

HORTICULTURE

Chairman-Amy Harriman

ENTRY FEE:

Youth- 17 years and under \$2.00

Adults- 18-59 \$7.00 for first entry, \$2.00 for each additional entry.

Seniors- 60 and over \$2.00 per entry

Group-(nursing homes, day cares) \$7.00 as a single entry per group

PRE-ENTRY DEADLINE FOR MINISCAPE COMPETITION ONLY: Friday September 26, 2025 Contact Chairman to pre-register via text 979-319-0384 or email amy@barbersnurseryinc.com

CHECK IN: Saturday October 4, 2025 9am-3pm BCFA Hall Of Exhibits

JUDGING: Sunday October 5, 2025 9am-4pm BCFA Hall Of Exhibits

AWARDS: Sunday October 12,2025 @ 2pm BCFA Hall of Exhibits

RELEASE: Sunday October 19, 2025 8am-11am BCFA Hall of Exhibits

RULES

Divisions:

- Youth- 17 years and under
- Adults- 18 years and older

1. The competition is open to all Brazoria County Residents.
2. All participants must comply with the BCFA General rules and regulations.
3. Entries may NOT have been entered into the previous Brazoria County Fair.
4. No exhibitor is allowed in building during judging.
5. The Horticulture Committee will water plants as a courtesy but is NOT responsible for maintenance or care during the fair.
6. Leaf polishes, glitter, foliage enhancers, dyed, or artificial plants are not permitted
7. Judges' decisions are final.
8. All entries must remain on display until the checkout date.
9. Winning entries will be marked with a ribbon indicating the level of award.
10. BCFA is not responsible for lost, damaged or dead items. Small items, accessories, etc. should be securely fastened to their container or anchored in the bed. Items of great sentimental value should not be used.

CLASS 1 – CONTAINER GROWN PLANTS

A Container Grown Plant can consist of one or multiple plants from one or more species growing in a container. Entrants are encouraged to construct a potted arrangement with a variety of plants with a visually appealing design. Appropriate containers could be but not limited to terracotta/plastic/stone pottery, wooden boxes, baskets or any other item that is capable of containing a plant. Get creative! Think outside the pot!

Containers and contents can be any season, style, or theme. Plants should have similar growing requirements. Exhibits will be judged on fullness of arrangement, cleanliness of container and overall health of the plants.

- 1. The exhibitor is to provide one index card with listing the scientific and common name of each plant.**
2. Make sure the container is clean.
3. It is very important to groom your plants. Remove all the dead foliage. Wipe the leaves off so that they are free of dust.
4. All plants should be disease and insect free.
5. Plants should show evidence of being grown in the container, such as being securely rooted in the soil.
6. Entries must have been owned and grown by the exhibitor.
7. Entries should be designed to be viewed from all sides or have a designated viewing side. The exhibitor may mark the center back of the container designating the viewing side.
8. Plant selection, quantity, species and variety is at the exhibitor's discretion. If more than one species is used, they should have similar growing requirements (Ex: same water requirements)
9. Container Grown Plants should be clearly and attractively potted in a container that is suitable for a tabletop display.
10. Double potting is permitted in Container Grown Plants provided natural top dressing is used and the inside of the container is not visible. Top dressing must not float when watered.
11. Select a container that enhances the creative presentation of the entry
12. Plants are the only living items that may be included in the entry.
13. Accessories are permitted however emphasis should be on the creative use of natural, fresh, planted materials rather than accessories to create a scene.
14. Containers must fit on the display table and should not exceed the size of 30" wide and 30" deep and should not weigh more than 50lbs.

CLASS 2- TERRARIUM

A terrarium is a clear glass or plastic container filled with small plants. They can be opened or closed systems. Appropriate containers could be but are not limited to: Fish bowls, fish aquariums, glass jars, jugs or bottles. Exhibits will be judged on fullness of arrangement, cleanliness of container and overall health of the plants. Please be sure your terrarium has established roots and shallow soil depth with room for the plants to grow.

- 1. The exhibitor is to provide one index card with listing the scientific and common name of each plant.**
2. Terrarium should be clearly and attractively potted in a container that is suitable for a tabletop display.
3. Double potting is not permitted for Terrariums
4. All plants should be disease and insect free,
5. Select a container that enhances the creative presentation of the entry
6. Plants are the only living items that may be included in the entry.
7. Accessories are permitted however emphasis should be on the creative use of natural, fresh, planted materials rather than accessories to create a scene.
8. Terrariums must fit on the display table and should not exceed the size of 30" wide and 30" deep and should not weigh more than 50lbs.

CLASS 3- LAWN AND GARDEN DECORATION

Lawn & Garden Decorations consist of decorations typically found within the landscape or garden containing, holding, supporting, or displaying live plants. Entries should be able to with stand the outdoor environment year-round although the plants within the decoration may be changed out seasonally if desired. Decorations must contain and incorporate live plants. Examples could be but not limited to a free-standing shepherd's hook holding a hanging basket. Emphasis will be given to home-made entries and purchased decorations that have been modified to make them more unique.

- 1. The exhibitor is to provide one index card with listing the scientific and common name of each plant.**
2. Double potting is permitted in Landscape Décor provided natural top dressing is used and the inside of the container is not visible. Top dressing must not float when watered.
3. All plants should be disease and insect free.
4. Select a container that enhances the creative presentation of the entry
5. Plants are the only living items that may be included in the entry.
6. Accessories are permitted however emphasis should be on the creative use of natural, fresh, planted materials rather than accessories to create a scene.

CLASS 4 – MINISCAPE COMPETITION

Individuals or teams of up to three members may enter. Exhibitors should review the guidelines prior to preparing their entry.

- 1. The exhibitor is to provide one index card with listing the scientific and common name of each plant.**
2. Entries will be constructed in a 2 ft W x 4 ft planter provided by the department.
3. Each planter will be pre-filled with soil.
4. Planters will be displayed outside for 15 days.
5. Plants should be suitable for the varied October weather conditions in Brazoria County.
6. Entries should be designed to be viewed from all viewable sides, or the exhibitor(s) may designate a desired viewable side.
7. Plants may be bought from a store as late as the day of the contest.
8. Plant selection, quantity, species and variety is at the exhibitor's discretion. If more than one species is used, they should have similar growing requirements (Ex: same water requirements)
9. Plants are the only living items that may be included in the entry.
10. Leaf polishes, glitter, foliage enhancers, dyed, or artificial plants are not permitted
11. Accessories are permitted however emphasis should be on the creative use of natural, fresh, planted materials rather than accessories to create a scene.
12. All plants should be disease and insect free.

Miniscape installation guidelines:

Exhibitors should review the information below.

1. Mindscape installation must be completed Saturday October 4, 2025 between 9am – 5pm
2. Parents and adult leaders may assist with heavy lifting only for youth entries.
3. Carts/wagons are recommended for transporting materials from vehicle to the competition area. You will be able to drive through the service gate.
4. The planting and design of the planter must be performed by the exhibitors only.
5. The exhibitor is responsible for providing the plants and any props to be used in the planter.
6. The exhibitor is responsible for bringing all tools needed to prepare their planter. Water will be provided.

7. Entries will be watered by the horticulture committee as a courtesy however the horticulture committee is not responsible for the care and maintenance of the entry.

Judging: The Show will select qualified judges to judge this event. Entries will be judged the following day after check in. Winning entries will be marked with a ribbon indicating the level of award.

Entries will be judged on a 25-point system:

- Up to 5 points may be awarded for cultural perfection.
- Up to 5 points may be awarded for the variety of plants used.
- Up to 5 points may be awarded for creativity.
- Up to 5 points may be awarded for staging and perfection
- Up to 5 points may be awarded for the completion of the Exhibitor Index Card