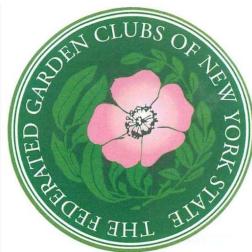


The Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc.



FGCNYS Annual Convention and Election of Officers

“Bee the Change”

**June 1-4, 2025
CROWNE PLAZA ALBANY – THE DESMOND HOTEL
660 Albany Shaker Road
Albany, New York, 12211
518-869-8100**

**FGCNYS, Inc.
President: Donna B. Sessa
2023-2025**

**National Gardens Clubs, Inc.
President: Brenda Moore
2023-2025**

**CAR-SGC
Director: Monica Hansen
2023-2025**

Convention Chairman: Cheryl Kopyt

**May 15, 2025 Final day for Convention Registration
May 18, 2025 Final day for a refund**

Conference Schedule of Events

Sunday, June 1, 2025

2:00p.m. SHARP
3:00p.m. - 5:30p.m. Carpool for Boat Cruise, if needed leaves the Hotel Lobby (Optional)
Dutch Apple Boat Cruise on the Hudson River: Optional Activity
141 Broadway St, Albany NY (Free Parking near the Boat Dock)
Must Be on Board at 3:00PM for Safety Information!!

4:00p.m.
6:00p.m. - 8:00p.m. Hotel Check-in Officially Opens
Convention Registration Open; Vendor Set up; Floral Designs completed
Dinner on your own

Monday, June 2, 2025

8:00a.m. - 6:00p.m. Registration
8:00a.m. - 7:30p.m. Vendors Open
10:00a.m. - 11:30a.m. Board of Directors' Meeting
12:00p.m. - 1:15p.m. Lunch
1:15p.m. - 2:30p.m. Floral Design Speaker: Dot Chenevert; Design Raffle
2:30p.m. - 3:00p.m. Free Time: Break/Vendors
3:00p.m. - 4:00p.m. FGCNYS Judges' Council Meeting (CLOSED)
4:00p.m. - 5:15p.m. Speaker: NGC Judge and Flower School Instructor: Gina Jogan
on Botanical Design (OPEN)
5:15p.m. - 6:00p.m. Cocktail Hour (Cash Bar), Free Time/Vendors
6:00p.m. - 7:00p.m. Dinner
7:00p.m. - 8:00p.m. Speaker: Ellen Federico - "Monarch Butterfly Conservation & The Power of Survival"

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

8:00a.m. - 5:00p.m. Registration and Vendors Open
8:00a.m. - 10:15p.m. Leadership Breakfast and Forum (pre- registration required; limited seating))
Breakfast (8:00-9:00) Panel of Speakers (9:00-10:15)
Open to Presidents, Vice Presidents, Directors, interested members
Speakers followed by Q and A
10:15a.m. - 10:30a.m. Free Time: Break/Vendors
10:30a.m. - 12:30p.m. Annual Meeting with Election for Officers; FGCNYS Awards Presentations
12:30p.m. - 1:30p.m. Lunch
1:30p.m. - 2:30p.m. Installation of FGCNYS Officers and Directors
2:30p.m. Raffle Winners Posted
2:30p.m. - 3:00p.m. Advisory Committee Meeting (CLOSED)
2:30 pm - 3:30pm District Directors Meeting (2023-2025 & 2025-2027) (CLOSED)
3:30p.m. - 4:30p.m. Speaker: Joellen Marie Lampman; Cornell Coop Ext, Albany Co.
"Lawns for Bees? Yes, Please!"
4:30p.m. - 5:00p.m. Free Time: Break/Vendors
5:00p.m. Reception: Courtesy of the President's Home District III; Food & Beverages
Dinner on your own

Wednesday, June 4, 2025

9:00a.m. - 11:00a.m. First 2025-2027 FGCNYS Board Meeting and Breakfast Buffet

Convention Highlights

Dot Chenevert, AIFD “June is Bustin Out All Over” -. Because of her vast experience, Dot was able to test and pass the certifications to become a member of AIFD, The American Institute of Floral Designers. Since there are only about 1500 members in the world, it is a very prestigious membership and must be maintained. She is currently serving as president of the Northeast Chapter of AIFD. It is with a great deal of pleasure that she will be sharing some of her knowledge and experience with us.

Gina Jogan on Botanical Design; Plaques and Collages - Gina Jogan is a National Garden Club Accredited Master Flower Show Judge, an NGC Flower Show Schools Instructor in Design and Flower Show Procedure, as well as an NGC Symposia Instructor in Design and Allied Topics. She will be presenting on the Botanical Arts Division’s Botanical Design Section, specifically Collage and Plaque Designs. Collage Designs are abstract designs. These are opposites to Plaque Designs which are created in a more natural manner. This is an FGCNYS Judges Council funded presentation and open to all FGCNYS Convention attendees.

Ellen Federico - Monarch Butterfly Conservation and The Power of Survival- Ellen Federico, founder and president of The Event Group Inc., an event planning firm based in Manhattan 1986-2017. She is now a writer, speaker, and certified Monarch Butterfly Conservationist, who maintains sustainable habitats on Fire Island, New York. Ellen has been featured on "NBC Today Show" and the "New Yorker Magazine" as The Butterfly Lady of Fire Island. She offers workshops, private appearances, and is available to teach school groups.

Joellen Marie Lampman – “Lawns for Bees? Yes, Please” - Joellen Lampman is the Community IPM Extension Educator with the New York State’s program with Cornell University (Integrated Pest Management). She is a lifelong environmental educator with degrees from Cornell and Stony Brook Universities. Her program is “Lawns for Bees? Yes, Please!”. Lawns are often a landscape feature gardeners love to hate. But, what if adjustments are made to increase the value of this feature to pollinators while preserving the benefits the lawns provide? Joellen Lampman will share her experience with establishing an alternative lawn and her research conducted at Cornell University.

Leadership Forum, (Presidents, Vice Presidents, Directors, and other Leaders welcome) - A Panel of three FGCNYS members will share their knowledge and experience as leaders of our Federation. The topics and presenters will include “The Benefits of Belonging to a Federated Garden Club” presented by Monica Hansen, CAR-SGC Director and Former FGCNYS President; “Building and Maintaining Membership” presented by Rosemary Eshghi, FGCNYS Membership Chairman; “Money Matters”, presented by Deborah Francis, FGCNYS Treasurer. One of our newly revised “FGCNYS President’s Manual” will be given to each attendee.

A breakfast buffet is planned to give all our leaders a chance to socialize, make new friends, share common concerns, and exchange ideas prior to the forum. Please plan on joining us. Prior registration is required. See page 5.

Dutch Apple Boat Cruise on the Hudson River: Optional Activity - To fully embrace this year’s Annual Convention and Installation, arrive on Sunday and join with other members on the Charter Cruise aboard the popular triple-decker cruiser, the Dutch Apple. The Hudson River cruise is an enjoyable way to view the scenic and historic Hudson River while visiting with friends in a relaxed environment. Full cash bar and light refreshments are available for purchase. If you join us, please be sure to wear low-heeled or soft-soled shoes and dress accordingly. The cruise sails rain or shine, providing fully enclosed and heated/AC decks. Please register early.

Convention Meal Description

All meals come with the chef's daily vegetable, rolls, and freshly brewed coffee, decaf, and tea

Monday Lunch

- Tossed Garden Salad
- Choice of
 - Penne Mediterranean (penne pasta, seasonal vegetables, kalamata olives, artichokes, roasted red pepper, herbed garlic oil) **OR**
 - Chicken Teriyaki (boneless grilled chicken breast, saffron rice) **OR**
 - Hoisin Glazed Salmon (served over Asian vegetables stir-fry, lemongrass scented rice).
- Dessert: Flourless Chocolate Torte (GF) with raspberry coulis

Monday Dinner

- Soup d Jour
- Choice of
 - Roasted New York Sirloin of Beef (slice sirloin, demi-glace, potato Provençale) **OR**
 - Oven-Roasted Vegetable Strudel (seasonal herbed vegetables wrapped in phyllo, roasted red pepper coulis, herbed couscous) **OR**
 - Chicken Normande (boneless chicken breast, herbed apple stuffing, sauce Supreme, oven-roasted rosemary new potatoes)
- New York Style Cheesecake with raspberry coulis

Tuesday Lunch

- Caesar Salad
- Choice of
 - Roasted Vegetable Tortellini Primavera (cheese tortellini, zucchini summer squash, root vegetables, asparagus, garlic cream sauce) **OR**
 - Spanakopita Chicken (baked with spinach & feta, kataifi garnish, Mornay sauce, roasted red potatoes) **OR**
 - Maple-Dijon Salmon (oven-roasted Atlantic fillet, maple syrup, Dijon mustard, caviar rice)
- Lemon Cake - lemon mousse & Meyer lemon curd

Hotel Accommodations

For your convenience, a block of rooms has been reserved at the hotel for \$170 per room per night plus applicable taxes. When making your reservation, please use one of the following methods:

- Click on this link for easy access to group booking: <https://book.passkey.com/e/50964673>
- Call the hotel front desk phone number (518-640-6101) and use Group code GQB
- Book directly on Crowne Plaza – Desmond website using Rate Preference – Group Code GQB

*Any special requests must be made by calling the hotel front desk
Hotel rate available until May 11, 2025.*

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 President Club Member NGC Judge or Student Judge
 Guest/Spouse FGCNYS Life Member CAR-SGC Life Member NGC Life Member Other _____

MEAL SELECTION FOR MONDAY AND TUESDAY (see page 4 for meal descriptions)

MONDAY, JUNE 1

Lunch

Choose from:

- Penne Mediterranean
- Chicken Teriyaki
- Hoisin Glazed Salmon
- Special dietary request: _____

Dinner

Choose from:

- Roasted New York Sirloin of Beef
- Oven-Roasted Vegetable Strudel
- Chicken Normande
- Special dietary request: _____

TUESDAY, June 3

Lunch

Choose from:

- Roasted Vegetable Tortellini Primavera
- Spanakopita Chicken
- Maple Dijon Salmon
- Special dietary request: _____

Convention Attendance	Description	Cost	Due
Full time	2 lunches, 1 dinner, 2 receptions	\$280.00	
Part time options:			
Monday, June 2	1 lunch, 1 dinner, 1 reception	\$180.00	
Tuesday, June 3	1 lunch, 1 reception	\$100.00	
Optional Events			
Boat Cruise 6/1	Dutch Apple Boat Cruise	\$50.00	
Leadership Forum 6/3	Expert speakers, new President's Manual, Breakfast buffet	\$35.00	
Board Meeting 6/4	Breakfast buffet - required for 2025-2027 Board members	\$20.00	
Total Due for Conference			

Registration and payment options:

To register and pay with a check, make the check payable to: FGCNYS, Inc. and mail the completed registration form (page 5 only) to Nancy Kalieta, 3166 Clearview Way, Blasdell, NY 14219-1302

To register and pay using credit card or bank account debit, click this link or use the below QR code: <https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/002a3592-a1c7-4851-b336-190b19695d4c>

To avoid paying the "optional contribution" on the Order Summary, click on the pull down menu under the "v" and choose Other then enter "0"

