

## 2018 Blue Ribbon Winners of Artistic Design

**These are also examples of some of the 2019 Classes**  
You can view the 2019 Flower Show Booklet (Schedule) online at  
[avalongardenclub.org](http://avalongardenclub.org)

### **2018 Class 1-Hanging Arrangement**

This Class is similar to 2019 Class 1-Morning Mist. This is a hanging arrangement viewed from all sides. 2019 design requirement is to use some grey foliage. Staged in a black wooden frame (32”H x 22” W) supplied by the committee. Limited to 4 Entries. Consultant: Suzie Gallagher (609-967-8105)



#### **Tips**

This type of arrangement should have a height of one and one half times the size of the container.

This arrangement can be designed in any type birdbath or feeder that has a chain or hook to hang.

### **Class 4 - Shadow Box Arrangement**

This Class is similar to 2019 Class 4 “A King”. 2019 design requirement is a one-sided arrangement in jewel tones. Accessories are permitted. Space: Staged in a shadow box (31” H, 27” W, 18” D) supplied by the committee. Limited to four entries. Consultant: Pam Thompson (610-967-7919)



#### **Tips**

A one-sided arrangement is a design that is to be viewed by the front only. There are two types of one sided arrangements, symmetrical and asymmetrical.

Symmetrical balance is when both sides of the arrangement have the same quantity of materials, like a mirror,, these designs are more formal and traditional. Asymmetrical balance is when materials are distributed unequally on either side of the arrangement. These designs are more informal and modern. Always finish the back of this design by covering mechanics with greens. This arrangement should be about 27”H x 23” W to be proportionate inside the shadow box. The design requirement is jewel tones.

## **Class 5 - Novice Class**

This class is similar to 2019 Class 5 “Golden Crown” is open to entrants who have not won a blue ribbon in the Artistic Division. The 2019 requirement of design is an arrangement using the color yellow.

Consultant: Babs DeLorey (610-653-8111)



### **Novice Tips**

The design requirement is using yellow flowers. It does not have to be all yellow but it may be best to use various types of greens and textures in different shades of the color green. It is suggested it may be best to use other flowers in shades of white if you wish. We did have a class on this and you may call instructor Joan Matthews (610-291-0758) with questions and support.

## **Class 6 - Exhibition Table**

This class is similar to 2019 Class 6 “Nature’s Way of Giving” which is staged on a “potting table” (36”W x 32”D) supplied by the Committee. Limited to four (4) entries.

The 2019 requirement of design is an arrangement placed on the potting table; accessories permitted and must include potted plants.

Consultant: Sharon Cooper (609-967-3009)



### **Judges' tips**

Make sure that the flowers or greens in the potted plants are included in the arrangement. Also pay close attention that everything is color coordinated. This is such a fun exhibit to participate in!

## **Class 7 - Window Box**

This class is similar to 2019 Class 7 “Early Spring” which is staged in a window box (24”L x 9”D) in front of a window frame supplied by the Committee. Limited to four (4) entries.

Consultant: Serena Smith (609-536-8621)



## **Class 8 Breakfast Tray**

This class is similar to 2019 Class 8 “Two Lovers Kissed”, which is staged on a tray (24”x16”) supplied by the Committee or you may use your own. The 2019 design requirement is a Wedding Breakfast Tray.

Consultant: Joan Strong (609-967-5240)



### **Tips from the Judges**

Do not overcrowd the tea tray. Do not use napkin rings, instead use ribbon. Coordinate everything.

## **Class 9 Candlestick**

This class is similar to the 2019 Class 9 “April Rose” which is staged on a pedestal (40”H x 18”x18” top) supplied by the committee. The 2019 design requirement is a candlestick container (candle optional) using Roses.

Consultant: Pat Coyle (609-408-8960)



### **Use a Oasis O'Dapter**

The Oasis O'Dapter holder provides a generous reservoir for water. Rubber-grommet plug on base. Accepts #5 OASIS™ foam cylinder in center for fresh floral arranging. This allows the addition of an arrangement to candle holders, candelabras, or small necked floral containers or vases. These Oasis holders are available by calling Consultant Pat Coyle.

## **Class 10 - Ice Bucket Arrangement**

This class is similar to the 2019 Class 10 “A Many Splendored Thing” which is staged on a pedestal (40”H x 18”x18” top) supplied by the Committee. The 2019 design requirement that this is to be a formal mass arrangement.

Consultant: Joan Matthews (610-291-0758)



### **Mass Arrangement Tips**

Floral materials are 1 to 2 times the height or width of container (sometimes taller).

This design has a closed silhouette and almost always has symmetrical balance. There is a fully developed focal area at the center axis using bolder flower forms and brighter hues to add and hold interest. A graduation to more slender (and sometimes lighter-colored) plant material is required at the top and outer edges of the design. Distinction is accomplished by the selection of plant material, containers, and other components. Please refer to “Common Characteristics for Traditional Line, Traditional Line Mass, and Traditional Mass Designs.” Various greens and texture makes this type of arrangement a winner.

# 2018 Avalon Garden Club Flower Show Horticulture Exhibits







# Floral Design Principals and Elements of Design

Good floral design is the result of a well thought-out plan, with two aims in mind; order and beauty. Good design doesn't just happen. There must be a relationship between all of its component parts; a feeling of security, naturalness, balance and simplicity. The floral arranger must have a basic idea, a mental picture of what they wish to create, where the arrangement will be placed, and the function it will serve. Most floral arrangements are made for a particular purpose or place. The arrangement should be suitable for its intended use. A good floral arrangement should be expressive of a theme or idea and of one's own personality. In order to arrange flowers in such a manner it is necessary to become acquainted with all the principals and elements of good design. The principles of design are balance, dominance, contrast, rhythm, proportion, and scale. These same elements and principles of design apply to every art form. Some attributes of design are beauty, harmony and expression. The elements of design are color, light, space, line, form, pattern, texture, and size.

## **PRINCIPALS OF DESIGN**

**BALANCE** - refers to the arrangement equality in weight both physical and visual. There are two types of balance in floral design, physical and visual balance.

Physical balance refers to the distribution of materials and, therefore, weight in an arrangement. It sounds simple in principle, but great care must be taken when working with some flowers and foliage that are particularly heavy. For example, tall stemmed flowers like ginger lilies, bird of paradise, gladioli, delphiniums, branches etc, they are all heavy and their weight needs to be counterbalanced and the right base must be used so when filled with water the arrangement simply stands upright and doesn't fall over.

Visual balance refers to whether the design appears balanced to the eye. There are three types of visual balance, symmetrical, asymmetrical and open balance.

Symmetrical balance is when both sides of the arrangement have the same quantity of materials, like in a mirror, these designs are more formal and traditional.

Novice floral arrangers often take this principle to mean that the arrangement needs to be completely symmetrical. This is not the case. Having balance in your bundle of blooms simply means that the arrangement shouldn't look lopsided when you're done. If any one side looks heavier than the other, then you still have some rearranging to do. For instance, if you have a heavier element on one side, you need something of equal weight on the other side. Even if they're completely different things, such as a big bloom on one side and a cluster of small ones on the other, or two different kinds of flowers of similar size. Make sure to rotate your arrangement as you make it to check from all angles.

**DOMINANCE** suggests to the viewer what is important in the design. "What do you see first?" Choosing one dominant element in your floral design creates a harmonious result. The aspect can be a common color, texture, shape, or size. You just need to find something to carry through your creation to create a feeling of unity throughout the arrangement. This doesn't mean that the exact same flower needs to be repeated (though it can be); you just have to carry on a central element throughout. Having two or more competing elements makes a piece feel divided and is less likely to hold interest. Most floral designs have an area of emphasis or focal point which is the main feature in the design and draws the viewers eye to that point. Emphasis can be created with the placement of dominant or contrasting materials, singularly or in a grouping. The contrast of the focal point from the rest of the design can be created by form, size, color and texture. Dominance can be achieved by using dominate plant material, using a distinct style of design, Using a them and most of all using a floral point.

**CONTRAST** - Equal amounts of contrasting colors, textures and sizes to create interest in a floral design. Contrast exists only within a physical characteristic, for example, line may be long or short, color may be light or dark, size may be large or small, texture may be rough or

smooth. You can do this by creating the stages of development or using the same color flowers that are different species or types of flowers. Another way to do this is by using lighter and darker colors that create a harmonizing feel to the overall arrangement and design.

**PROPORTION** - Refers to the size relationship between the elements, such as the flowers, foliage, container and accessories in a design. The sizes and quantities of elements should be proportioned to each other in a design. Each large item should balance with an equally large item or a grouping of small elements equal to the large. The proper proportion will help with the overall physical balance of the design. Proportionally, the floral design should be 1 1/2 to 2 times the size of the container in height or width. Your vase and flowers need to be proportional to each other. Too small of a vase with big tropical flowers will look awkward. It's important to measure the height of the flowers/greens to fit the size of the vase. Please note that there are exceptions to the rule of container size proportion to height of flowers. Pleasing proportions and groupings often include groups of 3 or 5 in floral design. Remembering this helpful number will guide you when you are creating a base for your flowers. Having 3 different types of greens will give your arrangement a depth of color and a variety of texture. In Floral Design, *even* numbers do not create a balanced look. *Odd* numbers, like 3, help create a balanced distribution of greens/flowers.

**SCALE** - The most important rule for proportion is learning to use flowers, containers, and foliage in an appropriate scale. Comparing objects to each other with size in mind is an appropriate step in creating arrangements. Look at the size of the flowers and rotate them through the arrangement properly so they blend and become proportionate in scale. Use greenery in scale with the amount of flowers you put in an arrangement as well. Scale also refers to the size relationship between the overall finished floral design and it's setting. For example a table centerpiece for a wedding in relation to the size of the table or the overall venue space. At our Flower Show shadowboxes, pedestals and tables are used and your floral design should be appropriate in size for those exhibits.

**RHYTHM** - Is the visual flow or movement within an arrangement. It allows your eye to move around and through an arrangement, from the focal point to the edges and back again. Rhythm is created by placements within an arrangement using color, material, line texture and space. You can achieve rhythm by repeating a pattern. When you repeat a pattern you are able to create a consistent flow of textures that allows the eye to see balance, creating a harmonious rhythm. How do you repeat a pattern? Here's an example: Take all the different types of flowers you will use in an arrangement, create the center of the arrangement using each type of flower in quantities of 3-5. Continue to repeat the original pattern with small variations throughout the rest of the arrangement. Consistency and repetition are the tools for beautiful floral. A flower pattern usually comes after you place your first few flowers. Base flowers are first and typically at the bottom. Accent flowers are next and can go throughout. Filler flowers fill in the gaps and go in last. You will figure out what your pattern is and you can easily fill in the gaps and know how to complete your arrangement. Having a theme for the flowers will help create a cohesive look that will promote a rhythm. Some theme ideas could be smooth and flowing, broken up and rustic, abstract/modern with spacing, or traditional and simple. The rhythm will be a natural extension of your theme.

## **ELEMENTS OF DESIGN**

The physical characteristics of the actual plant materials used in a Floral Design. A basic understanding of how these elements affect a design is essential to creating beautiful arrangements. The elements of design is Line, Color, Form, Space, Pattern, Texture and Size.

**LINE** - is a rather simple tool that acts as a guide in making your own flower arrangements. Line is the primary tool for creating the structure, shape and size of each arrangement. Line is used to make the appropriate arrangement for the appropriate space. It also creates a path for your eyes to follow. "*How large is this arrangement going to be?*"

An example is when making tall arrangements you will need to use vertical line flowers to create height. This can be achieved by using tall flowers such as Larkspur, snapdragons, liatris or greens such as myrtle.

**COLOR** - Before crafting your floral piece, be sure to give some consideration to the feeling you're trying to capture. Those who understand basic flower arranging know that different colors and color combinations bring out a range of emotions. Giving some thought to the sentiment you want to get across should help you select the right colors for your piece. I have a separate handout "Flower Color Wheel". *"What is the specific emotional element or occasion of this arrangement?"*

**FORM** - describes the three-dimensional aspect of a design. Shape of the arrangement. Simply, Triangle, oval, symmetrical, asymmetrical and round. Composed by line flowers that are tall and spiked, Mass flowers that are large to medium that are usually round, and filler flowers which are fine and frilly. *"What shape are you going to make this arrangement?"*

**SPACE** - is defined basically by an area devoid of lowers. Space between individual flowers showcases the visual attributes of each flower. Space also includes depth in the design to give the arrangement more of a three-dimensional form. Tucking flowers farther so they are partially hidden by others and radiating them to the side are ways to add interest and character to the arrangement. *"Do I want to make this arrangement open and airy or do I want to have a specific shape that is more contemporary with specific areas of void? Where are I placing the flowers within the form of the arrangement?"*

**PATTERN** - When you repeat a pattern you are able to create a consistent flow of textures that allows the eye to see balance, creating a harmonious rhythm. How do you repeat a pattern? Here's an example: Take all the different types of flowers you will use in an arrangement, create the center of the arrangement using each type of flower in quantities of 3-5. Continue to repeat the original pattern with small variations throughout the rest of the arrangement. Consistency and repetition are the tools for beautiful floral. A flower pattern usually comes after you place your first few flowers. Base flowers are first and typically at the bottom. Accent flowers are next and can go throughout. Filler flowers fill in the gaps and go in last. You will figure out what your pattern is and you can easily fill in the gaps and know how to complete your arrangement. *Take this into consideration as to what flowers and foliage you are going to use.*

**TEXTURE** - Plant texture refers to the surface quality of plant material. Textural contrast and variety can add interest to a design. A plant's texture may be fuzzy, glossy, smooth, rough, etc. Texture also applies to the overall effect of the arrangement of the petals or florets; for example, a spray of baby's breath has an airy texture, a rose has a velvety texture, a zinnia has a dense texture. *Take this into consideration as to what flowers, foliage or accents you are going to use.*

**SIZE** - Size works with the elements of line, form and space to determine actual dimensions of the arrangement. Examples are a table. How big is the table? Is it for a church altar or is it going to a hospital room that has such limited space. Where is this arrangement going to be used? How much space is available?