

DEPARTMENT 2117

FLOWER SHOW

GENERAL INFORMATION

Superintendent: Luigi Constanza

Chairperson: JoAnne Copeland

Contact Information: jocope135@gmail.com

IMPORTANT DATES

Entry Form Due: Monday, September 28th, 2026

Entry Receiving: Thursday, October 1st, 2026

(10:00am-6:00pm)

Entry Pick Up: Tuesday, October 13th, 2026 (7:00am-6:00pm)

Entry Fee: *(online only) \$3.00 per exhibitor*

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. All entry forms must be received by Monday, September 28th, 2026. Pre-register online or by mailing the form to: Topsfield Fair, P.O. Box 134, Topsfield, MA 01983.
2. Pre-registered exhibits must be brought on Thursday, October 1st, 2026 between 10:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M.
3. No exhibit may be offered for competition in more than one class.
4. No exhibitor may make more than one entry in each class.
5. Flowers must be grown, selected and arranged by exhibitor.
6. The Committee cannot be held responsible for breakage or loss of plant material or containers.
7. Commercial exhibits may be marked with signs not larger than 9 in. by 12 in. and of natural color. Labels for plants and flowers must not exceed 1-1/2 in. by 2 in. Artificial backgrounds and accessories must be approved by the Committee Chairman.
8. No exhibit may win a prize unless deemed worthy by the Judges.
9. The rulings of the Judges shall be final.
10. Exhibitors will kindly furnish their own suitable containers.
11. The Flower Show Committee reserves the right to remove any exhibit that tends to lower the standard of the exhibition.
12. **Safety regulations require that plants be picked up Tuesday, October 13th, 2026** between 7:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. Absolutely, no other pick-up day. The Fair is not responsible for any articles left after that time.
13. Only fresh or dry natural materials. Silk or plastic flowers are NOT allowed.
14. Juniors are exhibitors 18 years or under.

15. MONDAY, OCTOBER 12th, 2026, THE FLOWER BUILDING WILL BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC AT 6:30 P.M. IN PREPARATION FOR THE FLOWER AUCTION WHICH WILL BE HELD AT THE FRONT ENTRANCE OF THE BUILDING AT 7:00 P.M.

DIVISIONS AND CLASSES

CHILDREN CLASSES

Please state age of child on entry blank

Flowers must be arranged by child

Awards:

FIRST \$2.50

SECOND \$2.00

THIRD \$1.50

CLASS AA

LOT

1. Child 5 to 8 years of age - Vase of Flowers
2. Child 5 to 8 years of age - Potted Plant
3. Child 9 to 12 years of age - Vase of Flowers
4. Child 9 to 12 years of age - Potted Plant
5. Child 13 to 15 years of age - Vase of Flowers
6. Child 13 to 15 years of age - Potted Plant
7. Child 5 to 12 years of age - Fairy Gardens

JUNIOR CLASSES

Juniors are exhibitors 18 years and under

Only One Entry in Each Class

To be judged for culture 75%, effect 25%.

Awards:

FIRST \$5.00

SECOND \$4.00

CLASS BB

LOT

1. Four vases of annuals, each vase different species

Awards:

FIRST \$4.00

SECOND \$3.00

2. Dahlia, Large (1 bloom)
3. Dahlia, Medium (5 blooms)
4. Dahlia, Small (5 blooms)
5. Everlasting (5 stems)
6. Chinese Lantern (5 stems)

7. Silver Dollars (5 stems)
8. Chrysanthemums, (5 stems)
9. Zinnias, large flowered (5 blooms)
10. Zinnias, medium flowered (5 blooms)
11. Zinnias, small flowered (5 stems)
12. Asters, Any Type (5 stems)
13. Marigolds, French (5 stems)
14. Marigolds, African (5 blooms)
15. Petunias (5 stems)
16. Sunflowers, small varieties (5 stems)
17. Vase of roses (3 stems)
18. Celosia plumosa (5 stems)
19. Celosia christata (5 stems)
20. Any other worthy entry (5 bloom/stems)

Awards:

FIRST \$5.00

SECOND \$4.00

21. Arrangement of Garden Flowers in a Teacup
22. House Plant
23. Arrangement of Garden Flowers
24. Any other worthy entry

ADULT CLASSES

To be judged for effect 10%, culture 90%.

Awards:

FIRST \$5.00

SECOND \$4.00

CLASS CC

LOT

1. Dahlia, Large (1 bloom)
2. Dahlia, Medium (5 blooms in one vase)
3. Dahlia, Small (5 blooms in one vase)
4. Asters (5 stems in one vase)
5. Cleome (5 blooms in one vase)
6. Cosmos (5 stems in one vase)
7. Marigolds, African (5 blooms in one vase)
8. Marigolds, French (5 stems in one vase)
9. Petunias (5 stems in one vase)
10. Zinnias, large flowered (5 blooms in one vase)
11. Zinnias, medium flowered (5 blooms in one vase)
12. Zinnias, small flowered (5 stems in one vase)
13. Garden rose (1 stem)
14. Floribunda (1 stem)
15. Miniature Rose (1 stem)
16. Sunflowers, small varieties (5 stems)
17. Celosia Plumosa (5 stems)
18. Celosia Cristata (5 stems)
19. Snapdragons (5 stems)

20. Chrysanthemums (5 stems)
21. Vase of Salvia (5 stems)
22. Silver Dollars (5 stems)
23. Chinese Lantern (5 stems)
24. Everlastings (5 stems)
25. Arrangement of Garden Flowers, vase or basket. No dahlias or gladiolus allowed.
26. Arrangement of garden flowers in a teacup.
27. Living Wreaths
28. Any other worthy entry

HOUSE PLANTS

Plants should be labeled with type & variety.

Awards:

FIRST \$10.00

SECOND \$8.00

THIRD \$6.00

CLASS DD

LOT

1. Fern
2. Foliage
3. Topiary
4. Flowering
5. Succulent
6. Cactus
7. Zygo (Christmas) Cactus
8. Herbs
9. Orchids
10. Any Other

Please note: 14" pot or larger plants must be put into Specialty Containers, Class HH

TERRARIUMS

Awards:

FIRST \$10.00

SECOND \$8.00

CLASS EE

LOT

1. Terrarium - Sealable glass container (open or closed)
2. Dish Garden - Garden growing in shallow dish or bowl

HANGING BASKET CLASSES

Up to 12" - Over 12" go to specialty containers class HH

To be judged for cultural perfection, 30%; freedom from insects and diseases, 15%; quality of flowers and foliage, 10%; distinctiveness, 5%; proportion (relationship of plants to size and shape of container), 30%; **correct and suitable labeling**, 10%.

FLOWERING (HANGING BASKETS)

Awards:

FIRST \$15.00

SECOND \$10.00

CLASS FF

LOT

1. Impatiens
2. New Guinea Impatiens
3. Fuchsia
4. Scavola
5. Begonia
6. Lantana
7. Geranium
8. Million Bells
9. Mixed Basket
10. Any Other

FOLIAGE (HANGING BASKETS)

Awards:

FIRST \$15.00

SECOND \$10.00

CLASS GG

LOT

1. Swedish Ivy
2. Wandering Jew
3. Grape Ivy
4. Pilea
5. Columnea
6. Chlorophytum (spider)
7. Coleus
8. English Ivy
9. Boston Fern
10. Any other

SPECIALTY CONTAINERS

Awards:

FIRST \$20.00

SECOND \$15.00

CLASS HH

LOT

1. Window box
2. Any hanging plant or mixed plants in a pot larger than 12"
3. Fairy Garden

DAHLIAS AND ZINNIAS

To be judged for effect 50%, culture 50%.

Exhibits to be used in vases or baskets.

Awards:

FIRST \$10.00

SECOND \$7.00

Must include at least 15 stems.

CLASS II

LOT

1. Dahlias, Cactus or Semi-cactus (not over 25 stems)
2. Dahlias, formal or informal (not over 25 stems)
3. Dahlias, Pompom (not over 25 stems)
4. Zinnias (not over 25 stems)

HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

Awards:

FIRST \$10.00

SECOND \$8.00

THIRD \$6.00

CLASS JJ

LOT

1. Grapevine wreath - decorated
2. Cone Wreath, under 16" frame
3. Cone Wreath, 16" and over frame
4. Novelty, cones must predominate
5. Green Wreath, freshly cut greens not to exceed 18" O.D. in diameter - plain or decorated
6. Door Swag
7. Plain or Decorated Boxwood Tree

NATURAL MATERIALS – DRIED

Nuts and cones may be used, but flowers MUST predominate. Materials do not have to be grown by exhibitor.

Awards:

FIRST \$10.00
SECOND \$8.00
THIRD \$6.00

CLASS KK

LOT

1. Basket Arrangements
2. Arrangements in glass or metal container
3. Swags
4. Decorated hats
5. Decorated brooms
6. Novelty Arrangement
7. Nosegays
8. Flowers to wear
9. Pressed dried flowers
10. Wreath, under 8" frame
11. Wreath, 8" - 16" frame
12. Topiary

BONSAI NOVICE

Novice, open to anyone that has not placed first or second in Bonsai entry at Topsfield Fair. Massachusetts Horticultural Society judges handbook rules apply.

Awards:

FIRST \$5.00
SECOND \$3.00
THIRD \$2.00

CLASS LL

LOT

1. Any Bonsai
2. Novice Saikei (landscape planting)

BONSAI HOBBYIST - AMATEUR

Awards:

FIRST \$15.00
SECOND \$10.00
THIRD \$8.00

CLASS MM

LOT

1. Mame, Shohin, (small, up to 6")

2. Komono, (medium, 6" to 12")
3. Chin, (large, 12" to 24")
4. Dai, (x-large, 24" to 48")
5. Saikei (landscape planting)

(Tree measurement only.)

BONSAI HOBBYIST – ADVANCED

Awards:

FIRST \$15.00
SECOND \$10.00
THIRD \$8.00

CLASS NN

LOT

1. Mame, Shohin, (small, up to 6")
2. Komono, (medium, 6" to 12")
3. Chin, (large, 12" to 24")
4. Dai, (x-large, 24" to 48")
5. Saikei (landscape planting)

(Tree measurement only.)

DAHLIA GROWERS

Display must be kept fresh throughout the fair.

Awards:

FIRST \$30.00
SECOND \$15.00

1. Display of any and/or all kinds, 20 sq. ft. 20 blooms minimum; 1 bloom in each vase

Awards:

FIRST \$15.00
SECOND \$10.00

2. Display of any and/or all kinds, 12 sq. ft. 12 blooms minimum; 1 bloom in each vase

FEATURES (PRE APPROVAL REQUIRED)

For display and decoration, and for educational purposes. The exhibitor of each feature to receive a special cash award if deemed worthy by the Judges, and to be eligible for Awards and Premium Money, Special Trophies, Certificates and Ribbons.

**CLASS PP
LOT**

1. Large Florist Assoc. display-approx. 100 sq. ft. \$200.00. See rule #13.
2. Large garden - \$325.00
3. Medium size garden - \$250.00
4. Border Garden - \$200.00
5. Horticultural display - approx. 100 sq. ft. - \$175.00. See rule.
6. Florist display - 20-25 ft. - \$125.00
7. Florist display in Shadow Box - \$125.00
8. Outside Garden Display - \$250.00

SPECIAL AWARDS

HORTICULTURAL CLUB OF BOSTON AWARD for horticultural perfection, to be awarded by their judges.

ALEX SWINIARSKI AWARD for large garden features, center of hall and corners.

CHALLENGE AWARD to be awarded for the most meritorious exhibit. Special Award scale of Mass. Horticultural Society will be used in judging.

DONALD MILLER AWARD to be awarded for garden displays, medium size garden.

GEORGE & VIRGINIA ROAF AWARD for Best Florist display in Shadow Box.

TOPSFIELD FAIR AWARD to be awarded for the most outstanding display of cut flowers and/or dry materials.

TOPSFIELD FAIR FLOWER COMMITTEE AWARD to be awarded for the most outstanding garden display.

PAST PRESIDENTS' AWARD (Topsfield Fair) to be awarded for a border garden.

THOMAS GALVIN AWARD for Best Display of Dahlias.

FLOWER COMMITTEE DAHLIA AWARD for Best Bloom of Dahlia in Show.

PETER H. GIBNEY AWARD for Best potted plant in show

NORTHEAST BONSAI ASSOCIATION AWARD for excellence in the living art of Bonsai. Given to Best Bonsai - Hobbyist entry.

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD chosen by the public. Two will be awarded.

SPECIAL NOTICE

We invite exhibitors to enter our flower show amateur classes. Please feel free to exhibit flowers other than those listed in the schedule. Exhibits not provided for in the schedule shall receive such recognition as their merits may warrant.

PLEASE NOTE: ONLY AUTHORIZED PERSONS IN BUILDING AT TIME OF JUDGING.

ATTENTION EXHIBITORS: Pick up time: Tuesday, October 13th, 2026 - 7:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. Absolutely, no other pick-up day. The Fair is not responsible for any articles left after that time.

OFFICIAL RULES

Topsfield Fair General Rules & Information