

GUIDELINES FOR THE GARDEN CLUBS OF AUSTRALIA INC MAJOR AWARDS

The Garden Clubs of Australia Inc. (GCA) encourages all affiliated clubs to nominate a member/s of their club, their own club or a young gardener for an annual award.

Award nominations for each year close on 31st May of that year.

- It is essential to read the criteria listed in the award category – this will assist with completing the nomination.
- The GCA’s Judging Panel (the members of which will remain anonymous) will take into account the achievements and attributes of the nominee or club in relation to the criteria for the selected category. The judges will choose a winner between the nominees, as there is only one winner in each category.
- Each nomination should be no more than two A4 pages in total. It must be typed as a separate attachment to an email and done in Calibri 12 for ease of reading by a person of any age. Achievements can be listed in point form. A separate form is required for each nominee.
- GCA will require permission from winners for their photos to be posted on the GCA website and published in the GCA’s quarterly magazine *Our Gardens*. Photos must be supplied at the time of nomination and permission needs to be given then. Photos should be on a separate attachment in JPEG form.

Please note: the GCA reserves the right to:

1. Place nominations into a more appropriate category than originally submitted.
2. Not to confer an Award for a particular category in the current year.
3. Embargo all names of Award Winners until after the announcement at the GCA AGM.

The Judges’ decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into for any category. Nominees will be anonymous for the judging process. The Judges will also remain anonymous. Previous winners of ANY category are not eligible to renominate for a period of five years. Non-winners may renominate as they wish.

CRITERIA FOR GCA AWARD CATEGORIES

- For **Categories 1 to 7**, Nominee must be a financial member of an Affiliated GCA Club or the nominated club is an Affiliate of GCA.
- For **Category 8**, Nominee must be nominated by an Affiliated Club or a member of an Affiliated Club.
- All Nominees must have demonstrated in some manner - friendship, goodwill and sharing of knowledge with fellow members and/or the community, and/or contribution to their club, community, and/or GCA.
- Please include any other Awards received by the nominee within their club and/or community, as well as positions and years of office held.

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CATEGORY 1: THE PRESIDENT OF THE GARDEN CLUBS OF AUSTRALIA INC. AWARD

For: Outstanding contribution by an individual to gardening and/or horticulture

Nominee should have: Demonstrated a long-term contribution to gardening and/or horticulture through writing, public speaking, teaching, broadcasting, exhibiting, judging or organising events. This could be at a local, state, national and/or international level.

CATEGORY 2: THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE GARDEN CLUBS OF AUSTRALIA INC. AWARD

For: Outstanding contribution by a couple to gardening and/or horticulture

Nominees should have: Demonstrated a long-term contribution to gardening and/or horticulture through writing, public speaking, teaching, broadcasting, exhibiting, judging or organising events. This could be at a local, state, national and/or international level.

CATEGORY 3: THE MARGARET DAVIS AWARD

For: Outstanding service by an individual to the Garden Clubs of Australia Inc.

Nominees should have: Demonstrated through one or more of the following:

- A commitment to GCA by assisting or organising Information, Zone or Friendship Days;
- Shown support for National Conventions;
- Been an active Zone Coordinator and/or served on the GCA Committee;
- Assisted with special GCA events, e.g., Awards, AGMs;
- Promoted GCA to the wider community.

CATEGORY 4: THE ELEANOR McLEOD AWARD

For: Outstanding service by an affiliated club to the Local Community

Nominee should have: Demonstrated an involvement in projects both practical and educational to benefit the community with public projects such as garden expos, community garden competitions, town and/or city landscaping, parks, botanic gardens, community gardens or projects such as preservation of historic gardens or areas in the community, assisting schools to establish gardens as learning areas, or mentoring groups.

CATEGORY 5: THE DORIS KILLIAN AWARD

For: Outstanding service by an individual to their Local Community

Nominee should have: Shown an involvement in projects both practical and educational to benefit the community with town and/or city landscaping, parks, botanic gardens, community gardens or projects such as preservation of historic gardens or areas in the community, assisting schools to establish gardens as learning areas, or mentoring groups.

CATEGORY 6: THE GWENDY HANSFORD AWARD

For: Outstanding service by an individual or affiliated club to the Environment

Nominee should have:

- Shown an active, inspiring and committed role in protecting the environment i.e., residential or public area.
- Demonstrated their ability to communicate and educate the public in the understanding of environmental issues.
- Been involved in activities such as bush care or bushland regeneration or similar i.e., residential or public area.

CATEGORY 7: THE JOAN O'BRIEN AWARD

For: Achieving excellence by an individual in Floral Art

Nominee should be:

- An active member of a floral art group.
- Instrumental in promoting floral art through judging, producing manuals, training judges, demonstrating and/or organising workshops;
- Experienced in club, regional, state, national and/or international displays or demonstrations;
- Capable of producing prize-winning arrangements.

CATEGORY 8: THE GARDEN CLUBS OF AUSTRALIA INC. - YOUNG GARDENER OF THE YEAR

For: Outstanding contribution to Gardening/Horticulture by a young Gardener

- Nominee must be nominated by an Affiliated Club or a member of an Affiliated Club and be 30 years of age or younger in the year of nomination.
- Nominee should have one (1) or more of the following:
 1. Contributed at either a club, local, regional or state level by participating in activities such as exhibiting, judging, writing and speaking about gardening/horticulture;
 2. Assisted with promoting knowledge of gardening/horticulture through organising, participating and encouraging friendship in gardening, especially with younger gardeners;
 3. Exhibited an interest in the protection and conservation of natural resources in their environment.

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