

The Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania, District I, presents

Celebrating a Nation of Artists

A National
Garden Clubs, Inc.
Patriotic Flower Show



Sept 18–20, 2026
Longwood Gardens

Open to the Public with admission to Longwood Gardens

Handicap accessible

Celebrating a Nation of Artists

An NGC Patriotic Flower Show

Presented by the GCFP Garden Clubs of District I

Reviewed by

Philadelphia Area Judges Council Schedule Advisor

Sponsored by

- Elverson Garden Club
- Four Seasons Garden Club of Kennett Square
- Radley Run Garden and Social Club
- Spade and Trowel Club
- Garden Club of Springfield
- Uwchlan Garden Club

Supported by

- The Country Gardeners
- Covered Bridge Garden Club
- Wayne Woods Garden Club

Location

Longwood Gardens 610-388-1000
1001 Longwood Road
Kennett Square, PA 19348

Open to the public with Longwood admission

 *Handicap accessible*

Event Dates & Times

Friday, September 18, 2026

Entries accepted 1 – 4 p.m.

Saturday, September 19, 2026

Entries accepted 7 – 9 a.m.

Show Open to Public 1 – 9 p.m.

Sunday, September 20, 2026

Show Open to Public 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Member of:

- National Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs, Inc.
- The Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania, District I

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E Elverson Garden Club
 CB Covered Bridge
 CG Country Gardeners
 FS Four Seasons Garden Club
 N Norristown Garden Club

S Springfield Garden Club
 ST Spade and Trowel Club
 U Uwchlan Garden Club
 Y The Garden Club of York

GENERAL RULES AND INFORMATION

This Flower Show conforms to standards established by the National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC). The *Handbook for Flower Shows* (HB), as updated with revisions printed on the NGC website (www.gardenclub.org), is the authority for all issues not covered by the schedule, which is “Law of the Show.” An updated copy The *Handbook for Flower Shows* may be downloaded from the NGC website at www.gardenclub.org.

This show is planned by select National Garden Clubs member clubs under the auspices of the Visitor Education Department of Longwood Gardens, Inc. The clubs hope to introduce the public to exciting and beautiful means of displaying horticulture in floral designs.

1. All gardeners and designers are invited to exhibit in all divisions of the show. It is not necessary to be a garden club member.
2. Entries will be accepted between 1 – 4 p.m. on Friday, September 18, and 7 – 9 a.m. on Saturday, September 19, and must be removed promptly at 6 p.m. on Sunday, September 20.
3. Judging will begin at 10 a.m. on September 19.
4. Entry cards, filled out in advance, (typed, waterproof ink, labels, pencils), may be obtained from each participating club president or at the Entry Table. Design entries and Horticulture Section F require pre-registration – See Design and Horticulture Rules.
5. Final determination for conformance is the judges’ responsibility. Exhibit cards must be PASSED before the exhibitor leaves the show area.
6. **The Classification Chairs for each division check exhibits for conformity to the schedule prior to judging. Final determination for conformance is the judges’ responsibility.**
7. **The General Chair and the Classification Chairs 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.**
8. **The decisions of the judges are final. Awards may be withheld if not merited.**
9. **There must be an emphasis on FRESH plant material. No artificial plant material is permitted in any exhibit in any division.**
10. **Each exhibitor is limited to one entry per class, except in the Horticultural Division if each is a different species, variety, cultivar, type, or color.**
11. **The Flower Show Committee will strive to ensure the safety of all items after arrival and placement but is not responsible for any loss or damage to the exhibits.**
12. Wilted/infested plant material in any exhibit will be removed from the show floor.
13. Plants on the Pennsylvania Endangered List are not to be exhibited in any manner in this Flower Show. If in doubt, check <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dcnr/conservation/wild-plants/invasive-plants/invasive-plant-fact-sheets>
14. Longwood does not permit: *Buxus*, Boxwood; *Sarcococca*, Fragrant sweet box; *Pachysandra*; Spurge; *Chrysanthemum*

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC. 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

Entries receiving 90+ points will receive recognition seals. See the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 5, Awards.

DIVISION I: DESIGN minimum 4 entries per class

Award of Design Excellence

One (1) – highest scoring blue ribbon exhibit, must score 95 or above, meeting all Division, Section, and Class Requirements

The Designer's Choice Award (Purple)

One (1) may be awarded to a blue-ribbon winner in the Design Division. Section A, all classes eligible.

The Table Artistry Award (Burgundy)

One (1) may be awarded to a blue-ribbon winner in the Design Division. Section B, all classes eligible.

The Tri-Color Award (Rosette of red, blue, and yellow)

One (1) may be awarded to a blue-ribbon winner in the Design Division. Section C, all classes eligible.

Division II NGC Horticulture Top Exhibitor Awards. At least three classes are required in each section, but there is no minimum of exhibits per class. The exhibit must be correctly named according to its binomial name or currently accepted scientific designation to be eligible for an NGC Top Exhibitor Award

DIVISION II: HORTICULTURE

The Award of Horticultural Excellence (Green/Blue/Orange)

One (1) is offered in Division II. Award may be offered to the highest-scoring exhibit entered by an individual in the entire Horticulture Division.

The Arboreal Award (Green)

One (1) may be awarded to a blue-ribbon exhibit scoring 95 or above in the Horticulture Division. Section G eligible.

The Award of Merit (Orange)

Five (5) may be awarded to a blue-ribbon exhibit scoring 95 or above in the Horticulture Division. Sections A, B, C, D, E eligible.

The Collectors Showcase (Brown and Green)

One (1) may be awarded to a blue-ribbon exhibit with each specimen scoring 95 or above (Specimen scores are not averaged) in the Horticulture Division. Section F eligible.

Grower's Choice Award (Dark Green)

One (1) A section award for container-grown plants and combination plantings, may be awarded to a blue-ribbon exhibit scoring 95 or above in the Horticulture Division. Section H eligible.

RECOGNITION AWARDS

Horticulture Sweepstakes Award (Green/White) and the **Design Sweepstakes Award** (Green/White) may be awarded to the exhibitor who has the greatest number of points in each division. The sweepstakes tabulation will be compiled by the Show Committee. Blue ribbons and NGC ribbons will be counted first. In the case of a tie; red ribbons will be counted.

Longwood Gardens Award of Excellence may be awarded to the exhibitor having the largest combined number of points in BOTH the Design and Horticulture Divisions.

DIVISION I: DESIGN

DESIGN 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, Pages 79-80.**
- 2. Advance registration with the Design Class Consultant is required by August 31, 2026. The Design Class Consultant will provide written documentation of entry.**
- 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, Pages 80-81.**
- 4. All plant material used in the design need not have been grown by the exhibitor. The common name must be identified on a card and included with the entry card supplied by exhibitor.**
- 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 the Design Types, Advanced Design Types, Table Designs, and Table Appointments are printed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 7.**
- 7. The Scale of Points for Design are printed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 14, will be used in judging Design.**
- 8. Designer is on his/her honor that the design being entered has not been previously entered or judged in an NGC Standard Flower Show.**
- 9. "The designer has the freedom to choose traditional or creative style with any design listed unless restricted by the schedule."**
- 10. Designs must be the work of one individual.**
- 11. Each design is to be created and placed by one individual only. The Design Class Consultant will complete the entry cards.**
- 12. Each entry must be passed before the exhibitor leaves the floor. The Design Class Consultant will complete the entry cards.**
- 13. Fresh plant material may not ever be treated in any manner. Dried plant material may be treated unless restricted by the schedule.**
- 14. A single flower is not a design.**
- 15. Exhibitors are expected to maintain their exhibits in show condition. Unsightly or wilted materials will be removed at the Committee's discretion.**
- 16. Risers and pedestals, and additional staging will be provided for classes as indicated.**
- 17. Each Exhibit must contain some plant material according to the Class Schedule and Award specifications. Plant material need not have been grown by the exhibitor (unless required by schedule).**
- 18. If designer is unable to fulfill the assignment, it is the designer's responsibility to find a replacement.**
- 19. Not permitted: American or other national flags.**

DIVISION I: DESIGN

All classes in Division I are eligible for The Award of Design Excellence

SECTION A: "American Pop Culture"

Eligible for Designer's Choice

Consultant: Barbara White

Class 1. **Annie Leibovitz**

4 entries

A creative design using fresh and/or dried plant material inspired by an iconic cover photographed by Annie Leibovitz (provided by the consultant), placed on a 30" high table covered in black. Space allotment is 20" wide by 24" deep. 30" high staging panel required; underlay optional.

Class 2. **Andy Warhol**

Novice Class

4 entries

A creative parallel (*Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 7) design consisting of 3 or more groupings of plant material in a single container using fresh and/or dry plant material. Space allotment is 20" wide by 24" deep. 30" high staging panel required. The class is open to any designer who has not won a Blue Ribbon in an NGC Flower Show.

Class 3. **Alexander Calder**

4 entries

A framed spatial design (*Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 7) implying motion using fresh and/or dry plant material, suspended within frame provided by the consultant. No actual movement is permitted. Frame size is 31.5" high x 23" wide x 5.5" deep, painted black. 30" high staging panel is required; underlay optional. Exhibitor may not make any permanent attachments to the frame.

SECTION B: "Capturing the American Spirit"

Eligible for the Table Artistry Award

Consultant: Chris Tarlecki

Class 4. **Anne Geddes**

4 entries

A FUNctional tea party set for two using fresh and/or dried plant material on a 30" round table, 30" high, placed on a 6" platform, covered in black to the floor, provided by the committee. A 48" table overlay is required. Expensive flatware not permitted.

Class 5. **Keith Haring**

4 entries

An Exhibition Table. Space allowed 30" wide x 24" deep, covered in black. Fresh and/or dried plant material required. Staging panel required.

Class 6. **Andrew Wyeth**

4 entries

A tray for one with a decorative unit. Choice of fresh and/or dry plant material. Space allotment 22" wide by 30" deep.

SECTION C: “American Innovators”

Eligible for Tri-Color Award

Consultant: Denise Klein

Class 7. Winslow Homer

4 entries

An underwater design having some or all plant material and other optional component(s) submerged in water. To be placed on a cream-colored pedestal 48” high x 15” square top. Total space allotment 24” wide. Design will be judged from the front, but visible from all sides. All plant material must be fresh.

Class 8. Jasper Johns

4 entries

A tapestry design using the pave technique, to be placed on a cream-colored pedestal 36” high with a 15” square top. Design must fit within the 15” pedestal top. All plant material must be fresh.

Class 9. Dale Chihuly

4 entries

A creative transparency design placed on a 30” high table covered in black. Space allotment is 22” wide x 24” deep. 30” high staging panel is required. Underlay optional. All plant material must be fresh.

DIVISION II: HORTICULTURE

“Performing Arts”

All classes in Division III are eligible for the Award of Horticultural Excellence

Classification Chair: Robert Grenfell

HORTICULTURE 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 his/her entry by its binomial name and/or currently accepted scientific designation. (consult *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Exhibiting in the Horticulture Division, Chapter 6).**
- 4. Entry cards are to be filled out in advance, if possible. Refer to the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 6, for a correctly filled-out entry card. Cards are available from each club’s President and at the Entry Table. Cards are to be typed, written using waterproof ink, labels, or pencil.**
- 5. Cut specimens should not have foliage below the water line, except for *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 foliage plants if they are grown for their leaves.**
- 7. Specimens with a class designation in the schedule may not be entered in the “Any Other Worthy Specimen Class.”**
- 8. The Horticulture Classification Committee and/or General Show Chairs are free to subdivide classes by color, form, size, cultivar, variety, and other distinguishing characteristics.**
- 9. The Scale of Points for Horticulture is located in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 14, and will be used in judging Horticulture.**
- 10. All plant material must be fresh and grown by the exhibitor.**
- 11. Plant material must be in its natural state and may not be altered by the application (treatment) of oil, commercial “shine” products, etc., that artificially change the natural color and texture.**
- 12. Arboreals must have been in the possession of the exhibitor for six (6) months, combination plantings for six (6) weeks; other horticulture for ninety (90) days.**
- 13. Exhibitors may make more than one entry in a class or sub-class provided that each is a different variety/cultivar, type, size, or color.**
- 14. Fresh cut specimens are to be displayed in clear green glass bottles supplied by the exhibitor. The Committee will provide wedging material.**
- 15. All entries to be labeled by currently accepted binomial name, genus/specific epithet, cultivar, variety.**
- 16. Longwood does not permit: *Buxus*, Boxwood; *Sarcococca*, Fragrant sweet box; *Pachysandra*; Spurge; *Chrysanthemum***

DIVISION II: HORTICULTURE

“Performing Artists”

Eligible for Award of Horticulture Excellence

Consultant: Craig Rybinski

Section A: *Talking Heads* - “Nothing but Flowers”

Eligible for Award of Merit

Annuals in Bloom

- Class 1. *Celosia* (Celosia), one stem
- Class 2. *Cosmos* (Cosmos), one stem
- Class 3. *Helianthus* (Sunflower), one stem
- Class 4. *Tagetes* (Marigold) one bloom or spray, three if small
- Class 5. *Zinnia* (Zinnia), one stem, three if small
- Class 6. Any other named annual, one stem, three if small

Section B: *Nat King Cole* - “Autumn Leaves”

Eligible for Award of Merit

Annuals Grown for Foliage, Side Branches Permitted

- Class 7. *Fern*, one frond
- Class 8. *Hosta* (Hosta), one leaf
- Class 9. *Plectranthus scutellarioide* (Coleus), one stem, three if small, one variety
- Class 10. Any other named annual foliage plant, one stem, three if small, one variety

Section C: *Tiny Tim* - “Tiptoe Through the Tulips”

Eligible for Award of Merit

Bulb, Corms, or Tubers

- Class 11. *Begonia* (Begonia), one stem
- Class 12. *Caladium* (Caladium), one leaf
- Class 13. *Zantedeschia aethiopica* (Calla Lily), one stem
- Class 14. *Dahlia* (Dahlia), leaves not required
 - a. Giant dahlias, over 8”, 1 stem
 - b. Large and medium flowered, 4” to 8”, 1 stem
 - c. Small flowered, under 4”, may be up to 3 stems of 1 variety
- Class 15. Any other named bulb, corm, or tuber, one stem

Section D: *John Denver* - “Garden Song”

Eligible for Award of Merit

Perennials

- Class 16. *Echinacea* (Coneflower), one stem
- Class 17. *Rosa* (Rose), one bloom or spray
- Class 18. *Solidago* (Goldenrod), one stem
- Class 19. *Symphyotrichum* (Aster), one spray or bloom, depending on type
- Class 20. Any other named perennial, one stem

Section E: *Simon and Garfunkel* - "Scarborough Fair"

Eligible for Award of Merit

Herbs. One variety not to exceed 3 stems

Class 21. *Ocimum basilicum* (Basil), one stem, three if small, one variety

Class 22. *Petroselinum* (Parsley), one stem, three if small, one variety

Class 23. *Salvia* (Sage), one stem, three if small, one variety

Class 24. Any other herb not named elsewhere, one stem, three if small, one variety.

Section F: *Ricky Nelson* - "Garden Party"

Eligible for Collector's Showcase Award

Collections of Cut Specimens. A collection of five (5) to eight (8) different cut specimens, each one labeled and in a separate bottle. ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED BY SEPTEMBER 10, 2026.

Consultant Jane Nyiri, jtnyiri@aol.com, 610-328-6506.

Class 25. Annuals, a single or mixed genus, species, and/or cultivars

Class 26. Herbs, grown for culinary, fragrant, or medicinal purposes

Class 27. *Heuchera* (Heuchera), foliage only

Section G: *Dierks Bentley* - "Broken Branches"

Eligible for Arboreal Award

Cut Branches, maximum length 24 inches

Class 28. Broadleaf evergreen

Class 29. *Callicarpa* (Beautyberry) with berries with or without foliage

Class 30. *Conifers*

Class 31. *Ilex* (Holly) with berries

Class 32. Any other named specimen (with bloom or berry-like fruit if applicable)

Section H: *Stevie Wonder* - "The Secret Life of Plants"

Eligible for Grower's Choice Award

Container-Grown House Plants. Container-grown plants are to be shown in clean, plain pots not exceeding 10" diameter. Double potting is permitted.

Class 33. Plant grown primarily for flowers in bloom

a. *Saintpaulia* (African Violet)

b. *Pelargonium* (Geranium)

c. *Orchidaceae* (Orchid)

d. Any Other

Class 34. Plant grown primarily for foliage

Class 35. Succulent or Cactus

DIVISION III: Botanical Arts

ARTISTIC CRAFTS RULES:

1. All Botanical Art exhibits must contain some plant material. No artificial flowers or foliage are permitted in any exhibit.
2. The scale of points for judging Botanical Artistic Crafts printed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 14, will be used.
3. The rules for Botanical Artistic crafts are printed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 10.
4. The general guidelines for all designs, as printed in Chapter 7 of the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, including a card provided by the exhibitor listing plant material used in the design apply to Botanical Arts Design.
5. Only dried plant material may be treated. All plant material (common name) must be listed on a 3" x 5" card provided by the exhibitor.
6. Each exhibit is to be created and exhibited by one individual only.
7. Exhibitors may only enter one entry per class.
8. Advanced registration is required for classes 10 through 12. Register no later than August 31, 2026, by contacting the class consultant. You will receive written confirmation of your entry status.
9. Exhibits **MUST** be delivered to Longwood Gardens on September 18, 2026, between 1 and 4 p.m., and on Saturday, September 19, 2026, between 7 and 9 a.m.
10. Entry cards will be completed for each exhibit by the Botanical Arts Consultant.

SECTION A: "Decorative and Vocal Artists"

Artistic Crafts

Consultant: Carrie Schreffler

Class 10. Georgia O'Keeffe

4 entries

Design a pair of earrings, not to exceed three inches in length, inspired by the artwork of Georgia O'Keeffe, created entirely from dried plant matter and made to resemble jewelry in both size and function. Plant materials may be treated. No mechanics or structural base material may be visible. To be displayed on a stand supplied by the consultant prior to the show.

Class 11: Louis Tiffany

4 entries

Design a necklace inspired by the work of Louis Comfort Tiffany. No mechanics or structural base material may be visible. To be displayed on a black form (8" wide x 10" high) provided by the consultant, resting on a 30" high table covered in black.

Class 12: American Vocalist

4 entries

Design a show-stopping bra or bustier to be worn by a named iconic vocal artist. No mechanics or structural base material may be visible. Design to be displayed on a torso form painted black, supplied by the consultant prior to the show. Design may not be permanently affixed to the torso form.