

NEW JERSEY STATE FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS of GFWC

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Jan Hansen, President



SCHOOL COUNSELORS

The New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs (NJSFWC) is a non-political, nonsectarian, non-profit organization founded in 1894 with a current membership of nearly 7,000 volunteers. Reflecting NJSFWC's interest in helping young women face a challenging future, the organization sponsors an annual Girls' Career Institute (GCI), a four-day mini-college experience. This year, 2022, will mark its seventy-fifth year. The program affords a unique experience for approximately 180 girls finishing their JUNIOR year in a New Jersey high school. A local NJSFWC Woman's Club sponsors each delegate and pays the full tuition.

This program will be of interest to students who are considering attending college but may need some encouragement or incentive. Girls' Career Institute (GCI) provides the delegates with a taste of college life. They will live in a dorm on the Douglass Residential College Campus at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey. They will eat cafeteria food, meet delegates from New Jersey towns that they never knew existed and take on the responsibility of scheduling their own free time. More importantly, GCI offers the delegates an opportunity to learn of the many career options available to young women today. **Since 1955 the NJSFWC has also offered a scholarship to an incoming Douglass Residential College freshman who attended GCI.**

The delegates will be challenged by successful women who followed their own vision and gained prominence in their chosen professions. The presenters have a wide range of skills. Past presenters have included women with careers in medicine, journalism, counseling, accounting, law, film production, transportation, law enforcement, public service, education, math, environmental stewardship, and science.

Your assistance is needed in the selection process. Distribution of the GCI flyer and collecting the information of junior girls at your school interested in attending GCI must be accomplished in January and then shared with your local Woman's club GCI Coordinator. This will still leave enough time for the club representatives to review those submitted, possibly interview, and make a selection within the time frame allowed. **Please ask all Juniors girls interested in the GCI program to complete the GCI Delegate Interest Form included with this letter.** This should be returned to you or the club GCI Coordinator.

It is essential that applicants, parents, and the school administration understand that the student must be academically able to be excused from school for the four days of GCI June 6 – 9, 2022. This may involve foregoing some pre-exam reviews, taking exams early or missing a sporting event or other school activity. Accepting the GCI opportunity carries with it a responsibility to stay for the entire session. **NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE!** We request that you follow up with the delegate and alternate selected to ensure that they have cleared their academic and activity responsibilities to decrease the number of last-minute withdrawals. In early April DELEGATES will receive a packet of materials with detailed information and forms to be completed. ALTERNATES will not receive this packet until they are moved to a DELEGATE position. An invitation to an Orientation in the area will be sent to all DELEGATES and ALTERNATES and their parents in May. A response to this invitation is especially important!

Most questions can be answered by your local club representative. If your school is not currently working with a local club, call or email the Director for additional information.

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