



SHOWTIME

OHA JUDGING COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER VOLUME 8 - October 2023

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EDITOR'S MESSAGE

We hope you enjoy this long overdue edition of the SHOWTIME newsletter. Each edition includes a horticulture article and a design article as well as Judges Q&A. We would like suggestions of topics so we can research and respond. Please send them by email to: ohajudges@gmail.com.

GARDEN ONTARIO VIRTUAL JUDGES UPDATES

brought to you by the OHA Judging Committee

TOPIC -SCHEDULE WRITING

DECEMBER 5, 2023 19:00 to 20:30

General Outline on Schedule writing,
Horticultural specifications plus a Q and A

JANUARY 30, 2024 19:00 to 20:30

Schedule Writing - Design and Special Exhibits plus a Q and A

These two sessions will be held on Zoom. Judges will receive an invitation via email to sign up. The sessions are limited to 100 participants.

Please send any specific questions in advance so that we can prepare answers.

Please send them to ohajudges@gmail.com

JUDGES' REMINDER - From the OHA Judges' Registrar

If you have changed your email or phone number, it is very important that you send an email to ohajudges@gmail.com so that our Registrar Sharon Nivins can keep the Judges list up to date on the web site.

Report on 2023 OHA Convention Judges Update Sessions

By Kathryn Lindsay, OHA Judging Committee member-at-large

The following three seminar sessions at the OHA Convention in Ottawa in July, all attended at capacity, qualified as OHA Judges updates:

Judges on Judging – Moderated by Kathryn Lindsay and Catherine McGill both current members of the OHA Judging Committee and OHA certified judges in design and horticulture and accredited by GCO in floral design and RBG in horticulture, respectively. Over 40 people were in attendance, mostly OHA certified judges, but also judges accredited by other organizations as well as a few Society show committee members who were interested in learning more about the judging process. A compilation of Judging Q&As from the SHOWTIME newsletter was available in hardcopy at the session; it will be posted on the Judges Corner page under the Resources tab on the GardenOntario website <https://gardenontario.org/>. There was a short presentation and facilitated discussion of recent Q&As followed by a lively discussion of questions from attendees.



**Special Exhibit -
Plants and Flowers**
Photo credit: Rose Odell



Special Exhibit - Dish Garden
Photo credit: Kathryn Lindsay

Review and Demonstration of Special Exhibits – Over 50 people were in attendance to hear Judy Fine, a well-known floral designer and OHA certified and GCO accredited floral design judge, review definitions in OJES for Special Exhibits which form a separate Division in our Flower Shows, and watch her demonstrate each of them including the following: Plants and Flowers, Dish Garden and Fairy Garden (see photos).



**Special Exhibit -
Fairy Garden**
Photo credit: Kathryn Lindsay

Virtual Tour of the Osceola Heritage Peony Garden – Over 100 people attended the presentation by Blaine Marchand, member and a past president of the Ottawa HS, horticulturalist, poet, author, peony expert and past-President of the Canadian Peony Society and Jamie Robertson, member and a past-President of the Ottawa HS. Following the presentation, Mary-Ann Vercammen, an OHA certified judge, and an accredited judge in Design (GCO), Horticulture (RBG), Roses (CRS) and Lilium (NALS) reviewed how to judge peonies.

Hosta Leaf Measurement

The total square centimeters (inches) of the leaf as measured by multiplying the length of the leaf, from the leaf tip to the intersection with the petiole, by the width of the leaf at its widest point as if it was laying flat on a surface and flattened out. As seen in the example, it is 10 cm (4") from the leaf tip to the intersection with the petiole which would be then multiplied by the widest width which would be 5 cm (2"). The multiplication, $10 \times 5 = 50$ square centimeters, would make this a Small Leaf Hosta since it lies between 39 and 193 cm as seen in the chart on page 76 of OJES 2019.



OHA JUDGING COMMITTEE JUDGES' QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Question: Transparency Design – How much in front or behind the screening?

Answer: *There is no set amount that has been defined as being in front or behind the screening material.*

Question: Invasives – Why do we have invasives on the show table, i.e., Lily of Valley and Hedera, as specimens? Also, why allow them in designs?

Answer: One has to be careful in what you consider to be invasive. The Ontario Government has a list of Plants that are named as restricted and invasive, and this is the list that OJES refers to. There are other groups such as the Ontario Invasive Plant Council and Ontario Wildlife Federation, etc., that have more lengthy lists that do include things like lily of the valley, etc. The show schedule can list specific plants that are not on the official government list but that is up to the Show Committee. No doubt more plants may be added to the official Invasive plant Regulation as time goes on.

Question: Foliage design – Does it have to be all foliage?

Answer: *Foliage predominates in the design but blooms are not prohibited.*

Question: Do the Virtual Courses count for recertification, and if so, how does it get recorded?

Answer: *Yes, they count. You need to keep track of the date; the topic covered and fill in on your recertification form.*

Question: Can Judges use mini shows for exhibiting credentials?

Answer: *Only if the mini show is written as a Standard show with two divisions: Horticulture and Design. Each Division must have at least five classes.*



Flower Show Competition

By Kathryn Lindsay, Ottawa HS, Show Chair



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

Thanks to the Flower Show Committee and exhibitors for making this an outstanding show.

SUMMARY STATISTICS

34 Exhibitors - 19 Societies – 8 Districts

Total Entries: 280 Horticulture (209), Design (63), Special Exhibits (8)



Best in Show - Best Potted Plant - Toby Barratt

Photo Credit: Rose Odell

HORTICULTURE DIVISION - SPECIAL AWARDS

Best in Show (OHA Rosette & \$20 from Carleton Place & District HS)

– Toby Barratt, Pakenham

Best Potted Plant (\$15 from West Carleton GC & HS) – Streptocarpus primulifolius

– Toby Barratt, Pakenham

Judge's Choice (OHA Rosette & \$20 from Madeline & David Archer) – Hosta Collection

– Judy Fine, Nepean

Best Rose (\$15 from Anne Harbord, CRS Rose Judge)

– Marie Decker, Oakville

Best Vegetable or Fruit (\$15 from Stittsville Goulbourn HS) – Raspberries

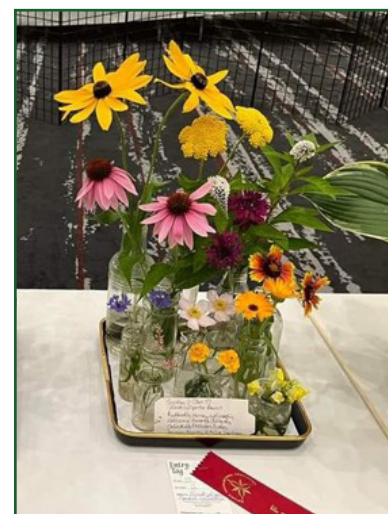
– Michele Goff, Guelph

Best Collection (\$15 from Manotick HS)

– Myrna Blair, Pakenham

Best Cut Specimen (\$15 from Manotick HS)

– Toby Barratt, Pakenham



Best in Show Collection - Myrna Blair

Photo Credit: Rose Odell



Best Rose - Marie Decker

Photo Credit: Marie Decker



Best Cut Specimen

- Toby Barratt

Photo Credit: Rose Odell

DESIGN DIVISION - SPECIAL AWARDS

Best in Show (OHA Rosette & \$40 from Marion Thompson), Behind the Fence, a transparency design
— Lil Taggart, Georgetown HS

Judge's Choice (OHA Rosette & \$25 from Perth & District HS), Mirror Image, a small design
— Lil Taggart, Georgetown HS

Best Use of Colour (\$25 from Anne Harbord, OHA D2 Director), Summer Sorbet, a synergistic design
— Lynne Melnyk, Oro-Medonte HS

Most Creative (\$25 from Pakenham HS), Balancing Act, a design using the Pantone colour of the year, Viva Magenta
— Lil Taggart, Georgetown HS



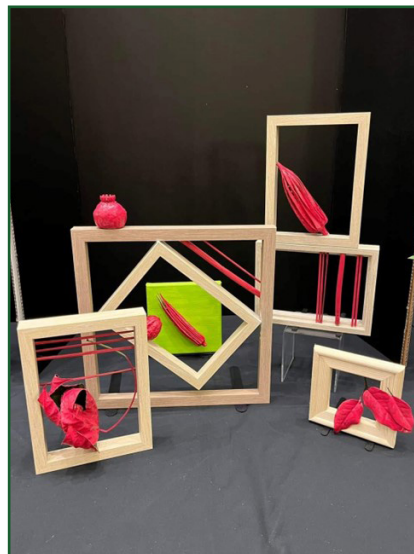
**Judge's Choice - Mirror Image,
a small design - Lil Taggart**

Photo Credit: Rose Odell



**Best in Show - Behind the
Fence, a transparency design
- Lil Taggart**

Photo Credit: Ursula Eley



**Most Creative - Balancing Act,
a design using Viva Magenta
- Lil Taggart**

Photo Credit: Rose Odell



**Best Use of Colour - Summer
Sorbet, a synergistic design
- Lynne Melnyk**

Photo Credit: Lori Ray

SPECIAL EXHIBITS DIVISION - SPECIAL AWARDS

Best in Show (OHA Rosette & \$20 from Ottawa HS), Summer in the City, plants and flowers
— Penny Stewart, Gananoque HS

Judge's Choice (OHA Rosette & \$20 from Ottawa HS), Herbs by Candlelight, a pot-et-fleur
— Gay MacQuarrie, West Carleton GC & HS

(see photos on next page)



Best in Show - Summer in the City, plants and flowers

– Penny Stewart

Photo Credit: Unknown



Judge's Choice - Herbs by Candlelight, a pot-et-fleur

– Gay MacQuarrie

Photo Credit: Unknown

CANADA IN BLOOMS has announced the 2024 Colour of the Year



Orange flowers symbolize excitement and enthusiasm, and add a brightness to your gardens from spring to fall.

Some suggestions for orange flowers: Dahlia, Zinnia, Marigold, Calendula, Rose, Tulip, Lily, Gaillardia, Echinacea, Asclepias tuberosa, Helenium, Oriental Poppy, and the list goes on.

When your society is creating the Show Schedules for 2024, consider horticulture and design classes using the colour of the year.