

The Garden Club of America Presents



AROUND THE GREEN



A Virtual GCA Annual Meeting Flower Show
Hosted By Zone II
May 11–12, 2021



The purpose of The Garden Club of America is to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening; to share the advantage of association by means of educational meetings, conferences, correspondence and publications; and to restore, improve and protect the quality of the environment through educational programs and action in the fields of conservation and civic improvement.



The purpose of a flower show is threefold: to set standards of artistic and horticultural excellence; to broaden knowledge of horticulture, floral design, conservation, photography and other related areas; and to share the beauty of a show with fellow club members and with the public.

(The Garden Club of America Flower Show & Judging Guide, July 2020 Edition)

This schedule honors the legacy of Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., the founder of American landscape architecture. His contributions to parks and outdoor spaces across the United States are immeasurable. From creating major urban parks and green spaces that define our towns and cities to protecting and preserving the wilderness, he was a pioneer in understanding and promoting sustainability. A native of Hartford, CT, his work can be seen throughout every region of our country. Olmsted's bicentennial will be celebrated in 2022.

"He paints with lakes and wooded slopes; with lawns and banks and forest-covered hills; with mountainsides and ocean views." Daniel Burnham

Fortunately, Olmsted's work is still relevant in today's virtual world.

The schedule for **Around the Green** is available on the [Garden Club of America](https://www.gardenclubofamerica.org/) website.



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TIMETABLE FOR EXHIBITORS

REGISTRATION DEADLINES:

Friday, January 8, 2021 - All divisions except Horticulture Classes 1-19.

Thursday, April 8, 2021 - Horticulture Classes 1-19, starting at 10:00 am EST.

IMPORTANT DATES:

2020

Friday, November 13

Registration opens to all members of GCA clubs. Classes will close as they are filled.

2021

Friday, January 8

Registration deadline for ALL divisions except Horticulture Classes 1-19.

Ownership deadline for Horticulture.

Friday, January 15

Exhibitor's letter to entrants with details of submission requirements, e.g., number of photos and video specifics.

Tuesday, February 16

Jury process for Photography begins.

February (TBD)

Zoom training for Judges, Prospectives and Clerks.

Monday, March 1

Photography juried results announced.



TIMETABLE FOR EXHIBITORS

ENTRY DEADLINES:

Monday, March 8	Floral Design
Tuesday, March 9	Horticulture Classes 20-22
Wednesday, March 10	Botanical Arts
Thursday, March 11	Education
Thursday, April 8 and Friday, April 9	Horticulture Classes 1-19

JUDGES CHARGING:

Thursday, March 4	Photography
Monday, March 22	All other divisions

JUDGING SCHEDULE:

Monday, March 15	Photography
Wednesday, March 17	Special Awards Photography
Monday, March 29	Floral Design
Tuesday, March 30	Horticulture Classes 20-22
Thursday, April 1	Botanical Arts
Friday, April 2	Education
Wednesday, April 7	Special Awards (except Horticulture classes)
Monday, April 12	Horticulture Classes 1-19
Wednesday, April 14	Special Awards Horticulture

END OF SHOW:

Friday, April 16
Show evaluations due
Tuesday, May 11
Virtual Flower Show Goes Live!



FLOWER SHOW COMMITTEE

HONORARY CHAIR

Sylvia Abbott	Litchfield GC	jlaska130@optimum.net
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CHAIRS

Susan Schieffelin	Greenwich GC	sustps@aol.com
Nina King	Greenwich GC	nmking94@aol.com

DIVISION I FLORAL DESIGN

Bridget Bucknall	Hortulus	bbbucknall@gmail.com
Wendy Serrell	Hortulus	wendy.serrell@gmail.com
Committee:		
Sylvia Abbott	Litchfield GC	jlaska130@optimum.net
Nancy D'Oench	Middletown GC	nancydoench@aol.com

DIVISION II HORTICULTURE

Trina Horine	Hortulus	trinavhorine@gmail.com
Kate Jamison	Litchfield GC	krjamison9@gmail.com

DIVISION III PHOTOGRAPHY

Patti Spaght	Fairfield GC	pcspaght@hotmail.com
Committee:		
Susie Brewer	GC of Darien	sudsbrew@gmail.com
Jill Corr	Stonington GC	jillcorr22@gmail.com

DIVISION IV BOTANICAL ARTS

Valerie Mead	Stamford GC	vemead@aol.com
Committee:		
Betsy Bigler	GC of Darien	thebiglerbunch@gmail.com
Susan Winter	South County GC	susanw@builders-surplus.com

DIVISION V EDUCATION

Conservation Class		
Kim Gregory	Greenwich GC	staglanefarm@yahoo.com

Garden History and Design Exhibit

Committee:		
Kathy Conger	Stonington GC	congerk@comcast.net
Kim Heyn	Sasqua GC	kmhct@optonline.net



FLOWER SHOW COMMITTEE

AWARDS

Diane Stoner	Litchfield GC	dbstoner@optonline.net
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GRAPHIC DESIGN

Crissy Cherry	Lake Forest GC	chcherry1@comcast.net
Lisa Hurst	Greenwich GC	lisahurst77@gmail.com

JUDGES AND CLERKS

Susie Brewer (Photography)	GC of Darien	sudsbrew@gmail.com
Anda Hutchins	New Canaan GC	andahutchins@gmail.com
Ronnie Schoelzel	Litchfield GC	spotstango@gmail.com

PASSING

Nancy Kalal	New Canaan GC	nancy.edmunds.kalal@gmail.com
Karen Marache	Greenwich GC	kmarache@yahoo.com

REGISTRATION

Betsy Bigler (Botanical Arts)	GC of Darien	thebiglerbunch@gmail.com
Sarah Morena (Horticulture)	Green Fingers GC	smorena@me.com
Wendy Serrell (Floral Design)	Hortulus	wendy.serrell@gmail.com
Patti Spaght (Photography)	Fairfield GC	pcspaght@hotmail.com

SCHEDULE

Wendy Serrell	Hortulus	wendy.serrell@gmail.com
Christina Vanderlip	Hortulus	christinavanderlip@gmail.com

STAGING

Jane Dunn	Greenwich GC	janealisdunn@gmail.com
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TECHNOLOGY

Kim DeCamp	GC of Lexington	kimberlydecamp@gmail.com
Lisa Hurst	Greenwich GC	lisahurst77@gmail.com
Anna Forbes	Kanawha GC	peytonanna1@gmail.com
Pamela Frame	Hortulus	pakf@me.com

VIRTUAL COMMITTEE LIAISON

Crissy Cherry	Lake Forest GC	chcherry1@comcast.net
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GCA RULES

1. Please carefully read and follow GCA Flower Show Rules, General Information and Division Guidelines. All rules as stated in *The Garden Club of America Flower Show & Judging Guide*, July 2020 Edition, shall apply.
2. All plant material must be correctly identified with the botanical and common names, if possible. Accepted references for nomenclature are:
 - AHS A-Z Encyclopedia of Garden Plants
 - International Plant Names Index at www.ipni.org or www.internationalplantnames.com
 - Plant Systematics at www.plantsystematics.org
 - Missouri Botanical Garden Plant Finder
<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/plantfinder/plantfindersearch.aspx>
3. The Garden Club of America expects all exhibitors to be aware of the need to promote conservation of endangered and threatened plants. Plants collected in the wild and listed by the State Natural Heritage Program may not be exhibited in any flower show sponsored by a GCA club. Cultivated plant material listed by the Natural Heritage Program may be exhibited if accompanied by a typed card stating that it has not been collected from the wild or that it was collected out-of-state and giving information concerning its cultural requirements and methods of propagation. Natural Heritage Program lists of endangered plant material will be available before and during the show from the division chairs and are available online at <https://plants.usda.gov/threat.html>
4. Locally invasive plants, diseased plant material, artificial plant material, live animals (including fish), taxidermy, natural birds' nests, feathers of any kind and protected sea life, including coral, are not permitted.
<https://plants.usda.gov/java/noxiousDriver>



GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Entries are open to all GCA club members, including provisionals, and professionals in their disciplines, except for Division I Floral Design and Division V Education which are on an invitational basis.
2. Registration is required for all classes. Links to registration forms are provided for each class. Classes will be filled in the order registration forms are received according to the submission/email date and time.
3. Exhibitors will receive their entry number and passing time details after acceptance of their registration. All submissions will be passed by the division chair, and/or their passing committee. As a photograph/entry is received, the exhibitor will be notified that their submission has been passed and accepted for judging.
4. Only one entry per exhibitor in floral design, photography, botanical arts and education classes. Exceptions may be made if needed to fill a class.
5. Each GCA Zone is required to provide one entry in the Division IV Botanical Arts, "Bee" Green, Novice Class 4.
6. Each GCA Zone is required to enter Division V Education, Section 1, Conservation Class, Green Solutions.
7. Entering in a show constitutes permission to use images of the submitted content in all GCA channels of communication.
8. Any clarification or change in the rules, as originally stated in the schedule, shall be communicated promptly in writing by the division chair to all exhibitors in the class, the passing committee and the judges.



GENERAL INFORMATION

9. The passing committee reserves the right to refuse any entry that does not conform to the rules of the schedule. The exhibitor has the option of correcting the entry, if time permits. If not corrected, the entry cannot be judged, but may be marked “For Exhibit Only” with a brief, constructively worded statement explaining why it was not judged. The judges may not disqualify any entry passed by the passing committee.
10. A novice is an individual exhibitor who has not won a first-place ribbon or a GCA Special Award in the division entered at a GCA Flower Show, GCA Major Flower Show or Sanctioned Non-GCA Major Flower Show. An exhibitor winning a first-place ribbon in a GCA Flower Show is still considered a novice in a GCA Major Flower Show or in a Sanctioned Non-GCA Major Flower Show or in another division of any flower show. In addition, an exhibitor who has won a first-place ribbon or Special Award in a GCA Major Flower Show or Sanctioned Non-GCA Major Flower Show is no longer a novice in any level of GCA Flower Shows in the division won. Only individual novice exhibitors are eligible to receive the GCA Novice Awards or the Sandra Baylor Novice Floral Design Award. A novice exhibitor will be identified on the entry card, following the initial judging.
11. A statement of intent must be submitted at the time of entry, if required. The statement, which is an explanation of the exhibitor’s creation, must be no more than 25 words.



Digital Submission General Guidelines

(For Floral Design, Horticulture and Botanical Arts Classes)

1. All entries shall be in the form of a digital submission. All photographs in all divisions (with the exception of those entered in the photography division) may not be enhanced in any way to unnaturally alter the appearance of the entry. However, cropping is allowed. Photographs do not have to be taken by the exhibitor and will not be judged on the quality of the photograph unless otherwise noted in the schedule.
2. Entries should be photographed from a distance that properly fills the frame with no distracting elements. Photograph the entry according to instructions in your exhibitor's letter. Some form of measurement should be included in the photo.
3. Images should be sent full size. An Apple iPhone of 8 or higher will produce a higher quality result.
4. Unless otherwise stated in the schedule, all backgrounds should be solid white. Use solid white paper, cloth, poster board, or any other means that will produce an uncluttered solid white background and base under the entry to eliminate a busy background, unless otherwise specified in the class description.
5. Be sure the entry is well lit but not overexposed. Keep the light behind you.
6. Be concise when you take your photo. Cropping reduces resolution. If you must crop, click [HERE](#) for more detailed instructions.
7. Digital image size for all entries is 1-5MB sRGB.
8. You must rename your image file to include your name and entry number. Detailed information can be found for MAC users click [HERE](#) and for PC users click [HERE](#).
9. A photograph of an entry that has been previously exhibited in any GCA, GCA Major, Sanctioned Non-GCA Major Flower Show or a GCA publication online contest may not be entered again even with slight alterations. The same photograph may only be entered in one show at a time.
10. Photographic requirements in addition to class-specific requirements:
 1. Photograph of exhibitor standing next to entry. (**could be used in the final flower show production*)
 2. Photograph of entry displaying measurements of exhibit.
11. Additional digital guidelines for a class may be included in the exhibitor's letter or as necessary.



DIVISION I Floral Design Guidelines

1. Please carefully read and follow the GCA Rules, General Information and Timetable for Exhibitors.
2. Floral Design entries are by invitation. Entry links will be sent directly by the division chair.
3. An exhibitor is permitted only one entry in one class. The exhibitor(s) under whose name(s) the entry has been registered must create and complete the design. No more than two exhibitors may execute a design unless otherwise stated in the schedule. All participants must be listed.
4. Mechanics should not be visible unless they are an integral part of the design.
5. If forced to withdraw, an exhibitor must notify the registration chair and class consultant and find a substitute unless there is a waiting list for the class.
6. Anything not prohibited in the GCA Rules, Floral Design Division Guidelines, or individual class descriptions is permitted.
7. All entries must include fresh and/or dried plant material. Rooted plant material is allowed provided no soil is attached. An organic response in the use of materials is encouraged.
8. Although permitted, the use of cut fruits and vegetables is discouraged and should be undertaken only with proper treatment to prevent spoilage and insect contamination.
9. Judging will be based on the principles of design: balance, contrast, dominance, proportion, rhythm and scale; and the elements of design: light, space, line, form, color, texture, pattern and size. Creativity is important, as are distinction, conformance to and interpretation of the class and schedule.



DIVISION I Floral Design Guidelines

10. Refer to General Digital Guidelines for taking photographs and to your class description for specific photographic submission requirements. Additional guidelines may be included in your exhibitor's letter.
11. Questions regarding class requirements may be directed to the class consultant and/or division chair.
12. Entries should be physically completed on Monday, March 8, and photographed immediately following completion of design. Photographs should be emailed in accordance to the details outlined in the exhibitor's letter.
13. All submissions will be passed by the division chair, and/or their passing committee. As a photograph/entry is received, the exhibitor will be notified that their submission has been passed and accepted for judging. A statement of intent is required for all classes unless otherwise specified.
14. The scale of points by which the classes are to be judged may be found in the *GCA Flower Show & Judging Guide Pocket Guide @ the Show*, July 2020 Edition.



DIVISION I Floral Design Guidelines

Scale of Points to be used for judging Classes 1 and 3

Design	35
Interpretation	20
Creativity	20
Distinction	15
Conformance	10
Total	100

Scale of Points to be used for judging Class 2

Overall Design	20
Incorporation of plant material	20
Creativity	15
Interpretation	15
Color and Textural Harmony	10
Conformance	10
Distinction	10
Total	100

Class Consultants

Inquiries may be made by email at any time or by telephone weekdays between 9:00 am and 6:00 pm Eastern Standard Time to:

Classes 1–3		
Bridget Bucknall	bbucknall@gmail.com	203.536.3094
Wendy Serrell	wendy.serrell@gmail.com	203.517.8911
Class 4		
Sylvia Abbott	jlaska130@optimum.net	860.567.8848
Nancy D'Oench	nancydoench@aol.com	860.339.5495



DIVISION I Floral Design Classes

It is said that through all the designs that Olmsted created, there runs one dominating and consistent conception. He insisted on the subordination of details to an overall composition whose strongest and fullest effect was to act unconsciously on those who viewed it.

Class 1

A Tale of Two Greens

4 ENTRIES

A two-sided design staged against a *white trifold foam presentation board* 36" high x 48" wide when fully opened. Presentation board may be opened to the angle of the exhibitor's choice and displayed on a white base. Floral design must fit within the trifold when sides are propped open at an angle. Design restricted to parameters of the trifold. Exhibit should be photographed from three sides.

Class 2

Tavern on the Green

4 ENTRIES

An exhibition table staged on a 30" round x 29" high table draped in a floor-length cloth supplied by the exhibitor. Overlays permitted. Exhibit should be placed in front of a white panel of exhibitor's choosing and photographed from three sides.



DIVISION I Floral Design Classes

Class 3 Green Flash 4 ENTRIES

A design staged against a *black trifold foam presentation board* 36" high x 48" wide when fully opened. Presentation board must be opened to a 90 degree angle and design displayed on a black base. Design not to exceed height and width of background. Photograph is to be taken from the front. A statement of intent is required.

Class 4 Playscapes on the Green 4 ENTRIES **Judges' Component Challenge**

This is a Component Challenge Class as defined in the *GCA Flower Show & Judging Guide*, July 2020 Edition. At the time of registration, the Committee will send each of the four exhibitors seven identical components. In the final designs, the components must be visible but may be altered in any manner the exhibitors choose.

Additional components, identical or different from the seven supplied by the Committee, may be incorporated with mechanics and plant material. Plant material may be fresh and/or dried.

Each exhibitor is to stage and photograph the design in front of a 24" inch wide, 36" inch high background. Color and/or covering of background is at the discretion of the exhibitor.



DIVISION II Horticulture Guidelines

1. Please carefully read and follow the GCA Rules, General Information and Timetable for Exhibitors.
2. **Registration and Entry Process:**
Classes 1–19: Registration/Entry links at the end of each class description will be activated starting at 10:00 am EST on April 8, and entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until the class is full. If accepted, you will be notified by email and assigned an entry number.

Classes 20–22: Registration links may be found at the end of each class description. You will be notified by email if your registration is accepted, and, if so, provided an entry number. Entry links and submission details will be included in the exhibitor's letter.
3. Entries must have been owned and grown by the exhibitor for a minimum of three months, unless otherwise stated in the schedule.
4. Exhibitors may submit one entry per class in Classes 1–19 and up to a maximum of three classes in total.
5. Entries eligible for the Catherine Beattie Medal and/or the Clarissa Willemsen Horticulture Propagation Award must have been in the possession of the exhibitor for at least six months and will be identified on the entry card. A [GCA propagation card](#) with dates and methods must accompany entries eligible for the Clarissa Willemsen Horticulture Propagation Award.
6. All entries propagated by the exhibitor must be so identified with details of the method and relevant date(s) of propagation on an accompanying [GCA propagation card](#). Entrants are not required to sign the back of the propagation card.
7. Mats, stands, saucers, stakes, ties, etc. are allowed unless otherwise stated.
8. Classes may be subdivided and entries moved and/or reclassified at the discretion of the show committee and/or the judges. Plants trained as bonsai are not meant to be judged and therefore not to be entered in competition.



DIVISION II Horticulture Guidelines

9. Containers are measured at the diameter or the diagonal of the widest point on the inside of the rim at the soil line.
10. One [key card](#) (diagram or plant list) is required when multiple species or cultivars are exhibited in the same container and/or propagation information is applicable. Key card must be typed and submitted as a jpeg image with the entry.
11. Container-grown plants must be exhibited in containers that are clean, unobtrusive and compatible with the exhibit. Terra cotta clay pots are preferred. Other options include stone-like (Hypertufa), wire baskets, slatted orchid baskets and plants mounted on driftwood. Disguised double potting and top dressing are permitted; top dressing must not float when watered.
12. Cut specimens should be exhibited in a manner that best allows the entry to stand up straight for ease of photographing the entry. The stem and foliage should be visible and well lit. The blooms should be presented in their natural position.
13. Refer to the *GCA Flower Show & Judging Guide Pocket Guide @ the Show*, July 2020 edition for a list of the scale of points by which the classes may be judged.

Consultants for all classes

Inquiries may be made by email at any time or by telephone weekdays between 9:00 am and 6:00 pm Eastern Standard Time to:

Trina Horine	trinavhorine@gmail.com	203.918.9525
Kate Jamison	krjamison9@gmail.com	203.913.0140



DIVISION II Horticulture Classes

What separated Olmsted's art from that of the gardener was what he termed the "elegance of design"—the creation of a composition in which all parts were subordinated to a single, coherent effect.

Olmsted.org

Green Acres Cut Specimens (Classes 1–19)

One stem or branch not to exceed 24" from the top of the container to the tip of the stem. Any foliage must be attached to the stem.

Classes 1–5 Perennials

5 Entries

One flowering stem, spike, spray or branch.

1. *Aquilegia*
2. *Lamprocapnos*
3. *Helleborus*
4. *Papaver*
5. Other

Register/Enter Classes 1–5: Perennials

Classes 6–9 Bulbs, Corms, Rhizomes and Tubers

5 Entries

One flowering stem, spike, or spray.

6. *Narcissus*
7. *Tulipa*
8. *Paeonia*
9. Other

Register/Enter Classes 6–9: Bulbs, Corms, Rhizomes and Tubers



DIVISION II Horticulture Classes

Classes 10–12 Flowering Shrubs

5 Entries

One flowering stem or branch.

- 10. *Rhododendron*—deciduous
- 11. *Rhododendron*—evergreen
- 12. Other

Register/Enter Classes 10–12: Flowering Shrubs

Classes 13–16 Flowering Trees

5 Entries

One flowering stem or branch.

- 13. *Cercis*
- 14. *Cornus*
- 15. *Prunus*
- 15. Other

Register/Enter Classes 13–16: Flowering Trees

Classes 17–18 Woody plant - Foliage Only

5 Entries

One stem or branch.

- 17. Deciduous
- 18. Evergreen

Register/Enter Classes 17–18: Woody Plant - Foliage Only



DIVISION II Horticulture Classes

Class 19 Green Cuts 6 Entries

An arrangement of three or more cut specimens from the exhibitor's garden, with or without blooms, in a container of the exhibitor's choice. Arrangement not to exceed 15" width or depth. No height restriction. Key card required. Four-month ownership requirement.

Register/Enter Class 19: Green Cuts

Class 20 Patch of Green 4 Entries

A collection of three or more varieties of rooted succulents designed in a 15" x 15" low-profile box of the exhibitor's choice. Plant material may not extend over the sides of the container. Two-month ownership requirement. Pre-registration and a key card are required. Photographed from above.

[Register for Class 20: Patch of Green](#)

Class 21 Two Peas in a Pod 6 Entries

Two identical plants in two identical pots with saucers. Pots not to exceed 8". Pre-registration required. Three-month ownership.

[Register for Class 21: Two Peas in a Pod](#)

Class 22 Queen of the Green 50 Entries

Cybister *Amaryllis* 'Sweet Lillian' bulb in bloom displayed in a 6" terra cotta pot. Pre-registration required.

<https://www.vanengelen.com/amaryllis-sweet-lillian.html>

<https://www.johnscheepers.com/flower-bulbs-index/amaryllis/exotic-amaryllis-novelties/amaryllis-sweet-lillian.htm>

[Register for Class 22: Queen of the Green](#)



DIVISION III Photography Guidelines

1. Please carefully read and follow the GCA Rules, General Information and the Timetable for Exhibitors.
2. This is a juried show. The first 18 online registrations/entries for each class (by date and timestamp of registration) will be accepted for evaluation by the jury. The jury will choose six finalists in each class. An exhibitor may enter only one class in the Photography Division.
3. Registration/entry deadline is January 8, 2021. Registration/entry links can be found at the end of each class description.
4. If forced to withdraw, an exhibitor must notify the division chair and/or class consultant and find a substitute unless there is a waiting list for the class.
5. The photographic image file must be in jpeg format, no larger than 1-5MB sRGB, and must include the entrant's last name, first initial, zone, and class number (e.g., SmithJ-II-Class3.jpeg). The information for renaming your image file can be found for MAC users [HERE](#) and for PC users [HERE](#). Smartphone images are acceptable and should be submitted full size.
6. A photograph previously entered in any GCA, GCA Major, Sanctioned Non-GCA Major Flower Show or a GCA *Focus* online contest may not be entered again even with slight alterations. This includes photographs entered in juried shows that did not pass into the finalist stage. The same photograph may only be entered in one show at a time.
7. Each photograph must be the work of the exhibitor under whose name it is registered. In manipulated photographs, any added imagery must be the work of the exhibitor. Non-representational commercial overlays and textures are allowed.
8. Any editing at any stage must be the work of the exhibitor. This includes enhancement for color or clarity, removal of a part of the image, combining images, or distorting the original subject.



DIVISION III Photography Guidelines

9. Photography entries are limited to subjects consistent with The Garden Club of America interests such as horticulture, floral design, gardens/landscapes, conservation and the environment, historic preservation, civic improvement and the natural world. Plant material is required in all classes. Identification of plant material is strongly encouraged.
10. Only appropriate images of a child/children should be submitted to, passed and exhibited in the Photography Division and published in *Focus*. Featuring identifiable people (other than in street scenes) in photographs is discouraged as GCA requires a release.
11. Photographs will be passed by the photography committee to verify that class specifications have been met. If a photograph is not passed, the exhibitor will be notified and allowed, if time permits, to send a replacement photograph.
12. A title must be included with entry.
13. Only the Photography Committee may reclassify an entry, and only with the permission of the exhibitor. The Photography Committee and/or the judges may subdivide a class.
14. The recommended scales of points for the general photography classes are available in the *GCA Flower Show & Judging Guide Pocket Guide @ the Show*, July 2020 Edition.



DIVISION III Photography Guidelines

Scale of Points to be used for judging Creative Techniques classes:

Creativity	30
Composition	20
Technical Skill	25
Conformance/Interpretation	10
Distinction	15
Total	100

Scale of Points to be used for judging all (other) classes:

Creativity	25
Composition	25
Technical Skill	20
Conformance/Interpretation	20
Distinction	10
Total	100

Class Consultants

Inquiries may be made by email at any time or by telephone weekdays between 9:00 am and 6:00 pm Eastern Standard Time.

Jill Corr
Patti Spaght

jillcorr22@gmail.com
pcspaght@hotmail.com

860.961.2256
203.259.6606



DIVISION III Photography Classes

“The enjoyment of scenery employs the mind without fatigue and yet exercises it; tranquilizes it and yet enlivens it.”

Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr.

Class 1 Green Shoots Color 6 Entries
A novice class using a close-up image taken on a smartphone.

[*Register/Enter Class 1: Green Shoots*](#)

Class 2 A Tale of Two Greens Color 6 Entries
A photograph using Creative Techniques.

[*Register/Enter Class 2: A Tale of Two Greens*](#)

Class 3 Beyond the Green Color 6 Entries
An Olmsted-inspired landscape.

[*Register/Enter Class 3: Beyond the Green*](#)

Class 4 Leafy Greens Monochrome 6 Entries
A portrait of two or more leaves.

[*Register/Enter Class 4: Leafy Greens*](#)



DIVISION III Photography Classes

Class 5 “Green” Feature Color 6 Entries
Showcase an eco-friendly architectural feature.

[*Register/Enter Class 5: “Green” Feature*](#)

Class 6 Green Threads Color 6 Entries
An image that evokes a quilted square.

[*Register/Enter Class 6: Green Threads*](#)

Novice: an exhibitor who has never won a first place or a GCA Special Award in the Photography Division of a GCA Flower Show, a GCA Major Flower Show or Sanctioned Non-GCA Major Flower Show.

Close-up: a photo taken close to the subject to permit a close and detailed view of the object. The object fills most of the frame.

Creative Techniques: the use of manipulation or alteration in any stage of the photographic process to achieve an effect significantly different from the original photograph. All representational images in a manipulated or creative technique photo must be the work of the photographer. Non-representational enhancements such as the addition of purchased textures are allowed. Creative techniques may be entered in any class.



DIVISION IV Botanical Arts Guidelines

1. Please carefully read and follow the GCA Rules, General Information and the Timetable for Exhibitors.
2. Links to registration forms are found at the end of each class description. You will be notified by email if your registration is accepted, and if so, provided an entry number.
3. Please see exhibitor's letter for specific details of photographic submission requirements in addition to those outlined in the class description. All classes to include the height and width of the design. Include a ruler in one photograph to show size.
4. Exhibitors are permitted only one exhibit in each class, but may enter more than one class. All participants must be listed on the entry card.
5. If forced to withdraw, the exhibitor must notify the division chair and the class consultant, and find a substitute unless there is a waiting list for the class.
6. Botanical Arts display forms and paper will be provided to the exhibitor by the committee after registration.
7. All plant material used must be dried—this includes flowers, foliage, seeds, pods, nuts (in or out of shells), vegetables, twigs, vines, reeds, etc. Only plant material, mechanics and their surface treatments (i.e., paints, nail polishes, varnishes, waxes, etc.) are permitted. Artificial, endangered, and locally invasive plant material may not be used.



DIVISION IV Botanical Arts Guidelines

8. Figural forms must be assembled or **judiciously carved by the exhibitor**. Any plant material may be cut, incised, or shaped to enhance artistic effect.
9. Non-plant material (i.e., cardboard, metal, twine, string, cording, etc.) may be used only for construction and must not show.
10. Each entry must be the work of the exhibitor under whose name it is registered. No more than two exhibitors may execute a botanical arts entry unless otherwise stated in the schedule. All handiwork must be executed by the exhibitor(s).
11. Processed products may not be included in the design (e.g., couscous, pasta, tapioca, balsa wood).
12. Pressed plant creations may not copy published art and/or pressed plant art. Pressed plant material may not be painted or dyed; painted or drawn backgrounds may not be included. Pressed plant material may be purchased.
13. Needle Arts entries do not need to contain plant material. There are no thread requirements. Beading is allowed. The needlework must be the exhibitor's own design. The canvas must be completely covered. The needlework must be delivered in its finished state. Note: the pillow may be professionally cleaned, blocked, and finished for exhibition.
14. In Section B, all fibers, beads, and ribbons used in the Needle Arts design must be displayed and identified with the Manufacturer's Name/Color Name/Color Number, if available, on a white, unlined 4" x 6" card. More than one card may be used if needed.



DIVISION IV Botanical Arts Guidelines

15. A sample card must accompany each entry in Classes 1, 2, 4. Include an untreated sample of each plant material used in the design, correctly identified with botanical and common names, affixed to a 4"x 6", white, unlined card. The card is to be photographed and digitally submitted with the entry. Exhibitor may choose to include a list of any techniques and/or materials she thinks may help the judges in their deliberations.
16. If an exhibit has won first place or a GCA Special Award in a GCA Flower Show, GCA Major Flower Show, or Sanctioned Non-GCA Major Flower Show it may not be entered in competition again. An exhibit, which has been previously entered and did not place first, may be entered again if the piece is significantly altered.
17. All entries will be passed by the botanical arts committee to verify class specifications have been met.
18. A statement of intent is required for all classes.
19. Links for entry forms will be sent in the exhibitor's letter. Entries must be submitted by March 10, 2021.



DIVISION IV Botanical Arts Guidelines

Scale of points by which the classes are to be judged:

Design	35
Craftsmanship	30
Creativity	15
Interpretation of theme	10
Distinction	10
Total	100

Class Consultants

Inquiries may be made by email at any time or by telephone weekdays between 9:00 am and 6:00 pm Eastern Standard Time.

Classes 1 and 2: Valerie Mead	vemead@aol.com	203.968.0882
Class 3: Susan Winter	susanw@builders-surplus.com	203.968.0882
Class 4: Betsy Bigler	thebiglerbunch@gmail.com	203.655.8067



DIVISION IV Botanical Arts Classes

Frederick Law Olmsted interpreted mountains as great cathedrals of the earth, with their gates of rock, pavements of cloud, choirs of streams and stone, altars of snow.

Dathil.com

SECTION A BOTANICAL JEWELRY

Class 1 Botanical Bug 4 ENTRIES

Create a brooch featuring a creature from the insect world, real or imagined, displayed on a black velvet form provided by the Committee upon registration. To be photographed from three sides and staged against a black background. The brooch may not exceed the perimeter of the form. A statement of intent and sample card are required. A pin on the back is not necessary.

[Register for Class 1: Botanical Bug](#)

Class 2 Green with Envy 4 ENTRIES

Create a jeweled nosegay to be displayed in a holder provided by the Committee upon registration. The design may not extend beyond 3.5" from the edge of the holder. To be photographed from three sides against a black background. A statement of intent and sample card are required.

[Register for Class 2: Green with Envy](#)



DIVISION IV Botanical Arts Classes

SECTION B NEEDLE ARTS

Class 3 Around the Green 4 ENTRIES

Create a needlepoint pillow interpreting the GCA Annual Meeting Flower Show theme, “Around the Green”. The needlework must be the exhibitor’s own design. The beginning canvas must be 12” x 12”. The finished pillow may not exceed 16”x 16”, including a border (if chosen). The needlework will be photographed on a black underlay and background. A statement of intent is required. A key card is required.

[Register for Class 3: Around the Green](#)

SECTION C PRESSED PLANTS CREATIONS

Class 4 “Bee” Green 12 ENTRIES

Novice Class - Each GCA Zone will submit a pressed flower “quilt piece”, the design of which should incorporate a pollinator plant and/or a pollinator from their zone. Herbarium paper will be provided by the Committee upon registration. The finished piece will measure 11 1/2” x 11 1/2”. The design must go to the edge of the paper. The “quilt pieces” should be photographed from above on a black background. The pieces will be assembled by the Committee and displayed together as one “quilt”. A statement of intent and sample card are required.

[Register for Class 4: “Bee” Green](#)



DIVISION IV Botanical Arts Classes

The entries may be subdivided at the Committee's discretion.

It is suggested that the exhibitor(s) view the following websites for helpful information:

- World Wide Pressed Flower Guild <https://wwpfg.com/>
- Xerces Society <http://xerces.org/>
- <https://www.greetingsofgrace.com/pages/how-to-use-pressed-flowers-a-simple-5-step-guide>
- <https://www.nybg.org/blogs/plant-talk/2010/06/tip-of-the-week/tip-of-the-week-techniques-for-pressing-flowers/>



DIVISION V Education Guidelines and Rules

1. Please carefully read and follow the GCA Rules, General Information and Timetable for Exhibitors.
2. Links to registration forms for Section 1. Conservation Class 1. Green Solutions will be provided by the class consultant. Your entry number will be sent to you when your registration is accepted.
3. The purpose of the Education Division is to provide opportunities for multidisciplinary entries to educate the members and the public.
4. Each GCA Zone is required to provide one entry in the Educational Division, Section 1, Conservation Class **Green Solutions**. Entries may be made by an individual, a club or a collaboration of clubs within the same zone. Registration will be by invitation.
5. Please refer to *The Flower Show & Judging Guide, Pocket Guide*, Chapter VIII, Judging Conservation and Education, for additional information.



DIVISION V Education Guidelines and Rules

Scale of points to be used for judging Section 1:

Educational value	30
Statement of Intent	20
Composition - visual merit	20
Effectiveness of presentation	15
Creativity of solution	15
Total	100

Scale of points to be used for judging Section 2:

Educational value	30
Composition - visual merit	20
Effectiveness of presentation	20
Statement of Intent	20
Distinction	10
Total	100

Class Consultants

Inquiries may be made by email at any time or by telephone weekdays between 9:00 am and 6:00 pm Eastern Standard Time to:

Section 1

Conservation Class

Kim Gregory

Green Solutions

staglanefarm@yahoo.com

203.918.5254

Section 2

Garden History & Design Exhibit

Kathy Conger

Kim Heyn

Beyond the Green

congerk@comcast.net

kmhct@optonline.net



DIVISION V Education

Section 1 Conservation

Class 1

Green Solutions

12 ENTRIES
one from each zone

Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. was a leader in fostering livable communities.

What project has your club(s) been involved with or implemented that highlights “the pursuit of environmental sustainability”?

Showcase your project by creating a visually compelling video not to exceed two minutes.

Each zone is responsible for providing an entry whether as an individual, a club or a collaboration of clubs within their zone and may work together to describe a project that one or more of the clubs have implemented within the past two years that addresses a specific issue in their zone.

For more information on Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. and his influence on sustainable communities, click [here](#).



DIVISION V Education

Section 2 Garden History and Design Exhibit Beyond the Green

“The American landscape itself was the source of Olmsted’s earliest lessons in aesthetics but that influence was soon supplemented by the writings of late eighteenth-century English landscape gardeners, travelers, and theorists of landscape art.

“Olmsted differed from gardeners not only in the style and scale of his work, but also in his concept of the process by which he intended his designs to affect those who viewed them.”

Charles Beveridge, Editor, Papers of Frederick Law Olmsted

Frederick Law Olmsted Sr.’s visionary design principles are followed by landscape designers today. This video exhibit will showcase Olmsted’s genius of design, his legacy, and how his aesthetic theories differed from other landscape architects of his time. Illustrate why his principals and elements of design were revolutionary.



GCA FLOWER SHOW AWARDS

GCA Flower Show Awards described below have been applied for and will be presented if merited.

Division I, Floral Design

The **Dorothy Vietor Munger Award** may be awarded to members of The Garden Club of America clubs in competitive Floral Design classes at a GCA Flower Show. It is offered in recognition of creative work of outstanding beauty using predominantly fresh plant material. The design must have placed first, second, or third. Challenge class entries are not eligible. The award is not a substitute for Best in Show and will be given at the discretion of the judges.

The **Harriet DeWaele Puckett Creativity Award** may be awarded to members of GCA clubs or non-members in recognition of a uniquely skillful and creative response to an imaginative schedule in Floral Design. It will be given for an innovative and interpretive entry, which, although it abides by the principles of good design, goes beyond traditional period arrangement to whatever art form the exhibitor(s) chooses. The design must have placed first, second, or third in the Floral Design Division of a GCA Flower Show. An entry in any challenge class is not eligible to receive this award. The award is not a substitute for Best in Show and will be given at the discretion of the judges.

The **Sandra Baylor Novice Floral Design Award** may be given at a GCA Flower Show to an exhibitor who is a member of a GCA club and who has never won first place or a GCA Special Award in the Floral Design Division of a GCA Flower Show, GCA Major Flower Show or Sanctioned Non-GCA Major Flower Show. It shall be awarded to an individual novice exhibitor for a unique and skillful response to the schedule. Novice entries placing first, second, or third in any competitive class, including challenge classes, are eligible for this award.



GCA FLOWER SHOW AWARDS

Division II, Horticulture

The **Catherine Beattie Medal** may be awarded for a horticulture entry distinguished by its vibrancy, prime condition, and perfection of grooming. The exhibitor must have owned and grown the exhibit for at least six months. The medal may be awarded for a single plant, collection of plants, container garden, or cut specimen, but only if there is an exhibit worthy of the honor. It may be awarded to members of GCA clubs only; individual, joint, and club entries are eligible. The award should not be considered as a substitute for Best in Show. The medal may not be awarded to the same exhibit more than once; however, offspring of a Beattie winner are eligible to receive the award.

The **Clarissa Willemsen Horticulture Propagation Award** may be awarded for a horticulture entry distinguished by its prime condition, flawless grooming and difficulty of propagation. The entry must have been propagated and grown by the exhibitor for at least six months. This award may be given for a single rooted plant or a collection of rooted plants. The dates and method of propagation must be recorded on an accompanying GCA propagation card. The entry must have placed first, second, or third at a GCA Flower Show. The award may not be given to the same exhibit more than once.

The **Rosie Jones Horticulture Award** may be presented to a horticulture entry of exceptional visual appeal that reflects the spirit of growing with joy and enthusiasm and inspires others to propagate, grow, show and share horticulture. An exhibit that has been propagated by the exhibitor will be given special consideration but propagation is not a requirement. Perfection, while always desirable, is not a primary criterion. This award celebrates the ineffable joy inherent in the beauty and pursuit of horticulture.



GCA FLOWER SHOW AWARDS

Division III, Photography

The **Photography Creativity Award** may be awarded at a GCA Flower Show to a member of a GCA club in recognition of creative and technical excellence in response to the theme of the schedule. The entry must have placed first, second, or third.

Divisions II, III, IV

The **GCA Novice Award** may be given at a GCA Flower Show in **Horticulture**, **Photography**, and **Botanical Arts** to an exhibitor who is a member of a GCA club and who has never won first place or a GCA Special Award in the division entered of a GCA Flower Show, GCA Major Flower Show or Sanctioned Non-GCA Major Flower Show. It shall be awarded to an individual novice exhibitor for an outstanding exhibit. Novice entries placing first, second, or third are eligible for this award.

Division IV, Botanical Arts

The **Botanical Arts Creativity Award** may be awarded at a GCA Flower Show to a member of a GCA club for excellent craftsmanship and a creative response to the theme of the schedule. The entry must have placed first, second, or third.



GCA FLOWER SHOW AWARDS

Division V, Education Class

Section 1. Conservation Class

Best in Show Education is selected from first-place winners in the division.

Education Award

The education award may be presented to an entry, a class, a division or an entire show for exceptional merit which educates the public in keeping with the purpose statement of the GCA. This award may be given to GCA clubs and GCA club members.

Section 2. Garden History and Design Exhibit

The **Ann Lyon Crammond Award** may be presented at a GCA Flower Show to an outstanding educational exhibit, which best educates the public about gardens. Any educational exhibit, which increases the appreciation of any aspect of plants, gardens, or landscape design, may be considered for this award. The award may be given to GCA club members, member clubs, non-members or other organizations.

The **Marion Thompson Fuller Brown Conservation Award** may be presented for an outstanding conservation exhibit at a GCA Flower Show. The award recognizes an exhibit of exceptional educational and visual merit, which increases knowledge and awareness of the environment. The exhibit should emphasize environmental concerns and may demonstrate conservation practices. Plant material may or may not be used and, when appropriate, must be clearly identified. Protected material may be included if such materials are identified as protected and not collected in the wild. The award may be given to The Garden Club of America clubs, club members, non-members or other organizations.



GCA FLOWER SHOW AWARDS

Overall Awards

Best in Show, selected from among the first place winners, may be awarded in each division.

Judges' Commendation(s) may be given to an entry, class, section, special exhibit or other aspect of the show that is of exceptional merit.

Award of Appreciation may be given to thank an exhibitor or group for participation. The award may also be given to non-judged classes.