



FLOWERS

Department 22—Open Show

Amount Offered: \$1,019.00

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

Judging Time: Thursday, August 6th, 2026, 12:30 pm

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

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, campgrounds and barns. 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 weeklong exhibitor pass.
3. All Home Arts General Rules apply.
4. Exhibitors may enter up to two (2) entries per Class. The exhibit item may be shown in ONE Class only.
5. Exhibits will be accepted on Thursday, August 6th, 2026, between 9:30 am and 11:00 am. **Drop Off Entries in Building E.** (Contact Superintendent for special arrangements if needed). Design and Enter can only be entered in Design and Enter class.
6. Only amateurs may exhibit. Exhibits must have been grown by exhibitor in most recent year. See Division B for exceptions. Exhibitors are any age.
7. Judging will be at 12:30 following the Junior Show judging. 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 (August 9th) between 5 pm and 6 pm OR MONDAY AFTER FAIR (AUGUST 10th) from 10 am-noon, exhibits may not be removed before then.** Ribbons and exhibits will be available for pick up at these time slots only. Any exhibits that remain unclaimed after 4 pm on the Friday following the Fair will be donated or discarded.
11. If in doubt, contact the Superintendent, the Superintendent's decision is final.

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 that can 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, and 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, curling, or fading.
9. An arrangement is an artistic design of fresh-cut or dried materials arranged in a freestanding container. Foliage permitted. Accessories permitted in specific arrangements only. See Division B for exceptions.
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).
11. 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.

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

Arrangements First-\$10.00; Second-\$7.00; Third-\$5.00; Fourth-\$3.00; Fifth-\$1.00

Best of Show (one per Division): Rosette

Superintendent Award

Garden Club Award

Division	Class	
A Cut Flowers and Foliage	1 Zinnias, 3 blooms (same or mixed variety, uniformed) 2 Marigold (Tagetes; 1 large stem) 3 Marigold (Tagetes; small, one spray) 4 Cosmos, 1 spray 5 Nasturtiums, 5 blooms 6 Petunia, 1 stem or 1 spray, more than one bloom 7 Double Petunia, 1 spray, more than one bloom 8 Snapdragon, 3 spikes, over 12 inches 9 Snapdragon, 3 spikes, 12 inches and under	10 Sunflower, 1 stem or spray, one or more blooms 11 Annual not listed-3 small or medium (same variety) or 1 large stem, spike or spray 12 Annual collection, 6 blooms or spray, different varieties 13 Foliage Specimen, 1 stalk 14 The Selma Davidson First Timers, (first time exhibitors), Annual specimen, 3 small or medium (same variety) or 1 large
B Garden Plants (potted)	1 Tuberous Begonia, in Bloom 2 Coleus 3 Geranium – upright 4 Impatiens, regular	5 Potted annual in bloom, not listed in category 6 Hanging Basket of Annuals grown for color 7 Container Garden of Annuals grown for color
C Perennials	1 Day Lily, 1 scape 2 Phlox, single bloom 3 Coneflower, 1 Stem 4 Canna, 1 spike 5 Daisy, single bloom or stem 6 Rudbeckia, single bloom or stem	7 Perennial, not listed – 3 small or medium (same variety) or 1 large 8 Perennial collection, 6 blooms or spray, different varieties 9 Foliage specimen, 1 stalk
D Wood Stemmed	1 Rose, 1 long stem hybrid tea rose 2 Rose, climbing, 1 spray 3 Rose, shrub, 1 spray	4 Hydrangea, single bloom, foliage required 5 Woodie, not listed, 1 spray
E Bulbs/Tubers	1 Gladiolus, 1 spike 2 Dahlia, bloom over 4 inches 3 Dahlia, bloom under 4 inches	4 Lily, Oriental, pollen must remain, 1 stem 5 Lily, Asiatic, pollen must remain, 1 stem 6 Tiger Lily, pollen must remain, 1 stem
F Houseplants (container size is limited to 12 inches in all directions)	1 African violet, any variety 2 Begonia grown for foliage (Rex, Angel Wing, Eyelash) 3 Cactus 4 Cactus, jungle type (Christmas, orchid, rhipsalis) 5 Succulent 6 English Ivy 7 Fern 8 Philodendron	9 Pothos 10 Plectranthus (Swedish Ivy) 11 Spider Plant 12 Tradescantia (inch plant, wandering Sailor) 13 Miniature Rose 14 Houseplant in bloom, not listed above 15 Houseplant grown for foliage, not listed above 16 Water grown plants
G Natives	1 Grass, cuttings in vase 2 Grass, pot grown	3 Blooming, cut specimen in vase 4 Blooming, pot grown
H Arrangements	1 Stars, Stripes and Summer Nights Theme 2. U.S.A. red, white and blue	3 Dried arrangement 4 Your choice

Flowers Open Entry Form

Use a separate form for each show.

- Register online at 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 2nd, Tuesday July 7th 2-7pm and July 19th 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				
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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

Exhibitor (Owner/Exhibitor) Date

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

#	Fee	Total
	\$1.00 per Open Entry	
	\$25.00 Late Entry Fee	
	\$15 Exhibitor Pass (one required per Exhibitor)	
	Total	\$