

## Arts and Culture CSP

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### Arts and Culture

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Arts and culture are essential to our quality of life! The study of art and culture enriches the human experience. Art education improves problem solving and critical thinking skills, builds focus and perseverance, and nurtures creativity, confidence, and collaboration. Cultural awareness promotes effective communication and profoundly increases the ability to appreciate and enjoy a variety of new people and experiences. Projects that include music, dance, theatre, or a cultural experience, can be both traditional and innovative. There are countless ways to support the arts and culture awareness. (<https://gfwcnc.org/community-service/arts/>)

### Project Ideas

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Be inspired by this list of ideas of how GFWC clubs can support the Arts and Culture Community Service Program.

#### **COMMUNITY RICH IDEAS FOR ALL AGES**

- Sponsor an author visit to your local library
- Use an artistic event to raise funds to sponsor local community art and cultural programs.
- Work with your City to sponsor and promote an outdoor Classic Film Festival showing movies with themes such as Musicals, Foreign Language, and Academy Award Winners
- Set up a member craft table to sell art at a hometown Farmer's Market or craft fair. Make sure there is also plenty of information on how to join a local GFWC Club at your booth.
- Support your local Community Theatre by ushering, assisting at intermission, or holding a Fundraiser at a performance and donating the proceeds back to the Theatre.

#### **MEMBER CREATED ART AND CULTURE**

- Paint rocks with inspirational words and place them all over the city in places where they can be found. A good word for a stranger goes a long way.
- Make homemade holiday cards for nursing home residents or Meals on Wheels recipients.
- Host an art supply drive within your club. Contact local schools, daycare centers, and/or community centers to see what is needed.

## GFWC-NC SUMMER MEETING- JULY 2022

- Help build, paint, register, maintain, and decorate a Little Free Library.
- Provide artwork and help decorate a reading nook at the library, a local laundromat, or other location in your community.
- Donate books with an art and/or cultural theme to the public library, a school library, or a Little Free Library.
- Donate art books, sketch books, coloring books, crayons, and other art supplies to hospitals, doctor/clinic waiting rooms, schools, and shelters.
- Visit or hold a club meeting at an art gallery, museum, local cultural center, or tourist center.
- Hold a holiday centerpiece/wreath-making workshop at a local florist as a club program.
- Decorate a city park or municipal plaza for holidays and/or the seasons.
- Participate in your club, district, and state arts and crafts contests by entering your crafts, needlework, sewing painting, and photography items. Enter photographs in the GFWC photography contest
- Celebrate international holidays, such as the Chinese New Year, Oktoberfest, Cinco de Mayo, and Bastille Day, and learn more about the historical attire, customs food, and entertainment of the culture

### VALUABLE IDEAS FOR YOUTH

- Utilize local student jazz combos, string quartets, or even the whole band to perform at club events and fundraisers.
- Hold a fundraiser to purchase a large piece of equipment for your local schools' art, music, or drama departments
- Use member art or children's art for club cookbook covers, greeting cards, program covers, etc.
- Host a craft time at a library to make simple crafts with children - book themed or seasonal

GFWC works with several Affiliate Organizations - together they work to improve our communities and improve our world. The Affiliate Organizations offer customized services such as materials, kits, speakers, and other information that is specifically designed for GFWC clubs. Please refer to the Arts and Culture CSP information in the 2022-2024 Administration Book for some Arts and Culture projects that coordinate with one of these organizations.

### Community Connection Initiative: CREATING A PATH TO COMMUNITY GEMS

As a part of Kim's mission and strategic vision, we are utilizing the: ***From the Mountains to the Sea, Tell Us YOUR Story, GFWC-NC; as the theme for finding your Gem within your community.*** What gems does your community hold; what is the sparkle that makes your community special? GFWC encourages clubs to take an active role in creating and enhancing their community by partnering with the local City Hall and Chamber of Commerce to create a digital or printed brochure indicating where visitors and families may go to experience the Art and Culture of their community. ([www.gfwc.org](http://www.gfwc.org))

## The Mountains-to-Sea Trail

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The Mountains-to-Sea Trail is a simple footpath stretching almost 1,200 miles across North Carolina from Clingmans Dome in the Great Smoky Mountains to Jockey's Ridge on the Outer Banks. More than just a walk in the woods, the trail traces the diversity that is North Carolina. Experience ancient mountains and small Piedmont farms, coastal swamps and colonial towns, changing textile villages and barrier islands. Almost 700 miles of footpath are now completed. With temporary routes on backroads and bicycle paths, hikers can now follow the trail on an adventure across North Carolina

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Utilize the trail to spread awareness throughout your community. Stretching across NC, the trail provides a valuable resource to engage your community and put into perspective the vision our community initiative states. Google Arts and Culture provides virtual tools to explore works of art and tour famous sites and landmarks, offers information about nearby museums and other centers of arts and culture, and supplies space to create a virtual gallery of your favorites. (<https://artsandculture.google.com/>)

The below are areas where the trail is accessible and ready to explore. Is it close to you? Is the trail in driving distance? What gem will you find in your community?

### Mountains

1. Peak to Peak (Clingmans Dome, Waterrock Knob)
2. The Balsams (Waterrock Knob, Pisgah Inn)
3. High Peaks & Asheville (Asheville)
4. Gorges, Peaks & Waterfalls (Black Mtn, Beacon Heights)
5. High Country (Blowing Rock)

### Piedmont

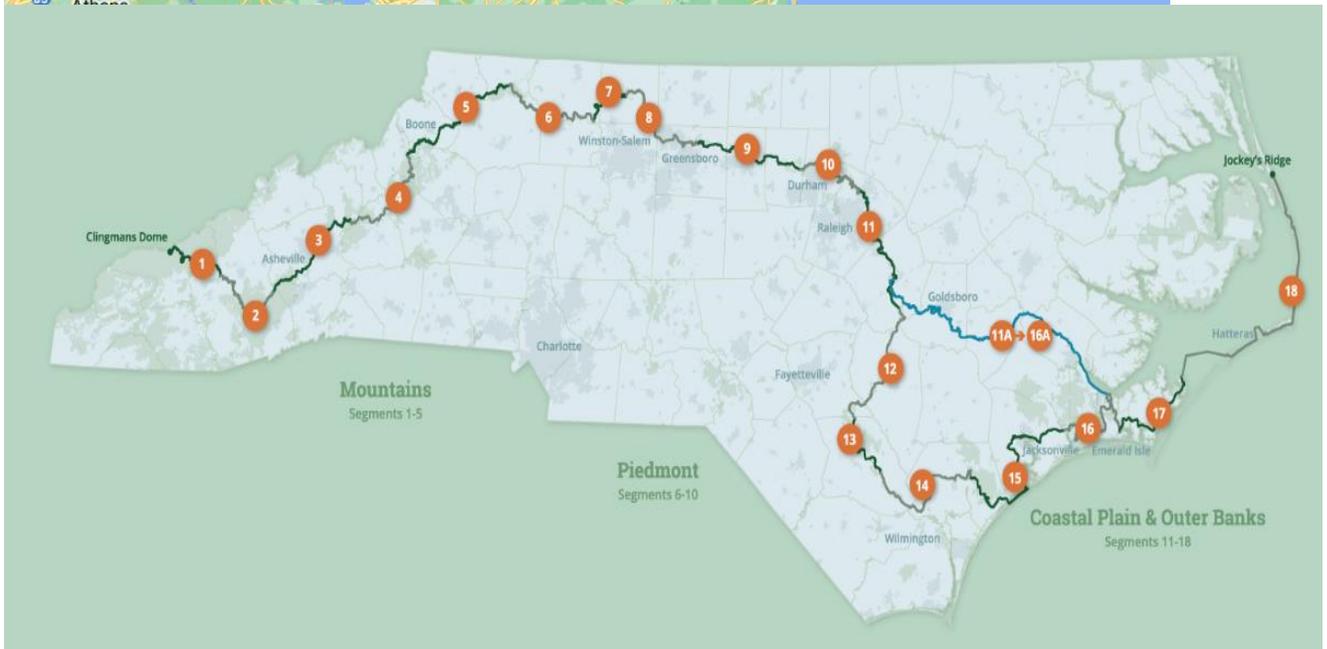
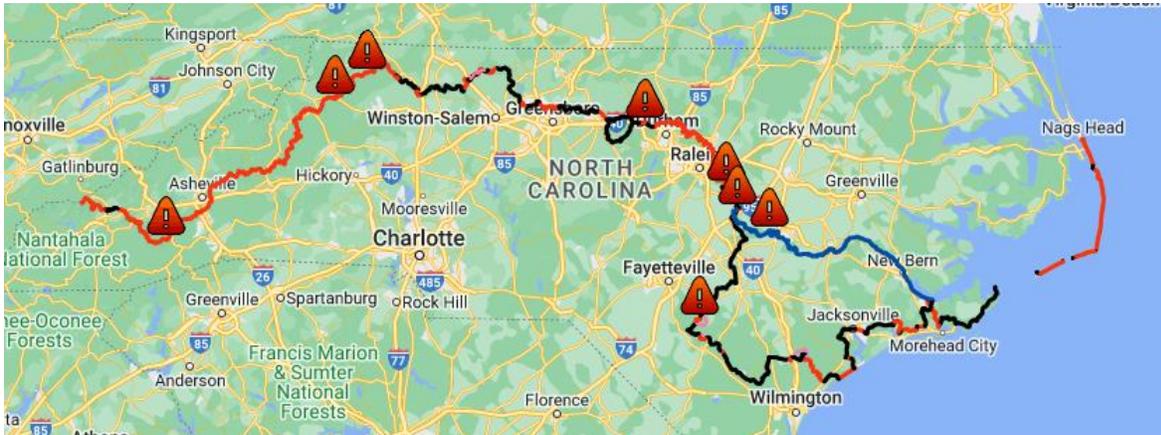
6. Elkin Valley (Elkin, Rockford)
7. Sauratown Mountains (Pilot Mtn, Moore's knob)
8. Rivers, Railroads & Lakes (Danbury, Walnut Cove, Oak Ridge, Summerfield, Greensboro)
9. Revolution & Textiles (Hillsborough, Mebane)
10. Eno River & Falls Lake (Raleigh, Durham)

### Coastal Plains & Outer Banks

11. Neuse River Greenways & the Let'Lones (Raleigh, Clayton, Smithfield)
12. Agricultural Heartland (Newton Grove, Roseboro)
13. Carolina Bay Country (White Lake)
14. Land of History (Burgaw)
15. Onslow Bight & Jacksonville (Surf City, North Topsail Beach, Sneads Ferry, Jacksonville)
16. Croatan & Neusiok Trail (Newport, Havelock)

17. Down East NC (Otway, Stacy, Davis)

18. Outer Banks (Ocracoke, Hatteras, Frisco, Buxton, Avon, Salvo, Waves, Rodanthe, Nags Head)



Don't Forget to take pictures along the way and post them to our social media sites:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GFWCofNorthCarolina/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/gfwcnc>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/gfwc-of-north-carolina/>

## Awards

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We are encouraging you all to send any Award entries and Reports via Email - our email addresses are included on the 1st page of this handout. Award Entries via mail will be accepted if they are postmarked by February 1, 2023 – **DEADLINE FOR ALL AWARD ENTRIES is FEBRUARY 1st** .

