

Lily Show
June 18, 2026
Hosted by The Tuckahoe Garden Club of Westhampton

“Renewal”

*The Lily Show is dedicated to Mary Meade Davenport
of the Tuckahoe Garden Club of Westhampton*

Across cultures and centuries, the lily has symbolized purity, renewal, and the perpetual cycle of life. This year’s Artistic Design Schedule honors these themes—celebrating lilies as emblems of rebirth, seasonal return, and serene beauty. Exhibitors are invited to explore artistic interpretations of regeneration in nature, the restorative power of water, and the mindful, contemplative balance found in traditions such as Japanese Ikebana. Each class offers a chance to reflect on the boundless ability of lilies—and of the natural world—to begin again.

Interclub Division

Exhibits in the Interclub division may be executed by a team of arrangers from a Garden Club of Virginia member club. The exhibit is entered in the name of the club.

Each interclub exhibit will be displayed on a 12-inch square, light grey pedestal, 42 inches high, viewed from three sides against a neutral background extending no more than 6 inches beyond any side of the pedestal with no height limitations. The base of the arrangement may not be more than 12 inches unless specified.

True scale lilies of the genus *Lilium* must dominate in all classes!

Class 1

“Return of the Season” – Japanese Design – Ikebana
GCV Website: Contemporary Floral Styles, page 19

7 entries

Inspired by the perennial nature of lilies, this class invites arrangers to express the concepts of rebirth, purity, and the power of seasonal renewal.

Using a Moribana Ikebana style emphasizing line, space, and tranquility, create a design symbolizing the moment when new Spring growth breaks through the quiet of Winter.

Class 2

“Living Waters” – Stable Kinetic Style
GCV Website: Contemporary Floral Styles, page 16

7 entries

The James River winds through Virginia like a living thread, its currents connecting communities, landscapes, and stories. The enduring importance of the river to the Commonwealth is a testament to the restless and renewing power of water.

Water restores and sustains life—it's no wonder lilies often flourish at the edges of ponds and streams. Create a Stable Kinetic arrangement expressing the movement and regenerative force of water. Consider arcs, ripples, currents, or the gentle flow of springs. Your design should evoke the idea of water as a renewable resource.

Class 3

“Circle of Life” – Wreath

7 entries

This class celebrates the interconnectedness of all life, reflected in the circular rhythms of growth, decay, and renewal.

Create a fresh wreath using white lilies representing purity, cyclical rebirth, and the gentle return of life season after season.

Base wreath form can be exhibitors' choice – grapevine, chicken wire, moss etc. Wreath to be no larger than 24" in diameter. Please make sure your wreath has a strong hanger – they will be hung by an S hook on a wall mounted wire grid.

Individual/Partner Division

Exhibits in the Individual/Partner Division may be executed by a single person exhibiting individually or by a team of two partners working together. Exhibiting is open to MEMBERS of the Garden Club of Virginia only. Mentor/Novice teams are encouraged, and a special award will be presented for this category. The exhibit will be displayed on a table within a space of 24" W x 18" D against a neutral background. There are no height restrictions.

Lilies must dominate in every class unless otherwise noted.

Class 4

“Dawn at Versailles” – French Baroque Style GCV Website: Traditional Floral Styles, page 6

7 entries

King Louis XIV of France commissioned the magnificent Palace of Versailles to harness the radiance of sunlight. Your lilies should evoke refinement, opulence, and a sense of uplifting light, softened by the theme of dawn and renewal—a sunrise befitting the Sun King.

Use lilies to symbolize emerging light and new beginnings; think of dawn breaking after darkness or the first shoots pushing upward in early Spring. The container must be a natural woven basket, emphasizing the theme of nurturing new growth.

Class 5

“A Pause to Reflect” – Naturalistic: Landscape Style
GCV Website: Contemporary Floral Styles, page 14

7 entries

Let your exhibit evoke a quiet, contemplative landscape, like Monet’s garden at Giverny, a place he shaped with the same devotion and artistry he brought to his paintings. Lilies symbolize peace and tranquility as they rise and repose within the scene, suggesting the painter’s beloved blossoms.

Class 6

“Quiet Grace” – Late Colonial: Williamsburg Style
GCV Website: Traditional Floral Style, page 24

7 entries

Create an arrangement in the Late Colonial: Williamsburg style where lilies at every stage of growth – buds, opening blossoms and full blooms – gather to embody the sophistication and poise of the era's flowering traditions. Unfolding from promise to fulfillment, the lilies suggest the progress of renewal.

Class 7

“Tea for Two in the Lily Garden” – Table Design, Tussie Mussie
GCV Website: Contemporary Floral Style, page 17
GCV Website: Traditional Floral Style, page 18

4 entries

This class is open to any Youth Designer (age 16 and under) exhibiting with a member including a Grandmother, Mother, Aunt, Teacher, Mentor or Special Friend.

To be staged on a 30” round table covered to the floor by a white cloth supplied by the committee; overlay, if desired, may be supplied by the exhibitor. To be viewed from all sides. No element of the design may extend beyond the table edge. No height restrictions. Flatware may be used at the discretion of the exhibitor. Statement of intent required.

Timeline:

Monday, June 8, 2026, 9:30 am: Online Registration Deadline

Wednesday, June 17, 2026, Noon – 5:00 pm: Workrooms open and arrangements may be passed and placed.

Thursday, June 18, 2026, 7:30 – 10:00 am: Workrooms open and arrangements passed and placed.

Passing closes, show floors closed to exhibitors at 10:00 a.m.

Judging will begin at 10:15 am.

Showrooms open to the public at 2:00 – 4:30 pm.

Awards Ceremony at 2:15 pm.

Exhibits may not be removed from the showroom floor until 4:30 p.m. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to remove their exhibit at the conclusion of the show.

Questions?

Renee Gardner, Artistic Design Chairman reneespearsgardner@gmail.com

Carla Rice, Artistic Design Registrar crice111@icloud.com

General Information:

Artistic exhibits are PRE-Registered with the Artistic Design Registrar on the Garden Club of Virginia website. Registration is a first come-first served basis. A waiting list will not be compiled. You will receive a confirmation from the Registrar. Registration is a reservation of space and an OBLIGATION. If unable to complete the exhibit, the REGISTRANT is responsible for finding a substitute arranger and notifying the Registrar. Please contact the Artistic Design Committee Chairman with any unforeseen issues. Registration is open to Garden Club of Virginia Members only.

Artistic Design Rules & Specifications:

1. The Schedule is known as “The Law of the Show.”
2. Inter Club Division classes allow a team of arrangers from a GCV Club to create the exhibit together. **However, only two arrangers will be allowed on the showroom floor during passing.**
3. Individual/Partner Division classes allow one person working individually or two people working in partnership to create and exhibit the design. An individual or partner team may enter as many classes as desired but only one entry per class.
4. Passing Judges must pass each exhibit before the exhibitor(s) leave the show floor. Passing Judges look to ensure that the exhibit meets the Schedule requirements including dimensions, floral materials list, Novice and/or Mentor status, Statement of Intent if included, exhibitors’ identification (name, GCV Club), and compliance with design style. An exhibit may only be disqualified by consultation with the GCV Artistic Design

Committee Chairman and the GCV Judging Coordinator(s). If disqualification is a possibility, every effort will be made by the Passing Coordinators to allow the exhibitor(s) to remedy the arrangement before the opening of the show.

5. Although arrangements may be viewed from all sides, arrangements will be judged from a distance of 3 feet from the front.
6. Designs will be judged according to the GCV Principles of Design: balance, dominance, contrast, rhythm, proportion, and scale and the Elements of Design: light, space, line, form, size, pattern, texture, and color. Creativity, distinction, conformance to and interpretation of the class and Schedule are also very important.
7. Please mark all containers and accessories with exhibitor number, name, and contact information.
8. Each exhibitor card **provided by the show registrar** will include a space for listing floral materials used. Garden grown materials should be identified with a "G" and florist found materials should be identified with an "F." A Pot-et-Fleur must include "R" for rooted material or "C" for cut material. Plants on the Virginia Endangered Species list grown in an exhibitor's garden must also be noted.
9. Plants on the Endangered Species list protected by Virginia law <https://law.lis.virginia.gov> may be used only if grown in the exhibitor's garden. This should be noted with the exhibitor's floral materials.
10. Boxwood is not allowed at any GCV event.
11. Endangered and locally invasive plants (species intentionally or accidentally introduced by human activity into a region in which they did not evolve and cause harm to natural resources, economic activity, or humans) may NOT be included at this time, and the Garden Club of Virginia asks that members refrain from planting additional invasive species in their gardens. The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation [lists plants](#) divided into high, medium, and low invasive status in the Commonwealth.
12. Seasonal, garden floral materials are preferred, and commercially grown flowers should be used with discretion.
13. Designs must include some fresh plant material.
14. Treating **fresh** plant material by the application of substances such as paints, dyes, etc. is not permitted. Plants may be stripped, clipped, bent, or otherwise manipulated.
15. The following are permitted unless prohibited in the show Schedule:
 - Accessories
 - Bases
 - Contrived flowers and/or forms made of fresh or dried plant material
 - *Cut fruit or vegetables sealed in some manner to discourage insects
 - Objects that add interest when tastefully used (for example, nests, feathers, coral, sponges, sea fans, starfish, antlers)
 - Container-grown plants in soil as part of Pot-et-Fleur or other appropriate classes
 - Dried and/or treated plant material
16. The following are not permitted unless specified in the Show Schedule:
 - Artificial flowers, foliage, and fruit
 - Living creatures.
 - If there is a "Tablescape Class" included in the show schedule, there is no food or drink permitted on the table. Exception: empty Champagne, or other empty beverage bottles.

17. Several types of backdrops are used in the flower shows. No flower material may touch the sides, back, or roof if present. Arrangements will be judged in proportion to the size of the backdrops, if present.
18. For design guidance and information on the floral styles in this schedule, click on the following links:
 - [Contemporary Floral Styles](#)
 - [Traditional Floral Styles](#)
19. GCV Judges and Student Judges are encouraged to enter the flower show. Judges and Student Judges will not judge a class in which they have entered nor in which members of their GCV clubs have entered.
- 20. Wherever possible, please use alternatives to non-biodegradable floral foam, and absolutely refrain when the Schedule dictates that an alternative to floral foam be employed.**
21. The base of the exhibit may not extend beyond the 12x12-inch pedestal unless otherwise specified in the schedule.

Artistic Design Procedures:

1. All Artistic exhibits must be pre-registered with the Artistic Design Registrar. Please remember that registration is a reservation of space and thus an obligation to be fulfilled. If unable to complete the exhibit, the registrant is responsible for finding a substitute arranger and notifying the Registrar. Please contact the Artistic Design Committee Chairman with any unforeseen issues.
2. Check in at Registration upon arrival. A completed exhibitor card must accompany the arrangement. Check it for accuracy including contact information, garden club, floral materials list. In the Individual/Partner Division, please add novice and/or novice/mentor status, if appropriate. *A novice is one who has not won a blue ribbon or a GCV novice award in a GCV Flower Show. A mentor is one who has won a blue ribbon or a GCV novice award in a GCV Flower Show.* Mentor-novice partners should check the appropriate box on the exhibit card.
3. In both Inter Club and Individual/Partner Divisions, a Statement of Intent of **25 words or fewer** listed on a 3" x 5" card conveying the exhibitor's vision and message to the viewer accompanies each exhibit.
4. The workroom is not adjacent to the show floor. Exhibitors may arrange in the workroom but not on the show floor unless allowed by the Schedule.
5. Please be sure that your container does not leak. Please exercise care when watering in the exhibit space.
6. Notify a Passing Judge when the exhibit is placed and ready to be passed. Passing Judges confirm that the exhibit meets the style specified in the Schedule, published space requirements, Exhibitor's information (including novice and mentor eligibility), and Floral Materials List / Key Card in Botanical Arts. An exhibitor whose exhibit does not meet the Schedule will be given an opportunity, if time allows, to correct it. An exhibit may only be disqualified by consultation with the GCV Artistic Design

Committee Chairman and the GCV Judging Coordinator(s). Arranger(s) remain in the exhibit area until the exhibit is passed, and once passed, leave the show floor promptly. Except for watering and necessary maintenance, the exhibit must remain untouched following passing.

7. Please place any unused floral materials in buckets marked for recycling to community care facility residents.
8. The Artistic Design Committee may add or delete classes or adjust the number of entries within a division, class or classes.
9. Exhibits MUST remain in place until the close of the show.

Artistic Design Awards

Past Presidents of the Garden Club of Virginia Trophy
Inter Club Quad Blue

Anne Carter Walker Somerville Award
Most Creative GCV

Georgia S. Vance Award
Best Novice GCV

Eugenia and David Diller Award
Best Novice Individual/Partner Subdivision

The Mentor Award
Best Novice-Mentor Partner Arrangement

The Debbie Swaney Stevenson Award
Most Beautiful Arrangement