

## STATE DATES -2026

### **FEBRUARY 2026**

3 – NJSFWC Executive Committee Meeting

10 – NJSFWC Board of Directors Meeting

### **MARCH 2026**

3 – NJSFWC Executive Committee Meeting

10 – NJSFWC Board of Directors Meeting

## DISTRICT DOINGS 2026

### **College District**

### **Palisades District Performing Arts Day**

Friday, February 13, 2026 – 11 a.m.

Paramus Club House

### **Garden District Arts Performing Day**

Friday, March 27, 2026 – 10 a.m.

Salem Community College

### **Ramapo District**

### **Highlands District Arts Performing Day**

Wednesday, March 11, 2026 – 10 a.m.

Madison Community House

25 Cook Avenue, Madison

### **Shore District Arts Performing Day**

Monday, March 23, 2026 – 10 a.m.

Asbury Park Club House

### **Liberty District Arts Performing Day**

Thursday, March 12, 2026 – 10 a.m.

Upper Montclair Club House

### **Southern District Arts Performing Day**

Wednesday, March 25, 2026 – 10 a.m.

Millville Club House

## Important Deadline Dates - 2026 for Club Presidents

### **FEBRUARY**

1 – Annual Report Writing Deadline

1 – Communication Contests submissions due

1 – Carol J. Sas & Cecilia Gaines Holland  
Submissions due

4 – LEADS Applications due

15 – Convention Ads due

28 – Friends of Convention Patron form due

### **REMINDERS:**

**March 31 is the deadline for 1894 Society contributions for the existing year. 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary S&H Green Stamp pin is still available but quantities are limited.** Pins are available to clubs or members with each donation of \$60 or more. Contributions will be matched up to \$1,894.00.

### **MARCH**

1- Margaret Yardley Scholarship submissions due

1 – Level Up Your Leadership Workshop RSVP date

10 – SSP Operation Duffle Bags due

15 – GCI Delegate Registration Forms due

31 – 1894 Society Donations due

**Women of Achievement (WOA) patron form is included in this ALMANAC.**



# LEVEL UP YOUR LEADERSHIP

**MARCH 5, 2026 10:30AM, HEADQUARTERS**

**REGISTRATION: 10:15AM**



## WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

- Success stories from innovative club leaders
- Case studies of creative leadership models
- How to inspire leadership
- How to identify potential leaders

## DISCOVER THE LEADER IN YOU

Join our workshop designed to help you:

- Build confidence and decision-making skills
- Enhance team collaboration and motivation
- Master effective communication and problem-solving

**Presented by President-elect, Susan Chambers with special guests.**

RSVP to [chambers@njsfwc.org](mailto:chambers@njsfwc.org) or [sgachambers@aol.com](mailto:sgachambers@aol.com) by March 1  
Light refreshments will be available

**Headquarters: 55 Labor Center Way, New Brunswick**



**GFWC**  
est. 1890  
GENERAL FEDERATION  
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

**LEARNING ACADEMY**

# GFWC Learning Academy

## Course Directory





LEARNING ACADEMY

# GFWC Learning Academy

## Course Titles

<https://memberportal.gfwc.org/pages/learning-academy>

### What is the GFWC Learning Academy?

**The GFWC Learning Academy** is GFWC's online training site, offering numerous courses to meet our members' needs. Members seeking insight and training to advance their skill set and knowledge will find the training videos helpful as they continue their journey as club members.

#### BUILD YOUR TECHNOLOGY TOOLKIT

**Canva Confidence: Easy Designs for GFWC Projects** - Laura Connelly, GFWC Social Media and Tech Support, Sonja Hults, GFWC California

**Get in the Grid, Winning with Google Sheets** - Laura Connelly, GFWC Social Media and Tech Support, Sonja Hults, GFWC California

**Google Drive Unlocked: Your File Management Superpower** – Laura Connelly, GFWC Social Media and Tech Support, Sonja Hults, GFWC California

**Serve Smarter with Google Forms** - Laura Connelly, GFWC Social Media and Tech Support, Sonja Hults, GFWC California

**Zero to Hero: Build Your Own (free) Google Website** - Laura Connelly, GFWC Social Media and Tech Support, Sonja Hults, GFWC California

#### FINANCE DETAILS

**Building Effective Club Budgets** – Debra Capuano, GFWC Budget and Finance Committee

**Importance of Financial Oversight** - Debra Capuano, GFWC Budget and Finance Committee

**Mission Possible: 501(c)3** – Juliet Casper, GFWC Treasurer

**Understanding GFWC Financials for BOD Members** – Jolie Frankfurth, GFWC First Vice President

### LEADERSHIP LAUNCHED

**The Agenda is not a Script** – Dara Bergdoll, RP

**Beyond the Agenda, Meeting Planning Tips** – Kim Sekulow, GFWC Conventions and Meetings Chairman, and Julie Walters, GFWC Conventions and Meetings Co-Chairman

**Leadership Transition Planning: Putting it Into Action** – Dr. Susan Gettys, GFWC Secretary

**Power with Partners** – Deb Strahoski, GFWC International Past President and Corporate Partners Development Committee Chairman

**Utilizing Governing Documents to Bring Success** – Dr. Susan Gettys, GFWC Secretary

### MEMBERSHIP GUIDES

**Is Your Club Attractive to Potential Members?** – Mary Beth Williams, GFWC Second Vice President

**Membership Orientation** – Karyn Charvat, GFWC Membership Chairman

**Power Up with Projects that POP** – Previously recorded live in 2022-2024

**Words that Ignite** – Marian StClair, GFWC International Past President and Women's History and Resource Center Committee Chairman

### TOOLS & RESOURCES FOR SUCCESS

**Finding Clues in the Details, the GFWC Award Entry Process** – Jolie Frankfurth, GFWC First Vice President

**GFWC Protocol** – Cynthia Geis, GFWC Protocol Chairman

**GPS to Our Future, Part 1: The Importance of Having a Strategic Plan** – Jolie Frankfurth, GFWC First Vice President

**GPS to Our Future, Part 2: Using SWOT to Drive Success** – Jolie Frankfurth, GFWC First Vice President

**Rules of Order: A Beginner's Guide to Parliamentary Procedure, Parts 1** – Carol Habgood, PRP, GFWC Parliamentarian and Lucy Hicks, PRP. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised in Brief, Chapters 1-4

**Rules of Order: A Beginner's Guide to Parliamentary Procedure, Parts 2** – Carol Habgood, PRP, GFWC Parliamentarian, and Lucy Hicks, PRP. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised in Brief, Chapters 5-7

**Rules of Order: A Beginner's Guide to Parliamentary Procedure, Parts 3** – Carol Habgood, PRP, GFWC Parliamentarian, and Lucy Hicks, PRP. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised in Brief, Chapters 8-9

**Rules of Order: A Beginner's Guide to Parliamentary Procedure, Parts 4** – Carol Habgood, PRP, GFWC Parliamentarian, and Lucy Hicks, PRP. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised in Brief, Chapters 10-11

### **GFWC LEARNING GATEWAY SERIES 2024-2026 (recorded live)**

**Safe Surfin' Foundation Celebrates GFWC Advocacy for Children Week 2024 with David Coffey**, GFWC Honorary Chairman

**Yellow Tulip Project Celebrates GFWC Advocacy for Children Week 2024 with Suzanne Fox**, Co-Founder of The Yellow Tulip Project, Honorary Chairman for GFWC Juniors' Special Programs and Juniores

**ESO Beyond the Page, Mystery with a Mission, 2025 with Amy S. Peele, Author** and GFWC Education and Libraries/Health and Wellness Honorary Chairman

**When Passion and Purpose Collide, 2025, Ann Lauer, Quilt Pattern and Fabric Designer** and GFWC Honorary Chairman for Arts & Culture and Signature Program

**Heart Health Awareness Month 2025 with Jude Mabone', Miss District of Columbia 2023**, and GFWC Health and Wellness Honorary Chairman

**Advancing a Brand and Building Membership, 2025, with Leslie Capps, Founder of Wild Woman Marketing** and GFWC Communications and PR Honorary Chairman

**Safe Surfin' Foundation Celebrates GFWC Advocacy for Children Week 2025 with David Coffey, Safe Surfin' Foundation Region Manager** and Honorary Chairman for GFWC Juniors' Special Program, with Eddie Worth, President of Safe Surfin' Foundation

**Yellow Tulip Project Celebrates GFWC Advocacy for Children Week 2025 with Suzanne Fox, Co-Founder of The Yellow Tulip Project, Honorary Chairman for GFWC Juniors' Special Programs, and Ysanne Bethel, Director of Youth Engagement at the Yellow Tulip Project.**

### **GFWC ADVOCACY SERIES – Recorded Live**

**Presented by 2022-2024 GFWC Legislation and Public Policy Committee**

***Power Up: Elements of Advocating***

***Power Up: LAC is for Me***

***Power Up: Legislation and Leadership***

***Power Up: Partners toward Progress (Part 1)***

***Power Up: Partners toward Progress (Part 2)***

***\*\*Power Up: Partners toward Progress (Part 3)***

***Power of You: State Federations and the Legislative Action Center (LAC)***

### **MASTERCLASS OFFERINGS (fee-based)**

**Coming soon!** Masterclass Offerings will provide advanced training beyond typical club work. Masterclass Courses are additional benefits to belonging that encourage members toward lifelong learning, well below market price.

# Friends<sup>1</sup>

## Of Convention

NEW JERSEY STATE FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS OF GFWC

132nd ANNUAL CONVENTION – “**When Friends Gather**”

In addition to the ads that will be in the Convention Program Book, there will be a patron listing for “Friends of Convention”. The cost of the listing, which is just a name only, will be \$5.00 for each club member. Club presidents are encouraged to ask their members to sign up, collect the money and submit the names on the form below. Those members who sign up and attend Convention will receive a “Friends of Convention’ ribbon.

**DEADLINE FOR RETURNING THE FORM IS FEBRUARY 28<sup>th</sup> 2026.**  
**MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO JOANNE MANGELS NJSFWC HEADQUARTERS**  
**55 LABOR CENTER WAY, NEW BRUNSWICK NJ 08901**

FRIENDS OF CONVENTION:


(Please use the reverse side of page if additional names are needed)

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed @ \$5.00 each: \_\_\_\_\_

# N J S F W C Special State Project



The NJSFWC clubs can show its generous spirit in support of the Special State Project, the New Jersey Children's Alliance, by participating in **Operation Duffle Bag** by donating an overnight duffle bag for children who leave their homes in emergency situations. We ask that clubs donate no more than 2 bags due to limited storage space.

Your club can choose the gender and age for the contents of the duffle bag and create a tag for the bag with that information. The bags can be filled with the following items depending on the gender and age group of the recipients you choose:

- PJ's and or sweat suits for infants through adult XL
- Underwear – 2 year olds to adult XL
- Socks
- Towel
- Flip flops or slippers (sizes for 2 year olds to adult XL)
- Toiletries (Travel size: toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, hair conditioner, hair ties, brush/comb, deodorant)
- Blanket
- Diapers and wipes for infants to 2 year olds children
- Activity books, reading books, pencils, crayons, pens.

The time period for the collection will be from January 1 through March 10.

No bags will be taken after March 10.

The Child Advocacy Centers that can receive the bags directly from clubs are:

- Wynona's House - 185 Washington St., Newark, NJ 973-753-1110
- Deidre's House - 8 Court Street, Morristown, NJ 07960 973-631-5000
- Ginnie's House - 4 High Street, Newton, NJ 07860 Tel. 973-579-0770

Prosecutor-based CAC's that can receive the donations are:

- Gloucester Child Advocacy Center, 45 Cooper Street, Woodbury, Tel: 856-384-5557
- Cape May Child Advocacy Center 372 Court House- S. Dennis Road, Cape May Court House, Tel: 609 465-1135 x3440
- Monmouth Child Advocacy Center, 500 Kozloski Road, Freehold, Tel: 732- 683-866

Please call these centers for information.



Clubs who utilize these programs for drop off should send the total number of duffle bags to the SSP Chairman, April Shoemaker by March 10. You may also drop off your duffle bag at Headquarters no later than March 10.

The bags at Headquarters will be picked up by NJCA, who will distribute them to CAC centers throughout the state.

Through these efforts, the NJSFWC and NJCA are making a significant impact, helping to create a brighter, more supportive environment for young individuals in need.

April Shoemaker  
[shoemaker@njsfwc.org](mailto:shoemaker@njsfwc.org)  
SSP Chair



**THE LILIES**  
**CLUB LEADERSHIP AWARD**  
**APPLICATION**



The Lilies will present their Nineteenth Annual Club Leadership Award at the 2026 NJSFWC Convention. The award will be based on a Club's participation in the District Events listed below. Please fill in the information requested in order to be considered for the \$100 prize. Return the form to JoAnn Aponte, 73 Essex Avenue, Apt. #34, Bloomfield, New Jersey NJ 07003 no later than April 4, 2026. If you have any questions, please call: 973-743-9502. The reporting period for this award is April, 2025 to March 30, 2026.

We hope your club will participate. Good Luck!

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Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Club Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Number of District Chairmen from your club: \_\_\_\_\_

Names and positions in the District: \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Club participation at District Events:

EVENTS	HOSTESS CLUB	MEMBERS ATTENDED
June Council		
Fall Council		
Performing Arts Day		
Program Assistance Day		
January Council		
Spring Conference		
Achievement Day		
GCI Reception		
Other (no STATE functions)		



**NEW JERSEY STATE FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS OF GFWC**  
**Barbara McCloskey, President**  
**"Together in Service - United in Friendship"**

**WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

Co-sponsors: New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC and  
Douglass Residential College

**Monday, May 4, 2026 at 7:00 P.M.**

Hard Rock Hotel & Casino  
Atlantic City, NJ

All club women and guests are invited to attend the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Women of Achievement Awards Ceremony to be held at the Opening Banquet of the NJSFWC 132<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention on Monday, May 4, 2026.

Individual club women, interested guests, and all federated clubs are invited to become **PATRONS** of these awards with a listing in the Awards Program Book. All proceeds will fund a one-time scholarship for a non-traditional student enrolled at Douglass Residential College.

**Patron donations are requested as soon as possible so they may be included in the program.**

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**PATRON SUBSCRIPTION FORM**  
**WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS PROGRAM**  
**Monday, May 4, 2026**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CLUB: \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ TEL: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

\$1,000 PREMIER \_\_\_\_\_

\$500 PLATINUM \_\_\_\_\_

\$250 GOLD \_\_\_\_\_

\$100 SILVER \_\_\_\_\_

\$50 BRONZE \_\_\_\_\_

\$25 PATRON \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to NJSFWC earmarked "Women of Achievement"

**Mail to:**

New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs  
Attention: Women of Achievement  
55 Labor Center Way  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901



**Help us give the girls a chance to visualize their future decisions and have an extra special experience. Your \$5 patron donation will be recognized at GCI and on display at Headquarters**

## Club Name

**Contact Person** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone#** \_\_\_\_\_

**Check made out to NJSFWC marked GCI      Amount enclosed @ \$5 each:**

**Mail to NJSFWC, 55 Labor Center Way, New Brunswick, NJ 08901**

**Deadline 5/18/26**



## GCI 2026 Wish List

Dunkin Donut \$5.00 gift cards

*(a small token of appreciation for our speakers)*

White copy paper

Cannon 220 ink black

Cannon 221 ink colored

*(There is compatible ink on Amazon for less money.)*

Small paint brushes

Large Adult scissors that will cut fabric

Fleece cloth (for no sew blankets)

Paper bags (not brown)

Sanitary supplies (pads, tampons, etc.)

Stickers (pictures and sayings for Vision Boards)

Magazines

Snacks

Bottled water (small size)

# CELEBRATING OUR 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY



## THE 1894 SOCIETY

The NJSFWC Headquarters Building, built with trading stamps, is located on land leased from Rutgers University. The Federation's lease with Rutgers sets the rental amount at a percentage of the value of the land. The value of land has increased.

The 1894 Society was initiated in 2002 in an effort to build a fund that will enable the NJSFWC to meet any increase that may be assessed by Rutgers

### To Donate by Credit Card:

- 1) Go to: [njsfwc.org](http://njsfwc.org)
- 2) Click on: **DONATE** (yellow button top of page)
- 3) Insert the dollar amount you are paying (where it shows \$0)
- 4) Select: **Donate with "Credit Card or Debit Card"**
- 5) In the **Write A Note** Put **"1894 Society"**  
(*You do not need to complete the By Check Form Below*)
- 6) Complete your Credit Card information
  - a. Billing address,
  - b. Email address,
  - c. Phone number,
- 7) Select **DONATE NOW**
- 8) An email confirming your donation is sent to your email and to [njsfwc.hq@gmail.com](mailto:njsfwc.hq@gmail.com)



With a gift of \$60 or more you may receive a Limited-Edition S&H Green Stamp Pin

Reminder: All donations are tax deductible. Thank you!

### To Donate by Check: 1894 Society Membership Form

Please enroll me and/or our club in the 1894 Society for the 2025-2026 club year (April 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026).

Place an "X" in the box indicating whether Individual or Club donation.

Enclosed is my/our donation of:

Additional Donation for the

\$18.94  \$20.00  \$189.40  \$1,894.00  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Donation by Individual

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Donation by Club

Name of Club \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to "NJSFWC", earmarked "1894 Society". Mail check and donation form to:

NJSFWC Headquarters, 55 Labor Center Way, New Brunswick, NJ 08901