Les Belles Fleurs

Accelerate!

A GCA ZONE X FLOWER SHOW

Presented by The Indianapolis Garden Club

APRIL 28th – 29th 2027



HOTEL CARMICHAEL

1 CARMICHAEL SQUARE
CARMEL, INDIANA 46032

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2027
11:00AM – 3:00PM
Free of charge

THE INDIANAPOLIS GARDEN CLUB

Member of The Garden Club of America

PRESENTS

Les Belles Fleurs

Accelerate!

A GCA ZONE X FLOWER SHOW

April 28th – 29th 2027



Hotel Carmichael

1 Carmichael Square

Carmel, IN 46032

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Thursday, April 29, 2027

11:00am – 3:00pm

Free of charge

The purpose of The Garden Club of America

is to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening; to share the advantage of association by means of educational meetings, conferences, correspondence, and publications; and to restore, improve and protect the quality of the environment through educational programs and action in the fields of conservation and civic improvement.

The purpose of a flower show is threefold: to set standards of artistic and horticultural excellence; to broaden knowledge of horticulture, floral design, conservation, photography, and other related areas; and to share the beauty of a show with fellow club members and with the public.



ZONE X MEMBER CLUBS

INDIANA

The Indianapolis Garden Club

MICHIGAN

The Garden Club of Michigan

OHIO

Akron Garden Club
Cincinnati Town and Country Garden Club
Country Garden Club, Perrysburg
Little Garden Club of Columbus
Shaker Lakes Garden Club
The Garden Club of Cincinnati
The Garden Club of Cleveland
The Garden Club of Dayton

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TIMETABLE FOR EXHIBITORS

October 21st, 2026	Registration Opens to all GCA Zone X Members in Divisions I, II, & III
October 28th, 2026	Horticulture – Six-month ownership deadline
January 11th, 2027	Registration Deadline for Zone X Club requirement in Photography & Horticulture Classes 25 & 26
January 28th, 2027	Horticulture – Three-month ownership deadline
March 8th, 2027	Photography Registration Deadline for individual Zone X Members
March 22nd, 2027	Photography Entry Submission and Essay deadline for Class 4
March 28th, 2027	Horticulture – One-month ownership deadline
April 5th, 2027	Registration Deadline for Floral Design
April 21st, 2027	Floral Design Essay deadline for Class 3

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Wednesday, April 28th

8:00 – 10:00 AM	Floral Design entries accepted and passed & Photography placed
8:00 – 10:30 AM	Horticulture entries accepted and passed
11:00 AM	Judges Luncheon and Briefing
12:00 PM	Judging begins
2:30 PM	Flower show evaluation
6:00 – 8:00 PM	Preview Party

Thursday, April 29th

10:00 AM	Refresh and maintenance of exhibits
11:00 AM	Show open to the public
3:00 PM	Show closes
3:15 PM	Removal of Exhibits and Show Display Items



FLOWER SHOW COMMITTEE

SHOW CHAIRS

Lindsay Thornton	lindselder@yahoo.com	317-752-5289
Mary Watson	marywatson@comcast.net	317-224-9134

CLUB PRESIDENT

Marta Gross	megrmb@outlook.com	917-209-2930

DIVISION CHAIRS

Division I: Floral Design

Michelle Rogers	mlouiserog@gmail.com	317-370-2862

Division II: Horticulture

Sue Welch	suewelch5990@gmail.com	317-590-7991

Division III: Photography

Pam Mahoney	mahoneyigc@gmail.com	317-501-7009
Jennifer Morris	amorris7250@comcast.net	317-490-2405

AWARDS

Claudia Hapak	claudiahapak@gmail.com	317-370-3680
Tracy Holt	tracyholt@holtconstruction.com	317-414-5200

CLERKS

Floral Design/Photography

Sarah Clark	sjdclark@me.com	317-679-3800
Fionnuala Walsh	fionnualawalsh59@gmail.com	317-242-2984

Horticulture

Brook Johnson	koorbjohn@aol.com	317-753-5552

JUDGES

Amy Cooke	amywcooke@gmail.com	317-797-0554

HOSPITALITY

Elizabeth Rudolph	elizabethrudolph62@gmail.com	317-694-4971
Shandon Whistler	shandon@parksidelinen.com	317-409-0647

VOLUNTEERS

Sally Perlstein	sperlstein@hotmail.com	317-441-2491
Molly Sturman	mmsturman@me.com	317-626-0966

TREASURER

Liz Krimendahl	lizkrim@gmail.com	616-403-1135

EDUCATION INFORMATION

The educational spotlight of *Les Belles Fleurs, Accelerate!* is demonstrated in two educational classes:

Division I, class 3 "Fast Fashion"

Division III, class 4 "Back Home Again in Indiana"

Entries in education classes are judged first for placement (1st, 2nd, 3rd, HM) by the regular judging panel. Exhibitor essays are not read or considered by the regular judging panel. Education classes are eligible for all GCA flower show awards in their division (Best in Show, Novice, Creativity, etc.). The essays submitted by exhibitors are evaluated for educational merit by a special awards panel for the Education Award.

GCA RULES

1. Please carefully read and follow the GCA Rules, General Information, and Division Guidelines for the flower show. All rules as stated in *The Garden Club of America Flower Show and Judging Guide* (FS & JG), 2025 edition, shall apply.
2. All plant material must be correctly identified with the botanical and common names, if possible. Accepted references for nomenclature are:
    1. Missouri Botanical Garden Plant Finder – https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/plantfinder/plantfindersearch.aspx
    2. Royal Horticultural Society Find a plant – https://www.rhs.org.uk/plants/search-Form
    3. GCA Flower Show Committee – Botanical Nomenclature https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wf8rzxSQoGfhYshhyWKppYw4Uiv1ECkV/view
3. The Garden Club of America expects all exhibitors to be aware of the need to promote the conservation of endangered and threatened plants. Plants collected in the wild and listed by Indiana as rare may not be exhibited in any flower show sponsored by a GCA club. Cultivated plant material listed by Indiana as rare may be exhibited if accompanied by a typed card stating that it has not been collected from the wild or collected out-of-state and giving information concerning its cultural requirements and propagation methods. Lists of endangered plant material will be available before the show, during passing from the division chairs, and online by searching for Indiana's list of rare plants.



4. Plant material showing evidence of insects or disease must be removed immediately from the exhibition area. This rule will be enforced during the show when the problem is identified.

5. Use of the following items is not permitted in Floral Design and Horticulture: locally endangered or invasive plants, diseased plant material, artificial plant material, live animals of any kind, taxidermy, or anything from or produced by an animal including natural birds' nests, feathers of any kind, bones, coral, hooves, horns, fur, hair (except wool), and shells (sea, turtle, egg, etc.). The Photography Division is exempt from this rule, but all photographs must show respect for the natural world and be taken in an ethically responsible way. Information on invasive plants is available online by searching for Indiana's list of invasive plants. https://ag.purdue.edu/department/entm/iisc/invasive-plants.html



GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Entries are open to all GCA club members of Zone X, including provisionals, and professionals in their disciplines, except as noted in the schedule.
2. Each GCA Zone X Club is responsible for entering:
   (1) entry in Division I/Floral Design Class 4 or 5
   (5) entries in Division II/Horticulture classes 1-24 and (1) entry in class 25 or 26
   (2) entries in Division III/Photography
3. All designs must be the original work of the exhibitor(s). Although techniques and components may be inspired by other designs, the application of the techniques and components must create an original design that is distinct from the inspiration.
4. Registration is required for all classes in Floral Design and Photography. Registration for Horticulture Division is required for classes 25 & 26. Registration forms are provided at the back of the schedule.
5. Classes will be filled in the order registration forms are received, according to the postmark/email date and time.
6. Entering a show constitutes permission to use images of the exhibitor's work in all GCA channels of communication.
7. While The Garden Club of America, the Indianapolis Garden Club, and the Hotel Carmichael will exercise due caution in safeguarding exhibits, responsibility for damage, loss, or personal injury cannot be assumed.
8. Any clarification or change in the rules, as originally stated in the schedule, shall be communicated promptly in writing by the division chairs to all exhibitors in the class and, at the show, to the judges and the passing committee.
9. An entry card must accompany each entry for Floral Design and Horticulture. Entry cards will be available at the show and upon request from the registration or division chairs before the show. The information on the entry card must be completed in black, waterproof medium. If a sample or key card is displayed with the entry, writing “See Key card” in lieu of listing plant material on the entry card is acceptable.
10. **The passing committee must pass each entry before the exhibitor(s) may leave the show area.** The passing committee reserves the right to refuse any entry that does not conform to the rules of the schedule. The exhibitor has the option of correcting the entry if time permits. If not corrected, the entry cannot be judged but may remain in place, marked “For Exhibit Only” with a brief, constructively worded statement explaining why it was not judged. Judges may not disqualify any entry passed by the passing committee unless insect infestation or disease is evident.
11. Once an entry is passed, the exhibitor(s) must leave the show floor immediately. The only exception will be flower show committee members who have entered and been passed according to the timetable. An exhibitor may not touch a passed entry until after judging and only then to carry out necessary maintenance.
12. Only participating judges and clerks will be allowed on the show floor during judging. The flower show and division chairs should remain nearby but off the show floor until needed.
13. Containers and accessories should be inconspicuously labeled with the exhibitor’s name.
14. For this show, a novice is an exhibitor who has never won first place or GCA Special Award in the division entered at a GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned, or sanctioned Major flower show. An exhibitor who has won first place or a Special Award in a division is still a novice in the other divisions. The exhibitor must be exhibiting alone to be eligible for the GCA Novice Award or the Sandra Baylor Novice Floral Design Award. Novice award eligibility is marked on the entry card and confirmed at passing.

15. A statement of intent, if required by the class, must be submitted at the time of passing. The statement must be no more than 25 words, typed or printed in black waterproof medium on a 4" x 6" white unlined card or on an entry card, if space allows.
16. All judges' decisions are final.
17. All exhibits must remain in place and in show condition until fifteen minutes after the show's closing.



DIVISION I

Floral Design Guidelines

1. Please carefully read and follow the GCA Rules, General Information, and Timetable for Exhibitors.
2. Each Zone X Club is responsible for 1 (one) entry in either class 4 or 5 and must register by April 5th, 2027.
3. An exhibitor is permitted only one entry per class but may enter more than one class.
4. The exhibitor(s) under whose name(s) the entry has been registered must create and complete the design. All participants must be listed on the entry card. Only listed exhibitors and show personnel may be on the show floor at the time of entry.
5. No more than two exhibitors may execute a design unless otherwise stated in the schedule.
6. If forced to withdraw, an exhibitor must notify the division chair and class consultant and find a substitute unless there is a waiting list for the class.
7. Designs may be executed off-site and brought to the show completed.
8. All entries must include fresh and/or dried plant material. Fresh plant material must be in water or conditioned in such a way as to remain in pristine form. Rooted plant material is allowed provided no soil is attached. An entry is expected to be maintained in show condition until the scheduled tear down time of 3:15pm Thursday, April 29th, 2027.
9. Mechanics should not be visible unless they are an integral part of the design.
10. Anything not prohibited in the GCA Rules, Floral Design Division Guidelines, or individual class descriptions is permitted.
11. The use of cut fruits and vegetables is prohibited.
12. Accessories are permitted unless otherwise stated in the class description.
13. Staging instructions are provided in the class descriptions. For all floral design entries: Tables may not be moved, and the diameter of the table may not be enlarged. Design may not exceed the width of the table. There are no height restrictions.
14. A statement of intent is required for all Division I classes and must be submitted at the time of passing. The statement must be no more than 25 words, typed or printed in black waterproof medium on a 4” x 6” white unlined card.
15. Questions regarding class requirements may be directed to the class division chair.
16. Judging will be based on the principles of design (balance, contrast, dominance, proportion, rhythm, and scale) and the elements of design (light, space, line, form, color, texture, pattern, and size). Creativity, distinction, conformance to, and interpretation of the class and schedule are also considered.



17. Scale of points by which the classes are to be judged: (as per FS & JG Book 4: Judging at Flower Shows, 2026 edition).

FOR ALL FLORAL DESIGN CLASSES	
Conformance	10
Interpretation	20
Creativity	10
Design (Principles & Elements)	50
Distinction	10
Total	**100**



DIVISION I

Floral Design Classes

CLASS 1 Drink the Milk — 4 ENTRIES

The “Drink the Milk” tradition at the Indianapolis 500 is one of the most distinctive victory rituals in sports – and it started almost by accident.

In 1936, winner Louis Meyer asked for buttermilk after the race to refresh himself on a hot day. A photo captured him drinking it, and that simple moment stuck with fans.

In 1956, the dairy association formally sponsored milk as the official victory drink, ensuring every winner would be handed a bottle in Victory Lane. From then on, it became a signature part of winning “The Greatest Spectacle in Racing.”

Create a white monochromatic design staged on a 36” round x 42” high cocktail table.

The committee will provide a black floor length covering. Viewed and judged from all sides.

Monochromatic Design: a design incorporating plant material of just one color, including the shades and tints of the hue. A small amount of green foliage is allowed with the chosen single color. A small bit of attached non-conforming floral parts is permitted, e.g., the yellow center of a purple aster. Unless stated in the schedule, the container, bases, and/or stands do not need to be the same color. (FS JG Book 5: Glossary of Terms)

CLASS CONSULTANT: Sarah Nevin Welsh · sarahnevin@mac.com · 317-439-6854

CLASS 2 “Gentlemen, Start Your Engines...” — 5 ENTRIES

Create a functional table for two...gentlemen. Staged on a 30” round x 30” high table. The committee will provide a black floor length covering. Overlay permitted. Viewed and judged from all sides.

Functional table: a table exhibit arranged for dining including dishes, glassware, linens, and floral design(s) with or without other components. (FS & JG Book 5: Glossary of Terms)



CLASS 3 Fast Fashion — 4 ENTRIES, EDUCATION CLASS

Modern fast fashion took shape when brands began using global supply chains to dramatically speed up production. Companies like Zara pioneered the idea of taking runway-inspired looks and delivering them to stores in just weeks instead of months. Social media platforms like Instagram and TikTok can spread trends globally in a matter of hours.

Create a design that incorporates a vintage fashion accessory.

Staged on a 36" round x 42" high cocktail table. The committee will provide a black floor length covering. Viewed and judged from all sides.

Statement of Intent: Sustainability is an environmentally conscious choice that prioritizes the responsible use, reuse, and repurposing of materials to reduce waste and environmental impact. By reimagining and reusing items with prior life and history, this practice extends the value of materials while minimizing demand for new production and its associated environmental impact.

Include a 100-150 word essay explaining how your fashion accessory reflects the principles of sustainability through the repurposing of materials. Discuss the previous life of the materials used and how repurposing contributes to reducing waste and environmental impact. A digital copy of the essay must be emailed to Michelle Rogers / mlouiserog@gmail.com by April 21st, 2027. The essay will be displayed alongside the entry.

Rhythm and Blooms

The Hotel Carmichael is heavily inspired by the Great American Songbook, acting as a living tribute to the classic jazz and pop standards of the 1920's – 1950's.

The Great American Songbook is not a literal book, but rather a curated collection of enduring and influential musical standards that have shaped American culture.

The foundational repertoire was written by artists including George Gershwin and Ira Gershwin, Cole Porter, and Rogers and Hammerstein. Their works were later brought to life and wildly popularized by iconic performers including Ella Fitzgerald, Frank Sinatra, Nat King Cole, and Judy Garland.

The Songbook's legacy continues to be reinterpreted by modern artists, such as Lady Gaga and Rod Stewart.



CLASS 4 Iconic Artists — 5 ENTRIES

Create a design interpreting a song from one of the following artists. Choice of artist awarded on a first come, first served basis.

Staged on a 36" round x 42" high cocktail table. The committee will provide a black floor length covering. Viewed and judged from all sides.

Ella Fitzgerald	*"It Don't Mean a Thing, if it Ain't Got That Swing"*
Frank Sinatra	*"Fly Me to the Moon"*
Judy Garland	*"Over the Rainbow"*
Louis Armstrong	*"On the Sunny Side of the Street"*
Tony Bennett	*"I've Got the World on a String"*

CLASS 5 Modern Day Artists — 5 ENTRIES

Create a design interpreting a song from one of the following musicians.

Choice of song awarded on a first come, first served basis.

Staged on a 36" round x 42" high cocktail table. The committee will provide a black floor length covering. Viewed and judged from all sides.

Lady Gaga	*"Bad Romance"*
Rod Stewart	*"You Keep Me Hangin' On"*
Michael Bublé	*"Come Fly with Me"*
Adele	*"Rolling in the Deep"*
John Legend	*"Heaven"*



DIVISION I CHAIR: Michelle Rogers · mlouiserog@gmail.com · 317-370-2862

DIVISION II

Horticulture Guidelines

1. Please carefully read and follow the GCA Rules, General Information, and Timetable for Exhibitors.
2. Each Zone X Club is responsible for (5) entries in classes 1-24 and (1) entry in class 25 or 26 and must register by January 11th, 2027 indicating first and second choices to Sue Welch suewelch5990@gmail.com.
3. An exhibitor may submit 3 entries per class, provided each is a different species or cultivar.
4. Entries must have been owned and grown by the exhibitor for a minimum of three months, unless otherwise stated in the schedule.
5. Entries eligible for the **Catherine Beattie Medal** and/or the **Clarissa Willemsen Horticulture Propagation Award** must have been in the possession of the exhibitor for at least six months and may not have won the award previously. Eligibility will be marked on the entry card and confirmed at passing.
6. All rooted entries propagated by the exhibitor must be identified with details of the method and relevant date(s) on an accompanying propagation card to be eligible for the **Clarissa Willemsen Horticulture Propagation Award**.
7. Mats, stands, and saucers, are not allowed unless otherwise stated. Unobtrusive stakes and ties are allowed.
8. Leaf shine or other comercial foliage enhancers are not permitted.
9. Classes may be subdivided, and entries moved and/or reclassified at the discretion of the show committee and/or the judges.
10. Containers are measured at the diameter or the diagonal of the widest point on the inside of the rim at the soil line.
11. One key card (diagram or plant list) is required when multiple species or cultivars are exhibited in the same container and/or propagation information is applicable. Key card must be a 4" x 6" white unlined card (except Class 26 which must be a 5" x 8" card) completed in black waterproof medium. A 4" x 6" photograph with identifying numbers may be used.
12. Container-grown plants must be exhibited in containers that are clean, unobtrusive, and compatible with the exhibit. Terracotta clay pots are preferred. Other options include stone-like (Hypertufa), wire baskets, slatted orchid baskets, and plants mounted on driftwood. Disguised double potting and top dressing are permitted; top dressing must not float when watered.
13. The committee will provide containers and wedging materials for all cut specimens except branches in Classes 17-22. Exhibitor is to anchor specimen in own clear glass bottle.
14. After registration, a dot with the entry number should be affixed to the container to ensure the entry card, if separated from the exhibit container during staging, can be returned to the proper entry before judging.
15. The committee will water the exhibits if instructed to do so in writing. Notify the division chair at time of entry with instructions for watering.
16. Questions regarding class requirements may be directed to the division chair.
17. Scale of points by which the classes are to be judged: (as per FS & JG Book 4: Judging at Flower Shows, 2025 edition).



DIVISION II

Horticulture Classes

CUT SPECIMENS

One stem, spike, or spray · Classes 1 – 16

Flowering

One flowering stem – Any foliage must be attached to the stem

1. *Aquilegia*
2. *Lamprocapnos spectabilis* (formerly known as *Dicentra*)
3. *Helleborus*
4. *Polygonatum*
5. Other

Foliage

One stem or leaf

6. *Arum*
7. *Heuchera*
8. *Hosta* – large leaf
9. *Hosta* – small leaf
10. Other

Bulbous Plants

Plants with an underground storage organ such as true bulbs, corms, rhizomes, and tubers. While their botanical nature is to be perennial, environmental factors and specific cultivars determine if they will return annually.

A bulb has a modified, subterranean bud, with a short, thick stem and fleshy scale leaves or leaf bases. A corm is a subterranean storage organ consisting of a solid stem or stem base often enclosed in a tunic. A rhizome is a horizontal, usually branching, and fleshy stem, growing underground or at ground level. A tuber is a swollen root or underground stem with storage tissue.

One flowering stem – Any foliage must be attached to the stem

11. *Allium*
12. *Narcissus*
13. *Hyacinthus*
14. *Muscari*
15. *Tulipa*
16. Other

Woody Plants – Trees and Shrubs

One stem – any foliage must be attached to the stem

17. Flowering or Fruiting
    1. *Acer*
    2. *Benthamidia florida*, *B. Kousa* (formerly, *Cornus florida*, *C. Kousa*)
    3. *Cercis canadensis*
    4. *Rhododendron* (Azalea)
    5. *Viburnum*
    6. Other
18. Foliage
    1. Evergreen
    2. Other

Vines

One stem – any foliage must be attached to the stem

19. Flowering
20. Foliage

CONTAINER GROWN PLANTS

Unlimited Entries

Flowering Containers

Container may include more than one plant of the same species or cultivar – must be in flower

21. Container 6" or less
22. Container over 6"

Foliage Containers

Container may include more than one plant of the same species or cultivar

23. Container 6" or less
24. Container over 6"

WINNERS WREATH

5 entries

25. The Winner's Wreath at the Indianapolis 500 is one of the most recognizable traditions in American sports. A tradition that started back in 1960, the wreath is handmade each year and placed around the winners' shoulders in Victory Circle.

Design a wreath to be awarded to the winning Indy 500 driver. Planted with live plants to be displayed on a wreath stand. Stand provided by the committee. Fresh cut flowers and/or dried plant material may be added. Planted size not to exceed 30" in any direction. Viewed from the front. Key card required. One month ownership minimum required for both plants and cut flowers.



TERRARIUM

5 entries

26. A design in an all glass open or lidded container provided by the exhibitor. Exhibits should contain a minimum of three culturally compatible rooted species or cultivars. One-month ownership minimum required. Accessories are permitted. Container may not exceed 15" in any direction.

Exhibitor must provide a 5" x 8" unlined key card listing the botanical names of all plants and indicate their placement within the terrarium.

GRAND OLD PLANTS

Unlimited Entries

More than one plant of the same species, variety, or cultivar per container is permitted.

All plants in the container must be at least 5 years old. The age of the plant must be stated on the entry card. Container may not exceed 14" in any direction. Exhibit must be able to be moved by the stagers.

27. Plants grown for flowers
28. Plants grown for foliage

PROPAGATION

A plant propagated by the exhibitor and grown for at least 6 months.

Propagation information required on a separate 4" x 6" propagation card.

Container may not exceed 12" in any direction. Exhibit must be able to be moved by the stagers.

29. **Propagation**
    Single plant propagated by the exhibitor.
30. **Parent and Child**
    A specimen exhibited along with its offspring in compatible containers. Plants will be judged as one entry.

PAR

31. An exhibit of exceptional horticultural merit, which does not qualify for entry elsewhere in the Horticulture division. Entries in the Par class must have been owned and grown by the exhibitor for a minimum of one year. Cut specimens, orchids or hanging baskets are not permitted. Judged against perfection. Container may not exceed 12" in any direction. Exhibit must be able to be moved by the stagers.



DIVISION II CHAIR: Sue Welch · suewelch5990@gmail.com · 317-590-7991

DIVISION III

Photography Guidelines

1. Please carefully read and follow the GCA Rules, General Information, and Timetable for Exhibitors.
2. Each Zone X Club is responsible for (2) entries in this division and must complete registration for those spots by January 11th, 2027 to indicate first and second choices. Registration may be made by individual club members, or, in the event individual club member entrants have not been identified, in the name of the club, with individual photographers' names to be identified in the future. This will facilitate holding spots open for clubs to fulfill their obligation.
3. An exhibitor is permitted only one entry per class but may enter (2) classes.
4. Registration is accomplished by completing and submitting the Photography Registration Form included in this schedule. Registration opens to all members of Zone X October 21st, 2026, and closes March 8th, 2027. Registration will be confirmed by email. Questions regarding registration should be directed to Division Co-chair Pam Mahoney at mahoneyigc@gmail.com or (317) 501-7009.
5. Photographs must be received no later than March 22, 2027. Photographs should be delivered or mailed to Jennifer Morris at 7250 Washington Blvd. Indianapolis, IN 46240. Receipt of photographs will be acknowledged by email. For information regarding delivery of Photographs, contact Jennifer Morris amorris7250@comcast.net or 317-490-2405.
6. If forced to withdraw, an exhibitor must notify the division chairs and find a substitute unless there is a waiting list for the class.
7. Photography entries are limited to subjects consistent with The Garden Club of America's interests, including horticulture, floral design, gardens, landscapes, conservation, the environment, historic preservation, civic improvement, and the natural world.
8. No identifiable minor children may be included in photographs.
9. Plant material is required in all photographs except Class 5.
10. A Statement of Intent is required with each entry. Exhibitors are encouraged to use this opportunity to share their intentions in creating their images with the judges and viewers.
11. Each photograph may only be entered in one show at a time. A photograph previously entered in any GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned, or sanctioned Major flower show, or Focus online contest cannot be re-entered, even with minor edits or reprinting.
12. Any image posted in the Focus Gallery or published in Focus may not be entered in any show.
13. A photograph previously entered in a Club flower show may be entered into a GCA flower show unless that photograph was posted in the Focus Gallery or published in an issue of Focus.
14. Photographs not selected as finalists through juried judging may be entered in another show.
15. The exhibitor must have created all of the visual elements of the composition. Inclusion of third party or stock images and use of AI image generators is strictly prohibited. An exhibitor is, however, permitted to use non-representational, commercial textures and overlays.
16. All editing, including, but not limited to: lighting, color, and clarity adjustments; adding and removing visual elements; combining and blending imagery; image distortion, etc., must be the work of the exhibitor.
17. Mounting and printing may be done professionally.

18. Photographs must be mounted on black single-layer foam core cut to the exact size of the image and may not be over-matted. The overall dimension of entry must be a minimum of 50″ and not to exceed 72″ in total perimeter measurement. Maximum horizontal dimensions of the entry may not exceed 18”. Surface finish is the choice of the exhibitor. Glass and framing are not permitted. Examples of acceptable sizes include 11 x 14 horizontal or vertical, 16” x 20” vertical only, and square photos from 13” x 13” to 18” x 18”.
19. Unless otherwise specified, all photographs must be two-dimensional and printed on paper. All post-production work must be completed before the photograph is printed.
20. Photographs will be mounted on a black fabric background.
21. Each entry must have the submission form affixed to the back of the photograph mounting with the class entered, exhibitor’s name, garden club, zone, email, address, phone number, and novice status. The top of the photograph must be indicated. A second loose copy of the Submission Form should be included with the entry.
22. The division chair will provide an entry card to be staged with each photograph.
23. All entries will be passed by two members of the show's Photography Committee or the Photography judging program to verify that class specifications have been met. If a photograph is not passed, the exhibitor will be notified and allowed, if time permits, to send a replacement photograph.
24. Questions regarding class requirements may be directed to the division chairs. Both are serving as class consultants on all classes.
25. Information on entering photographs, including mailing instructions, can be found on the GCA Photography Committee page. Photographs should be sent to Jennifer Morris at 7250 Washington Blvd. Indianapolis, IN 46240
26. If the photograph is to be returned, the exhibitor must provide a self-addressed return label, return postage, and packing material/container. If a return envelope and postage are not included, it will be assumed that the photograph will not be returned.
27. Eligible winning images may be submitted to the Focus Gallery.
28. Scale of points by which classes are to be judged (as per FS & JG Book 4: Judging at Flower Shows, 2025 edition).

SCALE OF POINTS

Creativity	25
Composition	25
Technical skill	20
Interpretation	20
Distinction	10
Total	**100**



DIVISION III

Photography Classes

CLASS 1 Zoom, Zoom, Zoom — COLOR, 5 ENTRIES

During the race, cars frequently exceed 230 mph on the straights, with qualifying laps often exceeding 230 mph!

Zoom in for a close-up of a single flower

> *The Great American Songbook inspiration: "Honeysuckle Rose" composed by Fats Waller with lyrics by Andy Razaf in 1929*

Close-up: a photograph depicting a close and detailed view of the main focal point. The subject typically, but not always, fills a significant part of the frame. See Macro. For examples, go to the Photography Committee Landing page on the GCA website, scroll down to the Flower Shows for Photographers section near the bottom of the page, click on THE VISUAL GLOSSARY of Selected Yellow Book Photography Definitions, and view the images labeled "Close-Up."

CLASS 2 Race Day Forecast — COLOR, 5 ENTRIES

Weather significantly impacts the Indy 500, with cold temperatures increasing engine power, downforce, and speeds, while hot, sunny days reduce tire grip and hinder performance. Wind affects stability, speed, and cornering, necessitating car adjustments. Rain forces delays or stoppages.

An image that tells a weather story

> *The Great American Songbook inspiration: "Stormy Weather" composed by Harold Arlen with lyrics by Ted Koehler in 1933*

CLASS 3 Wave the Checkered Flag! — BLACK & WHITE, 5 ENTRIES

The ultimate race icon, the checkered flag is waved at the start-finish line to mark the winner's triumph in crossing the finish line first at the official end of the race.

An image executed in black and white.

> *The Great American Songbook inspiration: "Night and Day" by Cole Porter in 1932*

Black and White Definition: an image executed in black and white. For examples, go to the Photography Committee Landing page on the GCA website, scroll down to the Flower Shows for Photographers section near the bottom of the page, click on THE VISUAL GLOSSARY of Selected Yellow Book Photography Definitions and view the images labeled "Black and white."



CLASS 4 "Back Home Again in Indiana"

COLOR, 5 ENTRIES, EDUCATION CLASS

The performance of this classic song written by James F. Hanley and historically sung by Jim Nabors just before the start of the race was a cherished tradition going back 80 years.

An image in which the primary subject is a plant identified as invasive in Indiana or other Zone X location.

Note: This class is an Education Class, in addition to being a Photography Class. It requires a short essay, and entries will be eligible for awards in both the Photography and Education divisions. Essays will only be revealed after Photography judging is complete, so be sure to make use of the Statement of Intent to tell Photography judges about the image.

Education Class: The Race to Restore the Natural Harmony in our Ecosystem

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This exhibit is intended to:

- Increase recognition and identification of local invasive plants,
- Broaden the understanding of their impact
- Accelerate the elimination of invasives, with the aim of restoring the natural rhythms of nature and environmental harmony in our Zone.

Include a 100-150 word essay describing the role of the invasive plant(s) photographed. Discuss what we can do in our own communities and backyards to control those that are invasive.

A digital copy of the essay must be emailed to Jennifer Morris at amorris7250@comcast.net with the subject line "Flower Show Essay" by the entry deadline of March 22nd, 2027. Essays will be uniformly formatted and printed by the Indianapolis Garden Club on an unlined 5" x 8" white card and displayed with the corresponding photo entry.

CLASS 5 The Yard of Bricks

COLOR, 5 ENTRIES

This famous 36" wide band of 1909 bricks which once paved the entire 2.5-mile oval now marks the track's start-finish line.

An image which highlights patterns in nature. Plant material is not required.

> *The Great American Songbook inspiration: "I Got Rhythm" composed by George Gershwin with lyrics by Ira Gershwin in 1930*

Examples: Rows of trees, lines in tree bark, cactus spines, tree roots, ripples of water, patterns in sand, stones, clouds, animal fur, insect markings, flower petals, leaves on a branch

CLASS 6 The Field of Thirty-Three — COLOR, 5 ENTRIES

Entries into the Indianapolis 500 are limited to thirty-three cars, with the cars lined up in eleven rows of three across to start the race.

A traditional landscape image of a field or any land-based scenery. Seascapes and cityscapes excluded.

> *The Great American Songbook inspiration: "Tiptoe Thru' the Tulips with Me" by Joe Burke with lyrics by Al Dublin in 1929*

Traditional Landscape: a view of scenery of any kind, from wilderness vistas to urban cityscapes, land, or sea. The primary subject is the scenery, and it must dominate, although the image may contain secondary elements such as people, animals, or objects. For this class cityscapes and seascapes are excluded. Most examples will include broad vistas as well as a horizon line. For examples of Traditional Landscape images, go to the Photography Committee Landing page on the GCA website, scroll down to the Flower Shows for Photographers section near the bottom of the page, click on THE VISUAL GLOSSARY of Selected Yellow Book Photography Definitions, and view the photos labeled "Traditional landscapes."

DIVISION III CHAIRS: Jennifer Morris amorris7250@comcast.net 317-490-2405 and Pam Mahoney mahoneyigc@gmail.com 317-501-7009.

Note: Photography has a separate Submission Form, in addition to the Registration Form. The Submission Form should be attached to the back mounting of the photograph at the time of submission. A second loose copy of the Submission Form should be mailed with the entry.



GCA FLOWER SHOW AWARDS

The GCA flower show awards described below are approved and will be presented if merited.

Education Classes

The following classes are eligible for the Education Award: Division I Class 3 & Division III Class 4.

The Education Award recognizes an entry of exceptional educational merit in a competitive education class in Divisions I-IV that most effectively informs the public about various aspects of the GCA's purpose, including gardening, plants, conservation, and civic improvement. The entry must have placed first, second, or third. It may be awarded to GCA club members and to a GCA club at a zone flower show.

Division I, Floral Design

Best in Show Floral Design is selected from first-place winners in the division.

The Dorothy Vietor Munger Award may be awarded to members of GCA clubs in competitive Floral Design classes at a GCA flower show. It is offered in recognition of creative work of outstanding beauty using predominantly fresh plant material. The design must have placed first, second, or third. Challenge class entries are not eligible. The award is not a substitute for Best in Show and will be given at the discretion of the judges.

The Harriet DeWaele Puckett Creativity Award may be awarded to members of GCA clubs or non-members in recognition of a uniquely skillful and creative response to an imaginative schedule in Floral Design. It will be given for an innovative and interpretive entry, which, although it abides by the principles of good design, goes beyond traditional period arrangement to whatever art form the exhibitor(s) chooses. The design must have placed first, second, or third. An entry in any challenge class is not eligible to receive this award. The award is not a substitute for Best in Show and will be given at the discretion of the judges.

The Sandra Baylor Novice Floral Design Award may be given at a GCA flower show to an exhibitor who is a member of a GCA club and who has never won first place or GCA Special Award in the Floral Design Division of a GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned, or sanctioned Major flower show. It shall be awarded to an individual novice exhibitor for a unique and skillful response to the schedule. The entry must have placed first, second, or third. An entry in a challenge class is not eligible for this award.



Division II, Horticulture

Best in Show Horticulture is selected from first-place winners in the division.

The Catherine Beattie Medal may be awarded for a horticulture entry distinguished by its vibrancy, prime condition, and perfection of grooming. The exhibitor must have owned and grown the exhibit for at least six months. The medal may be awarded for a single plant, collection of plants, container garden, or cut specimen, but only if there is an exhibit worthy of the honor. It may be awarded to members of GCA clubs only; individual, joint, and club entries are eligible. The entry must have placed first, second, or third. The award should not be considered as a substitute for Best in Show. The medal may not be awarded to the same exhibit more than once; however, the offspring of a Beattie winner are eligible to receive the award.

The Clarissa Willemsen Horticulture Propagation Award may be awarded for a horticulture entry distinguished by its prime condition, flawless grooming, and difficulty of propagation. The entry must have been propagated and grown by the exhibitor for at least six months. This award may be given for a single rooted plant or a collection of rooted plants. Cut specimens are not eligible. The dates and method of propagation must be recorded on an accompanying propagation card. It may be awarded to GCA club members, GCA clubs, non-members, or other organizations. The entry must have placed first, second, or third. The award may not be given to the same exhibit more than once.

The Rosie Jones Horticulture Award may be presented to a horticulture entry of exceptional visual appeal that reflects the spirit of growing with joy and enthusiasm and inspires others to propagate, grow, show, and share horticulture. An exhibit that has been propagated by the exhibitor will be given special consideration, but propagation is not a requirement. Perfection, while always desirable, is not a primary criterion. This award celebrates the ineffable joy inherent in the beauty and pursuit of horticulture. It may be awarded to GCA club members, GCA clubs, non-members, or other organizations. The entry must have placed first, second, or third.

The GCA Novice Award in Horticulture may be awarded for an outstanding exhibit to a member of a GCA club who has never won first place or GCA Special Award in the Horticulture Division in a GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned, or sanctioned Major flower show. The entry must have placed first, second, or third.



Division III, Photography

Best in Show Photography is selected from first place winners in the division.

The Photography Creativity Award may be awarded at a GCA flower show to a member of a GCA club in recognition of creative and technical excellence in response to the theme of the schedule. The entry must have placed first, second, or third.

The GCA Novice Award in Photography may be awarded for an outstanding exhibit to a member of a GCA club who has never won first place or GCA Special Award in the Photography Division in a GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned, or sanctioned Major flower show. The entry must have placed first, second, or third.

Overall Divisions I - III

Judges' Commendation(s) may be given to an entry, class, section, special exhibit, or other aspect of the show that is of exceptional merit.

Award of Appreciation may be given to an exhibitor or group for participation and/or to recognize exhibits that do not qualify GCA special awards. The award may also be given to non-judged classes.



GCA ZONE FLOWER SHOW AWARDS

The Corliss Knapp Engle Horticulture Sweepstakes Award may be presented to the club with the highest number of points earned from all competitive horticulture classes in a GCA Zone flower show.

Points are to be awarded as follows:

Special award*	10 points
1st place	4 points
2nd place	3 points
3rd place	2 points
Honorable Mention	1 point

**(For each award listed in the schedule)*



REGISTRATION FORMS

Les Belles Fleurs

Accelerate!

DIVISION I, FLORAL DESIGN REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete one registration per entry.

Registration Deadline: Monday, April 5th, 2027

Email to: Michelle Rogers mldrdr@hotmail.com

Date: _____

Name: _____

Garden Club and Zone: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

Email _____

Co-Exhibitor(s) _____

Class Number Class Title

1st Choice: _____

2nd Choice: _____

Novice? Yes/No *(individual exhibitor only)*

A novice is an individual exhibitor who has never won first place or GCA Special Award in Floral Design at a GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned, or sanctioned Major flower show. If your novice status changes before the date of this show, please notify the division chair or class consultant.

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DIVISION II, HORTICULTURE REGISTRATION FORM

Registration is only required for classes 25 & 26.

Registration Deadline: January 11th, 2027

Email to: Sue Welch suewelch5990@gmail.com

Date: _____

Name: _____

Garden Club and Zone: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

Email: _____

Co-Exhibitor(s): _____

Class Number	Class Title
1st Choice:	
2nd Choice:	

Novice? Yes/No

A novice is an individual exhibitor who has never won first place or GCA Special Award in Horticulture at a GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned, or sanctioned Major flower show. If your novice status changes before the date of this show, please notify the division chair or class consultant.

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DIVISION III, PHOTOGRAPHY REGISTRATION FORM

Registration Deadline: March 8th, 2027

Email to: Pam Mahoney mahoneyigc@gmail.com

Date: _____

Name: _____

Garden Club and Zone _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

Email: _____

Class Number	Class Title
1st Choice:	
2nd Choice:	

Novice? Yes/No

A novice is an exhibitor who has never won first place or GCA Special Award in Photography at a GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned, or sanctioned Major flower show. If your novice status changes before the date of this show, please notify the division chair and the class consultant.

Information on entering photographs can be found on the GCA Photography Committee page.

Les Belles Fleurs

Accelerate!

▲TOP▲ PHOTOGRAPHY SUBMISSION FORM ▲ TOP▲

Photograph Delivery Deadline: March 22nd, 2027

Please complete two submission forms per photograph. Affix one form to the back of the foam core mounting and include the second loose form with the entry.

Send the photograph to: Jennifer Morris 7250 Washington Blvd. Indianapolis, IN 46240-3051

Send JPG file between 1-10 MB to amorris7250@comcast.net by March 22nd, 2027.

Class entered: _____

Name: _____

Garden Club and Zone _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

Identification of plant material (botanical and common names):

_____

_____

Title (preferred): _____

Statement of intent (required):

In 30 words or less, tell us what you would like the viewer, including judges, to know in order to fully appreciate your entry.

_____

_____

Novice? Yes/No

For this show, a novice is an exhibitor who has never won first place or GCA Special Award in Photography at a GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned, or sanctioned Major flower show. If your novice status changes before the date of this show, please notify the division chair or class consultant.

Requesting the photograph returned? YES/NO

If the photograph is to be returned, the exhibitor must provide a self-addressed return label, return postage/prepaid shipping label, and packing material/container.

MAP AND DIRECTIONS TO THE FLOWER SHOW

HOTEL CARMICHAEL

1 Carmichael Square · Carmel, IN 46032



OUR LOCATION

GETTING HERE

Hotel Carmichael, Autograph Collection
1 Carmichael Square, Carmel, Indiana, USA, 46032

Tel: +1 317-688-1700

Indianapolis International Airport

Distance from Property: 32.1 Miles
Phone Number: +1 317-487-7243
Visit Website ↗

This hotel does not provide shuttle service.

Alternate Airport Transportation
Uber; fee: 40 USD (one way) ;on request: $40 - One-way
On Request

