



*West Trenton Garden Club, Inc.,
presents...*

“Color Me Autumn”

*An NGC Standard Flower Show
Free and Open to the Public*

September 18-19, 2026
Friday: 1:30pm to 6pm
Saturday: 10am to 3pm

quote from the document or use this space to empha

**Ewing Covenant
Presbyterian Church
100 Scotch Road
Ewing, NJ 08638**

**West Trenton Garden Club is a member of
National Garden Clubs, Inc.,
Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs, Inc., and
The Garden Club of NJ, Inc. District VII**



In Memoriam

We fondly remember the following
West Trenton Garden Club members who
passed away since our last Flower Show:

Anna Adomaitis

Sharon Guiliano

Eileen Keenan



“Color Me Autumn”

An NGC Standard Flower Show
Presented by
West Trenton Garden Club, Inc.



Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church
100 Scotch Road
Ewing NJ 08628

Friday, September 18, 2026

1:30 pm to 6:00 pm

and

Saturday, September 19, 2026

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Free and Open to the Public



West Trenton Garden Club, Inc.
Gabrielle Belcheff, President

A Member of
National Garden Clubs, Inc.,
Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs, Inc., and
The Garden Club of New Jersey, Inc., District VII

www.westtrentongc.org

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“Color Me Autumn”

Welcome to the 2026 West Trenton Garden Club’s Flower Show. Our club, now 73 years young, provides opportunities to our members and the community to enhance their knowledge of horticulture, floral design, gardening techniques and environmental stewardship. New members are always welcome.

This event would not be possible without the dedication and hard work of our Flower Show chairmen, committee members, consultants, the many exhibitors, Flower Show judges, and members of the Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church. We also offer our deepest gratitude to our friends, family members, and special GCNJ members for their enduring support.

*Join us as we celebrate the autumn season. We are fortunate to live in an area where we have four distinct and beautiful seasons, bringing something unique and special. Fall is the time to embrace fiery leaves, pumpkin filled porches, the end of the harvest, a variety of colorful flowers and the beginning of cooler days and nights. Autumn events, celebrations and holidays are plentiful during this time of year – so come with us as we journey through our show **“Color Me Autumn”**.*

Enjoy the show!

Flower Show Committee



**“Autumn is the season that
teaches us that change can be
beautiful.”**

—Author Unknown

Flower Show Committee

Committee Chairmen and Consultants			
Position	Name	Phone	E-mail
WTGC President	Elle Belcheff	732-710-6905	gabriellebelcheff@gmail.com
General Chairman	Helga Fontus	609-306-2347	maisonrose@artlover.com
Schedule Chairman	Pat Bowker	609-506-7575	kellysaunt.pb@gmail.com
Staging/Properties Co-Chairmen	Diane Sanchez Lynn Aspinwall	609-558-0578 609-647-7843	Headfirst7@aol.com aspinwall@optonline.net
Signage Chairman	Pat Bowker	609-506-7575	kellysaunt.pb@gmail.com
Publicity Chairman	Lynn Grillo	609-954-2191	Lgrillo@mac.com
Entries Chairman	Linda Gerasimowicz	609-932-1205	Craftmom130@aol.com
Classification Chairman	Rick Lazarick	609-433-1793	ricklazarick@gmail.com
Horticulture Placement Chairman	Anne Chmielewski	609-937-2778	Drski49@gmail.com
Design Placement Chairman	Iliana Okum	609-298-4160	Ilianokum@gmail.com
Education Chairman	Helga Fontus	609-306-2347	maisonrose@artlover.com
Sponsored Groups, Youth Placement Chairman	Camille Rainiero	856-465-5241	crainiero129@gmail.com
Sponsored Groups, Sponsored Groups Placement Chairman	Anne Cheslock	609-751-4242	acheslock57@gmail.com
Botanical Arts, Artistic Crafts Placement Chairman	Pat Bowker	609-506-7575	Kellysaunt.pb@gmail.com
Botanical Arts, Photography Placement Chairman	Linda Reasoner	609-851-7520	Lindar75@verizon.net
Judges Chairman	Pat Bowker	609-506-7575	kellysaunt.pb@gmail.com
Clerks Chairman	Lorraine Persiani	609-876-1102	Impersiani@gmail.com
Consultants Chairman	Helga Fontus	609-306-2347	maisonrose@artlover.com
Awards Chairman	Pat Bowker	609-506-7575	kellysaunt.pb@gmail.com
Hospitality Chairman	Janis Stia	609-462-8806	Stiajd5@aol.com
Docents Chairman	Carol Bozarth	609-882-0721	crewknit@verizon.net

GENERAL RULES

1. This Flower Show conforms to the standards established by National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC). The *Handbook for Flower Shows*, 2017 Edition with revisions (July 2025) is the authority for all issues not covered by the Schedule which is the Law of the Show. *Handbook* references will be listed as “HB” throughout the schedule.
2. All classes are open to the public with the exception of Division I, Horticulture, Section N, Classes 66–68.
3. All entries are to be the work of one (1) exhibitor except where noted in the schedule.
4. Each exhibitor is limited to one (1) entry per class, except in the Horticulture Division. An Exhibitor may make more than one entry per class if each is a different species, variety, cultivar, type or color.
5. Entry cards may be obtained at West Trenton Garden Club (WTGC) meetings, from Consultants, Flower Show Chairmen, Club President, and at registration. All exhibitors are responsible for completing their own entry cards unless noted differently in the schedule. All cards should be completed with a #2 pencil or waterproof ink, in advance, if possible. Address labels are encouraged. Entry cards will be reviewed by Classification Committee, and entry numbers will be assigned by Entries Committee.
6. All WTGC Member entries (except photography) and those brought in by the judges will be received on Thursday, September 17, 2026, from **NOON to 6 PM** at the show’s location. All Horticulture Entries from the public (non-members) will be received on Thursday, September 17, 2026, from **11AM to NOON ONLY**. Judges’ entries will be received on Friday, September 18, 2026, from 9AM to 10AM. Photography entries will be accepted on Monday, August 3, 2026, and Monday, September 14, 2026, at the general monthly meeting or delivered to the Photography Chairperson no later than September 10, 2026.
7. There must be an emphasis on FRESH plant material. No artificial plant material is permitted in any exhibit in any division.
8. The Classification Chairmen for each division will check exhibits for conformity to the schedule prior to judging. Final determination for conformance is the judges’ responsibility.
9. All exhibitors must be off the show floor by 10:00 AM on September 18, 2026, prior to judging.
10. The General Chairman and the 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.
11. Judging will commence at 10:30 AM on Friday, September 18, 2026. Photography will be judged on Thursday, September 17, 2026, at 6:30 PM. Judging is based on the NGC’s Standard System of Awarding as stated in the HB, Chapter 5.
12. The decisions of the judges are final. Awards may be withheld if not merited.
13. The show will open to the public on Friday, September 18, 2026, at the completion of judging and the show will close at 6 PM. The show will re-open on Saturday, September 19, 2026, from 10am to 3 PM.
14. All entries/properties must be removed by exhibitor (or a representative) on Saturday, September 19, 2026, after the show closes at 3PM. All dismantling must be completed by 6PM. Any remaining exhibits will be discarded.
15. The exhibitors must keep their exhibits in good condition for the duration of the show.
16. Containers, bases, and accessories must be marked with the exhibitor’s name in a hidden area.
17. The WTGC will strive to ensure the safety of all items after arrival and placement but is not responsible for any loss or damage to exhibits.
18. All tables will be topped and skirted with neutral fabric unless noted differently in the schedule.
19. All exhibits will be staged for the best viewing advantage.
20. Plant material on the *NJ Conservation Guide List* is not permitted unless grown by exhibitor or legally acquired and must be so stated on a 3” x 5” card with exhibit. Conservation Guide List posted on the Garden Club of New Jersey (GCNJ) website at: <https://gardenclubofnewjersey.com/flower-shows/>.
21. Plant material on the *Category I Invasive Plant List of the Nature Conservancy* is not permitted except in Educational Exhibits in the Education Division. List posted on the GCNJ website. List posted on the GCNJ website at: <https://gardenclubofnewjersey.com/flower-shows/>.

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Standard Flower Show Awards

Standard System of Awarding

The National Garden Clubs Inc. (NGC) Standard System of Awarding is used in all divisions as follows:

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

We kindly request that all 90+ scoring, non-blue ribbon winning exhibit entry cards, be marked with a "90+" indication and signed by an Accredited NGC, Inc. Flower Show Judge on the panel.

Top Exhibitor Awards

Horticulture Division Awards

Award of Horticultural Excellence (HB, p. 40)

Division Award [A rosette of green, orange and blue ribbons] May be awarded to the highest scoring, correctly named blue ribbon exhibit (95 or above) in the entire Horticulture Division entered by a single exhibitor provided all General and Horticulture requirements are met. One award offered, in Division I, Horticulture, Sections A-N (Classes 1-68).

Arboreal Award (HB, p. 40)

Section Award [A rosette of green ribbons in two shades] May be awarded to the highest scoring, correctly named, blue ribbon exhibits (95 or above) in the noted sections provided all General and Horticulture requirements are met. Two awards offered, one award per section in Division I, Horticulture, Sections L and M (Classes 57-65).

Award of Merit (HB, p. 41)

Section Award [A rosette of orange ribbons] May be awarded to the highest scoring, correctly named, blue ribbon exhibits (95 or above) in the noted sections provided all General and Horticulture requirements are met. Classes in each eligible section must be a cut specimen and share some common characteristics. Seven awards offered, one award per section in Division I, Horticulture, Sections E-K (Classes 21-56).

Grower's Choice Award (HB, p. 41)

Section Award [A rosette of dark green ribbons] May be awarded to the highest scoring, correctly named, blue ribbon exhibits (95 or above) in the noted sections provided all General and Horticulture requirements are met. Four awards offered, one award per section in Division I, Horticulture, Sections A-D (Classes 1-20).



“Autumn ... the year’s last, loveliest smile.”

—William Cullen Bryant

Design Division Awards

Award of Design Excellence (HB, p. 42)

Division Award [A rosette of gold ribbons] May be awarded to the highest scoring blue-ribbon exhibit (95 or above) in the entire Design Division entered by a single exhibitor provided all General and Design requirements are met. One award offered in Division II, Design, Sections A-C (Classes 1-8).

Petite Award (HB, p. 43)

Section Award [A small rosette of blue and white ribbons] May be awarded to the highest scoring blue-ribbon exhibit (95 or above) in the section noted provided all General and Design requirements are met. One award offered in Division II, Design, Section A (Classes 1-3).

Table Artistry Award (HB, p. 43)

Section Award [A rosette of burgundy ribbons] May be awarded to the highest scoring blue-ribbon exhibit (95 or above) in the section noted provided all General and Design requirements are met. One award offered in Division II, Design, Section C (Classes 6-8).

Education Division Award

Educational Top Exhibitor Award (HB, p. 43)

Section Award [A rosette of brown and white ribbons] May be awarded to the highest scoring exhibit (95 or above). A minimum of two (2) educational exhibits designated as eligible must be present. One award offered in Division III, Education, Section A, Exhibits 1 and 2.

Youth Division Award

Youth Top Exhibitor Award (HB, p. 44)

Section Award [A rosette of red, white and blue ribbons] May be awarded to the highest scoring exhibit (90 or above) in the Youth Section. No minimum number of exhibits required. Judged using Adult Scale of Points. Six awards offered, one per age group, Ages 5-8, Ages 9-13 & Ages 14-18, in Division IV, Section A, Classes 1-2.

Botanical Arts Division Awards

Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts Award (HB, p. 44)

Section Award [A rosette of navy ribbons with gold lettering] May be awarded to the highest scoring exhibit (95 or above) in the Botanical Arts Division, Artistic Crafts Section. One award offered in Division V, Botanical Arts, Section A, Classes 1-3.

Botanical Arts Photography Award (HB, p. 45)

Section Award [A rosette of black and white ribbons] This award is offered to the highest scoring exhibit (95 or above) in the Botanical Arts Division, Photography Section. One award offered in Division V, Botanical Arts, Section B, Classes 4-7.

Additional NGC Awards

Award of Appreciation (HB, p. 45)

[A rosette of orchid ribbons] A non-competitive award which will be presented, if merited, by the Flower Show Committee to the exhibits in the sections noted. Three awards offered: two in Division III, Education, Section B, Exhibits 3 and 4; and one in Division IV, Youth and Sponsored Groups, Section B, Class 3.

Special Award (HB, p. 46)

[A rosette of yellow ribbons] A non-competitive award which may be presented by the Flower Show Chairman or Committee to recognize individuals for outstanding Flower Show contributions.

Sweepstakes Award (HB, p. 46)

[A rosette of green and white ribbons] Determined by the Flower Show Committee. Awarded to two exhibitors with the highest total of award points, one award in the Horticulture Division and one award in the Design Division. Award points are calculated as follows: Top Exhibitor Award = 7 points; First Place = 5 points; Second Place = 3 points, and Third Place = 1 point. Honorable Mention has no value. In case of a tie, the exhibitor with the most exhibits wins.

West Trenton Garden Club, Inc. Standard Flower Show Awards

Horticulture Division Awards

Gardening Friends Award

Section Award [A rosette of green and yellow] This special award will be presented in fond memory of all West Trenton Garden Club members deceased and their love of gardening. May be awarded to a high scoring, correctly named, blue ribbon exhibit in the noted section provided all General and Horticulture requirements have been met. This award is to be presented by the **Horticulture judges**. One award offered, in Division I, Horticulture, Section N (Classes 66-68).

Millija Lovett Horticultural Award

Division Award [A rosette of blue and silver ribbons] May be awarded to a correctly named, highest scoring blue ribbon exhibit in any class/section of the Horticulture Division.

This award is to be presented by the **Horticulture judges**. One award offered, in Division I, Horticulture, Sections A-N (Classes 1-68).

Design Division Award

The Mari Epley Award

Division Award [A Honorary Plaque and a rosette of pink and green ribbons] May be presented to a blue-ribbon exhibit in the Design Division which has best demonstrated basic design elements to obtain beauty, harmony, distinction and expression. This award is to be presented by the **Flower Show Committee**. One award offered in Division II, Design, Sections A-C (Classes 1-8).

Additional WTGC Awards

The Audrey Harker Educational Award

Division Award [A rosette of brown/white ribbons] May be awarded to an Educational Exhibit designed to instruct the public in some phase of the National Garden Clubs, Garden Club of New Jersey, or West Trenton Garden Club objectives. This award is to be presented by the **Flower Show Committee**. One award offered in Division IV, Education, Sections A-B, Exhibits 1-4.

West Trenton Garden Club (WTGC) Special Award

Section Award [A rosette of yellow/white ribbons] May be awarded to an exhibit scoring 90 points or more in Division V. These awards will be determined and placed by the **Flower Show Committee**. Two awards offered in Division V, Botanical Arts, Section A (Classes 1-3); and Section B, Classes 4-7.

DIVISION I. HORTICULTURE

“The Glory of Autumn”

All classes in this Division are eligible for the *Award of Horticultural Excellence* and the *WTGC Millija Lovett Horticultural Award*.

Horticulture Chairman

Anne Chmielewski [drski49@gmail.com] (609) 937-2778

HORTICULTURE RULES

1. Refer to General Rules for entry receiving procedures and other information.
2. The NGC Horticulture Exhibit Policies are printed in the HB, Chapter 6 (p. 55), under “Exhibiting in the Horticulture Division.”
3. The rules for a single species cut or container-grown specimen are listed in the HB or its supplement, *Horticulture Exhibiting and Judging*.
4. All plant materials must be fresh and have been grown by the exhibitor.
5. Container-grown plants must be in the possession of the exhibitor for at least 90 days prior to the show. Multiple plantings must be grown together for six (6) weeks prior to the show. Cut specimens of annuals, biennials and perennials must have been in the exhibitor’s possession from seeds, cuttings, or immature plants and grown to maturity. Bulbous blooms must have been in exhibitor’s possession from planting of bulb, tuber, corm, rhizome, etc., at least 90 days or it must have been cared for as a mature plant. Arboreal specimens must be in the exhibitor’s possession for at least six (6) months.
6. Container diameter is determined by measuring the maximum interior diameter. See Schedule for maximum diameter of containers. Double potting is permitted if interior container does not show.
7. All entries are to be labeled by genus, specific epithet and/or variety – or patented/trade-marked names. Common names may also be given. 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. Example: Genus species ‘Cultivar/Variety’ (Common Name)
8. Entry cards are to be filled in advance if possible. Refer to HB, Chapter 6, p. 57 for an example of a correctly filled out entry card and page 8 of this document.
9. Containers for cut specimens and wedging (plastic or bubble wrap) will be provided by the Flower Show Committee. Cut specimens should not have foliage below the water line.
10. 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.
11. Hanging plants will not be hung. Instead, they will be raised by Committee on an inverted container provided by exhibitor if possible.
12. Specimens with a class designation in the schedule may not be entered in the “Any Other Worthy” class.
13. 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.
14. Plant entries should consist of a single specimen unless noted differently in Class description.
15. Arboreal needled evergreen entries in Section M require proper conditioning and will be exhibited without water, tied to a lattice board by Committee.
16. Fresh plant material may not be wired or treated in any manner. Staking of plants is permitted if unobtrusive and if stakes do not exceed height of plant.

17. Pre-registration by September 1, 2026, is required for Section A.
18. **Due to space limitations, only plants listed in schedule may be exhibited.**
19. The Scales of Points for Horticulture can be found in HB, Chapter 14, p. 129-130.

SAMPLE ENTRY CARD FOR HORITCULTURE EXHIBITS

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

"Color Me Autumn" 9/8-19/26

FLOWER SHOW		DATE	
DIVISION	SECTION	CLASS No.	ENTRY No.
I	B	4	*

Anthurium andraeanum
VARIETY OR CLASS NAME

EXHIBITOR A. Gardener

ADDRESS _____

CLUB WTGC

1st 2nd 3rd Honorable
Mention

EXHIBIT SCORED 90+

EXHIBITOR A Gardener

ADDRESS _____

CLUB WTGC

DIVISION	SECTION	CLASS No.	ENTRY No.
I	B	4	*

Anthurium andraeanum
VARIETY OR CLASS NAME

All entry cards must be filled out both top and bottom. Exhibitors will receive an entry number* to be used for Horticulture. Printed labels are acceptable (and preferred) for the name/address area on the top and bottom of the entry card. Botanical names are required. The names should be **underlined** if hand printed.

Additional Requirements:

Division I, Section A – Combination Plantings:
A diagram listing binomial or currently accepted scientific identification is required on a 4" x 6" index card.



HORTICULTURE SECTIONS AND CLASSES

SECTION A. “Fall Friends”

Combination Plantings

Eligible for Grower’s Choice Award

A grouping of three or more botanically different plants. **Naturalistic** accessories are permitted in all combination plantings. **A diagram listing binomial or currently accepted scientific identification is required on a 4” x 6” card.** Container not to exceed 12” in any direction. Staging by Committee. Pre-registration required for all classes with Horticulture Chairman. HB, p. 59.

Class 1 - A Dish Garden of Cacti and/or Succulents

A miniature landscape in an open low-volume shallow container provided by exhibitor.

Class 2 - A Planter of Foliage, Herbs and/or Flowering Plants

A grouping of plants in an indoor or outdoor container provided by exhibitor.

Class 3 - A Terrarium

(maximum 6 entries)

A miniature landscape in a container with high transparent sides provided by exhibitor.

SECTION B. “Colors of the Season”

Container-Grown or Mounted Flowering/Fruited Plants

Eligible for Grower’s Choice Award

Container-grown or mounted flowering/fruited plant in container measuring 10 inches in maximum diameter or mounting not to exceed 14” in maximum diameter. Single or self-multiplying plant of same cultivar and color which must be in **bloom or bearing fruit.** HB, p. 58.

Class 4 - *Anthurium andraeanum*

Class 5 - Orchids -- One plant per container

Class 6 - *Streptocarpus* sect. *Saintpaulia* (African Violet)

Class 7 - Any other worthy container-grown or mounted flowering/fruited plant

SECTION C. “Foliage Frolic”

Container-Grown or Mounted Foliage Plants

Eligible for Grower’s Choice Award

Single plant or self-multiplying plants of same cultivar and color, container or mountings not to exceed 14” in diameter. Pre-registration required with Horticulture Chairman for any hanging plant.

Class 8 - *Dracaena*

Class 9 - *Epipremnum aureum* (Pothos)

Class 10 - *Hedera helix* (Ivy)

Class 11 - *Maranta leuconeura* (Prayer Plant)

Class 12 - *Philodendron*

Class 13 - *Polypodiopsida* (Ferns)

Class 14 - *Schefflera*

Class 15 - Any other worthy container-grown or mounted foliage plant

15a. Container 6” or under in diameter

15b. Container over 6” to 14” in diameter

SECTION D. “Say Aloe to My Scarecrow”

Cacti and/or Other Succulents

Eligible for Grower’s Choice Award

Container-grown single or self-multiple planting or multiple plants of same cultivar and color. Container size not to exceed 12” in any direction.

Class 16 - Aloe

Class 17 - *Crassula ovata* (Jade plant)

Class 18 - *Echeveria*

Class 19 - *Haworthia*

Class 20 - Any other worthy cactus or succulent

SECTION E. “Bountiful Harvest”

Edible Fruits and Vegetables

Eligible for Award of Merit

Stems required unless otherwise specified. Staged by Committee, on eco-friendly plates. Larger specimens will be placed directly on covered table. Specimens, if more than one is required, must be of same variety.

Class 21 - *Capsicum* (Pepper), any type

21a. 2” or larger in length or diameter, 3 specimens

21b. Under 2” in length or diameter, 5 specimens

Class 22 - *Cucurbita* (Squash)

22a. Summer squash, Large – Over 8” in length or diameter, 1 specimen

22b. Summer squash, Small – Up to 8” in length or diameter, 3 specimens

22c. Winter squash, Large – Over 8” in length or diameter, 1 specimen

22d. Winter squash, Small – Up to 8” in length or diameter, 3 specimens

Class 23 - *Solanum lycopersicum* (Tomato)

23a. 3” in diameter or larger, 3 specimens, no stems, exhibited stem side down

23b. Under 3” in diameter, 5 specimens, no stems

23c. Grape or Cherry Tomatoes, 7 specimens, no stems

Class 24 - Any other worthy edible fruit or vegetable specimen

24a. Large - Over 6” in length or diameter, 1 specimen

24b. Medium - 2-6” in length or diameter, 3 specimens

24c. Small - Under 2” in length or diameter, 7 specimens



**“Every leaf speaks bliss to me, fluttering
from the autumn tree.”**

—Emily Bronte

SECTION F. "Time to Dry Those Herbs"

Herbs

Eligible for Award of Merit

Cut specimens, 3 stems, 6" to 20" in length. Specimens must be exhibited at their peak of usefulness. Staged in clear tubes or containers provided by Committee.

Class 25 - *Lavandula* (Lavender)

Class 26 - *Mentha* (Mint)

Class 27 - *Origanum*

27a. *O. majorana* (Sweet Marjoram)

27b. *O. vulgare* (Oregano)

Class 28 - *Rosmarinus officinalis* (Rosemary)

Class 29 - *Salvia officinalis* (Sage)

Class 30 - *Thymus* (Thyme)

Class 31 - Any other worthy herb

SECTION G. "Autumn Beauties"

Flowering Herbaceous Perennials

Eligible for Award of Merit

Single cut stem with attached foliage unless otherwise noted, 4" to 18" in length. Staged in clear tubes or containers provided by Committee.

Class 32 - *Aster* - 1 spray of 5 open flowers

Class 33 - *Coreopsis*

Class 34 - *Salvia yangii* (Russian Sage)

Class 35 - *Sedum* (Autumn stonecrop)

Class 36 - *Solidago* (Goldenrod)

Class 37 - Any other worthy cut flowering herbaceous perennial

SECTION H. "Changing Colors"

Flowering Annuals

Eligible for Award of Merit

Single cut stem with attached foliage unless otherwise noted, 4" to 18" cutting. Staged in clear tubes or containers provided by Committee.

Class 38 - *Celosia* (Cockscomb)

Class 39 - *Tagetes* (Marigold)

39a. *T. erecta* - Large - 1 bloom, disbudded, 4" bloom or larger

39b. *T. patula* - Small - 1 spray with minimum of 5 blooms

Class 40 - *Zinnia*

40a. One cut flowering stem with bloom measuring over 4"

40b. One cut flowering stem with bloom measuring 2" to 4"

40c. Three cut flowering stems in one container with bloom measuring under 2"

Class 41 - Any other worthy cut flowering annual

SECTION I. "Leafing Summer Behind"

Annuals Grown for Foliage

Eligible for Award of Merit

Single cut stem, 4" to 18" cutting. Staged in clear tubes or containers provided by Committee.

Class 42 - *Caladium* (Elephant Ear)

Class 43 - *Coleus*

Class 44 - *Hypoestes* (Polka Dot Plant)

Class 45 - *Jacobaea maritima* (Dusty Miller)

Class 46 - Any other worthy cut annual grown for foliage

SECTION J. "The Artist's Palette"

Dahlia

Eligible for Award of Merit

Single cut stem with one or more sets of leaves. Leaves not required in Classes 49 - 51. Staged in clear tubes or containers provided by Committee.

Class 47 - Giant single disbudded bloom over 10" in diameter

47a. Decorative

47b. All other worthy giant single disbudded bloom over 10' in diameter

Class 48 - Large single disbudded bloom over 8" to 10" in diameter

48a. Decorative

48b. All other worthy large single disbudded bloom over 8" to 10" in diameter

Class 49 - Medium single disbudded bloom over 6" to 8" in diameter

49a. Decorative

49b. All other worthy medium single disbudded bloom over 6" to 8" in diameter

Class 50 - Small single disbudded bloom over 4" to 6" in diameter

50a. Decorative

50b. All other single disbudded bloom over 4" to 6" in diameter

Class 51 - Miniature single disbudded bloom 4" or under in diameter

51a. Open Centers

51b. Closed Centers

SECTION K. "Fall Finale"

Rosa

Eligible for Award of Merit

Single cut stem or spray, 4" to 18" in length. Specimen requirements by Class. Staged in clear tubes or containers provided by Committee.

Class 52 - Floribunda (F) - One spray of at least 2 open blooms

Class 53 - Hybrid Tea (HT) - One bloom with no side buds

Class 54 - Miniature (M) - One spray of at least 2 open blooms

Class 55 - Modern Shrub/Landscape - One spray of at least 2 open blooms

Class 56 - Any other worthy cut rose specimen

SECTION L. “Autumn – the Second Spring”

Coned, Flowering, or Fruited Cut Branches

Eligible for Arboreal Award

Single cut branch measuring 10” to 30” in length from cut end to apical tip and include several nodes and the central leader.

Class 57 - *Abelia chinensis*

Class 58 - *Callicarpa* (Beautyberry)

Class 59 - *Ilex* (Holly) - Fruited

Class 60 - Any other worthy cut coned, flowering or fruited branch

SECTION M. “Foraging through the Forest”

Branches Grown for Foliage - Evergreens

Eligible for Arboreal Award

Single cut branch measuring 10” to 30” in length from cut end to apical tip including several nodes and central leader. Staged by Committee.

Class 61 - *Buxus* (Boxwood)

Class 62 - *Ilex* (Holly) – Unfruited

Class 63 - *Picea* (Spruce)

Class 64 - *Pinus* (Pine)

Class 65 - Any other worthy evergreen branch grown for foliage

Section N. “In Autumn – You Reap What You Sow”

Seed Propagation Challenge

Eligible for WTGC Gardening Friends Award

Seeds must be obtained at the WTGC April and May 2026 regular meetings. One plant per container that is 6 inches or under in diameter.

Class 66 - *Calendula officinalis* (Pot Marigold)

Class 67 - *Ocimum basilicum* (Basil)

Class 68 - *Salvia officinalis* (Sage)



**“Autumn is an artist who uses an oak leaf on
which to paint a masterpiece.”**

—William Allen Ward

DIVISION II. DESIGN

“Autumn Splendor”

All Design Classes are eligible for the *Award of Design Excellence* and the *WTGC Mari Epley Award*.

Design Chair

Ilaina Okum [ilianaokum@gmail.com] (609) 298-4160

DESIGN RULES

1. Refer to General Rules for entry receiving procedures and other information.
2. Designs must be the work of one (1) individual.
3. Designer is on her/his honor that the design being entered has not been previously entered or previously judged in an NGC Flower Show.
4. **If a designer is unable to fulfill his/her assignment, it is the designer's responsibility to find a replacement.**
5. The NGC Exhibit Policies are printed in the HB, Chapter 7, p. 79, Exhibiting in the Design Division, under NGC Policies and Guidelines.
6. Plant material must be used in every exhibit and need not have been grown by the exhibitor. This includes fresh and/or dried material. Fresh plant material may not be treated in any manner. Dried plant material may be treated.
7. Plant material and non-plant material permitted and not permitted in the Design Division are printed in HB, Chapter 7.
8. Landscapes or scenes are not permitted in the Design Division. American and other national flags may not be incorporated into designs or used as underlays, swags, or the like. For additional information on “Exhibiting in the Design Division.” See pp, Chapter 7, pp. 79-81.
9. The Designer has the freedom to choose Traditional or Creative Style with any Design listed unless restricted by the schedule.
10. Designers are free to use special staging properties, e.g., staging panels, frames, hanging devices, etc., unless disallowed in the schedule or provided by the Flower Show Committee. Special staging must comply with the size requirements and restrictions stated in the schedule. Exhibitors may enter multiple classes within the Design Division, but only one (1) exhibit per class.
11. Advance registration with the Design Entries Chairman/Consultant is required by **August 17, 2026.**
12. **All plant material used in the design must be identified on a 4"x6" card provided by the exhibitor and included with the entry card.** Common names are acceptable. Botanical names are optional and may be included.
13. The exhibitor is required to conform to the stated description and limitations of the Design Type if named in the class. **The exhibitor is responsible for keeping his/her design(s) in good condition throughout the duration of the show.**
14. Rules for Design Types, Table Designs, Advanced Design Types and Table Appointments can be found in HB, Chapter 7.
15. Consultants are to review designs in their individual sections for conformance to the schedule.
16. The Scale of Points for Design is listed in HB, Chapter 14, p. 130.

DESIGN SECTIONS AND CLASSES

Section A. “Happy Fall, Ya’ All”

Eligible for Petite Award

Class 1 “Back to School”

(4 entries)

Learn, laugh and have fun!

A Design (freedom of style) – No larger than 6” in height, 6” in width, and 6” in depth. A three-dimensional staging panel and underlay provided by Committee may be covered by designer. Staged on an 18”H shelf atop a 29” H table covered in neutral-colored fabric. Designer’s choice of plant material and other components. Viewed from the front. HB, p. 73.

Class 2 “Fall Festival”

(4 entries)

The start of fall festivals brings cooler brisk days filled with the colors of the season.

A Traditional Mass Design – Not to exceed 8” in height, 8” in width, and 8” in depth. A three-dimensional staging panel and underlay provided by Committee, may be covered by designer. Staged on a 10” black cube, placed on a table 29” H against a neutral-colored wall. Designer’s choice of plant material and other components. Viewed from the front. HB, p. 73.

Class 3 “Harvest Moon”

(4 entries)

This orange-red moon that occurs every September represents abundance, transformation, and a transition period.

A Design (freedom of style) – Not to exceed 12” in height, 12” in width, and 12” in depth. A three-dimensional staging panel and underlay provided by Committee, may be covered by designer. Staged on a 12” black cube, placed on a table 29” H against a neutral-colored wall. Designer’s choice of plant material and other components. Viewed from the front. HB, p. 73.

SECTION B. “Sweater Weather”

Class 4 “Woodsy”

(4 entries)

The beauty of nature is calling! Take a walk in the woods for inspiration.

A Creative Design – Staged on a table 29” H, against a neutral-colored wall. Designer’s choice of plant material and other components. A three-dimensional staging panel/underlay not to exceed 30”W x 30”D x 36”H provided by the exhibitor required. Viewed from the front. HB, pp. 71-72.

Class 5 “The Pumpkin Patch”

(4 entries)

Pick your favorite color – we are not just pumpkins but stunning autumn gourds.

A Design (freedom of style and type) – using fresh and/or dried materials incorporating a pumpkin(s) and/or other gourd(s). If using a pumpkin/gourd as the container, it should be sealed to limit rotting. Design to be staged on a table 29” H, against a neutral-colored wall. A three-dimensional staging panel/underlay not to exceed 30”W x 30”D x 36”H provided by the exhibitor is optional. Viewed from the front.

SECTION C. “Special Gatherings of the Season”

Eligible for Table Artistry Award

Class 6 “Grateful Hearts Gather Here”

(4 entries)

As the fall season comes to an end, bring friends and family together for an American tradition – Thanksgiving.

A Functional Table Set for Two (Semi-formal) – Staged on a 36” square table, 30” H. A decorative unit suitable within the frame of reference and a table covering with a 12” minimum overhang are required. Designer’s choice of plant material and other components. Placemats or underlay permitted. Viewed from the front. HB, p. 76.

Class 7 “Teatime in the Apple Orchard”

(4 entries)

What better way to spend a fall day, picking apples and enjoying cinnamon spiced tea!

A Functional Tray for One (Informal) – Exhibitor to provide tray not to exceed 19”W x 16”D or 18” round. Tray components, including napkins, cannot exceed the tray. Staged on a quarter of a 60” round table/29” H. Each quarter has two straight sides measuring 30” and a curved outer edge measuring 47”. A decorative unit is required. Designer’s choice of plant material and other components. Viewed from the front. HB, p. 76.

Class 8 “Oktoberfest”

(4 entries)

A German tradition that is celebrated worldwide. Friends will surely join in the fun. Prost!

A Functional Table for One (Informal) – Staged on a 30” round high-top cocktail table, 42” H, with a decorative unit. Designer’s choice of plant material and other components. Exhibitor to provide a table covering with a 12” minimum overhang. Viewed from the front. HB, pp. 76-77.



**“Autumn is the second spring, where every leaf is
a flower.”**

—Albert Camus

DIVISION III. EDUCATION

“Autumn Inspiration”

Education Chair

Helga Fontus [maisonrose@artlover.com] (609) 306-2347

EDUCATION RULES

1. Refer to General Rules for entry receiving procedures and other information.
2. Advanced registration with the Education Entries Chairman is required for competitive educational exhibits by **August 10, 2026, and September 1, 2026**, for non-competitive exhibits.
3. Non-competitive educational exhibits are by invitation only from the Flower Show Committee.
4. Educational 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 educational exhibit.
5. An exhibit must occupy a minimum of eighteen (18) square feet surface area.
6. Each exhibit will be staged against a neutral wall on a table measuring 8'L x 30"D x 29"H provided by Committee.
7. Some plant material is encouraged but not required.
8. Entry cards are to be completed by exhibitor(s) as indicated in General Rules.
9. Consult HB, Chapter 8, for further information on entering the Education Division of a Flower Show.
10. The Scale of Points for Educational Exhibits can be found in HB, Chapter 14, p. 130.

EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITS SECTIONS

SECTION A. “Fall Into Learning” (Competitive Educational Exhibits)

Eligible for Educational Top Exhibitor Award and WTGC Audrey Harker Educational Award

Consultant: Helga Fontus [maisonrose@artlover.com] (609) 306-2347

Exhibit 1 “Winter Sowing? What it is All About?”

Winter sowing is a seed-starting technique where seeds of certain vegetables, flowers, and herbs are started outdoors in containers in late autumn or winter. Gardeners favor this method for starting seeds because it is easy, does not take up indoor space, and is a low-cost way to produce a lot of seedlings. Come and learn from an expert when to winter sow and get step-by-step instructions for sowing seeds in recyclable containers.



“Love starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall.”

—F. Scott Fitzgerald

Exhibit 2 “Everything You’ve Wanted to Know About Ephemerals but Had No-One to Ask”

Spring ephemerals are typically woodland plants of deciduous forests with brief periods of active growth, that can only be seen during a narrow window of time. When spotted in early spring, gardeners and non-gardeners alike are delighted that the long days of winter are almost over. Come and learn about these wonderful gifts of nature, especially some native New Jersey ephemerals. A list of resources of plant species and local nurseries will be provided.

SECTION B. “Autumn’s Enlightenment” (Non-Competitive Educational Exhibits)

Eligible for Award of Appreciation and WTGC Audrey Harker Educational Award

Exhibit 3 “Fall-ing for Roses”

The West Jersey Rose Society (WJRS) is a non-profit organization established in 1953, dedicated to educating the Delaware Valley residents about rose cultivation and promoting public and private gardens in Western New Jersey. WJRS holds monthly meetings and events, including an annual rose show, welcoming both members and guests. The society is affiliated with the American Rose Society and aims to foster a community of rose enthusiasts. WJRS will exhibit fragrant rose specimens to delight flower show attendees who can vote for their favorite by ballot. Come and smell the roses!

Exhibit 4 “Head, Heart, Hands & Health”

A display of the many activities provided by the Rutgers’s New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station -- Cooperative Extension of Mercer County. The 4-H Youth Development program uses a learn-by-doing approach to enable youth to develop the knowledge, attitudes, and skills they need to become competent, caring, and contributing citizens of the world. The goals of the 4-H Youth Development Program are to: 1) provide informal educational programs to youth in grades K-13 (one year out of high school) 2) strengthen skills for adults working with youth and 3) improve community collaborations and partnerships.

Exhibit 5 “Birmingham Park — Where Nature and History Meet”

The West Trenton Garden Club has had the pleasure to nurture and maintain a “Mini Park” in West Trenton since 1993. Our park started as an empty lot on a very historic corner in Ewing Township at the intersection of Bear Tavern and West Upper Ferry Roads, where George Washington’s troops divided on their historic march to the Battle of Trenton. Birmingham Park is a place of beauty where a person can relax on a bench and enjoy native plants and pollinators and feel history all around you.



“I can smell autumn dancing in the breeze. The sweet chill of pumpkin and crisp sunburnt leaves.”

—Author Unknown

IVISION IV. YOUTH AND SPONSORED GROUPS

“Leaf it to Us”

Youth Chair

Camille Rainiero [crainiero129@gmail.com] (856) 465-5241

Sponsored Groups Chair

Anne Cheslock [acheslock57@gmail.com] (609) 751-4242

YOUTH AND SPONSORED GROUPS RULES

1. Refer to General Rules for entry receiving procedures and other information.
2. The NGC Exhibit Policies are printed in the HB, Chapter 9, Exhibiting in the Youth and Sponsored Groups Division, NGC Policies and Guidelines.
3. Open to youth ages 5 through 18. All entries must be pre-registered with the Youth Entries Chairman by September 1, 2026.
4. Entries will be received at noon on Thursday, September 17, 2026.
5. Entry cards will be completed and pre-placed by the Youth Entries Chairman.
6. Entries will be subdivided by age by Committee at time of placement
7. Staging at the discretion of the Committee.
8. Youth exhibits are evaluated using the Horticulture, Design, Education and Botanical Arts Scales of Points. See HB, Chapter 14, pp. 130-131. Winning exhibit must score 90 points or more to place for the Youth Top Exhibitor Award.

YOUTH AND SPONSORED GROUPS SECTIONS AND CLASSES

SECTION A. “A Chill in the Air” (Competitive Youth Exhibits)

Eligible for Youth Top Exhibitor Award

Consultant: Camille Rainiero [crainiero129@gmail.com] (856) 465-5241

SUB-SECTION A-1. Design

Class 1 “Spook-tacular”

Trick or Treat

A Design – Exhibitor to create a floral design using a “Halloween” themed Mug. To be staged on a table 29”H, in a maximum space of 12”W x 12”D. Designer’s choice of plant material and other components. Plant material list required on a 3”x 5” card.

1a. Ages 5-8

1b. Ages 9-13

1c. Ages 14-18

SUB-SECTION A-2. Youth Botanical Arts

Class 2 “Woodland Adventure”

What is hiding in the woods?

A Botanical Creature – Create a creature (any small animal, including insects or birds) using botanical materials. Exhibitors may supply an underlay. To be staged on a table 29”H, in a maximum space of 12”W x 12”D. Plant material list required on a 3”x 5” card.

2a. Ages 5-8

2b. Ages 9-13

2c. Ages 14-18

SECTION B. “Autumn Market” (Non-Competitive Sponsored Groups)

Eligible for Award of Appreciation

Consultant: Anne Cheslock [acheslock57@gmail.com] (609) 751-4242

Opened to Ewing Township Senior groups sponsored by the West Trenton Garden Club.

Class 3 “Blazing Colors”

Fall is proof that change is beautiful.

A Design – Staged by Committee on a 60” round table, 29” H in a 12” x 12” space. Plant material will be supplied by the West Trenton Garden Club.



**“AUTUMN...the year’s last, loveliest
smile.”**

— William Cullen Bryant

DIVISION V. BOTANICAL ARTS

“Leaves are Falling, Autumn is Calling”

Botanical Artistic Crafts Chair

Pat Bowker [kellysaunt.pb@gmail.com] (609) 506-7575

Botanical Artistic Photography Chair

Linda Reasoner [Lindar75@verizon.net] (609) 851-7520

BOTANICAL ARTS RULES

Artistic Crafts

1. Refer to General Rules for entry receiving procedures and other information.
2. Exhibit must contain some fresh and/or dried plant material. Only dried material may be treated.
3. No artificial plant, endangered, or locally invasive plant material may be used.
4. Incorporation of wire, glues, paint and paint finishes are permitted in Artistic Crafts.
5. **All entries must include a 4” x 6” card listing plant material used in the artistic craft entry.**
6. The rules for Artistic Crafts are printed in HB, Chapter 10, pp. 94-95.
7. Artistic Crafts Consultant to review entries for conformance to the schedule.
8. The Scale of Points for judging Artistic Crafts is listed in HB, Chapter 14, p. 131.

Photography

1. Refer to General Rules for entry receiving procedures and other information.
2. The Classes are open to all photographers, regardless of skill level.
3. The rules for Photography are printed in HB, Chapter 10, pp. 95-96.
4. Photography entries must pre-register with Photography Consultant by September 10, 2026.
5. Entries can be shot with a digital or film-based camera. Photos may be enhanced using in-camera and post-production techniques such as cropping, filters, and darkroom manipulation.
6. Use of advanced techniques to obtain a more abstract/creative image is acceptable.
7. Due to space limitations, each exhibitor may enter any class, but only one entry per class.
8. Each class is limited to ten (10) entries. If 10 are not pre-registered for each Class before the show, additional photographs will be accepted up to the 10 limit per Class at time of registration.
9. All photographs **must be matted in white** with a maximum size of 11” x 14” including the mat. No frames, wires, or glass. Hanging mechanisms will be supplied by Committee.
10. Exhibitors are encouraged to label photographed plant material, if possible, preferably with current scientific designation.
11. All photographs must be labeled on the back with exhibitor name, address, phone, and email.
12. Entry cards are to be completed by exhibitor in advance if possible. At registration, Photography Consultant will review entries for conformance to schedule. Each exhibitor will receive an Entry Number from the Entry Chair to complete registration. Committee reserves the right to determine if a photo does not fit into a particular category.
13. Staging at the discretion of Committee including the right to subdivide entries, if required.
14. The Scale of Points for judging Photography can be found in HB, Chapter 14, p. 131.

ARTISTIC CRAFTS SECTION AND CLASSES

SECTION A. “Old Hallows Eve” (Competitive)

Eligible for Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts Award and WTGC Special Award

Class 1 “Be-witched”

(4 entries)

Beware of witches and wizards.

A Witch’s or Wizard’s Hat – Artistically decorated with designer’s choice of fresh and/or dried plant material and other components. Hat may not exceed 18” in height, hat brim may not exceed 18” in diameter. Placed by Committee on a quarter of a 60” round table/29” on a stand made of natural wood branches. Each quarter has two straight sides measuring 30” and a curved outer edge measuring 47”. Viewed from the front.

Class 2 “Hocus Pocus”

(4 entries)

Dust them off, ladies, riding season is here! In Salem, it is a must-have way to get around.

A Witch’s Broom – Create a witch’s broom enhanced with fresh and/or dried plant material and other components. Broom must measure 40” to 60” in length (top to bottom) and no wider than 16” at any point. Brooms will be staged upright by committee on a quarter of a 60” round table/29” H. Each quarter has two straight sides measuring 30” and a curved outer edge measuring 47”. Viewed from the front.

Class 3 “Welcome to Bran Castle”

(4 entries)

You are cordially invited to the masquerade party of the year in Transylvania!

Decorative Mask – Create a functional eye or total face mask using fresh and/or dried plant material and other components. Will be staged on a mannequin head, placed by committee on a quarter of a 60” round table/29” H. Each quarter has two straight sides measuring 30” and a curved outer edge measuring 47”. Exhibitors are responsible for attaching their mask to the mannequin head. Viewed from the front.

PHOTOGRAPHY SECTION AND CLASSES

SECTION B. “Fall Breezes and Autumn Leaves” (Competitive)

Eligible for Botanical Arts Photography Award and WTGC Special Award

Consultant: Linda Reasoner | lindar75@verizon.net | (609) 851-7520

Class 4 “Reflections of Autumn”

(maximum 10 entries)

A landscape scene including a water feature.

Class 5 “Into the Woods - Step Inside Nature”

(maximum 10 entries)

A landscape scene with wildlife.

Class 6 “A Burst of Autumn Colors”

(maximum 10 entries)

A close-up photograph of any insect, bird, flower and/or leaf.

Class 7 “Autumn Joy”

(maximum 10 entries)

A still life photograph incorporating fruits, vegetables, plants and/or flowers.



Acknowledgements

**The 4-H Development Program of
the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Mercer County
<https://mercer.njaes.rutgers.edu/4h/>**

**Laura Britton, Girl Scout Troop Leader, Troop 72048 (20 Juniors
and Cadettes) including their parents who supported their
participation in the flower show. Our gratitude also extends to
WTGC Member Iliana Okum who served as liaison with this group.
All the WTGC Members who encouraged their grandchildren to
exhibit in the flower show.**

The West Jersey Rose Society - <https://www.wjrs.org/>

**Seniors from the Ewing Township Senior Citizens Department at
The Hollowbrook Community Center
<https://ewingnj.org/community/seniors>**

**Tony Suozzo of Shohola, PA, for his immeasurable
contributions to the success of the 2026 WTGC flower show,
particularly in the Design and Botanical Arts Divisions.**

The Flower of the West Trenton Garden Club

Bellis perennis (the common daisy)

The lovely daisy growing in the fields of West Trenton speaks of Cheerfulness, Truth, and Gentleness. The daisy was chosen as our club flower during the 1980s. It represents a constant, natural beauty set within a busy and changing environment.



The daisy reminds us TO LIVE OUR DAYS HAPPILY.

The daisy reminds us TO BE TRUE TO OURSELVES, TO OTHERS, AND TO NATURE.

The daisy reminds us TO WALK IN THE WAYS OF GENTLENESS.