

# GENERAL FEDERATION of WOMEN'S CLUBS

[www.GFWC.org](http://www.GFWC.org)



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For Immediate Release

## **GFWC OPENS UP ENTRIES FOR NATIONAL JOURNALISM AWARD**

*Applications Are Now Being Accepted for 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Jane Cunningham Croly Award for Excellence in Journalism Covering Issues of Concern to Women*

**December 5, 2017 (Washington, D.C.)** – The General Federation of Women's Clubs announced today it is now accepting entries for the Jane Cunningham Croly Award for Excellence in Journalism Covering Issues of Concern to Women. The Croly Award will be presented in June, 2017, at the GFWC Annual Convention in Palm Springs, California. The winner will receive a \$1,000 cash award and travel expenses to attend and speak about their piece at the awards ceremony.

The award recognizes journalists who best capture the courage, vision, and spirit of GFWC's founder and pioneering journalist Jane Cunningham Croly. Croly Award winners demonstrate a concern for the rights and advancement of women in our society; an awareness of women's strength and courage; and/or an attempt to counteract sexism.

The contest is open to all journalists who contribute to newspapers, broadcast news programs (radio, television and digital), magazines, news services, or online publications, either on staff or in a freelance capacity. Entries must be postmarked by March 15, 2017. A winner will be notified by April 24, 2017. Complete entry guidelines and entry form can be found online at, <http://www.gfwc.org/what-we-do/impact-accomplishments/croly-award>.

The Croly Award was last awarded in 2015, to freelance journalist and author Ada Calhoun for her NBCNews.com piece, *Pregnant on Opiates: When Following Doctors' Orders Breaks the Law*. The article gives readers a glimpse into the life of Jenessa Moman, a mother of four who struggled with addiction and later, the justice system upon following direction from her doctors to ensure the health of her baby. Calhoun effectively highlights the fear of women like Moman, who find themselves caught between accepted medical maintenance for themselves and their child, and the laws that state that very same maintenance is child abuse.

The Croly Award was first bestowed in 1996 to Sara Hammel, then of the *Middlesex News*, for her three-part series on an army-sponsored women's strength study to determine if women can perform demanding physical strength tasks usually assigned to men in the military. Past judges for the award include former *Newsweek* contributing editor Eleanor Clift and Geneva Overholser, a former chairman of the Pulitzer Prize Board.

For more information about the award, and past honorees, visit [www.GFWC.org](http://www.GFWC.org).

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### **About the General Federation of Women's Clubs**

The General Federation of Women's Clubs is a unifying force, bringing together local women's clubs, with members dedicated to strengthening their communities and enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service. With almost 80,000 members in affiliated clubs in every state and more than a dozen countries, GFWC members are community leaders who work locally to create global change by supporting the arts, preserving natural resources, advancing education, promoting healthy lifestyles, encouraging civic involvement, and working toward world peace and understanding.