Chapter 6

JUDGES AND JUDGING

The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc. (OAGC) judges are ambassadors or representatives of our organization in a field that is dependent upon education. To the best of the judge’s ability, it is important to convey knowledge on a topic they are to evaluate or judge. The judges and exhibitors are to know what the flower show schedule requires and question anything that might be misunderstood, before judging starts. As judges evaluate the artistic designs and horticulture exhibits, they should be able to justify decisions with facts. Judges should be able to evaluate exhibits and encourage exhibitors, through oral expression, on a level they can understand.

EXHIBITORS' AND JUDGES' SCHOOLS

The Exhibitors' and Judges' Schools of OAGC offer a comprehensive educational program to obtain knowledge and skills in both horticulture and artistic design. The schools are a source of enrichment for exhibitors and flower show judges. For exhibitors, the schools are the place to learn formal instruction and the skills necessary for exhibiting or to understand judging horticulture and artistic designs. Horticulture tips are also included in the schools. To become an OAGC accredited flower show judge, the schools are part of the requirements. For active judges, the schools offer a way to adhere to the professional standards of education, certification, professional development, and formal evaluation. OAGC judges can be an inspiration to exhibitors and the general public by sharing their knowledge and the joys of horticulture and the floral arts.

The mission of the schools is: **To provide learning opportunities and support in (1) the growing of quality horticulture for exhibit and/or pleasure and (2) floral art featuring innovative traditional and creative design practices using professional instruction.**

Teaching is done by experienced and knowledgeable OAGC accredited judges and others suitably qualified in their field of interest. The current OAGC Handbook for Exhibitors and Judges is the basis for instruction and applicable chapters should be read before attending each session. Schools are offered twice a year and include design demonstrations, live horticultural specimens, and a vendor trade show. A study list and any required video or supplemental material will be accessible to judges, student judges and registrants before each school. The examinations for each school will have questions based on the study material from the current OAGC Handbook for Exhibitors and Judges and approved supplemental materials.

Schools will emphasize cut cultivar judging for round, spray and spike forms. To help in teaching the forms of flowers, all school attendees may provide cut horticulture specimens which relate to flowers being taught in sessions for that school. These should be labeled correctly and displayed in clear containers provided by the registrant. A drawing will be held from amongst those who supply cultivars; one winner from each school will receive one day’s registration at the next school.
The journey to becoming an accredited judge of The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc. begins with application submission (see prerequisites below). After acceptance, the student judge must attend each of the Exhibitors' and Judges' Schools which run on a cycle of six (6) two-day judging schools spanning three years. It is not necessary to begin with the first school, however it is recommended.

**POTENTIAL CURRICULUM FOR THE 3-YEAR CYCLE**

Instruction will focus on knowing, growing, showing, and judging horticulture and artistic design. Student judges will be tested on topics with an (*).

**School #1** Knowing, growing, and showing horticulture topics: daffodils and spring flowering bulbs*; round, spray and spike forms*; tulips; flowering trees and shrubs; plant identification*.

Artistic design topics: elements and principles of design*; color theory*; period designs*; mechanics in design. Judging and procedures are addressed; an evening hands-on design study is offered.

**School #2** Knowing, growing, and showing horticulture topics: gladiolus*; succulents and cacti*; plant identification*; zinnia and marigolds; tips for exhibiting.

Artistic design topics: traditional basic designs*; miniature and small designs; planning and staging flower shows; schedule writing. Elements and principles of design are reviewed; judging and procedures are addressed; an evening hands-on design study is offered.

**School #3** Knowing, growing, and showing horticulture topics: peonies*; iris*; small gardens in flower shows including terrariums*; heuchera; plant identification*.

Artistic design topics: oriental designs including Ikebana*; table setting designs. Elements and principles of design are reviewed; judging and procedures are addressed; an evening hands-on design study is offered.

**School #4** Knowing, growing, and showing horticulture topics: caladium and colocasia*; lilies and hemerocallis*; hanging plants, window boxes, combination planters; plant identification*.

Artistic design topics: creative designs I*; extending flower show artistic classes. Elements and principles of design are reviewed; judging and procedures are addressed; an evening hands-on design study is offered.

**School #5** Knowing, growing, and showing horticulture topics: hosta*; roses*; African violets; orchids and bromeliads; Bonsai; plant identification*.

Artistic design topics: creative designs II*; educational exhibits; plant materials for arrangements. Elements and principles of design are reviewed; judging and procedures are addressed; an evening hands-on design study is offered.

**School #6** Knowing, growing, and showing horticulture topics: dahlias*; vegetables and fruit*; gourds; herbs; plant identification*.

Artistic design topics: abstract creative designs*; winter and holiday shows. Elements and principles of design are reviewed; judging and procedures are addressed; an evening hands-on design study is offered.

The school topics of horticulture and artistic design may change.
A study list and any required video or supplemental material will be accessible to judges, student judges and registrants before each school. The student judge examinations for each school will have questions based on the study material from the current OAGC Handbook for Exhibitors and Judges and approved supplemental materials. Horticulture and artistic design subjects are tested; a minimum passing grade of 70% must be met for each subject. Retake of failed test(s) will be offered to the student judges at the next consecutive school for a nominal fee above and beyond registration fees. *(Retakes will be limited to two (2) tests per school.)* Otherwise, the topic of failed subject(s) must be repeated in the next series of schools at the school in which that subject is covered.

After successfully passing the series of six judging schools, the student judge must apprentice judge four (4) flower shows, each with a different OAGC accredited flower show judge, assisting in both the horticultural and artistic divisions. Following the completed apprentice period, the state Exhibitors' and Judges' chair will forward a recommendation to the executive committee for approval. If all the requirements have been met, a certificate of accreditation is issued.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCREDITATION**

**PROSPECTIVE STUDENT JUDGE REQUIREMENTS**

The candidate **must**:

- hold an active membership in an OAGC garden club.
- be an experienced exhibitor and be familiar with flower show procedures.
- have exhibited in both horticulture and artistic classes in at least three (3) flower shows judged by an accredited OAGC judge and must have earned at least five (5) ribbons in each division, for a total of ten (10) or more.
- have served on a minimum of two different flower show committees.

**STUDENT JUDGE REQUIREMENTS**

After a student has begun Exhibitors' and Judges' School, the following requirements **must** be met during the 3-year series of schools.

- Maintain active membership in an OAGC garden club.
- Continue to exhibit in OAGC judged flower shows earning five (5) ribbons in both artistic and horticulture divisions which is a total of 10 ribbons.
- Serve on a minimum of three (3) different flower show committees at a minimum of two (2) different flower shows. Experience should include schedule writing, entry and classification, placement, clerking, staging, educational exhibits or awards. Each of the shows is to have had a schedule, and have been judged by an accredited OAGC judge, who signs the ribbons and/or entry tags.
- Enter the OAGC Convention flower show artistic and horticulture divisions at least once during the school series.
- Serve as a clerk at the OAGC Convention flower show at least once during the school series.
- Make an effort to enter the Ohio State Fair Flower show competition or design a non-competitive niche at least once during the school series.
- Submit schedules and proof of activities, yearly, by December 15 to the state Exhibitors' and Judges' chair for inclusion in the student’s Record of the Candidates for Judge file. This could include entry tags signed by the judge or flower show chair. Newspaper articles can verify the activities.
- Pass all tests with a score of 70% or above.
- Succeed at plant identification; collections appear at each school where 30 labeled samples show both a botanical and common name. Only 20 of them will appear on the test. Students receive 2 points each for correct botanical and common names. Correct spelling earns ½ point each for botanical and common name, for a total of 5 points per plant.
- Demonstrate oral judging at each school during test preparations with an instructor.

**APPRENTICE JUDGE REQUIREMENTS**

After successfully passing the series of six (6) judging schools, the student judge **must:**

- Apprentice judge four (4) flower shows, each with a different OAGC accredited flower show judge, assisting in both the horticultural and artistic divisions. If a show lacks either an artistic or horticultural division, the student judge may have to gain that experience in another show. Student judge decisions must be cleared with the accredited judge before the ribbons are placed. If the show is being orally judged, the student judge should be encouraged to judge orally, too.
- Provide the Apprentice Judge Quality Performance form for each flower show to the accredited judge who will send it to the state Exhibitors' and Judges' chair for inclusion in the student’s Record of the Candidates for Judge file. Form to be found at the end of this chapter.
- Complete apprentice judging within the 3 years following completion of the six (6) schools. During that time student judges must adhere to accredited judge requirements.

**ACCREDITED JUDGE REQUIREMENTS**

All accredited judges **must:**

- Maintain active membership in an OAGC garden club and be in good standing.
- Abide by the requirements and procedures set forth by OAGC.
- Judges and apprentice judges may never judge any division, either horticulture or artistic, of a flower show they have entered. An exception is a large show that has multiple judges with the classes divided amongst them.
- Secure and carry appropriate Flower Show score sheets prior to judging any show.
  - Complete and submit the flower show score sheets to the state Flower Show department chair within thirty (30) calendar days of judging a show. A score sheet must be submitted regardless of whether the show is being entered in the Flower Show contest competition.
  - The purpose of this requirement is to (a) show that a judge is judging and (b) accommodate a club which may change its decision.
In shows requiring multiple judges, one score sheet can be submitted to represent all the judges scoring the show. One designated judge should submit one score sheet to the state Flower Show department chair. Score sheets are found in the current *OAGC Handbook for Garden Clubs, OAGC Handbook for Exhibitors and Judges*, on the OAGC web site and can be obtained from the state Exhibitors' and Judges' chair or the state Flower Show chair. 

- Provide the flower show chairperson of any show judged with the Accredited Judge Quality Performance Form. *(See professional development section regarding this form.)* 
- **Acquire** a total of twelve (12) points throughout the series of six schools from the following:

1. Attend a required six (6) out of the twelve (12) days of schools in each series which **must include at least 2 days from the creative design sessions, to stay up-to-date on new designs.** For each day of school attendance, one (1) point will be earned. Punch cards will be utilized for verification of attendance points earned.

2. Attend **additional** days above and beyond the required six (6) days of school in a cycle, each day earning one (1) point. Punch cards will be utilized for verification of attendance points earned.

3. ** Represent OAGC** at one or more of the following options. Submit documentation annually, by December 15 to the state Exhibitors' and Judges' chair as proof of participation. An accredited judge should always keep a record of these activities.

   a. **Two (2) point options:**
      - Create and present horticulture and/or artistic program
      - Write an OAGC flower show schedule
      - Chair an OAGC flower show
        *(Only one option of the three above may be used per show or event.)*
      - Host a garden tour
      - Create and submit a flower show book contest entry

   b. **One (1) point options:**
      - Clerk at any OAGC judged flower show
      - Enter and ribbon in both horticulture and artistic, one each - at any OAGC-judged flower show
      - Be present for oral judging at any OAGC-judged flower show
        *(Only one option of the three above may be used per show or event.)*
      - Volunteer at the Ohio State Fair OAGC Information Booth
      - Mentor a new OAGC judge for a calendar year
      - View an E&J online video, be tested and pass with 70% or above (TBD)
      - Have a completed Accredited Judge Quality Performance Form returned to the state Exhibitors' and Judges' chair. *(Use of this option is limited to 2 times per certification period)*
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

To ensure that OAGC judges have the resources to maintain accreditation, professionalism and development, a system has been established in which a judge must meet a twelve (12) point minimum requirement during the course of the 3 year school cycle. The system consists of several opportunities to attain the required 12 points. Re-issuance of judge certificates will be by attendance points and other points earned for optional representation and dated December 15th of the year of school #6, once every three years. Should a student judge earn accreditation in the midst of the cycle, the twelve (12) point requirement will be prorated to the end of the cycle. If the twelve (12) point requirement is unmet, the judge’s certification will be referred to the executive committee for review and appropriate action taken.

An Accredited Judge Quality Performance Form with merited criteria has been created to better ascertain how judges are conveying the OAGC vision. The purpose of this form is to keep judges at the highest level of professionalism and knowledge. It will also assist OAGC in identifying exceptional judges and the perception of our organization’s representatives. In addition, the data will be utilized to address or improve curriculum and its effectiveness.

The form covers the following criteria:

○ General – promptness, professionalism, preparedness, performance
○ Knowledge – terminology of artistic design and horticulture exhibits

The Accredited Judge Quality Performance Form will be given to the flower show chairman by the show judge. The flower show chairman (or a designated committee member) shall fill out and send the form by postal mail or email within two days of the show. The form is to be found at the end of this chapter.

Any one score below 70% (14/20) on the Accredited Judge Quality Performance Form will cause the judge to earn probation status for the next two (2) subsequent shows judged. The judge shall continue to meet all accredited judge criteria during probation and will be required to meet or exceed the 70% (14/20) score for each of the subsequent two (2) shows judged to remove probation status. Should another score below 70% (14/20) be earned during probation, the judge will be referred to the executive committee and may be suspended from all judging.

Throughout suspension, the suspended judge must continue to meet all accredited judge criteria, must attend both days of the next two subsequent E&J school sessions and pass the required curriculum tests. The suspension status will then be moved to probation status. Serious infractions could result in permanent loss of certification.

JUDGING PROCEDURES

Oral judging leads to a better understanding between the judge and the exhibitor. It is clearer than using short written notes to be read later that do not convey the judge's complete thoughts. If asked to make written comments, make them concise. Judging orally is more powerful when correct judging vocabulary is used.

Guidelines for oral judging:

• use appropriate vocabulary, describing through design elements and principles so the words make it clear to the listeners; 'pretty', 'nice', and 'beautiful' may sound positive but are not descriptive, especially in designing. See the vocabulary at the end of this chapter for more descriptive words.
be specific with comments and demonstrate knowledge of design or growing, including new trends
offer constructive comments, without personal bias
be tactful - have a reason for making each decision - be it worthy or unworthy of an award. Mention the good points first, then offer suggestions for either the design or the horticultural exhibit.

Once the judging is completed, show a positive approach, and allow exhibitors to talk over decisions and to answer any questions. Be willing to share highlights and suggestions with the committee while the experience is fresh. Make notes, and perhaps take some photographs to help complete the show's score sheet.

Horticulture Division Judging

Judge the horticulture division first, in particular the roses. In cut flowers, roses alter form quickly; exhibitors try for perfection knowing the hour for judging.
It is recommended all judges use the classification list and specifications for each plant society to know a particular plant family.
Carefully examine each entry; an exhibitor took time to grow and exhibit it. In many shows a committee member can bring exhibits down to a table to permit better viewing.
Judge each entry as it appears at the moment of judging; it is not about what they were or will become in an hour or so.
If more than one bloom is asked for in a class, uniformity is sought. Three uniform flowers means identical. For example, the same color, size, form, maturity, and condition of the three is nearly perfect, unless the schedule states otherwise.
Entries should be labeled with variety names. When this has not been done, a judge should encourage the committee and any exhibitors to follow through. This educates both exhibitors and the public. To be fair in horticulture, a judge should be familiar with varieties in the schedule.

*If a schedule states an entry must be labeled, and variety names are not given, a judge can disqualify the entry for not following the rules. In some schedules, ribbons for first-place are withheld when an entry appears without a name.

Never touch the inflorescence. Horticulture entries or specimens may be gently lifted (while it remains in its container) for thorough observation. Use discretion and handle it with care. Some plant society rules prohibit removing an exhibit from its container.
In horticulture, it is possible to find an attribute which helps determine a winner. Grooming and correct, neat labeling help the judge make a decision. Knowing the difficulty in growing a cultivar can also help determine the best exhibit. Point score if necessary.
When an exhibit is found to be in the wrong class, an OAGC judge is to disqualify it when judging. If the class it belongs in has not yet been judged, the flower show chair may move it after first correcting the entry tag.
Horticulture classes may be subdivided if the schedule has allowed for this, or the fair board permits the practice. Even so, subdividing calls for at least four entries per class.
In horticulture classes in a standard show, there is usually one first, one second and one third place ribbon awarded. Many times, with quality entries, one or more honorable mention ribbons may be placed. Any solo entry must merit its award, whether it earns a first, second or third award.
In all cases, the decision of the judge is final. It cannot be changed by anyone. When an error takes place, it must stand. A sincere apology should be extended.

Artistic Division Judging

Constructive comments give encouragement and help direct creative energy. Judges need practice in oral judging using preferred judging vocabulary. Words that convey an opinion or reveal subjectivity are never as powerful as descriptive phrases.

- View exhibits from four feet away. Miniature or small exhibits are exceptions.
- Touching any part of an artistic exhibit is forbidden. Let distance be the reminder for any temptation to step forward and look more closely at the sides or over the back.
- Interrupting the judge during judging is prohibited. A judge needs to ignore comments. The show chair can quietly caution, or even remove such individuals.
- Disqualify an entry which does not meet the requirements of the schedule. The entry or the classification committee may have overlooked this placement. Do ask the show chair for a ruling after checking with those committees. If rules are broken, disqualify.
- Place ribbons as merited. Mentally eliminate an entry that does not conform to a class. All entries are worthy of comment.
- Look for skilled design which merits the most points on the scorecard. Refer to scorecards for traditional and creative designing, remembering the points differ. Never let an exhibit that is cute, clever, or too literal, over-power judging considerations.
- Utilize terms in the judging process that apply to the design style; use correct terminology.
- Provide kind encouragement to everyone, especially to children who take part. Judges are teachers who should bring encouragement blended with knowledge.
- In all cases, the decision of the judge is final. It cannot be changed by anyone. When an error takes place, it must stand. A sincere apology should be extended.

Top 10 Reasons to Disqualify in Artistic and Horticultural Classes

The first few relate directly to the schedule:
- failure to meet specification or requirements within the schedule
- when the required number of stems are not present in the exhibit unit
- when an individual bloom entry presents side buds
- materials, accessories or containers prohibited in schedule are used
- misnamed, mislabeled, or miss-classed horticulture entries

Other disqualifications:
- insect infestation present, as in whiteflies, aphids, or ants; remove the exhibit from the show room
- foreign substances appear on fresh materials such as plant shine, spray residues, webs, or oils which mask actual health and vigor
- fresh plant material that appears with paint spray*, fresh paint coloration through the use of capillary action
- altered fresh plant materials in any traditional designing; creative designing allows for leaf manipulation, and other modified material; consider this carefully in a class listed ‘designer's choice’
- handcrafted flowers are to be constructed with some form of plant material, otherwise a disqualification should occur

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* Note: Shows often permit the coloring and painting of dried and preserved materials. In winter and Holiday shows, spray snow is permitted on fresh materials when restraint is employed to achieve a seasonal impact or feeling of wintry cold.

JUDGE EMERITUS

Judges who are currently accredited but feel they are no longer able to maintain their status due to age and/or for physical conditions, may request the designation of ‘OAGC Judge Emeritus’. The judge must be a member of an OAGC garden club and hold a current judging certificate. This request must be submitted in writing to the state Exhibitors' and Judges' chair who will forward it to the executive committee for approval.

With this title, a Judge Emeritus is being recognized for years of service. However, they shall not judge shows, even if the shows are not being entered in state competition. If a judge emeritus chooses to return to active status, they must adhere to the same requirements as other active judges. After the judge emeritus achieves the twelve (12) point requirement within a three (3) year period, active status will be returned.
USEFUL VOCABULARY FOR JUDGES

accentuate - emphasize, stress, underscore
adapt – conform
advisable - desirable, fitting, suitable
aerial - high, elevated, graceful
alike – analogous
alter - modify
ambiguous - vague, undefined, obscure
appealing - agreeable, attractive, alluring, fascinating, captivating, interesting
appropriate - apt, proper, suitable, commendable
arouse - stir, excite
attained - achieved, succeeded
austere - harsh, stern, severe, rough, strict
balance - stability, steadiness
*beautiful - lovely, graceful, elegant, dainty, suitable, stunning, dazzling, gorgeous superb, artistic, attractive, handsome flawless, refined, magnificent
bold - daring, audacious
bright - brilliant, glistening, luminous
chaste - pure, sweet
clever - skillful, gifted, adept, talented
compact - dense, firm
coarse - rough, harshly-textured
consolidate - unite, join, confine, merge
conforming - typical, sound
conspicuous - prominent, notable, striking
cumbrous - clumsy, unwieldy
dazzling - brilliant, radiant, gorgeous, gleaming
deceiving - cunning, elusive
deface - mar, disfigure, maim, mangle
dramatic - emotional, exciting, vivid
driving - forceful, vigorous
eligible - qualified, worthy
embellish - decorate, ornate
enhance - intensify, strengthen
excellent - admirable, splendid, elegant exquisite, superior, magnificent exceptional, outstanding incomparable, distinguished
fragile - frail, delicate, gossamer
fragrant - aromatic, spicy

*good - acceptable, adequate, ample, proper, sufficient, suitable, correct, skillful, appropriate, complete, adequate, pleasant, commendable
hue – color, tint, shade, tone, tinge
imaginative – creative
imposing – impressive, strength, dignity
impeccable – flawless, errorless
inspiring – exciting, stimulating
luster – sheen, finish, polish, shine, gloss
majestic – noble, stately, imposing
orderly – tidy, neat, systematic
ornate – showy, excessive, unnatural
pleasant – pleasing, festive, charming
*poor – awkward, confusing, imperfect unrelated, deficient, disturbing, ill-suited, improper, lacking, displeasing, conflicting, weak, clumsy, incomplete
prestigious – distinctive, impressive
quality – trait, characteristic
reminiscent - suggestive
resplendent – brilliance, shining, lustrous
robust – vigorous, healthy, strong, sturdy
showy – colorful, ornate
small – tiny, wee, minute, petite, dainty
suggest – allude, imply, underscore
surrounding – girdling, encompassing
turgid – swollen, expanded, conditioned
vivid – striking, vibrant, picturesque
weak – inadequate, insignificant

*good, poor and beautiful are words to avoid because they are not descriptive
Ohio Association of Garden Clubs  
Accredited Judge Quality Performance  
A flower show judge is a representative of OAGC at all times.

**DIRECTIONS TO THE FLOWER SHOW CHAIRPERSON:**
Please complete the evaluation and return it to the Ohio Association of Garden Clubs within 2 days of the completed judging. Your cooperation will help us maintain the high level of professionalism and knowledge required of OAGC accredited judges.

The criteria are listed in the far-left column with three performance levels to the right. Check the appropriate performance level box for the criteria, then tally the points below. Continue additional comments on the back of this sheet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GENERAL CRITERIA</th>
<th>MEETS 2 pts</th>
<th>PARTIALLY MEETS 1 pt</th>
<th>NOT EVIDENT 0 pts</th>
<th>If Not Evident, please COMMENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Promptness: Arrival</td>
<td>Arrives at least 15 minutes before.</td>
<td>On time</td>
<td>Late</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Professionalism: Attire</td>
<td>Appropriate for OAGC, Neat Appearance</td>
<td>Appropriate for OAGC, Unkempt Appearance</td>
<td>Inappropriate, Unkempt appearance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preparedness: Show Schedule</td>
<td>Evidence of Familiarity</td>
<td>Some Evidence of Familiarity</td>
<td>No Evidence of Familiarity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Performance: Exhibit Evaluation</td>
<td>Careful, Thorough</td>
<td>Some Evidence of Care &amp; Thoroughness</td>
<td>Careless, Thoughtless</td>
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<tr>
<td>Performance: Oral Judging</td>
<td>Favorable, Constructive Comments &amp; Encouragement</td>
<td>Some Favorable, Constructive Comments &amp; Encouragement</td>
<td>Unfavorable, Unconstructive Comments &amp; Discouragement</td>
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<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE CRITERIA</th>
<th>MEETS 4 pts</th>
<th>PARTIALLY MEETS 2 pts</th>
<th>NOT EVIDENT 0 pts</th>
<th>If Not Evident, please COMMENT</th>
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Judge's Name: Tally Points ______ /20 pts.

Flower Show Region# : Show Date:

Flower Show Chairperson: Phone #:

Would the Flower Show Chairperson ask this judge to judge future flower shows?  ○ YES  ○ No  ○ Maybe

Thank you for completing this evaluation and helping us maintain the high standards for judging. If needed, you and/or the accredited judge may be contacted at a future date.

Mail within two days of the show to the Exhibitors and Judges School State Co-Chair Christine Michael, 1709 East Cole Road, Fremont OH 43420 or attach to email oagceandjschool@gmail.com

6.b  1/2021 clm
Ohio Association of Garden Clubs
Apprentice Judge Quality Performance

A flower show judge is a representative of OAGC at all times.

After successfully completing judging school, the student judge becomes an Apprentice Judge and must judge four (4) flower shows, each with a different OAGC accredited flower show judge, assisting in both horticultural and artistic divisions. See pages 36-37 of the Handbook for Exhibitors and Judges.

The OAGC Accredited Judge will complete this evaluation and return it to the Exhibitors and Judges Chair within 2 days of the completed judging. A copy of the evaluation will be sent to the Apprentice Judge. Your cooperation will help maintain the high level of professionalism and knowledge required of OAGC judges.

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<th>Region:</th>
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<tr>
<th>~ # Artistic Entries</th>
<th>~ # Hort. Entries</th>
<th># Clubs Participating</th>
<th># Classes Self Judged</th>
<th># Classes Judged with Judge</th>
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<tr>
<th>OAGC Accredited Judge Signature:</th>
<th>Phone #:</th>
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ACCREDITED JUDGE DIRECTIONS:
The criteria are listed in the left column with three performance levels to the right.
Check the appropriate performance level box for the criteria, then tally the points here:
A 70% score (14 point minimum) or better is required. Tally Points _______/20 pts.

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<td>Inappropriate, Unkempt appearance</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Preparedness:</td>
<td>Evidence of Familiarity</td>
<td>Some Evidence of Familiarity</td>
<td>No Evidence of Familiarity</td>
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<td>Materials Available</td>
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<td>Preparedness:</td>
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<td>Some Evidence of Care &amp; Thoroughness</td>
<td>Careless, Thoughtless</td>
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<tr>
<td>Show Schedule</td>
<td>Careful, Thorough</td>
<td>Some Favorable, Constructive Comments &amp; Encouragement</td>
<td>Unfavorable, Unconstructive Comments &amp; Discouragement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Performance:</td>
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<td>Some Favorable, Constructive Comments &amp; Encouragement</td>
<td>Unfavorable, Unconstructive Comments &amp; Discouragement</td>
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<td>Exhibit Evaluation</td>
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<th>KNOWLEDGE CRITERIA</th>
<th>MEETS 4 pts</th>
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<th>NOT EVIDENT 0 pts</th>
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<td>Performance:</td>
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<td>Artistic Design Knowledge</td>
<td>Solid Understanding using Correct Terminology</td>
<td>Understanding using Correct Terminology</td>
<td>Minimal Understanding, Incorrect Terminology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Horticulture Exhibits Knowledge</td>
<td>Solid Understanding using Correct Terminology</td>
<td>Understanding using Correct Terminology</td>
<td>Minimal Understanding, Incorrect Terminology</td>
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Finally: Mail within two days of the show to the Exhibitors and Judges School State Chair Christine Michael, 1709 East Cole Road, Fremont OH 43420 or attach to email oagceandjschool@gmail.com Thank you!! If needed, you and/or the apprentice judge may be contacted at a future date.

Approved 1/2021
OHIO ASSOCIATION OF GARDEN CLUBS
STUDENT JUDGE APPLICATION

Applicant’s Name: ________________________________ Date: ______________

Address: __________________________________________________________________________________

City: __________________________ State: ______________ Zip: __________

Phone: __________________________ Email: __________________________

PROSPECTIVE STUDENT JUDGE REQUIREMENTS

Candidate must be an active member of an OAGC garden club to become a judge for the Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Club Name: __________________________ Club Number: ______ Region: ______

Must have exhibited in both horticulture and artistic classes in at least three (3) flower shows judged by an OAGC Accredited Judge. This demonstrates the candidate is an experienced exhibitor and is familiar with flower show procedures.

Complete the information below for the three flower shows:

1) Name of Show: __________________________ Date: ______________
   Sponsoring Entity (club(s), county, or region etc.):__________________________

2) Name of Show: __________________________ Date: ______________
   Sponsoring Entity (club(s), county, or region etc.):__________________________

3) Name of Show: __________________________ Date: ______________
   Sponsoring Entity (club(s), county, or region etc.):__________________________

Must have earned at least five (5) ribbons in horticulture and five (5) ribbons in artistic.

Attach the Exhibitor tags marked with the placing and signed by the OAGC Judge. A photocopy of the tags may be attached. **DO NOT ATTACH RIBBONS.**

Must have served on a minimum of two different flower show committees

1) Name of Committee: __________________________ Date: ______________
   Name of Flower Show: __________________________

2) Name of Committee: __________________________ Date: ______________
   Name of Flower Show: __________________________

COMPLETE THIS FORM AND SEND TO THE EXHIBITORS’ AND JUDGES’ SCHOOL CHAIR
Christine Michael, 1709 East Cole Road, Fremont OH 43420
oagcEandJschool@gmail.com
ACTIVE STUDENT JUDGE REQUIREMENTS

- Maintain an active membership in an OAGC Garden Club.
- Attend the series of six (6) two-day Exhibitors’ and Judges’ Schools. Tests are held on the second day of each school.
- Successfully pass all the horticulture and artistic subject tests with a score of 70% or above. Students must repeat the subject for any score less than 70%.
- Succeed at plant identification, correctly spelling botanical and common names. Thirty (30) specimens will be presented at each school, with twenty (20) on the test.
- Demonstrate oral judging at each school during test preparations with an instructor.
- Enter the OAGC Convention flower show artistic and horticulture divisions at least once during the school.
- Clerk at the OAGC Convention flower show at least once during the school series.
- Make an effort to enter the Ohio State Fair Flower Show competition or design a non-competitive niche at least once during the school series.
- Continue to exhibit in OAGC judged flower shows earning five (5) ribbons in both artistic and horticulture divisions.
- Serve on a minimum of three (3) different flower show committees at a minimum of two (2) different flower shows prior to or during student judge’s training.
  - Experience should include schedule writing, entry and classifications, placement, clerking, staging, educational exhibits or awards.
  - Each show must have a schedule and have been judged by an accredited OAGC judge who signs the ribbons.
- Submit schedules and proof of activities yearly at the end of the fall school to the Exhibitors’ and Judges’ School Chair. These will be included in the student’s Record of Candidate for Judge File.
  - These could include exhibitor entry tags signed by the judge or show chairman.
  - Newspaper articles can also verify the activities.

APPRENTICE JUDGE REQUIREMENTS

- After successfully passing the series of Judging Schools, the Student Judge must apprentice judge four (4) flower shows, each with a different OAGC accredited flower show judge, assisting in both horticultural and artistic divisions.
- If the show is being orally judged, the apprentice judge will also judge orally. All apprentice judge decisions will be cleared by the OAGC accredited flower show judge.
- The student’s judging performance will be evaluated by the Accredited Judge and sent to the Exhibitors’ and Judges’ School Chair. The student must earn 70% or above on the Apprentice Judge Quality Performance form for each of the four flower shows.
- This must be completed within three (3) years following completion of School #6.
- Like Accredited Judges, the Apprentice Judge must attend at least six (6) days or half of the total school days.

Approved 1/2021