

# OFFICIAL CALL

**GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc.**

**127<sup>th</sup> State Convention**

**Courtyard by Marriott Gulfport Beachfront**

**1600 East Beach Boulevard**

**Gulfport, Mississippi 39501**

**April 24-26, 2025**

**Dr. Carolyn S. Tedford, GFWC-MFWC President 2024-2026**

*Big Heart ... Little Feet*

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The One Hundred Twenty-seventh Annual Convention of the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc., will be held in Gulfport, Mississippi, Thursday - Saturday, April 24 - 26, 2025.

## **REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION**

**The Convention is open to all members of GFWC-MFWC.**

|                               |                |                       |
|-------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Registration Schedule:</b> | Thursday, 4/24 | 3:00 – 6:30 p.m.      |
|                               | Friday, 4/25   | 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. |
|                               | Saturday, 4/26 | 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.      |

**The registration table** will be in the pre-function area near the Coastal Ballroom of Courtyard by Marriott Gulfport Beachfront in Gulfport, MS.

**All members attending must be registered.** Advance registration is necessary for all meal tickets. Prices and the meal reservation form, along with the Credentials Card, can be found on page 4.

### **DEADLINES:**

- **The deadline for meal reservations to be received is March 29, 2025.**  
Meal reservations may not be guaranteed if received after this date.
- **The absolute deadline for hotel reservations is March 31, 2025.**  
The group-block room rate is **\$159.00** per night (*not including tax and fees*) for four people per room. It is recommended that you use this [link](#) to make your own room reservation. If you encounter a problem with this link, please call (228) 864-4310, Option 0 and reference FOW. Check-in is **3:00 p.m.**; Checkout is **11:00 a.m.**

### **EXHIBITS**

The **Exhibit Room** will close at 5:00 p.m., Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. **ALL** Youth Art, Photography, Scrapbook, and Yearbook entries **MUST be picked up** between 4:30 and 5:00 p.m. Clubs are completely responsible for retrieving entries from the Exhibit Room.

### **REPRESENTATION**

**The Voting Body** shall consist of the General Officers; Appointed Officers; Past State Presidents; State Chairmen of Standing Committees, Special Committees and Community Service Programs; District Officers and Chairmen, corresponding with those of the State; and regularly accredited Club delegates. Voting delegates shall wear a special designation on their name badges. Each Federation Club of fifteen (15) members or less shall be entitled to representation by the President or her appointee and one elected delegate. For each additional membership of fifteen (15) or major fraction thereof, a club shall be allowed another delegate.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**Emergency resolutions** may be presented to the Resolutions Committee. All other resolutions must be submitted in advance, pursuant to Article IX, Section 9 of the GFWC-MFWC Bylaws. *An emergency resolution is one arising from a sudden condition calling for immediate action, which because of its nature could not have been submitted at the designated time.*

**President's Special Project Service Project**

Friday night after the Banquet, we will be having a **Pajamas Party** which will include contests and games. Please bring a pair of new children's pajamas in support of the MFWC PSP. We encourage you to wear and show off your favorite pair of pajamas. The donated pajamas will be given to the Gulf Coast Center for Non-Violence in Biloxi, MS.

**Dress Code for Convention**

- Thursday Evening Executive Board Meeting/Dinner – Beach Attire
- Friday Business Session – Business Casual Attire
- Friday Night Banquet – Cocktail or Sunday Attire
- Saturday Morning Business Session – GFWC, MFWC or Club apparel or casual traveling clothes.

## TENTATIVE Schedule of Events\*

### Thursday, April 24:

**2:00 p.m.**           **Audit Committee Meeting** – President's Suite  
**3:00 p.m.**           **Finance and Executive Committee Meetings** – President's Suite  
**3:00 - 6:30 p.m.**   **Registration** – Pre-function area near Coastal Ballroom  
**7:00 - 9:00 p.m.**   **GFWC-MFWC Executive Board Dinner and Meeting** – *Coastal Ballroom*  
*All GFWC-MFWC members are invited. However, only Board members are allowed to vote.*

### Friday, April 25:

**7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.** **Gavel Club Breakfast** – *Gulfview Boardroom*  
**8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.** **Registration** – Pre-function area near Coastal Ballroom  
**8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.** **Shop Vendors** – Pre-function area near Coastal Ballroom  
**View Arts, Photography, and Books** – Pre-function area near Coastal Ballroom  
**9:00 a.m.**           **Convention Convenes** — *Coastal Ballroom*  
**Business Session, Reports and Awards**  
    \* Awards  
**Noon – 2:30 p.m.**   **Luncheon & Awards** - *Coastal Ballroom*  
    \* Awards  
**2:45 – 4:00 p.m.**   **Business Session & Awards** — *Coastal Ballroom*  
    \* Awards  
**4:30 – 5:00 p.m.**   **Pick up All Exhibits** - Youth Art, Photography, Books – Pre-function area near Coastal Ballroom  
**6:05 – 7:00 p.m.**   **Photo Opportunities**– TBD  
**7:15 p.m.**           **Processional Assembles** - outside *Coastal Ballroom*  
*(MS LEADS Participants, District Presidents, District Clubwomen of the Year, Presidents of District Clubs of the Year, Past State Presidents, GFWC-MFWC Appointed and Elected Officers, & GFWC Guest)*  
**7:30 – 8:40 p.m.**   **Banquet & Awards** – *Coastal Ballroom*  
    \* Recognition of District Clubwomen of the Year, District Clubs of the Year, District Presidents, MS LEADS Participants, Scholarship/Grants Winners, Juniorette Awards  
**9:00 – 10:00 p.m.** **Pajamas Party** – *Coastal Ballroom*

### Saturday, April 26:

**8:00 – 9:00 a.m.**   **Registration** – Pre-function area near Coastal Ballroom  
**8:00 – 9:30 a.m.**   **Prayer Breakfast featured speaker and Memorial Service** – *Coastal Ballroom*  
**9:45 – 11:45 a.m.** **Business Session & Awards** – *Coastal Ballroom*  
**Noon**               **Adjournment of 127<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention**

- *If a report is moved to another day/time slot, the chairman will be notified.*
- *Chairmen are requested to always have your report with you at all meetings. If possible, we will continue with reports as time permits, in order to expedite the program.*

**OFFICIAL CALL to GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc., 127<sup>th</sup> State Convention**

**REGISTRATION AND MEAL RESERVATION FORM**

**Mail To:**

Diane Rouse  
2323 Tiffany Circle  
Florence, MS 39073

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**District:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Club:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_  Cell  Home  Work  Other  
**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

| <u>Event</u>  | <u>Cost</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|-------------|--------------|
| <b>Registration (1 day only)</b> .....  | 15.00       | _____        |
| <b>Registration (more than 1 day)</b> .....                                       | 20.00       | _____        |
| <b>Executive Board Dinner, Thursday Night, 4/24</b> .....                         | 60.00       | _____        |
| <b>Gavel Club Breakfast, Friday Morning, 4/25 (Gavel Club Members Only)</b> ..... | 35.00       | _____        |
| <b>Luncheon, Friday, 4/25</b> .....   | 45.00       | _____        |
| <b>Banquet, Friday Night, 4/25</b> .....  | 60.00       | _____        |
| <b>Prayer Breakfast, Saturday Morning, 4/26</b> .....                             | 35.00       | _____        |

**Registration Late Fee** (Per GFWC-MFMC Standing Rules #8, a late fee of \$10.00 will be assessed for registrations received after the deadline.) ..... 10.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_ Medication in Emergency: \_\_\_\_\_

Notify in Emergency: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  Cell  Home  Work  Other

**CREDENTIALS CARD**  
**GFWC-MFMC 127<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Club:** \_\_\_\_\_ **District:** \_\_\_\_\_

- I am a Non-Voting Delegate.
- I am a Voting Delegate because I am: (Please mark *only* the highest position you hold.)
  - An elected or appointed State Officer of GFWC-MFMC. \_\_\_\_\_
  - A Past State President of GFWC-MFMC.
  - A State Chairman of a Standing Committee, Special Committee, or CSP. \_\_\_\_\_
  - A District Officer or Chairman corresponding with those of the State. \_\_\_\_\_
  - A regularly accredited club delegate. (Each club of fifteen members or less shall be entitled to representation by the President or her appointee and one elected delegate. For each additional membership of fifteen or major fraction thereof, a club shall be allowed another delegate.)

**If voting delegate, please have Club President to sign, and mail this along with your meal reservations.**  
 \_\_\_\_\_, Club President

**Received/Submission Deadline for Registration is March 29, 2025.**

Two Ways to pay for GFWC-MFMC Annual Convention. Check one.

- Pay by check.** Mail Registration/Meal/Credentials Card and check (made payable to GFWC-MFMC 2024 State Convention) for total amount to: Diane Rouse, 2323 Tiffany Circle, Florence, MS 39073. Be sure to include 2024 State Convention on memo line.
- Pay by Venmo.** Complete Registration/Meal/Credentials Card and email form to Diane Rouse at [crouse99@yahoo.com](mailto:crouse99@yahoo.com). Make payment by Venmo.



**venmo**

Scan this code to pay  
Diane Rouse  
@Diane-Rouse-10

NO REFUNDS AFTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE OF March 29, 2025