



***AN NGC STANDARD FLOWER SHOW***

Presented by  
Central North District  
&  
Western & Central South District  
Of the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc.  
at the  
*New England Botanical Garden at Tower Hill*  
11 French Drive, Boylston, MA  
508-869-6111 nebg.org

*November 1 – November 3, 2024*  
*Friday & Saturday 10 am – 5 pm & Sunday 10 am - 4 pm*

*Free & Open to the Public*  
*with admission to the Botanical Garden:*  
Adults \$19, Seniors (65+) \$16  
Child (4-12) \$9, Child (age 3 & under)  
Free for NEBG Members

Members of the National Garden Clubs, Inc.,  
New England Garden Clubs, Inc., and  
Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc.





*Moments of joy surround us.*

*An unexpected bloom takes our breath,  
a cooling shade grants healing rest,  
and a loved one's touch brings tears to our eyes.*

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## Committee Chairs

<b>General Chairs</b>	Jill Malcolm Vana Nespor	jillyjill07@comcast.net vana.nespor@gmail.com
<b>Consultant to the Chairs</b>	Ruth Evans	ruhev@aol.com
<b>Schedule Chair</b>	Vana Nespor	vana.nespor@gmail.com
<b>Staging Chairs</b>	Nancy Martin Beate Bolen	nancymartinmailed@gmail.com beatebolen@gmail.com
<b>Design Entries Chair</b>	Kathy Hawes	kmh4383@gmail.com
<b>Design Classification Chairs</b>	Cathie Healy Joan Butler	lafleure55@yahoo.com joan@bjbsoftware.com
<b>Horticulture Entries &amp; Classification Chairs</b>	Betsy Szymczak Pam Marold	szymczakb@gmail.com pam.marold@verizon.net
<b>Horticulture Placement Chairs</b>	Margo Yie Kathy Hoogaboom	margo_yie@verizon.net khoogie1128@gmail.com
<b>Education Entries Chairs</b>	Nancy Martin Nancy Riggs	nancymartinmailed@gmail.com nsriggs1@gmail.com
<b>Publicity Chair</b>	Mary Bandoveres	maryellen6112@gmail.com
<b>Judges Chair</b>	Suzanne Reed	suzreed54@gmail.com
<b>Clerks Chair</b>	Joy DiMaggio	jmarykay2@outlook.com
<b>Computers Chair</b>	Betsy Howard	howardbetsy@msn.com
<b>Awards Chair</b>	Cathy Fochtman	lcfochtman@gmail.com
<b>Photography Chair</b>	Shannon Fitzpatrick	smfitzlaw@gmail.com
<b>Hospitality Chair</b>	Jill Malcolm	jillyjill07@comcast.net

## General Rules

1. “Moments of Joy” is an NGC Standard Flower Show and is staged according to the rules of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. using as its authority the *Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017 Edition*. (<https://gardenclub.org/sites/default/files/2023-06/fss-handbook-2017-secure-july-2023.pdf>)
2. The Design Division is open to all members of the National Garden Clubs, Inc.
3. Division II - Horticulture is open to any amateur gardener.
4. Division III - Educational Exhibits are open to any individual or organization.
5. Each exhibitor is limited to one entry per class except in the Horticulture Division.
6. Entry dates:
  - a. Horticulture -Wednesday, **Oct 30, 2:00 - 4:00 PM** and Thursday, **Oct 31, 7:30 - 9:30 AM**
  - b. Design & Education: Thursday, **Oct 31, 7:30 - 9:30 AM**
7. Judging begins: Thursday, **Oct 31, 11:30 AM**
8. Removal date: Sunday, **Nov 3, 4:00 - 5:00 PM** or Monday, **Nov 4, 9:00 - 10:00 AM**
9. An Exhibitor’s meeting will be held by video conference on Tuesday, **September 24, 7:00 pm.**
10. There must be an emphasis on FRESH plant material.
11. No artificial plant material is permitted in any division.
12. The Classification Chairs for each Division check exhibits for conformity to the schedule prior to judging. Final determination for conformance is the judges’ responsibility.
13. The General and Classification Chairs 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.
14. The decisions of the judges are final. Awards may be withheld if not merited.
15. Wild collected plants of species listed by the Massachusetts Heritage program may not be used. Cultivated plant material appearing on the list are allowed if the exhibitor provides a card noting that it was not wild collected. <https://www.mass.gov/doc/printable-list-of-endangered-threatened-and-special-concern-species/download>
16. Plants listed on the Massachusetts Dept. of Agricultural Resources Prohibited Plant List may not be exhibited in this flower show. The list can be found at: <https://www.massnrc.org/mipag/invasive.htm>
17. We will strive to assure the safety of all items after placement but are not responsible for any loss or damage to the exhibits.

## Awards

The NGC Standard System of Awarding will be used in all divisions (*Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 5.)

Only one first (blue) ribbon per class or subclass	Must score 90 or above.
Only one second (red) ribbon per class or subclass	Must score 85 or above.
Only one third (yellow) ribbon per class or subclass	Must score 80 or above.
One or more Honorable Mention (white) as merited	Must score 75 or above.

Note: Multiple 90+ awards may be given in each class if warranted.



## Awards (Continued)

### **NGC Top Exhibitor Awards**

Top Exhibitor Awards must be blue ribbon winners scoring 95 or above.

**Design Awards** For complete requirements, refer to the *Handbook of Flower Shows*, Chapter 5.

**The Award of Design Excellence** is offered to the highest scoring blue ribbon exhibit scoring 95 or above in Division I - Design. It is a rosette of gold ribbons.

**The Tricolor Award** is offered to the highest scoring blue ribbon exhibit scoring 95 or above in Section A, Classes 1-3. It is a rosette of red, yellow and blue ribbons.

**The Designer's Choice Award** is offered to the highest scoring blue ribbon exhibit scoring 95 or above in Section B, Classes 4-6. It is a rosette of purple ribbons.

**The Table Artistry Award** is offered to the highest scoring blue ribbon exhibit scoring 95 or above in Section D, Classes 7-9. It is a rosette of burgundy ribbons.

**The Petite Award** is offered to the highest scoring blue ribbon exhibit scoring 95 or above in Section C, Classes 10-12. It is a small rosette of blue and white ribbons.

**Horticulture Awards** For complete requirements, refer to the *Handbook of Flower Shows*, Chapter 5.

**The Award of Horticulture Excellence** is offered to the highest scoring blue ribbon exhibit scoring 95 or above in Division II- Horticulture. It is a rosette of green, blue and orange ribbons.

**The Arboreal Award** is offered to the highest scoring blue ribbon exhibit scoring 95 or above in Sections A-C, Classes 1-12. One award is available per Section. It is a rosette of green ribbons.

**The Award of Merit** is offered to the highest scoring blue ribbon exhibit scoring 95 or above in Sections D-G, Classes 13-28. One award is available per Section. It is a rosette of orange ribbons.

**The Grower's Choice Award** is offered to the highest scoring blue ribbon exhibit scoring 95 or above in Sections H-J, Classes 29-39 are eligible. One award is available per Section. It is a rosette of dark green ribbons.

**Education Awards** For complete requirements, refer to the *Handbook of Flower Shows*, Chapter 5.

**The Educational Top Exhibitor Award** is offered to the blue-ribbon exhibit scoring 95 or above in Division III. It is a rosette of brown and white ribbons. Exhibits 1-3 are eligible.

### **Recognition Awards**

**Award of Appreciation** is given to outside contributors whose assistance has enhanced the beauty and success of the show. It is a rosette of orchid ribbons.



## Division I: Design Division Rules

1. The NGC Design Policies/Rules are printed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 7, Exhibiting in the Design Division, NGC Policies and Guidelines.
2. Advance registration with the Design Entries Chair, Kathy Hawes, [kmh4383@gmail.com](mailto:kmh4383@gmail.com), is required by September 20, 2024.
3. All plant material used in the design must be identified on a card, by common name, provided by the exhibitor and included with the entry tag. The plant material list must be reviewed by the Design Classification Chair before the Designer leaves the floor.
4. The exhibitor is required to conform to the stated description and limitations of the Design Type if named in the class.
5. Rules for Design Types, Advanced Designs Types, Table Designs and Table Appointments are printed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 7.
6. The Scale of Points for Design is listed in the *Handbook for Flower Show*, Chapter 14.
7. Plant material need not have been grown by the exhibitor.
8. Fresh plant material may not be treated in any manner. Dried plant material may be treated. *Handbook for Flower Shows*, 2017 Edition, Chapter 7.
9. All designs must be the work of one individual.
10. If a Designer is unable to fulfill her/his assignment, it is the Designer's responsibility to find a replacement.
11. The Designer is on her/his honor that the Design being entered has not been previously judged in an NGC Flower Show.
12. Exhibits may be completed at home or in the show area.
13. Exhibits may be refreshed during regular show hours, 10:00AM- 5:00PM.
14. Use of floral foam such as Oasis should be kept to a minimum.

### Division I: Design "Joy of Discovery" (The Award of Design Excellence)

#### Section A "Joyful Time Alone"

(Tricolor Award)

(Four entries per class)

##### Class 1 "A Spot of Shade" Mass All-Foliage Design

Staged on a white pedestal. Top 16" square x 42" high, backed by cream walls. All fresh plant material required. No baskets or dried wood.

##### Class 2 "Butterflies Dancing" Multi-Rhythmic Design

Staged on a white pedestal. Top 16" square x 36" high, backed by cream walls. All fresh plant material required. No baskets or dried wood.

##### Class 3 "Bursts of Color" Freedom of Style

Staged on a white pedestal. Top 14" square x 36" high in front of 6' high white divider. All fresh plant material required. No baskets or dried wood.



## Division I: Design “Joy of Discovery” (Continued)

### Section B “Joyful Family Moments”

**(Designer’s Choice Award)**  
(Four entries per class)

Class 4 “**Telling Tall Tales**” Vertical Design

Staged on a white pedestal. Top 16” square x 36” high, backed by a brick wall.

Class 5 “**Playing Games**” Panel Design

Staged on a white pedestal. Top 14” square x 36” high, backed by a brick wall.

Class 6 “**Holding Hands**” Creative Low-Profile Design

Staged on top of a white cuboid, 14” wide x 14” high x 14” deep x 42” long, backed by cream colored wall. Requires use of three or more floral design techniques as described in the *Handbook of Flower Shows*, Chapter 7. Techniques must be listed on the plant materials card.

### Section C “Joyful Celebrations”

**(Table Artistry Award)**  
(Four entries per class)

Class 7 “**Anniversary Waltz**” A Semiformal Anniversary Dinner for Two

Staged on a round table, 36” diameter x 29” high, backed by windows. The table is covered with a white floor length tablecloth provided by the committee. Cloth overlay permitted, may extend over the sides but not touch the floor.

Class 8 “**Today’s Your Birthday**” Birthday Breakfast in Bed, Tray for One

Staged on a round white pedestal, 21” diameter x 36” high, backed by a cream wall.

Class 9 “**Giving Thanks**” Exhibition Table

Staged on ½ of a white shelf, 24” deep x 72” long. The shelf is 36” high, backed by a brick wall.

### Section D “Joyful Firsts”

**(Petite Award)**  
(Four entries per class)

Class 10 “**First Step**” A small creative design incorporating a baby’s shoe.

No dimension greater than 12”. Committee will provide a white “L” shaped 14” x 14” underlay and backdrop, on a 42” high shelf. Color may be added.

Class 11 “**First Day at School**” A small design. Freedom of Style.

No dimension greater than 8”. Committee will provide a white “L” shaped 10” x 10” underlay and backdrop, on a 42” high shelf. Color may be added.

Class 12 “**First Dance**” A miniature design. Freedom of Style.

No dimension greater than 5”. Committee will provide a white “L” shaped 7” x 7” underlay and backdrop, on a 48” high shelf. Color may be added.



## Division II - Horticulture Division Rules

1. The NGC Horticulture 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 Award, the exhibitor must identify his/her entry by its binomial name or currently accepted scientific designation. (Consult *Handbook for Flower Shows*, “Exhibiting in the Horticulture Division,” Chapter 6.) Common names may be added in parentheses.
4. Entry cards available at the show or in advance from the Horticulture Co-Chair, Betsy Szymczak, szymczakb@gmail.com and General Co-Chairs, Jill Malcolm, jillyjill07@comcast.net; Vana Nesper, vana.nesper@gmail.com.
5. Entry cards are to be filled out in advance if possible, using return address labels, pencil or waterproof ink. If handwritten, the scientific or binomial name must be underlined. If typed, it must be italicized. (Refer to the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 6 for a correctly filled out entry card.
6. Exhibitors may have more than one entry per class if each is a different species, variety, type, cultivar, or color.
7. Specimens with a class designation in the schedule may not be entered in the “Any Other Worthy” class.
8. 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 foliage plants if they are grown for their leaves.
9. All plant material must be fresh and in the possession of the exhibitor for the appropriate number of days:
  - a. Arboreals - 6 months
  - b. Annuals, perennials, vegetables, fruits, tubers and bulbs - 90 days with no minimum for early maturing crops such as lettuce, radishes, watercress, etc.
  - c. Combination plantings - 6 weeks growing together.
10. Cut specimens should not have foliage below the water line except for gladiolus.
11. Exhibitor must provide their own **clean, clear, colorless glass bottle, and white cotton wedging** for each cut exhibit except Arboreals, Section A-C, which will be displayed flat on a table.
12. All tables in Division II Horticulture will be covered with burlap provided by the Committee.
13. The Horticulture Classification Chair and/or General Show Chair have the authority to subdivide classes by color, form, size, cultivar, variety or other distinguishing characteristics.
14. The Classification Chair must initial all entries before placement.
15. The Scales of Points for Horticulture are located in Chapter 14 of the *Handbook of Flower Shows*.
16. Plants listed on the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources Prohibited Plant List may not be exhibited in this flower show. The list can be found at:  
<https://www.massnrc.org/mipag/invasive.htm>.





## Division II: Horticulture “Joy in Our Roots” (Award of Horticulture Excellence)

### Section A “Embracing Native Trees”

Coniferous Native Evergreen Trees  
(Arboreal Award)

Native evergreen trees, single branch, no more than 30” in length, including an apical tip, central leader and several nodes, displayed flat on a table provided by the committee. May be a cultivar of a native species with or without fruit, buds, or cones. (See approved native list attached)

- Class 1 *Juniperus virginiana* (Eastern Red Cedar)
- Class 2 *Picea* (Blue/Colorado Spruce, White Spruce)
- Class 3 *Thuja occidentalis* (Eastern Arborvitae)
- Class 4 Any Other Worthy Specimen

### Section B “Treasuring Native Shrubs”

Broadleaf Native Evergreen Shrub  
(Arboreal Award)

Native evergreen shrubs, single branch, no more than 30” in length, including an apical tip, central leader and several nodes, displayed flat on a table provided by the committee. May be a cultivar of a native species with or without fruit, buds, or cones. (See approved native list attached.)

- Class 5 *Ilex glabrata* (Inkberry)
- Class 6 *Ilex opaca* (American Holly)
- Class 7 *Rhododendron* (Rosebay, Giant Laurel)
- Class 8 Any other worthy specimen

### Section C “Celebrating Winter Color”

Deciduous Fruiting Arboreal  
(Arboreal Award)

Eligible for Arboreal Award. Deciduous shrubs or trees, single branch, no more than 30” in length, including an apical tip, central leader and several nodes, **with attached fruit or berries, but no leaves**, displayed flat on the exhibit table provided by the committee.

- Class 9 *Ilex verticillata* (Winterberry Holly)
- Class 10 *Malus* (Crabapple, Domestic Apple)
- Class 11 *Viburnum*
- Class 12 Any Other Worthy Specimen

### Section D “Cherishing Summer Textures”

Perennials (Grown for Foliage)  
(Award of Merit)

- Cut specimens, one stem
- Class 13 *Artemesia*
- Class 14 *Heuchera*
- Class 15 *Hosta*
- Class 16 Any other worthy specimen.



## Division II: Horticulture “Joy in Our Roots” (Continued)

- Section E “Prizing Vivid Hues”** Perennials (Grown for Flowers)  
(Award of Merit)  
Cut specimens, one stem  
Class 17 *Aster*  
Class 8 *Chrysanthemum*  
Class 19 *Sedum*  
Class 20 Any other worthy specimen
- Section F: “Relishing Summer Bounty”** Vegetables  
(Award of Merit)  
Paper plates provided by committee.  
Class 21 *Cucurbita* (Winter Squash/Butternut) - one on a paper plate  
Class 22 *Solanum lycopersicum var. cerasiforme* (Cherry Tomatoes)  
- eight on a paper plate  
Class 23 *Solanum tuberosum* (Potato) - three on a paper plate  
Class 24 Any other worthy specimen - one or more on a paper plate
- Section G “Savoring Flavor-filled Life”** Herbs  
(Award of Merit)  
Cut specimens, one stem  
Class 25 *Origanum vulgare* (Oregano)  
Class 26 *Petroselinum crispum* (Parsley)  
Class 27 *Salvia Rosmarinus* (Rosemary)  
Class 28 Any other worthy specimen
- Section H “Containing Leafy Charm”** Container Grown Foliage Plant  
(Grower’s Choice Award)  
Container maximum diameter 10”  
Class 29 *Begonia*  
Class 30 *Coleus*  
Class 31 Succulents  
Class 32 Any other worthy specimen
- Section I “Blooming Bliss Indoors”** Container Grown for Flowers  
(Grower’s Choice Award)  
Container maximum diameter 10”  
Class 33 *Begonia*  
Class 34 *Pelargonium* (Geraniums)  
Class 35 *Streptocarpus* (African Violet)  
Class 36 Any other worthy specimen



## **Division II: Horticulture “Joy in Our Roots” (Continued)**

### **Section J “Combining Our Delights”**

Container maximum diameter 12”

Minimum three plants, must provide a diagram of plant placement on the material’s card

Class 37 Dish Garden

Class 38 Planter

Class 39 Terrarium

Combination Plantings

**(Grower’s Choice Award)**

## **Division III: Education “The Joy in Growing Knowledge” (Educational Top Exhibitor Award)**

### **Education Rules**

1. Education Exhibits may be the work of more than one individual or organization unless a Student Judge or an Accredited Judge is seeking exhibiting credit for preparing an education exhibit.
2. An exhibit must occupy a minimum of 18 sq. ft. of surface area.
3. Some plant material is required in each exhibit.
4. The committee will provide a table for each exhibit measuring 8’ x 30.” It will be covered with a burlap drape provided by the committee.
5. Advanced registration with the Education Entries Chair, Nancy Martin, nancymartinmailed@gmail.com, is required by September 20.
6. The Scale of Points for Education Exhibits is listed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 14.

### **Education Exhibits**

**(Educational Top Exhibitor Award)**

#### **Section A “Discovering More”**

Exhibit 1 TBA

Exhibit 2 TBA

Exhibit 3 TBA