

# May In Bloom

## AN NGC STANDARD FLOWER SHOW



PRESENTED BY  
**THE GARDEN CLUB OF NEWTOWN**  
**THE NEWTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER**

8 SIMPSON STREET  
NEWTOWN, CT 06470  
203-270-4341  
ADA COMPLIANT

**Open and Free to the Public**

**MAY 13, 2026: 1:00 - 8:00 PM**

**MAY 14 & 15, 2026: 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM**

Member of:  
National Garden Clubs, Inc.  
New England Garden Clubs, Inc.  
The Federated Garden Clubs of CT, Inc.



3-7-2026

# Table of Contents

1	Table of Contents
1	Co-Presidents' Message – <i>"The Bee"</i>
2	Show Committee – <i>"Town Players"</i>
2-3	General Rules – <i>"The Meeting House"</i>
4-5	Awards – <i>"Newtown's Flag Pole"</i>
6-7	Division I - Horticulture – <i>"The Victory Garden"</i>
7-8	Horticulture Sections and Classes – <i>"Paths Along Orchard Hill"</i>
9	Division II - Design – <i>"Walking Down Main Street"</i>
10	Design Sections and Classes – <i>"Signs of Spring at Taunton Pond"</i>
10	Division III - Education – <i>"Garlands for the Governor's Horse Guard"</i>
11	Education Sections and Exhibits – <i>"May Hike at Fairfield Hills"</i>
11-12	Division IV - Botanical Arts – <i>"Wildflowers at Dickinson Park"</i>
12	Artistic Crafts Sections and Classes – <i>"Blooms at "The Pleasance"</i>

## Co-Presidents' Message *"The Bee"*

Welcome to the Garden Club of Newtown's "May in Bloom" Flower Show!

Thank you for joining us to celebrate our show marking the 71 years of the Club's service to the community through floral design, horticultural excellence and educational opportunities. The four Divisions of this Show present the key elements of design and gardening excellence that highlight the artistic talents and horticultural expertise of our members.

We are grateful to the Newtown Community Center for allowing us to showcase the talents of the Club's floral designers and avid gardeners. We are pleased to have two classes of designs created by the judges of our Show and another class of designs created by The Town and Country Garden Club of Newtown. We are thrilled to offer educational displays provided by the Federated Garden Clubs of CT showcasing their theme Bee Resilient and The Newtown Protect Our Pollinators.

We would like to thank everyone who made this event possible. During the past year, a committee of 21 members dedicated countless hours to make this Show happen. Our Club boasts 36 members who all contributed to this event. We also thank our sponsors and advertiser, who contributed to our program book. A huge thank you to Peggy Townsend for her countless hours as Flower Show Chair which included developing the flower show schedule. A special thank you to Marcia Cavanaugh for her beautiful artwork on the cover of this book. Another special thank you to the NGC Flower Show Judges for their thoughtful evaluation of our show.

Members of the Garden Club of Newtown would be pleased to answer any questions you may have as you enjoy the Show. Our hope is that you will be inspired as you tend to your gardens this spring or enjoy the wonders of the outdoors.

Paula Toi and Sue Greco  
Co-Presidents, The Garden Club of Newtown

Marcia Cavanaugh painted and donated the 18" x 18" framed oil painting featured on this cover. It will be sold in a Silent Auction to the highest bidder at the close of the Flower Show.

## Show Committee “Town Players”

All Flower Show Chairs can be contacted at: [info@gardenclubnewtownct.org](mailto:info@gardenclubnewtownct.org).

All Inquiries, questions and registrations sent to this email will be forwarded to the appropriate Show Chair.

**Co-Presidents:** Sue Greco & Paula Toi

**Show Chair/Schedule:** Peg Townsend

**Staging & Properties Chair:** Joan Alexander

**Horticulture Chair:** Louise Zierzow

**Horticulture Entry:** Kathy Murdy

**Horticulture Classification:** Joyce DeWolfe

**Horticulture Placement:** Eileen Holleran

**Design Chair:** Paula Toi

**Design Entry & Classification:** Sue Greco

**Education Chair:** Peggy Jepsen

**Artistic Crafts Chair:** Hope Sim

**Judges Chair:** Jane Sharpe

**Clerks Chair:** Andrea Zimmermann

**Awards Chair:** Mary Liscinsky

**Publicity Chairs:** Mary Thomas & Sue Greco

**Graphics Chairs:** Vicky Taloni & Joyce DeWolfe

**Hospitality Chair:** Vicki Boccuzzi

**Hospitality Committee:**

Linda Dunn, Sandy Stromberg, Joan Palubniak

**Hostesses:** Club Members

## GENERAL RULES “The Meeting House”

- This Flower Show conforms to the standards established by the National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC). *The Handbook for Flower Shows* (HB), as updated with revisions posted on the NGC website, is the authority for all issues not covered by the Schedule, which is the “Law of the Show.” An updated copy of *The Handbook for Flower Shows* may be downloaded from the NGC website at [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org).
- There must be an emphasis on FRESH plant material; no artificial plant material is permitted in any exhibit in any Division.
- Each exhibitor is limited to one entry per class, except in the Horticulture Division if each is a different species, variety, cultivar, type, or color.

### ELIGIBILITY FOR ENTERING THE FLOWER SHOW

- **The Garden Club of Newtown Members (GCN)** may enter all classes not designated to another group.
- **NGC Members** may enter Design Section A Class 3 and/or Section B Class 6; and all Horticulture and Educational classes.
- **Town & Country Garden Club members** may enter Design Section A Class 1; and all Horticulture classes.
- **Environmental and Educational Organizations** may enter the Education Division.

### REGISTERING TO EXHIBIT

- Advance registration for all Design, Botanical Arts, and Educational Exhibits is required by April 15<sup>th</sup> and can be made on-line at: <https://www.gardenclubnewtownct.org>
- Advance registration for Horticulture is encouraged and appreciated and can be made on line at the same above website.

## **MAKING ENTRIES**

- Entry cards are available from the Horticulture Chairmen, the Design Chairman, or the General Chairman after March 24, 2026. Horticulture entry cards are available online at <https://www.gardenclubnewtownct.org> . Cards will also be available on the day the entries are submitted. (Refer to HB, Chapter 6 for a correctly filled-out entry card.)

## **TIMES TO ENTER AND REMOVE EXHIBITS**

- Entries in all Divisions will be accepted on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, between 1:00 - 3:00 pm, and only on Wednesday May 13, 2026, from 8:00-9:00 am by special arrangements with the Show Chairman.
- All exhibitors should bring their exhibits and enter through the front doors of the Community Center.
- All Exhibits must be removed on, Saturday, May 16, 2026, from 8:00-10:00 am using the front doors of the Community Center.

## **FLOWER SHOW HOURS** (Open to the public)

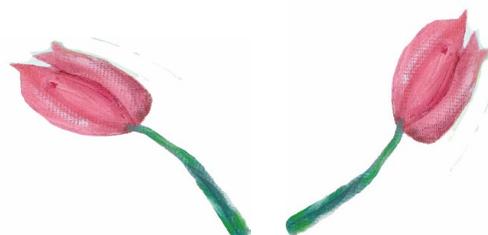
- Wednesday, May 13, 2026, from 1:00 pm - 8:00 pm
- Thursday, May 14, 2026 from 9:00 am – 8:00 pm
- Friday, May 15, 2026 from 9:00 am – 8:00 pm

## **JUDGING** - Wednesday, May 13, 2026, 10 am – 12:30 pm

- The Classification Chairman for each Division checks exhibits for conformity to the schedule prior to judging. Final determination for conformance is the Judges' responsibility.
- The General Chairman and the Classification Chairman 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.
- The decisions of the Judges are final. Awards may be withheld if not merited. There must be an emphasis on fresh plant material. No artificial plant material is permitted in any exhibit in any Division.
- The Garden Club of Newtown and the Newtown Community Center will strive to assure the safety of all items after arrival and placement, but is not responsible for any loss or damage to exhibits. All property should be marked with the name and phone number of the exhibitor.
- 

## **ENDANGERED AND INVASIVE PLANTS POLICIES**

- Plant Material listed on the following websites is prohibited in any Division: Connecticut Invasive Plant List: [https://cipwg.uconn.edu/invasive\\_plant\\_list/](https://cipwg.uconn.edu/invasive_plant_list/). (Listed by scientific names and common names.
- Endangered, Threatened & Special Concern Plants in CT: <https://portal.ct.gov/deep/endangered-species/endangered-species-listings/endangered-threatened-special-concern-plants>.



# AWARDS

*"Newtown's Flag Pole"*

**THE NGC STANDARD SYSTEM OF AWARDING** is used in all Divisions: (HB Pg. 25)

- Only one (1) first-place (blue) ribbon per class or subclass; must score 90 points or more
- Only one (1) second-place (red) ribbon per class or subclass; must score 85 points or more
- Only one (1) third-place (yellow) ribbon per class or subclass; must score 80 points or more
- One (1) or more Honorable Mention (white) ribbons as merited; must score 75 points or more
- 90+ (plus) points may be awarded for those Exhibits scoring 90 points or more but are not the First-Place or Blue-ribbon winner.

## **SCALES OF POINTS FOR ALL DIVISIONS**

- Scales of Points are stated in the *"Handbook for Flower Shows,"* Chapter 14, pg. 129-131.
- Scales of Points are based on perfection (100 points). Each Exhibit is evaluated individually. Exhibits are ranked by the points they receive.
- An award must be withheld if the exhibit does not meet the point value for the ribbon.

# HORTICULTURE AWARDS

*"Edmond Town Hall"*

## **National Garden Clubs - Division Award**

- **Award of Horticultural Excellence** – Only one (1) award may be offered to the highest scoring, blue-ribbon exhibit, scoring 95 or more with correctly identified binomial name or currently acceptable scientific designation, entered by an individual in the entire Horticulture Division. Rosette of green, blue and orange ribbons. (HB pg. 40)

## **National Garden Clubs - Section Awards**

- **Arboreal Award** – **Two** (2) are offered to the cut arboreal specimen or container-grown tree and/or shrub which is the highest scoring, correctly named, blue-ribbon winner, scoring 95 or above, meeting all requirements in **Section H, Classes 35,36,37,38, and Section I, Classes 39,40,41,42,43,44**. Cut specimens must be no longer than 30" in length, including apical tip, central leader and several nodes. Rosette of green ribbons. (HB pg. 40-41).
- **Award of Merit** – **Three** are offered to cut non-woody specimens which are correctly named, blue-ribbon winners, scoring 95 or above, meeting all requirements in each of **Sections A, Classes 1,2,3,4,5; Section B, Classes 6,7,8,9, and Section C, Classes 10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18**. Rosette of orange ribbons. (HB pg. 41)
- **Grower's Choice Award** – **Four** are offered to the container-grown Exhibits which are the highest scoring, correctly named, blue-ribbon winners, scoring 95 or above, meeting all requirements in each of **Sections D, Classes 19,20,21,22; Section E, Classes 23,24,25,26; Section F, Classes 27,28,29,30,31; Section G, Classes 32,33,34, and Section J, Classes 45-46,47,48**. Rosette of dark green ribbons. (HB pg. 41)

## DESIGN AWARDS

*"Holcombe Hill Wildlife Preserve"*

### National Garden Clubs - Division Awards

- **The Award of Design Excellence:** One (1) award may be offered to the highest scoring blue-ribbon exhibit scoring 95 or more in the entire Design Division entered by an individual. Rosette of gold ribbons. (HB Pg. 42).

### National Garden Clubs - Section Awards:

- **Designer's Choice Award:** Two (2) are offered and may be awarded to **Section A, Classes 1, 2 & 3 and Section B, Classes 4, 5 & 6** to a blue-ribbon winner with 95 or more points. Plant material used in the exhibit may be dried, treated dried and /or fresh. Rosette of purple ribbons. (HB Pg. 42).

## EDUCATION AWARDS

*"Paugussett State Forest"*

### National Garden Clubs – Division Award

- **Educational Top Exhibitor Award:** One (1) award may be offered to the highest blue-ribbon Exhibit, scoring 95 or more, entered by one or more exhibitors, in **Section A, exhibits 1,2,3,4**. The exhibit may be the work of an individual or organization. Rosette of brown and white ribbons. (HB pg. 43-44).

## ARTISTIC CRAFTS AWARDS

*"Lake Zoar Sandbar"*

### National Garden Clubs – Section Award:

- **Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts Award:** One (1) is offered and may be awarded to the highest scoring, blue-ribbon Exhibit scoring 95 points or more, entered by an individual, meeting all requirements in **Section A, Classes 1,2,3**. Winning exhibit must contain some plant material. Rosette of navy-blue ribbons. (HB pg.43- 44).

## LOCAL AWARDS

*"Newtown General Store"*

- **Popular Vote Award:** Two awards may be offered: one (1) certificate will be awarded to the first-place winner, selected by ballot, as the people's favorite exhibit in the Design Division and one (1) certificate will be awarded in the Horticulture Division as the people's favorite Horticulture Exhibit.
- **The Sweepstakes Award:** May be awarded by the Show Committee to the Garden Club of Newtown member winning the most blue-ribbons in the entire show. In case of a tie, reds will be counted. Rosette of green and white ribbons. (HB Pg. 46).

# Division I – HORTICULTURE

*“The Victory Garden”*

## HORTICULTURE RULES

1. The NGC Exhibit Policies are printed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 6, and *Exhibiting in the Horticulture Division*.
2. 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*.
3. All plant material must be fresh and have been grown by the exhibitor.
4. 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. (Consult the *Handbook for Flower Shows, Exhibiting in the Horticulture Division*, Chapter 6)
5. Entry Cards (available from show chairmen and at the club website <https://www.gardenclubnewtownct.org> ) need to be filled out in advance, if possible. Use Waterproof ink when legibly printing on cards. Refer to the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 6 pg. 57 for a correctly filled out entry card.
6. Cut specimens should not have foliage below the water line, except for *Gladiolus*. All cut specimens must be displayed in clear glass bottles of appropriate size and may be wedged by the exhibitor with plastic wrap or bubble wrap. Bottles are the responsibility of the exhibitor; some bottles will be available from the committee.
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 a foliage plant if they are grown for their leaves.
8. Specimens with a class distinction in the schedule may not be entered in “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 Scales of Points for Horticulture are located in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 14.
11. All classes are open to NGC members; advance registration is encouraged and may be made by contacting the Horticulture Co-Chairmen at: [info@gardenclubnewtownct.org](mailto:info@gardenclubnewtownct.org)
12. More than one entry per class may be made by an exhibitor, provided each is a different cultivar, type, or color. Classes may be subdivided by color, type, or cultivar on the day of the show, if necessary.
13. All exhibits must have been grown by the exhibitor and have been in his/her possession for the appropriate number of days per the chart in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 6, pg. 55. For example: Houseplants - **90 days**; **Combination Plantings - 6 weeks**; **Arboreals – 6 months**.

14. Horticulture entries and container grown plants will be received on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, from 1:00 - 3:00 pm, and by special arrangement with the Horticulture Chairman on Wednesday morning from 8:00 - 9:00 am.
15. Horticulture Entry Cards will be available from the Chairman, beginning March 24, 2026. They are to be filled out in advance of Exhibit placement. Information to be included on each card includes: Name, Section Letter, Class Number, Botanical Name, and Common Name, if applicable to the Specimen. (Refer to HB Chapter 6, pg. 57 for a correctly filled-out entry card.)
16. All container grown plants should be exhibited in clay, or neutral-colored pots. Plastic pots are acceptable. If decorative containers are used, they will not be considered advantageous in judging; they may be unobtrusively double potted.
17. Double-potting of container-grown plants is permitted. The inner pot must not be visible. Unobtrusive soil surface coverings such as coarse sand, pottery grit, pea gravel, river stones, *etc.* can be used on top of container-grown specimens and combination plantings. No moss of any type is permitted.
18. The classification Committee may refuse any entry that does not conform, is diseased, or is insect ridden. All entries should be well groomed.

## HORTICULTURE SECTIONS AND CLASSES

*“Newtown Blooms”*

Eligible for Award of Horticultural Excellence

### **Section A: “Walking Barb’s Trail”**

Eligible for the Award of Merit

#### **Perennials Grown from Bulbs**

(Cut Specimen)

- Class 1: *Hyacinthus* (Hyacinth)
- Class 2: *Muscari* (Grape hyacinth)
- Class 3: *Narcissus* (Daffodil)
- Class 4: *Tulipa* (Tulip)
- Class 5: Any Other Worthy

### Section B: “Shade at Lake Lillinonah”

Eligible for The Award of Merit

#### Perennials Grown for Foliage

(Cut Specimen)

- Class 6: Ferns
- Class 7: *Heuchera* (Coral Bells)
- Class 8: *Hosta*
- Class 9: Any Other Worthy

### **Section C: “Curtis House Historical Gardens”**

Eligible for The Award of Merit

#### **Flowering Perennials (Cut Specimen)**

1 stem if large, 3 stems if small

- Class 10: *Aquilegia* (Columbine)
  - a. Native
  - b. Cultivar
- Class 11: *Dicentra* (Bleeding Heart)
- Class 12: *Helleborus* (Lenten rose)
- Class 13: *Iberis* (Candytuft)
- Class 14: *Papaver* (Poppy)
- Class 15: *Phlox* (Creeping)
- Class 16: *Primula* (Primrose)
- Class 17: *Viola* (Violet, Pansies, Johnny-Jump-Ups)
- Class 18: Any Other Worthy

Section D: "Looking Down Hawley Lane"

Eligible for Grower's Choice Award

**Container Plants Grown for Foliage**

(Pot not to exceed 16")

Class 19: *Dracaena trifasciata* (Snake Plant)

Class 20: Ferns

Class 21: Herbs

Class 22: Any Other Worthy

Section E: "Spring Sports at Treadwell Park"

Eligible for Grower's Choice Award

**Container Plants Grown for Flowers**

(Pot not to exceed 12")

Class 23: Kalanchoe

Class 24: Orchids

Class 25: Saintpaulia (African violet)

Class 26: Any Other Worthy

Section F: "Sticks and Stones Farm"

Eligible for Grower's Choice Award

**Container Grown Cacti and Succulents**

Class 27: *Agave* (Century plant)

Class 28: *Aloe*

Class 29: Columnar Cacti

Class 30: Globular Cacti

Class 31: Any Other Worthy

Section G. "Library Knot Garden"

Eligible for Grower's Choice Award

**Container and Plants as Displayed**

Class 32: *Bromeliads*

Class 33: *Tillandsia* (Air Plants)

Class 34: Any Other Worthy

Section H: "May Colors at Orchard Hill"

Eligible for the Arboreal Award

**Flowering Arboreal Branches**

(Cut specimen not to exceed 30")

Must have several nodes and 1 apical tip)

Class 35: *Cercis* (Redbud)

Class 36: *Cornus* (Dogwood)

Class 37: *Chaenomeles* (Quince)

Class 38: Any Other Worthy

Section I: "Views from Castle Hill"

Eligible for Arboreal Award

Arboreals Grown for Foliage

(Cut Branch not to exceed 30")

Class 39: *Buxus* (Boxwood)

Class 40: *Ilex crenata* (Japanese Holly)

Class 41: *Picea* (Spruce)

Class 42: *Pinus* (Pine)

Class 43: *Thuja* (Arborvitae)

Class 44: Any Other Worthy

Section J: "Blooms Along the Housatonic River"

Eligible for Grower's Choice Award

**Combination Plantings**

Container not to exceed 16 inches in diameter

Class 45: **Desertariums** are terrariums with cacti and other succulents.

Class 46: **Dish Garden:** miniature landscape in open low-volume shallow container.

Class 47: **Planter:** a grouping of at least 3 plants in an indoor or outdoor container.

Class 48: **Terrarium:** miniature landscape in container with high transparent sides. The top may be closed or open.

**Combination Plantings:** A grouping of three (3) or more botanically different plants with similar cultural requirements such as light, water and humidity. Entry must include a key card (no larger than 4"x 6") identifying each plant by genus and specific epithet; and the location of each plant. Natural accessories permitted in all combination plantings but must be in scale with plantings, container, and theme appropriate to the plants.

## Division II – DESIGN

*“A Walk Down Main Street”*

### DESIGN RULES

1. The NGC Exhibit Policies are printed in the ***Handbook for Flower Shows***, Chapter 7, Exhibiting in the Design Division, NGC Policies and Guidelines.
2. Advance registration is required and should be made on-line at <https://www.gardenclubnewtownct.org>. Entries should be registered no later than April 15, 2026.
3. Plant material and non-plant material permitted and not permitted in the Design Division are printed in the ***Handbook for Flower Shows***, Chapter 7.
4. All plant material used in the design must be identified on a card (no larger than 4” x 6”), provided by the exhibitor and included with the entry card. Botanical names may also be listed, but are not required.
5. The exhibitor is required to conform to the stated description and limitations of the Design Type if named in the class. Rules for Design Types and Advanced Design Types are printed in the ***Handbook for Flower Shows***, Chapter 7.
6. The Scale of Points for Design is listed in the ***Handbook for Flower Shows***, Chapter 14. There is one scale of points for all designs.
7. Designer is on his/her honor that the design being entered has not been previously entered or judged in an NGC Flower Show.
8. The designer has the freedom to choose traditional or creative style with any design listed unless restricted by the schedule.
9. An exhibitor is allowed only one entry in each class, and each design must be the work of one individual.
10. Plant material need not have been grown by the exhibitor (unless required by the schedule).
11. Fresh plant material may not ever be treated in any manner. Dried plant material may be treated unless restricted by the schedule.
12. If a Designer is unable to fulfill his/her exhibit responsibility, it is the Designer’s responsibility to find a substitute designer and notify the Design Chairman of the substitution.
13. Top Awards may be given at the discretion of the judges to a blue-ribbon winner with 95 points or more.



# DESIGN SECTIONS AND CLASSES *“Maytime in the Borough”*

## Award of Design Excellence

### Section A: *“Tadpoles & Frogs at Taunton Pond”* Section Eligible for Designer’s Choice Award

Class 1. *“Waterfall of Colors” (4 Entries)*  
**Open to Town & Country Members**  
**Cascade Design** staged on a 42” tall black pedestal with a 14” square top in front of a beige neutral-colored wall. Underlay supplied by the exhibitor is permitted, but not required. Staging Panel is not permitted.

Class 2. *“Creative Explosions in May” (4 Entries)*  
**Traditional or Creative Parallel Design** staged on half of a 6’ long x 24” deep x 29” high table, covered in white and skirted with black fabric and staged in front of a beige neutral-colored wall. Exhibit may not exceed 24” wide and deep, and 36” high. Underlay and Staging Panel supplied by the Exhibitor are required.

Class 3. *“Underwater Finds” (4 Entries)*  
**(Open to NGC Judges)**  
**Underwater Design** staged on 42” high black pedestal with a 14” square top in front of a beige neutral-colored wall. Underlay supplied by the exhibitor is permitted, but not required; Staging Panel is not permitted.

### Section B: *“Wandering Through Ram Pasture”* Section Eligible for Designer’s Choice Award

Class 4. *“Spring Lines Emerging” (4 Entries)*  
**Traditional or Creative Line-Design** using the and gold colors of Newtown High School. Staged on half of a 6’ long x 24” deep x 29” high table, covered in white and skirted in black. Underlay and Staging Panel are required. Optional white Tri-fold panels supplied by the committee may be used as a Staging Panel.

Class 5. *“Colors of Spring” (4 Entries)*  
**Traditional or Creative Mass Design** staged on half of a 6’ long x 24” deep x 29” high table covered in white, skirted in black, and staged in front of a beige neutral-colored wall. Underlay and Staging Panel supplied by the Exhibitor are required.

Class 6. *“Aquila’s Nest Vineyard” (4 Entries)*  
**(Open to NGC Judges)**  
**Creative Design** staged on a black pedestal 42” tall with a 16” square top, staged in front of a beige neutral-colored wall. Underlay is permitted, but not required; staging panel is not permitted.

## Division III - EDUCATION

*“May Hike at Fairfield Hills”*

### EDUCATION RULES

1. 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. Exhibits to be judged must not show name of Exhibitor until after judging.
2. An exhibit must occupy a minimum of eighteen (18) square feet of surface area to be eligible for an Educational Top Exhibitor Award. Details of the staging for each Exhibit will be available from the Education Division Chairman and the Staging Chairman.

3. The Scale of Points for Educational Exhibits is in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 14, pg. 130.
4. Section A, Exhibits 1, 2, 3, 4 will each be staged on a 6' W x 24" D x 29 H table, covered in white and skirted in black.
5. Advance registration for an Educational Exhibit is required by March 24, 2026, by contacting the Education Division Chairman: [info@gardenclubnewtownct.org](mailto:info@gardenclubnewtownct.org)
6. Although it is not mandatory, NGC encourages the use of fresh plant material in Educational Exhibits where appropriate. Artificial plant material is not permitted.
7. Entry Cards will be available from the Education Division Chairman, beginning March 24, 2026. Entry Cards should include all plant material, with botanical and/or common names, if used in the display. All plant material used in the display should be listed on a card no larger than 4"x6".
8. Hand out materials add to the educational value, but are not required. Each part of the exhibit should contribute to the distinctive overall effect.
9. All exhibits must be placed at the Community Center on May 12, 2026, from 1:00 – 3:00 pm.

## **EDUCATION SECTION AND EXHIBITS**

*"Garlands for the Governor's Horse Guard"*

### **Section A "Ferris Acres Creamery"**

Eligible for Educational Top Exhibitor Award

#### **Exhibit 1.** Pictorial history of The Garden Club of Newtown's 71 Years and Now

The Garden Club of Newtown is Celebrating 71 Years of Community Spirit supporting conservation of natural resources; and promoting civic beauty through horticulture and artistic design.

#### **Exhibit 2.** Trees are Important to People and Pollinators

Educational display from Bartlett Tree Company; including the best practices when planting trees; Insights into caring for trees; and seedling giveaways of popular CT Flowering Trees.

#### **Exhibit 3.** Protect our Pollinators: Educational Display explaining why pollinators are important; why pollinators need protection; and which plants support their life cycle.

## **Division IV – BOTANICAL ARTS - "Wildflowers at Dickinson Park"**

### **ARTISTIC CRAFTS RULES**

Artistic crafts are exhibits using plant materials to combine horticulture, design, and creativity to objects with another function. Some examples are: decorated wearable apparel like hats or shoes and decorated household objects like bird houses and baskets. The designer may choose to cover all or part of the object

with fresh or dried plant material.

1. Advance registration is required and should be made on-line at <https://www.gardenclubnewtownct.org>. Entries should be registered no later than April 15, 2026.
2. All Botanical Artistic Crafts Exhibits must contain some fresh and/or dried plant material. Only dried plant material may be treated.
3. No artificial, endangered, or locally invasive plant material is permitted in any exhibit. The Scale of Points for judging Botanical Artistic Crafts is listed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 14, pg. 131.
4. The rules for Botanical Artistic Crafts are printed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 10, pg. 94-95.
5. The General Guidelines for all Designs apply as printed in Chapter 7 of the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, including a card (no larger than 4" x 6") provided by the exhibitor and listing all plant material with botanical and/or common names used in the Botanical Artistic crafts design.
6. Each exhibit must be the work of one individual.
7. Staging details are listed in this schedule's class descriptions. Further details will be provided by the Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts Chairman Hope Sim, upon request.

## ARTISTIC CRAFTS SECTIONS AND CLASSES

*"Blooms Personified"*

Section A: "Labor Day Parade on Main Street"

**Eligible for Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts Award**

Class 1. A **hat**, provided by the exhibitor, decorated with fresh or dried plant material. Hat not to exceed 16" in circumference or height. Plant material should cover no less than 30 percent of the form used. All plant material must be listed on a card (no larger than 4" x 6"). Hat staged on a mannequin head provided by the committee.

Class 2. A **lady's shoe**, (1 shoe) provided by the exhibitor, decorated with fresh or dried plant material. Plant material should cover no less than 30 percent of the form used. All plant material must be listed on a card (no larger than 4" x 6"). Lady's shoe staged on an acrylic stand provided by the committee.

Class 3. A **watering can** provided by the exhibitor, decorated with fresh or dried plant material. The watering can should be no larger than 12 "high and wide. Plant material should cover no less than 30 percent of the form used. Watering can staged on a plant stand in front of a beige neutral-colored wall.