**GFWC and GFWC-NC LEADS Information**

**2022-2024**

****Overview

The GFWC Leadership, Education, and Development Seminar (LEADS) identifies GFWC members at the local level who have the potential and desire to assume leadership positions in their State Federations and/or GFWC on the national level. Participation in GFWC LEADS can help up-and-coming leaders gain the capabilities, confidence, and commitment necessary to pursue and achieve higher offices and serve with distinction.

GFWC-NC LEADS

In 2002, GFWC-NC LEADS was developed to build upon GFWC’s goal of developing future leaders. It offers an annual LEADS Award and Seminar. Each district sponsors one member to represent them annually at the LEADS Seminar. Participants receive a complimentary lunch and dinner, and one-half night’s accommodations at a designated location. District LEADS candidates will be given the opportunity to learn about GFWC as well as receive specialized leadership training to share at the district and club levels.

One GFWC-NC District LEADS candidate will be chosen as the North Carolina Representative at the annual GFWC International Convention in the GFWC LEADS program. They are asked to be responsible for a portion of expenses as an affirmation of their personal commitment to their leadership development and training. GFWC demonstrates its commitment to training leaders by funding a portion of the expenses of candidates and GFWC-NC also funds a portion of the expenses. The GFWC-NC LEADS Representative is responsible for preparing and presenting a 3-minute presentation to be given at the GFWC-NC Annual Convention.

In 2020, GFWC-NC LEADS Seminar was expanded to include up to 20 attendees.After the official District LEADS Representatives have been chosen, the remainder of the attendees will be selected in two ways:

- District Presidents may submit additional names to the NC LEADS Chairman for consideration. A committee will determine criteria and select additional attendees.

- If additional slots remain, an application will be publicized on November 1st and additional attendees may be accepted on a first-come basis.

Attendees will pay a registration fee and will be responsible for their own expenses.

LEADS Criteria

It is highly recommended that each State Federation or International Affiliate LEADS candidate meet the following criteria:

* Demonstrates leadership capabilities at the club level as an active club president, club officer, or club project or committee
* Exhibits a commitment to the Federation.
* Exhibits an understanding of the GFWC mission of community service, illustrated by programs and projects in which she is or has been involved.
* Demonstrates leadership characteristics, including, but not limited to, organization, responsibility, trustworthiness, enthusiasm, and flexibility.
* Exhibits an interest in and willingness to pursue higher leadership positions.
* Agrees to share information gained from participation in LEADS with others in the State/District.
* Understands and accepts potential expenses involved in participation.
* Has not attended a previous LEADS Seminar or held a State Executive Committee Position (or higher.) Members are eligible to attend only once as the District Representative.

GFWC-NC Application Process

To apply as the GFWC-NC LEADS official District Representative, please forward completed “GFWC NC LEADS NC Application Form” and two letters of recommendation from active club members to **District President by November 1st.**

To apply for admission to the GFWC-NC LEADS Seminar *without being considered for selection* as an official District Representative, please forward completed “GFWC NC LEADS NC Application Form” and two letters of recommendation from active club members to **GFWC-NC President by December 1st**.

The “GFWC NC LEADS NC Application Form” can be found on the GFWC-NC website (Membership/LEADS).

*Summary By Susan Rhew, District 9, August 2022*