



A&M
Garden Club



A&M Garden Club Youth Contests 2025-2026

See both sides.

Email: AMGC4Youth@gmail.com. President: Jan Porter. Committee: Jane Cohen, Jan Porter, Linda Kenyon, Susan Williams, Alice Piwonka, Susie Ohendalski, Eugenia Williams.

Entry Forms: <https://amgardenclub.com/>, Youth Activities, Entry Form. Follow guidelines for entry form information - name, address, age, grade, teacher's name and school of participant, A&M Garden Club and Texas Garden Club - listed on back of entry. Include with every entry the Youth Contests Entry Information & Media Release. Be sure name is legible, so certificates will be correct. Do not use dark markers (might show through.) For each contest, please notify contact to submit entries. AMGC can arrange to pick up posters at schools. Email other entries to contact. Due date is Saturday, Oct 25. All contests are judged locally; winning entries go to next levels for judging: District, State, South Central Region, National. Winners are notified in May 2026 and receive awards.

POETRY: Theme: "Plant America For The Next 100 Years"

Embrace your creativity through writing poetry. Explore different types of poetry and express your thoughts and ideas. Use your imagination and join the winners to see your poetry in print!

ELIGIBILITY: Kindergarten through 12th Grade in schools and home schooled in 3 categories -

1) General Education, 2) Special Education & 3) English as a Second Language.

RULES: 1. All entries must be typed and titled. Do not use the theme as the title. 2. Poems do not have to rhyme. 3. May be traditional verse, acrostics, blank verse, cinquains, diamond poems, limerick or Haiku. 4. No longer than 24 lines (including title), maximum 42 letters/spaces per line. 5. Include at least one of the following keywords from the theme: Seeds, Trees, Bees, or Nature. 6. Entries become property of NGC.

JUDGING: Scale of Points - Title 10%, Content 40%, Creativity 30%, Style 20%. SCR # 20

AWARDS: National First Place (each grade, each division) receives Certificate of Commendation. Winning

entries published in digital available on NGC national web site. Link: <https://gardenclub.org/poetry-contest>

Contact: Jane Cohen, JWCohenTx@gmail.com, 979-690-3500



RECYCLE/SCULPTURE: Theme: "Keep America Green"

ELIGIBILITY: 4th - 8th Grades in schools and home schooled.

RULES: 1. Sculptures must consist of recycled, reused, and reduced materials. 2. Limited to a size that will fit sitting on 8 ½ " x 11" sheet of paper; height in proportion to width. 3. List materials used, and a brief description of the sculpture on the entry form. 4. Include two 4" x 6" photographs on the back of entry form. Do not include actual sculpture, only pictures. Link - <https://gardenclub.org/youth-sculpture-contest>

JUDGING: Creative use of materials and self-expression 60%; Description of sculpture and materials used 30%; Craftsmanship and Technique 10%. SCR # 21

Contact: Jan Porter, janwporter@yahoo.com, 214-727-3461



POSTER - BIRD: Theme: "Roadrunner"



ELIGIBILITY: 4th - 8th Grades in schools and home schooled.

RULES: 1. Poster size is 8½ " x 11", Paper choice is by student. 2. Materials may include: crayons, markers, poster paints, watercolors. 3. Posters may include artwork pasted upon a 2nd piece of paper. No 3D allowed. No added framing sides. JUDGING: Originality 25%, Method 25%, Artwork 25%, Overall Effectiveness of the entry 25%. Include Poster Entry Form on back of poster. SCR # 19

Contact: Linda Kenyon, linda2lu2000@yahoo.com, 979-436-1628

POSTER - ENVIRONMENTAL: Theme: "Red Tailed Hawk"

ELIGIBILITY: 1st - 5th Grades in schools and home schooled.

RULES: 1. Posters 8 ½ inches x 11 inches. Do not add picture framing, just the poster. Include Poster Entry Form on back of poster.

JUDGING: Originality and artwork 30%, Design 25%, Message (labeling) 20%, Distinguished markings 15%, Overall neatness 10%. TGC

Contact: Linda Kenyon, linda2lu2000@yahoo.com, 979-436-1628



Due Date for Youth Contests is **Saturday, October 25**. Contacts are listed for each area. Information for contests follows on page 2.

POSTER - Smokey Bear: Theme: "Only You Can Prevent Wildfires"

POSTER - Woodsy Owl: Theme: "Lend a Hand Care for the Land" Choose one.

ELIGIBILITY: 1st - 5th Grades in schools and home schooled.

RULES: Posters 11" x 17" paper. Choice of paper color and texture is up to child. Materials that can be used include: crayons, markers, poster paints, watercolors and the like. No three-dimensional posters, computer-scanned, or electronically generated images will be accepted. All entries become the property of National Garden Club, Inc.

SCR # 22 & NGC

JUDGING: Originality 20%, Design 20%, Slogan 20%, Artwork 20%, Overall Effectiveness of Message 20%

ENTRY FORM: <https://amgardenclub.com>. Complete the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl form and attach to the back of the entry on the lower right corner. Complete the media release form and send with entry.

Link: <https://gardenclub.org/smokey-bear-woodsly-owl-youth-poster-contest> See contest flyer for more info.

Contact: Alice Piwonka <alice.piwonka@gmail.com>, 979-218-5183, Susie Ohendalski



YOUTH ESSAY: Theme: "Why Native Wildflowers Are Preferred Over Non-Native and Invasive Plants"

ELIGIBILITY: 9th to 12th Grade - Open to all students.

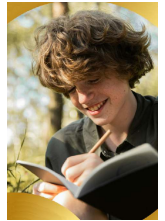
Local Contest Only

RULES: 1. Submit a 600-700 word essay that addresses the posed question. 2. Essay must be the unique and original work of the essayist. Essay may be tested for plagiarism and/or AI generation. Essays failing such tests will be disqualified. 3. Must be typed and submitted in Microsoft Word, using a font no smaller than 11 point. 4. May submit one photo to accompany their essay. Photo must not show faces of any people included, and the essayist must attest that they have the rights to the photo (or that the photo is free and open source). Photo is not judged, but may be used in reports and publicity. 5. When choosing an essay title, please be creative and incorporate the theme. However, the theme should not be used as the title to any essay. 6. All entries become the property of AMGC. Youth privacy is important, thus published winning essays will only identify the essayist's first name, last name initial, local garden club and state in media and AMGC web site.

Link - <https://amgardenclub.com/education/youth-activities-and-contest/>

JUDGING: Originality 20%, Central idea of essay is clear and addresses the theme question 20%, Organization of ideas uses a logical structure, clear paragraphs, and appropriate transitions 20%, Vocabulary, grammar and mechanics effectively communicates meaning 20%, Creative title 10%, Conformance to length 10%.

Contact: Susan Williams, sjmwilliams71@gmail.com, 979-690-7425



SCHOLARSHIP: District V Garden Club, Texas Garden Club and National Garden Club's scholarship programs offer financial aid to college students majoring in fields of study related to horticulture.

- District V: March 1 - Must be received by the district scholarship chairman. Scholarship is \$1,500.

1. Must be Texas residents, living in or near College Station, 2. Rising College Freshman or Sophomore; 3. Scholastic record of at least 3.0 (B average or better); 4. Study Horticulture, Floriculture, Landscape Design, Conservation, Forestry, Botany, Land and Water Management, and acceptable allied subjects. 5. Definite plans for career to continue in the discipline in which the scholarship is granted. 6. Applicants, including previous winners, may apply for any semester of this freshmen and/or sophomore year's study. Link - <https://amgardenclub.com/>



- State: October 1 - Scholarships range from \$1,500 to \$2,500 for the following spring/winter semester.

1. College-level juniors or above. 2. Must have at least a 3.25 GPA. 3. Major in a field of horticulture (including floriculture, landscape design, horticulture, botany, biology, plant pathology, forestry, agronomy, environmental concerns, city floriculture planning, land management and other allied subjects. Winners are invited to apply for National scholarships. Link - <https://texasgardenclubs.org/scholarships/>

- National: Due before February 1. Up to 45 NGC Scholarships are available, each up to \$4,000.

1. Usually State winners are invited to apply for the NGC Scholarships. One-year scholarships are available to juniors, seniors and graduate students. 2. Similar GPA and major as the TGC scholarship.

NGC Link - gardenclub.org/college-scholarships

Contact: Jane Cohen, JWCohenTx@gmail.com, 979-690-3500

High School Distinguished Service Project Award - If a school or group wants a sponsored youth Garden Club project, high school civic projects or pollinator grant, contact AMC4Youth@gmail.com. Your name will be given to the A&M Garden Club, to see if a member will volunteer for a project with a school.



For more information -

National Garden Club - <https://gardenclub.org/contests-and-activities>

South Central Region Garden Club - <https://www.scrgardenclubs.org/awards>

Texas Garden Club - <https://texasgardenclubs.org/forms/>

A&M Garden Club - <https://amgardenclub.com/>

See both sides.