



GFWC
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GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

CHICAGO



SPARKLE. SHINE. SUCCEED.



2024

GFWC ANNUAL CONVENTION

CALL TO CONVENTION

JUNE 28 - JULY 1, 2024

HILTON CHICAGO



FROM THE PRESIDENT



With great pleasure and anticipation, I extend a warm invitation to every one of you to join me, Director of Junior Clubs Katie Moydell, and the Executive Committee at the upcoming GFWC Annual Convention in the dazzling city of Chicago, Illinois!

From June 28 to July 1, we will gather under the theme of “Sparkle, Shine, and Succeed” to celebrate our collective accomplishments, share inspiring stories, and chart the course for an even brighter future.

As members of this incredible organization, you have consistently demonstrated unwavering dedication to service, advocacy, and community improvement. Our annual convention is a unique opportunity to come together in celebration and reignite our passion for making a positive impact in our communities!

Here’s a glimpse of what awaits you at the 2024 Convention:

Sparkle: Immerse yourself in the brilliance of shared ideas and experiences. Our workshops and discussions will illuminate new paths and reveal innovative strategies for community engagement and service.

Shine: Celebrate accomplishments! This convention recognizes the exceptional work and volunteer hours that each of you contributes to your local club and community.

Succeed: Empower yourself with the tools and knowledge needed for continued success in your endeavors. Engage with inspiring keynote speakers who have triumphed in their fields, and let their stories fuel your journey toward success.

The GFWC Annual Convention is not just a gathering; it’s a celebration of the collective strength and dedication that defines our organization. I encourage you to participate fully, connect with fellow clubwomen, and leave with renewed energy to shine brightly in your communities.

I eagerly await your presence in Chicago, where we will Sparkle, Shine, and Succeed together!

Debra A. Strahanoski
Debra Strahanoski
GFWC International President

Mary Beth Williams
Mary Beth Williams
GFWC Secretary

2022-2024 GFWC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT
Debra A. Strahanoski

PRESIDENT-ELECT
Suellen Brazil

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
Wendy Carriker

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
Jolie R. Frankfurth

SECRETARY
Mary Beth Williams

TREASURER
Becky Wright

DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR CLUBS
Katie Moydell

PARLIAMENTARIAN
Diane Addante, RP

CHIEF OF OPERATIONS
Cheri Meyer



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**GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**



WELCOME

From the sparkling shores of Lake Michigan, GFWC Illinois is thrilled to welcome you to the shining city of Chicago for the 2024 GFWC Convention!

Chicago is a multi-faceted diamond of culture, food, music, sports, and architecture, along with a colorful history of "lawbreakers !" It is a resilient city (the infamous Chicago fire started by Mrs. O'Leary's cow), and its strength is based on warm midwestern values.

Chicago is a city of invention. One of its most famous events - The Chicago World's Fair in 1893 is considered "the fair that changed America" as the massive event introduced more than 27 million people to an abundance of modern marvels: elevators, the zipper, Cracker Jacks, the Ferris Wheel, the dishwasher, and the first voice recording!

Experience "A Night at the Diamond Club", catch a Chicago Cubs or White Sox ball game, explore the lakeshore, or visit Maggie Daley Park . . . as

We are Waiting for You

Chicago, a city ready to be explored

From Lake Michigan to Chinatown and museums galore.

Known as The Windy City, Second City, City by the Lakeshore,

Chicago's history is rich and there's so much more.

It boasts prominent clubwomen,

Like Jane Addams and Ida B. Wells,

And our GFWC Presidents,

Ellen, Helen, Jackie, and Deb.

Please join us in Chicago in 2024,

For a GFWC Convention, like never before.

This city by the lakeshore,

Has hosted six times, and still has more in store.

The familiar Hilton Chicago awaits,

To welcome us with open gates.

Clubwomen from far and wide,

Will gather for tours, food, and pride.

Together, we'll share ideas anew,

From clubwomen around the world and the fifty states too.

Let's celebrate our accomplishments grand

And leave motivated to make a difference in our land.

For the hungry, the poor, young students, and more,

Let's go back to our communities and continue to pour,

Our passion and efforts into making a change,

For libraries, the abused, and those in pain.

Join us at the Hilton, from June 28 to July 1,

There's a place for you, no matter what you do.

Come to work, come to learn, come to share,

With clubwomen arriving from everywhere.

So please, come to Chicago once more,

GFWC Illinois is waiting at the door.

We will sparkle and shine while we succeed,

As we host the 2024 Convention for GFWC.

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PRELIMINARY AGENDA

DRESS CODE

F - Formal: Floor length evening gown, chic cocktail dress, or separates.

AF - After Five: Cocktail dress or dressy sundress, long dressy skirt and top, or dressy pants outfit.

BC - Business Casual: dresses, jackets, skirts, khakis or dress pants, open-collared shirts, sweaters, or blouses.

SC - Smart Casual: GFWC emblem wear. No jeans, shorts, or spaghetti straps.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Registration Illinois Welcome Table Marketplace	8th Street Registration
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Host State Illinois and GFWC Executive Committee Dinner	

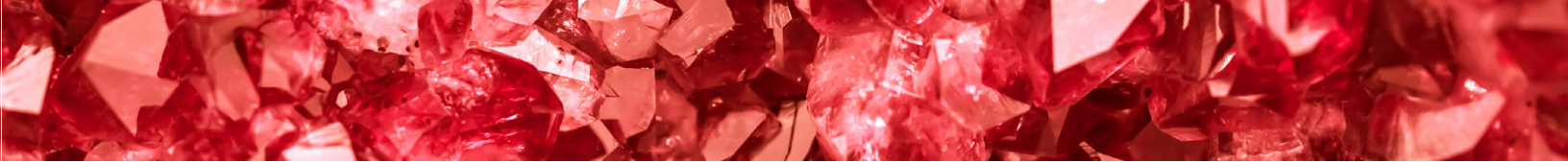
THURSDAY, JUNE 27

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Registration Illinois Welcome Table Marketplace	8th Street Registration
11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Chicago River Boat Architectural Tour plus Lunch \$125 SC	8th Street Lobby
	<i>Buses will begin boarding at 11:00 a.m. and leave promptly at 11:15 2024 Convention T Shirt is encouraged. Details on page 14.</i>	
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Registration Illinois Welcome Table Marketplace	8th Street Registration
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Exhibitor Showcase Opens	Continental C
5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	Staff and GFWC Executive Committee Dinner	
9:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	GFWC Junior Board Gathering SC	Lake Erie
9:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.	LEADS Meet and Greet for 2024 Candidates BC	North Imperial Suite

FRIDAY, JUNE 28

8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Registration Illinois Welcome Table Marketplace	8th Street Registration
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Leadership, Education, and Development Seminar (LEADS) BC	Joliet & Marquette
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	2022-2024 GFWC Chairmen & Committee Members' Meeting BC	Waldorf
9:00 a.m.	Group Pictures	Great Hall Staircase
	Region Presidents	
	State Presidents	
	State Directors of Junior Clubs & Junior Executive Committee	
9:15 a.m.	Chairmen & Committee Members' Picture	Great Hall Staircase
9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Group Meetings BC	
	2022-2024 GFWC Region Presidents Meeting	PDR # 1
	2022-2024 GFWC State Presidents Meeting	Williford A
	2022-2024 GFWC State Directors of Junior Clubs Meeting	Williford B





9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	2022-2024 GFWC Committee Meetings BC	
	Annual Giving	PDR #3
	Bylaws	Williford C
	Communications & Public Relations	PDR #2
	Community Service Programs	Waldorf
	Elections	Williford C
	Fundraising and Development	International Ballroom
	International Liaisons	PDR #4
	Legislation/Public Policy	Williford C
	Membership	PDR #2
	Resolutions	Williford C
	Signature Program: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention	PDR #3
	Women's History and Research Center	PDR #4
11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Chicago River Boat Architectural Tour plus Lunch \$125 SC	8th Street Lobby
	<i>Buses will begin boarding at 11:00 a.m. and leave promptly at 11:15 2024 Convention T Shirt is encouraged. Details on page 14.</i>	
11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	2022-2024 GFWC Board of Directors Luncheon Meeting \$65 BC	Continental AB
	Announcements: Phyllis Skubic, Convention and Meetings Chairman	
3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Full Board of Directors Photos	Great Hall Staircase
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Registration Illinois Welcome Table Marketplace	
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.	First-Time Attendee Welcome and Orientation	Williford A
6:15 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	GFWC State Photo: Session 1	Boulevard A
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Puttin on the Glitz Cocktails & Social AF	Normandie Lounge
6:45 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Processional Formation for GFWC Illinois	Normandie Lounge
7:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.	"A Night at the Diamond Club" GFWC Illinois Welcome Banquet \$78 F	Grand Ballroom
	Theme: Roaring 20's	
	Attire: Old Time Elegance: Flapper or cocktail attire with your favorite rhinestones, pearls, brooches, and feathers! Or pinstripe suits with white dress shirts, suspenders and ties, fedoras, top hats, and spatz shoes!	
	Entertainment: Howl at the Moon Dueling Pianos	
10:30 p.m.-11:30 p.m.	Reception for GFWC Illinois Patrons (By Invitation Only)	North Imperial Suite

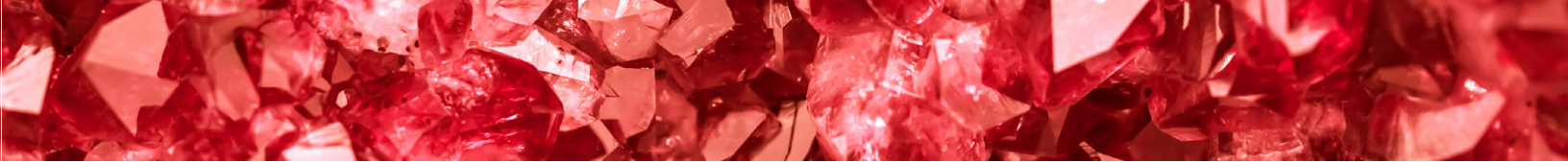


PRELIMINARY AGENDA

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	LEADS Graduates Breakfast \$40 BC	Waldorf
7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Registration Illinois Welcome Table Marketplace	8th Street Registration
8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Processional Formation for Flag Ceremony	Continental AB, Foyer
8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Musical Selections	International Ballroom
8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	2024 GFWC Annual Convention BC Opening Ceremony & Business Session Processional: Announced by Becky Weber, Special Assistant to the President Call to Order: Debra Strahanoski, GFWC International President Presentation of Colors: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America: Thought for the Day: Welcome: LeeAnn Conlon, GFWC Illinois President & Patti Kuchar, Illinois Director of Junior Clubs Response: Kim Sekulow, GFWC Georgia President & Nicole Braun, Georgia Director of Junior Clubs Correspondence: Mary Beth Williams, Secretary Introductions: Debra Strahanoski, International President Introduction of Speaker: Welcome from the City of Chicago: Preliminary Credentials Report: Dara Bergdoll, Chairman Elections Committee Report: Carol Habgood, Chairman Announcement of Committee to Approve the Minutes of the Convention Appointment of Tellers and Timekeepers Tellers: Timekeepers: Presentation of Convention Rules: Diane Addante RP, GFWC Parliamentarian Presentation of Convention Program: Phyllis Skubic, Convention and Meetings Chairman Fundraising Report: Jeanette T. Wells, Fundraising Chairman Awards: Jolie Frankfurth, Second Vice President International Clubs Certificates of Appreciation: Katherine Sower, International Liaisons Chairman National Clubs Certificates of Appreciation: Jolie Frankfurth, Second Vice President Introduction of Speaker: Debra Strahanoski, International President Speaker: Scott Tillema: Leading with Influence: Effective Communication & Navigating Difficult Conversations Announcements: Phyllis Skubic, Convention and Meetings Chairman	International Ballroom
12:15 p.m.	Processional Line Up for Unity Luncheon	Continental Foyer





12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	"Better Together" Unity Luncheon \$55 BC Call to Order: Katie Moydell, Director of Junior Clubs Awards: Shannon Bailey, Director-elect of Junior Clubs Millie Crom Award for Excellence in Junior State Leadership Juniorette Participation Award Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children Awards: Jolie Frankfurth, Second Vice President Writing Contests: Donna Shibley, Chairman Women's History and Resource Center: Celene Post, Chairman	Continental AB
2:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Business Session of the 2024 GFWC Annual Convention BC Presentation of International Past Presidents Candidate Speeches GFWC Officer Candidates in a Contested Election, Q&A Moderator: Sheila E. Shea International Past President Proposed Amendments to the GFWC Bylaws: Barbara Whitaker, Chairman Proposed Amendments to the GFWC Resolutions: Mary Powell, Chairman Membership Increase Introduction of GFWC Staff: Cheri Meyer, Chief of Operations Announcements: Phyllis Skubic, Convention and Meetings Chairman	International Ballroom
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Registration Illinois Welcome Table Marketplace	8th Street Registration
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	GFWC Juniors Business Session BC	International Ballroom
6:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.	GFWC Past State Directors of Junior Club Cocktails \$40 AF	Boulevard BC
6:30 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.	Second City Cocktails & Social AF	Normandie Lounge
6:30 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.	GFWC State Photos - Session 2	Boulevard A
7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	GFWC Region Banquets \$78 AF	
	Great Lakes	TBD
	Middle Atlantic	TBD
	Mississippi Valley	TBD
	New England	TBD
	South Central	TBD
	Southeastern	TBD
	Southern	TBD
	Western States	TBD
9:45 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.	GFWC Junior Jeopardy \$25 AF Please join the Juniors in a GFWC Convention Trivia Hunt! Registrants will gather information from the hotel, tours, and business session to see how many answers they can find. Prizes will be awarded at the Junior Fun Night celebratory drop-in. A portion of the money raised will be donated to a local charity.	Boulevard BC
10:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.	Annual Giving Donors Reception <i>By Invitation Only</i> AF	North Imperial Suite

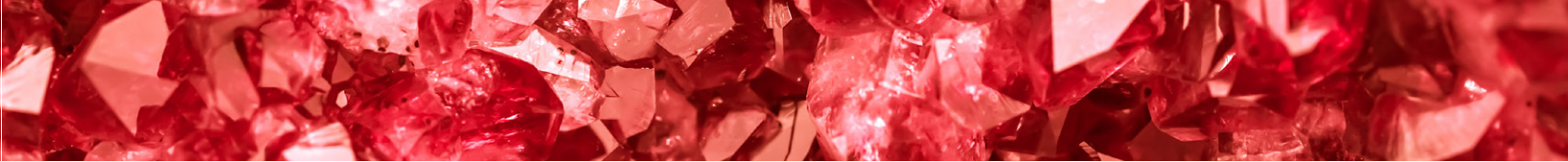


PRELIMINARY AGENDA

SUNDAY, JUNE 30

7:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	Epsilon Sigma Omicron (ESO) Breakfast \$40 BC Introduction of Speaker: Sandy Hauenstein, Education and Libraries Chairman Speaker: Dr. Jax Black <i>Joynote Speaker: Dr. Jax Black- At Big Joy Theory, joy is defined as your heart smiling back at you being you! This definition calls leaders into a journey. We say that joy is more than a moment, it is a lifetime of possibilities.</i> Awards: Jolie Frankfurth, Second Vice President Education and Libraries ESO	Continental AB
8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Elections	Normandie Lounge
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Registration Illinois Welcome Table Marketplace	8th Street Registration
9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	GFWC Workshops: Session 1	TBD
	Communications and Public Relations	
	Community Service Programs	
	Fundraising	
	Junior Special Program	
	Leadership	
	Legislation/Public Policy	
	Membership	
	Signature Program	
10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	GFWC Workshops: Session 2	TBD
	Communications and Public Relations	
	Community Service Programs	
	Fundraising	
	Junior Special Program	
	Leadership	
	Legislation/Public Policy	
	Membership	
	Signature Program	
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Collaboration Makes Dreams Succeed Affiliate Organization Luncheon \$55 BC Panel Discussion Moderators: Kynnedi Taylor-Henry, GFWC Programs and Public Policy Specialist and Jolie Frankfurth, Second Vice President Awards: Jolie Frankfurth, Second Vice President United Nations Foundation, Shot@Life Campaign St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital Hope for Justice	Continental AB





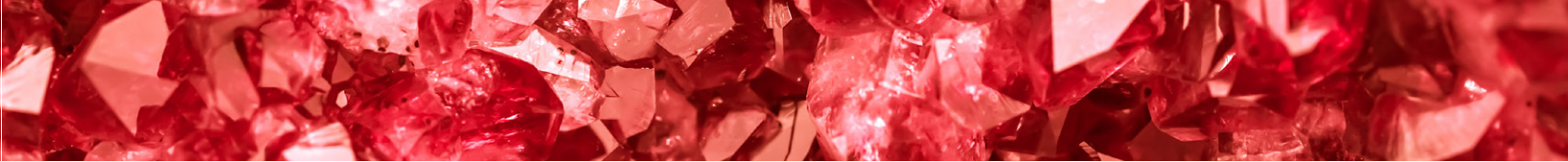
2:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.	Business Session of the 2024 GFWC Annual Convention BC Thought for the Day: Credentials Update: Dara Bergdoll, Chairman Proposed Amendments to the GFWC Bylaws: Barbara Whitaker, Chairman Proposed Amendments to the GFWC Resolutions: Mary Powell, Chairman Awards: Jolie Frankfurth, Second Vice President Leadership: Susan Gettys, Chairman Legislation/Public Policy: Juliet Casper, Chairman Membership: Nancy Ames, Chairman Fundraising Update: Jeanette T. Wells, Chairman Announcements: Phyllis Skubic, Convention and Meetings Chairman	International Ballroom
4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Registration Illinois Welcome Table Marketplace	8th Street Registration
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.	International Delegates Reception BC By Invitation Only	North Imperial Suite
6:30 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.	Chi Town Cocktails & Social AF	Normandie Lounge
6:30 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.	GFWC State Photos: Session 3	Boulevard A
7:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.	The Purple Gala: A Night of Hope, Dreams, and Inspiration \$78 F Recognition of 2022-2024 Jennie Award Winners: Theresa Rudder, Chairman Great Lakes Region: Middle Atlantic Region: Mississippi Valley Region: New England Region: South Central Region: Southeastern Region: Southern Region: Western States Region: Awards: Jolie Frankfurth, Second Vice President Signature Program: Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness & Prevention: Trisha Schafer, Chairman Signature Program: Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness & Prevention Fund GFWC Success for Survivors Scholarship Gifts to Headquarters Recognition State of the Federation: Katie Moydell, Director of Junior Clubs Deb Strahanoski, International President	Grand Ballroom

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

MONDAY, JULY 1

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Registration Illinois Welcome Table Marketplace	8th Street Registration
7:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.	GFWC Past State Presidents Club Breakfast \$40 BC	Waldorf
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Business Session of the 2024 GFWC Annual Convention BC Call to Order: Debra Strahanoski, GFWC International President Thought for the Day: Final Credentials Report: Dara Bergdoll, Chairman Report of Elections Committee 2022-2024 Officer Reports Suellen Brazil, President-elect Wendy Carriker, First Vice President Jolie Frankfurth, Second Vice President Mary Beth Williams, Secretary Becky Wright, Treasurer In Memoriam Proposed Amendments to the GFWC Bylaws: Barbara Whitaker, Chairman Proposed Amendments to the GFWC Resolutions: Mary Powell, Chairman New Business Charlotte Emerson Brown Award: Wendy Carriker, First Vice President Awards: Jolie Frankfurth, Second Vice President Communications & Public Relations: Jen Nowak, Chairman Website Contest Newsletter Contest Photography Contests: Karen Kaler, Chairman Fundraising and Development: Jeanette T. Wells, Chairman Invitation to the 2025 GFWC Annual Convention, Kim Sekulow, Georgia State President & Nicole Braun Director of Junior Clubs Announcement of Windy City Fundraiser Winners: Jeanette T. Wells, Fundraising and Development Chairman Announcements: Phyllis Skubic, Convention and Meetings Chairman	International Ballroom
12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	"Shining Examples of Success" Luncheon Honoring Community Impact Program Winners \$55 BC Awards: Jolie Frankfurth, Second Vice President Community Impact Program Awards, Beth Smith, Chairman Arts and Culture: Pam Ament, Chairman Civic Engagement and Outreach: Sharon Oliphant, Chairman Environment: Tina Neese, Chairman Health and Wellness: Dale Fisher, Chairman	Continental AB
2:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	International Past Presidents Gathering	North Imperial Suite
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Registration Marketplace	8th Street Registration





3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **GFWC Past Region Presidents Club Tea | \$10 |**
 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Installation Rehearsal**
 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. **Elected Officers Reception**
 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. **Installation Banquet | \$78 | F**
 8:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Installation Ceremony | F**
 and the Adjournment of 2024 Convention
 9:30 p.m.-11:30 p.m. **Installation Celebration | \$10 | F**

PDR # 1
 International Ballroom
 Normandie Lounge
 Grand Ballroom
 International Ballroom
 Grand Ballroom

SPEAKERS & ENTERTAINMENT



SCOTT TILLEMA

Scott is an internationally recognized crisis negotiator, advisor, trainer and keynote speaker. He is known and respected for his experience negotiating in highly charged situations, with high stakes and when the situation requires sensitivity to the human element. Clients, audiences and students alike, find Scott's teachings, insightful, inspiring and pragmatic.

Scott has over 20 years of law enforcement experience in the United States and retired from a Chicago area police department in 2023 at the rank of Lieutenant.

In 2007, he was trained by the FBI in hostage and crisis negotiation and has been involved in the field since that time. Scott worked as a negotiator with one of the largest regional SWAT teams in the U.S. for many years before moving into the role of a negotiations speaker and trainer.

He has studied negotiation at the Harvard University Program on Negotiation, at IMD Business School, and he continues to receive training from the world's top negotiators.

Scott is a prolific trainer within the negotiation field and travels the country and around the world speaking to a wide variety of audiences. He has taught negotiations at Harvard University, for the FBI, and has keynoted for companies such as Microsoft and Bosch. In 2016, he was invited to give a TEDx talk titled "The Secrets of Hostage Negotiators", which has received over 1 million views. His visibility as a speaker and educator through TEDx and other venues has reached global status.

Scott currently resides in the Chicago area and is a Partner and co-founder with the Negotiations Collective.



HOWL AT THE MOON DUELING PIANOS

Howl at the Moon's world famous dueling pianos are coming to "A Night at the Diamond Club" for an unforgettable evening of high-energy entertainment! Their interactive and dynamic shows are unlike any other and you won't want to miss this one!



DR. JAX BLACK

Former executive director, strategy consultant, and professor of psychology and non-profit management, Dr. Jax Black and her husband are the minds behind "The Big Joy Theory", a Transcendent Leadership Guidance that empowers leaders

beyond the moment and fully contextualizes leaders in their own becomingness through the joy of whole self.



JAY ALLEN

After seeing his mother suffer from Alzheimer's, Allen wrote "Blank Stares". A video of him performing the song with his mother on stage in Iowa went viral causing Jay to become known around the world. His mother has since passed, but Jay continues to tour internationally as an advocate for the Alzheimer's Association, and the song has gone on to raise over \$100 million dollars to help fight the disease.

Jay has been featured on NBC's The Voice, ABC World News, PeopleTV, Pickler & Ben, and in People & Forbes Magazine, among others. He was selected as The Highway Find on Sirius XM with his song "Sounds Good To Me", won the 2022 Country Now Awards as Favorite Competition Contestant, and was recognized as one of Music Mayhem Magazine's 2023 Artists to Watch.

Celebrated for his philanthropic work, Allen was presented The Caregiver Award by The National Alzheimer's Association, was personally invited to The White House by First Lady Dr. Jill Biden, and made history by performing the first ever concert in the U.S. Capitol Building.



NAVY PIER

Only two miles from the Hilton Chicago, historic Navy Pier is Chicago's premier tourist attraction. Located on the banks of Lake Michigan, visitors here can ride on a 15-story Ferris wheel, eat at one of the many lakeside restaurants, take a boat tour, watch a 3-D movie at the IMAX Theater, visit the Chicago Children's Museum, listen to live music, and much more.

CHICAGO ON YOUR OWN

In downtown Chicago, it's never a matter of wondering what to do. It's a matter of deciding what to do. From the front door of the Hilton Chicago, you can easily reach many of the attractions that will make your stay here one to remember.

Art Institute of Chicago

The Art Institute of Chicago has showcased magnificent art collections for more than 150 years. Known for its Impressionist, Post-Impressionist, and American paintings, the institute houses more than 260,000 works of art. At one million square feet, it provides a fascinating journey into the more than 5,000 years of human expression from cultures around the world.

Museum Campus

Walking distance from the hotel! The Museum Campus is a pedestrian-friendly park consisting of 57 acres along the edge of Lake Michigan. It is home to three of Chicago's most popular museums: the Adler Planetarium, the Shedd Aquarium, and the Field Museum of Natural History.

Magnificent Mile

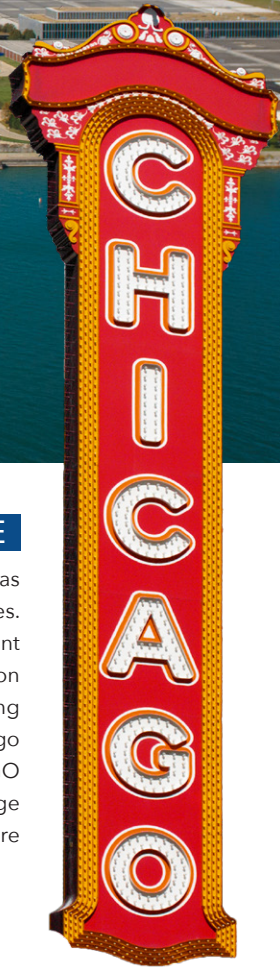
Considered one of the Great Avenues of the World, Magnificent Mile is home to shops, restaurants, outdoor exhibits, and much more. Officially Michigan Avenue, this is a definite must-see during a visit to Chicago.

WILLIS TOWER

Once the world's tallest building, Willis Tower is still way up in the clouds as the third tallest building in the Western Hemisphere today. Though it functions as an office building, the skyscraper's 103rd-floor Skydeck Chicago draws 1.7 million annual visitors for a trip out onto The Ledge, an enclosed glass balcony extending 4 feet (1.2 meters) out over the city, as well as panoramic views that—on clear days—extend as far as Indiana, Michigan, Iowa, and Wisconsin. For more information visit www.theskydeck.com

THE CHICAGO THEATRE

The Chicago Theatre was built in 1921 and was the first large movie palace in the United States. Its stunning French Baroque style, magnificent lobby, and grand staircase provide ample reason for a visit while you're in the area. Simply walking by is an experience in itself as the Chicago Theatre marquee and six-story-high CHICAGO sign are striking icons on State Street. Stage plays, magic shows, comedy, concerts, and more are performed here throughout the year.



HEART STRINGS BY UNICEF



Heart Strings is an original experience that invites you to take part in UNICEF's impact by powering a universal song through interactive multimedia, lighting effects, and inspiring music. Promising to forge human connections, this multisensory journey shines a light on the world's children, transcending borders, cultures, and languages to create a deeply moving and engaging experience for all ages.

At Water Tower Place, June 15-30, 2024



State Street Shopping

One of Chicago's historic shopping destinations, State Street became famous when Frank Sinatra sang its praises in his song "Chicago." Today, it's home to a pedestrian mall and a variety of well-known stores. Visitors here can see the Chicago Archbishop's Mansion, the Original Playboy Mansion, the Chicago Theatre, and more.

Shoreline Water Taxi

Shoreline Water Taxis are the fast and fun way to get to Chicago's top attractions. After visiting nearby Shedd Aquarium, hop on a water taxi and head to Navy Pier and enjoy scenic skyline views along the way. shorelinewatertaxi.com

Soldier Field

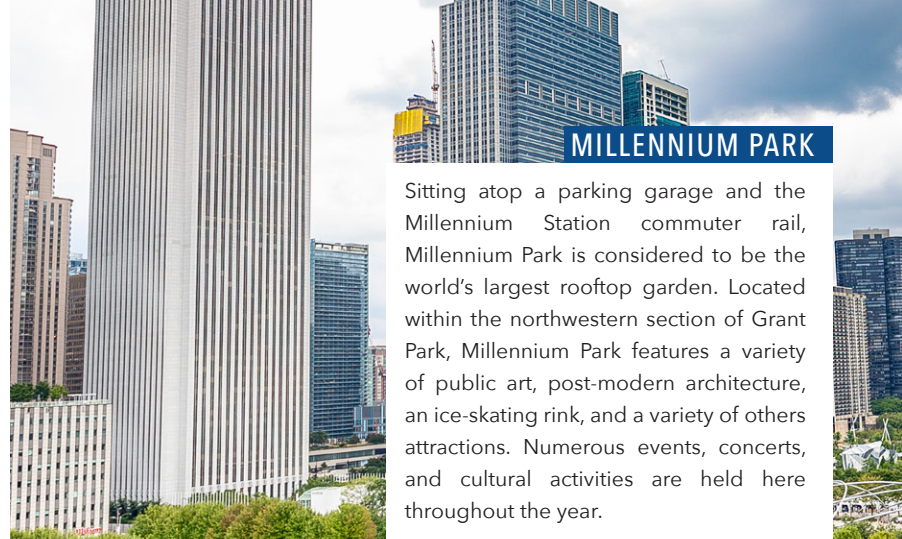
Home to the Chicago Bears, Soldier Field is located within Grant Park—only six blocks from the Hilton Chicago.

Chicago Loop

Public art installations of the South Loop area are like hidden gems – explore the Wabash Arts Corridor living canvas of large-scale murals, numerous public art installations, landmark buildings, Grant Park's seasonal Buckingham Fountain, and the Chicago River Walk's Art on the Mart nightly.

Lincoln Park Zoo

In a city where skyscrapers are built every day, Lincoln Park Zoo is dedicated to being the place in Chicago for all things wildlife—where children learn to love animals, where adults rediscover what it's like to wonder, and where nature isn't just an escape, but the priority. Located minutes from downtown, this world-class facility offers free admission.



MILLENNIUM PARK

Sitting atop a parking garage and the Millennium Station commuter rail, Millennium Park is considered to be the world's largest rooftop garden. Located within the northwestern section of Grant Park, Millennium Park features a variety of public art, post-modern architecture, an ice-skating rink, and a variety of others attractions. Numerous events, concerts, and cultural activities are held here throughout the year.



GRANT PARK & BUCKINGHAM FOUNTAINS

Located only one block from the Hilton Chicago, Grant Park consists of 300 acres of beautifully landscaped grounds and is home to attractions including Buckingham Fountain, the Lincoln Statue, the Art Institute of Chicago, Museum Campus, and Millennium Park. It also hosts a variety of events and concerts throughout the year.

Buckingham Fountain

Clarence F. Buckingham Memorial Fountain, one of the largest in the world, is located at Columbus Drive (301 East) and Congress Parkway (500 South) in Grant Park and runs

from 8 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. daily, typically from April to mid-October, depending on weather. Times are subject to change when large events take place in or around Grant Park. While in operation, every hour on the hour for 20 minutes the Fountain produces a major water display and the center jet shoots 150 feet into the air. The initial major display begins at 9:00 a.m. and thereafter, is every hour on the hour. Beginning at dusk, every hour on the hour for 20 minutes the Fountain's major water display is accompanied by a major light and music display. The final display of the evening begins at 10:35 p.m.





CHICAGO RIVER BOAT ARCHITECTURAL TOUR

Forming a length of 156 miles when combined, the Chicago River is a system of rivers and canals that characterize the infamous skyline of Chicago today. The river, running through the city, including the city center Chicago Loop, is evident of man-made design and infrastructure when completed craftily. In 1887, the river was reversed through civil engineering by taking water from Lake Michigan and discharging it into the Mississippi Watershed.

Throughout our signature cruise, one of our award-winning docents will present over 50 skyscrapers, bascule bridges, and historic sites.

In a world of iconic architecture, only a few images are so instantly recognized they need no subtitle.

Think of the Venetian canals, a Shinto temple, the medieval Cathedral at Chartres, or the unmistakable skyline of Chicago. Each year thousands of architecture lovers travel to the City of Chicago, the birthplace of the skyscraper... and thousands book passage aboard our enthralling river tour, widely considered the best 90 minutes spent in Chicago.

On your Architectural Tour, you will learn how the Great Chicago Fire jumped a river and allowed for visionaries of structural steel and plate glass, such as

Departure Time: 11:00 a.m.

Cost: \$125 per person

Includes:

- Transportation - pickup & return to hotel
- Lunch
- River Cruise
- Navy Pier

John Wellborn Root, William Le Baron Jenney, Louis Sullivan (Frank Lloyd Wright's mentor), and Daniel Burnham, in less than ten years, lift Chicago from the ashes of the fire to new heights. Chicago's ascent continued into the 20th century with titanic figures such as Bertrand Goldberg, Fazlur Khan, and Mies van der Rohe - (higher/taller) buildings, sleeker - and it has soared in the 21st century with audacious new steeples such as The Trump Tower and Aqua designed by Jeanne Gang, an internationally known artist of architectural design.

A jaw-dropping excursion through a city that defied all expectations... even the laws of gravity.

PLUS, A FREE HOUR AT NAVY PIER AT YOUR OWN PACE.

The historic Navy Pier is Chicago's premier tourist attraction. Located on the banks of Lake Michigan, visitors here can ride on a 15-story Ferris wheel, eat at one of the many lakeside restaurants, take a boat tour, watch a

3-D movie at the IMAX Theater, visit the Chicago Children's Museum, listen to live music, and much more.

TAKING THE ART OF SHOPPING IN CHICAGO TO THE NEXT LEVEL

From apparel and accessories to collectibles and convenience items, the Pier and its retail partners offer something for everyone. Best of all, you'll find them under our incredibly unique roof!

Whether you are looking for a cool t-shirt, a toy or souvenir your family has not seen before, or a one-of-a-kind collectible for your home, shopping in Chicago is more dynamic and delightful at Navy Pier than anywhere else in the city.

Our diverse directory of on-site shops, stores, and kiosks feature the Chicago-centric creations of local artisans and companies that offer the highest quality products at excellent value. These unexpected discoveries are sure to make you say, "I have to have this!"



RAFFLE INFO

DONATE TO THE WINDY CITY RAFFLE

GFWC will host a raffle throughout the Convention program dates. Examples of raffle items include gift cards, event tickets, vacation packages, high-end jewelry, purses, & accessories.

Contributing to the Windy City Raffle is the perfect opportunity to give back to GFWC and its membership. If you are interested in donating an item, contact Nishu Raina, Events Manager at NRaina@GFWC.org or 202-628-2478.



DEADLINE

Sponsorship, donation, and exhibit requests are due for inclusion in the Convention Program by **May 1, 2024**. Opportunities will be sold based on availability.

PURCHASE TICKETS FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN AN ARRAY OF FABULOUS PRIZES WITHIN THE ONLINE REGISTRATION SYSTEM. TICKETS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE ON-SITE AT CONVENTION.

[Download the Windy City Raffle Donation Form](#)



2024 WORKSHOPS

EMPOWERING STRATEGIES FOR CLUBWOMEN TO GIVE VOICE TO VICTIMS & TO EDUCATE THE COMMUNITY

Presenters: Carrie Zimmerman, Signature Program Chairman, and Committee

Within the GFWC Signature Program are eight focus areas: 1) Campus Sexual Assault, 2) Child Abuse, 3) Elder Abuse, 4) Human Trafficking for Sexual Purpose, 5) Intimate Partner Violence, 6) Military Sexual Assault, 7) Teen Dating Violence, and 8) Violence Against Native American Women. This interactive workshop will discuss the broad reaching issues and outcomes of domestic and sexual violence in our communities, survivors' needs, and safety implications at local and national levels. Learn what you can do as an advocate to raise public awareness and your role in helping end domestic violence.

THE GFWC BRAND – EDUCATE, ENGAGE & EMPOWER

Presenters: Becky Bolden, Communications and Public Relations Chairman, and Committee

Learn how to implement the new GFWC Rebranded Emblem at the club level. Participants will learn about branding basics and acquire the tools and steps to implement at the local level to ensure uniformity throughout the Federation.

AMPLIFY YOUR COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS (CSP) FOR A GREATER IMPACT

*Presenters: Billie Williams, Art and Culture Chairman
Vicky Ann Trimmer, Civic Engagement and Outreach Chairman
Dana Jones, Education & Libraries Chairman
Sharon Oliphant, Environment Chairman
Lynn Foreman, Health and Wellness Chairman*

Are you looking for a light-bulb moment when it comes to your club's CSPs? This insightful workshop provides a new lens for participants to assess current CSP strategies, objectives, tactics, and metrics. Learn how to constructively critique all aspects of the CSP workplan from its name, publicity, public awareness objectives, to the formation of strategic partnerships. All of which will help you spark greater interest in your community and increase your club's positive impact.

HOW TO CREATE A WINNING FUNDRAISING STRATEGY

Presenters: Judy Martin, Fundraising Chairman, and Committee

Press "Game On" for generosity! Participants will learn cutting edge strategies to increase your club's fundraising success. Glean ideas to create innovative fundraisers; learn pro tips for project implementation and completion; and gain hands-on practice with an interactive fundraising activity.

LET'S CHAMPION FOR CHILDREN – IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Presenters: Suzanne Hooser, Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children Chairman, and Committee

In this empowering workshop participants will learn to identify those in your community with whom you can collaborate to create a safe, nurturing environment for children to grow and thrive. Explore collaborative strategies, share insights, and learn how you and your club can become Champions for Children to make a positive impact in their lives.

LEADERSHIP ODYSSEY: CHARTING A NEW COURSE

Presenters: Ann Landis, Leadership Chairman, and Committee

It's time to rethink and transform traditional leadership models to better suit today's needs. Explore real-life club situations and how members can step up into leadership roles to inspire, to educate, and to lead for action. Participants will rethink, explore, and consider transformative leadership models to chart a new course.

RAISE OUR UNITED VOICES FOR CHANGE

Presenters: Mary Pat Marcello, Legislation/Public Policy Chairman, and Committee

Learn how to climb the GFWC Legislative Ladder to influence public policy as an advocate for change. Participants will be introduced to the new legislative model and how to engage in advocacy activities, reaping the rewards of your involvement. Presenters will instruct attendees on how to use the Legislative Action Center to obtain contact information for elected officials, respond to GFWC "Calls to Action," and to research legislation as it progresses.

DEVELOPING A WORLD CLASS MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT & RETENTION PROGRAM

Presenter: Karyn Charvat, Membership Chairman, and Committee

Every nonprofit's success is determined by the strength of its membership. When it comes to members, numbers matter! Now more than ever, GFWC needs all clubs to find a new gear for membership recruitment and retention. Participants will learn new strategies and tactics to help retain and grow your current club membership. Some of the topics for discussion include how to manage challenging situations; how to foster a club culture where members feel valued, appreciated, and included; and the role empathy plays in developing a **World Class Membership Program**.



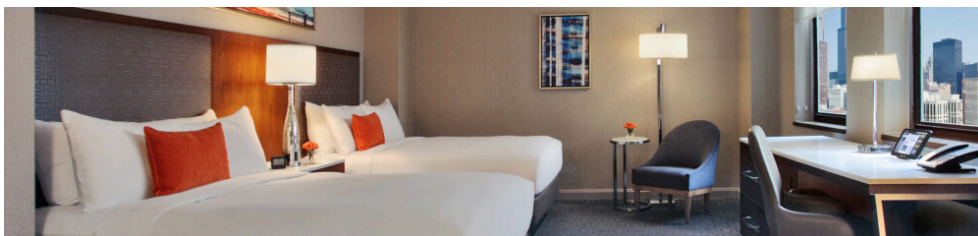


HILTON CHICAGO

The Hilton Chicago hotel opened its doors in 1927 and has served as one of the city's most revered addresses ever since. Located on South Michigan Avenue and overlooking Grant Park and Lake Michigan, the hotel has been meticulously redesigned and restored in a way that preserves the magnificence of its early 20th Century style while incorporating all the 21st Century conveniences our guests expect.

With 1,544 guest rooms and suites, 234,000 sq.ft. of meeting and event space, a full menu of amenities, exceptional dining options, and an ideal location in downtown Chicago, the Hilton Chicago hotel is both accommodating and convenient.

In addition to the four restaurants onsite, the following amenities are available to ensure your stay is a pleasant one: an ATM on the premises, baggage storage for \$2, full-service beauty salon, concierge desk to offer restaurant and area information, foreign currency exchange, gift shop, laundry/valet service, guest activity/recreation desk. In the lobby, there is an airline kiosk with complimentary boarding pass printing and self check-in.



GFWC's Group Rate (\$229 for King, double/double).

The room block closes on June 3, 2024, at midnight. Room reservations can be canceled up to 24 hours before scheduled arrival. Please help GFWC deliver the best hotel experience by not holding multiple rooms under one name.

For Hotel Reservations at the Hilton Chicago:

BOOK ONLINE - Book through this link book.passkey.com/go/GFWC2024

For room booking questions, please contact the Hilton Chicago at (312) 922-4400.

If problems arise, please contact Nishu Raina at NRaina@GFWC.org

Hilton Chicago

720 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, 60605, USA
TEL: 312-922-4400

HOW TO GET HERE

By Car

[Google Maps directions to hotel](#)

By Rail-CTA

When taking public transportation to the Hilton Chicago from O'Hare International Airport: Take CTA Blue Line train to the Jackson stop. This is the only subway train leaving O'Hare. Walk 0.6 miles southeast to 720 S. Michigan Ave.

When taking public transportation from Midway Airport to the Hilton Chicago take the CTA Orange Line train to the Roosevelt stop. Walk 0.5 miles north to 720 S. Michigan Ave.

By Car, Uber, Taxi, or Lyft

Chicago-O'Hare International Airport

Distance from Hotel: 18 mi.

Drive Time: 45 min

Chicago Midway Airport

Distance from Hotel: 12 mi.

Drive Time: 25 min

Self-Parking

\$52.00 for 24 hours (GFWC Special Price)

Enter Hilton Chicago's Parking Garage on Wabash Avenue or Balbo Street.

Valet Parking Services are currently not available.





GFWC BOOSTERS

VISIT CHICAGO, SUPPORT YOUR FAVORITE CLUBWOMAN, AND BECOME A GFWC BOOSTER!

The General Federation of Women’s Clubs Boosters is a national GFWC club and a companion group for GFWC members on the national and international levels. GFWC Boosters are the partners and spouses of GFWC clubwomen who share the commitment to volunteer service and revel in the fellowship of membership. As a GFWC national club, GFWC Boosters is subject to the same bylaws, standing rules, and policies to which all GFWC clubs adhere. Current dues for new members are \$50 for July 2024-June 2026, which includes the dues for membership in GFWC. In addition, there is a \$25 registration fee each year for the GFWC Annual Convention.

The goal of GFWC Boosters is to support GFWC at the Convention site and in our communities throughout the year. We also enjoy fellowship and participate in a variety of activities as we accomplish this goal. We encourage you to attend the 130th GFWC Annual International Convention in Chicago and join the GFWC Boosters in our hospitality suite- McCormick Boardroom 4th Floor. This suite, set aside specifically for Boosters, offers a great opportunity to meet and mingle with other members, support GFWC volunteer projects, and relax and enjoy the Convention. The location and hours of the GFWC Booster Hospitality Suite will be published in the GFWC Convention program.

GFWC Boosters hold several activities during the GFWC Convention. To participate in these activities you must complete the GFWC Boosters Registration Form and pay the \$25 registration fee. In addition, GFWC Boosters may register for and participate in the tours and meal functions organized by GFWC at the Convention; refer to the GFWC registration page for details. Be sure to stop by the GFWC Registration Desk to sign in at Convention and pick up your name badge, meal tickets, and other Convention information. Remember to check the GFWC Boosters Hospitality Suite throughout the Convention for any changes, notices, and other information regarding GFWC Boosters’ activities. GFWC Boosters will hold a business meeting during the GFWC Convention to review the minutes of the previous meeting and the financial status of the GFWC Boosters.

The meeting will be open to address new or unfinished items of business that benefit the GFWC Boosters and GFWC. The date, time, and location of the GFWC Boosters meeting will be published in the GFWC Convention program. To participate in planned activities with GFWC Boosters, you must have paid your dues for the two-year 2022-2024 period and prepay for activities on the GFWC Boosters Convention Registration Form. Although some states have independent GFWC Booster groups, membership in state-level groups does not convey to the GFWC Boosters National Club.

[Download the GFWC Boosters’ Registration Form](#)



2024 GFWC ANNUAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION

Online Convention Registration opens March 11, 2024. Type the following URL into your web browser or click and follow the instructions to register for Convention and all the events: <https://www.eventsquid.com/event/21480>.

GFWC's user-friendly online registration system is quick, secure, and easy to use. Registration closes on May 20. For assistance, contact Events Manager Nishu Raina at 202-628-2478 or via email at NRaina@GFWC.org.

ATTENDEE TYPE	EARLY BIRD FEE 03/011 - 04/15	REGULAR FEE 04/16 - 5/20
GFWC Woman's or Junior Woman's Club Attendee - Open to GFWC Woman's or Junior Woman's Club members. May register for any event of your choice. Receives voting privileges if applicable, a welcome package, and admittance into Business Sessions and Workshops.	\$160	\$175
GFWC Juniorette Club Attendee - Open to GFWC Juniorette Club members. May register for any event of your choice. Receives voting privileges if applicable, a welcome package, and admittance into Business Sessions and Workshops.	\$50	\$50
GFWC Member Daily Attendee - Open to GFWC members who wish to attend only one day of the Convention. May only register for events on your selected day; all other events are not eligible for registration. No voting privileges, but receives welcome package.	\$85	\$85
GFWC Juniorette Club Daily Attendee - Open to GFWC Juniorette Club members who wish to attend only one day of the Convention. May only register for events on your selected day; all other events are not eligible for registration. No voting privileges, but receives welcome package.	\$25	\$25
GFWC Host State Night Attendee - Open to GFWC members who are only attending the GFWC Illinois State Night Banquet on Friday, June 28. No admittance to Business Sessions or Workshops. No voting privileges but receives welcome package.	No Registration Fee	No Registration Fee
GFWC Member Installation Events Attendee - Open to GFWC members who are only attending the Installation events after 3pm on Monday July 1. No voting privileges but receives welcome package.	\$85	\$85
GFWC Booster Club Attendee - Open to GFWC Booster Club members. May register for any convention event. No voting privileges, but receives welcome package.	\$25	\$25
Non-Member Guest Attendee - Open to non-member guests attending with a GFWC member. May register for any event. No admittance to Business Sessions or Workshops. No voting privileges or welcome package.	\$25	\$25
* MEAL PACKAGES ON NEXT PAGE		



Discounted Meal Packages



MAGNIFICENT MILE MEAL PASS

1. "A Night at the Diamond Club" GFWC Illinois Welcome Banquet
2. "Better Together" Unity Luncheon
3. Region Banquet
4. ESO Breakfast
5. "Collaboration Makes Dreams Succeed" Affiliate Organizations Luncheon
6. The Purple Gala: A Night of Hope, Dreams, and Inspiration
7. "Shining Examples of Success" Luncheon Honoring Community Impact Program Winners



CHICAGOLAND MEAL PASS

1. "A Night at the Diamond Club" GFWC Illinois Welcome Banquet
2. "Better Together" Unity Luncheon
3. Region Banquet
4. ESO Breakfast
5. "Collaboration Makes Dreams Succeed" Affiliate Organizations Luncheon
6. The Purple Gala: "A Night of Hope, Dreams, and Inspiration"
7. "Shining Examples of Success" Luncheon Honoring Community Impact Program Winners
8. Installation Banquet & Celebration

***Packages do not include registration fees**



This is a great, cost-effective way to experience all the Convention excitement. You can also register for other events of your choice at an additional cost.

Cancellations

Cancellations will be handled based on GFWC cancellation policy after cancellation deadlines as per policy and are subject to a 5% processing fee. Please notify GFWC as soon as possible if you need to cancel your registration at Events@GFWC.org.

Tours are nonrefundable after May 20.

Late Registration

Tours will not be offered for registration after the maximum number is reached. If registering after May 20, all meals are subject to an additional charge of \$10 per meal.

Online Convention Registration opens March 11, 2024. Type the following URL into your web browser or click and follow the instructions to register for Convention and all the events: <https://www.eventsquid.com/event/21480>.

GFWC's user-friendly online registration system is quick, secure, and easy to use. Registration closes on May 20. For assistance, contact Events Manager Nishu Raina at 202-628-2478 or via email at NRaina@GFWC.org.



CREDENTIALS & VOTING

All GFWC members are invited to attend the GFWC Convention. However, not all attendees have voting privileges. In accordance with GFWC Bylaws, Article VIII, each club is permitted a certain number of voting delegates.

To determine your voting status during GFWC Business Sessions, credential cards are issued onsite at the GFWC Registration Desk. Credential cards are not mailed in advance and must be picked up onsite. When completing your registration, indicate your voting status and the capacity in which you are a delegate. Your voting status is then verified by the GFWC Credentials Committee.

Club Level

Two members from every Woman's, Junior Woman's, or Juniette club of 20 or fewer members may be voting delegates.

For each additional 10 members (or major fraction of 10) one more delegate may represent the club. For example, a club with 56 members may have six voting delegates: two for the first 20 members, one for having 21-30 members, one for having 31-40 members, one for having 41-50 members, and one for having an additional six members, which is a major fraction of 10.

To be eligible to vote, attendees must belong to a club whose dues were submitted by its State Federation to GFWC by February 15, 2024.

A delegate must pay the registration fee for the entire convention to be entitled to vote. Daily registration fee does not include voting privileges.

Board Level

All members of the 2022-2024 GFWC Board of Directors and of the GFWC Standing and Special Committees are eligible to vote.

Region Level

The Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer of each Region are delegates. The Region President is a delegate as a member of the GFWC Board of Directors.

State Level

If your State has any of the following elected officials, they may be delegates by virtue of their office: President-elect; First, Second, and Third Vice Presidents; Secretary; Corresponding Secretary; Treasurer; and the Director-elect of Junior Clubs. The State President and State Director of Junior Clubs are delegates as members of the GFWC Board of Directors. State Community Service Program, Special Program, or Advancement Area Chairmen may be delegates. Your State may have additional elected positions, chairmanships, and/or officers, but those with titles other than those mentioned will have to be delegates from their clubs or in some other capacity.

GFWC National or International Club

One delegate from each such club.

National Organization or International Affiliate

One delegate for each such organization.

For further information regarding dues, credentials, and representation, please refer to the GFWC Bylaws ARTICLE V Dues and Finance Section 5.2 Dues., ARTICLE VIII Conventions, and ARTICLE XII Committees Section 12.1 Standing Committees. E) Credentials.

Refer to the Governance section of the GFWC website, www.gfwc.org.



HELPFUL TIPS AND INFORMATION

To qualify as a voting delegate, a full Convention registration fee must be paid. Daily attendees do not receive a vote.

After checking into the hotel, your first stop should be the GFWC Registration and Welcome Desk to pick up your Convention materials. The Credentials Committee will be ready to assist with any questions.

Each delegate must pick up and sign for her own credentials. Voting delegates receive a white voting card. The Credentials Committee keeps a portion of the card, and the other portion is yours to use during voting.

If you register in a non-voting capacity, you receive a marked non-voting card, and you are not permitted to vote at Convention.

Only an accredited delegate may introduce motions, debate, and vote.

No delegate may represent more than one organization or be entitled to more than one vote.

No proxy voting shall be allowed.

A member registering as a non-voting member may, upon proper clearance by the Credentials Committee, be transferred to a delegate status during a business session meeting.



CANDIDATE INFORMATION & OPEN HOURS



2024-2026 CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE

Wendy Carriker

Candidate for GFWC President-elect

Jolie R. Frankfurth

Candidate for GFWC First Vice President

Mary Beth Williams

Candidate for GFWC Second Vice President

Becky Wright

Candidate for GFWC Secretary

Juliet Casper

Candidate for GFWC Treasurer

Susan Gettys

Candidate for GFWC Treasurer

Trina Behbahani

Candidate for GFWC Director-elect
of Junior Clubs

CALL FOR QUESTIONS

According to GFWC Standing Rule 9j. (Candidates for Office) In the event of a contested election and subsequent to the speeches, an independent moderator shall facilitate a question and answer session for only candidates endorsed for a contested election. This will occur in the business hall. A list of possible questions shall be electronically solicited from clubwomen.

Please send your questions by email to GFWC Elections Chairman Carol Habgood, carolhabgood@sbcglobal.net by **May 15, 2024**.



OPEN HOURS

REGISTRATION | ILLINOIS WELCOME STATION | MARKETPLACE

Located at the 8th Street Registration Counters, around the corner from Kitty O'Shea's. This should be your first stop at Convention - sign in and get all your Convention materials.

Wednesday, June 26	3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, June 27	9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Friday, June 28	8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. & 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 29	7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, June 30	9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. & 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Monday, July 1	8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

EXHIBITOR SHOWCASE

All vendors will be in Continental Ballroom C.

Thursday, June 27	4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Friday, June 28	8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 29	10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, June 30	8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Monday, July 1	10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Raffle and Fundraising
Jeanette T. Wells,
GFWC Fundraising and
Development Chairman
E: gfwc.jtw@gmail.com

First-Time Attendee Questions
Phyllis Skubic,
GFWC Convention and
Meetings Chairman
E: pjskubic@gmail.com

Credentials
Dara Bergdoll,
GFWC Credentials Chairman
E: darabeth1@hotmail.com

Convention Program/Advertising
Candice Gill
Design and Publications Manager
P: 202-457-7224
E: CGill@GFWC.org

Questions regarding registration (cost, guests, meals, etc.), exhibiting, sponsorship, etc., can be directed to Events Manager Nishu Raina at 202-628-2478 or via email at NRaina@GFWC.org at GFWC Headquarters.





Attire: Check the Dress Code section in the Agenda on the [Convention website](#) for details. Be sure to wear comfortable shoes and bring a light jacket as the meeting rooms can be on the chilly side.

Attractions: To learn more about cultural attractions in the area, visit the [Convention website](#) or the Chicago Tourism site: choosechicago.com.

Convention Facilities: All activities take place at the Hilton Chicago

Lobby Level - Registration, Marketplace, and Welcome Station. Exhibitor Showcase, Breakfast, and Lunches (Continental AB)

2nd Floor - The Opening Ceremony and Closing Ceremony with Business Sessions, and Fundraising, (International Ballroom). Socials Hours (Normandie Lounge) Dinner Banquets take place in the Grand Ballroom.

3rd Floor - Workshops and Meetings

4th Floor - Boosters Lounge (McCormick Boardroom)

Guests: Guests must register and pay for events. Guests may not attend sessions or participate in any event for which they do not hold a ticket.

Hotel Amenities: Enjoy freshly brewed Starbucks® coffee, hearty breakfast sandwiches, and artisan bites with local craft beers in Herb n' Kitchen. For an authentic atmosphere of an Irish pub, head to Kitty O'Sheas. Catch the latest game and browse through the largest whiskey menu in Chicago. Discover a fully-equipped fitness center with a heated indoor lap pool, seasonal sundeck, whirlpool spas, dry saunas, and more. Stay in shape on the road with the center's full lineup of modern gym equipment.

Meals: If purchased when registering, you will receive tickets for the meals in your registration package. Tickets must be shown at the door. Please note every seat in the ballroom has been assigned to a convention attendee. Table assignments are on your meal tickets.

Meal Requests for Dietary Restrictions: If you requested a special meal, please inform your server and show the dietary card from your registration package. **Please retain these for the full convention.**

Registration Packet: Upon checking in, you will receive a Registration Packet, neck wallet. Before leaving the registration desk, please confirm that you have the right tickets. Please bring a printout of your registration or invoice with you to convention for easy and smooth check-in.

Table Numbers: All tables in both ballrooms have numbers. These numbers are meant to help you find each other, i.e., you can text your friends to say "I'm at Table 18."

Weather: Chicagoans like to joke that if you don't like the weather, just wait an hour, it will change. The key is to be prepared for a wide range of weather conditions with clothing that can take you from a sunny morning to a chilly, drizzly evening. As close to your departure as possible, check the local weather forecast on the Weather Channel (www.Weather.com).

Welcome Bag: Convention Program, tote bag, various handouts, and convention swag (Thank you, Sponsors!). These can be collected from the Illinois Welcome Table.



BYLAWS

2022-2024 BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Chairman, Barbara Whitaker, PRP; Trina Behbahani; Arlene Creeden; Tammie McCoy; Deen Meloro, PRP; Diane Addante, RP, GFWC Parliamentarian, Advisor

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO GFWC BYLAWS IN 2023

The following are proposed changes for consideration at the 2024 GFWC Annual Convention in Chicago, Illinois. Proposed additions are noted in **[bold green text and surrounded by brackets]**. Proposed deletions are noted in ~~strikethrough~~ text.

The Bylaws Committee requests authorization to make editorial changes throughout the GFWC Bylaws to render the document more job-title-specific. For example: "the International President" vs. "she."

RATIONALE: To update language to reflect the GFWC Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement and align with GFWC Bylaws, ARTICLE XVIII, *Ethical Standards*, Section 18.5 Discrimination.

PLEASE NOTE: In order to address Article III, **Article IV Constituent Divisions Section 4.3 State Federations** must be addressed first

ARTICLE IV

Constituent Divisions

Section 4.3 State Federations

CURRENT BYLAW: Section 4.3 State Federations. Woman's Clubs, Junior Woman's Clubs, and Juniorette Clubs may join together to form a State Federation. There shall be no more than one federation per state. In order to be recognized by GFWC, a State Federation shall elect a President, Secretary, Treasurer, and such additional officers or directors as the State Federation may provide in its bylaws. State Federations shall hold a minimum of one statewide meeting each year of the administration. At least one of the statewide meetings during an administration shall be a state convention. State Federations may establish districts, if desired.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT: Amend title by adding "**or the District of Columbia Federation.**" Strike "together" in the first sentence. Insert "**or District of Columbia Federation**" after "Federation" in the first sentence. Add "**or District of Columbia**" in the second sentence. Strike "In order" in the third sentence. Capitalize "to" in the third sentence. Insert "**such**" after "GFWC," in the third sentence. Strike "a State" in the third sentence. Change "Federation" to lowercase

in the third sentence. Strike "~~such~~" after "and" in the third sentence. Insert "**provided in**" in the third sentence. Strike "State" in the third sentence. Insert "**bylaws**" after "Federation" in the third sentence. Strike "~~may provide in its bylaws~~" in the third sentence. Strike "State" in the fourth sentence. Strike "~~statewide~~" in the fourth and fifth sentences and insert "**federation-wide.**" Strike "state" in the fifth sentence.

TO READ IF ADOPTED: Article IV. Section 4.3 State Federations [or the District of Columbia Federation.] Woman's Clubs, Junior Woman's Clubs, and Juniorette Clubs may join together to form a State Federation **[or District of Columbia Federation.]** There shall be no more than one federation per state **[or the District of Columbia].** **In order To** be recognized by GFWC, **[such]** a State Federation shall elect a President, Secretary, Treasurer, and ~~such~~ additional officers or directors as **[provided in]** the State Federation **[bylaws]** may provide in its bylaws. State Federations shall hold a minimum of one ~~statewide~~ **[federation-wide]** meeting each year of the administration. At least one of the ~~statewide~~ **[federation-wide]** meetings during an administration shall be a ~~state~~ convention. State Federations may establish districts, if desired.

RATIONALE: To Clarify. Should this Bylaw amendment be adopted, the "District of Columbia Federation" will be inserted where appropriate throughout the Bylaws.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

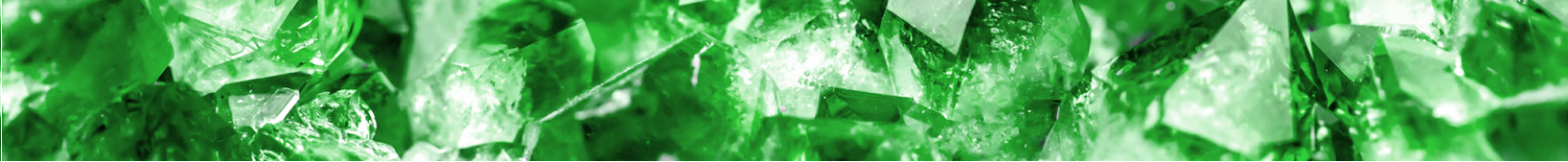
ARTICLE IV

Constituent Divisions

[Section 4.4. Reinstatement of a State Federation or the District of Columbia Federation

A State Federation or the District of Columbia Federation, having resigned from GFWC while in good standing, may be reinstated by submitting to the GFWC Executive





Committee a letter of request and required documentation as specified in the GFWC Standing Rules.]

RATIONALE: To provide for reinstatement. If adopted, ARTICLE IV *Constituent Divisions* will be renumbered.)

ARTICLE IV

Constituent Divisions

Section 4.4 Regions. D)

CURRENT BYLAW

D). Each region shall hold at least one conference during an administration. The dates of the region conferences shall be determined by the Executive Committee in consultation with the President-elect and Region President. The site of the conference shall be determined by the host state in consultation with the Region President and GFWC President-elect and approved by the Executive Committee. The GFWC President-elect shall serve as coordinator of the activities of the Region Presidents. She shall attend each region conference with expenses assumed by GFWC.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Strike “She shall attend each region conference with expenses assumed by GFWC.”

TO READ IF ADOPTED

D). Each region shall hold at least one conference during an administration. The dates of the region conferences shall be determined by the Executive Committee in consultation with the President-elect and Region President. The site of the conference shall be determined by the host state in consultation with the Region President and GFWC President-elect and approved by the Executive Committee. The GFWC President-elect shall serve as coordinator of the activities of the Region Presidents. She shall attend each region conference with expenses assumed by GFWC.

RATIONALE: Travel arrangements are covered in the GFWC Travel Policy.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 3.3 Application for Membership.

Active Membership 2)

CURRENT BYLAW

Section 3.3 Application for Membership.

A. Active Membership

2) Application for active membership by

Woman’s Clubs, Junior Woman’s Clubs, and Juniorette Clubs in the District of Columbia shall be made directly to GFWC. All applications shall be accompanied by a copy of the bylaws of the club, a list of members, and payment of GFWC per capita dues. Such applications shall be reviewed and acted upon by the Executive Committee.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Strike Section 3.3 Application for Membership.

Active Membership 2)

TO READ IF ADOPTED

Section 3.3 Application for Membership.

A. Active Membership

2) Application for active membership by Woman’s Clubs, Junior Woman’s Clubs, and Juniorette Clubs in the District of Columbia shall be made directly to GFWC. All applications shall be accompanied by a copy of the bylaws of the club, a list of members, and payment of GFWC per capita dues. Such applications shall be reviewed and acted upon by the Executive Committee.

RATIONALE. To clarify. Should this amendment be adopted, ARTICLE III *Membership* will be renumbered.

CURRENT BYLAW

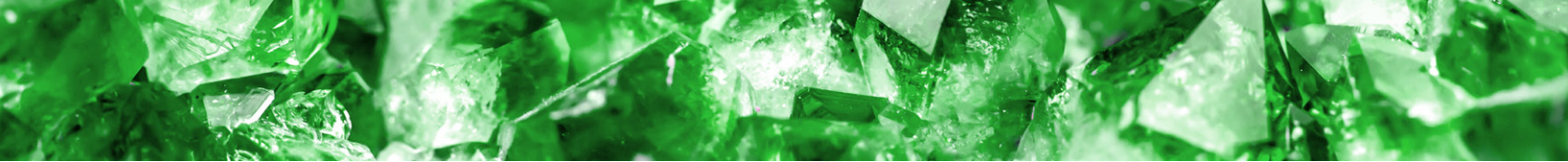
Section 3.4 Termination of Membership Resignations of clubs shall be sent to the respective state federation, which shall notify GFWC immediately. Resignations of active clubs in the District of Columbia, GFWC National Clubs, International Clubs, or associate members shall be sent directly to GFWC. Upon notice of resignation, all rights and privileges of membership cease. Active or associate members whose dues remain unpaid for one year shall be removed from membership. Members whose activities and purposes have been proven to be incompatible with those of GFWC shall be removed from membership by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Insert “**or the District of Columbia Federation,**” after “federation” in the first sentence. Strike “clubs in the District of Columbia” in the second sentence.

TO READ IF ADOPTED





Section 3.4 Termination of Membership Resignations of clubs shall be sent to the respective state federation [or the District of Columbia Federation,] which shall notify GFWC immediately. Resignations of active clubs in the District of Columbia, GFWC National Clubs, International Clubs, or associate members shall be sent directly to GFWC. Upon notice of resignation, all rights and privileges of membership cease. Active or associate members whose dues remain unpaid for one year shall be removed from membership. Members whose activities and purposes have been proven to be incompatible with those of GFWC shall be removed from membership by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors.

RATIONALE: To clarify.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 3.5 Renewal of Membership

CURRENT BYLAW: Section 3.5 Renewal of Membership. Annual active membership in GFWC shall be renewed automatically when renewed with the state federation, which shall notify GFWC Headquarters. Active clubs in the District of Columbia, National Clubs, and International Clubs shall renew their memberships by timely paying annual per capita dues to GFWC and providing GFWC with a list of their current members by the deadline of February 15.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Insert “or the District of Columbia Federation” after “federation” in the first sentence. Strike “clubs in the District of Columbia;” and strike the comma after “Clubs” in the second sentence.

TO READ IF ADOPTED: Section 3.5 Renewal of Membership. Annual active membership in GFWC shall be renewed automatically when renewed with the state federation [or the District of Columbia Federation,] which shall notify GFWC Headquarters. Active clubs in the District of Columbia, National Clubs, and International Clubs shall renew their memberships by paying annual per capita dues to GFWC and providing GFWC with a list of their current members by the deadline of February 15.

RATIONALE: To clarify.

ARTICLE XII

Committees

Section 12.1 Standing Committees.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Insert new committee and re-letter remaining committees.

[A) Annual Giving. This committee shall number eight. It shall be the duty of this committee to oversee the Annual Giving Program and to honor special groups of financial supporters that help GFWC continue to achieve its mission.]

RATIONALE: To establish the Annual Giving Committee as a Standing Committee. If the amendments to **ARTICLE XII, Committees, Section 12.1 Standing Committees** are adopted, the section will be renumbered.

ARTICLE XII

Committees

Section 12.1 Standing Committees.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Insert a new committee and re-letter the remaining committees.

[F) Corporate Partners and Development. This committee shall number three. It shall be the duty of this committee to develop external funding sources for GFWC.]

RATIONALE: To establish a standing committee that oversees and develops outside funding sources.

ARTICLE XII

Committees

Section 12.1 Standing Committees.

G) Fundraising and Development

CURRENT BYLAW

G) Fundraising and Development. This committee shall number eight members, one from each Region. It shall be the duty of this committee to oversee internal fundraising and develop external funding sources for GFWC.





PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Strike "and Development" in the title. Strike "and develop external funding sources" in the second sentence.

TO READ IF ADOPTED

G) Fundraising and Development. This committee shall number eight members, one from each Region. It shall be the duty of this committee to oversee internal fundraising and develop external funding sources for GFWC.

RATIONALE: External fundraising and development are the responsibilities of the Corporate Partners and Development Committee.

GFWC JUNIOR Jeopardy

SATURDAY, JUNE 29
THE GAMES BEGIN AT 9:45 PM

Please join the Juniors in a GFWC Convention Trivia Hunt! Registrants will receive their Jeopardy playing card at check-in and gather information from the hotel, tours, and business session to see how many answers they can find. Prizes will be awarded at the Junior Fun Night celebratory drop-in. Profits raised by this event will be donated by the GFWC Juniors.



RESOLUTIONS

2022-2024 RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Mary C. Powell, Chairman; Patty Benskin; Debbie Grieder; Kimberly Meyer; Vicky Ann Trimmer;
Juliet Casper, Legislation/Public Policy Chairman

PROPOSED GFWC RESOLUTIONS IN 2024

The following are proposed resolutions to be presented for consideration at the 2024 GFWC Annual Convention. Proposed additions are noted in **[bold green text and surrounded by brackets]**. Proposed deletions are noted in ~~strikethrough text~~.

ENVIRONMENT

RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED TO BE AMENDED

160-070 Household Waste Management (Convention 2021: Includes "Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)," Convention 1988; and "Waste Management and Recycling," Convention 1997)

WHEREAS, The disposal of household waste, including the disposal of household hazardous waste (HHW), which contains corrosive, toxic, flammable, or reactive ingredients, can:

- Pollute the environment;
- Harm plant and animal life;
- Leach into soil and ground water;
- Produce toxic gases or spontaneously combust; and

WHEREAS, The use of green products and recycling conserves natural resources and helps protect the environment by preserving the quality of the environment and reducing the quantity of solid waste; and

[WHEREAS, Single-use plastics are generally not compostable or biodegradable, and can make their way into the food chain and water supply generating a threat to the environment, marine life, wildlife, and humans; and]

WHEREAS, The reduction of packaging used on products for the household decreases the amount of household waste; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to:

- Support the use of green products and substitution of non-hazardous products for household cleaners, yard care, and car maintenance;
- **[Support public education regarding alternatives to**

single-use plastics and encourage the elimination of single-use plastic products by individuals and businesses;]

- Promote public awareness of the dangers of improper disposal of household hazardous waste;
- Encourage local and state agencies to provide and promote public participation in recycling, household hazardous waste "drop off" programs, collection days, and permanent collection sites, and to provide educational materials through the classroom, publications, and the media;
- Encourage retailers and manufacturers to reduce over-packaging, to promote recycling within their businesses, and to provide information to households on safe disposal and recycling;
- Support legislation that encourages continued development of and standards for green products, and encourages efforts to increase appropriate recycling.

Rationale: To expand.

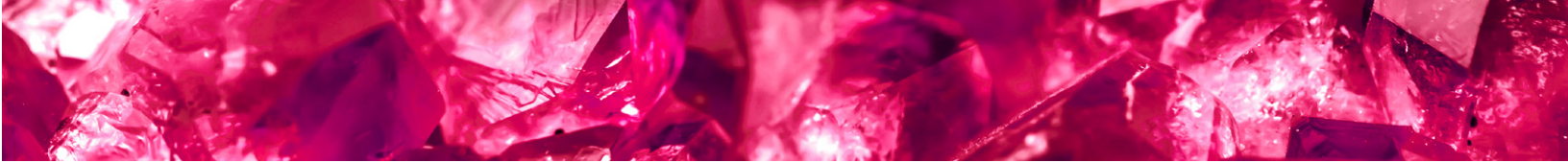
160-100 Protection of Oceans (Convention 2011; Reviewed 2015; Amended 2019; Amended 2021)

WHEREAS, Oceans contain approximately 97% of the earth's water supply, generate approximately 50% of the earth's oxygen, and provide almost 20% of the animal protein humans eat, provide vital natural resources, are a frontier for scientific exploration, and are critical to the world economy and national security; and

WHEREAS, Carbon dioxide from the atmosphere has been shown to cause ocean acidification, which may cause serious biological and economic harm; and

WHEREAS, Only 13% of the world's ocean waters constitute marine wilderness and the preservation and study of such areas is necessary to understand the restoration of





degraded marine ecosystems; and

[WHEREAS, 90% of the ocean trash is generated by single-use plastics resulting in serious harm to the deep seas, coral reefs, beaches, rivers, and ocean life including birds and turtles; and]

WHEREAS, Programs dealing with ocean resources, preservation, and restoration do not reflect a unified approach towards preserving and restoring the oceans; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- The development of an international ocean policy that unifies and coordinates ocean preservation and restoration efforts;
- Policy decisions to ensure the conservation and long-term sustainability of marine resources;
- Efforts to manage fisheries, protect marine habitats, and maintain and restore marine ecosystems;
- **[Elimination of the use of non-essential single-use plastic products;]**
- Efforts by the State Department and US Agency for International Development to address global problems of ocean-borne plastic waste and other pollution debris, including plastic waste cleanup, waste management, and recycling.

Rationale: To expand.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED TO BE AMENDED:

170-010 Autism Spectrum Disorder (Convention 2011; Amended 2015; Amended 2019; Amended 2021)

WHEREAS, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a developmental disability with a wide variation in the type and severity of symptoms and occurs in all ethnic, racial, and economic groups; and

WHEREAS, The cost of lifelong care of ASD can be reduced with early diagnosis and intervention; and

WHEREAS, **[While all]** A number of states have passed laws requiring ASD coverage by private health insurers resulting in more for children with ASD receiving treatment, **[, some states limit coverage by age, dollar, or hour maximums resulting in disparities];** therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to **[support]** advocate for:

- Legislation requiring private and public-sponsored **[comprehensive]** health insurance coverage for ASD intervention programs;
- Expanded insurance coverage for services, therapies, and treatment of individuals of all ages with ASD;
- Continued research into the causes, treatment, and prevention of ASD.

Rationale: To update.

170-020 Breast Cancer (Formerly “Breast Cancer Examination;” Convention 1986; Amended and Reaffirmed 1989; Reviewed 1993; Amended 1997; Amended 2001; Amended 2005; Amended 2006; Amended 2010; Amended 2014; Reviewed 2018; Amended 2021)

WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that one in eight women and one in more than 800 men will develop breast cancer in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, The stage at which breast cancer is diagnosed is a major predictor of survival, with early detection significantly lowering the mortality rate; and

WHEREAS, Screening methods, including physical **[clinical breast]** examination, self-examination, laboratory tests, genetic tests, and **[mammography, all]** assist in early breast cancer detection; and

[WHEREAS, Dense breasts make detection of cancer with mammography more difficult; and]

WHEREAS, Common treatments of breast cancer, including mastectomies, breast conserving surgery, radiation, chemotherapy, **[hormone therapy,]** and lymph node removal **[,]** and dissections extend life **[lives];** and

WHEREAS, Many breast cancer patients are forced to go home from the hospital hours after surgery due to hospital-stay restrictions imposed by their insurance companies; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- Educational campaigns raising awareness of early diagnostic and screening tools available to detect breast cancer **[, the increased risk associated with dense breasts,]** and the available treatment options;
- **[Research into breast density and the appropriate imaging and procedures to diagnose early breast**



RESOLUTIONS

cancer;

- **Legislation which requires patient notification of dense breasts and insures for health coverage parity for breast cancer diagnostic imaging;**
- Legislation [**Codification**] requiring insurance coverage for a 48-hour minimum hospital stay for mastectomy and a 24-hour minimum hospital stay for all other breast cancer surgery.

Rationale: To expand and update.

170-030 Cancer (Convention 2021: Includes "Gynecologic Cancer," Convention 2006; and "Cancer," Convention 2011)

WHEREAS, Cancer is a complex group of diseases with multiple causes; and

WHEREAS, According to the National Cancer Institute more than 1.8 **[1.9]** million people develop cancer each year and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates the annual cost of treatment exceeds \$174 **[209]** billion; and

WHEREAS, Approximately half of all cancer deaths are linked to modifiable lifestyle factors; and

WHEREAS, Education about risk factors, symptoms, and diagnostic tools available to screen for cancer reduces late-stage diagnoses and mortality; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- Educational awareness campaigns that target modifiable risk factors and the availability of screening and treatment options;
- Funding for the research and development of prevention strategies, comprehensive screening methods, treatment options, and cures.

Rationale: To update.

170-050 Diabetes (Convention 2003; Amended 2008; Amended 2012; Amended 2016; Amended 2021)

WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, diabetes is a leading cause of death in the United States, the number of children and adults with diabetes is rising, and statistics show many more cases are undiagnosed; and

WHEREAS, Diabetes is known to be a causative factor in other health problems, including but not limited to cardiovascular, renal, neurologic, **[vision,]** and dental diseases, and some **[as well as]** complications in pregnancy **[and dementia];** and

WHEREAS, To manage their disease, those with diabetes must have access to a healthy, balanced diet and medication, and must maintain a level of physical activity; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- Enforcement of laws prohibiting discrimination against those with diabetes;
- Insurance coverage for comprehensive medical care for those with diabetes;
- Programs to **[that]** train **[education and]** school and childcare personnel **[professionals and home-based providers]** to identify symptoms and facilitate treatment options for students with diabetes;
- Education about the role a healthy diet and physical activity play in treating and reducing the onset and control of diabetes;
- Increased funding for diabetes research and prevention programs;
- Improved awareness of prediabetes symptoms among healthcare providers and people at risk.

Rationale: To update.

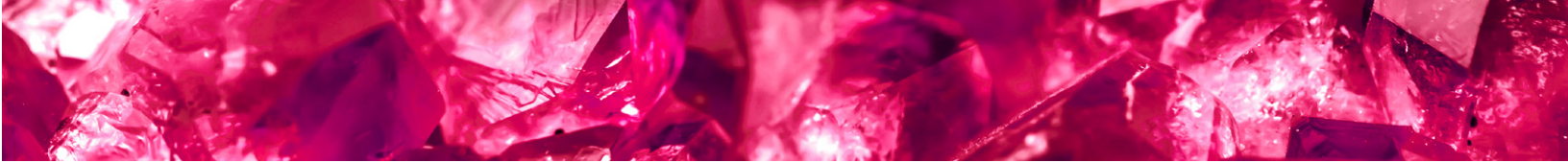
170-070 Food, Drug, Cosmetic, and Medical Product Regulation and Safety (Convention 2021: Includes "Food, Drug, Cosmetics," and "Medical Products Regulation," Convention 1989; and "Food Safety," Convention 2005)

WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women's Clubs was instrumental in the passage of the Pure Food and Drug Act, which led to the establishment of the Food and Drug Administration to protect the health and safety of consumers; and

WHEREAS, The Food and Drug Administration, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture regulate items, including food, drugs, cosmetics, and medical devices, and guard against foodborne illnesses; and

WHEREAS, There is ongoing demand for consumer protection from serious illness or health complications; therefore





RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to **[support]:**

- Advocate for **[F]**unding to accelerate research and development to ensure availability of new medical treatments and to provide protection to consumers;
- Support **[S]**trengthening the consumer protection regulations of the Food and Drug Administration and the Food Safety Modernization Act;
- Support **[Reasonable]** public health and safety laws.

Rationale: To update.

170-100 Heart [Cardiovascular] Disease in Women (Convention 2011; Amended 2015; Amended 2019; Amended 2021)

WHEREAS, Heart **[Cardiovascular] disease[, which includes stroke,]** is the number one killer of women with an overall increase in heart attacks approximately 10 years after menopause and is deadlier than all forms of cancer combined; and

WHEREAS, Studies show:

- **[Many]** Approximately 55% of women **[do not recognize cardiovascular disease as their greatest health threat]** are unaware that heart disease is the leading cause of death in women;
- **[Cardiovascular disease is the number one killer of new mothers;**
- **Menopause can accelerate cardiovascular disease risk factors;**
- **Most cardiac and stroke events can be prevented through education and lifestyle changes;]**
- Women often present with different heart attack symptoms than men, resulting in a delay in diagnosis and treatment when a heart attack occurs;
- Women account for less than one-third of all subjects in heart **cardiovascular** disease studies; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- Public awareness campaigns on women’s heart **[cardiovascular risk factors,]** health and **[including]** heart attack **[and stroke]** symptoms;

- Efforts to improve research, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of heart disease and other cardiovascular diseases in women.

Rationale: To update.

170-140 Nutrition and Obesity (Convention 2021: Includes “Nutrition,” Convention 1976; “Obesity Prevention,” Convention 2011; and “Reducing Obesity in Youth,” Convention 2019)

WHEREAS, Nutrition is a critical factor in both the prevention of and recovery from disease, illness, and injury; and

WHEREAS, Overweight adults and children are at increased risk of multiple health problems and chronic diseases; and

WHEREAS, Obesity has reached epidemic numbers placing a burden on the healthcare system; and

WHEREAS, Research has shown that early childhood is an important time for developing dietary and physical activity behaviors that support health and may help prevent obesity, and

WHEREAS, Healthy eating can improve a child’s learning ability, academic performance, and mental, social~~[,]~~ and physical wellbeing; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to:

- Support a national strategy to reduce obesity;
- Promote development and implementation of programs on healthy nutritional habits and fitness counseling;
- Encourage the restaurant industry and school nutrition programs to provide reasonable food and beverage portions to enhance overall healthy living and improved quality of life;
- **[Engage local, state, and national leaders to promote and sponsor salad bars in schools to promote increased consumption of fruits and vegetables and to help children develop good eating habits;]**
- Support the inclusion of prevention, management, and reduction of obesity in medical, nursing, and allied health training programs.

Rationale: To update.

170-150 Organ and Tissue Transplantation (Formerly “Organ and Tissue Transplants;” Convention 1988;

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Amended 1992; Amended 1996; Reviewed 2000; Reviewed 2003; Amended 2007; Reviewed 2011; Amended 2015; Amended 2019; Amended 2021)

WHEREAS, The transplantation of vital organs and tissues, including vascularized composite allografts (i.e., hands, fascial tissue, limbs, etc.), is an accepted medical procedure; and

WHEREAS, Tissue banking is an unregulated business venture that has become lucrative through fees charged for processing and handling; and

WHEREAS, Only 60% of potential organ and/or tissue donors execute an organ and/or tissue donor card, and inform healthcare providers and family members of their desire to be a donor; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- Public awareness campaigns that educate individuals about the need for organ and tissue donation and the ability to express their personal preferences by signing a donor card, Advance Health Care Directive (Living Will); and/or Health Care Power of Attorney[, and designating donor status on their driver's license];
- Legislation requiring The Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) allocate available donations that take into consideration the patient's medical status and the likelihood of a successful transplant;
- Legislation requiring insurance coverage for all aspects of the organ and tissue transplantation process and the long-term costs associated with the transplant;
- Legislation regulating tissue banking operations and the disposal of excess tissue.

Rationale: To update.

170-160 Preventable Disease (Convention 2021: Includes "Immunization for Prevention of Childhood Diseases," Convention 1992; "Prevention, Detection, Control and Cure of Diseases and Illnesses," Convention 1977; and "Tuberculosis Prevention," Convention 1992)

WHEREAS, The incidence of disease is costly to society; and

WHEREAS, Preventable diseases have surged due to the lack of vaccinations; resulting in epidemics and needless loss of life; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs

urges its member clubs to:

- Support legislation mandating medical insurance companies cover consumers with pre-existing conditions;
- Promote and support education and research on prevention, control, and cure of disease, including the necessity and safety of immunizations;
- Support the Centers for Disease and Control and Prevention recommendations for vaccinations;
- Support the World Health Organization's Global Vaccine Action Plan;
- **[Support the World Health Organization's Immunization Agenda 2030 strategies and core principles;]**
- Support local, state, and federal health departments, health care providers, and health organizations in the early detection **[of diseases]**.

Rationale: To update.

170-170 Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare

(Convention 2021: Includes "HIV/AIDS," Convention 1992; and "Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare," Convention 1997)

WHEREAS, Sexually-transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS and Human Papillomavirus (HPV), both globally and in the United States:

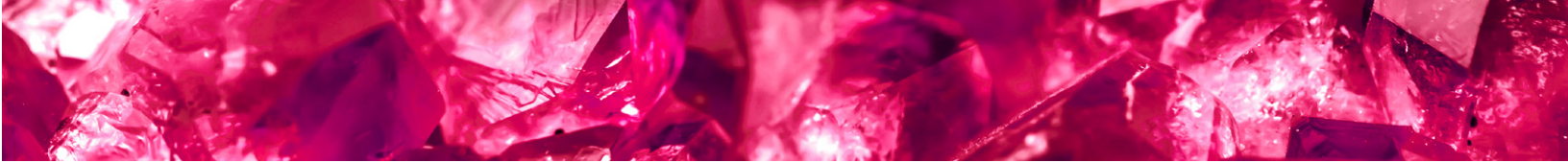
- Endanger the lives of both women and men;
- Endanger pregnant women and unborn babies;
- **€[c]**ontinue to spread due to lack of education, symptoms, and access to contraceptives and vaccines, refusal to be vaccinated, and risky sexual and behavioral choices; and

WHEREAS, Health issues for women and infants are also increased by such risk factors as: **[including inadequate prenatal care, low infant birth weight, premature birth, and neonatal, infant and maternal mortality, the age of the mother, and postpartum depression;]**

Inadequate prenatal care, low infant birth weight, premature birth, and neonatal, infant and maternal morbidity and mortality;

The age of the mother, particularly for children born to teen mothers;





- Postpartum depression, a serious and disabling condition that is frequently undiagnosed; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- Legislation and funding for access to comprehensive healthcare;
- Research to develop treatments and cures for sexually-transmitted infections;
- Development and implementation of programs and services on reproductive health and rights such as sex education, sexually-transmitted infections, family planning, perinatal care, well-baby and well-children, and family-life parenting.

Rationale: To condense and update.

170-210 Tobacco and E-Cigarettes (Formerly “Tobacco and Young People;” Convention 1997; Reviewed 2001; Amended 2005; Reviewed 2009; Amended 2013; Amended 2017; Amended 2021)

WHEREAS, Cigarette smoking has declined in the United States in recent years, but use and popularity of e-cigarettes, **[vaping devices,]** smokeless tobacco, and other tobacco products are increasing[.], and their long-term impact on health is not fully understood; and

[WHEREAS, Every day in the United States, thousands of youth smoke their first cigarette or e-cigarette, and many become daily smokers; and

WHEREAS, All states have passed legislation prohibiting the sale of e-cigarettes to underage individuals, and most states require a retail license to sell e-cigarettes over the counter; and

WHEREAS, Proven cessation treatments continue to be underutilized by individuals who smoke;]

WHEREAS, Manufacturers of e-cigarettes are not required to report their products’ ingredients, making the amount of nicotine or other potentially harmful or addictive substances unknown; and

WHEREAS, the Food and Drug Administration has the authority to regulate tobacco product standards and has chosen not to prohibit menthol or flavored tobacco products; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- Development and implementation of a public awareness campaign to address the addictive qualities

and hazards of long-term tobacco **[and e-cigarette]** use;

- Enforcement of existing laws prohibiting the marketing and sale of tobacco and e-cigarettes to minors;
- Legislation requiring manufacturers of e-cigarettes to provide product ingredient information;
- Access to and insurance coverage for effective nicotine-addiction treatments **[that are comprehensive, barrier-free, and widely promoted].**

Rationale: To update.

RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED TO REMAIN UNCHANGED:

- 170-040 Child Survival in Developing Countries**
- 170-045 Dementia**
- 170-060 Family Caregivers**
- 170-080 Freedom of Access to Health Clinics**
- 170-090 Healthcare and Research**
- 170-110 Long Term Care**
- 170-120 Mental Health Parity**
- 170-130 Nursing Shortage Crises**
- 170-180 Stem Cell Research**
- 170-190 Substance Abuse and Rehabilitation**
- 170-200 Support for Emergency Services Personnel**

EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES

PROPOSED NEW RESOLUTION:

[EDUCATIONAL PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT AND APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, Educational professionals, including teachers, teacher assistants, and other educational staff, are often underpaid, overworked, and under-appreciated resulting in burnout and shortages; and

WHEREAS, Wages directly affect the ability of school districts to recruit and retain educational professionals; and

WHEREAS, Educational professionals regularly purchase essential school supplies in excess of the deduction allowed by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS); therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to:

Advocate for increased local, state, and federal funding

RESOLUTIONS

to offer educational professionals a living wage, which will encourage quality teacher candidates as well as the retention of all educational professionals;

- Endorse increasing the allowable deduction for essential school supplies;
- Support educational professionals through donations of classroom supplies, adopt-a-classroom-type programs, and recognition events.]

Submitted by GFWC North Carolina

Edited and recommended by the GFWC Resolutions Committee

Order your 2024
Convention Shirt
when you register



2024 AWARDS

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE AS OF 03/01/2024

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

Opening Ceremony and Business Session

- International Affiliate Clubs
- National Clubs

Unity Luncheon

- Millie Crom Award for Excellence in Junior State Leadership
- Juniorette Participation
- Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children
- Writing Contests
- WHRC

SUNDAY, JUNE 30

ESO Breakfast

- Education and Libraries
- ESO Awards

Affiliates Award Luncheon

- United Nations Shot@Life Campaign
- St. Jude Childrens Research Hospital
- Hope for Justice

Afternoon Business Session

- Leadership
- Legislation/Public Policy
- Membership

Gala Banquet

- Jennie Awards
- Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention
- Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention Fund
- GFWC Success for Survivors Scholarship
- Gifts to Headquarters Recognition

MONDAY, JULY 1

Morning Business Session

- Charlotte Emerson Brown Award
- Communications & Public Relations
- Website Contest
- Newsletter Contest
- Photography Contests
- Fundraising

Community Impact Program Luncheon

- Community Impact Program Award
- *Community Service Programs Awards*
- Arts and Culture
- Civic Engagement and Outreach
- Environment
- Health and Wellness



2024 Convention Program Ads

Celebrate the clubwomen in your life by recognizing them in the 2024 GFWC Annual Convention Program for all attendees to see! DEADLINE APRIL 1.

[DOWNLOAD AD FORM](#)

Complete this form and return with payment and artwork to Candice Gill, Design & Publications Manager at CGill@GFWC.org

