

The background image shows a room with several blackboards on tripods, each displaying a collection of small photographs. In the foreground, a white table is covered with various potted plants, including air plants and succulents, some resting on driftwood. The scene is brightly lit, likely from a window on the left.

Photography in the NGC Flower Show

Photography is
a Section in
the
Botanical Arts
Division
of a
Flower Show

The Photography Section of a Flower Show is intended to stimulate gardening interest through visual presentation while highlighting the photographic abilities of NGC members.



Why include Photography in your show?

Adds another way to display the mission of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Educates the public, visually, with specific themes related to NGC's mission.

Includes members who are not horticulturists or floral designers.

Allows exhibiting opportunities for those who don't normally enter the flower show..

Who is needed?

- Members who love photography.
- A Chairman with good organizational skills
- Others to assist with:
 - Pre-Registration
 - Classification and Conformance
 - Staging
 - Pre-Judging if needed
 - Accepting and returning entries



Photography Chairman

Works with:

- **Schedule Chairman**
Defining the classes and creating titles for the Sections and Individual Classes
- **Staging Chairman**
Determine the way to display the Photographs to their best advantage
- **Judges Chairman**
Choosing the best available judges and determining when judging takes place
- **Awards Chairman**
Placing ribbons and Top Exhibitor Awards on winning entries

Schedule specifies:

The theme of the Section and the class titles to reflect General Show titles or National Garden Club's missions and/or objectives.

Number of entries based on space availability.

Limitations as to sizes of entries and presentation.

How the photographs will be staged.

The types of images required and specific requirements including the type of image, presentation (matting, mounting), size, orientation, and techniques that might/might not be allowed.

All of the exhibits must relate to horticulture, gardening, design or other NGC goals, objectives or initiatives.





Things to consider

Most exhibitors will be novices so keep techniques and presentations simple.

Use standard size matting which is easily available.

Be more specific on the mat size than image size.

Space will determine the number of entries and number of entries may be limited.

Mounting/over
matting images
for Presentation
determined by
the schedule.

Schedule must be specific.

Mats come in standard sizes with or without back boards. These are readily available for exhibitors. Custom sizes are also an option.

State size of mat and color required.

Photos may be mounted on foam boards with matting adhesive or professionally done.

No over-mat on black foam-core
Can be professionally done



**Image mounted on black foam
core 3/16" thick**



No distracting edge shows

Over matted



Over-mat using standard sizes



Black Over -Mat



White – Over-Mat



Staging in a Small Space

The size of your space and the surface areas used for exhibition will be determining factors in the number of exhibits that will fit in the show.

It may also help determine the sizes of photos that can be exhibited.

Explore different ways to present the photos.

Staging

This show used a wall constructed with 4' by 8' wood panels. Photos were hung on both sides.



This same show requested white matting. The photos were placed in acetate sleeves which protected the photographs.



Staging using metal picture hangers on wall



Velcro panels

Freestanding panels were used with Velcro dots attached to the back of the photos to stage this show. Photos were kept at eye level.



Photo mounted on mesh screen





The huge amount of floor space available allowed this show to use several 8' by 4' panels, with exhibits staged on both sides with plenty of space to view the exhibits.

Number of Entries

- A very large show might have over a hundred entries. Consider pre-screening photo entries if you can't display them all.



Pre-Registration & Entry Process

Pre-Registration

- Purpose – allows time to plan staging and judging.
- To provide contact information for the exhibitor.
- Time frames may be a month before the show for entries to be submitted, allowing pre-judging/judging.

Entry form

- Exhibitor contact information, class number and title, image title, and statement of intent.
- Is generally taped to the back of the image

Entry numbers

- Four (4) entries per class, and at least 3 Classes are required if the Botanical Arts Photography Award is given
- Consider UNLIMITED submissions to allow anyone to enter. Pre-judging can whittle down the entries if space is limited.



AWARDS

The NGC Standard System of Awarding



- 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.



Youth Photography

- Show must have a Youth Division if Youth are to enter.
- There must be a Youth Section of Horticulture or Design in order to offer a Youth Top Exhibitor Award for Botanical Arts.
- Youth are not eligible for Botanical Arts Photography Award. This is an award in the adult section only.
- Classes and photo sizes and requirements should be age appropriate.
- Pre-registration is strongly suggested.

Judges and Judging

- Select the *most qualified* judges you can get
 - Choose the judges –3 professionals, or 2 professionals and 1 NGC accredited judge
 - Professionals: Camera Club judges; Professional photographers; approved PSA, NANPA, GCA, etc. photo judges; Museum curators; Gallery owners; Newspaper photographers etc.
 - Define the judging process and the parameters. Use the NGC Scale of points.

NGC Top Exhibitor Award

- May be awarded to the highest scoring blue ribbon winner, scoring 95 or above, in the entire photography section.
- The schedule must have three classes of photography with a minimum of four exhibits in each class.

