

One June 7 in Bridgewater, NJ the Garden Club of Montclair and some its members were the proud recipients of many state level awards and one very prestigious National award. These awards were the direct result of multi-day Standard Flower Show, ***Incredible Journeys***, hosted by the Club and chaired by Celia Radek and Sarah Stransky last September at Van Vleck House & Gardens. Brenda Bingham, a member for more than 30 years, Accredited Master Judge, active Board Member of the National Garden Club, Inc. and Garden Club of New Jersey, multiple award winner and national leader in floral design, was the Honorary Chair. The Standard Flower Show (SFS) included 40 Floral Designs, 261 Horticulture Exhibits, 100 Youth Exhibits, 5 Sponsored Group Exhibits as well as 45 Photographs. The goal of such a show is to showcase the work of the Garden Club of Montclair while educating the local Montclair community and garden club enthusiasts around the region about our projects and mission. The Club is very proud that 100% of the active Garden Club membership participated as either Flower Show participants, committee members or volunteers. ***Incredible Journeys*** was open to the public and free of charge. The Club was thrilled to feature the beautiful gardens & grounds of Van Vleck through a self-guided tour and to include exhibits by Van Vleck, talented Montclair students, and residents of Crane's Mills Retirement Community.

CLUB STATE AWARDS

- Award #4 The Helen Hull Silver Bowl** for the finest horticulture division in a highly rated Standard Flower Show.
- Award #5 The Mrs. David L. George Silver Cup** for the finest judged SFS of the year.
- Award # 18 The Dorothy M. Schick Trophy** for the greatest excellence in staging in a SFS
- Award # 62 Garden Club of NJ Flower Show Incentive Award** for a highly rated first ever or first after five year period. SFS

CLUB NATIONAL AWARDS

- Award # 57 Ribbon and National Garden Clubs, Inc. Certificate of Merit** for SFS in a Public Building.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

- Award # 11 Barbara Baletti - The Myra Brooks Memorial Trophy** for the winner of the Designer's Choice Award in the highest rated SFS in which it was awarded.
- Award # 45 Deborah Hirsch - The Patricia Grossi Petite Award Trophy** to a member who is the winner of the Petite Award in the highest rated SFS
- Award # 21 Claire Stepleton - The Amelia Stewart Perpetual Trophy** for the winner of the Horticultural Excellence Award in the highest rated SFS
- Award # 44 Claire Stepleton - The Doris R. Galione Collector's Showcase Trophy** to the winner of the Collector's Showcase Award in the highest rated SFS
- Award # 10a Michele Tomasik - The Mrs. Reginal Wilson Memorial Award** for the winner of the Tricolor Award in the highest rated SFS
- Award # 29 Michele Tomasik - The Glenn Ferrari Memorial Trophy** to a member who is the winner of the Arboreal Award in the highest rated SFS
- Award # 8 Youth Marcel Switzer - The New Vernon Garden Club Trophy** to the highest rated blue ribbon winner in the Youth Division, Horticulture Section, Grades K-5 in the highest rated SFS.

Organized in November 1926 and incorporated in 1950, The Garden Club of Montclair is a member of District II of The Garden Club of New Jersey, Inc., Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs, Inc., and National Garden Clubs, Inc. which consists of nearly 200,000 members, 6,000 member garden clubs, 70 national affiliates and 300 international affiliates around the globe. Louise Davis, the New Jersey Garden Club President, presented the many awards to the club. The Garden Club of Montclair has a very impressive membership that consists of members that hold state level Board Positions, Florence Leyssène – GCNJ, Brenda Bingham – GCNJ and NGC, and several certified judges. The current President of the club is Susan Straten and the former President was Deborah Hirsch. Thanks to the leadership of both these individuals, the club has achieved great things!

The Mission of the Garden Club of Montclair is to educate Members and the public in their knowledge and practice of conservation, horticulture, and the artistic use of plant material. It beautifies the Township of Montclair and the State of New Jersey. The Club sponsors and supports project of an educational character, specifically allied to these purposes, and fosters fellowship through its work and its social activities. It is also wonderful to be an affiliate of both the state and national level clubs as they provide structure and wonderful resources for our local club. Please visit our website to learn more and to inquire about membership possibilities (gardenclubofmontclair.com).