

## NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.



June 11, 2024

---

### PRESS RELEASE

#### CONTACT

**Gerianne Holzman**  
**Award of Excellence Chair**  
[gholzman@gardenclub.org](mailto:gholzman@gardenclub.org)  
**608-345-6907**



### **Jim Fricke of the Colorado Garden Foundation Receives Prestigious Award**

The members of National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC) recently honored Jim Fricke of the Colorado Garden Foundation with their prestigious Award of Excellence, the highest award presented by NGC to a non-member. The Award of Excellence honors an individual, organization or institution that has made a significant contribution toward the advancement of goals and purposes of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

The Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs of the NGC enthusiastically nominated Jim Fricke for a National Garden Clubs Award of Excellence. Jim is the executive director of the Colorado Garden Foundation, a charitable organization that produces the Colorado Garden & Home Show in Denver, which attracts over 45,000 attendees. Since Jim joined the organization in 1997, the Colorado Garden Foundation has awarded over \$13 million in horticulture-related scholarships and grants. Projects include community gardens, school greenhouses, horticulture therapy, and keeping people fed across Colorado. The Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs received grants for 30 consecutive years. The Foundation's scholarship covers the recipients' complete four-year education, including their tuition, books, housing, and a new laptop to begin their studies. Originally from Wisconsin, Jim attended Marquette University, gaining a degree in marketing. His expertise and knowledge helped the Colorado Garden Foundation to increase the organization's assets by over 2000%. In these times of need, Jim guides the Foundation's funds to leave no one hungry.

#### **About National Garden Clubs, Inc.**

National Garden Clubs, Inc. currently has over 5000 local clubs, with 145,000 members, and over 330 international affiliates. The organization provides education, resources, and national networking opportunities for its members to promote the love of gardening, floral design, civic, and environmental responsibility. **Learn more about National Garden Clubs, Inc. at [gardenclub.org](http://gardenclub.org).**

Sincerely,  
*Gerianne Holzman*

**Gerianne Holzman**  
**National Garden Clubs, Inc.**  
**Second Vice President**



**Left to Right: Brenda Moore, NGC President; Jim Fricke, AOE Recipient; Gerianne Holzman, AOE Chair; Victoria Schmidt Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs President**