



## 2026 Lily Show Photography Division

### *Renewal*

*When the Lilies Bloom*

*As with the rainbow, an ancient covenant divine  
This time of renewal and rebirth will come  
The promise radiates from the ashes and mud  
This sacred moment, when the lilies bloom*

*Wayne Visser*

#### **Class One: The Renewing Energy of Light – Back-lit Close up**

A close up and back-lit photo of a true liliium. The true lily may be purchased.

*Close up photography* – a photographic technique where the subject of the photography fills most of the frame.

*Back-Lit photography* – a lighting technique where the light comes from behind the subject with no visible light source in the photograph, artificial light can be used to create the back light.

#### **Class Two: The Belle Epoque-Renaissance of the Age of Beauty – Composed Still Life (color)**

Harken back to the Belle Epoque (age of beauty) and capture the elegance of the Liliium. A true lily or lilies (*Lilium*) must be included. The true lily or lilies may be purchased.

*Composed Still Life photography*—a genre of photography where the image is an intentionally composed arrangement of inanimate objects. (A subgenre is “found” still life photography where objects encountered by the photographer are photographed as found without intentional arrangement or rearrangement by the photographer.)

### **Class Three: Reawakening—A Lilium Opens – Creative (color)**

Reimagine and creatively depict the opening of a Lilium. The true lily may be purchased. (Merriam-Webster defines “reimagine to mean “to imagine again or anew, especially: to form a new conception of: recreate.”)

*Creative photography* – a photographic technique that uses manipulation at any stage of the photographic process to achieve an effect that renders the final image very different from the original image.

### **Class Four: Revitalize – Texture (black and white)**

Ground cover plants, landscape rocks or leaves in a border that might coincide with Liliums. Lilies do not need to be in the photo.

*Texture photography* – Texture in photography is the visual quality of an object’s surface, giving a 3D feel and bringing life and depth to the image. (Definition from Maria Bailey, *Texture in Photography: What it is and how to capture it*; [shutterstock.com/blog/texture-in-photography](http://shutterstock.com/blog/texture-in-photography)).

*Black and White photography* – a photographic technique where the photographic image is totally in black and white.

### **Class Five: Rally Around the Beauty of the Lilium – Botanical Study (color)**

The true lily may be purchased.

*Botanical Study photography* – a subgenre of photography that explores a plant’s features—leaves, roots, stem, and a flower or two if the plant is a flowering plant.

### **Class Six: Restoration – Fleur-de-lis – Architectural Detail Close-up (color);**

**Novice.** Focus on an interesting detail, such as for example, a fleur-de-lis, at or near a restored building.



(Photo by Gryffindor, Wikimedia)

*Architectural photography* – a subgenre of photography that allows the photographer to “capture, the beauty, intricacy, and essence of architectural structure” as described by [srlounge.com](http://srlounge.com) and “at its most basic, is about capturing buildings and other structures-

*generally in a way that is aesthetically pleasing” as described by digital-photography-school.com, and can showcase the interesting vantage points of buildings, as well as capturing intriguing architectural details of buildings and structures.*

*A novice is someone who has never won first place in a GCV photography show or any other photography show.*

## **PHOTOGRAPHY GUIDELINES**

- 1. Who can enter:** The Photography Division is open to all members of the Garden Club of Virginia.
- 2. How to register:** Advanced Registration is required. Registration for each photography class will open March 30th, and will close on May 1st, or when classes are full. Members may only submit one photograph but may indicate their interest in submitting a second image if space becomes available. Registrants will receive a confirmation of registration email.
- 3. Digital Photograph:** Digital images, sent by email to [photography@gcvirginia.org](mailto:photography@gcvirginia.org), are required for each class and are due no later than May 8th. Follow these steps to send in digital images: (a) rename your photo file as follows: Class #\_District #\_Your Last Name\_First Initial. (e.g. Class 1\_D2\_Smith\_P.); (b) make sure your image is between 2 and 6 MB in size and attach the image as “actual size” to your email. **Check again before sending to ensure the image size has not been reduced to below the minimum of 2 MB;** (c) make the subject line of your email 2026 Lily Show-Class (add class number)-District (add district number); (d) email your image to [photography@gcvirginia.org](mailto:photography@gcvirginia.org) (e) include your class number, district number, and name plus a statement of intent 25 words or less in the body of the email.
- 4. Photograph must be exhibitor’s work:** Each photograph must be the work of the exhibitor. All editing must be the work of the exhibitor. This includes enhancement for color or clarity, removal of a part of the image, combining images, or distorting the original subject.
- 5. The digital images will be evaluated to verify that class specifications have been met and will be passed if those requirements are met.** If a photograph is not passed, the exhibitor will be notified and allowed, if time permits, to send a replacement digital image. The Photography Division Chairmen may reclassify an entry, but only with the permission of the exhibitor. Please be advised that once an image has been submitted digitally, no further changes, however minor, are allowed prior to print. For technical questions please contact Susan Morris, GCV Photography Chair ([morrisandmorrisdds@gmail.com](mailto:morrisandmorrisdds@gmail.com)).
- 6. If forced to withdraw:** If forced to withdraw, an exhibitor must notify Photography chairman, Susan Morris, by phone at (276) 634-7879 or by email. Unless there is a waiting list, the withdrawing entrant is responsible for finding a substitute.
- 7. Passed entries must be printed, mounted, and mailed:** Passed entries for each class must be printed and mounted for display at the show. Finalists will be notified as quickly as possible in early May. Printed images must match the digital image that was emailed! Images should be printed to a size no smaller than 36" in perimeter and no larger than 60" in perimeter and

mounted on Black Foam Core cut to the exact size of the image. Tip: The larger the printed image the better for “display and judging purposes.”

Your printed and mounted photographs, along with entry forms, must be mailed ahead of time to be received no later than June 5th. Send mounted images to: Mary Queitzsch, Greenway, 48 Madison Mills Lane, Madison Mills, VA 22960-5002.

Two printed ENTRY FORMS should be included with each photograph submitted. These forms will be emailed in the confirmation of registration email. For each photo being mailed to Mary Queitzsch, attach one form to the back of the mounted photo and include the second form loose in the mailing packet. A title and statement of intent (25 words or less) **must** be included on each entry form(s). The attached form must show TOP of PHOTO.

**8. Mailing and return requirements:** To avoid having photographs bent or damaged when mailing, it is recommended to use two 15" x 19" bubble wrap envelopes, or a reusable mailing box. Wrap the mounted image between two suitable pieces of foam core or non-bendable cardboard, which will be reused for return. Place the wrapped image inside the reusable mailing box, or inside the mailing envelope along with a folded, self-addressed return envelope. If images are to be returned to the owner, an appropriate self-addressed padded envelope (ideally 15" X 19") with postage applied. Padded envelopes need to be large enough to accommodate protective packaging. Boxes are permitted and can be reused provided a pre-purchased stamp to cover the cost to mail the box back to the owner has been included. **No checks will be accepted.** *Photographs may also be picked up at the close of the show.* **Entries MAY NOT be removed on Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, before 4:00 p.m.**

**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 and the Novice Award for best image by a novice. A novice is someone who has never won first place in a GCV photography show or any other photography show.

Judging will be based on the following criteria:

Creativity	25
Composition	25
Technical Skills	20
Conformance/Interpretation	20
Distinction	10
Total Points	100

## **GCV PHOTOGRAPHY PERPETUAL AWARDS**

### **Claire Smithers Mellinger Award**

Established by the Albemarle Garden Club, this award is given to an entry of exceptional visual appeal that reflects the spirit of photography with joy and enthusiasm. This award is given annually by Garden Club of Virginia.

**Debbie Lewis Best in Show Award**

This perpetual award is given in honor of Debbie Lewis, former President of Garden Club of Virginia, by The Garden Study Club. This award is given annually by the Garden Club of Virginia.

**Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Queitzsch, Jr. Novice Award**

This perpetual award, a silver loving cup donated by Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Queitzsch, Jr., is given to a novice entry of exceptional quality. The award is given annually by Garden Club of Virginia.

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**Creativity (ribbon)**