



## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

OC Fair runs July 18 to Aug. 17

Online Registration Deadline		Competition Delivery Date	Check-In Time	Entry Pickup Date	
Monday, July 14	2 p.m.	Tuesday, July 15	7-9:30 a.m.	Tuesday, Aug. 19	9:30 a.m. - noon
<b>Final competition pick up: Tuesday, Aug. 19, 9:30 a.m. - noon</b> We cannot guarantee that items will be available for pick up after this date. Ribbons will not be mailed.					

**Contact** ..... Garden & Floral Staff • [gardenfloral@ocfair.com](mailto:gardenfloral@ocfair.com) • Office 714-708-1619  
OC Fair & Event Center • 88 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626



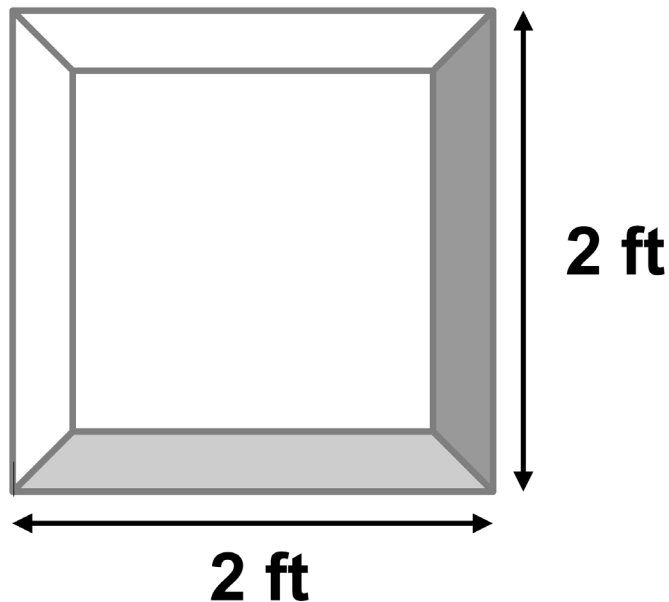
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## RULES & GUIDELINES

1. [Local](#) and [state rules](#) govern this competition.
2. **Exhibitors are responsible for reading the competition guidelines and relevant supporting documents and must abide by them. There may be changes from the previous year. Relevant documents include:**
  - [Horticulture Judging Criteria](#)
  - [Horticulture Glossary and FAQ](#)
  - [How to Prepare Your Pressed Botanicals](#)
3. **Note that this page provides only broad guidelines for this competition.** More specific information is spread throughout pertinent sections in this guide.
4. All entries must be well-mounted, hangable and sturdy. Glue and adhesives should not be visible.
5. Entries shall not exceed two (2) feet in length or width as measured from the outside of the frame.



6. Entries that are incorrectly identified or otherwise do not match their labels will be disqualified.
7. **OC Fair reserves the right to refuse to accept or disqualify and remove from exhibit any entry considered ineligible for competition** (e.g., entries with serious disease or insect problems, under quarantine as specified under the California Department of Food and Agriculture or endanger the staff and/or public).
8. **Although reasonable efforts will be undertaken to safeguard exhibitors' property, neither the State of California nor OC Fair & Event Center will be responsible for any loss, damage or theft of exhibitors' property brought on the premises during OC Fair. Every precaution will be taken in the handling and exhibiting of entries.**



## ELIGIBILITY

**Adult Divisions:** Open to California residents, ages 18 or older.

**Youth Divisions:** Open to youth ages 6-17 (by July 18) who live in California.

## ENTRY LIMIT

Entering in multiple Divisions and Classes is allowed. Multiple entries per Class is allowed.

The same item cannot be re-entered in subsequent competitions, neither under the original nor a different exhibitor's name.

## HOW TO ENTER

- Go to [ocgard.fairwire.com](http://ocgard.fairwire.com) to submit your entries online by the registration deadline listed on the front cover of this guide. **PLEASE NOTE: all exhibitors must create a new account; last year's accounts are no longer valid.**
- For detailed information on the online entry process, consult the [Entry Tutorial](#).

### Exhibitor Name

- Provide the most complete information possible for each entry (e.g., species/cultivar, *if known*).
- **Entries must be made under the name of the individual who prepared it** (this also applies to youth entries). Do not use team, business or fictitious names.
- *All information will be displayed as entered. Please carefully proofread for punctuation, capitalization and spelling. Fair Management is not responsible for errors on entry forms. Severe errors may lead to disqualification.*

### Entry Confirmation

An email notification and confirmation will be sent immediately after your online payment is received. **PLEASE NOTE: this email will not be sent if you do not click the final "finish" button.**

### Entry Fees

#### Entry fees are non-refundable

- Adults: \$10 per entry
- Youth: FREE



## HELP WITH ENTERING

Email: [GardenFloral@ocfair.com](mailto:GardenFloral@ocfair.com)

Please contact us as early as possible with any questions or difficulties regarding the entry process. We ask that you review all relevant materials before inquiring, including:

- [Horticulture Judging Criteria](#)
- [How to Prepare Your Pressed Botanicals](#)

Although there will be a help desk available during entry delivery to fix mistakes, this service will only be available to exhibitors who have already registered and paid to enter that competition week. ***We are unable to accept payment or registration during entry delivery.***

For more guidance, a short document clarifying some of the terms used in this guide and addressing several frequently asked questions can be accessed here: [Horticulture Glossary and FAQ](#)

## ENTRY DELIVERY

**7 – 9:30 a.m. (see cover page for competition delivery dates)**

***Late entries will not be accepted.***

[Entry Delivery Map](#)



- Enter Gate 1 off Fair Drive and park in Lot B (in front of Centennial Farm)
- Check-in tables will be located at the Centennial Farm gate for you to pick up your entry tags, tickets and/or ribbons. **All exhibitors must check in and enter through the Farm gate.**
- **Exhibitors will not be admitted to the Farm before 7 a.m. and must be checked in and inside the Farm gate by 9:30 a.m.** Entries may be delivered by someone other than the exhibitor.

Please bring other individuals or tools, like wagons, if you need assistance transporting your entries, especially if large in size or quantity. Centennial Farm has a few push carts available for exhibitor use on a first-come, first served basis, but we cannot guarantee assistance. If you are unsure what is appropriate to enter or what you are allowed to bring to transport your item(s), please contact us before delivery day to confirm.



## OC FAIR TICKET

**Exhibitors will receive one (1) 2025 OC Fair admission ticket at the time of entry delivery to ensure they can view the results of their efforts on display.**

- One (1) ticket per exhibitor, not per entry.
- Tickets are good any day during the OC Fair and do not require reservations. Tickets must not be re-sold.

## ENTRY DISPLAY

After judging, entries will be on display for the duration of OC Fair. Images of ribbons will be printed on the entry tags to identify awards given.

Items will be discarded if they deteriorate. There are no guarantees that an entry will be displayed.

## ENTRY PICKUP

**Entry pick-up dates are listed on the front page of this guide.**

**Final Entry Pickup: Tuesday, Aug. 19**

If you are unable to pick up your item(s), please arrange for someone to pick them up for you. Unclaimed items and ribbons become the property of OC Fair and will be discarded. **We will not provide reminders via phone call or email.**

***OC Fair & Event Center is not responsible for exhibits or ribbons left after the final entry pickup date.***



## JUDGING

Qualified judges will be selected by the program coordinator. The program coordinator may choose new judges each year, or judges may judge different Divisions from year to year. The judges are professionals and their decisions are final.

**Judging is not open to the public.** Judges reserve the right to remove or disqualify any entry in violation of the rules, in poor taste or not in accordance with the competition standards. They also have the authority to transfer to the correct Class any exhibit that does not meet the requirements of the Division or Class in which it was entered.

Judges are not obligated to reevaluate the awards given to other entries if an entry is disqualified or moved. Awards are not required to be given unless entries are of a minimum merit. ***No exhibitor shall be entitled to an award that has been disqualified as the result of their own error.***

### Judging Criteria

All criteria for judging the horticulture competitions are listed in a separate document: [Horticulture Judging Criteria](#)

- Adult Divisions: 101-121
- Placed using the American Judging System, wherein exhibits are ranked against one another.
- Youth Divisions: 9101-9121
- Placed using the Danish Judging System, wherein each entry is judged individually on how well it meets a standard rather than how it compares to other entries. Multiple first, second and third places may therefore be awarded per Class
- Entries will then compete using the American Judging System for special placings (Best of Class, Division Winner and Best of Show).

### Comment Sheets

Comment sheets are notes from the judges regarding the entry's performance. Comments from the current competition week will be made available on the relevant entry pick up date. They are also available for viewing or pick up any day of the competition week when OC Fair is open; ask the staff member at the exhibit's information table.



## AWARDS

Best of Show .....	Ribbon
Division Winner .....	Ribbon
First/Blue.....	Ribbon (5 points each)
Second/Red.....	Ribbon (3 points each)
Third/White.....	Ribbon (1 point each)
Honorable Mention.....	Ribbon

### Judging Results

Results will be posted online at [ocfair.com/results](https://ocfair.com/results) as soon as possible.

***Please do not call, email or reach out via social media for competition results.***

### Entry & Ribbon Pickup

Ribbons can be picked up along with entries on the entry pick up days listed on the front page of this guide. If you are unable to pick up your item(s) on these dates, please arrange for someone to pick them up for you.

- **Note that the final pick up date is Tuesday, Aug. 19 from 9:30 a.m. - noon.** Items and ribbons left unclaimed after the final pick up date become the property of OC Fair and may be discarded. Ribbons will not be mailed.

### Sweepstakes & Premiums

Adult and Youth Sweepstakes are tallied based on the accumulated points (see above for award point values) for all pressed botanicals competitions across all five judging days. Sweepstakes awards are as follows:

Adult Sweepstakes .....	Ribbon & \$50
Youth Sweepstakes (ages 6-12) .....	Ribbon only
Youth Sweepstakes (ages 13-17).....	Ribbon only

Sweepstakes awards and premiums will be made payable to the name of the winning exhibitor as indicated on their online entry account and mailed within 30 business days of the final day of OC Fair. Signed judging sheets will be used as evidence for payment of premiums; ribbons and tags will not be accepted.







## Adult Divisions

**Eligibility** ..... Open to California residents, ages 18 or older

**Entry limit** ..... No limits

**Entry Fee** ..... \$10 per entry

- Ensure you follow all guidelines regarding the picking of California native plants. For more information visit: [wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Plants/Laws](https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Plants/Laws)
- Entries may not exceed two feet (2') in length or width.
- For more information, read the recommendations for [How to Prepare Your Pressed Botanicals](#).

### DIVISION 101

#### **Specimens**

Competition date: July 15

- Specimen entries are expected to showcase only one (1) species or variety of plants.

**Class 01: Ferns**

**Class 02: Flowers**

**Class 03: Foliage**

### DIVISION 111

#### **Collections**

Competition date: July 15

- Collection entries are expected to contain a variety of different plants/cultivars in the same piece.

**Class 01: Floral Bouquet**

**Class 02: Rose Garden**

**Class 03: Herb Garden**

**Class 04: California Native Garden**

### DIVISION 121

#### **Seed Collages**

Competition date: July 15

- Entries in this division are expected to use seeds as a medium to create artistic images.

**Class 01: Farm Animals**

**Class 02: Famous Art**

**Class 03: Landscape**

**Class 04: 2025 OC Fair Theme "Find Your Happy"**

**Class 05: Exhibitor's Choice, specify theme**



## Youth Divisions

**Eligibility** ..... Open to youth ages 6-17 (by July 18) who are California residents.

**Entry limit** ..... No limits

**Entry Fee** ..... Free

- **Youth competitions follow the same rules as the adult competitions;** read through those sections of the guide for more details.
- Ensure you follow all guidelines regarding the picking of California native plants. For more information visit: [wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Plants/Laws](https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Plants/Laws)
- Entries may not exceed two feet (2') in length or width.
- For more information, read the recommendations for [How to Prepare Your Pressed Botanicals](#).

### DIVISION 9101

#### **Specimens**

Competition date: July 15

- Specimen entries are expected to showcase only one (1) species or variety of plants.

**Class 01: Ferns**

**Class 02: Flowers**

**Class 03: Foliage**

### DIVISION 9111

#### **Collections**

Competition date: July 15

- Collection entries are expected to contain a variety of different plants/cultivars in the same piece.

**Class 01: Floral Bouquet**

**Class 02: Rose Garden**

**Class 03: Herb Garden**

**Class 04: California Native Garden**

### DIVISION 9121

#### **Seed Collages**

Competition date: July 15

- Entries in this division are expected to use seeds as a medium to create artistic images.

**Class 01: Farm Animals**

**Class 02: Famous Art**

**Class 03: Landscape**

**Class 04: 2025 OC Fair Theme "Find Your Happy"**

**Class 05: Exhibitor's Choice, specify theme**