

Arts and Culture Top 10 Service Projects for 2025

1. Granger Women's Club – Visiting the mosque

The Granger club went out and visited a new mosque in their area. They learned that they really have more in common than what one may have thought. In today's political climate, it is important to reach out to other people who may be different from us to create a relationship that shows that we may not be the same in our views, but that we can still come together to be friends.

2. Akron Friendship and Service Club – Porch Pots

The Akron Friendship Club went out and found a person to come in with materials to show people who had reserved their spot, and they made porch pots. For those who may not know what a porch pot is, it is a beautiful larger seasonal arrangement for outside. I love the idea of coming together as a community to spread holiday cheer by making porch pots for those in the community who want to learn how to do so. I can easily see this becoming a wonderful way to grow blooms in your club as well.

3. Doon Women's Club – Santa Day

The Doon Women's Club, along with the Doon City Council, filled bags with apples and oranges to hand out to children visiting Santa Claus. For me, this has a vintage feel, and vintage is so in right now. Back in the day employers would do events for their employees by having the employees and their families come to do something special together, and then Santa would hand out gifts. Santa would hand out mesh stockings with fruit and nuts in the stocking along with a ham or turkey. Each boy and girl that was present would receive a wrapped toy.

4. Peterson Tuesday Club – Photo Contest

The Peterson club held a workshop to learn how to properly mount photography on a whiteboard hoping that it would generate members to send photographs to the GFWC photography contest. This worked; they had nine entries for the contest. I love this idea, and I can see even having a workshop on how to take awesome photos on your phone or camera and offering it to the community.

5. Jesup Rural Women's Study Club – Freedom Rock Tour

The Jesup club had a guest speaker, Mary Anne Harold, who had visited the 100 Freedom Rocks that are in each county in Iowa. Harold shared pictures with the group of the rocks along with information about the artist who paints the rocks. For me, I could really get into this, as I would visit a region of the state of Iowa visiting the rocks and of course checking out other points of interest in Iowa. It could take as little or as much time as a group would like.

6. Akron Friendship and Services Club – Scarecrow Festival

The Akron club members participated in the 24th annual Scarecrow Festival, with 16 members making and submitting scarecrows that are auctioned off to raise money. I love this idea! So many ways to have fun in the fall, but this is really a fun idea.

7. Le Mars Friday Club – Art Appreciation

The Le Mars club met and discussed different art topics. The members took turns presenting an art or artist by sharing what they had learned by researching their topic. I really love this idea, as it really gives an opportunity to learn about art by researching something or someone who is interesting.

8. Jesup Rural Women's Study Club – Tour of Jesup

Club member, Dorothy Thompson offered use of their handicap assessable trailer, chairs and husband to give a tour of Jesup, telling the group how the town was established by Morris J. Jessup. Along the tour, they pointed out where the stage coach stop was, the train depot, hotels, jail and other places were located. This is absolutely amazing to tour a community sharing its heritage.

9. I don't have a specific group as I noticed several groups listing that they had a time for fellowship with their group or community making an art project together. I think that everyone should explore art in some capacity as it is relaxing to have something to explore making something out of necessity or as a hobby.
10. There were so many groups that took on the role of promoting art and culture in their communities by doing something to contribute to their local school or community playhouses. This is extremely important for our groups to support our art and culture clubs as funds have been drastically cut into this area year after year. If we don't make art and culture a priority to support, we could lose what we have; and that would be devastating to see.