



## FLOWERS

### Department 122— Junior Open Show

Amount Offered: \$525.00

Entry Fee: \$1.00 per entry (2 entries per Class maximum)

Late Registration Fee – Approval Required: \$25.00 per Entry

Judging Time: Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 12:00 pm

Location: Building E

Superintendents: Kristi Barnes..... 1-847-400-7796 call or text

### Rules and Regulations

**NEW THIS YEAR: Curfew Enforced – Quiet time and curfew is 12:00am midnight – 5:00am.**

**All exhibits are closed. This includes grandstands, midway, barns and campgrounds. Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult during these times.**

1. Entries must be filed with the fair office by 2:00 pm on July 19, 2026, **online entries are due at midnight. LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU REGISTER ONLINE!**
2. All exhibitors are required to purchase a week long exhibitor pass.
3. All Home Arts General Rules apply.
4. Exhibitors may enter up to 2 entries per Class. The exhibit item may be shown in ONE Class only.
5. Exhibits will be accepted on Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026, between 9:30 am and 11:00 am. (Contact Superintendent for special arrangements if needed). Design and Enter program 11:00 am-11:30 am (entries made in this program can only be entered in Design and Enter class).
6. Junior amateurs may exhibit, ages 8-17. All Horticulture entries should be grown or cared for by the youth. Children are permitted to use parents' or grandparents' flowers for arrangements.
7. Judging will be at 12:00. Spectators are welcome.
8. **Substitutions may be made at check-in. No additional entries.**
9. The exhibitor and/or Superintendent can replace any wilted flowers after judging.
10. Non-livestock/Home Art exhibits will be released on the **SUNDAY of fair week between 5 pm and 6 pm OR MONDAY AFTER FAIR (AUGUST 10<sup>th</sup>) from 10 am-noon, exhibits may not be removed before then.** Ribbons and exhibits will be available for pick up at these times only. Any exhibits that remain unclaimed after 4pm on the Friday following the Fair will be donated or discarded.
11. If in doubt, contact the Superintendent. The Superintendent's decision is final.
12. The McHenry County Fair Association, for the safety of those attending the Fair (including the rider), prohibits the use of bicycles, scooters, skateboards, hoverboards, and similar wheeled riding items of the Fairgrounds, during the Annual Fair, including set-up and take-down.

### Judging Criteria and Guidelines

1. Entries must meet requirements to be considered for premiums (i.e. number of blooms, stalks; type or size of flower).
2. Choose a container to best fit your entry. All entries are judged on overall presentation, quality of specimens and arrangement technique. All entries need a freestanding container, able to hold water.
3. All entries should be free of dirt and bugs. Damaged leaves, blooms and buds should be removed.
4. Flowers entered should be conditioned; cut the night before and placed in water overnight.
5. Leaves should not be below container rim, use wedging to raise flower specimen up out of vase if needed.
6. Include name of species on entry tag if possible (does not apply to arrangements).
7. The number of flowers on a specimen stem should be above average. Generally, one third of the florets on a spike should be open, one third show color, one third should still be green.
8. Flower specimens should be at their ideal stage of development. Flowers and foliage should be firm or crisp, with no evidence of wilting, curing, and fading.
9. An arrangement is an artistic design of fresh-cut or dried materials arranged in a freestanding container. Foliage permitted. Accessories are permitted but should be used with discretion.
10. Foliage in an arrangement should be arranged so NO foam, wiring, taping, or other materials used to hold stems is visible. Arrangement's backside should be finished with foliage (and flowers if appropriate).

**Sunflower Exhibit/Competition Guidelines**

1. Competition is open to all children age 3-18 (Preschool through high school)
2. Exhibitors may enter only one sunflower per class
3. All entries must be the work of the exhibitor, grown in the exhibitor’s garden. A parent, leader, or responsible adult must verify this fact by signing the entry form.
4. All other rules and regulations apply.

**Premiums** First-\$5.00; Second-\$4.00; Third-\$3.00; Fourth-\$2.00; Fifth-\$1.00

Superintendent’s Award

Best of Show (one per Division): Rosette

<b>Division</b>	<b>Class</b>
<b>A Horticulture</b>	<p><b>1</b> Zinnias, 3 blooms, small/medium</p> <p><b>2</b> Zinnias, 3 blooms, large</p> <p><b>3</b> Petunia, single, 1 stem, one or more blooms</p> <p><b>4</b> Petunia, double, 1 spray, one or more blooms</p> <p><b>5</b> Cosmos, 1 spray</p> <p><b>6</b> Marigold, 3 small/medium stems with foliage</p> <p><b>7</b> Marigold, 3 large stem with foliage</p> <p><b>8</b> Snapdragon, 3 spikes</p> <p><b>9</b> Phlox (perennial), single bloom</p> <p><b>10</b> Gladiolus, 1 spike</p> <p><b>11</b> Day Lily, 1 scape</p> <p><b>12</b> Cone Daisy, 1</p> <p><b>13</b> Annual not listed-3 small or medium (same variety)</p> <p><b>14</b> Annual not listed – 1 large stem, spike or spray</p> <p><b>15</b> Rose, most perfect bloom</p> <p><b>16</b> Dahlia, most perfect bloom (weigh container to prevent tip over)</p>
<b>B Arrangements</b>	<p><b>1</b> This Year’s theme...Stars, Stripes and Summer Nights</p> <p><b>2</b> U.S.A. Red, White, and Blue</p> <p><b>3</b> Go Team – arrangement depicting favorite sports team</p> <p><b>4</b> Display of Cacti and/or Succulents, 4 planted in one container as a dish garden</p> <p><b>5</b> Dried flower arrangement</p> <p><b>6</b> Arrangement for a dinner table</p> <p><b>7</b> Basket arrangement</p>
<b>C Potted Plants (12 inches across maximum)</b>	<p><b>1</b> Begonia, any variety</p> <p><b>2</b> Geranium, in bloom</p> <p><b>3</b> Impatiens</p> <p><b>4</b> Container Garden, 3 or more plants – not identical. No pot size limit</p>
<b>D. Herbs</b>	<p><b>1</b> One potted annual herb</p> <p><b>2</b> One potted perennial herb</p>
<b>E Houseplants</b>	<p><b>1</b> African Violet</p> <p><b>2</b> Cactus or succulent (one variety)</p> <p><b>3</b> Philodendron or Pothos</p> <p><b>4</b> Spider Plant, any variety</p> <p><b>5</b> Fern, any variety</p> <p><b>6</b> Foliage Plant, not listed above</p>

# Flowers Junior Entry Form

*Use a separate form for each show.*

- Register online at [www.mchenrycountyfair.com](http://www.mchenrycountyfair.com) or in the office at 11900 Country Club Road, Woodstock, IL 60098 on Monday – Tuesday from 9 am – 2 pm. In person registration dates: Tuesday June 2<sup>nd</sup>, Tuesday July 7<sup>th</sup> 2-7pm and July 19<sup>th</sup> 11 am-2pm ONLY.
- Entries must be filed with the fair office by 2:00 pm on July 19, 2026, **online entries are due at midnight. LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU REGISTER ONLINE!**
- Entries will NOT be taken by phone, fax, or email. NO REFUNDS!
- One entry per line. Note changes in Division and Class numbers!

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

	Dept. Number	Division Letter	Class Number	Description of Entry
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
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8				
9				
10				

I have read and understand, and in consideration for being permitted to exhibit at the 2026 McHenry County Fair, agree and consent to abide by the rules of the competition. This includes the McHenry County Rules and Regulations and the Home Arts Department Rules as stated in the Rule section in the McHenry County Fair Book and on the Website: [mchenrycountyfair.com](http://mchenrycountyfair.com)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Exhibitor (Owner/Exhibitor) Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Guardian/Parent of Exhibitor (if under 18 years of age) Date

#	Fee	Total
	\$1.00 per Jr. Open entry	
	\$25.00 Late Registration Fee	
	\$15 Exhibitor Pass (one required per Exhibitor)	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>