

A Storybook Garden



Go into the woods; it is where your story happens.

**An NGC Standard Flower Show
Presented by The Federated Garden Clubs of CT, Inc.**

Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc. & New England Garden Clubs, Inc.

**44th Annual Connecticut Flower & Garden Show®
CT Convention Center, 100 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, CT 06103**

**Thursday, February 19, 2026 – 10 am to 7 pm
Friday, February 20 & Saturday, February 21, 2026 – 10 am to 8 pm
Sunday, February 22, 2026 – 10 am to 5 pm
Free and open to the public with paid admission to the CT Flower and Garden Show**

FINAL 9.3.25

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Directions to the CT Convention Center-Take I-91, I-84 or Route 2 to Hartford:

From I-84W: Take EXIT 54 onto the Founders Bridge. Stay in left lane on the bridge.

At bottom of bridge turn left onto Columbus Blvd. Turn left at next light. Parking garage & CTCC are on the right.

From Route 2W: Follow Downtown Hartford Sign onto Founders Bridge. Stay in left lane on the bridge. At bottom of bridge turn left onto Columbus Blvd. Turn left at next light. Parking garage & CTCC are on the right.

From I-84E: Take EXIT 52 onto I-91S. Take EXIT 29A (Capital Area/CTCC). Next take the first exit on right (Columbus Blvd/CTCC). Parking garage and CTCC are immediately on the right.

From I-91N and I-91S: Take EXIT 29A (Capital Area/CTCC). Next take the first exit on right (Columbus Blvd/CTCC). Parking garage and CTCC are immediately on the right.

Ticket Information for Garden Club Members:

The Federated Garden Clubs of CT, Inc. member may purchase a discounted ticket through February 1, 2026 for \$15.53 if paying by credit card. Tickets are \$15.00 if paying by check. Please make check payable to: North East Expos, Inc. Mail to: 25 Spring Street, Chester CT 06412. Regular price admission at the door is \$20.70 for credit card purchases and \$20.00 for cash. For all CT Flower and Garden Show information please visit: www.ctflowershow.com

SHOW COMMITTEE – Yarn Spinners

The Federated Garden Clubs of CT

President	Nan Merolla nan.merolla@ctgardenclubs.org
First VP	Kelle Ruden kelle.ruden@ctgardenclubs.org
Second VP	Norma Jean Macauto Normajeane.macauto@ctgardenclubs.org
Treasurer	John Davis john.davis@ctgardenclubs.org

A Storybook Garden General Committee

Show Chair (Big Bad Wolf)	Vonice Carr vonice.carr@ctgardenclubs.org
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Schedule	Mel Unger mel.unger@ctgardenclubs.org
Awards	Deb Vallas
Clerks Chair	Carole Fromer
Creative Staging	Elizabeth Berlenbach

Exhibit Staging	Renee Barreira
Hospitality Chair	Kathleen Lindroth
Hospitality Asst.	Jan Hickcox
Judges	Jeanette Barrows
Judges Council	Mary Ann Tyma
Landscape	Susan Laursen
Name Tags	Alison Waxman
Painters	Norma Ingram & Avon Garden Club
Parking Czar/ Facebook	Susan Demuth
Publicity	Linda Kaplan
Quality Control	Suzy Fisher
Schedule Review	Pam Wright
Signage	Karin Pyskaty
Staging Assist	Nancy & Lewis LaBianca
Staging Assist	Bill Leuze
Staging Assist	Diane Pizzo
Website	Scott DeMuth

Horticulture Division

Horticulture Chair **Cheryl Cappiali**
cheryl.cappiali@ctgardenclubs.org

Horticulture Committee
Meg Barnes
Nolini Barretto
Scott Demuth
Martina Doshan
Cindy Eadie
Donna Kaffenberger
Renee Marsh
Peggy Townsend

Classification Committee **Carol Martens**
Elaine Matulis
Donna Nowak

Design Section Consultants **See Division II – Design schedule for consultant contact information.**

Education Division

Education Chair **Kelle Ruden**
kelle.ruden@ctgardenclubs.org

Design Division

Design Chair **Mary Lynn McRee**
mcruclady@aol.com

Design Committee
Paula Inglese
Leslie Martino
Diane White
Wendy Yu

Classification Chair **Cindy Marien**
cstarmien@aol.com

Botanical Arts Division

Artistic Crafts Chair **Larry Huzi**
larry.huzi@ctgardenclubs.org

Artistic Crafts Committee **Beth Brunone**

Photography Chair **Kathy Harris**
kathy.harris@ctgardenclubs.org

Photography Committee **Ginny Casanova**
Jean Stetz-Puchalski

GENERAL RULES

- This Flower Show conforms to the standards established by National Garden Clubs, Inc (NGC). The Handbook for Flower Shows (HB) as with revisions posted on the NGC website, is the authority for all issues not covered by the schedule, which is the "Law of the Show". An updated copy of *The Handbook for Flower Shows* may be downloaded from the NGC website at www.gardenclub.org.
- There must be an emphasis on FRESH Plant material; no artificial plant material may be used in any division.
- Each Exhibitor is limited to one entry per class, except in the Horticulture division if each is a different species, variety, cultivar, type or color.
- The Federated Garden Clubs of CT, Inc., the CT Convention Center, and North East Expos, Inc. will strive to assure the safety of all items after arrival and placement but are not responsible for any loss or damage to Exhibits.

ELIGIBILITY FOR ENTERING THE FLOWER SHOW

- The Horticulture Division may be entered by NGC garden club members and amateur gardeners.
- The Design, Botanical Arts and Education Divisions may be entered by NGC garden club members.
- The Education Division, Section B is also open by invitation to Plant Societies and Educational Institutions.

REGISTERING TO EXHIBIT

- **Horticulture Division:** Exhibitors are strongly encouraged to use the advance on-line registration, no later than Sunday, **2-8-26**. Pre-register Horticulture at www.ctgardenclubs.org.
- **Design Division:** Exhibitors must register online at www.ctgardenclubs.org. Refer class specific questions to the class consultant; see show committee page or design schedule for contact information.
- **Education Division:** Exhibitors must pre-register by **8-15-25** with Education chair: **Kelle Ruden**, kelle.ruden@ctgardenclubs.org
- **Botanical Arts Division:** All Botanical Arts Exhibitors must register online at www.ctgardenclubs.org. Artistic Crafts entries must be registered by **2-01-26**. Photography entries must be registered by **1-15-26**.

TIMES TO ENTER AND REMOVE ENTRIES

- Entries in every Division will be accepted on **Tuesday, 2-17-26 from 11 am until 5 pm.**

- **ONLY** Design Division, Education Division and Artistic Crafts entries will be accepted **Wednesday, 2-18-26 from 7:30-9 am.**
- **NO HORTICULTURE OR PHOTOGRAPHY ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED ON WEDNESDAY.** A special exception is allowed for delivery on Wednesday 7:30 am to 9:00 am of one pre-registered horticulture entry, that meets the following conditions:
 1. It is a submission by a judge assigned to a judging panel or a submission by an out-of-state design or artistic craft exhibitor who needs a horticulture exhibiting credit.
 2. The entry must be pre-registered and correctly labeled with its botanical binomial name.
 3. **Advance permission must be requested.** Contact the Flower Show Chair by emailing vonice.carr@ctgardenclubs.org no later than 2-8-2026 to request this exemption.
- All exhibits must be removed on Sunday, 2-22-26 between 5-6 pm. Be prompt in picking up.

MAKING ENTRIES

- Computer-generated entry cards will be available for all pre-registered entries at the designated set-up times.
- Design Division, Education Division and Artistic Crafts entry cards will be placed on the staging where the entry will be located. Nomenclature forms will also be placed with Design entry cards and exhibitors must list plant material used on both the entry card and the nomenclature form.
- Horticulture Division and Photography entrants must check-in at the Horticulture and Photography registration tables to complete the entry process.
- Exhibitors **must** leave the show floor when entries are complete.

JUDGING - WEDNESDAY, 2-18-26, 10AM-1PM

- Judges and Clerk orientation will be held 2/18/26 at 9:30am.
- The Classification Chair for each division checks exhibits for conformity to the schedule prior to judging. The final determination for conformance is the judges' responsibility.
- The General Chair and the Classification Chair for each Division are available during judging for possible consultation. They, along with the judges and clerks, are the only personnel allowed on the floor during judging.
- The decisions of the judges are final. Awards may be withheld if not merited.
- When a gross infraction of NGC Policy is noticed after a decision is made, but before the show is open to the public, the General Chair is advised. The General Chair or Classification Chair may disqualify the Exhibit. If the Chair does not disqualify the Exhibit, the original panel may re-judge. HB p98.

POLICY ON USE of ENDANGERED and INVASIVE PLANTS: Plant Material listed on the following websites is prohibited in any Division.

- Connecticut Invasive Plant List: https://cipwg.uconn.edu/invasive_plant_list/
- Endangered, Threatened & Special Concern Plants in CT: <https://portal.ct.gov/deep/endangered-species/endangered-species-listings/endangered-threatened--special-concern-plants>

Embrace the wild within.

AWARDS

The NGC Standard System of Awarding is used in all Divisions.

- Only one (1) first-place (blue) ribbon per Class or Subclass; must score 90 points or more.
- Only one (1) second-place (red) ribbon per Class or Subclass; must score 85 points or more.
- Only one (1) third-place (yellow) ribbon per Class or Subclass; must score 80 points or more.
- One (1) or more Honorable Mention (white) ribbons as merited; must score 75 points or more.
- 90+ (plus) may be awarded for those exhibits scoring 90 plus or more but are not the First- Place or Blue-ribbon winner.

DIVISION I – HORTICULTURAL AWARDS

National Garden Clubs – Division Award

Award of Horticultural Excellence: Rosette of green, orange, and blue ribbons. One is offered and may be awarded to the highest scoring correctly named blue-ribbon winner entered by an individual in the entire Horticulture Division.

National Garden Clubs – Section Awards

- **Arboreal Award:** Rosette of green ribbons. Three are offered and may be awarded to the cut arboreal exhibit which is the correctly named blue-ribbon winner scoring 95 points or more in each of Sections I, J and K.
- **Award of Merit:** Rosette of orange ribbons. Two are offered and may be awarded to the cut non-woody exhibit which is the correctly named blue-ribbon winner scoring 95 points or more in each of Sections N and O.
- **Elfin Award:** Small rosette of chartreuse and purple ribbons. Four are offered and may be awarded to exhibits designated as dwarf or miniature varieties or cultivars by nurseries and plant societies. Specimens may be cut, container grown or arboreal. The Elfin Award may be awarded to the exhibit which is a correctly named blue ribbon winner scoring 95 points or more in each of Sections C, G, L, and M.
- **Grower's Choice Award:** Rosette of dark green ribbons. Three are offered and may be awarded to the correctly named blue-ribbon winner scoring 95 points or more for container-grown plants in each of Sections E, F and P.

The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut – Horticultural Awards

- **The Mary Lou Smith Award of Merit:** Rosette of turquoise and green ribbons. Four are offered and may be awarded to the correctly named blue-ribbon winner scoring 95 points or more in each of Sections A, B, D, and H.
- **The Connecticut Group Horticulture Award:** Rosette of hunter green and gold ribbons. One is offered and may be awarded at any Standard Flower Show presented by The Federation or member clubs for a group or club effort for garden design or other horticultural effort which scores 95 points or more. Section Q is eligible.
- **The Elisabeth Swain Propagation Award:** Rosette of green and lime green ribbons. One is offered and may be awarded to outstanding NAMED blue-ribbon winner scoring 95 points or more, propagated by an Exhibitor. Exhibits will be identified with the word "Propagated" printed on the entry cards. Exhibits will be identified during registration. Brief propagation details will be required.

DIVISION II – DESIGN AWARDS

National Garden Clubs – Division Award

- **Award of Design Excellence:** Rosette of gold ribbons. One is offered and may be awarded to the highest scoring exhibit in the entire Design Division entered by a single exhibitor. Section F, Club Competition is not eligible.

National Garden Clubs – Section Awards

The award-winning Exhibit, in either creative or traditional style, must be a blue-ribbon winner, scoring 95 points or more and entered by an individual in designated Sections containing at least 3 Classes per Section. Each class must have at least 4 exhibits.

- **Club Competition Award:** Rosette of light blue ribbons. One is offered and may be awarded to the blue-ribbon winner scoring 95 points or more in Section F.
- **Designer's Choice Award:** Rosette of purple ribbons. One is offered and may be awarded to the blue-ribbon winner scoring 95 points or more in Section C. Designer has freedom to choose plant material and other components.
- **Petite Award:** Small Rosette of blue and white ribbons. Two are offered and may be awarded to the blue-ribbon winner scoring 95 points or more in each of Sections of Petite Designs A and B. Designer's choice of Plant Material in all Classes.
- **Award of Distinction:** Rosette of brown ribbons. One is offered and may be awarded to the blue-ribbon winner scoring 95 points or more in Section D. All plant material used must be dried and or treated, but not fresh.
- **Table Artistry Award:** Rosette of burgundy ribbons. One is offered and may be awarded to the blue-ribbon winner scoring 95 points or more in Section E. Award available for functional and exhibition tables.

The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut- Design Awards

- **The Nell McGuinness Award:** A Certificate and a rosette of pink and gold ribbons is offered and may be awarded to the **most outstanding** Exhibit in the Design Division.
- **The Terry Stoleson Creative Design Award:** Rosette of purple and orange ribbons. One is offered and may be awarded to the Design that best represents the **creativity, imagination, and originality** essential in Creative Design. Section C and Section D are eligible.

THE FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF CT - PEOPLE'S CHOICE DESIGN AWARD in HONOR of BARBARA BRUCE

Barbara Bruce loved flower shows and was an extraordinary designer and generous mentor. The unique and beautiful flower shows she created were always imbued with her inner light and joy. Barbara chaired Flower Show School and several state flower shows all while fending off cancer. Passing on opening day of the state show she was chairing in 2016, Barbara left us the gift of a flower show schedule for the next year to guide us and to guarantee the show would go on.

A Certificate will be awarded to the first-place winner, selected by ballot, as the people's favorite exhibit in the Design Division. The winner along with second and third place will be acknowledged and announced on The Federated Garden Clubs of CT. Inc. website: ctgardenclubs.org

DIVISION III – EDUCATION AWARDS

National Garden Clubs – Division Award

- **Educational Top Exhibitor Award:** Rosette of brown & white ribbons. One is offered and may be awarded to the highest scoring Exhibit which scores 95 points or more. The Exhibit must occupy a minimum of 18 square feet of surface area. Section A, class 1 is eligible if the space requirements are met.
- **Award of Appreciation:** Rosette of orchid ribbons. One or more are offered and may be awarded to invitational and commercial non-competitive Exhibits, if merited, which are not to be judged. Section B, Classes 2, 3, and 4 are eligible.

The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut – Education Awards

- **CT Judges Special Award:** Rosette of yellow and white ribbons. One is offered and may be awarded to one Educational Exhibit scoring 94 points or more which awakens interest in a subject and stimulates the viewer to learn more. Section A, class 1 is eligible. The winner of the Educational Top Exhibitor Award is not eligible.
- **CT Silver and Blue Award:** Rosette of silver and blue ribbons. One or more may be offered and awarded to Educational Exhibits scoring 90 or more (no space requirements) at the discretion of the judges. Section A, class 1 is eligible. The winner of the Educational Top Exhibitor Award is not eligible.

DIVISION IV – BOTANICAL ARTS AWARDS

National Garden Clubs – Botanical Arts Section Awards

- **Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts Award:** Rosette of navy ribbons with gold lettering. One is offered and may be awarded to the highest scoring craft of 95 points or more. Artistic Crafts are not eligible for any other Exhibitor Award. Section A is eligible.
- **Botanical Arts Photography Award:** Rosette of black and white ribbons. One is offered and may be awarded to the highest scoring photograph of 95 points or more. Section B is eligible.

The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut –Photography Section Awards

- **CT Photography Award:** Rosette of cream, navy, and burgundy ribbons. One is offered and may be awarded to a Photograph Exhibit in the Photography Section scoring 95 points or more.
- **Cheryl Collins Photography Award:** Rosette of light green and lavender and dark green ribbons. One is offered and may be awarded to the Photograph of flowers or gardens judged to be the most creatively photographed. The winner need not be a Blue-Ribbon winner.

NORTH EAST EXPO AWARD

A rosette of burgundy and gold ribbons. One is offered and is selected from the entire show by representatives of North East Expos the sponsor of the Connecticut Flower and Garden Show from all exhibits entered in the CT Flower Show.

Fierce and graceful the wolf leads with her heart.

DIVISION I – HORTICULTURE - Cryptids

Horticulture Division Rules

1. The NGC Exhibit Policies are printed in *The Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 6, Exhibiting in the Horticulture Division.
2. The rules for a single species cut or container-grown specimen are listed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows* or its supplement, *Horticulture Exhibiting and Judging*.
3. In order to receive an NGC Top Exhibitor Award, the Exhibitor must identify her/his entry by its binomial name or currently acceptable scientific designation. Consult HB Exhibiting in the Horticulture Division, Chapter 6.
4. Horticulture entries should be registered in advance, computer generated entry cards will be available at the show when entries are accepted. Exhibitors with unregistered entries should bring written information so a card can be generated when entries are accepted.
5. Cut specimens should not have foliage below the water line, except *gladiolus*.

6. If a plant is considered a flowering plant, it should be exhibited as a flowering specimen. Foliage plants may flower, but should be exhibited as a foliage plant if they are grown for their leaves; it is not necessary to remove flowers from foliage plants.
7. Specimens with a class designation may not be entered in the 'Any Other Worthy' class.
8. The Horticulture Classification Committee Chair and/or General Show Chair are free to subdivide by color form, size, cultivar, variety or other distinguishing characteristics.
9. The Scales of Points for Horticulture are located in Chapter 14 of *The Handbook for Flower Shows*.
10. All plant material must be fresh and have been grown by the exhibitor.
11. Clear bottles and wedging will be provided for cut specimens. Clean, neutral-colored pots with saucers are preferred for container-grown plants. Discreet double potting is allowed.
12. All Entries must be well groomed. Diseased or insect-infected plant material will not be accepted. Water thoroughly before bringing entries to the show. Plant material must be in its natural state and may not be altered by application of oil or commercial "shine" products.
13. Please pre-register any horticulture which you think may be ready at show time. There is no penalty for withdrawing material that is not show ready.
14. Containers up to 12" in diameter, measured from top outside edges, will be accepted. The Exhibitor must be able to carry the container to the exhibition hall without assistance from the Committee.
15. Risers will be provided for trailing plants. You must pre-register for a riser. Please contact Horticulture Classification Chair: **Renee Marsh: renee.marsh@ctgardenclubs.org** with any questions.

Horticulture Sections and Classes

Section A – Ogres

CACTI – CONTAINER-GROWN

Eligible for Mary Lou Smith

Award of Merit

Class 1. *Astrophytum*

Class 2. *Echinocactus*

Class 3. *Epiphyllum*

Class 4. *Mammillaria*

Class 5. *Rhipsalis*

Class 6. *Schlumbergera*

Class 7. Any Other Worthy

Section B – Banshees

SUCCULENTS-CONTAINER-GROWN

Eligible for Mary Lou Smith

Award of Merit

Class 8. *Aeonium*

Class 9. *Agave*

Class 10. *Aloe*

Class 11. *Crassula*

Class 12. *Dracaena*

Class 13. *Dracaena trifasciata*
(Formerly *Sansevieria*)

Class 14. *Echeveria*

Class 15. *Euphorbia*

Class 16. *Haworthia*

Class 17. *Sedum*

Class 18. Any Other Worthy

Section C – Mermen

MINIATURE CACTI & SUCCULENTS CONTAINER-GROWN

Eligible for Elfin Award

Class 19. *Crassula*

Class 20. *Dracaena*

Class 21. *Gymnocalycium*

Class 22. *Lithops*

Class 23. *Pleiospilos*

Class 24. *Sedum*

Class 25. Any Other Worthy

Section D – Goblins

ORCHIDS-CONTAINER-GROWN

Eligible for Mary Lou Smith

Award of Merit

Class 26. *Dendrobium*

Class 27. *Oncidium*

Class 28. *Phalaenopsis*

Class 29. Any Other Worthy

Section E – Leprechauns

CONTAINER-GROWN FOLIAGE

Eligible for Grower's Choice

Award

Class 30. *Aglaonema*

Class 31. *Asparagus*

Class 32. *Beaucarnea*

Class 33. *Begonia*

Class 34. *Codiaeum*

Class 35. *Chlorophytum*

Class 36. *Dyckia*

Class 37. *Epipremnum*

Class 38. Fern

Class 39. *Hedera*

Class 40. *Hoya*

Class 41. *Oxalis*

Class 42. *Pelargonium*

Class 43. *Peperomia*

Class 44. *Philodendron*

Class 45. *Spathiphyllum*

Class 46. *Syngonium*

Class 47. *Tillandsia*

Class 48. *Zamioculcas*

Class 49. Any Other Worthy

Section F – Centaurs

CONTAINER-GROWN

FLOWERING

Eligible for Grower's Choice Award

Plants must be in fruit or flower.

Class 50. *Anthurium*

Class 51. *Begonia*

Class 52. *Cyclamen*

Class 53. *Sinningia*

Class 54. *Streptocarpus*

Class 55. *Streptocarpus*

ionanthus (African Violet)

Class 56. Any Other Worthy

Section G – Yetis

DWARF OR MINIATURE FLOWERING PLANTS CONTAINER-GROWN

Eligible for Elfin Award

Class 57. *Begonia*

Class 58. *Orchid*

Class 59. *Streptocarpus*

Class 60. Any Other Worthy

**Section H – Phoenixes
FORCED BULBS, TUBERS,
RHIZOMES**

CONTAINER-GROWN

Eligible for Mary Lou Smith

Award of Merit

Judges Challenge

**Bulbs distributed in November
of 2025**

Class 61. *Hippeastrum*

(Amaryllis) Nymph

Class 62. *Hippeastrum*

(Amaryllis) Snow White

Class 63. *Hippeastrum*

(Amaryllis) Sweet Nymph

Open to Everyone

Class 64. *Hippeastrum*

(Amaryllis)

Class 65. *Hyacinthus*

Class 66. *Narcissus*

Class 67. Any Other Worthy

Section I – Gnomes

ARBOREALS - BROADLEAF

EVERGREENS

Eligible for Arboreal Award

Cut specimens must be no more than 30" in length, include an apical tip, central leader, and several nodes.

Class 68. *Euonymus*

Class 69. *Ilex*

Class 70. *Leucothoe*

Class 71. *Pieris*

Class 72. *Rhododendron*

Class 73. *Skimmia*

Class 74. Any Other Worthy

Section J– Dragons

ARBOREALS - NEEDLED

EVERGREENS

Eligible for Arboreal Award

Cut specimens must be no more than 30" in length, include an apical tip, central leader, and several nodes.

Class 75. *Chamaecyparis*

Class 76. *Juniperus*

Class 77. *Picea*

Class 78. *Pinus*

Class 79. *Sciadopitys*

Class 80. Any Other Worthy

Section K – Werewolves

ARBOREALS - Forced or Winter

Blooming Branches

Eligible for Arboreal Award

Cut specimens must be no more than 30" in length, include an apical tip, central leader, and several nodes.

Eligible for Arboreal Award

Class 81. *Chaenomeles*

Class 82. *Forsythia*

Class 83. *Hamamelis*

Class 84. *Pieris*

Class 85. Any Other Worthy

Section L - Sirens

DWARF OR MINIATURE

ARBOREALS

CONTAINER-GROWN

Eligible for Elfin Award

Class 86. Broadleaf Evergreens

Class 87. Forced or Winter

Blooming

Class 88. Needled Evergreens

Class 89. Any Other Worthy

Section M – Trolls

DWARF OR MINIATURE

ARBOREALS CUT SPECIMENS

Eligible for Elfin Award

Cut specimens must be no more than 18" in length, include an apical tip, central leader and several nodes.

Class 90. Broadleaf Evergreens

Class 91. Forced or Winter

Blooming

Class 92. Needled Evergreens

Class 93. Any Other Worthy

Section N – Cyclops

FOLIAGE CUT SPECIMENS

Eligible for Award of Merit

Class 94. *Alocasia*

Class 95. *Begonia*

Class 96. *Coleus*

Class 97. *Monstera*

Class 98. *Philodendron*

Class 99. Any Other Worthy

**Section O – Flying Monkeys
FLOWERING CUT SPECIMENS**

Eligible for Award of Merit

Class 100. *Crocus*

Class 101. *Galanthus*

Class 102. *Helleborus*

Class 103. *Narcissus*

Class 104. *Pelargonium*

Class 105. Any Other Worthy

Section P - Hydras

COMBINATION PLANTINGS

Eligible for Growers Choice

Entry must include key card (minimum 4"x 6") identifying each plant by genus and specific epithet.

Class 106. Dish Garden

Class 107. Planter

Class 108. Terrarium

Class 109. Any other worthy

Section Q - Witches

CLUB COMPETITION

Eligible for the CT Group

Horticulture Award

Consultant: Peggy Townsend

pegtownsend@yahoo.com

Representative who registers club

must contact consultant upon

entering.

- This is a Club horticultural effort limited to 4 entries
- Only the club's president's name is on the entry card.
- Key card (min. 4 x 6) with plant ID must accompany exhibit.
- Exhibit space is 3'W x 29"D x 29"H.

Class 110. *Epiphytes* Display

Howl with the wolves; your voice needs to be heard.

DIVISION II – DESIGN – **Fairy Tales**

Design Division Rules

1. The NGC Exhibit Policies are printed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 7, Exhibiting in the Design Division, NGC Policies and Guidelines.
2. Advance online registration deadline is February, 1, 2026: <https://ctgardenclubs.org>
3. Plant material and non-plant material permitted and not permitted in the Design Division are printed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 7. **Not permitted in CT** per Committee: coral, starfish, sponges, sea fans, or collected bird nests; and cut fruits or vegetables even if sealed. Whole fruits and vegetables are allowed.
4. All plant material used in the design must be listed by common name on both the entry card and nomenclature form provided at the time of entry and reviewed by Design Classification Committee before the designer leaves the floor.
5. The exhibitor is required to conform to the stated description and limitations of the Design Type if named in the class.
6. Rules for Design Types, Advanced Design Types, Table Design and Table appointments are printed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 7.
7. The Scale of Points for Design is listed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 14.
8. The most recently updated *Handbook for Flower Shows* is available free for use, download and printing on the NGC website, Flower Show Resources page.
9. Designers are on their honor that the design being entered has not been previously entered or judged in an NGC Standard Flower Show.
10. The designer has the freedom to choose traditional or creative style with any design listed unless restricted by the schedule.
11. Designs must be the work of one individual (exception: Club competitions or companion exhibits).
12. Plant material need not to have grown by the exhibitor.
13. Fresh Plant material may not ever be treated in any manner. Dried material may be treated unless restricted by the schedule.
14. If the designer is unable to fulfill the assignment, it is the Designer's responsibility to find a replacement.
15. Designers are encouraged to use minimal amounts of green floral foam for environmental reasons.
16. Mail or Email from Consultants to Exhibitors will include: (a) A detailed sketch or photograph of staging on the Exhibitor's specific Class. (b) A detailed, scaled Floor Plan of the entire flower show to enable Exhibitors to envision the space/frame of reference for Design Sections and Classes and entire Show. **Curtains behind Designs will be 8' height, champagne.** Lower, 3' HT curtains and table skirting will be black. Pedestals are placed 30" apart and designs must not extend more than 12" horizontally beyond the pedestal.
17. All designs will be judged from the front but are viewable from 3 sides unless otherwise noted.

Design Sections and Classes

Section A – Once Upon a Time - Eligible for the Petite Award – 4 Entries in each class

Consultant: Leslie Martino, lcmartino@yahoo.com

All designs in this section are Petite not to exceed 8" in height, width and depth. Staged on a 42" height table covered in white and skirted in black. Underlay and staging panel required. Fresh and/or dried plant material allowed.

Class 1 – The Princess and the Pea – Novice Class (Open to designers that have not been awarded a blue ribbon in a prior NGC show.)

Petite Creative Design

Class 2 – Thumbelina

Petite Exhibition Table

Class 3 – The Ugly Duckling

Petite Assemblage Design

Section B – True Love Conquers All - Eligible for the Petite Award – 4 Entries in each class

Consultant: Trish Manfredi, ptmanfredi@cox.net

All designs in this section are Petite not to exceed 12" in height, width and depth. Staged on a 42" height table covered in white and skirted in black. Underlay and staging panel required. Fresh and/or dried plant material allowed.

Class 4 – Snow White

Petite Parallel Design

Class 5 – Sleeping Beauty

Petite Reflective Design

Class 6 – The Little Mermaid

Petite Underwater Design

Section C – Into the Woods - Eligible for the Designer's Choice Award – 4 Entries in each class

Consultant: Paula Inglese, pjdazzles@comcast.net

Class 7 – Red Riding Hood – Novice Class (Open to designers that have not been awarded a blue ribbon in a prior NGC show)

Creative Design staged on a 18" square, 42" height black pedestal

Class 8 – Hansel and Gretel

Creative Line Design staged on a 16" square, 42" height black pedestal

Class 9 – Vasilisa the Beautiful

Illuminary Design staged on a 15" square, 40" height black pedestal

Section D – Wicked Women - Eligible for the Award of Distinction – 4 Entries in each class

Consultant: Diane White, dmarywhite@gmail.com

Class 10 – Maleficent

Transparency Design staged on a 20" square, 34" height black pedestal

Class 11 – The Snow Queen

Framed Spatial Design staged on a 30" wide, 60" high, 5.5 deep black frame center mounted on a 36" square x 12" height black base. A hook for hanging the design is centered on the top frame rail.

Class 12 – Baba Yaga

Creative Mass Design staged on a 12" square, 42" height black pedestal

Section E – Good Triumphs Over Evil - Eligible for the Table Artistry Award – 4 Entries in each class

Consultant: Nancy Sutherland, nancyasutherland@gmail.com

Class 13 – Jack and the Bean Stalk

Exhibition Table staged on half of a 6' long x 24" deep x 29" high table covered in white and draped to the floor in black. Staging panel and underlay required.

Class 14 – Cinderella

Functional Semi-formal Table for two staged on a 36" round, 30" high table. Exhibitor must provide a table cloth and/or skirting to the floor to completely cover the table and base.

Class 15 – Rapunzel – Novice Class (Open to designers that have not been awarded a blue ribbon in a prior NGC show)

Informal Table for one staged on a 23.6" diameter round x 28.7" high black pedestal table.

Section F – Happily Ever After - Eligible for the Club Competition Award - 4 Entries

Consultant: Wendy Yu, wendyyu009@gmail.com

Class 16 – A Storybook Ending

A club competition vignette staged in an 8' diameter circle. Choose a fairy tale character and create the place where they retreat to dream of their 'happily ever after'. Each entry must represent a different character; the consultant will approve character selection on a first come, first serve basis. Confirm your club's selection with the consultant prior to entering. The vignette will be viewed from all sides and judged from the front. Electricity (advance approval required) and mulch are available to augment design. See class consultant for more information. No battery-operated lights allowed.

Don't give up until you find your pack.

DIVISION III – EDUCATION - **Fables**

Education Division Rules

1. Educational Exhibits may be the work of more than one individual or organization. If a student or Accredited Judge is seeking exhibiting credit, the work must be done solely by the individual and entered accordingly. Names of Exhibitors may appear in the schedule ONLY if the exhibit is not being judged.
2. Exhibits eligible for the NGC Educational Top Exhibitor Award must occupy a minimum of eighteen (18) square feet of surface area.
3. While it is not mandatory that plant material be included in Educational Exhibits, NGC Inc. encourages the use of plant material in Exhibits whenever appropriate, especially fresh plant material. Artificial plant material is never permitted.
4. Handout materials add to the educational value but are not required. Each part of the Exhibit should contribute to the distinctive overall effect.
5. Exhibits in Class 1 will each be staged on a 29"x 29" x 8' table, covered and skirted in black. Exhibits in Classes 2, 3, and 4 will each be staged on a table 6'W x 29"D x 29"H covered in white and skirted in black.
6. Scales Of Points for Judging Educational Exhibits see HB Chapter 14.

Education Sections and Classes

Section A – Honesty is the Best Policy

Eligible for Educational Top Exhibitor Award, CT Judges
Special Award, CT Silver and Blue Award

Class 1 – The Bees and the Wasps

Exhibit 1 TBD

Exhibit 2 TBD

Exhibit 3 TBD

Section B – One Good Turn Deserves Another

Eligible for Award of Appreciation

Class 2 – The Serpent and the Eagle

Exhibit TBD

Class 3 – The North Wind and the Sun

Exhibit TBD

Class 4 – The Crow and the Pitcher

Exhibit TBD

Wolves don't need shepherds.

DIVISION IV - BOTANICAL ARTS – **Myths**

Artistic Crafts Rules

1. Artistic Crafts are objects with a function. They may be artistically pleasing but were not created solely for their artistic value. They serve a purpose and can be labeled as a certain object such as a basket, necklace, package, or hat.
2. Each Exhibit must be the work of the Exhibitor under whose name it is exhibited and cannot have been previously entered or judged in an NGC Flower Show.
3. All Exhibits must contain a majority of fresh and/or dried plant material and/or fungi. Only dried plant material may be treated. Plant material must be in its natural form/state: example: flax made into fabric or ribbon is not in its natural state. No artificial, endangered, or locally invasive plant material may be used. Please refer to the Policy on use of native and invasive plants websites noted in the General Rules on page 3.
4. Non-plant material may be used for construction but must not be visible except as noted in the class description.
5. Forms may be assembled from plant material. Clipping, cutting, or shaping of material is allowed.
6. All Artistic Crafts entries must have a minimum 5"x 8" key card showing samples of each material used in the design and identified by name.
7. The general guidelines for all designs as printed in *The Handbook for Flower Shows* Chapter 7 apply to Botanical Arts including the key card. See Handbook for other detailed Artistic Crafts information and Botanical Arts Scales of Points (Chapter 14).

Artistic Crafts Sections and Classes

Section A – Beware Greeks Bearing Gifts – Eligible for the Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts Award - 4 Entries in each class
Display area for each entry is 24" wide x 29" deep portion of a 29" high table covered and skirted in black. Entries must not extend beyond allotted space.

Class 1 – Athena's Shield

A shield decorated with natural dried material. Shield may be manufactured or constructed from manufactured materials. Exhibitor supplied display stand and/or staging are allowed and may be manufactured.

Class 2 – Hermes Winged Sandal

One sandal completely covered in natural dried materials to be displayed on a clear acrylic shoe stand supplied by the committee. (Stand dimensions and details are available from the class consultant.)

Class 3 – Pandora's Box

An open or unopened box completely covered in natural dried materials. Exhibitor supplied display stand and/or staging are allowed and may be manufactured.

Class 4 – Harmonia's Eternal Youth Necklace

A necklace completely covered in natural dried material. To be displayed on a 15" tall black velvet bust mannequin supplied by the committee. (Bust dimensions and details are available from the class consultant.)

Throw me to the wolves and I'll return leading the pack

Photography Rules

1. Online registration is required in Section B by 1-15-26. Exhibitor must attach a digital high-resolution copy (jpeg) of each entry to online registration. All photographs will be printed by the committee on 8x10 foam core board. There is a **Maximum of 12 Entries per Class**. An exhibitor may enter up to 5 classes but only one (1) Photograph per Class.
2. Photography classes are open to all members of National Garden Clubs who are amateur photographers.
3. Each entry must be the work of the exhibitor under whose name it is exhibited.
4. Exhibits must not have been previously entered in an NGC sponsored contest (see general rules).
5. All exhibits must relate to horticulture, gardening, design or other NGC goals, objectives and/or initiatives (landscape, conservation, civic projects, preservation, ecology, environment, etc.)
6. All will be 8x10 and mounted on black foam core, cut to the exact size of the image. Entries may be black and white or color and may have a vertical (portrait) or horizontal (landscape) orientation.
7. Photo may be enhanced by the exhibitor with cropping, filters, adjustments and/or other darkroom techniques.
8. Exhibitor's name, class number and class name will be on the back of the foam core. The top of photo will be indicated.
9. Exhibitors must supply the current scientific name of the photographed plant material with the photo title.
10. Staging: Photographs will be hung on 38"W x 70"H panels with a dark charcoal gray fabric background.
11. For further information, rules and Scales of Points see *The Handbook for Flower Shows* Chapters 10 and 14.

Photography Sections and Classes

Section B – Mount Olympus – Eligible for Botanical Arts Photography Award, CT Photography Award and Cheryl Collins Photography Award - 12 Entries in Each Class

Class 1 – The Wedding of Zeus and Hera

A photo of a glorious full blooming perennial Garden.

Class 2 – Aurora, Goddess of the Dawn

A photo that features the sky and sunlight.

Class 3 – Selene, Goddess of the Moon

A photo of white flowers or a black-and-white floral image.

Class 4 – Pan, God of Nature and the Wild

A photo of a forest scene or nature.

Class 5 – Oceanids, Water Nymphs

A photo featuring a pond, a river or the ocean.

Class 6 – Dionysus, God of Wine

A photo of a grapevine plant or its fruit (*Vitis* sp.).

Class 7 – Demeter, Goddess of Agriculture and Creator of the Seasons

A creative collage of photos depicting the four seasons.

Class 8 - The Tears of Aphrodite, Goddess of Love

A photo of the "queen" of flowers; from the family Rosaceae and the Genus *Rosa*.

You are the big, bad wolf.