

# OHA Youth Newsletter

## Spring Edition



### **Welcome, all Youth Groups, Leaders, and especially our Young People to our first newsletter of 2023.**

This newsletter is created in the hope to inspire you to get outside and enjoy nature and have fun with it and all that it has to offer including some exciting ways to have fun with nature.

We will have an edition at the start of each season so the next issue will be June 21st and we welcome submissions from youths, Youth Club, and Societies.

We have a fun contest for spring to get you warmed up for the OHA Convention that is fast approaching in Ottawa from July 21st to July 23rd. It would make a great family holiday as there are many fun things to do in Ottawa, so ask your parents to consider it. If you are not coming, you can still enter many competitions.

The full schedule is included in this newsletter so please enter as many as you can and let's fill the tables in the competition room!

Have a fun-filled year and make it all it can be by participating. We are doing all we do for you!



# WHAT WILL GROW?

SEED ACTIVITIES  
FOR KIDS



[www.babiestobookworms.com](http://www.babiestobookworms.com)



## Rocking Spring Contest

### Contest Rules

#### Spring Rock Painting Contest

**1. Eligibility**

Each contestant must be a Youth member, In good standing, of a Society/Club (hereafter Society) which is In Good Standing with the Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA).

**2. Inspiration for contest**

The OHA Convention this year is titled 'Rock Your Garden World' and is the inspiration behind this fun and creative contest.

**3. Entry**

Design is your vision. Painted rock must be no larger than 10 cm long x 10 cm wide. Top is painted with design and bottom of the rock must be painted with no design. Any paint type is permitted.

**4. Agreement to Official Rules**

Participation in the Contest constitutes the entrant's full and unconditional agreement to and acceptance of these Official Rules. All entries will be posted on the GardenOntario Facebook page for members and OHA Youth Coordinators to vote for their favourites in the four classes on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Voting will run until May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The entries with the most votes in each class will receive 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> place. The voting decisions of the GardenOntario Facebook membership will be final and binding. Winning a prize is contingent upon being compliant with these Official Rules and fulfilling all other requirements set forth herein.

**5. Contest Period**

The Contest begins on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 and ends on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Entries that are submitted after the Contest Period will be disqualified. Submissions will be accepted for the duration of the Contest via email only.

**6. How to Enter**

**Email:** Please take a picture of top and bottom of your painted rock and send it along with the filled out OHA Waiver and Release Form and send to Karen Redmond/Lianne Krane, OHA Youth Coordinators at [youth@gardenontario.org](mailto:youth@gardenontario.org). This will be accepted by scanning the pictures along with the OHA Waiver and Release Form and emailing them or by taking a photo of each page and emailing them.

**All entries must be received on or before April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023.**

Limit one (1) entry per person, for the duration of the Contest Period.

Entries received from any person more than the stated limitation will be void.

The painted rock artwork is the entrant's own, is original and hasn't been entered anywhere before.

**7. Classes:    Class 1: 6-8 Years    Class 2: 9-12 Years    Class 3: 13-16 Years**



#### **8. Winner Notification**

The OHA Youth Coordinators will notify the Winners via email on or about May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Prize money will be fulfilled approximately 2-4 weeks after the conclusion of the Contest by cheque to the individual. The OHA shall have no liability for Winner's failure to receive notices due to spam, junk e-mail or other security settings or for the Winner's provision of incorrect or otherwise non-functioning contact information.

#### **9. Prizes**

***Each class will receive the same prize allotments.***

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize:** Winning rock picture will be featured on GardenOntario.org website, GardenOntario Facebook page and in the Summer 2023 *Trillium*.

***Prize is \$15.00***

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize:** Art will be shown on GardenOntario.org website and GardenOntario Facebook page.

***Prize is \$10.00***

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize:** Art will be shown on GardenOntario.org website and GardenOntario Facebook page.

***Prize is \$7.00***

#### **General Conditions**

In the event that the operation, security, or administration of the Contest is impaired in any way for any reason, including, but not limited to fraud, virus, bug, worm, unauthorized human intervention or other technical problem, or in the event the Contest is unable to run as planned for any other reason, as determined by the OHA Youth Coordinator in his/her sole discretion, the OHA may, in its sole discretion, either (a) suspend the Contest to address the impairment and then resume the Contest in a manner that best conforms to the spirit of these Official Rules or (b) terminate the Contest and, in the event of termination, award the prizes at random from among the eligible, non-suspect entries received up to the time of the impairment. The OHA reserves the right in its sole discretion to disqualify any individual it finds to be tampering with the entry process or the operation of the Contest or to be acting in violation of these Official Rules or in an unsportsmanlike or disruptive manner.

#### **10. Release and Limitations of Liability**

By participating in the Contest, the entrants agree to release and hold harmless the OHA, and each of their respective affiliates, each of their respective officers, directors, employees, representatives, and agents (the Released Parties) from and against any claim or cause of action arising out of participation in the Contest or receipt or use of the prize.

#### **11. Disputes**

Each entrant accepts that the decision of the GardenOntario Facebook membership vote is final.

#### **12. OHA Waiver & Release Form**

All contestant entrants will be required to complete an OHA Waiver & Release Form and submit upon entering the contest.

#### **13. Questions**

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the Youth Coordinator at [youth@gardenontario.org](mailto:youth@gardenontario.org) or the OHA Secretary at [secretary@gardenontario.org](mailto:secretary@gardenontario.org)

**PLEASE USE ONLY WATER-BASED PAINTS. They are better for the environment and come in any colour you desire.**



**A few great examples of painted rocks.**

PHOTO COURTESY RICKY MACWILLIAMS

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Do you have a school garden? Do you have a student that has exhibited an interest in gardening and has demonstrated strong leadership skills in regards to your school garden? Maybe they have assisted with the planning of the garden, helped out with planting and caring for the vegetables/flowers, participated in the harvest of the crop or were involved with the distribution of the produce to the school or community.

Nutrients for Life is happy to announce that applications for the Scotts Youth Gardener Award are now open. This is a great way to acknowledge your student, their efforts and leadership skills.

[Here](#) is the link for the application. Enter today!

[Gardenontario.org](http://Gardenontario.org) is where anyone can find information about the activities offered to children and youths.



**ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION**

Charles Freeman  
Ontario Horticultural Association President  
Email: [president@gardenontario.org](mailto:president@gardenontario.org)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Attention: Records Department**

\_\_\_\_\_ is a Youth Leader for the  
\_\_\_\_\_ Horticultural Society/Club, District \_\_\_\_\_, Ontario  
Horticultural Association.

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, that includes developing and supporting programs for all ages (age 6+) encouraging gardening, community beautification, environmental enhancement, and conservation. This includes Youth groups, for youth aged 6 years and older. These activities could include crafts, nature hikes, gardening workshops while maintaining standard practice of two adults present when working with youth.

Youth Leaders are required to provide an annual Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) and Vulnerable Sector Screening to the host Society President.

Please do not hesitate to contact me by email at [president@gardenontario.org](mailto:president@gardenontario.org)

Thank you for completing this request.

Sincerely

Charles Freeman, President  
Ontario Horticultural Association

Society/Club President: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please print

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





**28 Kid-Friendly  
Plant Activities  
for Preschool  
Learners**

November 9, 2022 // by Mary Aromolaran

Let's run through a couple of plant activities for preschool learners. Kids get really excited to cause a mess outdoors, so let's channel that energy into activities that'll help them learn more about different plants. Build their confidence with these activities and allow them to learn where some of their food and other products come from.

<https://www.teachingexpertise.com/classroom-ideas/plant-activities-for-preschool/>





**OHA 115th Convention  
July 21 - 23, 2023  
District 2 - Ottawa Valley**

**A complete list is below for the OHA Youth Competition and also  
go to <https://gardenontario.org/resources/#youth-main>**



**YOUTH COMPETITION  
OHA 115<sup>th</sup> Convention  
July 20<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023**

**Host: District 2  
Theme: ROCK YOUR GARDEN WORLD**

**Coordinator: Lianne Krane and Karen Redmond  
Phone: 519-525-2254      Email: youth@gardenontario.org**

1. **Theme:** This competition is inspired by the convention theme and linked to the other competitions through the class title: "**Rock your garden world**" as a means to explore creative expression. There are no Youth classes in the general Photography competition. These classes are now part of the Youth Competition.
2. **Eligibility:** Each exhibitor must be an OHA Youth member or an OHA Youth Club Member or leader in good standing of a Society/Club (hereafter Society) in good standing with the Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA).
3. **Entry:**
  - a. Each class is either "Only one entry per Club" or "Open to all OHA youth members". The Ruby Lobban High Points Award (Class 15) is for the Youth Club with highest total point aggregate from awards in the Youth competition so no need to apply.
  - b. Please provide the coordinator with an estimated list of entries on a **Youth Competitions Entry Form by June 1**. Please estimate high, as the number of entries help determines the space allotted for the Youth Competition.
  - c. Age groupings for Youth Competition Classes 1 – 7 are as follows:  
**A: Born 2017-2015 (6 – 8 years)    B: Born 2014-2012 (9 – 11 years)**  
**C: Born 2011-2009 (12-14 years)    D: Born 2008-2005 (15 – 18 years)**  
These groupings DO NOT apply for classes 8- 14.

Each entry must have an entry tag securely attached showing: Exhibitor's name, age, Youth Club, Society and District. Use your local Society tags. If you do not have tags available, please contact the Youth Competition Coordinator.

Dried plant material is material from which the moisture has been removed either naturally or by artificial means. Scarce, protected, or endangered native plants will be disqualified. Refer to Government of Ontario, Ministry of Natural Resources "*Endangered Species Act*" at [www.ontario.ca/speciesatrisk](http://www.ontario.ca/speciesatrisk).

- d. Entries at the Convention must be placed Thursday between 6 and 8 p.m. or Friday between 7 and 8 a.m. Judging starts at 9:30 a.m. **NO LATE ENTRIES ACCEPTED**
  - e. Permission form must accompany EACH Youths entry- 1 per youth, Permission to use the youth's name/ age /details in OHA publications.
4. **Judging:** Criteria vary and are outlined in the schedule. Judging and placements will be based on merit. Honorable Mention (HM) placements may be awarded at the Judge's discretion. Judges may withhold an award if, in their opinion, an exhibit is not worthy. The Judge's decision is final.

5. **Awards:**

Classes 1-9: OHA ribbons and cash prizes  
1<sup>st</sup> prize: \$5 (5 points), 2<sup>nd</sup> prize: \$4 (4 points), 3<sup>rd</sup> prize: \$3 (3 points)  
HM (up to 3): \$1 (1 point each)  
Classes 10-14: OHA ribbons and prizes stated below the class description  
\*Best in Show Rosette, Section B: Artistic Creativity (5 points)  
\*Judge's Choice Rosette, Section C: Floral Design (5 points)

6. **Viewing:** All entry tags will be open for viewing.

Friday 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m.  
Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

7. **Return:** Entry removal not permitted until after the competition is closed on Saturday. Entries and prizes are to be picked up Sunday between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m. or if necessary, by special arrangement with the Coordinator. A signature is necessary for receipt of materials if not picked up by leader.

**Note: No dried or fresh Marijuana plants allowed as per Ontario law- it is illegal to transport unless you are a registered grower.**

**SECTION A: WRITING Open to all youth members**

Age Group A & B: Class 1 and 2 - not to exceed 150 words.  
Age Group C & D: Class 1 and 2 - should have a minimum of 150 words.

Judging Criteria: Subject matter 70%  
Neatness and spelling 30%

**Class 1 – Grounded by soil**

Growing anything can be amazing, some vegetables & fruit may need a pollinator. In your own words, explain why growing what you did was fun, and how a pollinator helped or hindered; it might be for your kitchen or for a caterpillar's tummy. You can use information from the computer/ internet generated and researched. Drawings (hand or pre-drawn), photos and/or magazine/website pictures are allowed. Display in a folder with a clear cover so that title page is visible

**Class 2 – Solid partnership**

Show the plant and the insect that eats it! Explain what the partnership is, in your own words, using drawings (hand or pre-drawn), photos, and/or magazine/website pictures. Give other examples of plants that fall into this category. Not to exceed 13 cm x 18 cm (5" x 7")

**SECTION B: ARTISTIC CREATIVITY. Open to all youth- Sponsored by Don Matthews, OHA Past President 1989-1990**

Judging Criteria: Interpretation of title 20%  
Use of appropriate material 30%  
Creativity 30% Neatness 20%  
1<sup>st</sup> prize: \$5 (5 points), 2<sup>nd</sup> prize: \$4 (4 points), 3<sup>rd</sup> prize: \$3 (3 points)  
HM (up to 3) \$1 (1 point each)  
Best in Show Rosette





**Class 3 - Rocking the blooms**

Create a picture using fresh and/or dried material. E.g. You might paint a scene and add texture or blooms to help with the story. Not to exceed 13 cm x 18 cm (5" x 7").

**Class 4 - Crop circle**

Create a flyer on 22 cm x 28 cm (8.5" x 11") paper or card stock. Show us the crop grown in Ontario and what you make from that crop. You may use drawings, computer generated or magazine photos, coloured pencils, crayons, markers and/or paints.

**SECTION C: FLORAL DESIGN Open to all youth members**

Accessories permitted

Judging Criteria: In accordance with the *Ontario Judging & Exhibiting Standards (OJES) for Horticulture and Floral Design (Second Edition 2019 edition)*. Copies can be purchased from the OHA; order form on-line at <http://www.gardenontario.org/shop/index/php>.

Judge's Choice rosette to be awarded.

**Class 5 - Pebbles n Seeds**

A single flower made of contrived material. E.g. cotton balls, seeds, pinecones, contrived materials such as dried orange peel. Finished flower may be painted.

**Class 6 - Herbs are the foundation of the recipe**

3 different herbs in tubes with names listed

**Class 7 - Firm footsteps**

A collection (min 3) plants in vase; should include plant material found out on a walk in Nature. Dried, Fresh, Combo any or all allowed. Named.

**SPECIAL AWARDS FOR YOUTH MEMBERS**

**Class 8- 11** are Open classes for all youth members (no age categories)  
Prize amounts awarded to individuals, prizes described with each class.

**Following Classes are NOT age separated so No age code required.**

**Class 8 – Start of time Open to all youth members**

A collection of what many think are weeds but are commonly found in your area, Minimum 3 different cultivars, E.g. Milkweed, Goldenrod, Ragweed, Queen Anne's Lace, Dock, Cat tail.

Entry to be a drawing (hand or pre-drawn) on 22 cm x 28 cm (8.5" x 11") sheet of paper. May use crayon, paint, pencil crayon, magazine pictures, etc. in any combination. Drawing should indicate the name of the plant with uses of plant.

Judging criteria: Subject matter 70% Neatness and spelling 30%

1<sup>st</sup> prize - \$6; 2<sup>nd</sup> prize - \$5; 3<sup>rd</sup> prize - \$4 (no points), HM \$1 (no Points)

\*\*\*\*Important to note\*\*\*\*

**When you are mounting your photo, please use 5x7 card stock that is either black or white.**

**SECTION D: PHOTOGRAPHY Open to all youth members**

Entries must be colour prints (unless stated otherwise). Print to be mounted not matted. Mounted size to be 5" x 7" (outside measurement). The photo is to be no larger than 4" x 6". The photo should contain a horticultural element. Photos with identifiable persons will be disqualified. An entry implies that the exhibitor gives consent to the OHA to make further use of the entry in any way that it designates. Ownership of the entry is retained by the exhibitor.

***William D. Clingersmith Youth Photography Award (classes 9 & 10)***

All age classes are eligible. Awarded to the youth who has been chosen to have the best photograph across all youth photography classes. \$20 award & Best in Show Rosette

In memory of William Clingersmith - who is responsible for introducing me to nature and the outdoors, and always encouraged my work with the OHA. Kelly Taylor, OHA Secretary.

**Class 9 - Rocks are cool**

1 photo showing any type of rock formation.

**Class 10 - Field stone**

Your interpretation.

**SECTION E: FINE ARTS**

**\*Changes in Award-no longer receives a plaque**

**Class 11 - Harry Wyma Fine Arts Award – Rocky road ahead**

**Open to all youth members**

Your vision. Any medium: painting, drawing, sculpture, carving, fiber art, etc. not to exceed 50 cm (20") in any direction. Dry plant material is permitted.

Judging criteria: Interpretation of title 20% Creativity 20% Originality 30% Skill 30%  
 1<sup>st</sup> prize - \$10.00                      2<sup>nd</sup> prize - \$8.00                      3<sup>rd</sup> prize - \$6.00

Donated by Harry Wyma, Ridgetown  
 District 11 Director 1983-1988, OHA President 1990

**SECTION F: HORTICULTURE**

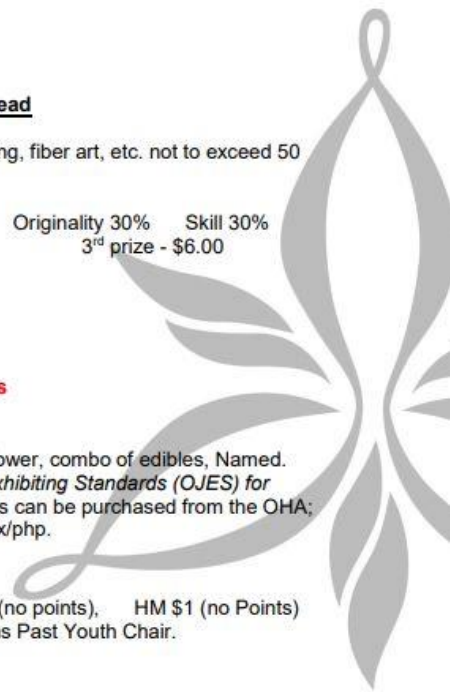
**Open to all OHA youth members \* Changed to open class**

**Class 12 - Past Youth Chair Awards**

Pot/planter of Edibles, 3 varieties minimum, could be herb, flower, combo of edibles. Named.

Judging criteria: In accordance with the *Ontario Judging & Exhibiting Standards (OJES) for Horticulture and Floral Design (2019 Second Edition)*. Copies can be purchased from the OHA; order form on-line at <http://www.gardenontario.org/shop/index/php>.

1<sup>st</sup> prize - \$6;                      2<sup>nd</sup> prize - \$5;                      3<sup>rd</sup> prize - \$4 (no points),                      HM \$1 (no Points)  
 Cash prizes donated by Catherine McGill, Youth Competitions Past Youth Chair.



**Class 13 - Ruby Lobban High Points Awards    Open to all OHA youth members**

This award is based on the highest point aggregate from awards in the OHA Youth competition.

1<sup>st</sup> prize - \$15.00                      2<sup>nd</sup> prize - \$10.00                      3<sup>rd</sup> prize - \$5.00  
In memory of Ruby Lobban, a member of the Owen Sound Horticultural Society, and District 8 Assistant Director, 1970-83.

**Class 14 - Maisie Bray Award - Golden Rod  
Only one entry per Club; may be a combined effort**

**\* Changed to open class**

Golden Rod gets a bad rap as an allergen but not true! Please include the printed name, common and botanical and some facts about this plant including some edible uses and recipes. It is used as tea, made into jelly and creams, as well as in floral arrangements and huge food for fall pollinators. It is to be composed on firm board type material e.g. Bristol board. Drawing may be coloured in any media (pen, crayon, pencil crayon, etc.). [www.invadingspecies.com/invasive-phragmites](http://www.invadingspecies.com/invasive-phragmites)

Judging Criteria:            Subject matter 70% Neatness and Spelling 30%  
1<sup>st</sup> prize - \$10.00                      2<sup>nd</sup> prize - \$8.00                      3<sup>rd</sup> prize - \$6.00  
In memory of Maisie Bray, Lion's Head, District 8 Director 1978 – 1983

**SECTION G: SPECIAL AWARDS - Club award**

**Class 15 - Ruby Bryan Award    Only one entry per Club**

In a scrapbook provide a descriptive account of the Youth Club activities for the 2 years of Covid Calendar Year or School Year. This should include a pictorial and illustrated description and narrative about specific subjects, meetings and projects. There is no limitation to the size. May be done by Youth Club leader. On the entry tag, please state "Calendar or School" year.

Judging criteria:  
1<sup>st</sup> prize - \$10.00                      2<sup>nd</sup> prize - \$8.00                      3<sup>rd</sup> prize - \$6.00  
Donated by Ruby Bryan, Englehart, District 12 Director 1964–1969, OHA President 1972

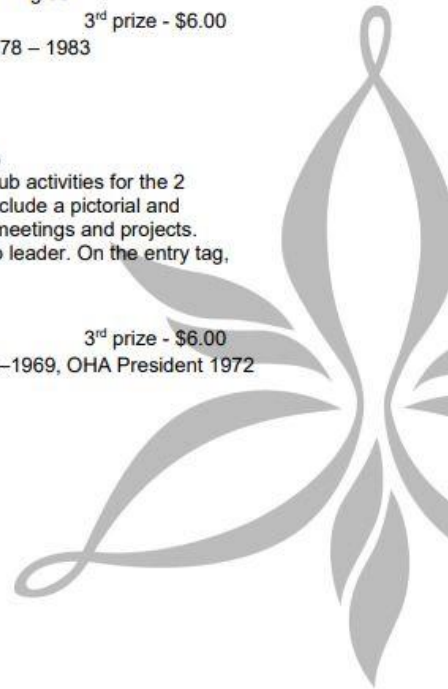






Photo was taken by Ryan Mariotti

**Something really unique to think about for September and more information will be sent to you through your youth group, Horticultural Societies, and this newsletter. Here is the link so you can follow along. This is also a great site to show your family.**



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