

FLOWERS

Rev 2.25.26

Superintendent: **Audrey Gary: (302)-632-7617**
Assistant Superintendents: Andy Hamm, Kathy Cassidy, Ken Hamm, Susan Krabill, Jenna Nickerson, Bill Melvin, Barbara Melvin, & Kate Kreppin

Dates & Times:

| Date | Time | Description | Location |
|--------------------|--------------------|--|----------------|
| Wednesday, July 22 | 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM | Entry drop-off (Classes 20-34 & 72-93) | Dover Building |
| Sunday, July 26 | 10:00 AM - NOON | Entry drop-off (Classes 1-19, 35-71, & 94-106) | Dover Building |
| Sunday, August 2 | 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM | Entries must be removed from the grounds | Dover Building |

Arrival & Departure:

1. Entries will be received on **EITHER** Wednesday, July 22 between 2:00 PM and 5:00 PM in the Dover Building **OR** Sunday, July 26 between 10:00 AM and 12:00 NOON in the Dover Building. **Check the specific division you entered in to find your check in date and time.** Vehicle Access onto the property is permitted at Gate 2 until 12:00 NOON.
2. On Sunday, July 26, competitors who wish to deliver their entries to the Dover Building via car before 11:45 AM must do so by going to Exhibitor's Gate 2 (near the Quillen Arena) where they will be given a temporary permit that will allow them to drive to the Raughley Street entrance of the Dover Building. Your vehicle **MUST BE REMOVED** from the grounds and moved into the regular parking lot prior to 12:00 NOON.
3. Judging will begin in the department on Wednesday, July 22 and Sunday, July 26 after entry drop-off.
4. All entries must be removed between 8:00 AM and 11:00 AM on Sunday, August 2.

General Rules & Regulations:

1. Entries can only be made online via the [Delaware State Fair's website](#) beginning 9:00 AM April 1, 2026 thru 11:59 PM June 1, 2026.
2. Only one entry per exhibitor per class will be accepted. Late entries will not be accepted.
3. The Dover Building will open daily from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM. (except when there is judging in the department). Exhibitors in this department are asked to read and observe the rules governing this department.
4. In order for the Delaware State Fair to better prepare for all exhibits, we ask that you only enter those classes which you will be able to complete and show at this year's fair.
5. Any and all premiums may be adjusted by The Delaware State Fair Board of Directors based on funding sources.

Department Rules & Regulations:

1. Care will be taken to protect the exhibits from injury, but the Delaware State Fair will not be responsible in any way for accidents, loss and damage by water, fire, theft, or otherwise, whatever may be the cause or extent of the damage or loss sustained. All exhibits are entered at the owner's risk.

2. Exhibitors must securely attach tags to their items with the assistance of Department Personnel. (Entries will not be accepted by department personnel until entry tags are securely affixed.)
3. Please read your rules carefully. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Department Superintendent or one of the Assistant Superintendents. In the case of a tie, the judges will consider which exhibitor interpreted the rules the best.
4. All exhibitors must be non-professional. All entries must be the work of an exhibitor who does not use this as a means of income. You may not work in a florist shop (previously or currently) or teach a class involving flowers, horticulture or design.
5. All horticulture cut specimens must be grown by the exhibitor and displayed in water. All horticulture potted specimens must have been in the exhibitor's possession for 90 days prior to the start of the Fair (unless otherwise specified).
6. Accessories and objects added to a design, other than plant material, are permitted when stated in the specific class information and should be in proportion to the design.
7. Fresh plant material must not be artificially colored.
8. Classes having less than four (4) entries are not guaranteed to have a First (1st), Second (2nd), and Third (3rd) premium awarded. Due to lack of competition, judges reserve the right to only award select premiums.
9. Honorable mention can be awarded at the judges' discretion.
10. Any special instructions regarding the care and watering of the specimens should be noted or attached to the back of the entry tag.
11. All exhibit containers must allow for ample water supply.
12. Failure to follow any of the rules will result in disqualification.
13. Florist flowers are not accepted unless otherwise noted.
14. All loose pieces must be secured.

Artistic Design-Fresh

Adult: Ages 14 and up

Arrive Sunday, July 26 between 10:00 AM and 12:00 NOON in the Dover Building

A design is an arrangement judged for detail and color. Homegrown flowers ONLY.

Use accessories only where stated. No sprayed or tinted flowers allowed.

| | | |
|---------|--------|--------|
| 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
| \$12.25 | \$7.25 | \$5.00 |

| Class # | Class Description | Awards |
|---------|---|--------|
| 1 | My Favorite Color: A fresh "monochromatic" arrangement to represent your favorite color. Can use shades of all of one color. | |
| 2 | Garden Party: An arrangement of fresh flowers. Container of your choice. | |
| 3 | 2026 Fair Theme: "Celebrating America's 250th": An arrangement using your favorite Fair event. (Accessories permitted must be attached) | |
| 4 | Hot, Hot, Hot: A fresh arrangement of red, yellow and orange using one or more chili peppers and a terra cotta container. | |
| 5 | My Memories: An arrangement of fresh flowers inspired by your favorite vacation photo. Can use accessories. Not to exceed 24" in width or height. | |
| 6 | Trend Setter: An arrangement of Designer's choice of fresh flowers (accessories permitted). Florist flowers permitted in this entry only. Free style. | |

| Class # | Class Description | Awards |
|--------------|---|----------------|
| 7 | Celebration: A fresh arrangement using your favorite New Year's theme. Not to exceed 20" in height or width. (Accessories must be attached.) | |
| 8 | Now Showing: An arrangement of Designer's choice of FRESH FLOWERS showcasing your favorite movie. Florist flowers permitted in this entry ONLY, accessories permitted must be attached. | |
| Do not enter | Adult: Artistic Design-Fresh Judges Award | Rosette & \$20 |

Artistic Design-Fresh & Silk

Junior: Ages 5-13

Arrive Sunday, July 26 between 10:00 AM and 12:00 NOON in the Dover Building.

A design is an arrangement judged for detail and color. Homegrown flowers ONLY.

Use accessories only where stated. No sprayed or tinted flowers allowed.

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|--------|--------|--------|
| 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
| \$9.50 | \$7.25 | \$5.00 |

| Class # | Class Description | Awards |
|--------------|--|----------------|
| 9 | Just for Fun - Age 8 & under: A creature dressed for the Fair made from vegetables or natural materials. NO FRUITS. Please place your creature (animal, insect, bird, etc) on a disposable base. | |
| 10 | Just for Fun - Age 9 to 13: A creature dressed for the Fair made from vegetables or natural materials. NO FRUITS. Please place your creature (animal, insect, bird, etc) on a disposable base. | |
| 11 | Movie Buddy: An arrangement of fresh flowers centered on a favorite movie character. Accessories permitted but must be attached. | |
| 12 | Bookworm: An arrangement of fresh flowers inspired by your favorite story. | |
| 13 | Fair Ride: A fresh arrangement inspired by your favorite ride at the Fair. Accessories permitted but must be attached. | |
| 14 | Lazy Days of Summer: A SILK wreath of silk daisies depicting a lazy summer day. Wreath not to exceed 18". Accessories permitted but must be attached. | |
| 15 | Saddle Up: A SILK arrangement in a cowboy boot – No accessories permitted. Not to exceed 24" in width or height. | |
| 16 | Down on the Farm: An arrangement of FRESH flowers centered on your favorite farm equipment. Accessories permitted but must be attached. | |
| 17 | Game Night: An arrangement of fresh flowers using your favorite game. No loose pieces! | |
| 18 | Candy Gram: A SILK wreath or arrangement using your favorite candy theme. Can be more than one type of candy. No loose pieces! | |
| 19 | The Great Outdoors: A permanent arrangement made of items you find on the Nature Trail. (Ex. Pine cones, nuts, bark, feathers, shells, etc. BE CREATIVE!) | |
| Do not enter | Junior: Artistic Design-Fresh & Silk Judges Award | Rosette & \$20 |

Artistic Design-Silks

Adult: Ages 14 and up

Arrive Wednesday, July 22 between 2:00 PM and 5:00 PM to the Dover Building.

Please be sure your design is secured in or to its container and properly weighted.

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| 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
| \$12.25 | \$7.25 | \$5.00 |

| Class # | Class Description | Awards |
|--------------|---|----------------|
| 20 | Grandmother's Attic: An arrangement of silk flowers in an antique item of your choice. Not to exceed 18" in height. | |
| 21 | Fruit, Fruit, Fruit: A silk arrangement using artificial fruit in a container of your choice. Not to exceed 24". | |
| 22 | It's a Bling Thing Topiary: An arrangement using something sparkly. Not to exceed 24" in height. Please be sure to weight the container so it's not top-heavy. | |
| 23 | In Memory: An arrangement of silk flowers using butterflies. Not to exceed 24". | |
| 24 | Hurricane Christmas: A Christmas arrangement using a hurricane lamp or globe. Please make sure globe is securely attached. | |
| 25 | Summer Breeze: An arrangement of silk flowers in a basket appropriate for a porch no higher than 30" and not to hang. | |
| 26 | For the Door: A silk design FOR THE DOOR using a fan, broom or hat ONLY. No wreaths. Any theme. Make to hang. | |
| 27 | Black and White: An arrangement of black and white ONLY using photos or film. Use your imagination. Not to exceed 15" in height. | |
| 28 | Pitcher Perfect: An arrangement of silk flowers in a pitcher. Pitcher itself not to exceed 8" in height. | |
| 29 | Thanksgiving Delight: A silk arrangement designed for the Thanksgiving table. | |
| 30 | How Does Your Garden Grow: A SILK arrangement in a Watering Can, not to exceed 20" in height. Please weight your watering can. | |
| 31 | Your Favorite Holiday: A silk wreath to depict your favorite holiday (Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc.). Wreath not to exceed 24" in diameter and must have a hanger attached. | |
| 32 | Something to Celebrate a Table Top Tree: A seasonal tree of your choice to depict your favorite celebration. Not to exceed 24". Please weight the base. Be Creative! | |
| 33 | Saddle Up: A silk arrangement in a cowboy boot. No accessories permitted. Not to exceed 24" in width or height. | |
| 34 | Natural Nature: Made of dried and natural material from nature. Use your imagination i.e. Feather, stone, moss, pods etc. | |
| Do not enter | Adult: Artistic Design-Silk Judges Award | Rosette & \$20 |

Cut Flower Design

Adult: Ages 14 and up

Arrive Sunday, July 26 between 10:00 AM and 12:00 NOON in the Dover Building

Emphasis on quality & placement of flowers. Accessories are NOT Permitted. No other foliage is permitted. Exhibitor's choice of container, it can use floral foam or vase. Please make sure the design is not top heavy.

Homegrown flowers only. No florist flowers, no sprayed or tinted flowers.

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|--------|--------|--------|
| 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
| \$9.50 | \$7.25 | \$5.00 |

| Class # | Class Description | Awards |
|--------------|--|----------------|
| 35 | Grouping or Arrangement using Ageratum (Blue, white or pink: the 3 colors may be mixed). | |
| 36 | Grouping or Arrangement using Marigolds: Any size or colors | |
| 37 | Grouping or Arrangement of Snapdragons | |
| 38 | Grouping or Arrangement of Roses | |
| 39 | Grouping or Arrangement of Zinnias: Dwarf, giant or mixed | |
| 40 | Grouping or Arrangement of Herbs: Mixed varieties | |
| 41 | Grouping or Arrangement of Daisies: Any variety | |
| 42 | Grouping or Arrangement of Gladiolas: Any variety, height not to exceed 26". Please weight container (Sand, rocks, bricks, wet oasis, etc.). | |
| 43 | Grouping or Arrangement of Sunflowers: Small - any variety. | |
| 44 | Grouping or Arrangement of Strawflowers: Any variety - must be home grown, height not to exceed 24". Please weight container (Sand, rocks, bricks, wet oasis, etc.). | |
| 45 | Grouping or Arrangement of Petunias | |
| Do not enter | Adult: Cut Flower Design Judges Award | Rosette & \$20 |

Cut Flower Specimen

Adult: Ages 14 and up

1 Stem per class specimen.

Arrive Sunday, July 26 between 10:00 AM and 12:00 NOON in the Dover Building

1 stem of one variety in a 4" or higher clear glass vase, unless otherwise specified.

Homegrown flowers only. No florist flowers, no sprayed or tinted flowers.

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|--------|--------|--------|
| 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
| \$9.50 | \$7.25 | \$5.00 |

| Class # | Class Description | Awards |
|---------|-------------------|--------|
| 46 | Snapdragons | |

| Class # | Class Description | Awards |
|--------------|--|----------------|
| 47 | Hydrangea: 1 stem | |
| 48 | Dahlias | |
| 49 | Zinnias: Open Category | |
| 50 | Echinacea: Coneflower, any variety | |
| 51 | Marigold | |
| 52 | Basil: Any variety | |
| 53 | Petunia: Single, any color | |
| 54 | Petunia: Double, any color | |
| 55 | Lambs Ear: 1 leaf, min. of 3" leaf, any variety | |
| 56 | Salvia: Any variety | |
| 57 | Plumed Celosia | |
| 58 | Gladiolas: 1 stalk, not to exceed 24" tall. Use pebbles, marbles or sand to weight vase. | |
| 59 | Rose, Standard: 1 flower must be open | |
| 60 | Rose, Hybrid miniature: Flower must be open | |
| 61 | Rose, Knockout: Flower must be open | |
| 62 | Fern Frond: Any variety | |
| 63 | Sunflower: Small | |
| 64 | Ageratum: White, blue or pink | |
| 65 | Vinca: 1 stem, any color must be blooming | |
| 66 | Daisy: 1 blossom | |
| 67 | Coleus : Any variety | |
| 68 | Crested Celosia: 1 head, any color, large variety | |
| 69 | Crested Celosia: 1 head, any color, small variety | |
| 70 | Oriental Lilies: 1 stem any variety with at least 1 open bud | |
| 71 | Cala Lillies: Any color | |
| Do not enter | Adult: Cut Flower Specimen Judges Award | Rosette & \$20 |

Horticulture

Adult: Ages 14 and up

Arrive Wednesday, July 22 at 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM in the Dover Building.

Plants & containers should be clean, with no dead leaves or flowers. Do not use oil or plant shine. No exhibit with disease or insect damage will be accepted. Please write plant name and specific care instructions on the back of your entry tag. NO entry to exceed 35 lbs.

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|---------|---------|--------|
| 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
| \$14.50 | \$10.00 | \$5.50 |

| Class # | Class Description | Awards |
|--------------|---|----------------|
| 72 | Foliage House Plant: One variety in container not to hang. Height limit 30" | |
| 73 | Flowering House Plant: One variety grown primarily for flowers, not to hang. | |
| 74 | Unusual Container with Foliage House Plant: One variety in container, not to hang. | |
| 75 | Pothos: Not to hang. | |
| 76 | Most Unusual House Plant: Not to hang. | |
| 77 | African Violet: Single plant, one crown per pot, must be in bloom. Not to hang. | |
| 78 | Fern: Any variety, not to hang. Springeri is not classified as a fern. | |
| 79 | Begonia: Other than tuberous. Not to hang. | |
| 80 | Cactus Garden: Four varieties, container not to exceed 10" in width or height. Not to hang. | |
| 81 | Succulent: Not to hang. Container not to exceed 10" in width or height, any variety; only one variety per pot. | |
| 82 | Window Box: 24" wide x 20" overall - mixed varieties. | |
| 83 | Blooming container garden: No higher than 24" in height – 14" in diameter, round or square. Must have watering tray. Not to hang. | |
| 84 | Hens & Chickens: In an unusual container. Not to hang. One variety per container. | |
| 85 | Bonsai: Not to hang. | |
| 86 | Herb Garden: Container not to exceed 14". Must be 3 or more varieties. Not to exceed 35 lbs. | |
| 87 | Foliage Hanging Baskets: Foliage only. One variety only | |
| 88 | Tuberous Begonia: Not to hang, any variety | |
| 89 | Caladium: Any variety, one plant per pot, not to hang. | |
| 90 | Orchid Plant: One plant in pot. | |
| 91 | Flowering Hanging Basket: One variety only. | |
| 92 | Fairy Garden Container: Four plant varieties. Must include Fairy accessories. | |
| 93 | Terrarium: Mixed variety of plants. MUST HAVE LID. Open containers will be disqualified. | |
| Do not enter | Adult: Horticulture Judges Award | Rosette & \$20 |

Horticulture

Junior: Ages 5 - 13

Arrive Sunday, July 26, between 10:00 AM and 12:00 NOON in the Dover Building

Homegrown flowers only. Do not use oils or plant shine. No exhibits with disease or insect damage will be accepted. Please write plant name and specific care instructions on the back of your entry tag.

Classes 94 thru 101: 1 stem of one variety in a 4" or higher clear glass vase, unless otherwise specified.

Plant Classes 102 thru 106: Plant and containers should be clean, no dead leaves or flowers.

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|--------|--------|--------|
| 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
| \$9.50 | \$7.25 | \$5.00 |

| Class # | Class Description | Awards |
|--------------|---|----------------|
| 94 | Zinnias | |
| 95 | Salvia: Any variety | |
| 96 | Marigolds | |
| 97 | Lambs Ear: 1 leaf, any variety (3" min) | |
| 98 | Petunia: Open category | |
| 99 | Gladiolas: One stem, not to exceed 26" | |
| 100 | Snapdragons | |
| 101 | Sunflowers: Small | |
| 102 | Foliage House Plant: 1 variety, 1 plant, 1 pot. Name of plant must be on the back of tag. Not to hang. Pot not to exceed 10". | |
| 103 | Flowering House Plant: 1 variety, 1 plant, 1 pot. Name of plant must be on the back of tag. Not to hang. Pot not to exceed 10". | |
| 104 | Terrarium: mixed variety of plants. Not to exceed 15". Must have lid. Open containers will be disqualified in this class. | |
| 105 | Hanging Outdoor Blooming Potted Plant: Single variety per pot. Not to exceed 10" pot. | |
| 106 | Herb Garden: Must have 3 varieties. Container not to exceed 14" and not to exceed 35lbs. | |
| Do not enter | Junior: Horticulture | Rosette & \$20 |

Overall Awards

The Rosanna Messick Award

This award is in honor of Miss Rosanna Messick, an exhibitor and Assistant Superintendent for many years.

Awards: Rosette & \$20

Awarded to the Exhibitor who has won the greatest number of Blue Ribbons in:

Horticulture: Adult & Intermediate

Artistic Design Silk: Adult & Intermediate

The Green Thumb Award

Awards: Rosette & \$20

Awarded to the Exhibitor who has won the greatest number of Blue Ribbons in:

Artistic Design Fresh: Adult & Intermediate

Cut Flowers Specimen: Adults & Intermediate

Cut Flower Design: Adult & Intermediate

The Busy Bee Award

Awards: Rosette & \$20

Awarded to the Junior Exhibitor who has won the greatest number of ribbons in:

Horticulture: Junior

Artistic Design: Junior

The Connie Kemp Award

This award is in memory of Connie Kemp, an exhibitor and Assistant Superintendent for many years. Presented by the Connie Kemp family, this award is awarded to the exhibitor who has the best arrangement of Gladiolas.

Awards: Rosette & \$50

Superintendent's Award

Presented on Governor's Day to the exhibitor entering the most unusual or interesting exhibit in the opinion of the judges.

Awards: Rosette & \$55

Flower Contests

Please visit the CONTEST section on our website to enter and for additional information!

Flower Arranging

Think Pink! Breast Cancer Awareness

Hat Decorating