



Dearly Beloved...

An NGC Design Specialty Flower Show

Presented by

Rhode Island Federation of
Garden Clubs, Inc.

President Kathleen Damiani

April 10-12, 2026

Friday April 10 Noon-9PM

Saturday April 11

10AM-9PM

Sunday April 12

10AM-5PM

Admission Free with ticket to The Rhode Island Home Show

RI Convention Center

1 Sabin Street, Providence RI

Member:

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

New England Garden Clubs, Inc.

President's Message

It is with much anticipation and pride that, as President of the Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs, I invite you to “Dearly Beloved”, an NGC Design Specialty Flower Show!

Our creative scheduling was inspired by the bridal theme from our Installation of State Officers Ceremony in April, blossoming into this engaging floral design experience. A Flower Show is truly a marriage between designers and their guests, where creative vision and technical expertise unite to delight you and immerse everyone in the artistry of floral design.

Our classes are designed to be enjoyable and cater to all skill levels, encompassing Creative, Traditional, Novice, and Advanced Designs. For those who don't identify as floral designers, we also offer the Botanical Arts Division, a wonderful opportunity to showcase your talents using plant material through Artistic Crafts.

As you immerse yourself in this bridal ceremony experience, think of new beginnings... just like a spring wedding!

A heartfelt thank you to all those whose labor, talents, creativity, and expertise bring this show into full bloom.

Enjoy!

Kathleen Damiani
President of RIFGC, Inc.



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FLOWER SHOW COMMITTEE

President Kathleen Damiani

Due to the privacy of our members, we have not listed chairs/consultants and their contact information.

For more information contact Judy Gray, General Show Chair.
judy.gray123@gmail.com

WORKING SCHEDULE

GENERAL RULES

1. This is a National Garden Clubs (NGC) Design Specialty Flower Show and conforms to the standards established by NGC according to the Handbook for Flower Shows(HB) [fs-handbook-2025.pdf](#) with 2025 revisions. HB is the authority for all issues not covered by the schedule which is the “Law of the Show”.
2. All classes are open to all NGC members. All exhibits must be the work of one (1) individual.
3. RIFGC Registration link for all Entries <http://rifgc.pythonanywhere.com>. Please contact Design Entry Chair with questions.
4. **Design and Botanical Arts Exhibits** will be accepted on **Thursday, April 9, 6:30am-9:30am**.
5. Each exhibitor is limited to one entry per class but may enter more than one class.
6. If a designer is unable to fulfill her/his assignment, it is her/his responsibility to find a replacement and notify the Design Entries Chair.
7. **Youth Exhibits** will be accepted on **Wednesday, April 8, 9AM-2:30 PM**.
8. **Educational Exhibits** will be accepted on **Wednesday, April 8, Noon-5:00PM**.
9. Judging will take place **Thursday, April 9, 2026, 10:30 AM**.
10. Exhibits must be removed on Sunday, April 12 **after the show closes**, between **5:00 pm and 6:00 pm. No early removal**. If you are unable to pick up, make arrangements with someone for pick up.
11. The Classification Chairs for each division checks the exhibits for conformity to the schedule prior to the judging. Final determination for conformance is the judges’ responsibility.
12. The General Chair and the Classification Chairs for each division are available during the judging for possible consultation. They, along with the Judges and Clerks, are the only personnel allowed on the floor during the judging.
13. The decisions of the judges are final. Awards may be withheld if not merited.
14. There must be an emphasis on **fresh** plant material (*does not apply to Division II Botanical Arts*). No artificial plant material is permitted in any Division.
15. Refer to HB P80 for items permitted without schedule approval.
16. The RIFGC and the RI Builders’ Association will strive to assure the safety of all items after arrival and placement but are not responsible for any loss or damage to exhibits.
17. Plant material on the Conservation/Endangered list may not be used unless grown by the exhibitor or obtained in a legal manner and so stated. Invasive plants may never be used.
18. Entering a design gives the flower show permission to use the design in photos, promotions, etc.

AWARDS

THE NGC STANDARD SYSTEM OF AWARDING IS USED:

Only one first place (blue) ribbon per class.

Must score 90 points or more.

Only one second place (red) ribbon per class.

Must score 85 points or more.

Only one third place (yellow) ribbon per class.

Must score 80 points or more.

One or more Honorable Mention (white) ribbon as merited.

Must score 75 points or more.

*Judges are asked to consider non-blue-ribbon winners
for a 90+ recognition.*

NGC TOP EXHIBITOR AWARDS

*All Top Exhibitor Awards must be blue-ribbon winners
scoring 95 or above*

DESIGN DIVISION

Award of Design Excellence: A Division Award: Only one award may be offered to the highest scoring 95+ blue ribbon exhibit in the entire Design Division I. This award is a rosette of gold ribbons. (HB p.42)

Section Awards

Must have a minimum of three classes with four exhibits in each section.

Designer's Choice Award: Exhibitor has the freedom to select components, within the NGC policies. Section D is eligible for this award, a rosette of purple ribbons. (HB pg. 42)

Petite Award: May be offered to the most outstanding petite design. Section B is eligible for this award, a small rosette of blue and white ribbons. (HB pg. 43)

Table Artistry Award: This award is available for Functional and Exhibition Tables. Section C is eligible for this award, a rosette of burgundy ribbons. (HB pg. 43)

Tricolor Award: This award requires that all plant material used in the designs must be **fresh**. Section A is eligible for this award, a rosette of red, yellow and blue ribbons. (HB pg. 43)

BOTANICAL ARTS DIVISION

Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts Award: This section must consist of at least three (3) classes with at least four (4) exhibits in each class. Winning exhibit must contain some plant material. Section A is eligible for this award, a rosette of yellow and orange ribbons. (HB p. 44)

EDUCATION DIVISION

Educational Top Exhibitor Award: Must have a minimum of two (2) exhibits. Must use a minimum of 18 square feet of surface space. This award is a rosette of brown and white ribbons. (HB p. 43)

YOUTH DIVISION

Youth Top Exhibitor Awards – Botanical Arts and Design: One(1) award may be given to the best exhibit in each of the three(3) age groups. Sec A - Artistic Craft and Sec B – Design. The exhibit must score 90 or more points. These awards are a rosette of red, white, and blue ribbons. (HB p.44)

Further information on the above awards can be found in the Handbook for Flower Shows p.42-44

ADDITIONAL AWARDS

Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. Awards

Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs' President's Award: This award winner is selected by the President of RIFGC from among the blue-ribbon winners in the Division I Design. This award is a rosette of green and white ribbons.

Flower Show Judges' Award: This award may be given to the exhibit in the Design Division that best depicts its class title. The winner need not have earned a blue ribbon. This award is a rosette of pink ribbons.

The Ruth Anderson Award: This award will be presented to a design in the Design Division exhibiting the best use of color. This award is a rosette of fuchsia ribbons.

The Blakely Szosz Award of Sustainability: This award is given for the best use of sustainable components in a design. Environmentally friendly mechanics, upcycling, and/or fully compostable materials will be judged in equal proportion to the overall design. A statement of intent by the designer is required to any exhibitor interested in competing for this award. May be given to a non-blue-ribbon winner. This award is a rosette of medium green and lime green ribbons.

The Novice Award: This award will be presented to a novice exhibiting in any Class in the Design Division who has not won a Blue Ribbon in a Major Flower Show. This award is a lavender ribbon.

The Rhode Island Builders Association Award

The Rhode Island Builders Association Award: This award is selected by members of the RI Builders Association. This award is a rosette of navy-blue ribbons.

People's Choice Award: This award is given to the exhibit that earns the most votes from those attending the show. The award is chosen by ballot. The winner receives a rosette of yellow ribbons.

DIVISION I DESIGN – RULES

1. See General Rules on page 4 of this schedule. NGC Exhibit Policies printed in the Handbook for Flower Shows(HB), Chapter 7, Exhibiting in the Design Division, NGC Policies and Guidelines.
2. Advance registration is required by April 3, 2026 by going to RIFGC Registration Link, <http://rifgc.pythonanywhere.com/> Questions contact Design Entries Chair Judy Gray judy.gray123@gmail.com.
3. Plant material and non-plant material permitted and not permitted in the Design Division are printed in the HB Chapter 7.
4. The design entered must be the work of one(1) exhibitor only and that name must appear on the entry card. Each exhibitor may enter only one design per class; but may enter more than one class.
5. **Class 12 & 13** are the work of one(1) exhibitor who must be registered in both classes. Entry #'s will not match. (i.e. Class12-Entry1 is Class13-Entry 4; Class12- Entry 2 is Class 13-Entry 3) Questions contact Design Entries Chairman Judy Gray judy.gray123@gmail.com.
6. Designer is on his/her honor that the design being entered has not been previously entered or judged in an NGC Flower Show.
7. Design entries will be received between **6:30-9:30 AM on Thursday April 9, 2026**.
8. No cut fruit/vegetables or food items to be used in any design. If wine bottles are used, they must be empty or unopened.
9. A plant list must be entered into RIFGC Registration Link, <http://rifgc.pythonanywhere.com> before April 5, 2026. Plant material used must be identified on Entry Form (located on Pedestal) with botanical and common names prior to being passed. You will be able to edit your originally submitted plant list on the day of entry.
10. Rules for Design Types, Advance Design Types, and Table Designs are printed in the HB Chapter 7 and/or online [fs-handbook-2025.pdf](#)
11. The exhibitor is required to conform to the stated descriptions and limitations of the Design Type if named in the class.
12. The Scales of Points are on page 17 of this schedule and HB Chapter 14.
13. Statements of Intent are optional unless entering Div I Sec A Class 3 'Something Borrowed' or competing for The Blakely Szosz Award of Sustainability. All statements must be entered into registration link <http://rifgc.pythonanywhere.com> on or before April 5, 2026. **Limit the size to no more than 3-4 sentences.(max. characters # 300)**

DIVISION I DESIGN

Eligible for the Award of Design Excellence

'We are Gathered Here Today'

Section A 'The Best is Yet to Come'

Eligible for Tricolor Award

Consultant:

Class 1 'Something Old'

4 Entries

An American Traditional Line, Line-Mass or Mass Design, using all fresh plant material staged on a black pedestal 42" high with a 24" square top in front of a black background. Design not to exceed 16" from the center of the pedestal. Height not to exceed 54" from top of pedestal.

Class 2 'Something New'

4 Entries

A Creative Design using all fresh plant material staged on a black pedestal 42" high with a 24" square top in front of a black background. Design not to exceed 16" from the center of the pedestal. Height not to exceed 54" from top of pedestal.

Class 3 'Something Borrowed'

4 Entries

An all-white design incorporating one or more borrowed accessories using all fresh plant material. Design may include some green or variegated foliage. Staged on a black pedestal 42" high with a 24" square top in front of a black background. Design not to exceed 16" from the center of the pedestal. Height not to exceed 54" from top of pedestal. A Statement of Intent is required by the designer.

Section B 'Promises, Promises'

Eligible for Petite Award

Consultant:

All designs in this Section are staged in a white niche 12" square and 52" from the floor. Background and underlay are Exhibitor's choice.

Class 4 'Love'

4 Entries

A Petite Design not to exceed 5" in any direction. The white front panel has a 6 1/2" round opening which begins 1/2" from the base of the niche.

Class 5 'Honor'

4 Entries

A Petite Design of analogous color not to exceed 7" in any direction. The white front panel has a 9 1/2" round opening which begins 1/2" from the base of the niche.

Class 6 'Cherish'

4 Entries

A Multi-Rhythmic Petite Design not to exceed 8" in any direction. The white front panel has a 9 1/2" round opening which begins 1/2" from the base of the niche.

Section C 'A Tasteful Affair'

Eligible for Table Artistry Award

Consultant:

Decorative Units are to be appropriate in size to provided space.

Class 7 'Just Desserts'

4 Entries

A Buffet Table for six (6) including a decorative unit. Staged on a 6'x 3' x 29"H table with black underlay provided by the committee in front of a black background. Coverings are optional and may not hang more than 15" over the edge.

Class 8 'Black Tie'**4 Entries**

A Functional Semi-formal Table for two(2) including a decorative unit. Staged on a 30" tall table 36" round, to be viewed from all sides. White floor length underlay provided by the committee. Coverings are optional.

Class 9 'Breakfast in Bed'**4 Entries**

A Tray for one(1) person, to be staged on a black pedestal 24"x24"x32" in front of a black background. Decorative unit to be exhibitor's choice. All components must be on the tray.

Section D 'You Complete Me'

Eligible for Designer's Choice Award

Consultant:

Class 10 'Great Chemistry'**4 Entries**

A Spatial Thrust Design using fresh and/or dried plant material staged on a black pedestal 42" high with a 20" round top, in front of a black background. Design not to exceed 20" from the center of the pedestal. No height restriction.

Class 11 'Sparks Flying'**4 Entries**

A Floor Design using fresh and/or dried plant material staged in front of a 4'x8' black staging panel. May be viewed from three sides, underlay is optional. Design should be staged within the allocated space allowed 4'w x 4'deep x 8'H.

Class 12 'Opposites Attract'**4 Entries**

A Duo Design using fresh and/or dried plant material, back-to-back Class 13 staged on a black pedestal, 36" high with a 24" square top. Design not to exceed 16" from the center of the pedestal. No height restriction.

A Duo Design using fresh and/or dried plant material, back-to-back Class 12 staged on a black pedestal, 36" high with a 24" square top. Design not to exceed 16" from the center of the pedestal. No height restriction.

DIVISION II BOTANICAL ARTS – RULES

1. General guidelines for the Design Division apply. The rules for Botanical Artistic Crafts are printed in HB Chapter 10.
2. All Artistic Crafts exhibits must contain some plant material. Only dried material may be treated.
3. No artificial, endangered, or locally invasive plant material may be used.
4. RIFGC Registration Link for Botanical Arts Entries will open **November 1, 2025**. <http://rifgc.pythonanywhere.com>. A plant list must be entered into the RIFGC Registration Link by **March 29, 2026**.
5. Plant material used must be identified on Entry Form (located on Pedestal) with botanical and common names prior to being passed. You will be able to edit your originally submitted plant list on the day of entry.
6. A 5" x 7" card with untreated samples of all plant material used must be identified and displayed with entries.
7. Jewelry and ornamental accessories must be ready-to-wear with fasteners, clasps, etc. as needed.
8. Non-plant materials may be used for construction but must not show.
9. Exhibits are judged by the Artistic Crafts Scale of Points found on page 18 of this schedule.

DIVISION II BOTANICAL ARTS

'Bridal Trousseau'

SECTION A 'Happily Ever After'

Eligible for the Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts Award

Consultant:

Class 14 'Something Blue'

4 Entries

A Garter Belt staged on a white, nylon-covered mannequin leg, measures 32.3" tall & 15 ¼" top c., ¾ view (facing 7 O'clock). Staged on a black stand 16" x 16" x 29". To be viewed from three sides at 56" high in front of a black background. All staging to be provided by committee.

Class 15 'With This Ring'

4 Entries

A Ring Box including a Ring not to exceed 4" in any direction. Staged on a 5" square, clear-acrylic riser, set on a white pedestal 42" high with a 20" round top. To be viewed from three sides in front of a black background. All staging to be provided by committee.

Class 16 'The Blushing Bride'

4 Entries

A Bridal Headpiece staged on a white, nylon-covered mannequin head measuring 19" tall x 21½", in ¾" view (facing 7 O'clock). Staged on a 9" x 9" x ¾" white stand on a white pedestal 38¾" high with a 12" square top. Design may extend over staging to the floor. Width of design should not exceed 6" from edge of pedestal. To be viewed from three sides in front of a black background. All staging to be provided by committee.

DIVISION III YOUTH – BOTANICAL ARTS RULES

1. Exhibits must contain some plant material, either fresh and/or dried. Only dried material may be treated.
2. No artificial, endangered, or locally invasive plant material may be used
3. Advance registration required for Botanical Arts Division. Entries should be sent to:
4. Entries will be accepted on **Wednesday April 8th 9AM-2:30PM.**
5. The NGC Exhibit Polices are printed in HB Chapter 9, exhibition in the Youth Division, NGC Polices and Guidelines.
6. Youth Exhibits are evaluated using the Botanical Arts Scale of Points found on page 18 of this schedule.

DIVISION III YOUTH

'A Family Affair'

Section A – Botanical Arts - Artistic Crafts

Eligible for a Youth Award – one in each class

Consultant:

'1,000 Words'

Students will embellish a picture frame provided by the committee with natural and upcycled materials. Staged by committee on gray panels.

Class 1 Juniors: Ages pre-school – 7 years	20 Entries
Class 2 Intermediates: Ages 8 years – 12 years	20 Entries
Class 3 Seniors: Ages 13 years – 18 years	20 Entries

DIVISION III YOUTH - DESIGN RULES

1. Exhibits must contain some plant material, either fresh and/or dried. Only dried material may be treated.
2. No artificial, endangered, or locally invasive plant material may be used

3. Advance registration required for Botanical Design Division. Entries should be sent to:
4. Entries will be accepted on **Wednesday April 8th 9AM-2:30PM.**
5. The NGC Exhibit Polices are printed in HB Chapter 9, exhibition in the Youth Division, NGC Polices and Guidelines.
6. Youth Exhibits are evaluated using the Design Scale of Points found on page 17 of this schedule.

Section B - Design

Eligible for a Youth Award, one in each class
Consultant:

'A Toss to Love'

A bouquet of the exhibitor's choice using environmentally friendly mechanics. Container and plant material provided by the committee. Stage by committee on black risers.

Class 4 Juniors: Ages pre-school – 7 years	20 Entries
Class 5 Intermediates: Ages 8 years – 12 years	20 Entries
Class 6 Seniors: Ages 13 years – 18 years	20 Entries

DIVISION IV – 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 (18) square feet of surface area.
3. Staged on a 6'x 3' x 29"H table with black underlay provided by the committee in front of a black background.
4. Education Exhibits are judged using the Education Scale of Points found on page 17 of this schedule.

DIVISION IV EDUCATION

'Just Married'

Eligible for The Education Award

Consultant:

Exhibit 1	TITLE	TBA	DESCRIPTION
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Exhibit 2	TITLE	TBA	DESCRIPTION
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Exhibit 3	TITLE	TBA	DESCRIPTION
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GLOSSARY

Accessory – a subordinate object used in a design. HB p.139

American Traditional Line Design – conforms to the characteristics of American Traditional styles. Great Restraint in the quantity of plant material, with linear pattern dominant. Line material establishes the pattern, a center of interest may be included. HB p.69-71.

American Traditional Line Mass Design – conforms to American Traditional characteristics. Linear pattern established, as in American Traditional Line Design, additional plant material enhances and strengthens the line. Massed plant material never obscures the linear pattern. HB p.69-71.

American Traditional Mass Design – adapted from European designs. Conforms to American Traditional characteristics. Large quantities of plant material with a closed silhouette. Plant material is integrated and not grouped. HB p.69-71.

Analogous Colors - two(2) or more colors adjacent on the color wheel using only one(1) primary color. HB p.65

Artistic Craft – are objects with a function. They may be artistically pleasing, but were not created solely for their artistic value. They serve a purpose and can be labeled as a certain object such as basket, necklace package or hat. HB p.95

Coverings – tablecloth (neatly pressed with one center fold for large tables, no folds for round tables), place mats, runners, underlays. HB p.77

Creative Design – a Creative Floral Design is an acknowledged art form introduced in the late 1950s to American Flower Shows. These designs are not bound by traditional patterns or styles. They are designs with a relationship between form and space. HB p.71-72.

Design – the organization of the Elements of Design (color, form, light, line, pattern, size, space and texture) according to the Principles of Design (balance, contrast, dominance, proportion, rhythm and scale) into a composition having beauty, distinction, expression and harmony. A design may consist of a single unit or units, with or without other components, artistically combined.

Duo Design – a Creative Design organized in one (1) container or containers joined together to appear as one(1). Organized as two(2) distinct designs, back-to-back, and entered as two(2) separate design classes with the schedule specifying both class titles. HB p.78.

Multi-Rhythmic Design – a Creative Design with emphasis on two (2) or more rhythms in the design with (1) rhythm dominating. HB p.75.

Petite Design – a design ranging from 3” to 12”. Schedule to determine height, width and depth as well as any additional staging provided. Additional staging provided by exhibitor is considered as part of the height requirement. HB p.73.

Spatial Thrust – a creative design consisting of two (2) parallel placements of similar components. HB p.75.

Statement of Intent – is a brief written description provided to explain the meaning, inspiration, or artistic vision behind the exhibit. Limit the size to no more than 3-4 sentences.(max. characters # 300)

Table Design – a functional table for two (2) or more persons, determined by the schedule. Must include decorative unit. HB p.76-77.

SCALES OF POINTS

All Designs

Criteria	Value (points)
Conformance	
To Type	7
To Schedule Requirements	7
Design Principles	48
Selection of Components	8
Organization of Components	8
Expression	8
Distinction	14
Total	100

Educational Exhibits

Criteria	Value (points)
Educational Value Interest to Viewer	25
Clear, concise presentation	15
Adequate signage	10
Conforms to NGC Objectives	10
Staging Craftsmanship/Technique	10
Distinction	10
Expression	20
Total	100

Artistic Crafts - Botanical Arts

Criteria	Value (points)
Conformance	14
Design	48
Craftsmanship/Technique	24 (12 points for each)
Distinction	14
Total	100



The Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
would like to thank for their unwavering support to our
Design Specialty Flower Show:

Rhode Island Builder's Association, Inc.
Marshall Building and Remodeling

'Collaborating to Foster a More Resilient Community'