money is not to go to the winner. please provide club name here:* \_\_\_\_\_.

Name of Club: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Official Members as of 1 Oct \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Submitters Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Send to Cindy Carlton, Chair ,125 Rocky Creek Road, Bozeman, MT 59715

Or: Email your application to: [cdcarlton@hotmail.com](mailto:cdcarlton@hotmail.com) 406-581-9305

**Note: Photography, Scrapbooks, and Membership Yearbooks must be physically mailed. All mailings and Email must be postmarked by Apr 15.**

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Application is limited to 3 printed pages and cover sheet, print one sided **ONLY**. (NO report cover/binders).

Please complete each topic below, if applicable. Use numbering as below when completing form. As you type in this document, just enter more lines or delete spaces if not needed on the computer. Each item must be filled in, though it is possible to say Not Applicable (N/A) in the space for some awards. If not complete say in progress (IP) for a multiphase project.

Is this a New Project? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ OR Is this a Continuing Project? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Beginning Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Completion Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If in progress (name phase (e.g., 1 of 2, A of A/B) \_\_\_\_\_

**This is Page 1 of Book of Evidence. Answer all applicable questions and continue award application for up to 3 pages of detail as needed.**

**1. Summary and objectives of project:**

**2. Involvement of club members, other organizations, etc.:**

**3. Project expenses and means of funding:**

**4. Continuing involvement, follow-up, maintenance:**

**5. Attach or insert photos, digital photos, and/or landscape plan (does not need to be professionally drawn)**