

Welcome to the 86th Annual Greater Pittsburgh Dahlia Society Dahlia Show!
We thank the Pittsburgh Botanic Garden for inviting us once again to hold our show at their beautiful Welcome Center.

We are here to answer your questions. New members are welcome, and we encourage anyone interested in growing dahlias to join our club and attend our plant and tuber sales in the spring. Sunday afternoon at the conclusion of the show many blooms are given away by the exhibitors, you may want to stay for some free flowers.

SHOW SCHEDULE

Friday: 1:30 to 5 PM - Set up, registration, bloom entry starts after set up

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to noon Bloom Entry

Lunch: Saturday, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Judging: Saturday, 12:00 pm

Show closes: Sunday, 3:00 pm

Sunday: Clean up after 3:00 PM

GPDS OFFICERS

President: Mike Ramsay

1st Vice President: Bob Romano

2nd Vice President: Mark Floyd

Treasurer: Heather Ramsay

Secretary: Katrina Dunderdale

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Randy Miller, Aderyn Ramsay, John Williams, Flora Williams, Paula Weiner, Jim Yelich, Jerry Zeilstra, Judy Romano (Past President)

SHOW COMMITTEE

Judges Chairman John Williams

Show Chairs Bob and Judy Romano

GENERAL SHOW RULES

1. Four divisions are available: Novice, Junior, Small Grower, and Open. The requirements for each division are given following the division headings. Exhibitors in the Small Grower and Open Divisions must be GPDS members. Exhibitors should enter only where qualified. All exhibitors must register at the welcome desk upon arrival.
2. All entries shall be in accordance with the current *ADS Classification and Handbook of Dahlias* or be classified as last listed by that publication with appropriate modification to the classification number. If the variety is not known or not listed then it must be referred to the Classification Committee prior to judging. If the originator intends to enter either bench or trial garden then the seedling entered in competition must be identified by an alpha/numeric number prior to being introduced. Seedlings shall be entered into their appropriate classes. Misplaced entries may be properly placed by a judge in the correct classification only if that division and classification has not yet been judged.
3. All entries must be submitted by Saturday, September 21, 2024 at 12:00 p.m. EST.
4. The GPDS will supply all entry cards. The exhibitor is responsible for proper identification of all entries with classification number and variety name or seedling number. The entry must also include the exhibitor's name and the tag must be sealed. Failure to do so may result in disqualification. Non-competitive and commercial displays are exempt.
5. No one is permitted on the floor during judging except for judges and clerks.
6. The GPDS will supply containers for single bloom and three bloom entries only. Exhibitors must provide their own containers for Baskets, Vases, and Arrangements.
7. At least one full set of leaves, or enough foliage to acquire balance, is required.
8. All blooms in competition must be grown by the exhibitor except for arrangements. Violators will be disqualified.
9. Any unfit exhibit will be removed. No awards will be given for unworthy entries.
10. Wedges only are allowed for support. Artificial support of blooms above the top of containers is prohibited except in arrangement division.
11. The GPDS will take reasonable care to maintain exhibits as entered and shall return all personal property when possible. The GPDS will not be responsible for damage to exhibits or containers.

12. No exhibit or part of an exhibit may be removed prior to the close of the show except by special permission of the Show Chairman.
13. First and second place ribbons will be awarded in each class if deemed worthy by the judges. Third place ribbons may also be presented for all Novice, Junior, Arrangements, Baskets and Vases Division classes.
14. A Special Gold Ribbon will be awarded, when worthy, to the best first place winners for each form of each size AA, A, B, and BB, and the best miniature (4001-4515), ball or miniature ball (6001-6115), pompon (6201-6215), and others (7001-9715).
15. Three-bloom entries in each size class will be judged by form. Mixed form is not allowed.
16. Disseminated dahlias will not be disqualified when oversize or undersize. Blooms classified by the ADS as miniature or smaller may have non-oversized blooms given higher consideration. All blooms will be judged on their merits or lack of merits.
17. An Exhibitor may enter more than one entry in a class and as many entries as desired of the same variety.
18. At the close of the show on Sunday, the Show Committee shall remove all entry tags and ribbons. Exhibitors may receive tags and ribbons at that time.
19. The exhibitor agrees to abide by all show rules and ADS rules when entering. The Show Committee may make further rules as deemed necessary for proper conduct of the show.
20. The Judges Chairman shall select the Classification Committee. The Judges Chairman shall determine the methodology and standards for selection of the Court of Honor.
21. Judges' decisions are final.

NOVICE DIVISION

A Novice is one, other than a professional gardener, who has never received a Gold ribbon in an ADS sanctioned dahlia show, and does not issue lists of any kind of stock for sale. Only one Special Award will be chosen from all Novice Classes for the Court of Honor.

SECTION: *Novice*

CLASS:

- A* One bloom decorative AA or A size (0001-0115, 1001-1115)
- B* One bloom cactus AA or A size (0201-0415, 1201-1415)
- C* One bloom decorative B size (2001-2115)
- D* One bloom cactus B size (2201-2415)
- E* One bloom decorative BB size (3001-3115)
- F* One bloom cactus BB size (3201-3415)
- G* One bloom miniature (4001-4515)
- H* One bloom Ball/Miniature Ball (6001-6115)
- I* One bloom Pompon (6201-6215)
- J* One bloom Other (7001-9715)

JUNIOR DIVISION

A junior is anyone up to and including 16 years old. Only one Special Award will be chosen from all Junior Classes for the Court of Honor.

SECTION: *Junior*

CLASS:

- K* One bloom decorative AA or A size (0001-0115, 1001-1115)
- L* One bloom cactus AA or A size (0201-0415, 1201-1415)
- M* One bloom decorative B size (2001-2115)
- N* One bloom cactus B size (2201-2415)
- O* One bloom decorative BB size (3001-3115)
- P* One bloom cactus BB size (3201-3415)
- Q* One bloom miniature (4001-4515)
- R* One bloom Ball/Miniature Ball (6001-6115)
- S* One bloom Pompon (6201-6215)
- T* One bloom Other (7001-9715)

SMALL GROWERS DIVISION

A Small Grower is anyone growing 100 or fewer hills, excluding seedlings, and does not issue lists of any kind offering stock for sale. Exhibitors must be a GPDS member. Entry tags must have the division identified as **SG**.

A small grower may enter the open division, but must follow all rules pertaining to that division.

SECTION: **SG One Bloom Entry**

CLASS: Sizes AA, A, B, and BB only. (0001-3415).

OPEN DIVISION

GPDS membership is required to enter the Open Division.

SECTION: **One Bloom Entry**

CLASS: The class is current ADS Classification number (0001-9715)

SECTION: **3AA- 3 Blooms, AA Size**

CLASS: ADS Classification Number (0001-0515)

SECTION: **3A- 3 Blooms, A Size**

CLASS: ADS Classification Number (1001-1515)

SECTION: **3B- 3 Blooms, B Size**

CLASS: ADS Classification Number (2001-2515)

SECTION: **3BB- 3 Blooms, BB size**

CLASS: ADS Classification Number (3001-3515)

SECTION: **3Min- 3 Blooms, Miniature Size**

CLASS: ADS Classification Number (4001-4515)

SECTION: **3Ball- 3 Blooms, Ball size**

CLASS: ADS Classification Number (6001-6015)

SECTION: **3MinBall -3 Blooms, Miniature Ball Size**

CLASS: ADS Classification Number (6101-6115)

SECTION: **3Pom -3 Blooms, Pompon size**

CLASS: ADS Classification Number (6201-6215)

SECTION: 3Micro-3 Blooms, Mignon Single or Micro
SECTION: **3Other-** 3 Blooms not included above.

CLASS:

- 1 Stellar (7001-7015)
- 2 Water Lily type (7301-7315)
- 3 Novelty Double Center (7601-7615)
- 4 Peony type (8001-8015)
- 5 Anemone type (8201-8215)
- 6 Novelty Open Center (8601-8615)
- 7 Collarette type (9001-9015)
- 8 Orchid type (9201-9215)
- 9 Orchette (9401-9415)
- 10 Single types (9601-9615)

SECTION: *Vases*

Entries must be grown by the exhibitor. One container with no filler allowed. Foliage is required. Blooms may be the same or mixed variety, but all must be the same size or type as the class name. Gold Special Awards will be in competition for the Court of Honor.

CLASS:

- 1 5 or more blooms, AA size (0001-0415)
- 2 5 or more Blooms, A size (1001-1415)
- 3 5 or more Blooms, B size (2001-2415)
- 4 7 or more Blooms, BB size (3001-3415)
- 5 7 or more blooms, Miniature size (4001-4415)
- 6 7 or more Blooms, Ball Size (6001-6015)
- 7 7 or more Blooms, Miniature Ball Size (6101-6115)
- 8 10 or more Blooms, Pompon Size (6201-6215)
- 9 10 or more Blooms, Other (7001-9715)

SECTION: *Baskets*

Must be grown and staged by the exhibitor. Filler, including grass and other foliage, with or without berries or small flowers, is allowed. Mixed dahlia varieties are permitted. **Baskets must have a handle**. Baskets receiving Gold Special Awards will be in competition for the Court of Honor.

CLASS:

- 1 5 or more blooms, AA size (0001-0415)
- 2 5 or more Blooms, A size (1001-1415)
- 3 5 or more Blooms, B size (2001-2415)
- 4 7 or more Blooms, BB size (3001-3415)
- 5 7 or more Blooms, Miniature size (4001-4415)
- 6 7 or more Blooms, Ball Size (6001-6015)

7 10 or more Blooms, Miniature Ball (6101-6115)

8 10 or more Blooms, Pompon (6201-6215)

9 10 or more Blooms, Other (7001-9715)

SECTION: *Arrangements*

Fresh foliage and flower spikes are allowed, but dahlias must predominate. Flowers used in the arrangements need not be grown by the exhibitor. No state conservation material will be permitted, such as trailing arbutus or ground pine.

Theme: Dahlias were enormously popular during the Victorian Era (1837-1901), which also coincides with the time cactus dahlias became common. Your arrangement should capture some aspect of this historical period whether it is the actual time of Queen Victoria or an imagined history such as Steampunk. Be creative!

SECTION: *Photography*

All pictures must be taken by the exhibitor. All entries must be prints of either 5X7 or 8X10 sizes, not matted and not framed. The exhibitor should write their name, class and dahlia variety (where available) on the back of the picture. Each exhibitor may enter no more than 3 pictures per class. The best overall picture from all classes shall receive a Special \$25 Cash Award donated by Katrina Dunderdale.

Class A: *Dahlia Portrait*

One bloom or multiple blooms of one variety, with no other plant matter prominently displayed. Photo may be taken inside or outside, but entire bloom must be unobstructed and within the boundaries of the photo. This is meant to be distinguished from an arrangement photo.

Class B: *Dahlia Garden*

Outdoor photo may include humans and/or critters, but dahlias must figure prominently. This is for showing off dahlias in the place they grow and the joy of dahlia gardening.

Class C: *Artistic*

Artistic includes arrangements, macro photography, creative photo processing, B&W, and dahlias with other props. Be creative, but dahlias must figure prominently.

Class D: *Show Photos*

GPDS show photos that do not fit the portrait category. Photos may include humans and/or critters.

Note: Judges may decide to divide classes into subclasses as needed.

SECTION: *Club Flower*

One bloom entry of Amelia J. Multiple entries allowed. Best bloom will receive a Special \$25 Cash Award.

SECTION: *ADS Seedling Bench Evaluation*

(Offered in cooperation with the American Dahlia Society) Show officials and exhibitors must read and adhere to the rules for entries and judging as printed in the ADS Handbook and Classification of Dahlias.

Class #1 - ADS 3 blooms in either 1 or 3 containers

Class #2 - ADS 1 bloom first year seedling

SECTION: *People's Choice*

One bloom entry, any size, type, color, etc. to be voted on by the public. (One entry per exhibitor) Winner will be determined by the most votes submitted by 3:00 pm Sunday. Winning entry will receive a Gold Special Award.

COURT OF HONOR

Largest Bloom Must be a blue or red ribbon winner
Most Perfect Single Bloom AA, Decorative or Cactus, S G Division
Most Perfect Single Bloom A, Decorative or Cactus, S G Division
Most Perfect Single Bloom B, Decorative or Cactus, S G Division
Most Perfect Single Bloom BB, Decorative or Cactus, S G Division
Most Perfect Single Bloom AA, Decorative, Open Division
Most Perfect Single Bloom AA, Cactus, Open Division
Most Perfect Single Bloom A, Decorative, Open Division
Most Perfect Single Bloom A, Cactus, Open Division
Most Perfect Single Bloom B, Decorative, Open Division
Most Perfect Single Bloom B, Cactus, Open Division
Most Perfect Single Bloom BB, Decorative, Open Division
Most Perfect Single Bloom BB, Cactus, Open Division
Most Perfect Single Bloom, Ball
Most Perfect Single Bloom, Miniature Ball
Most Perfect Single Bloom Miniature, Decorative
Most Perfect Single Bloom Miniature, Cactus
Most Perfect Single Bloom, Pompom
Most Perfect Single Bloom, Mignon Single or Micro
Most Perfect Single Bloom, Other
Most Outstanding Junior Division Entry
Most Outstanding Novice Division Entry
Most Perfect Three Bloom AA
Most Perfect Three Bloom A
Most Perfect Three Bloom B
Most Perfect Three Bloom BB
Most Perfect Three Bloom Ball or Miniature Ball
Most Perfect Three Bloom Miniature
Most Perfect Three Bloom Pompon
Most Perfect Three Bloom Mignon Single or Micro
Most Perfect Three Bloom Other Type
Most Perfect Vase
Most Perfect Basket
Most Perfect Arrangement
Most Perfect Photography
King of the Show Best AA or A entry (ADS 00011415)
Queen of the Show Best B or BB - (2001-3515)
Prince of the Show - Single bloom Miniature and smaller (4001-9715)
Princess of the Show - Arrangements, Vases, Basket and 3 Bloom