



# Thank You, Virginia, for Making a Difference

An NGC Standard Flower Show  
Presented by the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

**April 27, 2025 – 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM**

**April 28, 2025 – 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

The Westin Richmond • 6631 West Broad Street, Richmond, VA

**Open & Free to the Public**

# Thank You, Virginia

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## Flower Show Committee

VFGC President	Val Story	(540) 272-0975
General Chairman	Pat Carswell	(540) 222-3948
Schedule	Pat Carswell	(540) 222-3948
	Val Story	(540) 272-0975
Signage	Joanne Wallace	(804) 683-9006
Design Entries & Placement	Janet Minock	(804) 334-0918
Design Classification	Christina Foutz	(301) 461-4025
Horticulture Entries & Placement	Susan Creasy	(540) 247-4194
Horticulture Classification	Jamie Nick	(540) 270-2590
Education Entries	Dianna Busch	(540) 353-9044
Judges Chairman	Val Story	(540) 272-0975
Clerks Chairman	Frances Thrash	(757) 478-5791
Awards Chairman	Val Story	(540) 272-0975

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## General Rules

1. This Standard Flower Show conforms to the standards established by the National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC). The standards are in the *Handbook for Flower Show* (HB) 2017 Edition, with revisions printed in *The National Gardener* (TNG) and online at the NGC website. The Schedule is the law of the Show, and the HB is the final authority.
2. Open to any VFGC members.
3. Entry cards are available before and on April 27, 2025, or by calling the Entries Chairman or from the General Chairman as follows:

Design Entry Chairman	Janet Minock	(804) 334-0918
Horticulture Entry Chairman	Susan Creasy	(540) 247-4194
General Chairman	Pat Carswell	(540) 222-3948
4. Entry Cards are to be filled out in advance (Typed, or in waterproof ink, or in pencil. Address labels may be used).
5. Exhibitors are required to bring a list of all plant material with the required entry card information on April 27, 2025.
6. Entries will be received on April 27, 2025, from 8:00 to 9:30 AM.
7. Entries must be removed between 2:00-3:00 PM on April 28, 2025.
8. Judging will begin at 9:45 AM on April 27, 2025.
9. The Classification Chairmen for each division check exhibits for conformity to the schedule prior to judging. Final determination for conformance is the judges' responsibility.
10. The General Chairman and the Classification Chairman 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.
11. The decisions of the judges are final. Awards may be withheld if not merited.
12. There must be an emphasis on FRESH plant material. No artificial plant material is permitted in any exhibit in any division.
13. Each exhibitor is limited to one entry per class, except in the Horticulture Division and Botanical Arts Horticulture. Exhibitor may make more than one entry per class if each is a different species, variety, cultivar, type or color.
14. The Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. will strive to assure the safety of all items after arrival and placement but is not responsible for any loss or damage to exhibits.
15. Plants listed on the Virginia Conservation List of Native Plants Needing Protection in Virginia may only be used in the Special Exhibits Division if obtained in a legal manner and labeled with botanical and common names; if used in the Horticulture Division, the plant must have been grown by the exhibitor and labeled accordingly; if used in the Design Division, the plant must have been grown by the exhibitor or obtained in a legal manner. The List of Plants on the Conservation List is available on the VFGC website.

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## Awards

**The NGC Standard System of Awarding (HB p.5) is used in all divisions.**

1. Only one (1) first-place (blue) ribbon per class or subclass; must score 90 points or more.
2. Only one (1) second-place (red) ribbon per class or subclass; must score 85 points or more.
3. Only one (1) third-place (yellow) ribbon per class or subclass; must score 80 points or more.
4. One (1) or more Honorable Mention (white) ribbons as merited; must score 75 points or more.

### **Horticulture Awards, Division I:**

- a. Award of Horticulture Excellence is offered to the highest scoring blue ribbon winner and correctly named exhibit in the Horticulture Division, Sections A - D. Rosette of green, orange and blue ribbons.
- b. Award of Merit will be offered to the highest scoring blue ribbon winner, correctly named exhibit in the Bulbs Section, Section B, and in the Herbs Section, Section C. Rosette of orange ribbons.
- c. The Grower's Choice Award will be offered to the highest scoring blue ribbon winner, correctly named exhibit in the Succulents Section, Section D. Rosette of dark green ribbons.

### **Design Awards, Division II:**

- a. Award of Design Excellence is offered to the highest scoring blue ribbon exhibit, scoring 95 or above, entered by an individual in the entire Design Division. Rosette of Gold Ribbons.
- b. Two (2) Designer's Choice Awards will be offered to the highest scoring blue ribbon exhibit in each section of the Design Division, Sections A and B. Rosette of purple ribbons.

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## DIVISION I HORTICULTURE RULES

1. The NGC exhibit policies are printed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 6, beginning on page 55.
2. All exhibits must be FRESH. Dried and preserved specimens may be entered in Botanical Arts Horticulture Division.
3. All exhibits must have been grown by exhibitor.
4. Plant material must be in its natural state and may not be altered by application (treatment) of oil, commercial “shine” products, etc., that change the natural appearance. No wiring of specimens is permitted.
5. Only foliage and/or flowers naturally grown and still attached to the specimen are permitted in the Flower Show. Unattached foliage is never included with a cut bloom specimen.
6. All plant material must have been in the possession of the exhibitor the appropriate number of days listed on page 55 of the HB.
7. The rules for a single species, cut or container-grown specimens, are listed in *The Handbook for Flower Shows* or its supplement *Horticulture Exhibiting and Judging*.
8. In order to receive an NGC Top Exhibitor Award, the exhibitor must identify her/his entry by its binomial name or currently acceptable scientific designation. (Consult the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Exhibiting in the Horticulture Division, Chapter 6.)
9. Entry cards are to be filled out in advance, if possible. Entry cards may be typed, written using waterproof ink, labels, or pencil.
10. Cut specimens should not have foliage below the water line, except for Gladiolus.
11. 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 plant if they are grown for their leaves.
12. Specimens with a class designation in the schedule may not be entered in the ‘Any Other Worthy Specimen’ class.
13. The Scales of Points for Horticulture in Chapter 14 of the *Handbook for Flower Shows*.
14. The Horticulture Classification Committee Chairman and/or General Show Chairman are free to subdivide classes by color, form, size, cultivar, variety, or other distinguishing characteristics. There must be three in a class.
15. Exhibitor is to furnish clear, transparent, colorless glass bottles for cut specimens. Wedging material is to be clear plastic wrap. Anchoring is allowed.



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## DIVISION I - HORTICULTURE SECTIONS & CLASSES “Much Obligated”

### Section A – Blooming Shrubs & Trees -“So Grateful”

Blooming cut woody trees or shrubs, maximum length of 30” and must include an apical tip, central leader and several nodes. MUST be in bloom. Eligible for the Arboreal with a score of 95 or above.

Class 1: *Rhododendron* (Azalea)

Class 2: *Cornus* (Dogwood)

Class 3: *Deutzia*

Class 4: *Magnolia*

Class 5: *Spirea* (Bridal Wreath)

Class 6: *Viburnum*

Class 7: Any other worthy named blooming woody tree/shrub

### Section B – Spring Garden Bulbs – “It’s Appreciated”

Cut specimens only of bulbous plants growing in the outside garden, maximum length of 30”. No potted specimens are eligible. Eligible for the Award of Merit with a score of 95 or above.

Class 8: *Muscari* (Grape Hyacinth)

Class 9: *Narcissus* (Daffodil)

Class 10: *Tulipa* (Tulip)

Class 11: Any other worthy named bulb

### Section C – Herbs – “My Deepest Gratitude”

Single cut stem, maximum length 18”. Eligible for Award of Merit with a score 95 or above.

Class 12: *Lavendula* (Lavender)

Class 13: *Mentha* (Mint)

Class 14: *Salvia* (Sage)

Class 15: Any other correctly named Herb

### Section D – Flowering Container Grown Plants – “Such a Blessing”

One plant per pot, maximum pot size is 10” diameter. May be double potted, inside pot should not show. Pots must be clean with no debris. Eligible for Grower’s Choice Award with a score 95 or above.

Class 16: *Begonia* (Begonia)

Class 17: *Phalaenopsis* (Orchid)

Class 18: *Saintpaulia* (African violet)

Class 19: Any other named worthy flowering specimen

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## DIVISION II – 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, pp.79-80.
  - a. Some plant material must be used in every exhibit. This includes fresh and/or dried plant material.
  - b. Exhibitor may enter one or more designs in this Flower Show, but only one per class.
  - c. The exhibit entered into competition must be the work of one exhibitor, and the exhibitor's name must appear on the entry card; common exceptions are Club Competition and Companion Design Classes.
  - d. If the designer is unable to fulfill an assignment it is the designer's responsibility to provide a substitute.
  - e. If the designer is unavailable to transport and/or set up the completed design, a substitute may enter the exhibit for the designer. The designer may receive exhibiting credit if needed. (Permitted only for completed designs.)
  - f. A single flower is not a design. Container grown plants are fresh plant material and are permitted in the Design Division where appropriate but are never considered a floral design and are not considered acceptable in the Design Division.
  - g. Landscapes, scenes, or anything representing an actual item of clothing, person, animal etc. are not considered acceptable in the Design Division.
  - h. Religious symbols used in a design must be displayed in a respectful manner.
  - i. When design techniques are required, they must be listed on a card.
2. Advanced registration with the Design Chairman, Janet Minock, (804) 334-0918, is required by April 15, 2025.
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, pp. 80-81.
4. All plant material used in the design must be identified on a 3" x 5" card, provided by the exhibitor and included with the entry tag.
5. The exhibitor is required to conform to the stated description and limitations of the Design Type named in the class.
6. Rules for Design Types, *Advanced Design Types*, *Table Designs* and *Table Appointments* are printed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 7.
7. Designer is on her/his honor that the design being entered has not been previously entered or judged in an NGC Standard Flower Show.
8. The Scale of Points for all Designs is listed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 14, p.130.
9. A novice designer is one who has never won a blue ribbon in an NGC flower show.



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## DIVISION II – DESIGN SECTIONS & CLASSES “Much Appreciated”

### Section A – “Beyond Grateful”

Eligible for the Designer’s Choice Award with a score of 95 or above. Fresh and/or dried materials are allowed.

**Class 1 – “A Job Well Done”** — Framed Spatial Design to be staged on a table with a white tablecloth. Allowed dimensions are 40”H x 30”W x 20”D. Staging panel required and provided by designer. Background walls are beige.

**Class 2 – “A Rewarding Experience”** — Illuminary Design to be staged on a table with a white tablecloth. Allowed dimensions are 40”H x 30”W x 20”D. Staging panel required and provided by designer. Background walls are beige. Only battery operated lighting may be used.

**Class 3 – “It’s Been a Pleasure”** — Still Life design staged on a table with a white tablecloth. Allowed dimensions are 40”H x 30”W x 20”D. Staging panel required and provided by designer. Background walls are beige.

### Section B – “Forever Indebted”

Eligible for the Designer’s Choice Award with a score of 95 or above. Fresh and/or dried materials are allowed.

**Class 4 – “Means So Much”** — American Traditional Line Mass design to be staged on a pedestal, 16” square, 30”H. Design must be viewable from all sides. Class is limited to novice designers.

**Class 5 – “Above and Beyond”** — Multi-rhythmic design to be staged on a table with a white tablecloth. Allowed dimensions are 40”H X 30”W X 20”D. Staging panel required and provided by designer. Background wall is beige.

**Class 6 – “The Extra Mile”** — Grouped Mass design to be staged on a table with a white tablecloth. Allowed dimensions are 40” H x 30” W x 20” D. Staging panel required and provided by designer. Background walls are beige.

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## DIVISION III — EDUCATION Education Division 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. Names of exhibitors may appear in the schedule only if the exhibits are not being judged.
3. The Educational Top Exhibitor Award is being offered. For a Standard Flower Show, the exhibit must be eighteen square feet of surface area.
4. Plant material is optional.
5. All staging information provided by the committee. The Education Exhibits will be placed on tables covered with a white tablecloth. The tables will be placed on front wall outside of the flower show room. Staging panel or niche must be used and provided by the exhibitor.
6. Advanced registration is required by April 1, 2025. Description of the exhibit is to be submitted by exhibitor.
7. Scale of Points for Education Exhibits is listed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 14, p.130.

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## DIVISION III — EDUCATION “Clubs and Communication”

**Section A** – The Education Exhibits are eligible for Educational Top Exhibit Award. Rosette of brown and white ribbons.

### Exhibit 1. – “**A Virtual Club, What’s That?**”

The exhibit will show how virtual clubs related to the mission of Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs. Current projects will be highlighted.

### Exhibit 2. – “**Social Media and Garden Clubs**”

This exhibit will broaden garden club members knowledge on how social media is possible for all clubs.