

INSTRUCTORS

DAVID ROBSON

HORTICULTURE, FLOWER SHOW PROCEDURE

David Robson of Springfield, Illinois is a retired horticulture and pesticide safety specialist with the University of Illinois. He has been an NGC Master Judge since 1992 and Flower Show School and Symposium instructor since 2008. David has held many positions of leadership in his local garden club and has served 10 years as Awards Chairman for the Garden Clubs of Illinois. David has presented design programs to CFAA, Florida Design Gala & Deep South Convention. Interesting to note that he has also been an Illinois State Fair Culinary Judge for the past 14 years and a Floriculture Superintendent for 18 years. He currently serves on the NGC Board of Directors as Vice Chairman of the Flower Shows and Flower Show Schools Committees, and is the Horticulture Instructor's and Credentials Chairman.

ANNA BURNS

DESIGN

Anna resides in Griffin, GA and is an NGC Master Flower Show Judge and an NGC Provisional Instructor of Design. She serves The Garden Club of Georgia as a Basic Design instructor. A Life Member of NGC, Deep South and The Garden Club of Georgia, Anna has held leadership roles in her local garden club, Creative Study Club and North Georgia Council of Flower Show Judges. In 2017, she published the book *Guide to the New Petite-Floral Design 12" and Under* which is on the Recommended Reading list for NGC Flower Show Schools. Anna's designs have been featured in NGC's *Vision of Beauty* calendars, CFAA's *Design Dimensions* and Assembly of Flower Arrangers publications. She has conducted workshops and given presentations across the southeastern United States.

REQUIRED READING

1. *Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017 Edition, revised July 2025*. Digital version free at: <http://gardenclub.org/sites/default/files/2025-07/fs-hanbook-2025.pdf>.

2. *Outlines of Period Flower Arrangement* by Frances J. Hannay. Available online at the NGC Store at www.gardenclub.org for \$5.00.

STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO BRING A DIGITAL OR PRINTED COPY OF THE *HANDBOOK FOR FLOWER SHOWS (HB)*. POSSESSION OF THE *HB* IS REQUIRED FOR CREDIT.

Study outlines will be emailed in advance to paid registrants. Be sure to print and bring outlines that have been punched with 3 holes. *The FSS will provide a 3-ring binder for your outlines.*

RECOMMENDED READING

While not required reading, these books provide additional information on design types and horticulture entries.

1. *Guide to the New Petite* by Anna Burns (purchase directly from author at Course I FSS)
2. *Hortulana, 21st Century Ed.*, Nancy Heber, available online for \$10 at the NGC store (www.gardenclub.org).
3. *Designing by Types*, Harriett Osborn, Editor (*FSS will provide this book to full-time students taking exam*).

STUDENTS TAKING COURSE FOR CREDIT MUST:

- Be on time, attend all sessions and remain seated throughout the lecture time.
- Bring *Handbook for Flower Shows, revised July 2025 edition*, either a digital download or a printed copy. Also bring *Outlines of Period Flower Arrangement*.
- Bring instructor outlines (punch holes to fit 3-ring binder). *FSS will provide the binder.*
- Bring sharpened pencils, clipboard and a highlighter.

National Garden Clubs, Inc. Flower Show School



Course 1

August 16 - 19, 2026

Bellmere Garden House
10777 Bell Road
Johns Creek, GA 30097

Sponsored by



The North Georgia Council of Flower Show Judges & The Designers Club of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

Local Chairman: Joy Zaidan
Joyzaidan4986@gmail.com

Registrar and Co-Chairman:
Gale Thomas
Galedthomas@gmail.com

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL DESCRIPTION

The National Garden Clubs' Flower Show School (FSS) provides an educational opportunity to increase one's knowledge of flower show procedures and to gain skills in entering, organizing, exhibiting and judging. Each of the four courses has a specific curriculum that includes horticulture, design and flower show procedure and is held over a three to four-day period. It is recommended that a course series be taken in sequential order; however, it is not required. If you are considering becoming a judge, planning to chair a flower show or simply want to learn more about flower shows, your first step is to attend FSS Course I in Johns Creek, GA. The courses are open to any interested persons. NGC members seeking credit toward becoming a flower show judge must attend all sessions and sit for the written examinations.

FSS GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The purposes of NGC Flower Show Schools:

- A. To provide a learning opportunity for garden club members interested in becoming an NGC Accredited Flower Show Judge.
- B. To expand the understanding and knowledge of all garden club members in sponsoring, participating and implementing NGC Flower Shows.
- C. To teach healthy growing practices and correct grooming techniques for horticulture specimens.
- D. To teach artistic principles as they apply to designing with plant material.
- E. To educate participants on the principles and etiquette critiquing another's work according to the NGC standards of evaluation.
- F. To encourage a healthy competitive spirit while striving to achieve excellence in all aspects of an NGC Flower Show.

COURSE I FSS SCHEDULE

Sunday, August 16, 2026

1:00 pm-1:45 pm: Registration/ Announcements
2:00 pm-4:00 pm: Flower Show Procedure FSP)

Monday, August 17, 2026

8:00 - 8:15 am: Registration for examinees
8:15 - 8:30 am: Announcements
8:30 - 9:30 am: FSP Written Exam
9:30 - 9:45 am: Break, Registration for others
9:45 -11:45 am: Horticulture Lecture
11:45-12:15 pm: Lunch
12:15 - 2:15 pm: Horticulture Lecture
2:15 - 3:15 pm: Practice Point Scoring
3:15 - 3:30 pm: Break
3:30 - 4:30 pm: Written Point Scoring Exam

Tuesday, August 18, 2026

8:00 - 8:15 am: Registration for examinees
8:15 - 8:30 am: Announcements
8:30 - 9:30 am: Horticulture Written Exam
9:30 - 9:45 am: Break, Registration for others
9:45 - 11:45 am: Design Lecture
11:45 -12:15 pm: Lunch
12:15 - 2:15 pm: Design Lecture
2:15 - 3:15 pm: Practice Point Scoring
3:15 - 3:30 pm: Break
3:30 - 4:30 pm: Written Point Scoring Exam

Wednesday, August 19, 2026

8:00 - 8:15 am: Registration for examinees
8:15 - 8:30 am: Announcements
8:30 - 9:30 am: Written Design Exam

Students must attend all sessions and take all exams to receive credit towards becoming an NGC Accredited Flower Show Judge.

A student must earn a minimum grade of 70 on the written and point scoring exams in all subjects to pass.

REGISTRATION FOR FSS COURSE I

(Pre-registration is required)

Course Fee Schedule

Full Course w/exam for credit....\$155
Full Course no exam.....\$150
One day audit Horticulture.....\$ 75
One day audit Design.....\$ 75
One day audit FSP.....\$ 25

Non-NGC member, add \$10 to above fees
(Monday and Tuesday includes lunch and snacks.
Snacks only on Sunday and Wednesday).

FSS Course I Registration is online, and the **deadline to register is July 16, 2026**. Space is limited so please register early. Follow the link below to register. Registration is not complete until your payment is received. No refunds after July 16, 2026.

[Flower Show 1 Registration](#)

HOTELS

(Each includes a complimentary breakfast)

1. Hyatt Place, 11505 Medlock Bridge Road, Johns Creek, 30097; 678-329-0611; 1.8 miles/4 minutes away; **free shuttle service** from 7:00 am - 9 pm within 3 miles, snack bar.
2. Hilton Garden Inn, 11695 Medlock Bridge Road in Johns Creek Technology Park 30097; 770-525-8211; 2.3 miles/6 minutes away, restaurant and bar, no shuttle.
3. Hampton Inn, 6440 East Johns Crossing, Johns Creek, GA 30097; 470-410-1601; 2.2 miles/5 minutes away, no restaurant or shuttle.