

# Colorado State Fair and Industrial Exposition

## 2026 Floriculture Competition and Entry Requirements

### Entry Fees

- \$5 Per Potted Plant
- \$5 Per Herb
- \$5 Per Arrangement
- \$2 per flower for Cut Flowers

### Age Groups

- Junior: 13 years of age and younger
- Youth: 14-18 years of age
- Open: 19 years of age and older

### Schedule

**Location** - Drop-off and pick-up will be in the Creative Arts Building.

Event	Date and Time
Entry Form And Fee Deadline	Wednesday, July 22, 2026, by 4:00 p.m.
Online Only entry deadline	Monday, August 10, 2026, by midnight
Drop-off	Wednesday, August 26, 2026, 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Judging	Closed to the public.
Judging Results	Judging results will be posted online on Monday, August 31st, at 5:00 p.m. Results will not be given before this time and date.
Pick-up	Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

## Entry Requirements

These requirements are in addition to the 2026 Colorado State Fair General Competition Requirements, the General Entry and Fine Arts 2026 Competition & Entry Requirements, and the Exhibitor Code of Conduct.

1. One entry per class unless otherwise specified.
2. All entries in the Floriculture Department must have been grown by the exhibitor or have been in the possession of the exhibitor for at least three months unless otherwise specified.
3. A saucer must accompany all potted plants.
4. Awards are based on the condition of the plant, not the size, and are awarded at the Judge's discretion.
5. All items in the Department are judged on the drop-off day noted above. Efforts will be made to water the entry.

## Floriculture Divisions and Classes

### Artistic Arrangements Division 0091

The exhibitor does not need to grow flowers for the arrangements. Silk, dried, or fresh flowers may be used to create all flower arrangements.

#### Awards

- 1st – \$15
- 2nd – \$10
- 3rd – \$5
- Best of Show Rosette from the Colorado State Fair Authority in each age group

**Classes 0001-0007**

- 0001. *Colorado Natives* - Any arrangement using Colorado's natural plants in an appropriate container. No size limit.
- 0002. *Themed* - Create an arrangement showcasing the 2026 Colorado State Fair theme, "Fairitage". Your arrangement can include silk, dried, or fresh flowers. Any add-ons are welcome. Use any container. No size limit.
- 0003. *Colorado's Agriculture* - Any arrangement using silk and/or fresh flowers and greenery that reflects the importance of agriculture in our state, using an appropriate container. No size limit.
- 0004. *Fairyland* - Use a piece of driftwood for your container. Driftwood should be no larger than 2' x 2'. Create a magical scene that mesmerizes, incorporating silk, dried, or fresh flowers, and any other "fairy" items.
- 0005. *Mason Jar* - Creatively arrange your flowers (real or artificial) in a mason jar (any size or color mason jar).
- 0006. *Carnival* - Create a carnival-inspired arrangement using silk and/or fresh flowers and greenery. Use an appropriate container. No size limit.
- 0007. *Keep It Simple* - An arrangement not over 5 inches tall or 5 inches wide in a container of your choice, all dried and/or treated plant material; no plastic or silk plant material; no accessories.

**Potted Plants Division 0092****Awards**

- 1st – \$15
- 2nd – \$10
- 3rd – \$5
- Best of Show Rosette from Colorado State Fair Authority in each age group

**Classes 0051-0078**

- 0051. Begonia, flowering (tuberous)
- 0052. Begonia, flowering (fibrous)

- 0053. Coleus
- 0054. Spathiphyllum (Peace Lily)
- 0055. Sansevieria (any type)
- 0056. Ivy, any plant having Ivy as part of its common name (name variety)
- 0057. African Violet
- 0058. Dracaena
- 0059. Philodendron (solid leaf)
- 0060. Christmas-type Cactus (any Schlumbergera)
- 0061. Pothos
- 0062. Spider
- 0063. Hoya
- 0064. Euphorbia
- 0065. Arrow Head
- 0066. Jade
- 0067. Cactus
- 0068. Succulent, plant, any other, label variety
- 0069. Flowering, plant, any other, label variety
- 0070. Foliage plant, any other, label variety
- 0071. Boston Fern
- 0072. Orchid

## **Gardens**

Consists of at least two varieties of plants, cacti, vegetables, etc., in a single container that is portable.

### **Classes 0074-0078**

- 0074. Cactus Garden
- 0075. Foliage Garden
- 0076. Fern Garden
- 0077. Ornamental Vegetable Garden
- 0078. Fairy Gardens

## **Herbs Division 0093**

Herbs must be growing in a pot, and the pot must have a saucer. One herb plant per pot.

### **Awards**

- 1st – \$15
- 2nd – \$10
- 3rd – \$5
- Best of Show Rosette from Colorado State Fair Authority in each age group

### **Classes 0101-0122**

#### **Culinary Herbs**

- 0101. Thyme
- 0102. Rosemary
- 0103. Parsley
- 0104. Basil
- 0105. Oregano
- 0106. Chervil
- 0107. Dill
- 0108. Fennel
- 0109. Summer Savory
- 0110. Chives
- 0111. Marjoram
- 0112. Lemongrass
- 0113. Bay

#### **Other Herbs**

- 0120. Medicinal Herb (label variety)
- 0121. Fragrance/Scented Herb (label variety)

- 0122. Herb Garden (must consist of at least two herbs in a single container and be portable), label varieties

## **Cut Flowers Division 0110**

Colorado State Fair Authority will provide a container. Cutting and conditioning flowers for show - specimens should be cut in late afternoon or early morning. Cut the stem several inches longer than required with a sharp knife on a slant for the greatest moisture intake. Place the water container in a cool, dark place free of drafts before bringing it to show.

### **Definitions**

- Blooms - one individual flower with stem and foliage
- Stem - the principal axis of a plant
- Spike - a lengthened flower cluster (e.g., gladiolus)
- Spray - a main stem with side branches and several blooms

### **Awards**

- 1st - \$6
- 2nd - \$4
- 3rd - \$2
- Best of Show Rosette from Colorado State Fair Authority in each age group

### **Classes 0150-0176**

- 0150. Aster, 3 stems
- 0151. Cosmos, 3 blooms
- 0152. Celosia (plumed)
- 0153. Celosia (cockscomb)
- 0154. Chrysanthemum, 1 spray
- 0155. Daisy: Gloriosa (1 stem), Shasta (3 stems) - exhibitor may enter 1 of each variety in Class 0155, only
- 0156. False Dragonhead
- 0157. Irish Bells, 1 stem
- 0158. Helianthus, the largest seed head

- 0159. Helianthus: Common Sunflower (in bloom, 1 stem) Other than Common (in bloom, 1 stem) - exhibitor may enter 1 of each variety in Class 0159, only
- 0160. Marigold (carnation), 1 flower
- 0161. Marigold (Chrysanthemum-flowered) 1 bloom
- 0162. Marigold (dwarf type), 3 blooms
- 0163. Nasturtiums, 3 blooms
- 0164. Rose (tea), 1 bloom
- 0165. Rose (floribunda), 1 spray
- 0166. Rose (grandiflora), 1 spray
- 0167. Petunias, single, 3 sprays
- 0168. Petunias, double, 3 sprays
- 0169. Phlox
- 0170. Gladiolus, 1 spike - exhibitor may enter up to 6 spikes, of different colors, in Class 0170 Gladiolus, only
- 0171. Snapdragon, 3 spikes
- 0172. Zinnia, dahlia type, 1 bloom
- 0173. Zinnia, button type, 3 blooms
- 0174. Zinnia, cactus type, 1 bloom
- 0175. Liatris
- 0176. Any other bloom not otherwise listed

## **Dahlia Show**

More than one dahlia may be entered in a class as long as they are different varieties. Dahlias should be de-budded and show a pair of true leaves, not spur leaves.

## **Definitions**

- Large Blooms - all dahlias, which normally produce flowers that exceed 4 inches in diameter. Dahlias over 4 inches in diameter.

- Miniatures - all dahlias, which normally produce flowers that do not exceed 4 inches in diameter. Dahlias are smaller than 4 inches in diameter.

## Types

- Formal Decorative Dahlias - ray floret flat, partially revolute, or partially involutes. Petals are uniform and regularly arranged, tending to recurve toward the stem.
- Informal Decorative Dahlias - ray floret twisted, curled, or wavy, imparting a petal that is not flat. Petals may be partially revolute with their arrangement irregular.
- Straight Cactus Dahlias - ray floret revolute for more than one-half their length; pointed, with a pronounced curvature of petals toward the center of the flower head.
- Semi-Cactus Dahlias - ray floret broad at the base, straight, incurved, or recurved, with ray floret revolute for up to one-half of their length.
- Incurved Cactus - ray floret revolute for more than one-half their length; pointed, with a pronounced curvature of petals toward the center of the flower head.
- Lacinated - the split or laciniation should be in proportion to the ray floret length. There should be an overall twisting in the area of the split involute or revolute ray floret, to give an overall fringed effect.
- Ball - full double flowers, ball-shaped or slightly flattened at the face, the ray floret blunt, rounded, or indented, involute for most of their length, full involute for about one-half their length, and normally displayed in a spiral arrangement.
- Miniature Ball - same as Ball Dahlias, differing in size.
- Pompon Dahlia - fully double flowers similar to Ball Dahlias but more globular and smaller in size; the ray floret involute for the whole of their length and fully involute for more than half their length.
- Water lily - bloom should be fully double and symmetrical, the side view should be flat to saucer-shaped in arrangement, and the layer of floret should be openly faced to give a delicate appearance. The center should be closed and dome-shaped, breaking gradually four to seven rows of fully developed outer florets. The outer floret should be broad and slightly cupped. Bloom position preferred 45 degrees.
- Peony - open-centered Dahlia with two or more rows of ray florets surrounding the disc flowers. Ray florets adjacent to the disc flowers may be smaller, twisted, and/or curled.

- Anemone - Dahlias with one or more rows of ray floret surrounding a center of elongated tubular disc floret. The disc floret should be fully developed and present an adorned, pincushion appearance.
- Collarette - open-centered Dahlia with a single row of uniform, evenly-spaced, compound ray floret in a flat plain surrounding the disc flowers. The petaloids surrounding the disc are less than one-half the length of the ray floret.
- Single - open-centered Dahlias with a single row of uniform, evenly spaced ray florets in a flat plain surrounding the disc flowers.
- Mignon Single - same as Single Dahlia except with a diameter of up to two inches.
- Orchid - open-centered Dahlias with a single row of uniform, evenly-spaced, ray floret in a flat plain surrounding the disc flowers. The ray florets are involute for two-thirds or more of their length and fully involute for at least one-third of their length.
- Novelty - Dahlias with characteristics differing from the present classifications. The two kinds of Novelties, one with open centers and the other with closed centers, should be judged against all kinds.

## **Open Cut Dahlias Large Blooms Division 0111**

### **Awards**

- 1st - \$6
- 2nd - \$4
- 3rd - \$2
- Best of Show Rosette from Colorado State Fair Authority in each age group

### **Classes 0250-0329**

#### **Formal Decorative**

The exhibit shall consist of 1 bloom

- 0250. White
- 0251. Yellow
- 0252. Orange

- 0253. Red
- 0254. Lavender
- 0255. Purple
- 0256. Pink
- 0257. Blended
- 0258. Bi-Color
- 0259. Variegated

### **Informal Decorative**

The Exhibit shall consist of 1 bloom

- 0260. White
- 0261. Yellow
- 0262. Orange
- 0263. Red
- 0264. Lavender
- 0265. Purple
- 0266. Pink
- 0267. Blended
- 0268. Bi-Color
- 0269. Variegated

### **Straight Cactus**

The exhibit shall consist of 1 bloom

- 0270. White
- 0271. Yellow
- 0272. Orange
- 0273. Red
- 0274. Lavender
- 0275. Purple
- 0276. Pink

- 0277. Blended
- 0278. Bi-Color
- 0279. Variegated

### **Semi-Cactus**

The exhibit shall consist of 1 bloom

- 0280. White
- 0281. Yellow
- 0282. Orange
- 0283. Red
- 0284. Lavender
- 0285. Purple
- 0286. Pink
- 0287. Blended
- 0288. Bi-Color
- 0289. Variegated

### **Incurved**

The exhibit shall consist of 1 bloom

- 0290. White
- 0291. Yellow
- 0292. Orange
- 0293. Red
- 0294. Lavender
- 0295. Purple
- 0296. Pink
- 0297. Blended
- 0298. Bi-Color
- 0299. Variegated

## **Lacinated**

The exhibit shall consist of 1 bloom

- 0300. White
- 0301. Yellow
- 0302. Orange
- 0303. Red
- 0304. Lavender
- 0305. Purple
- 0306. Pink
- 0307. Blended
- 0308. Bi-Color
- 0309. Variegated

## **Ball**

The exhibit shall consist of 1 bloom

- 0310. White
- 0311. Yellow
- 0312. Orange
- 0313. Red
- 0314. Lavender
- 0315. Purple
- 0316. Pink
- 0317. Blended
- 0318. Bi-Color
- 0319. Variegated

**Miscellaneous** (Miscellaneous includes—Waterlily, Peony, Anemone, Collarette, Single, Mignon, Orchid, Novelty)

The exhibit shall consist of 1 bloom

- 0320. White

- 0321. Yellow
- 0322. Orange
- 0323. Red
- 0324. Lavender
- 0325. Purple
- 0326. Pink
- 0327. Blended
- 0328. Bi-Color
- 0329. Variegated

## **Open Cut Dahlias Miniature Blooms Division 0112**

### **Awards**

- 1st - \$6
- 2nd - \$4
- 3rd - \$2
- Best of Show Rosette from Colorado State Fair Authority in each age group

### **Classes 0340-0349**

- 0340. White
- 0341. Yellow
- 0342. Orange
- 0343. Red
- 0344. Lavender
- 0345. Purple
- 0346. Pink
- 0347. Blended
- 0348. Bi-Color
- 0349. Variegated

## **Open Cut Dahlias Pompom Division 0113**

### **Awards**

- 1st - \$6
- 2nd - \$4
- 3rd - \$2
- Best of Show Rosette from Colorado State Fair Authority in each age group

### **Classes 0350-0359**

- 0350. White
- 0351. Yellow
- 0352. Orange
- 0353. Red
- 0354. Lavender
- 0355. Purple
- 0356. Pink
- 0357. Blended
- 0358. Bi-Color
- 0359. Variegated

## **Open Dahlia Arrangements Division 0114**

### **Awards**

- 1st – \$15
- 2nd – \$10
- 3rd – \$5
- Best of Show Rosette from Colorado State Fair Authority in each age group

### **Classes 0365-0367**

- 0365. 2026 Colorado State Fair Theme— Small design 18 inches or less in all directions using miniature dahlia blooms to reflect the “Fairitage”

- 0366. Mountain Majesty - An arrangement (any size) depicting the majestic Colorado mountains
- 0367. Colorado Sunset - A horizontal arrangement incorporating the colors of a Colorado sunset