



2026 Lily Show Botanical Arts Division

Renewal

*When the lily blooms, the spirit finds its way,
Turning silent shadows into light of day.*

Wayne Visser

Class One: Botanical Embellishment

4 Entries

*“-Look, the afternoon dies
as night begins in the heart of the lilies and smokes up
their fluted throats...”*

Noah Warren

Create a 5” x 7” depiction of ‘Sunset Over “The Mighty James”,’ to be mounted, by exhibitor, on foam core board, of exhibitor’s choice, cut to size. Staged on neutral colored panel. Viewed and judged from three sides.

***Botanical Embellishment** – a man-made object enhanced with dried plant material. Plant material may be treated. Complete coverage of the object is not required unless stated in the flower show schedule.*

Class Two: Botanical Form

4 Entries

“Lilies symbolize the “blossoming of the soul” and the transition from one life stage to another.”

AI Overview

Design a single lily stem to be displayed as a horticultural specimen in a clear glass bottle of exhibitor’s choice. Staged on a 30”r x 42”h cocktail table, draped in black floor length cloth. Space per exhibit: 15” equilateral triangle. Viewed and judged from all sides.

***Botanical Form** -- a design created entirely from dried plant material. Plant material may be treated. Mechanics or structural base may not be visible with exception of required staging.*

Class Three: Botanical Couture

4 Entries

“Consider the lilies of the field...Imagine setting it all down – papers, plans, appointments, everything – leaving only a note. “Gone to the fields to be lovely. Be back when I am through blooming.”” Lynn Ungar

Craft a hat band, that includes at least one 3D lily and/or natural ‘James River’ purifier (e.g., oyster, mussel) on hat of entrant’s choice, to be worn at a sunny picnic on the banks of ‘The James’. Staged on a neutral colored panel. Space per entry, 16” square. Viewed and judged from three sides.

***Botanical Couture:** a design reflecting item of clothing or other fashion accessories created from all dried plant material. Plant material may be treated. Mechanics or structural base may not be visible with exception of required staging (e.g., hat, exhibitor’s choice).*

Class Four: Special Class: Needle Arts **[\$30 Entry Fee]**

8 Entries

*“But if I were a lily
I think I would wait all day
for the green face
of the humming bird
to touch me.”*

Mary Oliver

Stitch this *Lilium philadelphicum* (wood lily), a native to Virginia; designed by Tuckahoe Garden Club of Westhampton member, Chris Shands. Draw inspiration from the knowledge that its bulbs were gathered by American tribes and is known for attracting the ruby throated hummingbirds and the swallow tail butterflies, in the summer months of July and August, to create your own background with no less than three varying stitches. Fibers and colors are stitcher’s choice; beading and other techniques encouraged. 16 ct. mesh canvas, finished stitch area to be 8”t x 10”w, will be given to entrant upon registration confirmation. Will be displayed in an 8x10 white picture frame, no mat, on a neutral colored panel Viewed and judged from three sides.

Please mail \$30 entry fee in a check made out to Garden Club of Virginia to Peyton Wells, 4 Westham Parkway, Henrico, VA 23229.

Class Five: Special Class: Needle Arts **[\$25 Entry Fee]** **4 Entries**

*“ Beneath the soil, a pale and layered heart,
The dormant bulb prepares its quiet art.
With silver roots, it grips the dark, damp earth,
And waits for spring to call it to rebirth.*

*The Lily’s throat, a fragrant, secret space.
...drinks in the morning heat,
And pours its perfume out, so sharp and sweet.”*

AI

Create a coaster, honoring lilies from their bulbs to their throats. Design, fibers and colors are stitcher’s choice; beading and other techniques are encouraged. 22 ct. canvas will be given to entrant upon registration confirmation; finished stitch area to be 4” square. No finishing required. A white mat cut to cover unfinished canvas will be provided by the Committee for judging and display, on a 30”r x 42”h cocktail table, draped in a black floor length cloth.

Please mail \$25 entry fee in a check made out to Garden Club of Virginia to Peyton Wells, 4 Westham Parkway, Henrico, VA 23229.

Needle Arts: a special exhibit, related to horticulture, conservation, and/or floral design, which involves a particular kind of skilled craftsmanship as well as excellence in design, requiring full coverage of canvas, unless specifically noted otherwise in class description.

BOTANICAL ARTS’ GUIDELINES

- 1. Who can enter:** The Botanical Arts Division is open to all members of the Garden Club of Virginia.
- 2. How to register:** Advanced Registration is required. Registration for each botanical arts class will open March 30th, and will close on May 1st, or when classes are full. Members, individuals or partner team may enter as many classes as desired but only one entry per class. Registrants will receive confirmation of registration email.
- 3. Botanical Arts must be exhibitor’s work:** Each entry must be the work of the exhibitor(s). This includes construction of mechanics, drying of all used plant material, (to include flowers, foliage, seeds, pods, nuts (in or out of shells), vegetables, twigs, vines, reeds, etc.), judicious carving or assemblage while creating figural forms; cutting, incising or shaping to enhance artistic effect; and, placement of permitted surface treatments (i.e., paints, nail polishes, varnishes, waxes, etc.). Processed products may not be included in the design (i.e., cork, raffia, tapioca, balsa wood, etc.). Non-plant material (i.e., cardboard, metal, twine, string, cording, etc.) may be used only for construction and may not show. Artificial, endangered and locally invasive

plant material may not be used. Only dried plant material, mechanics and their surface treatments are permitted.

4. If forced to withdraw: If forced to withdraw, an exhibitor must notify Botanical Arts chairman, Peyton Wells, by phone at (804) 339-5400 or by email (peytonwells@gmail.com). Unless there is a waiting list, the withdrawing entrant is responsible for finding a substitute.

5. Registered entries must be mailed or hand delivered: Registered entries for each class, along with Entry Form, Sample Card, and Card of Intent, must be mailed or hand delivered ahead of time to be received no later than June 1, 2026. Send entries to: Peyton Wells, 4 Westham Parkway, Henrico, VA 23229.

One printed ENTRY FORM should be included with each entry submitted. This will be the only form with name(s) of exhibitor(s), and their Club on it. This form will be emailed in the confirmation of registration email. For each entry being mailed or hand delivered to Peyton Wells, include one ENTRY FORM loose in container for entry; One SAMPLE CARD, identified by only the exhibitor(s) Class and Entry Number (white, unlined 5" x 8", card with a small, untreated piece of all dried plant material in its natural state, correctly identified with *botanical* and common name, and indicating placement in entry); and, STATEMENT OF INTENT, identified by only the exhibitor(s) Class and Entry Number (25 words or less, conveying the exhibitor(s) vision and message, on a white, unlined, 3" x 5" card). These three items **must** be included with entry to be passed. If an entry is not passed, the exhibitor will be notified and allowed, if time permits, to correct the entry before judging. For technical questions please contact Class Consultant, Peyton Wells, GCV 2026 Lily Show 'Renewal' Botanical Arts Division Chair.

6. Mailing and return requirements: To avoid having entries damaged when mailing, it is recommended to provide a reusable mailing box. Wrap the entry with suitable packing materials, which will be reused for return. Place the wrapped entry inside the reusable mailing box, perhaps two for added protection, along with a pre-paid, self-addressed, return label. Boxes are permitted and can be reused provided a pre-purchased return label to cover the cost of mailing the box back to the owner has been included. **No checks will be accepted.** *Entries may also be picked up at the close of the show.* **Entries MAY NOT be removed on Thursday, June 18, before 4:30 p.m.**

7. Awards: Awards will be given for first, second and third place in each class. Honorable mention will be at the discretion of the judges. In addition, "special awards" will be given for Best in Show, Most Creative and the Novice Award for best entry by a novice. A novice is someone who has never won first place in a GCV Botanical Arts show or any other Botanical Arts show.

Judging will be based on the following criteria:

Design	35
Craftsmanship	15
Creativity	30
Interpretation/Conformance	10
<u>Distinction</u>	<u>10</u>

Total Points

100

GCV BOTANICAL ARTS' PERPETUAL AWARD

Mary Meade Davenport Novice Award

This award is given annually by the Garden Club of Virginia.

Best in Show (Ribbon)

Botanical Arts Creativity (Ribbon)

Novice Award (Ribbon)