2023-2024 YOUTH POETRY CONTEST GUIDELINES

“I Spy With My Little Eye, Something Green Outside

Celebrating Our Green World”

**Eligibility**

• Special Education: Kindergarten through Ninth Grade.

• English as a second language: Kindergarten through Ninth Grade.

• General Education: Kindergarten through Ninth Grade.

**Date of Submission**

• Poems must be submitted to GCM State Chairman, Mary Anne Sumrall by December 1, 2023

**Guidelines**

• Poems should be no more than 24 lines (including title) with a max of 42 letters/spaces per line in order to fit on single page of booklet.

• Include name, address, age, grade, and school of participant on the back of entry.

• Sponsoring garden club and state garden club name must also be identified.

• Garden club contact person is the mailing address for any winning entries.

• Sponsoring garden club may be that of a parent or grandparent.

• All entries sent to national competition become the property of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

• Poems do not have to rhyme. They may be traditional verse, acrostics, blank verse, cinquains, diamond poems, limerick, or haiku.

• The theme should not be used as the title to any poetry. When judging, the title is worth 10 points.

• When choosing poem title, please be creative and incorporate the theme:

“I Spy With My Little Eye, Something Green Outside”.

Submit all entries to GCM State Chairman:

Mary Anne Sumrall

2043 Briarwood Drive

Laurel, MS 39440

601-319-1859 [haysgal3@yahoo.com](mailto:haysgal3@yahoo.com)