



September 10 – 20, 2026

Art Director

**Ramona Vigil-Eastwood
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Floriculture

Division I, II, III

Open to the Public

Fees Do Not Apply to Submit Entries

Superintendent

Sue Bond

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Assistant Superintendent

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“NM’s Rt 66, The Mother Road”

Four Standard Flower Shows

Entries Accepted 6:30am – 8:30am

Wednesday, September 9, 2026, gate 3

Friday, September 11, 2026, gate 6

Monday, September 14, 2026, gate 6

Thursday, September 17, 2026, gate 6

Presented by:

The New Mexico State Fair

NM State Fair Grounds

300 San Pedro NE

Albuquerque, NM 87108

GENERAL RULES

1. The State Fair Flower Shows consist of 4 Standard Flower Shows, Division I, Horticulture, Division II, Design, and Division III, Youth.
2. **Any New Mexico resident** who is an amateur grower or designer, adult, or youth, may enter the Standard Flower Shows. An amateur is one who cultivates or designs plant material for enjoyment rather than for financial gain.
3. Entry tags may be obtained in advance by calling Sue Bond, 606-923-9085 and/or on entry dates at the NM State Fair Grounds Flower Building.
4. **NEW: No exceptions! Parking will not be allowed at gates 3 or 4.**
5. All exhibitors for all shows/exhibits must enter through gate 6 located on San Pedro Blvd. NE, shuttle service will be provided from 6:30am – 8:30am. Shuttle service will be provided on the following dates:

Standard Flower Shows

Friday, September 11, 2026

Monday, September 14, 2026

Thursday, September 17, 2026

Youth Standard Flower Shows

Saturday, September 12, 2026

Saturday, September 19, 2026

A designated parking area at gate 6 will be available for those bringing exhibits. Park and deliver your items to the Flower Building. Shuttle service will end at 9:00am from the flower building returning exhibitors to the designated gate 6 parking area. All vehicles must be removed from gate 6 by 9:15am. If you wish to return to the Flower Building **or** any exhibitor arriving after 9:00am you will be required to pay for parking and entry admission into the Fair located at gate 8 on Louisiana Blvd NE or gate 1 on Central NE.

6. **Division I, II and III Entries** will be accepted from 6:30am – 8:30am on the morning of a new show. Exhibitors, please arrive before 8:00am to allow time for filling out entry tags and placing entries in containers. All Horticulture and Design entries must be checked into Classification by 8:30am. Youth entry information is in the General Rules section of the schedule for Youth Division III. Late entries will be accepted for display only and will not be judged.

7. All Horticulture entries, except container-grown plants and Collections, become the property of the Show Committee. Exhibits entered and judged may not be removed by exhibitor until the morning of the next show and you will need to provide your claim ticket when entering gate 6 on show day.
8. Container-grown plants and Designs can be picked up between 7:00am – 8:30am the morning of the next show. We request & encourage those designs; container grown plants and collections be left by the exhibitor for display through all state fair flower shows to enhance the floriculture building and educate the public.
9. The Flower Show conforms to the standards established by National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC). *The Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017 Edition*, with revisions available online and is the authority for all issues not covered by the **Flower Show Schedule**.
10. Judging for each Flower Show begins promptly at 10:00 a.m.
11. On the first day of each show, doors will be opened to the public at about 1:00pm (once judging is finished). Shows will be opened to the public from 10:00am – 9:00pm on non-judging days. The evening before the new show the doors will close at 6:00pm.
12. **AWARD PRESENTATION will be on Friday, September 25, 2026, at 6:00pm at the Albuquerque Garden Center.**
13. Awards and ribbons can be picked up at the Albuquerque Garden Center, 10120 Lomas Blvd, after September 21, 2026, during Garden Center business hours Monday – Friday, 9:30am – 2:30pm. Awards and/or ribbons will not be mailed to exhibitors.
14. The Classification Chairs for each Division check exhibits for conformity to the schedule prior to judging. Final determination for conformance is the judges' responsibility.
15. The General Chair, Judges Chair and the Classification Chair for each Division are available during judging for consultation. They, along with the judges and clerks, are the only personnel allowed on the floor during judging.
16. The decision of the judges is final. Awards will not be given if not merited.
17. There is an emphasis on FRESH plant material. Artificial plant material is not permitted in any exhibit, in any Division. A small amount may be used for staging by the Show Committee. Wilted horticulture specimens and/or designs will be removed from the show.
18. Each exhibitor is limited to one entry per Class, except in the Horticulture Division 1.
19. Container-grown plants and designs should be inconspicuously labeled with the exhibitor's name.
20. Noncompetitive exhibits will be placed for display only.
21. To be accepted, plant material on the protected list of the Wildflower Law of New Mexico must have the common name and the botanical name listed and must have been legally obtained from the exhibitor's private property for horticultural exhibits or from other private property with permission where appropriate if used in design exhibits. For a list of New Mexico's endangered plant species, use the following link:
<http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SFD/ForestMgt/Endangered.html>
22. Precautions are taken for the safety of all entries, but in no case, will the New Mexico State Fair, the state of New Mexico, employees, contractors or volunteers be held liable for the loss or damages to any entry while in the Fair's possession. Participants are encouraged to carry their own insurance.
23. Participant recognizes that marketing of the Fair and its grounds requires use of photography and videography. Participant hereby expressly grants to the Fair the irrevocable, assignable right and license to take, use and publish participant images and entries without the need for any other approval. Images and entries will not be used for profit.
24. Participants are responsible for picking up their own entries or providing written authorization for pick-up by another individual.
25. **NEW:** Any entry or items remaining on the Fairgrounds after Monday, September 21, 2026, will be considered abandoned and shall become the property of the NM State Fair to be disposed of at its discretion.

AWARDS

The National Garden Clubs (NGC) Standard System of Awards will be used for all competitive judging. The Horticulture Scales of Points can be found on page 129 of the NGC Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017 Edition. The Design Scale of Points can be found on page 130 of the NGC Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017 Edition. 131 of the NGC Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017 Edition. Youth exhibits are evaluated using Horticulture Design Scale of Points.

1. The NGC Standard System of Awarding is used in all Divisions.
 - a. Only one first place (blue) ribbon per Class or subclass; must score 90 or above.
 - b. Only one second place (red) ribbon per Class or subclass; must score 85 or above.
 - c. Only one third place (yellow) ribbon per Class or subclass; must score 80 or above.
 - d. One or more Honorable Mention (white) ribbons as merited; must score 75 or above.
2. No NGC Section Award may be given to an exhibit unless that exhibit scores 95 or above and is a blue-ribbon winner.
3. An Accredited judge, from the judging panel, must sign and date all blue ribbons, 90+ and Top Exhibitor Award ribbons. All other entry cards will be marked with a hole-punch or other mark to note the exhibit was judged.
4. **NOTE:** The following applies to Divisions I and II. Information about the Youth Show Awards is contained in the Awards Section schedule for Division III, Youth.
5. **Top Horticulture Division Awards** will be given if the following requirements are met:
 1. There must be 20 or more horticulture exhibits entered in a minimum of 5 classes listed in the schedule.
 2. The horticulture exhibit is correctly named with the genus, species, and/or variety/cultivar when possible.
 3. The exhibit is a blue-ribbon winner scoring 95 or above.
6. A **Horticultural Excellence Award** may be given to the highest scoring exhibit in the entire Horticulture Division. This is a rosette of green, orange, and blue ribbons.
7. An **Arboreal Award** may be given to the highest scoring exhibit as described in Horticulture Division 1, Section F, rule 6. This is an award given for cut or container-grown trees and/or shrubs. Cut portions of vines are not eligible. Cut specimens must be not more than 30" in length, include apical tip, central leader, and several nodes. This is a rosette of green ribbons.
8. An **Award of Merit** may be given to the highest scoring exhibit in Horticulture Division 1, Sections A, B, C, D, E, G, H, I, K, and L, for a total of 10 awards. This is a rosette of orange ribbons.
9. A **Collector's Showcase Award** may be given to the highest scoring exhibit in Horticulture Division I, Section M, for a total of 1 award. Section must consist of 3 or more classes of all collections, or all displays to qualify for this award. Each specimen within the exhibit must score 95 points or more; for the specimens in the exhibit, scores are not averaged. This is a rosette of brown and green ribbons.
10. A **Grower's Choice Award** may be given to the highest scoring exhibit as described in Horticulture Division I, Section J, rule 6 for a total of 1 award. This is a rosette of dark green ribbons.
11. **Top Division II Design Awards** may be given only if the following requirements are met:
 1. There must be a minimum of 4 exhibits per class or subclass in Sections A, B, and C for a top award to be offered for that Section.
 2. The exhibit must be a blue-ribbon winner scoring 95 or above.
 3. The exhibit must be the work of 1 individual.
12. A **Design of Elegance Award** may be given to the highest scoring exhibit as described in the entire Design Division II, rule 13. This is a rosette of gold ribbons.
13. A **Tricolor Award** may be given to the highest scoring exhibit as described in Design Division II, Section A, rule 13. All plant material must be fresh and non-treated. This is a rosette of red, blue, and yellow ribbons.
14. A **Designers Choice Award** may be given to the highest scoring exhibit as described in Design Division II, Section B, rule 13. Plant material used in the exhibit may be dried, treated dried, and/or fresh. This is a rosette of purple ribbons.

15. A Petite Award may be given to the highest scoring exhibit as described in Design Division II, Section C, rule 13. This is a small rosette of blue and white ribbons.

16. A Table Artistry Award may be given to the highest scoring exhibit as described in Design Division II, Section D, rule 13. This is a rosette of burgundy ribbons.

17. State Fair Special Awards: 40 Awards

These are awarded to exhibits which are judged to be worthy of at least 90 points. These awards will be offered as follows:

- a. Division I, Horticulture
 - i. **1** award for each, Section A – J, & M
 - ii. **11** awards for Section K
 - iii. **14** awards for Section L
- b. Division II, Design, 1 award each for Sections A through D.

18. Sweepstakes Awards: 2 Awards

These will be given as follows for each show:

- a. **1** Horticulture Sweepstake Award Division I
- b. **1** Design Sweepstake Award Division II

The Sweepstakes Award goes to the exhibitor winning the most-blue ribbons in the respective Division. In the event of a tie, red ribbons will be counted, and if needed, yellow, then white. This is a rosette of green and white ribbons.

19. State Fair Flower Shows Sweepstakes

Awards: 2 Awards will be given as follows:

- a. **1** Horticulture Show Sweepstakes Award Division I
- b. **1** Design Show Sweepstakes Award Division II

The State Fair Flower Shows Sweepstakes Award goes to the exhibitor winning the most blue ribbons in the respective Division. In the event of a tie, red ribbons will be counted, and if needed, yellow, then white. This is a rosette of green and white ribbons. To be eligible for the Sweepstakes Award, the exhibitor must have won two or more blue ribbons in at least two different sections and must have entered at least 3 of the 4 shows. This award will be presented at the Awards Ceremony on Friday, September 25, 2026, at 6:00pm at the Albuquerque Garden Center, 10120 Lomas Blvd. NE.

20. State Fair Flower Show Section Awards: 1

award for each section in the horticulture and design divisions may be given as follows: The State Fair Flower Shows Section Award goes to the exhibitor winning the most-blue ribbons in the respective Section, over all four flower shows. In the event of a tie, red ribbons will be counted, and if needed, yellow, then white. To be eligible for the State Fair Flower Show Section Award, the exhibitor must have won two or more blue ribbons in at least two different sections and must have entered at least 3 of the 4 shows. This award will be presented at the Awards Ceremony on Friday, September 25, 2026, at 6:00pm at the Albuquerque Garden Center, 10120 Lomas Blvd. NE.

