



ARTS

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

 Visit www.GFWC.org/membership/club-manual/ for updates and more information.

**“YOU CAN’T USE
UP CREATIVITY.
THE MORE YOU USE,
THE MORE YOU HAVE.”**

— MAYA ANGELOU

Art Awakens the Senses. Art opens the heart and mind to possibilities and fuels the imagination. Art is a process of learning to create ourselves and experience the world in new ways. Art supports the bigger picture view of life: beauty, symbols, spirituality, and storytelling, and helps us to step out of time, allowing one to be present in the moment. Art keeps the magic alive.

The GFWC Arts Community Service Program encourages members to promote and support arts activities in their clubs, schools, and communities. It is designed to inspire clubwomen. As Pablo Picasso once said, “Every child is an artist, the problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up.” The goal is to create programs and projects that include music, literature, dance, drama, theatre, and other arts-related areas, both traditional and innovative.

GFWC COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

GFWC Community Service Projects are projects that members initiate and participate in to serve their communities—they do not include projects that relate to GFWC partners. These projects are specifically related to the Arts Community Service Program and may involve other members of the community, other organizations, or the individual club or members.

 Direct any questions regarding projects that do not involve GFWC partners to the Arts Community Service Program Chairman or GFWC Programs Department at Programs@GFWC.org.



2016-2018 ARTS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

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SWEETHEART VALENTINE DANCE

The **GFWC Woman’s Club of Safford** (AZ) sponsored a very special event for 80 individuals with disabilities. They held a Sweetheart Valentine Dance with a DJ and refreshments. A professional photographer was on hand to take pictures of the sweethearts. Each attendee received a corsage and a stuffed animal.



PAINT THE TOWN

The **GFWC Calhoun Woman's Club (GA)** partnered with the Atlanta Paint Disposal Company to facilitate a massive paint giveaway event entitled and publicized as "Paint the Town." Discontinued paint colors, plus brand-new craft and wall paint from all over Georgia, were brought to a rented warehouse. Club members notified newspapers and contacted United Way, school systems, church organizations, and individuals and families in seven counties and two states about the event. Recipients of the free paint donations shared information about their projects, such as painting puppets, school crafts, theatre backdrops, and holding neighborhood arts and crafts classes.



RECYCLED TIRE SCULPTURE

A clubwoman from the **GFWC Gun Lake Area (MI)** attended a series of classes at the Battle Creek Art Center and brought back her ideas for a tire sculpture. A sculpture was designed and created by the clubwomen and has been permanently placed on a garden berm at the Yankee Springs Township Park. The sculpture consists of eight recycled tires that were cleaned, primed, and painted to appear as a full mural. It was installed using metal posts and concrete. The 22 members had a great time being creative and the local newspaper featured the members and their creation on the front page after completion.



ART CHAIR AUCTION

The **GFWC Woman's Club of Covina (CA)** collaborated with the Pacific Art League and transformed 28 folding chairs from the 1930s owned by a member into works of art. Local artists painted the chairs with unique designs. The club advertised in newspapers and 28 businesses displayed the chairs for a month in their store windows. On the Friday prior to the Saturday auction, the chairs were exhibited and artists acknowledged. Saturday evening was a ticketed event with dinner and a live auction. This was a very successful event for both organizations with lots of visibility and profitability.

IDEAS

Program ideas are endless. Below is a list of ideas on how clubs may support the Arts Community Service Program.

- Host an art supply drive within your club. Contact your local school district or community center to see what is needed.
- "Hire" student jazz combos, string quartets, or even the whole band to perform at club events.
- Hold a fundraiser to purchase a large piece of equipment for your local schools' art, music, or drama departments, such as a potter's wheel, kiln, microphones, or technology.)
- Attend public art displays, plays, and concerts as part of a social event for your club.
- Use member art for club cookbook covers, greeting cards, program covers, etc.
- Sponsor ads in local theater or school theatre playbills.
- Use an artistic event to raise funds to sponsor local community art and cultural programs.
- Sponsor an author visit to your local library.
- Establish scholarships for students studying the arts such as literature, drama, or music. This could be to attend an arts school or summer camp.
- Establish awards that acknowledge the artistic achievements of club and community members.
- Sponsor Youth Art Month activities in your community during the month of March.
- Establish and support artist-in-residence programs and artist speakers.



AWARDS

GFWC recognizes State Federations for outstanding projects and clubs for creative projects in implementing effective Arts Community Service Program projects and partnership projects, as follows:

- Certificate to one State Federation in each membership category
- \$50 award to one club in the nation for project creativity

Award winners will be determined by entries into the Awards Program. Each State Federation may submit one State Award Entry Cover Sheet and one Club Creativity Award Entry Cover Sheet for the Arts Community Service Program projects. Clubs do not submit entries directly to GFWC.



Refer to the Awards section of the *Club Manual* for more information, including the Award Entry Cover Sheet guidelines.

