



Florida Flower Show Judges



President's Message

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Wishing each of you a beautiful and bountiful fall! A long and unfortunately, lingering goodbye to Ian and hopefully we will not see another of his family members during this season of Thanksgiving.



This terrible hurricane process makes me think of resilience: our capacity to withstand adversity and to bounce back. Bringing this lofty ideal to our level, just look at what we've accomplished: we've suffered but learned to live with Covid and if we are fortunate enough, we clean up and build stronger from storms.

We continue to have meetings, loving to be with friends and sharing our experiences, we share and advance our knowledge through programs, classes, workshops, flower shows and we attend symposia! The 2022 November Symposium will host over 100.

When first learning floral design and gardening, it was always said "REMAIN FLEXIBLE" This is exactly what we see in FFSJ - we are resilient, flexible and amazingly strong!

I continue to be amazed at all the thoughtful, creative and sensorily stimulating ways you have found to forward our message of EDUCATION. Thank you all!

Wishing you a very happy and special Thanksgiving; I am thankful for all of you,

Parke



Special points of interest:

- Tropical Short Course District X January 25—26, 2023; Green Acres Florida
- FFGC 96th Annual Convention Kissimmee, Florida April 18—20, 2023



This is great news!

The Digital Flower Show Handbook- Revised January 2022 can be downloaded, at no cost, from the NGC Website in pdf form.

<https://gardenclub.org/flower-show-school-resources>



Tropical Short Course 2023 District X

501 Swain Blvd., Green Acres, Florida



January 25, 2023 begins 8:00am

January 26, 2023 ends 2:30pm

2 days with 2 speakers and 1 floral design each day.

Vendors and raffles each day

Includes Continental Breakfast and boxed lunch each day

Ample parking at nearby hotel

Contact

Chairman Michele Maguire

772-485-3279

mouthmom@yahoo.com



A Small Standard Flower Show can Make a Big Difference

by Susan Hillson, Flower Show School Chair



Do you have student judges in your district who just need one more judging or exhibiting credit, so they can take their handbook exam? A good way to help them is to hold a Small Standard Flower Show.

All you need for a Small Standard Flower Show, is 3 classes in Design with 12 exhibits, and 5 classes in Horticulture with 20 exhibits. It really can be small! (HB pg. 7)

Depending on what the student judge needs she could judge, exhibit, or chair the show.

Student Judges need to judge 5 NGC Flower Shows, and the Small Standard Flower Show could be one of them. Just make sure to set up the judging panels so they judge 6 classes, with at least 1 class in horticulture, and 1 in design.

They need to earn 5 exhibiting credits, winning Blue Ribbons, (or scoring 90+). A small standard flower show could give them additional opportunities to exhibit.

Sometimes it can be hard to get that last blue ribbon! An alternate exhibiting credit can be earned by having the student judge chair the Small Standard Flower Show.

Remember, only 2 exhibiting credits in different areas (Horticulture, Design, or Chair) may be earned in each Flower Show. (HB pg. 115 lists requirements for Becoming an Accredited Judge)

District XII held a Small Standard Flower Show in June, and now 3 student judges have met all their requirements and are scheduled to take the next Handbook Exam! Hope you will consider this idea.

What's Your Type?

By Janice Hamlin

"What's Your Type" made its debut at FFGC Convention in April 2022 and was enthusiastically received. Three hundred (300) copies were printed and 237 were sold at or shortly after the Convention. Thank you to Sally Flanagan and her group who handled promotion and the sales table. With the help of Gina Jogan, we were allowed to rent a Vendor Booth at the NGC Convention and sold the remaining 62 copies.

"What's Your Type" is now being circulated throughout the country and response has been very positive - in fact, we have not heard anything negative about the book. We have had requests for the book which we cannot fill and think we are providing a much needed resource for designers and Flower Show Judges.

After expenses, a profit of approximately \$1700.00 was realized from the sale of 300 books.

Because this is a multi-year project, the Committee started working on the next edition last spring. Nine additional design types were chosen:

- o Mass Design in Traditional Manner
- o Creative Mass Design
- o Reflective Design
- o Spatial Thrust Design
- o Functional Tables
- o Exhibition Tables with Decorative Unit



(Continue on page 5)

Judging Ethics & Etiquette by Glenda Dawson & Janice Hamlin



Remember that it is an honor to be invited to judge in a Flower Show. NGC Flower Shows can be lovely social events much enjoyed with friends, but we must remember that with acceptance to judge, we have an ethical obligation to be able to judge. Recently, I have received reports about three particular “Judging Styles” which do not reflect the qualities of an NGC Flower Show Judge.

The Inarticulate Judge

Handbook 2017 edition page 98; 1. O - Written comments are encouraged and must be easily understood, helpful and kind. They must be written by the Judges or dictated to a clerk. A positive comment should accompany a constructive criticism. All comments must reflect the majority opinion of the Judges.

As Student Judges, we are taught to use the Principles of Design when judging an exhibit and to refer to both the Principles and Elements of Design when making comments. Every time we attend a Symposium, we review point scoring, and we practice how to “put in words – what we see” when judging. We know it is important to be concise and clear with our comments and we should use every opportunity to continue practicing. With all this said, many judges complain to me about inane comments written on entry cards. Knowing the proper wording to use does not come through osmosis – it comes through study and much practice.

The Handbook pages 106-109 titled “What Do Judges Look For” contain great reference material to help when composing comments. Most Designers spend hours fine-tuning a design before it is entered into a Flower Show. They certainly deserve well written comments that reflect their design decisions. Have you ever noticed how many Judges will walk around the flower show after judging has finished. Many are looking at the comments written and “judging” the comments!

One last thought about writing comments – most of the time, one judge on the panel of three will write the comments. BUT the other two judges are equally responsible for what is being written on that entry card. And this leads into the next concern brought to me in recent months.

The Overassertive Judge

Handbook 2017 Edition Page 98 P. 1 - No single Judge must ever control the final decisions. All Judges, including Student Judges, have equal influence decisions.

Occasionally, a Judge with lots of experience and credentials can become bossy and intimidating. They might have a problem allowing other judges to have equal influence with the final decision. Once all Judges have an opportunity to express their opinions, a vote can be taken. Once a majority decision has been made, all judges must agree to accept the decision and move on with their judging. It is not ethical for one Judge to intimidate or bully other

Judges into agreement with them. This Chair interprets this to mean that it is unfair to the Exhibitor, for any panel member to allow themselves to be intimidated by another panel member so as to avoid conflict or because they feel incompetent in verbally point scoring. This attitude can leave the majority decision to only one Judge.



(Continued next page)

Judging Ethics & Etiquette (continued)



Can you imagine how an exhibitor would feel if told by a clerk who overheard the discussion – “You would have won the blue ribbon, but the judges were so tired of arguing with Judge Bossy, they just gave in to her decision”? And this leads to the last example of “un-Judge worthy” behavior brought to my attention.

The Narcissist Judge

Handbook 2017 edition page 97; 1. E. & F. Judges never judge sections in which they have exhibits. Ideally, judges should not exhibit in a show they are judging to avoid any appearance of conflict of interest.

This next scenario might seem absurd, but more than one of you have talked to me about it happening at recent flower shows.

A Judge becomes upset about not winning the Blue Ribbon in their class and proceeds to announce on the Flower Show floor (to all who will listen), “I don’t know what the judges were thinking - my design (or plant) was the best in its class and should have won the blue ribbon.” Never mind that the blue-ribbon winner and the Judges are still at the Flower Show and hear all this – “WHAT IS THIS JUDGE THINKING?”

The Judge must keep these opinions private. Perhaps some of us may have thought such thoughts before but it is never ethical or proper for a Judge to act on such thoughts in such a manner. Even if she is right, making a scene will not change the outcome and her behavior is upsetting and disrespectful to everyone present. It would be wise and helpful if we could all learn to win or lose with equipoise.

I know I have presented you with three extreme examples of improper judges, but these are real situations. Most Judges strive to do their best when judging and if we make a mistake, we hopefully learn from it and do not repeat it. It is always a great idea to review the Judging Procedures listed in the current Handbook, beginning on page 98. We will never be perfect, but we can always strive to be better.

What’s Your Type? (continued from page 3)

- * Exhibition Table with decorative unit
- * Abstract Design
- * Monobotanic Design
- * Exploration - Freedom of Style



Florida designers were asked to submit pictures for consideration. The judging panel recently met and selected the designs they would like to see recreated for photography. Designers will be notified shortly.

We plan to hold a photo shoot at John Jernigan's studio in Ocala. The date is not set, but will be in October or November.

On behalf of "What's Your Type" Committee, I move:

FFSJ proceed with "What's Your Type", Edition 2.

1. Photography to be done by John Jernigan.
2. Printing done by Manatee Printers, Inc.

3. 400 copies of Edition 2

4. 100 copies of Edition I be re-printed

5. 100 additional binders be printed

Credentials Chat by Barbara Jacobson



If you have already taken a Symposium where you were **not** required to provide your exhibiting and judging credits, you must send the appropriate *completed* form to your State Credentials Chairman for pre-approval in order to get credit for this symposium. You may list any credits that you earned at any time during 2020, 2021 or 2022.

PLEASE NOTE: The requirement for pre-approval applies to everyone that took the Florida Symposium in November 2021.

If your records are maintained in a state other than Florida, you must send your completed form to your State Credentials Chairman. They will send a Form 18 for the Florida Credentials Chairman verifying that you can take the Florida Symposium for credit.

Accredited Judge: Form 13

Life Judge: Form 15L

Master Judge: Form 15M

If you need a copy of the current form for recording your exhibiting and judging credits use this address for the NGC website:

[FormsLibrary/NationalGardenClubs,Inc.](https://www.ngc.org/forms-library/national-garden-clubs-inc)

FOR STUDENT, ACCREDITED, AND NEW ACCREDITED JUDGES (AS OF JUNE 2021)

LIFE AND MASTER JUDGES:

One alternate exhibiting credit may be earned by providing a judges/critiqued exhibit for practice or written point-scoring exam in an NGC Symposium.

STUDENT JUDGES AND NEW ACCREDITED JUDGES (AS OF June 2022)

May not take point -scoring exams or earn judging credit.

ACCREDITED, NEW ACCREDITED AND LIFE JUDGES (AS OF JUNE 2021)

One judging credit is earned for passing the point-scoring exams at Symposium.

MASTER JUDGES

One judging credit is earned if you are on a Master Panel at Symposium

BEGINNING JANUARY 2023

All judges must have the required exhibiting and judging credits and have pre-approval to take a Symposium for credit. After credits are submitted for pre-approval to take a Symposium for credit, a new form must be completed.





96th Annual Convention in Kissimmee

Worlds of Wonder—Recycled 2023

April 18, 2023 Opens at 8:00am

April 20, 2023 Closes at 9:30pm



Embassy Suites Orlando, Lake Buena Vista South

Handbook Questions



1. Of the six basic requirements of an NGC Standard and Small Standard Flower Shows, what is the exception when planning an NGC Specialty Flower Show? (HB Pg. 6)
2. For an NGC Specialty Flower Show, what is the minimum number of classes and exhibits required in the featured division? (HB Pg. 7)
3. To qualify as an NGC Specialty Flower Show, at least one additional division is required as well. Which divisions? (HB Pg. 6-7)
4. How are petite horticulture specimens classified in a section of standard sized exhibits (HB Pg. 61)
5. In which division of an NGC Flower Show would one find manipulated plants, and dried and preserved specimens? (HB Pg. 91-93)
6. What is the difference between a collection and a display? (HB. Pg. 60)
7. Explain how the use of napkins differs in functional table and exhibit table designs. (HB. Pg. 76-77)
8. What composes a monochromatic color harmony? (HB. Pg 64)
9. What are the three types of space used in a design? (HB Pg. 66)
10. To offer a section award in either the Design or Horticulture Division, what is the minimum number of classes required in the section? (HB Pg.39)





Florida Flower Show Judges

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We're on the web:

FFGC.org

Members

Flower Show



Flower Show Judge's Silent Oath

As an NGC Accredited Flower Show Judge, I will always evaluate the work of others fairly, based on knowledge and integrity. When asked, I will share my knowledge with those who feel less informed and serve as an educator to the exhibitor by making clear and meaningful comments to improve the exhibitor's skills in growing, designing and exhibiting. I will show compassion to other judges on the panel, remain humble, refrain from anger, raising my voice or refusing to agree with others on my panel when a majority has been achieved. I will never make fun of an exhibit or exhibitor; but be fair and honest with all of my decisions. Finally, I will be appreciative of the honor and opportunity given me as a judge to evaluate the efforts of others.

Handbook Answers

1. Must have only one required division, Horticulture or Design
2. Must contain a minimum of 10 classes and 40 exhibits
3. Education or Youth in a Design Specialty Show or Education, Youth, or Garden in a Horticulture Specialty Show
4. Petite exhibits are never in competition in the same class with standard sized specimens and must be subdivided into their own class or sub-class.
5. Botanical Arts Division
6. A collection is an exhibit of specimens judged for their cultural perfection. A display is exhibited with a strong overall artistic effect.
7. Napkins are required on all functional tables. Exhibition tables require no type or number of table appointments.
8. One color and all its related tints, tones, and shades (excluding pure achromatic colors)
9. Total space, space within the plant material, and space within the design
10. Three

