

# LEASIDE GARDEN SOCIETY



2025  

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YEARBOOK

Cover Photo:

*Marion Jarvie's Pond*, Barry Schneider

Photo competition winner, 2025

The winning photo for 2025, along with the three runner-up photos, are available as notecards. Runner-ups can be found on pages 8, 21 & 32.

To order this year's notecards, please contact Dianne Caister: [dialcaister@rogers.com](mailto:dialcaister@rogers.com).

*Leaside*  
*Garden Society*

**Founded in 1986**

becoming

**A Chartered Society in 1988**

with the

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Agribusiness

and

**An Affiliated Society**

with the



*Keeping Ontario Beautiful*

## **Territorial Acknowledgement**

The Leaside Garden Society acknowledges that Toronto, or T'karonto, and the lands where we live and garden, are the traditional territories of many nations, including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishinaabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and the Wendat peoples.

We respectfully acknowledge the stewardship of this land by many diverse First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples and the continuing presence of Indigenous peoples from across Turtle Island. We are grateful to have the opportunity to work, live, learn, and garden on this land.

Acknowledging this reminds us that as gardeners we have a responsibility to teach respect for and restoration of the land as Indigenous peoples have been doing for thousands of years.



*Gardeners of tomorrow.* Local students planting annuals.

Photo: Karen Keay



## **Our Mission**

To establish a friendly meeting place to share, encourage, award, and educate on the fundamental values and principles of gardening, and concerns about the environment, and to create a horticultural legacy within the community;  
**to be an inspiration for gardening everywhere.**

### **Leaside Garden Society**

c/o 464 Broadway Avenue,  
Toronto, ON M4G 2R5  
416-422-0538

[leaside@gardenontario.org](mailto:leaside@gardenontario.org)

[www.leasidegardensociety.org](http://www.leasidegardensociety.org)

# **Table of Contents**

Monthly Meetings and Speakers .....	5
2025 Board of Directors .....	6
2025 Activity Coordinators .....	7
Co-Presidents' Message .....	8
The Board, Memberships .....	9
Past Presidents and Life Memberships .....	10
Activity Reports .....	11
Photography Competition .....	16
Awards .....	17
Workshops and Shows .....	23
Flowers for you, for shows and for sharing .....	25
Rules for Judged Shows .....	27
Winter Show .....	31
Spring Show .....	33
Fall Show .....	35
Ontario Horticultural Association .....	39
Useful Resources .....	41

## Monthly Meetings and Speakers 2025

The Leaside Garden Society has nine meetings a year for informative talks on garden topics. Our January and February meetings will be via Zoom. Our other meetings will be at the locations indicated below. Also check our website for times, and future locations.

Jan. 9	<b>Two Gardens in Quebec: Jardin Quatre-Vents and Reford Gardens</b> <i>Pat de Valence</i>	<b>Zoom</b>
Feb. 13	<b>Edible Flowers</b> <i>Sherry Dodson (Durham Master Gardeners)</i>	<b>Zoom</b>
Mar. 13	<b>Our Feathered Friends</b> <i>Sasan Beni</i>	<b>Leaside Library</b>
Apr. 10	<b>Growing Vegetables – From A – Z</b> <i>Desré Kramer (Toronto Master Gardeners)</i>	<b>Leaside Library</b>
May 8	<b>Lost Rivers of Leaside</b> <i>Rene Fan</i>	<b>Northlea United</b>
May 24	<b>Spring Flower Show</b> <i>Open to the public 12:30 – 3:30 pm</i>	<b>Leaside Library</b>
June 12	<b>Sunnybrook Healing Garden</b> <i>Michael Lithgow and Rohan Harrison</i>	<b>Leaside Library</b>
June 14	<b>Tour of Magical Gardens</b> <i>11:00am – 4:00pm</i>	<b>Leaside Library</b>
Sept. 11	<b>Houseplants, Our Constant Garden</b> <i>Tena van Andel (Toronto Master Gardeners)</i>	<b>Leaside Library</b>
Sept. 13	<b>Fall Flower Show</b> <i>Open to the public 12:30 – 3:30 pm</i>	<b>Leaside Library</b>
Oct. 9	<b>Allotment Gardens</b> <i>Claudia and Duncan Wood</i>	<b>Leaside Library</b>
Nov. 13	<b>AGM (Speaker TBA)</b>	<b>Leaside United</b>

## 2025 Board of Directors

<b>President</b>	<b>Joanna Blanchard</b> joanna.p.blanchard@gmail.com
<b>Past President</b>	<b>Nora Campbell</b> n.j.campbell@sympatico.ca
<b>Vice-President</b>	Vacant
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Catherine Sim</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Christine Simmons</b> christinebsimmons@hotmail.com
<b>Directors</b>	<b>Janet Ahier</b> janetahier@hotmail.com <b>Dianne Caister</b> dialcaister@rogers.com <b>Nancy Durocher</b> onbroadway@rogers.com <b>Eileen Fitzpatrick</b> eileenandbillfitz@rogers.com <b>Bernice Holman</b> bholman@rogers.com <b>Michele Petick</b> mpetick@rogers.com <b>Margaret Rousseau</b> margaretrousseau1@outlook.com <b>Patricia Stowe</b> patricia.stowe@hotmail.com <b>Connie Uetrecht</b> connieuetrecht420@gmail.com
<b>Financial Reviewers</b>	<b>Allan Caister</b> <b>Peter Blanchard</b>



## 2025 Activity Coordinators

<b>Archives</b>	<b>Linda Wickland</b> dlwickland@yahoo.ca
<b>Community Award</b>	<b>Janet Ahier</b> janetahier@hotmail.com
<b>Community Planting</b>	<b>Barry Schneider</b> barry.schneider@rogers.com
<b>Gardens of Distinction</b>	<b>Lily Petick</b> lilypetick@gmail.com
<b>Garden Tour</b>	<b>Margaret Rousseau</b> margaretrousseau1@outlook.com
<b>Junior Gardeners</b>	<b>Patricia Stowe</b> patricia.stowe@hotmail.com <b>Joanna Blanchard</b> joanna.p.blanchard@gmail.com
<b>Membership</b>	<b>Nancy Durocher</b> onbroadway@rogers.com
<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Eileen Fitzpatrick</b> eileenandbillfitz@rogers.com
<b>Photography Competition</b>	<b>Sandy Koster</b> sankoster@hotmail.com
<b>Programme</b>	<b>Joanna Blanchard</b> joanna.p.blanchard@gmail.com
<b>Publicity &amp; Website</b>	<b>Michele Petick</b> mpetick@rogers.com
<b>Room Bookings</b>	<b>Dianne Caister</b> dialcaister@rogers.com
<b>Shows &amp; Workshops</b>	<b>Connie Uetrecht</b> connieuetrecht420@gmail.com
<b>Yearbook</b>	<b>Kate Guy</b>

## Co-Presidents' Message

Are you an optimist or a pessimist? Is your glass half full or half empty? We believe that most gardeners are optimists – why else would we bother with planting bulbs that the squirrels are going to dig up, trying to save the life of a plant we bought for



Roses, Photo: Allan Caister  
Notecard winner, 2025

almost nothing because it was close to death, or purchasing a specimen that clearly says it's for Zone 7?

As Co-presidents, we have seen first-hand the willingness of our members to demonstrate their optimism. From planting bulbs in rock hard ground outside the library in the fall, to knocking on doors in the spring seeking gardens for the tour, LGS members have stepped up against the odds, and come up roses!

So, we remain optimistic that the Society will continue to thrive. But we will need your help to keep our spirits up. Nora is stepping down from the position of co-president, so this is her last annual report, and Joanna plans to step down in 2025. That means that another optimist (or two) will be needed to sit in the driver's seat and steer. Luckily the Board of Directors is strong, providing direction and support so really all it takes is a hand on the steering wheel, and an eye on the road ahead.

We know that the Society is important to Leaside, and you are important to the Society! Thank you for your collective optimism and support as LGS continues to make a difference in our community.

Joanna Blanchard and Nora Campbell

## The Board, 2025



Photo: Sheila Brazys

Nora Campbell, Catherine Sim, Margaret Rousseau,  
Joanna Blanchard, Christine Simmons, Janet Ahier,  
Eileen Fitzpatrick, Nancy Durocher, Connie Uetrecht,  
Patricia Stowe, Dianne Caister, Bernice Holman.

Absent: Michele Petick.

## Membership

The Leaside Garden Society membership comprises Single, Family, "Life", Courtesy (local Councillor), and Complimentary members (individuals whose gardens were on the tour the previous year). At the end of 2024, the Society had 122 members.

Nancy Durocher

## **Life Memberships**

The criteria for honouring members in a horticultural society with a life membership include long-time membership and a continued interest in horticulture. It serves as recognition of participation in the Society and contribution to its programmes. A member so honoured receives a Life Membership Certificate and card. Life members of the LGS in 2025 are:

***Alice Carriman, Ella Irving, Helen Koyama, Bev Money, June Murdoch, Barry Schneider***

## **Past Presidents**

Dave Money, 1986-1991

Desmay Smith, 1991-1993

June Murdoch, 1993-2001

Don Beard, 2001-2003

Joanna Blanchard and Sheila Whiteley, 2003-2006

Dana Mallany and Michael Warbeck, 2006-2007

Dana Mallany and Daphne Wace, 2007-2008

Linda Wickland, 2008-2011

Nora Campbell, 2011-2015

Joanna Blanchard, 2016-2019

Nora Campbell (co-president), 2020-2024

## **Leaside Garden Society Code of Conduct**

A guiding principle of the Leaside Garden Society is that everyone is entitled to be treated with courtesy and respect at all times. Although the LGS promotes freedom of expression and open communication, we expect all members to adhere to this principle. The Code of Conduct is available in detail on our website or on request in hard copy from the President.

# **Activity Reports**

## **Archives**

The Archives Committee is responsible for the collection, cataloguing and safe storage of materials having historic value to LGS and its members. Files include yearly administrative documents such as minutes, budgets, and yearbooks as well as photographic and other records from fundraising and programs such as the annual garden tour, school planting projects and floral workshops. Records are kept in the library basement where they are stored in acid-free files or, in the case of annual yearbooks, in a fireproof safe. This year the team was asked to prepare a display board using archival materials for posting at the garden tour and fall flower show to inform visitors about our Society’s activities and community outreach.

Mary Slinn, Sheila Whiteley, Linda Wickland

## **Community Planting**

The pollinating perennials planted in the entrance garden of the Leaside Library last fall matured in the spring of 2024 and produced enticing blooms for insects. These were complemented by vibrant annuals planted by Bessborough students creating waves of colour all season, the best the garden has looked in many years. The canoe and commemorative gardens continue to mature and will only require a few replacements to help them look their best in coming seasons.

Barry Schneider

# Garden Tour

Held in June each year, our Magical Garden Tour is the Society’s biggest fundraiser, with part of the proceeds going towards our annual scholarship for a student in horticulture. Many members participate in the event, whether on the day of the tour as volunteers at the gardens or in one of the many tasks involved in preparing for the tour. These include: scouting for gardens, preparing write-ups for the passport ticket, creating the design and layout of the passport and map, arranging for the printing of the passports and maps, delivering aprons and signs to the gardens, taking photos of the gardens, taking part in information visits to the gardens ahead of time, coordinating with our passport vendors, as well as writing articles for our website and local publications. A big thank you to everyone who makes the tour a success and especially this year's tour which saw a record number of participants! The wonderful weather and promotion by Paul Zammit on his CBC radio programme no doubt played a role in its success.

Margaret Rousseau



*Joanna Blanchard’s Garden. Photo: Sheila Brazys*

# Junior Gardeners' Programme

The goal of the Juniors Gardeners Programme is to encourage a lifetime interest in the environment and gardening through various learning activities. This year, with the aid of a small grant from the OHA, we sponsored a visit to the Teaching garden at the Toronto Botanical Garden for one Grade 4 class from Thorncliffe Park Public School. In early June, local school children were out in force, assisted by several of our volunteers, planting annuals in the beds in front of the library, at the Trace Manes archway, in Father Caulfield Parkette, and in the green space at the corner of Eglinton and Bessborough. With plants supplied by the City, trowels and snacks provided by LGS, and invaluable support from City staff, the gardens were planted quickly and efficiently. Nora Campbell organized signs for each garden, asking people to be respectful of the fact that they had been planted by local schoolchildren, and they successfully kept people from walking across the beds. The gardens have never looked better!

Joanna Blanchard



Photo: Nora Campbell

## **Gardens of Distinction**

The 2024 Gardens of Distinction was a blooming success! This year's theme celebrated the vibrant beauty of Spring Bloom, culminating in a celebration of 12 outstanding gardens. Our dedicated volunteers were organized into teams to explore North Leaside, South Leaside, Bennington Heights, and Kilgour Estates. Each team assessed gardens based on texture and design, variety of plant materials, the elusive 'wow factor,' and whether they served as pollinator gardens. We invite you to join us for 2025! Help us to honour the hard work of residents in Leaside and Bennington Heights. You and a partner can stroll, drive, or bike through an assigned segment of Leaside, and nominate the most impressive front yards for an award! At the end of our scouting period, we'll gather together to share our findings and stories of the amazing gardens we have discovered. If you're interested and available next spring for a few hours, please contact Lily Petick at [lilypetick@gmail.com](mailto:lilypetick@gmail.com) for more details. We would love to have you join the team!

Lily Petick

## **Newsletter**

Our newsletter, "The Leaside Gardener", is published nine times a year, about a week before each of the monthly meetings. Each edition contains information on the monthly meeting and also includes news of LGS happenings, OHA events, seasonal gardening tips and general horticultural and environmental information. The newsletter is a good way to stay in touch!

Eileen Fitzpatrick



## Sharing Corner

This is a new addition to the LGS newsletter as a way for members to share their successes and challenges in gardening and in their use of plants during the year. For example, if you have a houseplant that is particularly striking after you have repotted it, you might share the before and after photo and description of your repotting process. Perhaps you were successful in getting your Amaryllis or Orchid to re-bloom. Please share how you did it. Adding vegetable plants to a mixed planter is one way of growing a few vegetables. If you do so this year, tell us about it and share a photo. If you redesigned your balcony garden or a section of your backyard, share photos of the before and after, along with a story about your plan. The examples are boundless!

So please share your gardening experiences with others by submitting one story and photo(s) – either landscape or portrait, limit one story per month – to [connieuetrecht420@gmail.com](mailto:connieuetrecht420@gmail.com) for inclusion in an upcoming newsletter.

Connie Uetrecht



Photo: Barry Schneider

## **Photography Competition**

Every year a photography competition is held to find an illustration for the cover of the Yearbook, our bookmark and the newsletter. The winner in 2024 was Barry Schneider for his photo of Marion Jarvie's pond. We hope many of you will consider entering the 2025 competition. All that you need to do is take lots of photos during the year and choose the best two or three to enter.

### **Rules:**

- a. photo must be taken by a LGS member within the last year
- b. the photo can be taken of any plant/flower anywhere, not just from your own garden
- c. a maximum of three photos may be submitted by one member
- d. all photos must have a digital file suitable for use on the yearbook cover
- e. entries must be clearly identified with the photographer's name and plant identity
- f. all photos must be in portrait format

### **Judging Criteria:**

- a. horticultural relevance
- b. composition and design
- c. overall photographic competence, e.g. in focus
- d. artistic impact and interpretation

Entries can be submitted by attaching your photos to an e-mail to Sandy Koster, [sankoster@hotmail.com](mailto:sankoster@hotmail.com). Entries can be submitted anytime during the year with the deadline being our September meeting. Please put 'Photo Competition 2025' in the subject line of your e-mail. Preliminary judging and finalist selection will be made by a committee. The winning entry will be chosen from the top four entries by the general membership at the October meeting. LGS retains the right to copy and publish any entry in Garden Society publicity or use any entry for fundraising projects.

Sandy Koster

## Awards

### **Ontario Volunteer Service Awards 2024**

Three of our dedicated members were presented the prestigious Ontario Volunteer Service Award in a ceremony held by the Provincial Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism in the Great Hall of the ROM.

Each of them has contributed many hours to the life of the Society in countless ways. Their recognition is well deserved. Our congratulations to Carolyn Beange, Sheila Brazys and Eileen Fitzpatrick!



Photo: Nora Campbell

## Awards

### **LGS President's Award – Catherine Sim**

This OHA Award is presented at the discretion of the Presidents to acknowledge outstanding contributions to the Society.

As a relatively new member, Catherine took on the role of Secretary.

With her great ability to capture the details and tone of our meetings, the Board has come to depend on her minutes as our compass, keeping us on the right track.

Catherine has also volunteered for many projects and events with enthusiasm, and always with a smile.

Her efforts make our Society continue to bloom!



Photo: Sheila Brazys

### **June Murdoch Award – Patricia Stowe**

The June Murdoch Award is presented annually in recognition of Past President June Murdoch's tremendous contribution to volunteer work within the Society.

A silver bowl is awarded to the LGS member who has gone 'over and above' during the past year. The Board of Directors selected Patricia Stowe for her enthusiastic leaps into helping out where needed.

...con't

## June Murdoch Award ...con't

She was the first to volunteer to help with the children's planting in June, and along with Barry Schneider, Patricia watered, weeded and did litter cleanup at the library for 4 months straight – often 2 or 3 times a week. There is a reason the library gardens have looked so spectacular all summer and fall!

Although Patricia is a new member, she has already contributed tremendously to our various projects. We are thrilled to welcome her onto our Board of Directors for 2025.



Photo: Sheila Brazys

## Leaside Garden Society Founders' Scholarship

Since 2019, the Leaside Garden Society has awarded a scholarship every year (with the exception of Covid year, 2021). Financial support is provided to a post secondary student who

will advance our Mission to ***educate about the environment and be an inspiration for gardening everywhere.***



Photo: Joanna Blanchard

The 2024 Scholarship Committee unanimously agreed that Bridget Leonard, a Leaside resident, was the best candidate for the \$2,000 award. Bridget's application stood out above a large pool of excellent candidates.

...con't

## LGS Founders' Scholarship ...con't

As an Environmental Science student at the University of Guelph, Bridget's courses included Soil Science, Honeybee Biology/Apiculture, and Ecology. She has directly applied her knowledge to ecological and horticulture-based initiatives. For example, during a co-op term as an outdoor educator at the Island Natural Science School, Bridget created a plant biodiversity program, as well as managing their hydroponic systems.

Bridget has a wide range of volunteer experience serving as the president of her school's Environment Science Student Executive and also as a Peer Mentor with the School of Environmental Science. As a Mission Monarch volunteer with the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority she led volunteers to observe, collect and identify monarch butterfly data.

Bridget's commitment to community service, her leadership, her academic achievement and her interest and involvement with horticulture and ecological activities is directly aligned with the LGS mission. This is demonstrated in her essay where she states:

*"I appreciate the Society's ability to connect like-minded people to educate, celebrate and share the love of gardening. As Leaside grows to include housing with less private green space, I believe the LGS's work will become even more important with time to sustain the legacy of horticulture in the community."*

Carolynn Beange, Scholarship Chair

## Community Award 2024

The Leaside Garden Society Community Award recognizes a local business or organization which has in some way contributed to the beautification of Leaside through plantings and/or landscaping.

Over the summer we travel through and around Leaside and Thorncliffe looking for eligible businesses or organizations. This year **six** gardens were submitted for **consideration** by the Society's Board of Directors.

Two of the gardens tied for first place to win the award for 2024.

Leaside Lawn Bowling Club Garden is a beautiful garden abundant with native plants and pollinators. Pink turtleheads, brown-eyed Susan, Zinnias and Phlox are just a few of the plants that welcome bees, butterflies and bowlers to the



gardens. A variety of shrubs and perennials provide colours and textures which change with each season.

The garden welcomes not only the lawn bowlers but many others who travel by the garden up to Talbot Park, to play tennis, walk a dog, watch a baseball game and for many other activities.

...con't

*Iris*, Photo: Sandy Koster  
Notecard winner, 2025



## Community Award ... con't



Joanna Blanchard, Rohan Harris, Janet Ahier.

Photo published with permission by Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre

Sunnybrook Health Science Centre’s “Rohan Harrison” Healing Garden has been designed to provide staff and patients with a space for peace, mental and emotional restoration, and a reconnection to nature.

The garden was completed in the summer of 2014, and incorporates a pollinator and bird-friendly design using native plantings. Over the years, the garden has become part of Sunnybrook's broader efforts to create healthy outdoor spaces across its campuses.

Submitted by Janet Ahier, Community Garden Award Coordinator



## Workshops and Shows

This year the Show team consisting of Connie Uetrecht, Karen Keay, Joanna Blanchard, Margaret Rousseau, and Catherine Sim, organized two workshops, two virtual shows, and two judged in-person shows. In addition, a survey of LGS members was conducted to help shape the future direction for the show and workshop program. This year we introduced a Sharing Corner in our monthly newsletter in which members are invited to share their gardening success, failures and novelties.

What a successful Holiday Door Swag workshop we had on December 9, 2023 at the Leaside United Church with 27 people in attendance! This was followed by a March 23 workshop in which twenty-six members and guests enjoyed creating and taking home a Spring Bulb Planter.

Two virtual shows were held this year:

- the House Plant Virtual Show featured favourite houseplants from 15 LGS members who shared 32 photos
- the Spring Virtual Show demonstrated the extensive variety of bulbs, shrubs and flowering trees that our members grow. Seventeen members shared 81 photos of their specimens for this virtual show.

The June show held in conjunction with the Magical Gardens of Leaside tour drew participation from only seven of our members who made 52 entries. Best in Show for horticulture went to Heather Gray, Best in Show for design went to Connie Uetrecht. Judge's Choice award went to Karen Keay for Horticulture and Margaret Rousseau for Design.

The Fall show, held on Sat. September 14 at the Leaside Library, with its children’s activity, drew more than usual attendance from the community. Approximately 20 children stopped by to create a flower sun-catcher. The judged show featured specimens from nine LGS members who brought a total of 106 entries.

The Show, judged by Heather Gray, gave the following

**Best in Show Awards:**

- Specimen** Nora Campbell – Sweet Autumn Clematis
- Collection** Joanna Blanchard – Foliage Collection
- Potted Plant** Karen Keay – Streptocarpella
- Vegetable** Allan Caister – Mixture of vegetables
- Design** Connie Uetrecht – Ode to Joy

**Judge’s Choice Awards were given to:**

**Karen Keay** for Horticulture: Flower Collection

**Joanna Blanchard** for Design: I Got Rhythm – miniature



Photo: Connie Uetrecht

# Flowers for You, for Shows & for Sharing

Enjoy your garden’s flowers and house plants however you like! Bring them to a judged show, take photos of them for our virtual show or just cut some blooms to have in your house. Sharing a beautiful collection of flowers or a design captures the imagination.

We’ve added a “Sharing Corner” to our newsletter, so we can share a quick story and photo of a gardening experience. The nonjudged “virtual” show allows you to share a house plant or a prize spring bulb from the comfort of your home with just a photo. Our judged shows will be in May and September.

In addition, three workshops could help give you the tools and confidence for all your planters and flower arranging:

- April – “Japanese style”
- June – TBA
- December – “Holiday”

Read on for some tips and information about how to prepare to enter your prized blooms and plants into our shows, or just to enjoy in your own home or to bring to a friend or special event.

- **Read over the upcoming show schedule** to see if anything in your garden might fit the classes. Just stroll around your garden and look for nice individual flowers.  
*TIP: with the “any other” classes in our shows, you’ll be able to enter almost anything!*



*Kathy Martin and her mother.*  
Photo: Karen Keay

- **Grow your own exhibits.** “Horticulture” class entries MUST have been grown/owned for at least three months by the exhibitor, unless otherwise specified. Designs, however, can use purchased flowers as well as those found in your garden, if you choose.
- **Select the best flowers.** Be choosy and examine them closely. The judge will notice!  
*TIP: Groom all plants, flowers and foliage. Clean the container, top up with fresh soil, wash leaves and remove damaged leaves or petals and insects.*
- **Condition your flowers.** Fresh cut flowers should be cut with something sharp and clean; then put into warm water immediately. This can be done the day before and conditioned overnight to look their best.  
*TIP: Cut flowers prefer water that is room temperature or warmer; however, roses like hot water.*
- **Arrive early to the show** so that volunteers can help you fill out show entry tags, identify plants if necessary, and help you place your exhibit.  
*TIP: Use return address labels on both parts of the show entry tag for quick tag completion and keep your yearbook handy for show schedules.*
- **Read the show rules and definitions.** (See pages 27-31)  
*TIP: To qualify, pay strict attention to the show schedule regarding size of container, number of blooms, stems, sprays and overall size of designs.*
- **Display cut flowers attractively.** Arrange flowers to create a pleasing effect. All cultivars in an exhibit should be as nearly alike as possible in size, form, colour and maturity. Generally, blooms should not touch one another or rest on the rim of the container or vase.  
*TIP: With three flowers, arrange so they are the same height in the container – even if you need to boost the bottom of the stems with newspaper inside the container!*

Above all have fun and enjoy sharing the best of your gardens.

## **Rules for Judged Shows**

1. All shows are open to members of the Society. Where two or more members jointly operate a garden, they cannot compete against each other except in Design classes.
2. Unless otherwise specified in the schedule, any entry in a Horticulture class (i.e. not Design) must have been grown by the exhibitor for at least three months. Container grown plants may contain more than one plant, but only one cultivar per pot, except where otherwise stated.
3. Plants may only be entered in a show once in a calendar year.
4. Container-grown plants may include more than one plant, but only one cultivar per pot, except where otherwise stated.
5. If possible, collect exhibitor entry cards at an in-person meeting prior to the show (one card per entry).
6. Completing the entry card before you arrive will speed things up! Make sure you include your name, the 'Section' and 'Class' from the schedule, the name of the specimen/design, and any additional information required by the class (e.g. plant list). Remember to complete both top and bottom parts of the entry card.  
*NB: Exhibitor numbers are not required.*
7. All entries must be in place and tagged before the time limit specified in the schedule.

### **Horticultural Entries**

8. Each entry must be displayed in one container, unless otherwise specified.
9. The vases and plates provided by LGS must be used, unless otherwise specified.

## **Rules for Judged Shows con't**

10. Only the exact number of blooms, sprays or stems etc. specified for any class may be exhibited. More or fewer than the number specified will disqualify the exhibit.  
*NB: A bud showing colour is considered a bloom.*
11. Entries are limited to two different cultivars per class per exhibitor, except in 'any other' classes where there is no limit. However, each entry must be a different cultivar.
12. Foliage may be washed and brushed, but not oiled or waxed.
13. Collection classes are judged from the front, unless otherwise specified. All material must be grown and arranged by the exhibitor. They will be judged decoratively as well as horticulturally.
14. Potted plant containers must be of an appropriate size for the plant. The container should not exceed 20 cm (8 inches) in diameter unless otherwise specified.

## **Design Entries**

15. Exhibitors may enter only one design in each class.
16. All designs must be created by the exhibitor, but plant material may be obtained from any source.
17. Unless otherwise indicated, any type of plant material may be used – living, dried or treated. A discreet use of painted or treated materials is permitted. Accessories are allowed in all designs, unless otherwise stated.
18. Wiring or tying of flowers, and other mechanics, are allowed but must not be visible, unless they are an integral part of the design.

## **Rules for Judged Shows con't**

19. All designs will be judged from the front unless otherwise stated.
20. Moving or disturbing any exhibit except your own is not permitted.
21. The show committee has full charge of the staging, judging and handling of the show and any complaints. The committee reserves the right to make any additional rules necessary for the show's success.

### **Show Committee**

22. Only people designated by the show chair may enter the show area during judging.
23. At the discretion of the show chair, classes may be subdivided if warranted (e.g. too many entries in one class).
24. The show committee, or a delegate, may visit an exhibitor's garden at any time.

### **Judging**

25. The May and September shows will be judged by someone accredited to judge both Horticulture and Design. They will assess each entry using the criteria for Horticulture and Design laid out in the Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards, 2nd Edition, 2019, which is available for reference at the show.
26. In the Horticulture classes the judge is looking for:
  - a. The condition (physical state) of the entry (conditioning, cleanliness, absence of insects or damage)

## **Rules for Judged Shows con't**

- b. Whether the form of the exhibit is characteristic of the cultivar
  - c. Whether the entry complies with the show schedule (e.g. number of stems that is specified)
  - d. Whether the entry is “outstanding” of its type
27. In the Design section the judge is looking for:
- a. Compliance with the schedule (e.g. size of design)
  - b. Creativity/originality
  - c. Artistic merit
  - d. Condition of materials used
28. The judge assesses the exhibits for their quality and selects the 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each class. Honourable Mention is given at the discretion of the judge. The judge may choose not to award a 1st place ribbon if no entry is of high enough standard.
29. If the judge finds that none of the exhibits is up to standard, the entire class may be cancelled.
30. The judge’s decisions are final.
31. In May, the judge selects “Best in Show” from 1st place exhibits in the Horticulture and Design sections.
32. In September, the judge selects “Best in Show” from 1st place exhibits in these sections:
- a. Cut specimens
  - b. Collections
  - c. Plants grown in Containers
  - d. Edible Fruits and Vegetables
  - e. Design



## Rules for Judged Shows con't

33. In addition, at each show the judge may award a “Judge’s Choice” ribbon in each of the Horticulture and Design sections.

### **Definitions**

**Design:** A combination of fresh and/or dried plant materials including vegetables or fruit, with or without other objects, arranged to create an artistic unit. The design may include container(s), base(s) and/or accessories. Unless otherwise specified, the design should be no more than 61 cm / 24 inches in width and depth; height is unlimited.

**Small Design:** A design with dimensions from 13.9 cm to 25.4 cm / 5.5 to 10 inches and which must not exceed 25.4 cm / 10 inches in any direction, including the container, base and/or accessories.

**Novice:** A novice is a member who has never entered a design in an LGS show before.

### Winter Show – January to March, 2025

The Winter Show will be virtual and will focus on house plants and early blooming garden plants. Beginning in January, take photos of your favourite house plants when they are at their peak – flowering or foliage (e.g. Amaryllis, Paperwhites, a fern, Pothos, flowering African Violet, Cyclamen etc.); or of an outdoor early-blooming plant (e.g. Hellebore, Crocus, Snowdrops, etc. – blooming out of the snow).

## Winter Show, con't

**Send up to two photos to [connieuetrecht420@gmail.com](mailto:connieuetrecht420@gmail.com), (in landscape or portrait orientation) in each of the following classes **by March 28**.**

### **Class**

1. Forced bulb or bulbs – you need to have planted it yourself but it is **not** necessary that you have had it for three months
2. Flowering plant, in a pot – any size
3. Foliage plant, in a pot – any size
4. Early flowering garden plants/bulbs
5. Wild and Wonderful – any unusual potted plant

A Power Point presentation will be shown at the April Meeting and photos shared with members on the LGS Facebook page and/or in an upcoming newsletter.

- All virtual shows are open to members of the Society.
- All photographs entered must feature plants grown by the participant for no less than three months, unless otherwise specified
- Photos should be in the best resolution possible. They may be in either portrait or landscape format.
- Virtual shows will not be judged. Participation may be acknowledged in our newsletter.



*Dahlia*, Photo: Karen Keay  
Notecard winner, 2025

## **Spring Show - Saturday, May 24, 2025**

Leaside Library – 165 McRae Drive  
*Shows run under the Ontario Judging and Exhibiting  
Standards, Second Edition, 2019*

**Entries received 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.**

Judging starts at 10:45 a.m.

Removal of entries between 3:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.  
*(please see the show rules and definitions on pages 27-31)*

Entries will not be received after 10:30 a.m.

*Public viewing of the exhibits from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.*

### **Sections A and B: Horticulture**

*(Please see show rules on pages 27-31)*

***Containers will be provided***

#### **Section A – Cut Specimens**

##### **Class**

1. Tulip – a single stem in a vase or in your garden
2. Any other flowering bulb, corm or tuber – 1 stem spike or spray
3. Rose, 1 bloom or spray with attached foliage
4. Iris, any cultivar, 1 stem
5. Aquilegia (Columbine), 3 stems with foliage
6. Heuchera (Coral Bells), foliage, 3 leaves from a single cultivar
7. Paeonia (Peony), 1 bloom
8. Any other perennial or biennial, growth habit under 38 cm (15 inches), 3 stems

## **Spring Show, con't**

9. Any other perennial or biennial, growth habit at least 38 cm (15 inches), 3 stems
10. Hosta foliage, variegated, 1 leaf, one entry only
11. Hosta foliage, plain, 1 leaf, one entry only
12. Hosta foliage, 3 leaves, one from each of three cultivars

### **Section B – Flowering Branches and Potted Plants**

*(classes 13-17, container size should not exceed 20 cm / 8 in)*

#### **Class**

13. Flowering plant, grown in a container
14. Foliage plant, grown in a container
15. Succulent, includes cactus, not grafted, 1 cultivar
16. A terrarium or planter (any size) to contain not less than 3 different cultivars; may include cactus and grafted cactus
17. Orchid

### **Section C – Design Theme: *Science and Space***

*(please see design rules and definitions on pages 27-31)*

*Accessories will be permitted in all design classes*

Space allotment: 61 cm / 24 inches width and depth, height is unlimited, unless otherwise specified.

#### **Class**

18. *Fly Me to the Moon* – a “crescent shaped” design
  - a) Experienced
  - b) Novice
  - c) Youth
19. *Twinkle Twinkle Little Star* – a small design
  - d) Experienced
  - e) Novice
  - f) Youth

## **Fall Show – Saturday, September 13, 2025**

Leaside Library – 165 McRae Drive  
*Show run under the Ontario Judging and  
Exhibiting Standards, Second Edition, 2019*

**Entries received 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.**

Judging starts at 10:45 a.m.

Removal of entries between 3:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.  
*(please see the show rules and definitions on pages 27-31)*

Entries will not be received after 10:30 a.m.

*Public viewing of the exhibits from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.*

### **Section A to D: Horticulture**

*(please see show rules on pages 27-31)*

### **Section A – Cut Specimens**

***Containers will be provided***

#### **Class**

1. Any Rose, 1 bloom or spray with attached foliage
2. Anemone (Japanese Anemone), 1 stem
3. Begonia, any type, 1 stem
4. Coleus foliage, 1 cultivar, 3 stems
5. Coleus foliage, 1 stem of each of 3 different cultivars
6. Dahlia, 1 bloom
7. Pelargonium (Geranium), 1 stem with foliage
8. Hydrangea, any cultivar, 1 head
9. Rudbeckia, 3 stems
10. Salvia, any colour, 3 stems

## **Fall Show, con't**

11. Sedum, 3 heads
12. Any other flower grown as an annual, 1 stem
13. Any other flowering bulb, corm or tuber, 1 stem
14. Any other perennial or biennial, growth habit under 38 cm / 15 inches, 3 stems
15. Any other perennial or biennial, growth habit at least 38 cm / 15 inches, 3 stems
16. Ornamental grass or sedge, variegated, 1 cultivar, 3 stems
17. Ornamental grass or sedge, solid, 1 cultivar, 3 stems
18. Ornamental grass or sedge, 1 stem of each of 3 different cultivars
19. Any flowering or fruiting branch, not to exceed 91 cm / 36 inches

### **Section B – Collections**

***Collections must be displayed in the exhibitor's own containers***

#### **Class**

20. Collection of foliage only, more is better (foliage to be named)
  - a) Experienced
  - b) Novice
21. Collection of mixed flowers, more is better (flowers to be named)
  - a) Experienced
  - b) Novice
22. Collection of cut herbs, more is better (herbs to be named)
  - c) Experienced
  - d) Novice

# Fall Show, con't

## **Section C – Potted Plants**

*(for classes 24 and 25, container size not to exceed 20 cm / 8 inches; NO size limit for other classes)*

### **Class**

- 23. Succulent (includes cactus, not grafted) 1 cultivar
- 24. Herb, named, 1 cultivar
- 25. A plant grown for its foliage, 1 cultivar
- 26. Flowering plant, 1 cultivar
- 27. Trailing plant, 1 cultivar

## **Section D – Edible Fruit and Vegetables**

***Plates will be provided***

### **Class**

- 28. A cluster of tomatoes (2 or more), 1 cultivar, growing together (natural variation in maturity is permitted)
- 29. Tomatoes (3) (with calyx), 1 cultivar (not a cluster)
- 30. A collection of tomatoes (with calyx), 1 from each of 3 or more different cultivars, named
- 31. Any fruit (3), 1 cultivar
- 32. Any vegetable (1)
- 33. A collection of at least 3 different kinds of fruit and/or vegetables



Photo: Connie Uetrecht

## Fall Show, con't

### Section E – Design Theme: *Art in the Park*

(please see design rules and definitions on pages 27-31 )

**Accessories will be permitted in all design classes**

Space allotment: 61 cm / 24 inches width and depth, height is unlimited, unless otherwise specified

### Class

34. *Starry Night* – a design in the “Japanese style”

- a) Experienced
- b) Novice
- c) Youth

35. *Group of Seven* – a design using water and rocks

- d) Experienced
- e) Novice
- f) Youth



Photo: Karen Keay



# Ontario Horticultural Association

## District 5: Toronto East, York Region East

The Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) is a volunteer, charitable organization that encourages interest in gardening and related environmental issues with horticultural societies and like-minded organizations by providing leadership and education. The OHA is the umbrella organization for the 278 garden and horticultural societies in the province. For ease of administration and to give a sense of community the province is divided into 19 Districts. District directors oversee and support the societies in their districts, acting as sources of information and facilitating liaison with the umbrella body (the OHA) and between societies.

District 5 encompasses 14 societies, the Leaside Garden Society being one of them.

<b>District Director :</b>	Ursula Eley district5@gardenontario.org
<b>Assistant Director</b>	Donna Lewis
<b>Assistant Director</b>	Tony Snider
<b>Treasurer</b>	Bonnie-Lynn Murphy
<b>Director Emeritus/Historian</b>	Malcolm Geast
<b>Past Director &amp; Secretary</b>	Cindy Scythes



[www.gardenontario.org](http://www.gardenontario.org)

## Schedule of Events

- February 22**      **Get the Jump on Spring**  
Location: Toronto Botanical Garden  
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
with special focus on houseplants
- April 25**          **Earth Day**  
OHA virtual presentation on  
Invasive Species  
via WebEx 7:00 p.m.
- April 26**          **District 5 Annual General Meeting**  
**Hosted by:**  
Scarborough Garden & Horticultural Society  
**Location:**  
Qssis Banquet Hall  
3474 Kingston Rd. M1M 1R5  
**Speakers:**  
Rick Schofield (History of Scarborough);  
Tony Spencer (The New Perennialist)
- July 19**            **OHA AGM**  
(Virtual, via WebEx)  
Hosted by Districts 4 & 17

## **Useful Resources:**

City of Toronto Infor-	<a href="http://www.toronto.ca">www.toronto.ca</a>
City of Toronto Parks,	<a href="http://www.toronto.ca/parks">www.toronto.ca/parks</a>
Royal Botanical	<a href="http://www.rbg.ca">www.rbg.ca</a>
Toronto Botanical	<a href="http://www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca">www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca</a>
Toronto Master	<a href="http://www.torontomastergardeners.ca">www.torontomastergardeners.ca</a>
Seeds of Diversity	<a href="http://www.seeds.ca">www.seeds.ca</a>

## **Privacy Policy**

The Leaside Garden Society (LGS), being concerned about the privacy of its members' personal information, has developed a policy that is consistent with the intent of the Canadian Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA), January 2004. The complete LGS Privacy Policy is available upon request from the Secretary.

*Leaside*  
*Garden Society*

*presents*

**A Tour of Magical Gardens**

**Saturday, June 14, 2025**

**11 am to 4 pm**

*A personal exploration of  
our neighbourhood gardens.*

Visit some magical and mysterious gardens.  
You are invited to tour these special gardens,  
meet the gardeners, ask questions, exchange  
horticultural notes, discover new ideas, or  
simply smell the flowers!

[www.leasidegardensociety.org](http://www.leasidegardensociety.org)