Founders Day Artistic Design Schedule Themes

Theme #1 – State Parks
The Garden Club of Virginia (GCV) has been working for the protection of natural resources within the commonwealth for nearly a century. In 1926, the Virginia Legislature created the State Commission on Conservation and Development. Initially, the commission’s efforts with regard to parks centered around acquiring lands for Shenandoah National Park, the first large national park in the east. By 1929, as acquisitions for Shenandoah were nearing completion, things began to change. The value of land held for public recreation and preservation of habitat for native animals and plants garnered public attention.

GCV works directly with the Department of Conservation and Recreation and Virginia State Parks to accomplish our Centennial Project. Our goal is to fund projects that our clubs and parks coordinate together and that fall within our mission and the state parks mission: conservation, beautification, horticulture, preservation and/or education. To further this mission, GCV committed to a pledge of $500,000 over five years.

The arrangement should reflect the park’s beauty and individuality!

Caledon (CA)  Kiptopeke (KP)
Chippokes Plantation (CP)  Lake Anna (LA)
Claytor Lake (CL)  Leesylvania (LE)
Douthat (DO)  Mason Neck (MN)
Fairy Stone (FS)  Natural Bridge (NB)
False Cape (FC)  Natural Tunnel (NT)
First Landing (FL)  New River Trail (NR)
Grayson Highlands (GH)  Occoneechee (OC)
High Bridge Trail (HB)  Pocahontas (PO)
Holliday Lake (HL)  Powhatan (PW)
Hungry Mother (HM)  Shenandoah River (SH)
James River (JR)  Shot Tower (ST)

Sky Meadows (SK)
Smith Mountain Lake (SM)
Southwest Virginia Museum Historical (SW)
Staunton River (SR)
Staunton River Battlefield (SB)
Tabb Monument Twin Lakes (TL)
Westmoreland (WE)
Widewater (WW)
Wilderness Road (WR)
York River (YR)
**Theme #2 – Restoration Sites**
Since the first restoration in 1929 at Kenmore in Fredericksburg, the Garden Club of Virginia has used proceeds from its signature event, Historic Garden Week, to restore and preserve a vital segment of Virginia’s landscape, with nearly 50 projects completed to date. Knowledgeable gardeners at each restored location are responsible for ongoing maintenance, in close contact with the Garden Club of Virginia and the GCV Landscape Architect. Each garden is open to the public.

The arrangement should reflect the site and its particular beauty!

- Bacon’s Castle
- Belle Grove
- Belmont
- Bruton Parish Church
- Burwell-Morgan Mill
- Centre Hill Mansion
- Christ Church – Lancaster County
- Danville Museum of Fine Arts and History
- Executive Mansion Capitol Square
- Fincastle Presbyterian Church
- Grace Arents Garden
- Green Spring Garden
- Historic Henry County Courthouse
- Historic Portsmouth Courthouse
- Hollins University, Beale Garden
- John Handley High School
- Kenmore
- Kent-Valentine House
- Ker Place
- Lee Hall
- Mary Washington House
- Mary Washington Monument
- Maymont
- Monticello
- Montpelier
- Moses Myers House
- Mount Vernon
- Oatlands
- Poe Museum
- Point-of-Honor
- Poplar Forest
- Smith’s Fort Plantation
- St. John’s Mews
- Stratford Hall
- Sweet Briar College
- University of Virginia
- Washington and Lee University
- William & Mary, Reveley Garden
- Wilton
- Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library

**Theme #3 – Design a Decade**
In this theme – the arrangement should reflect the decade. From the roaring 20’s, depression, WWII, Pearl Harbor, Poodle skirts, rock and roll, hippies, Berlin Wall, emergence of boy bands, 911, and natural disasters – there is a lot to choose from!

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**Theme #4 – Showcase your Club!**
You – our Garden Club of Virginia clubs – are the reason we exist and the foundation of our success. Celebrate your Club’s role in our history and showcase your Club’s individuality featuring your Club’s flower, tree, plant, history, symbol, project or mission.
Artistic Design Instructions for Exhibitors

All member clubs of the Garden Club of Virginia are invited to showcase their club's artistic and floral designing talents during the Centennial Founders Day celebrations at the Virginia Museum of History and Culture (VMHC), 428 North Arthur Ashe Boulevard, Richmond, VA 23220, May 13-14, 2020.

Four themes highlight the Garden Club of Virginia's mission over the 100-year history. Placed throughout the museum, the floral creations will both beautify and educate attendees. The club selects the style of the arrangement - Designer's Choice.

Displayed on a 12" square and 42" height pedestal, your design will be viewed from all sides. There are no height or width restrictions. The Club name will be displayed in front of the pedestal.

Each arrangement should have an accompanying card of explanation which should inform the viewer of the theme and any description that will enhance understanding the interpretation of the theme. While not to be officially judged, awards will be given for Most Creative, Most Clever and a People's Choice Award. Voting will occur during the Founders Day events.

When registering indicate your first and second theme choice. If you are selecting State Parks, Restoration sites or Design a Decade, indicate which site/decade. Every attempt to accommodate your first choice will be made. Your Club’s final theme assignment will be provided well before Founders Day. Registration will open October 1, 2019 at www.gcvirginia.org.

The workroom will be available at the VMHC Halsey Auditorium on Tuesday, May 12 from 11 am until 4:30 pm and on Wednesday, May 13 from 9 am until noon. There is a water source in the workroom. **Arrangements must be in place by noon on May 13 and must remain in place until 2:00 pm on Thursday.** All arrangements must be removed by 4:30 pm on Thursday, May 14. Any arrangements or containers left after 4:30 pm on May 14 will be discarded.

There are no mandated styles, flowers or restrictions. The only limit is your imagination!

[Exhibitors Register Now]