

HIGH SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST

2011 Theme: **“The Benefits of Community Gardens”**

2012 Theme – **“Ways We Can Protect Aquatic Ecosystems”**

The High School Essay Contest is open to High School students attending 9th through 12th grades. A \$1,000 National Garden Club Scholarship will be awarded to the National Winner. If the winner is an underclassman, the \$1,000 Scholarship will be held by NGC, Inc., without accrued interest, until such time that the student enters college. At that time, the money will be forwarded to the Financial Aid Officer of the college that the student will enter. The second place winner will receive \$100. The contest must be sponsored by: a single garden club, group of member clubs, councils or districts or a State Garden Club. All entries become the property of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Length of essay: Between 600-700 words. The entry will be penalized if the essay does not conform to the required length. All words are to be counted. All entries must be typed and titled. Students should write the essay so it is suitable to be published in the NGC publication, *The National Gardener*.

Scale of Points

Content – 65

- Knowledge of subject – 25
- Practicality of proposal – 10
- Originality – 15
- Subject matter well organized/clarity of presentation – 15

Composition – 25

- Vocabulary – 15
- Conformance to length – 10

Manuscript – 10

- Wallet-size photograph, name, address, phone number, school attending, grade,
List of activities and sponsoring club – 5
- Neatness – legibility (a plastic folder keeps the manuscript neat) – 5

Contest Deadline

Club entries must be sent to **YOUR State Youth** Chairman: **Observe State Deadline.**

State Winners must be sent to **Regional** Chairman by **January 1, 2012/2013.**

Regional Winners must be sent to **National** Chairman by **February 1, 2012/2013.**

Elva H. Davidson, NGC High School Service Award & Essay Contest Chairman
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