

**The Federated Garden Club of Vermont
Northern District**

With Assistance and Support from
The Vermont Nursery and Landscape Association
Presents

The Story of the Garden

An NGC Small Standard Flower Show

Champlain Valley Exposition info@cvexpo.org
105 Pearl Street
Essex Junction, VT 05452
(802) 878-5545

Friday, March 7, 2025, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 8, 2025, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 9, 2025, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

**Free with admission to the
Vermont Flower Show**

FGCV President – Doris Van Mullen
(VNLA) Vermont Nursery & Landscape Association
Executive Director- Jas Darland
President of Board of Directors- Gabriel Bushey

Member of
National Garden Clubs, Inc. (www.gardenclub.org)

New England Garden Clubs, Inc. (www.newenglandgc.org)

Federated Garden Clubs of VT, Inc. (vermontfgcv.com)

The Story of the Garden

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Federated Garden Clubs of VT (FGCV)

Northern District

FGCV State President

All numbers in area code **802** unless noted

Doris Van Mullen

615-390-9965

Flower Show Committee

General Co-Chairpersons

Doris Van Mullen
Karen Villanti

615-390-9965
578-1784

Schedule Chairperson

Kathy Perkins

747-8251

Staging Chairperson

Jeff Maher

793-7076

Signage Chairpersons

Doris Van Mullen
Karen Villanti

615-390-9965
578-1784

Design Entries

Barbara Gaida

734-6125

Design Classification

Kelly Wakefield

782-0958

Design Placement

Exhibitors

Horticulture Entries

Dana Mann

662-5539

Horticulture Classification

Nancy Bell

862-7682

Horticulture Placement

Andy Kenney

399-6642

Education Committee

Esther Cowles
Jody Gendron
Anne-Marie Schadinger
Doris Van Mullen

603-724-1400
373-6692
334-0544
615-390-9965

Judges' Chairperson

Maryanne Wood

393-0535

Clerks' Chairperson

Lynne Tiballi

658-6863

Awards Chairperson

Renee Hotaling

316-7713

Publicity

Vermont Nursery &
Landscape Association

Hospitality

Lorinda Sargent
Liz Robitaille
Rose Godard

488-0563
324-0881
238-8900

Volunteers	Lynne Tiballi	658-6863
Flower Show Greeters	Marion Cerra	978-505-1629
	Susan Daily	494-1973
Consultants	Kathy Perkins	747-8251
	Maryanne Wood	393-0535
Photographer	Linda Lane	448-3095

General Rules

1. A National Garden Club Flower Show conforms to the standards established by National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC). The *Handbook for Flower Shows (HB)*, 2017/2024 Edition, with revisions printed in RED on the NGC website in the Free Handbook Edition which is the **Law of the Show**. All page numbers refer to pages in The Handbook for Flower Shows (HB) 2017 Edition
2. Division I, Design, Division III, Education, are open to all members of National Garden Clubs, Inc. Division II, Horticulture is open to all gardeners.
3. Each exhibitor is limited to one entry per class, except in the Horticulture Division.
4. Entry Cards may be obtained in advance from the Show Co-chairmen, Doris Van Mullen at 615-390-9965 or Karen Villanti at 802-5781784. The card should be filled out in advance in pencil or waterproof pen. Address labels may be used.

SET-UP

Tuesday, March 4, 2025, Noon-6:00 p.m.

Design Exhibitors may come between 3:00 p.m-5:00 p.m. to see their design space.

ENTRY DATES

- a. Wednesday, March 5, **HORTICULTURE 1:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**
DESIGN, 11:00 a.m. -7:00 p.m.
- b. Thursday, March 6, **DESIGN ONLY, 7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.**

All exhibitors must leave the show floor by 8:30 a.m. March 6, 2025

JUDGING begins Thursday, March 6, at 9:00 a.m.

REMOVAL DATE:

- a. Sunday, March 9, 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
5. The Classification Chairman for each division will check exhibits for conformity to the schedule prior to judging. Final determination for conformance is the judges' responsibility.
6. 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.

7. The decisions of the judges are final. Awards may be withheld if not merited. Judges are required to consider non-blue-ribbon winners for 90+-point recognition in **Design, Horticulture, Education.**
8. There must be an emphasis on FRESH plant material. No artificial plant material is permitted in any exhibit in any division. Fresh plant material may not be treated/embellished in any way. Cut fruits and vegetables are prohibited.
9. Wild collected plants of species listed in the Vermont Conservation List or Invasive Species List are not allowed in any division. (vtfishwildlife.com) Cultivated plant material appearing on the list may be used if the exhibitor provides a typed card noting that it was not wild collected.
10. The FGCV Northern District will strive to assure the safety of all items after arrival and placement but is not responsible for any loss or damage to exhibits.
11. In all Divisions, the Committee will provide staging unless otherwise noted in the schedule.
12. Exhibitors are responsible for keeping his/her exhibit in good condition for the duration of the Show. An exhibit may be removed at the discretion of the Committee.
13. **It is the Exhibitor's responsibility to find a replacement if unable to fulfill assignment.**

NGC Standard System of Awarding (HB Chapter 5 Awards)

The NGC Standard System of Awards is used for all competitive judging and allows for the following awards in all divisions.

- Only one (1) first-place blue ribbon per class or sub-class; must score 90 points or more
- Only one (1) second-place red ribbon per class or sub-class; must score 85 points or more
- Only one (1) third-place yellow ribbon per class or sub-class; must score 80 points or more
- One (1) or more Honorable Mention white ribbons; must score 75 points or more

Design Division I Top Exhibitor Awards

Design Division Section blue ribbon winner must score 95 points or more to be eligible for Section Award. For complete requirements refer to HB pages 42-43 of Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017.

Section Awards-Minimum of 3 classes per section, minimum of 4 entries per class.

Designer's Choice Award- A rosette of purple ribbons. Section A is eligible. Classes 2,3 and 4.

Horticulture Division II Top Exhibitor Awards

Horticulture Division blue ribbons winners must score 95 points or more to be eligible for Section Awards or the Division Award. For complete requirements refer to HB pages 40-41 of NGC Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017

Section Awards

Arboreal Award - A rosette of green ribbons. Sections A, Classes 1,2,3,4, Section B, Classes 5, 6,7,8, Section E, Classes 17,18,19,20

Grower's Choice Award – A rosette of dark green ribbons. Sections C, Classes 9,10,11,12 Section D, Classes 13,14,15,16, Section F, Classes 21,22,23,24.

Division Award

Award of Horticultural Excellence – A rosette of green, orange, and blue ribbons. Awarded to the highest scoring blue ribbon exhibit in the entire Horticulture Division entered by an individual. Blue ribbon winners of the Horticulture Section Awards are eligible. Section A-F, Classes 1-24 are eligible.

Educational Division III Top Exhibitor Award

All Education Division blue ribbon winners must score 95 points or more to be eligible. For complete requirements refer to HB pages 43- 44 in the Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017

Division Award

Educational Top Exhibitor Award – A rosette of brown and white ribbons. Section A, Exhibits 1,2,3,4, & Section B Exhibits 5,6,7,8 are eligible. Section C Exhibits 8,9,10 is non-competitive.

Additional Award

Sweepstakes Award: a rosette of green/white ribbons

One award will be offered to the Exhibitor in Division I, Division II, Division III with the most ribbon points in the flower show. The show committee will tabulate points awarded in all divisions. Top Award=6 pts. Blue Ribbon=5 pts. 90+ Score= 4 pts. Red Ribbon=3 pts. Yellow Ribbon=2 pt. Honorable Mention=1 pt.

Division I Design: Rules

1. The NGC Design Policies/Rules are printed in the Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017 Edition, Chapter 3, p 28-29, and Chapter 7, pp. 79-83
2. **Advance registration with the Design Entries Chairman, Doris VanMullen, or Karen Villanti.**

3. Plant material and non-plant material permitted and not permitted in the Design Division is printed in the Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017 Edition Chapter 7, pp. 80-81
4. All plant material used in the design must be identified with common name on a card, provided by the committee, and included with the entry card.
5. The exhibitor is required to conform to the stated description and limitations of the Design Types if named in the class.
6. Rules for Design Types, and Table Appointments are printed in the Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017/2024 Edition, Chapter 7, pp.76-77
7. Plant material need not have been grown by Exhibitor.
8. All the exhibits must be the work of individual exhibitors. Exception, Club Competition Classes, or Companion Classes
9. Exhibits in a Class not staged in the same room must be point scored.
10. Judges are required to make comments (positive and constructive) for **all** Design Exhibits.
11. Exhibits may be completed at home or in the show area.
12. The designer is on his/her honor that the design has not been previously judged in an NGC Flower Show.
13. Fresh plant material may not be treated. Dried plant material may be treated.
14. **If Designer is unable to fulfill her/his assignment, it is Designer's responsibility to find a replacement.**
15. The Scale of Points for Design is listed in the Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017 Edition, Chapter 14, and p. 130.

Division I Design: *"Once Upon a Time in the Garden"*

Consultants Kathy Perkins ksheaperk@comcast.net

Maryanne Wood maryanne@caninedimensions.com Judy

Gray judy.gray123@gmail.com

Sections and Classes

All Design Classes (1-4) will be judged. Classes 2,3,4 are the only Classes eligible for the Designers Choice Award.

**Class 1. “What’s the Story of Your Garden”
Judges’ Invitational Class**

4 Entries

A **Still Life Class** staged on 36” of a 6’ table. A background panel, will be supplied by the committee, measuring 48” h x 32” It must be covered by the exhibitor and an underlay must be used. Frame of Reference 48” h x 32” w x 26” d.

HB p.76 Still Life Design – a traditional or creative non-abstract grouping of functional and realistic objects and plant material with a theme.

- 1. Objects are more important to the theme than plant material.*
- 2. Plant material may or may not represent a floral design.*

Section A. “The Happy Gardener”

Section Eligible for the Designers Choice Award

Plant material may be fresh, dried, dried treated or a combination of both.

Class 2. “The Minimalist Garden”

4 Entries

A Traditional **Line or Line Mass Design**, staged on a white pedestal measuring 32” H with a 24” square top. No Height requirement.

HB p.71 Traditional Line Design:

- 1. A Design where **linear pattern is dominant***
- 2. There is great restraint in the quantity of plant material used*
- 3. Line material establishes the pattern which can be vertical, horizontal, crescent, S-curve or zigzag*
- 4. Center of interest or focal area may be included, but it must not diminish the impact of the line*

or Traditional Line Mass Design

- 1. Linear pattern established, as in American Traditional Line design (above). however, additional plant material enhances and strengthens the line*
- 2. Massed plant material emphasizes the center of interest but never obscures the linear pattern*

Class 3. “Flowers at every Turn”

4 Entries

An Angular Design (HB p.73) staged on a table 29”h X 36” w X 30” d. Staging panel measuring 36”h x 24” w to be used and supplied by the Exhibitor. Table will be covered to the floor with white top and red skirted fabric. An underlay must be used.

HB p.73 Angular Design – A Design emphasizing strong angles that may be acute, obtuse, reflex, right angles or combination of angles.

Class 4.

“Dining In Vermont”

4 Entries

A Functional Table for two staged on a table measuring 30”h with a 34” square top covered to the floor with a white cloth.

HB p.76 Informal Functional Table for Two – Table planned and set for actual service of food.

1. *Convenience and sense of order must prevail.*
2. *A decorative unit (completed floral unit with/without candles and other accessories) must be included.*
3. *Coordination of all components must be balanced within the allotted space*

Division II: Horticulture Rules

1. The NGC Horticulture Policies/Rules are printed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, 2017/2024 Edition Chapter 6, p.27
2. All plant material must be fresh and grown by the exhibitor.
Length of possession is:
 - a. Bulbs, 90 days
 - b. Arboreal, 6 months
 - c. Houseplants, 90 days
 - d. Dish gardens, 6 weeks
3. 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*.
4. To receive an NGC Top Exhibitor Award, the exhibitor must identify her/his entry by its binominal name or currently acceptable scientific designation.
5. Entry cards are to be filled out in advance, if possible, preferably in pencil or waterproof ink. Address labels may also be used. Refer to the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, 2017/2024 Edition, Chapter 6 for a correctly filled out entry tag.
6. Cut specimens should not have foliage below the water line (exception *Gladiolus*).
7. 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 leaves. Double potting is permitted but inside pot may not show.
8. Specimens with a class designation in the schedule may not be entered in the ‘Any Other Worthy’ class.”
9. 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.
10. The Scale of Points for Horticulture is in Chapter 14 of the *Handbook for Flower Shows*.

11. All staging materials for cut specimens, vases, and wedging material (bubble wrap), will be provided by the Committee.
12. Exhibitors may make more than one entry per class or subclass if each is a different genus, species, variety, cultivar, type, size, or color.
13. All entries must be approved for conformance to the schedule and show worthiness by the Classification Chairman before placement by the Committee.

Division II: Horticulture “*Let It Grow*”

All Sections eligible for the Award of Horticultural Excellence

Sections and Classes

Section A. “*Right to the Point*” ***Eligible for Arboreal Award***

Evergreen Tree Branches, Foliage, Fruited or Coned.

One cut specimen maximum length 30”, minimum length 12”. Each cut branch must include several nodes and an apical tip.

Class 1 Cypress **Class 2** *Picea* (Spruce) **Class 3** *Pinus* (Pine)

Class 4 Any other Worthy Specimen of Evergreen tree branches

Section B. “*Bare But Beautiful*” ***Eligible for Arboreal Award***

Deciduous Tree Branches. One cut specimen maximum length 30”, minimum length 12”. Each cut branch must include several nodes and an apical tip.

Class 5 Acer (Maple)

Class 6 Betula (Birch)

Class 7 Fagus (Beech)

Class 8 Any other Worthy Specimen of deciduous tree branches

Section C. “*What’s In the Pot?*” *Eligible* ***for Grower’s Choice Award***

Container Grown Plants, primarily for foliage Pot not to exceed 12” in diameter

Class 9 Begonia

Class 10 Hedera (Ivy)

Class 11 Pteridophytes (Ferns)

Class 12 Any other Worthy Specimen of foliage container grown plants.

Section D. “*Bold and Beautiful*”

Eligible for Grower’s Choice Award

Container Grown Flowering Plants Pot not to exceed 12”in diameter

Class 13 Gesneriads (Geranium)

Class 14 Orchidaceae (Orchid)

Class 15 Saintpaulia (African Violet)

Class 16 Any other Worthy Specimen of flowering container grown plants

Section E. “*Evergreen Friends*”

Eligible for Arboreal Award

Evergreen Shrub Branches, Foliage, Fruited or Coned One

Cut Specimen maximum length 30”, minimum length 12”.

Each cut branch must include several nodes and an apical tip.

Class 17 Buxus (Boxwood)

Class 18 Ilex (Holly)

Class 19 Rhododendron

Class 20 Any other Worthy Specimen of evergreen shrub branches.

Section F. “*Hardly Thirsty*”

Eligible for Grower’s Choice Award

Cacti and Succulents Pot not to exceed 12” in diameter

Class 21 Columnar Cacti

Class 22 Escheveria

Class 23 Globular Cacti

Class 24 Any other Worthy Specimen of container grown cacti and succulents

Division III: Education “*Learning Through the Stories*”

Education Rules

1. The NGC Exhibit Policies/Rules are printed in the Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017/2024 Edition, Chapter 8.
2. 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.
3. Some fresh/dried plant material is required in each exhibit. All plant material used in the exhibit must be identified by common name on a card, provided by the exhibitor and included with the entry tag.

4. An exhibit must occupy a minimum of eighteen (18) square feet surface area. It will be staged on a table 29”h x 72” l x 30” w. Top of table will be covered in white and skirted in red.
5. The Scale of Points for Education Exhibits is listed in the Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017 Edition, Chapter 14.
6. Judges are required to make comments (positive and constructive) for **all** Education Exhibits.

Division III Education *“Learning Through the Stories”*

***Section A & B Exhibits 1, 2,3,4,5,6,7, are Eligible for the Educational Award
Section C Exhibits 8,9,10, are non-competitive***

Sections and Exhibits

Section A: *“Does it Bloom or Buzz”*

Exhibit 1 *“Pollinator Buzz”*

Get the buzz on common Vermont perennials that attract bees in different seasons and learn some ways to help ensure your garden bees will thrive year after year.

Exhibit 2 *“Native Species Pollinator Plants”*

This Exhibit is a depiction of some flowering pollinators commonly found in Vermont woods and fields.

Exhibit 3 *“Dahlias Be Dazzled”*

Understanding the anatomy of the Dahlia Tuber and its superpowers.

Exhibit 4 *“VT Garden Park, Beautiful Landscape”*

Gardens of Beauty- Visit and enjoy the stunning flower colors, fragrances and sweetness of herbs, all connected to gardening.

Section B: *“Working the Soil!”*

Exhibit 5 *“Turning Our Lawns into Meadows”*

Based on the book Nature’s Best Hope by Douglas Tallamy, this exhibit encourages the conversion of lawns into meadows which will benefit pollinators, enhance carbon sequestration, lessen the need for maintenance with power tools, eliminate toxic pesticides, enhance biodiversity and many other benefits.

Exhibit 6 ***“What’s the Dirt on Soil?”***

This Exhibit explores the composition and benefits of soil for human, environmental, and garden health.

Exhibit 7 ***“Asian Jumping Worm”***

This Exhibit will tell you about this invasive species, how to identify it, how to slow the spread, remove an infestation and most importantly, Vermont concerns for our agriculture and habitat.

Section C: ***“National Garden Club Initiatives”***

Exhibit 8 ***“Woodsy Owl, Smokey Bear”***

Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest is open to children in first through fifth grades. The contest was designed to raise children’s awareness of the importance of taking care of the environment and preventing wildfires.

Exhibit 9 ***“National Garden Club Blue Star Memorials”***

The Blue Star Program honors all men and women that serve or have served in the United States Armed Services. In 1945, the program began a Blue Star Highway system of memorials that covers thousands of miles across the Continental United States, Alaska, and Hawaii. Seven of those memorials are in Vermont.

Exhibit 10 ***“FGCV Scholarship”***

Local, state and national horticultural scholarships offered to Vermont high school students.