



GFWC Massachusetts Awards
Presented at the GFWC Massachusetts Annual Convention
May 6, 2023



SPECIAL PROGRAM, COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM AND ADVANCEMENT PLAN AWARDS:

Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children

Marisa Jablanski, Chairman for Junior Membership

- Special Recognition: GFWC Dedham Junior Women's Club ~ James Joyce Ramble
- Special Recognition: GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club ~ Foster Care Party
- Creativity Award: Junior Woman's Club of Walpole ~ Diaper Drive

Katie Robey, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman

- Dennis-Yarmouth Woman's Club ~ Donation to a Baby Center, a non-profit organization in Hyannis, MA that provides supplemental critical basic need to ensure good health and safety to babies in need on Cape Cod and the Islands.
- Lunenburg Woman's Club ~ Held a baby shower in collaboration with CareNet, an organization that assists young parents in the community.

GFWC Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention

Shannon Butler, Junior Membership Chairman

- Special Recognition: GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club ~ Domestic Violence Community Resources
- Special Recognition: GFWC Greater Taunton Woman's Club ~ Taunton Diversity Network
- Creativity Award: GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club – Hot Chocolate Run Donations for Safe Passage

Mary Ann Pierce, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman

- Dennis-Yarmouth Woman's Club ~ Collaborated with Safe Harbor to provide assistance to a Domestic Violence shelter by fulfilling victims' family wish list with gifts and monetary donations for the holidays.
- Braintree Women's Club ~ Collaborated with the Braintree Alliance for Safe and Healthy Youth, part of a Braintree Public Schools group by gifts to provide donations of basic needs to victims of Domestic Violence in their community.

Arts and Culture

Nikki Smith, Junior Membership Chairman

- Special Recognition: GFWC Wilbraham Junior Women's Club ~ Snowman Contest
- Special Recognition: GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club ~ Dip and Sip Craft Night
- Creativity Award: GFWC Greater Taunton Woman's Club ~ Creating Towel Elephants

Bernadette Bennett, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman

- Ousamequin Club ~ the club was awarded three grants by the Massachusetts Cultural Council whereby they held several programs celebrating various arts and cultural art forms.

Civic Engagement and Outreach

Beth McKeon, Dean of Chairman for Junior Membership

- Special Recognition: GFWC Auburn Junior Woman's Club ~ Warm Hands, Warm Hearts
- Special Recognition: GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club – Hospital Community Closet
- Creativity Award: GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club ~ Valentines for Vets

Ann Marie Bielenin, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman

- Hopkinton Women's Club ~ Sponsored candidates Night before local town elections
- Millbury Woman's Club, Inc. ~ For their various efforts in supporting veterans in their community
- The Holly Club of Wrentham ~ Sponsored a dinner for First Responders in their town, whereby 21 policemen, firefighters and veterans attended

Education and Libraries

Beth McKeon, Dean of Chairman for Junior Membership

- Special Recognition: Hanover Woman's Club, Juniors ~ Spring Tea for Library Volunteers
- Special Recognition: GFWC Dedham Junior Women's Club ~ ESL Book Donations
- Creativity Award: GFWC Greater Taunton Woman's Club ~ Meet the Authors' Tea

Terry Rouvalis, GFWC Massachusetts Dean of Chairmen

- Woman's Club of Newton Highlands ~ Reviewed over 60 scholarship applications for \$4000 which was awarded to female students in the two Community High Schools.

Environment

Beth McKeon, Dean of Chairman for Junior Membership

- Special Recognition: GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club ~ Princess Boutique: Textile Recycled Good Event
- Special Recognition: GFWC Dedham Junior Women's Club ~ Club Town-wide Collections
- Creativity Award: GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club ~ Curbside Composting Grants

Mary Barnes, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman

- Bourne Women's Club ~ decorated a tabletop Christmas tree with a Cape Cod Marine Life theme and auctioned it off with the proceeds donated to the National Marine life Center
- Westborough Women's Club ~ Members assisted in the packing of produce grown by the Brigham Hill Community Harvest Project for shipment to the Worcester County Food Bank

Health and Wellness

Beth McKeon, Dean of Chairman for Junior Membership

- Special Recognition: Hanover Woman's Club, Juniors ~ Supporting Bethesda House
- Special Recognition: GFWC Greater Taunton Woman's Club ~ Filled Gym Bags for Emergency Room Needy
- Creativity Award: GFWC Auburn Junior Woman's Club ~ Pups and Cups

Penny Olson, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman

- Ousamequin Club ~ Started a Walking Club and joined Bridgewater State University in their Get Out in Nature Challenge. They are now walking 3-4 miles per week improving their physical and mental health
- Bourne Women's Club ~ Renovated and refurnished a doll house and auctioned it off, donating the proceeds to Habitat for Humanity.

Communications and Public Relations

Brenda Geary, Junior Membership Chairman

- Special Recognition: GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club ~ Spring Festival Publicity
- Special Recognition: GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club ~ Who's Who Wednesdays
- Creativity Award: GFWC Greater Taunton Woman's Club ~ Publication of the Club Yearbook

Donna Shibley, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman

- Ousamequin Club - The club used various methods of the media and participation in events in town organizations to publicize the club.

Fundraising

Mary Ann Pierce, Junior Membership Chairman

- Special Recognition: GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club – Back to Business Spring Festival
- Special Recognition: Junior Woman's Club of Walpole ~ Festival of Trees
- Creativity Award: Needham Women's Club ~ Holiday House Tour

Mary Ann Pierce, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman

- Hopkinton Women's Club ~ Produced and provided a community phone directory for all residents in Hopkinton and raised over \$7,000
- Braintree Women's Club ~ Designed a Community Christmas Ornament which they then sold at various Christmas craft shows during the holiday season profiting \$2500

Leadership

Beth McKeon, Junior Membership Chairman

- Special Recognition: GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club ~ Mentors and Supportive Transitions
- Special Recognition: Junior Women's Club of Walpole ~ End of the Year Recognition Dinner
- Creativity Award: GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club ~ Non-Profit Neighbor Night

Alicia Sheridan, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman

- GFWC Bay State Contemporary Club ~ Conducted a Build a Snowman project at last year's Midwinter Meeting that fostered leadership skills while having fun building a snowman.

Legislation/Public Policy

Beth McKeon ~ Junior Membership Chairman

- Special Recognition: GFWC Auburn Junior Woman's Club ~ Put a Stop to Bullying
- Special Recognition: GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club ~ GFWC Legislative Action Center
- Creativity Award: GFWC Taunton and Raynham Juniors ~ Promoting Awareness of GFWC's Legislative Priorities

no women's club entries

Membership

Theresa Frias, Junior Membership Chairman

- Special Recognition: GFWC Dedham Junior Women's Club ~ Club Swag
- Special recognition: Westford Women's Club ~ Fall Membership Initiatives with Return to In-Person Meetings
- Creativity Award: GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club ~ New and Improve Membership Brochure

Elaine Brickman, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman

- Bourne Women's Club ~ To bolster their membership after the pandemic, the club held a picnic on the grounds of the Aptucxet Museum Complex in Bourne and gained 6 new members.

Women's History and Resource Center

Beth McKeon ~ Junior Membership Chairman

- Special Recognition: GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club ~ Women's History Month Book Donation to Libraries
- Special Recognition: GFWC Auburn Junior Woman's Club ~ Black Women in History Creativity Award: GFWC Taunton and Raynham Juniors ~ Monthly Talks on Important Women

Terry Rouvalis, Dean of Chairmen Massachusetts

- Ousamequin Club ~ Sponsored Sheryl Faye from Women in History who performed as Sally Ride, depicting her journey from girl hood to becoming the first female astronaut.

CONTESTS

Photography

Our World Up Close ~ Kamila O'Neill, GFWC Agawam Junior Woman's Club (Sunflower Tenant)

Natural Wonders ~ Shannon Butler, GFWC Auburn Junior Woman's Club (Icy Waterfall)

Reflections ~ Shannon Butler, GFWC Auburn Junior Woman's Club (Underwater Trees)

Living the Volunteer Spirit ~ Kamila O'Neill ~ GFWC Agawam Junior Woman's Club (Happy Distribution of Food)

Writing Contest

Poetry ~ Lynne Stader, GFWC Bay State Contemporary Club ~ "Oh Brother!"

Short Story ~ Nancy Paslaski, Dennis-Yarmouth Women's Club ~ "Antenna for Reception"

STATE INDIVIDUAL AWARDS:

Marilyn Perry Leadership Award

Beth McKeon, Junior Membership Leadership Chairman

The winner is: **Mary Kemp, GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club**

Martha Michalewich Clubwoman of the Year Award

Theresa Frias Junior Membership Membership Chairman

The winner is: **Sue Savage, GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club**

GFWC Massachusetts Clubwoman of the Year

Elaine Brickman, GFWC Massachusetts Membership Chairman

This award is based on a Nomination essay submitted by a club.

The winner is: **Terry Savage, Woman's Club of Newton Highlands**

Sheila E. Shea Junior Club President Award

Marisa Jablanski, Director of Junior Clubs

The winner is: **Sandy Krafsig, GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club**

Julia Ward Howe Club President Award

T Jablanski, President

No entries

STATE OVERALL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Presented by **Beth McKeon, Assistant Director**

Barbara S. Baker Tray ~ GFWC Dedham Junior Women's Club

Division II (6-30 members) ~ Small Bowl ~ GFWC Auburn Junior Woman's Club

Division I (31+ members) ~ Small Bowl ~ GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club

P & A ~ Large Bowl ~ GFWC Greater Taunton Woman's Club

Presented by **Jen Nowak, 1st Vice President**

2022 Club Performance Award Bowls

- **GFWC Bay State Contemporary Club ~ Mary Ann Pierce, President**
- **Millbury Woman's Club ~ Diane Erickson, President**
- **Woman's Club of Newton Highlands ~ Bernadette Bennett, President**

Congratulations to ALL the Winners!

