

Judges Council of the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc.

Presents

"Planting Maryland from the Mountains to the Ocean"

An NGC Standard Flower Show

Free and Open to the Public from 11:00 AM to 2:30 PM

Tuesday, March 27, 2018

Turf Valley Country Club, 2700 Turf Valley Rd, Ellicott City, MD 21042

Member of:

National Garden Clubs, Inc., Nancy Hargroves, President

Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs, Inc., Regina Brown, Director

Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc., Diana Bonner, President

Chairman, FGCMD Judges Council - Paula Winkler

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Flower Show Chairmen

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General Rules

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1. This Flower Show conforms to the standards established by National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC). *The Handbook for Flower Shows (HB)* 2017 edition, with revisions printed in *The National Gardener* magazine (TNG), is the authority for all issues not covered by the Schedule, which is the Law of the Show.
 2. All classes are open to any gardener or designer. Each exhibitor is limited to one entry per class, except in the Horticulture Division. Entry cards are available from your District Director or your District Chair for Flower Show Evaluation.
 3. There must be an emphasis on FRESH plant material. No artificial plant material is permitted in any exhibit in any division.
 4. Entries will be received on Monday, March 26, 2018 from 4:00 – 6:30 PM and Tuesday, March 27, 2018 from 6:30 - 8:30 AM. Entries received after 8:30 AM on March 27 will be marked “not in competition”. Exhibitors are responsible for collecting their ribbons, awards, entry cards and exhibits. Exhibits may not be removed before 2:30 PM, and must be removed by 3:30 PM.
 5. All entries must be passed and entry cards initialed by appropriate Classification Chairmen before exhibitor leaves the show floor. The Classification Chairmen will check exhibits for conformity to the schedule before judging. Final determination for conformance is the judges’ responsibility.
 6. Plants on the Maryland Department of Natural Resources list of Rare Threatened or Endangered Plants at http://dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife/Documents/rte_Plant_List.pdf may not be exhibited in the Horticulture Division, but may be used in Design or Education Division exhibits only if grown by the exhibitor or obtained in a legal manner and so noted on a 3” x 5” card placed with the exhibit. Invasive Plants as determined by the Maryland Invasive Species Council may be used only in an exhibit in the Education Division. See list at http://www.mdinvasivesp.org/list_terrestrial_plants.html
 7. Judging will begin promptly at 9:00 AM on March 27. The General Chairman and Classification Chairmen for each division are available during judging for possible consultations. 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.

8. The Committee will strive to assure the safety of all items after arrival and placement, but is not responsible for any loss or damage to exhibits. Please mark properties inconspicuously with name of exhibitor.

Awards

The National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC) Standard System of Awarding is used in all divisions. Only one first-place (blue) ribbon scoring 90 points or more, only one second-place (red) ribbon scoring 85 points or more, only one third-place (yellow) ribbon scoring 80 points or more, may be awarded per class or subclass. One or more Honorable Mention (white) ribbon(s) scoring 75 points or more may be awarded as merited. Non-blue-ribbon winners scoring 90+ points must be so designated on the entry card, signed and dated by an NGC Accredited Judge on the judging panel.

National Garden Clubs Inc. Top Exhibitor Awards

The **Award of Horticultural Excellence**, a rosette of green, orange and blue ribbons (*HB* p. 40), is offered to the highest scoring blue-ribbon winner, correctly named and entered by one individual, in the entire Horticulture Division.

The **Grower's Choice Award**, a rosette of dark green ribbons (*HB* p. 41), is offered to the highest scoring blue-ribbon winner, correctly named and entered by one individual, in a Section of all container-grown plants (single, multiple, self-multiple and combination plantings). Three awards offered, one each in Sections A, B and C.

The **Award of Design Excellence**, a rosette of gold ribbons (*HB* p. 42), is offered to the highest scoring blue-ribbon winner, entered by one individual, in the entire Design Division.

The **Designer's Choice Award**, a rosette of purple ribbons (*HB* p. 42), is offered to the highest scoring blue-ribbon winner, entered by one individual, in a Section in which plant material used in designs may be dried, treated dried, and/or fresh. Two awards offered, one each in Sections D and E.

The **Educational Top Exhibitor Award**, a rosette of brown and white ribbons (*HB* p. 43), is offered to the highest scoring blue-ribbon winner in the Education Division. A minimum of 2 designated exhibits to educate the public about NGC goals and objectives are required in order to give the award. Eligible exhibits must occupy at least 18 sq. ft. in surface area.

Horticulture Rules

1. Only well-groomed, disease and pest free specimens of exhibition quality will be accepted.
2. The NGC Exhibit Policies for Horticulture are as follows (*HB* p. 55).
 - a. All exhibits must be fresh.
 - b. All exhibits must have been grown by the exhibitor.
 - c. Plant material must be in its natural state and may not be altered by the application of oil, commercial "shine" products, etc. that change the natural appearance. No wiring of specimens is permitted.
 - d. Only foliage and/or flowers naturally grown and still attached to the specimen are permitted
 - e. All plant material must have been in the exhibitor's possession for at least the appropriate number of days as follows:
Bulbs - no minimum for forced bulbs/corms/tubers/rhizomes; Houseplants - 90 days; Combination Plantings - 6 weeks.
3. Rules for a single species cut or container-grown specimen are listed in the *HB* or its supplement *Horticulture Exhibiting and Judging*.
4. All entries are to be labeled by currently acceptable scientific designation or binomial name (genus, specific epithet) and/or variety or patented/trademarked name. In order to receive an NGC Top Exhibitor Award, the entry must be so identified. Common name may also be given.
5. Exhibitor may make as many entries per class as they wish as long as each entry is a different genus, species, variety, cultivar, form, size or color.
6. All exhibitors must have an exhibitor number, must complete an entry card in full for every entry, and must complete a summary entry sheet listing the division, section, class and complete botanical name of all entries. Exhibitor numbers, entry cards and entry sheets may be obtained by contacting your District Director or your District Chair for Flower Show Evaluation. Entry cards are to be filled out in advance if possible, using pencil, waterproof ink or mailing labels. See *HB* p. 57 for a correctly filled-out entry card.
7. 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.
8. Specimens with a class designation in the schedule may not be entered in the "Any other" class.
9. The Horticulture Classification and/or General Show Chairmen are free to subdivide classes by color, form, size, cultivar, variety or other distinguishing characteristics.
10. General horticulture references in order of priority: *NGC Handbook for Flower Shows 2017*, *Horticulture Exhibiting and Judging*, and *American Horticulture Society A-Z Encyclopedia of Garden Plants*.
11. The Scales of Points for Horticulture are printed in the *HB*, Chapter 14 (p. 129)

DIVISION I HORTICULTURE - Eligible for Award of Horticultural Excellence

"Grow Where You are Planted"

*Whether you live in the city, at the shore, in the mountains, or somewhere in between we can plant and garden.
Be it your balcony, yard or community garden, we celebrate the endless variety of opportunities we have
to beautify our homes, neighborhoods and our State.*

Consultant— Trish Reynolds prk26998@gmail.com (410) 226-5290

Section A - "Plant to Create Indoor Color"

- Eligible for Grower's Choice Award

- Class 1** **Container-Grown Flowering Plants** - Container no larger than 6" across widest inside diameter. Plant must be in bloom. Cacti/Succulents excluded. Saucer required. Hanging plants not allowed.
- Class 2** **Container-Grown Foliage Plants** - Container no larger than 6" across widest inside diameter. Plant may have insignificant blooms. Cacti/Succulents excluded. Saucer required. Hanging plants not allowed.
- Class 3** **Container-Grown Cacti/Succulents** - Container no larger than 6" across widest inside diameter Saucer required. Hanging plants not allowed.
- Cacti
 - Succulents

Section B - "Plant Small Gardens"

- Eligible for Grower's Choice Award

Grouping of 3 or more botanically different plants with similar cultural requirements; see *HB* p. 59 for additional information. All plants to be individually numbered in the container, with corresponding number and botanical name on a 3" x 5" card placed with exhibit.

- Class 4** **Planter** - no larger than 18" across widest inside diameter
- Class 5** **Dish Garden** - no larger than 18" across widest inside diameter
- Class 6** **Terrarium** - no size restriction

Section C - "Plant for Spring"

- Eligible for Grower's Choice Award

Forced bulbs in a pot not to exceed 8" across the widest inside diameter.

- Class 7** **Hippeastrum** (Amaryllis) - one single-nosed bulb
- Class 8** **Narcissus** (Daffodil) - 3 or more bulbs of the same cultivar
- Class 9** **Tulipa** (Tulip) - 3 or more bulbs of the same cultivar

Design Rules

- The NGC Policies and Guidelines for Design are as follows (*HB* p. 79-80):
 - Some plant material must be used in every exhibit.
 - Exhibitor may enter multiple classes but may enter only one exhibit per class.
 - An exhibit entered for competition must be the work of only one exhibitor and that exhibitor's name must be on the entry card.
 - If the designer is unable to fulfill the assignment, it is the designer's responsibility to provide a substitute, and notify the Consultant immediately.
 - If unable to transport or set up a **completed** design, a substitute may enter the exhibit for the designer.
 - A single flower is not a design. Container-grown plants are permitted where appropriate, but are never considered floral designs.
 - Landscapes, scenes or anything representing an actual item of clothing, person, animal, etc., are not acceptable.
 - Religious symbols must be displayed respectfully.
 - All plant material used in design must be listed on a white, unlined 3"x5" card placed with the exhibit. Botanical and/or common names acceptable.
 - When design techniques are required, they must be listed on a white, unlined 3"x5" card placed with the exhibit.
- All entries must be pre-registered by contacting the Consultant no later than February 1, 2018. Plant and non-plant material permitted and not permitted are printed in the *HB* p. 80-81. No artificial flowers, foliage, fruits or vegetables are allowed. Artificial is defined as imitation or manufactured to appear as real material.
- Fresh plant material may never be treated in any manner; dried plant material may be treated. Decorative and weathered wood are considered dried and are not allowed in classes requiring that all plant material be fresh.
- Plant material need not be grown by the exhibitor and may be obtained from any legal source.
- Exhibitor is required to conform to the stated description and limitations of the Design Type, if named in the class.
- Rules for Design Types, Advanced Designs, Table Designs and Table Appointments are printed in the *HB*, Chapter 7.
- Exhibition tables provided by the Committee will be draped and skirted in black.
- Designer is on her/his honor that the design being entered has not been previously entered or judged in an NGC Flower Show (*HB* p. 137).
- The Scale of Points for Design is printed in the *HB*, Chapter 14 (p. 130).

DIVISION II DESIGN - Eligible for Award of Design Excellence

"Grow Around the State"

We live in areas with diverse climates and growing conditions – providing great inspiration for creative design.

Consultant— Liz Williams mliz.williams825@gmail.com (410) 987-7571

Section D - "Plant for All Seasons" - Eligible for Designer's Choice Award - Designer has freedom within NGC policy and Schedule requirements in choice of dried, treated dried and/or fresh plant material and other components.

- Class 10 "Spring Blossoms"** 4 entries
Freedom in design style or type, to be staged in a space 30" deep x 32" wide on a table 30" high provided by the Committee. Staging panel(s), support and/or underlay provided by Exhibitor are permitted.
- Class 11 "Winter Wonderland"** 4 entries
Side one of a Duo Design (*HB* p. 78) a Creative design organized in one container or containers joined to appear as one. Sides one and two to be staged back-to-back. Designs to be staged on a 36" diameter high-top table 41" tall, provided by the Committee. Underlay permitted.
- Class 12 "Sizzling Summer"** 4 entries
Side two of a Duo Design (*HB* p. 78) a Creative design organized in one container or containers joined to appear as one. Sides one and two to be staged back-to-back. Designs to be staged on a 36" diameter high-top table 41" tall, provided by the Committee. Underlay permitted.

Section E – "Plant in Your Community" - Eligible for Designer's Choice Award - Designer has freedom within NGC policy and Schedule requirements in choice of dried, treated dried and/or fresh plant material and other components.

- Class 13 "Cityscapes and Greenspace"** 4 entries
A Creative Design (*HB* p. 72) to be staged in a space 30" deep x 32" wide on a table 30" high provided by the Committee. Staging panel(s), support and/or underlay provided by Exhibitor are permitted.
- Class 14 "Beautiful Mountains and Valleys"** 4 entries
A freestanding Cascade Design (*HB* p. 73) to be staged on 36" diameter round high-top table 41" tall provided by the Committee. Underlay is permitted.
- Class 15 "By the Shore"** 4 entries
A Functional Tray for One (*HB* p. 76). Decorative unit and all components must be placed on a tray not to exceed 16" long x 12" wide provided by the exhibitor. To be staged on one-quarter section of a 60" round table, 30" high, provided by the Committee.

Education Division Rules

1. The NGC Purpose, Requirements and Considerations for the Education Division are printed in *HB*, Chapter 8 (pp. 85-86).
2. Education Exhibits must be attractively presented to instruct or inform the public in some aspect of National Garden Club, Inc. goals and objectives.
3. An Education Exhibit may be the work of more than one individual. However, if a Student Judge or Accredited Judge is seeking an exhibiting credit, the work must be done solely by the individual and entered accordingly. (*HB* p. 86. II.E)
4. There is no minimum or maximum size requirement for an Education Exhibit. However, to be eligible for the Education Top Exhibitor's Award, an exhibit must occupy a minimum of 18 sq. ft. in surface area: horizontal, vertical or a combination.
5. Committee will provide 8' long x 30" wide x 30" tall tables with black table cloths and skirting. Exhibitors will provide all other staging.
6. Plant material is not required, although NGC encourages the use of plant material where appropriate.
7. The Scale of Points for Educational Exhibits is printed in the *HB*, Chapter 14 (p. 130).

DIVISION III EDUCATION - Eligible for Educational Top Exhibitor Award

"Personal Growth"

Our 93 clubs and 3,224 members represent a community committed to continuous learning. Through our individual club and District programs, flower shows, and Council Schools we educate members and the public, thus expanding our skills and knowledge.

Consultant— Lynn Vinke lmvinke@aol.com (301) 745-4380

Exhibit 1 "Expanding Horizons" - an exhibit showcasing some of the new designs introduced with the 2017 Handbook.

Exhibit 2 "New Opportunities to Design" – an exhibit showcasing examples of the new Botanical Arts Division (*HB* p. 91-96).

Exhibit 3 "Extend Your Growing Season" – an exhibit demonstrating how to force bulbs for early blooms.