

“NM’s Rt 66, The Mother Road”

FLORICULTURE GENERAL RULES

A National Garden Clubs, Inc. Standard Flower Show

September 9 through September 20, 2026

Four Standard Flower Shows

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Friday, September 11, 2026

Monday, September 14, 2026

Thursday, September 17, 2026

Youth Standard Flower Shows

Saturday, September 12, 2026

Saturday, September 19, 2026

The New Mexico State Fair & The Council of Albuquerque Clubs Inc.

Members of National Garden Club, Inc.

South Central Region

New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

New Mexico State Fair Grounds

300 San Pedro NE

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Phone #: 505-222-9738

Superintendent: Sue Bond Sabond0311@gmail.com

Assistant Superintendent: Marcie Kercher Marcie.kercher@gmail.com

STATE FAIR FLOWER SHOW COMMITTEE

Superintendent	Sue Bond
Assistant Superintendent	Marcie Kercher
Council of ABQ Garden Clubs President	Connie Wenk
Flower Show Schedule	Suzy Andrego, Sue Bond, Shirley Tetreault, Dorothy Duff, Mary Noskin & Marcie Kercher
Staging	Jill Hartman
Horticulture Classification	Kathy Clough
Horticulture Placement	Thoula Mallory
Design Classification & Placement	Mary Gilliam
Division III Youth Show	Lynnette Walker
Youth Classification & Placement	Kathy Clough
Dahlia Classification & Placement	Edith Iwan
Rose Classification & Placement	Karen Snyder, Kurt Snyder
Entries Chair	Candy Scott
Judges Chair	Shirley Tetreault
Clerks & Runners Chairs	Pam Walker, Dodie Bernal Shur
Awards	Connie Wenk, Julie Moss
Facilitators	Jerry Wenk
Tally Chair	Margo Murdock, Debra Spencer
Prep Room	Marcie Kercher
Master Gardener Exhibit	Penelope Boston, Susan Duda
Hospitality	Teresa Edens, Gayle Smart
Volunteer Coordinator	Catie Glover
Publicity	Karen Boardman
Take Down/Set Up	Jill Hartman

Council of Albuquerque Garden Clubs, Inc. Members

Albuquerque African Violet Club
Albuquerque Area Master Gardeners
Albuquerque Aril and Iris Society
Albuquerque Daylily Society
Albuquerque Rose Society
High Desert Design Club
New Mexico Cactus and Succulent Society
New Mexico Dahlia Society
New Mexico Orchid Guild
Petal Pushers
Uptown Garden Club
Valley Gardeners
Xeric Garden Club of Albuquerque

Affiliate Members

New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.
New Mexico Judges Council, Inc.
New Mexico Garden Clubs, District I

General Rules

1. The State Fair Flower Shows consist of four (4) Standard Flower Shows, Division I, Horticulture, Division II, Design, two Youth shows, Division III, and Division IV, Botanical Arts.
2. Any New Mexico resident who is an amateur grower or designer, adult, or youth, may enter the Standard Flower Shows. An amateur is one who cultivates or designs plant material for enjoyment rather than for financial gain.
3. Entry tags may be obtained in advance at the Albuquerque Garden Center, 10120 Lomas NE, (505) 296-6020, and at the Flower Show during the Fair.
4. Entries in Divisions I and II will be accepted from 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on the morning of a new show. It is recommended that the exhibitor arrive before 8:00 A.M. to allow time for filling out entry tags and placing entries in containers. All Horticulture and Design entries must be checked into Classification by 9:30 a.m. Youth entries information is contained in the General Rules section of the schedule for Youth Division III. Late entries will be accepted for display only and will not be judged.
5. Exhibitors for the Standard Flower Shows enter **through Gate 6**.
6. All Horticulture entries, except container-grown plants and Collections, become the property of the Show Committee. Exhibits entered and judged may not be removed by the exhibitor until the morning of the next show. It is requested and encouraged that designs, container grown plants and collections be left by the exhibitor for display through all state fair flower shows to enhance the floriculture building and educate the public.
7. This Flower Show conforms to the standards established by National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC). *The Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017 Edition*, with revisions available online and is the authority for all issues not covered by the **Flower Show Schedule, which is the Law of the Show**.
8. Judging for each Flower Show will start promptly at 10:00 a.m.
9. On the first day of each show, doors will be open to the public at about 1:00 p.m. (when judging is finished). Shows will be open to the public at 10:00 a.m. on non-judging days and close at 9:00 p.m.
10. There will be an Awards Presentation at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 28, 2026, at the Albuquerque Garden Center, 10120 Lomas Blvd, ABQ, NM 87112.
11. Awards and ribbons can be picked up at the Albuquerque Garden Center, 10120 Lomas Blvd, after 10:00 a.m., Monday, September 21, 2026. Please be aware that awards and/or ribbons will not be mailed to exhibitors.
12. The State Fair and Sponsors will strive to assure the safety of all items after arrival and placement but are not responsible for any loss or damage to exhibits.
13. The Classification Chairs for each Division will check exhibits for conformity to the schedule prior to judging. Final determination for conformance is the judges' responsibility.
14. The General Chair, Judges Chair and the Classification Chair for each Division are available during judging for consultation. They, along with the judges and clerks, are the only personnel allowed on the floor during judging.
15. The decision of the judges is final. Awards will not be given if not merited.
16. There is an emphasis on FRESH plant material. No artificial plant material is permitted in any exhibit in any Division. A small amount may be used for staging by the Show Committee. Wilted horticulture specimens and/or designs will be removed from the show.
17. Each exhibitor is limited to one entry per Class, except in the Horticulture Division (Division I).

18. Container-grown plants and designs should be inconspicuously labeled with the exhibitor's name.
19. Noncompetitive exhibits will be placed for display only.
20. To be accepted, plant material on the protected list of the Wildflower Law of New Mexico must have the common name and the botanical name listed and must have been legally obtained from the exhibitor's private property for horticultural exhibits or from other private property with permission where appropriate if used in design exhibits. For a list of New Mexico's endangered plant species, use the following link:
<http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SFD/ForestMgt/Endangered.html>
21. Exhibitor recognizes that marketing of the New Mexico State Fair and its grounds requires use of photography and video. Exhibitor expressly grants to the New Mexico State Fair the irrevocable, assignable right and license to take, use, and publish exhibitor images and property without the need for any other approval. Exhibitor releases the New Mexico State Fair, its agents, or assignees, from all claims related to the licenses that have been granted in this release.

AWARDS

1. The National Garden Clubs (NGC) Standard System of Awards will be used for all competitive judging. The Horticulture Scales of Points can be found on page 129 of the *NGC Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017 Edition*. The Design Scale of Points can be found on page 130 of the *NGC Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017 Edition* with revisions and updates. Youth exhibits are evaluated using the Horticulture, Design Scale of Points.
2. The NGC Standard System of Awarding is used in all Divisions.
 - a. Only one first place (blue) ribbon per Class or subclass; must score 90 or above.
 - b. Only one second place (red) ribbon per Class or subclass; must score 85 or above.
 - c. Only one third place (yellow) ribbon per Class or subclass; must score 80 or above.
 - d. One or more Honorable Mention (white) ribbons as merited; must score 75 or above.
3. No NGC Section Award may be given to an exhibit unless that exhibit scores 95 or above and is a blue-ribbon winner.
4. An Accredited judge, from the judging panel, must sign and date all blue ribbons, 90+ and Top Exhibitor Award ribbons. All other entry cards may be marked with a hole-punch, or other mark to note the exhibit was judged.
5. NOTE: The following applies to Divisions I and II. Information about the Youth Show Awards is contained in the Awards Section of the schedule for Division III, Youth.
6. **Top Horticulture Division Awards** may only be given if the following requirements are met: (1) twenty (20) or more horticulture exhibits are entered in a minimum of five (5) classes listed in the schedule; (2) the horticulture exhibit is correctly named with the genus, species, and/or variety/cultivar when possible; (3) the exhibit is a blue-ribbon winner scoring 95 or above.
7. One (1) **Award of Horticultural Excellence** may be given to the highest scoring exhibit in the entire Horticulture Division. This is a rosette of green, orange, and blue ribbons.
8. One (1) **Arboreal Award** may be given to the highest scoring exhibit (as described in Horticulture rule 6) in Division 1, Horticulture, Section F. This is an award given for cut or container-grown trees and/or shrubs. Cut portions of vines are not eligible. Cut specimens must be not more than 30" in length, include apical tip, central leader, and several nodes. This is a rosette of green ribbons.
9. One (1) **Award of Merit** may be given to the highest scoring exhibit in Division 1, Horticulture, Sections A, B, C, D, E, G, H, I, K, and L, for a total of ten (10) awards. This is a rosette of orange ribbons.
10. One (1) **Collector's Showcase Award** may be given to the highest scoring exhibit in Division I, Horticulture, Section M for a total of one (1) award. Section must consist of three (3) or more classes of all collections or all displays to qualify for this award. Each specimen within the exhibit must score 95 points or more; scores for the specimens in the exhibit are not averaged. This is a rosette of brown and green ribbons.
11. One (1) **Grower's Choice Award** may be given to the highest scoring exhibit (as described in Horticulture rule 6) in Division I, Horticulture, Section J for a total of one (1) award. This is a rosette of dark green ribbons.
12. **Top Division II Design Awards** may be given only if the following criteria are met: (1) there must be a minimum of Four (4) exhibits per class or subclass in Sections A, B, and C for a top award to be offered for that Section; (2) the exhibit must be a blue-ribbon winner scoring 95 or above; (3) the exhibit, must be the work of (1) individual.

13. One (1) **Award of Design Excellence** may be given to the highest scoring exhibit (as described in rule 13) in the entire Division II, Design. This is a rosette of gold ribbons.
14. One (1) **Tricolor Award** may be given to the highest scoring exhibit (as described in rule 13) in Division II, Design, Section A. All plant material must be fresh and non-treated. This is a rosette of red, blue, and yellow ribbons.
15. One (1) **Designers Choice Award** may be given to the highest scoring exhibit (as described in Design rule 13) in Division II, Design, Section B. Plant material used in the exhibit may be dried, treated dried, and/or fresh. This is a rosette of purple ribbons.
16. One (1) **Petite Award** may be given to the highest scoring exhibit (as described in rule 13) in Division II, Design, Section C. This is a small rosette of blue and white ribbons.
17. Forty (40) **State Fair Special Awards**. These are awarded to exhibits which are judged to be worthy of at least 90 points. These awards will be offered as follows:
 - a. Division I, Horticulture
 - i. One (1) award each for Sections A through J, and M
 - ii. Eleven (11) awards for Section K
 - iii. Fourteen (14) for Section L
 - b. Division II, Design, one (1) award each for Sections A through D.
18. Two (2) **Sweepstakes Awards** will be given for each of the four (4) shows:
 - a. One (1) Horticulture Sweepstake Award Division I
 - b. One (1) Design Sweepstake Award Division II

The Sweepstakes Award goes to the exhibitor who wins the most blue ribbons in the respective Division. In the event of a tie, red ribbons will be counted, and if needed, yellow – then white. This is a rosette of green and white ribbons.

19. Two (2) **State Fair Flower Show Sweepstakes Awards** will be given as follows:
 - a. One (1) Horticulture Show Sweepstakes Award Division I
 - b. One (1) Design Show Sweepstakes Award Division II

The State Fair Flower Shows Sweepstakes Award goes to the exhibitor who wins the most blue ribbons in the respective Division. In the event of a tie, red ribbons will be counted, and if needed, yellow – then white. This is a rosette of green and white ribbons. To be eligible for the Sweepstakes Award, the exhibitor must have won two or more blue ribbons in at least two different sections and must have entered at least three (3) of the four (4) shows. This award will be given at the Awards Ceremony on Monday, September 28, 2026, at the Albuquerque Garden Center at 6:00 p.m. (10120 Lomas Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112).

20. **State Fair Flower Show Section Awards** - one (1) award for each section in the horticulture and design divisions will be given as follows:

The State Fair Flower Shows Section Award goes to the exhibitor who wins the most blue ribbons in the respective Section, over all four flower shows. In the event of a tie, red ribbons will be counted, and if needed, yellow – then white. To be eligible for the State Fair Flower Show Section Award, the exhibitor must have won two or more blue ribbons in at least two different sections and must have entered at least three (3) of the four (4) shows. This award will be given at the Awards Ceremony on Monday, September 28, 2026, at the Albuquerque Garden Center in Grace's Room at 6:00 p.m. (10120 Lomas Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112).