

**The Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc.**



**FGCNYS  
99<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

**Celebrating our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!**

**“Pollinator Gardens in New York and Beyond”**

**May 6 – 7, 2024**

**CROWNE PLAZA ALBANY – THE DESMOND HOTEL**

**660 Albany Shaker Road**

**Albany, New York, 12211**

**518-869-8100**

**FGCNYS, Inc.**

**President: Donna B. Sessa**

National Gardens Clubs, Inc.

President: Brenda Moore

CAR-SGC

Director: Monica Hansen

Elizabeth Walker, Chairman

845-663-0219, [eawalker2@gmail.com](mailto:eawalker2@gmail.com)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Conference Schedule of Events

### Monday, May 6, 2024

7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Registration
8:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Vendors Open
11:00 a.m.-11:45 a.m.	Executive Committee Meeting (Closed)
12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	Lori Adams – Composition and Color in Botanical Photography
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Kerry Mendez – Power up Garden Beauty, Power Down Garden Maintenance
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Cocktail Hour (Cash Bar)
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Dinner

### Tuesday, May 7, 2024

7:00 a.m. - 12 noon	Registration
8:00 a.m. – 8:50 a.m.	Board Meeting
8:30 a.m. - 6:15 p.m.	Vendors Open
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Annual Meeting - Open to All
11:00 a.m. - 12 noon	Designer: Michele Peters of Ambiance Florals & Events
12:15 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch & Program: Carl Heilman II – “Perfect Pictures Every Time”
1:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.	<b>Optional Tour and Workshop: Carl Heilman II.</b>
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Gala Reception (Cash Bar)
7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	<b>Gala honoring Jeanne Nelson in celebration of our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Optional, Registration required)</b>

### Conference Highlights

#### **Lori Adams – Composition and Color in Botanical Photography**

With a background in art and science, a BA in Photography at Bard College, graduate study in Imaging Science at Rochester Institute of Technology and a teaching career in photography for 10 years, you just know that Lori will share wonderful stories as well as tip and techniques. Among her many books is Little Flowers with Big Attitude (2014). Lori uses compelling imagery and common-sense analogies to help you advance your understanding of what is possible, to increase your confidence and to encourage you to explore and experiment with your camera.

#### **Michele Peters – Owner and Designer, Ambiance Florals & Events**

Michele has a passion for the flower world. Designing a dream wedding or creating a birthday arrangement, all her experience, energy, and creativity reflects in every design. She was inducted into AIFD (American Institute of Floral Designers) in 2016 and is a CFD (Certified Floral Designer) in this elite organization. Michele has presented to us before, and we welcome her back to enjoy another of her creative presentations. All her designs will be raffled at the end of the presentation.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Kerry Mendez – Power up Garden Beauty, Power Down Garden Maintenance**

Kerry is an entertaining, inspirational, and educational speaker who enjoys mingling humor with down-to-earth, garden-transforming expertise. She is the author of four popular gardening books, including The Right-Size Flower Garden: Simplify Your Outdoor Space with Smart Design Solutions. Kerry has over 25 years of hands-on experience, specializing in low-maintenance, sustainable garden, and landscape design, incorporating perennials, ornamental grasses, flowering shrubs, bulbs, and no-fuss annuals.

**Sponsored by Crescent Garden, Espoma Organic, and Star Roses and Plants.**



### **Carl Heilman II - Perfect Pictures Every Time”**

Outdoor photographer Carl Heilman II has lived in the Adirondacks since 1973 and has been photographing the wilderness landscape since 1975, working to capture on film both the grandeur of these special places, and the emotional and spiritual connection he has felt as well. Today he is a full time professional outdoor nature photographer. Author of several coffee table books, his most recent book, Contemporary Landscape Photography, is Carl's first book about the craft of photography and encompasses tips and techniques on everything from selecting and setting up camera equipment, to tips on techniques on lighting, composition, and digital imaging. He is currently working on a field guide for landscape photographers.

### **Washington Park Tulip Festival Tour and Photography Workshop with Carl Heilman II. (Optional Tour)**

Enjoy hands-on guidance from Carl while enjoying the splendors of Washington Park’s annual Tulip Festival. Take a bus to the park and spend several hours benefiting from Carl’s years of photography as you learn how to use your camera or cell phone for pictures worthy of entry in a Flower Show. **Number of attendees is limited. Please register early.**

### **The Gala – Celebrating 100 Years and Honoring our dear friend and mentor: Jeanne Nelson (Optional Event)**

Jeanne Nelson is a past president of the Clarkstown Garden Club, Tenth District Director 1979-1981 and 1983-1987, FGCNYS, Inc. President 1997-1999, Central Atlantic Region Director 2011-2013, Central Atlantic Region Board Member, Master Flower Show Judge, a CAR Life Member, and a National Garden Club Member. And the list goes on: friend, colleague, and mentor. Join us to honor this wonderful person!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

District #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check all that apply:

- Former FGCNYS President  FGCNYS Board Member  NGC Board Member  
 CAR-SGC Board Member  Club Member  Club President  Guest/Spouse  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

### MEAL SELECTION FOR MONDAY AND TUESDAY

#### Monday, May 6, Lunch

All meals include rolls; coffee, decaf or tea; and dessert (NY Style Cheesecake).

Choose from:

- Caesar Salad - Chicken  
 Caesar Salad - Shrimp  
 Apricot Chicken Salad Sandwich  
 Special dietary request:  Vegetarian  gluten free  dairy free  other \_\_

#### Monday, May 6, Dinner

All meals include Desmond Signature Salad; coffee, decaf, and tea; and Flourless Chocolate Torte for Dessert.

Choose from:

- Chicken Normande (boneless chicken breast with herbed apple stuffing)  
 Oven-Roasted Vegetable Strudel  
 Special dietary request:  Vegetarian  gluten free  dairy free  other \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Tuesday, May 7, Lunch

All meals include rolls; coffee, decaf or tea; and dessert (Lemon Cake).

Choose from:

- Caesar Salad - chicken
- Caesar Salad - shrimp
- Grilled chicken Breast Salad
- Special dietary request:  Vegetarian  gluten free  dairy free  other \_\_\_\_\_

Tuesday, May 7, Gala Dinner (Optional)

All meals include Soup du Jour; coffee, decaf, and tea; and NYS Style Cheesecake for Dessert.

Choose from:

- Salmon Piccata (Atlantic salmon filet, lemon caper beurre blanc, saffron rice)
- Roasted New York Sirloin of Beef (Sliced sirloin, demi-glace, potato Provencale)
- Special dietary request:  Vegetarian  gluten free  dairy free  other \_\_\_\_\_

**HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS: \$170 per room per night**

**Note:** No taxes apply. Local surcharges will be assessed. A credit card must be presented at time of check-in.

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_

Are you sharing a room  Yes  No

If yes, please list names \_\_\_\_\_

Who is paying for the room?  Me  Someone else \_\_\_\_\_

# Of nights \_\_\_\_ X \$170.00 = \_\_\_\_\_ Total Due for Hotel

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Conference Attendance</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Cost per selection</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Full time options:</b>			
<b>Full-time attendees</b>	All convention and meals	<b>\$220.00</b>	
<b>Part time options:</b>			
<b>Monday, May 6</b>	Convention fee, lunch, dinner, 2 programs, workshop	<b>\$120.00</b>	
<b>Tuesday, May 7</b>	Convention fee, annual meeting, lunch, floral designer, program	<b>\$100.00</b>	
<b>Optional Events</b>			
<b>Tuesday Tour &amp; Photography Workshop</b>	Bus Tour to Washington Park for the Tulip Festival; Hands-on Photography Instruction. <b>Number of Seats Limited. Register Early.</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>	
<b>Tuesday Gala celebrating out 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and honoring Jeanne Nelson</b>	Cocktail Reception, Dinner	<b>\$120.00</b>	
<b>Total Due for Convention</b>			
<b>Total Due for Hotel (# of nights X \$170.00)</b>			
<b>Total Due (Convention + Hotel)</b>			

**Payment method**

Check \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_

To pay using credit card, click below link:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/fe22e2c6-603d-4929-8282-26235eb66685>

To avoid paying the "optional contribution" scroll down to Other and select "0" on the Order Summary.

If paying amount different from Total Due, please explain (i.e. room sharing)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Hotel accommodations, menu choices, and payment must be received by April 15th. No refund after May 1, 2024.**

**Please send your completed form with payment (or pay with Zeffy) to:**

**FGCNYS Office**

**292 Washington Ave Ext. Ste 104**

**Albany, NY 12203**