

GFWC ~ Top Projects for 2021 ~ Award Entries ~ Massachusetts recognitions



Arts and Culture:

Boo Boo Bunnies and Bookworms

The **GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club** provided a craft activity once a month at the Northborough Library that tied into the library's theme of the week. The club came up with creative craft ideas such as "boo boo" bunnies, bookworms, dog puppets, and a fun frog and fly craft game for the "Tuesday Crafternoon." Extra supplies were donated to the library and 30 kits were assembled each month for families to complete at home.

Civic Engagement and Outreach:

Suitcase Stories

The **GFWC Dedham Junior Women's Club** spent 600 hours working on research, meeting with community leaders, and planning and collaborating with the International Institute of New England to create Suitcase Stories, which invite dialogue between U.S and foreign-born residents to develop and share life-changing experiences of migration and cultural change. A Zoom presentation was offered to the community.

Education and Libraries:

Virtual STEM Conference

The **GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club** sponsored a virtual Women in STEM conference for 150 girls. Sixteen workshops held by STEM-related professionals were planned with hands-on projects. The club also purchased the supplies, goody bags, and Tshirts. The girls participated in various workshops throughout the day and heard from the keynote speaker on the topic of research. A donation was made to a local STEM education center to thank the volunteer speakers.

Fundraising:

Holiday Drive By House Tour

The **GFWC Needham Women's Club** created a fundraiser encouraging residents to vote for their favorite house in the neighborhood that was decorated for the holidays. Homeowners were also encouraged to request voting support from family, friends, and neighbors. People could donate \$20 for a ticket to choose their favorite decorated home. In total, members raised \$11,636.

Leadership:

Past Presidents Video Presentation

GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club interviewed 10 past club presidents to create a video sharing their individual leadership experiences. They showed it at a club meeting, and then posted the video on their club website and public Facebook page. The intent was to share the power of becoming a leader within the club, but it was also a great way to help new and future members understand the value of GFWC membership.

Legislation/Public Policy:

Use the GFWC Legislative Action Center

GFWC Taunton and Raynham Junior Woman's Club members discussed GFWC's latest priority issues during meetings and encouraged members to register for the Legislative Action Center (LAC). The legislative concerns were included in every club newsletter, and members were invited to draft unique letters to their representatives rather than using a mass-produced letter, which can be easier to disregard. Links to the GFWC LAC were also added to the club's website.

Legislation/Public Policy:**Candidates Forum**

The **GFWC Dedham Junior Women's Club** hosted two candidates' forums on Zoom. Community members were able to hear directly from the election candidates and understand their positions, allowing voters to make more informed voting decisions. The local cable TV network also attended, and both the candidates and members appreciated the opportunity to meet and hear from each other.