

Awards presented at GFWC/Iowa State Convention, April 2026

Arts & Culture Awards 2025

Overall Arts & Culture Community Service Program Silver Award

GFWC/Iowa Granger Women's Club, SW District

Chairman's Choice CSP

GFWC/Iowa Friendship and Service Club, Akron, NW District

Creativity Award

GFWC/Iowa Doon General Federated Women's Club, NW District

Creative Writing Awards 2025

Category 1 – Essays (500 Word Max)

Special Category – Spreading Your Wings

1st Place – "Alaska Trip," Janice Drzycimski, Peterson Tuesday Club, NW

2nd Place - "Think for Yourself," Ann Tell, Aurelia Women's Club, NW

Essays -- General

1st Place - "Winter in Iowa," Marsha Fisher, Adel Women's Club, SW

2nd Place - "My Dad's Sayings," Barb Long, 5 Seasons' Women's Assoc., Cedar Rapids, SE

3rd Place - "Memories," Judy Shimek, R.A.R.E. Club, Walker, SE

Category 2 – Short Stories (2,000 Word Max)

1st Place - "50 Years WOW," Mickey Coonfare, 5 Seasons' Women's Assoc., Cedar Rapids, SE

Category 3 – Poetry (8-50 Lines)

Special Category – Spreading Your Wings

1st Place - "Like a Bird," Daina Powers, Peterson Tuesday Club, NW

Poetry -- General

1st Place - "Circle of Life," Dorothy Powers, Five Seasons' Women's Assoc., Cedar Rapids, SE

2nd Place - "Where Do I Fit?" Marsha Fisher, Adel Women's Club, SW

3rd Place – "Accident," Carine Schroeder, Doon General Federated Women's Club, NW

Category 4 – Limericks (5 Lines)

1st Place – "Acronyms," Dorothy Powers, 5 Seasons' Women's Assoc., Cedar Rapids, SE

2nd Place - "Remember?" Marsha Fisher, Adel Women's Club, SW

3rd Place - "The Lady in Pink," Shirley McAdon, Adel Women's Club, SW

YOUTH CONTEST

Category 1 – Short Stories (2,000 Word Max)

Grade Level – K, 1 & 2

1st Place – "Arachne the Weaver," Jessa McKee

Grade Level – 3, 4 & 5

1st Place – "Two Bunnies Get Lost," Avery Hass

2nd Place – "Ancient Civilizations," Marcus Finzen

Grade Level – 6, 7 & 8

1st Place – "My Wildest Dreams," Lilly Allaway

Grade Level 9, 10, 11 & 12

1st Place – "The Last Order," Isabella Waterbury

Category 2 – Poems (8 to 50 Lines)

Grade Level – K, 1 & 2

Grade Level – 3, 4 & 5

Grade Level – 6, 7 & 8

Grade Level 9, 10, 11 & 12

1st Place – “Summer Senses,” Emery Waterbury

1st Place – “The Forest Trail,” William Kluender

2nd Place – “Fall,” Avery Hass

1st Place – “What Makes the Sky Beautiful?” Adalai Davies

1st Place – “Hey, Hey, Hey,” Ellie Mathieson

Photography Awards 2025

Our World Up Close

1st Place – “Milkweed on Display,” Rebecca Shrimpton, GFWC/Iowa Granger Women’s Club, SW

2nd Place – “Flatheaded Apple Borer,” Anne Olson, Phoenix Club, Muscatine, SE

3rd Place – “After a Rain,” Linda Hueser, Granger Women’s Club, SW

Natural Wonders

1st Place – “Dramatic Cliffs of Sagre, Portugal,” Karen Martinek, Solon Women’s Club, SE

2nd Place – “Lavender Fields,” Bette Kuboushek, Quad Cities Woman’s Club, Davenport, SE

3rd Place – “Tree in the Middle of the Road,” Mickey Coonfare, 5 Seasons’ Women’s Assoc., Cedar Rapids, SE

Reflections

1st Place – “Water Lilies Reflections”, Anne Olson, Phoenix Club, Muscatine, SE

2nd Place – “30 Years of Light,” Linda Hueser, Granger Women’s Club, SW

3rd Place – “Reflections of Colorado,” Lisa Cunninghamm, Peterson Tuesday Club, NW

GFWC Living the Volunteer Spirit

1st Place – “Storybook Trail in the Park,” Georgina Valle, Granger Women’s Club, SW

2nd Place – “Lasagna Love,” Linda Hueser, Granger Women’s Club, SW

3rd Place – “Hope Lodge Dinner,” Karen Martinek, Solon Women’s Club, SE