

FLORAL DESIGN IS ALL ABOUT HAVING FUN WITH FLOWERS

Spooktacular Fall Designs - What comes to mind?

Halloween, Orange, black, creepy, scary, witches, bats, pumpkins

Fall - colors of red orange yellow rust, leaves, grasses

Interpretation of a Class Title Look up definitions of the word or words used in the Theme and the classes of the show schedule Jot down a few thoughts. Use your imagination. Re-read the schedule are there size limits does it specify a particular design i.e. line, water viewing. Small, abstract.

Check OJES - Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards for information and details. Don't hesitate to ask the show chair or convener for clarification

SIMPLE TRADITIONAL DESIGN

Mass: large quantity of plant material in close silhouette with few voids

Line Mass: a design in which the line is reinforced with a mass of plant material usually asymmetric with a rhythmic flow

Line: a design in which linear pattern is dominant

Geometric in shape. Can be based on triangle, oval, circle.

Plant material should be maximum 1 ½ to 2 X the height of the container. If a shallow container - use the width or length to judge the height of finished arrangement. Always keep in mind the space in which the arrangement will be placed. A dining room table arrangement should be low and easy to see over. A small arrangement will be lost on a big hall table but would suit a small bed table.

How to Get Started

Read your schedule get an idea.

Look around for a Container

Walk about the garden what do you have that might work? Check local florist or grocery store for additional flowers or greens.

Condition your plant material - if from garden pick the day before and put in warm water with plant crystals. Flowers from florist or store should have a fresh cut made and be put in water. Cut rose stems under water.

Prepare the foam in your container - make sure to leave a portion above the top of the container.

Start with the greens to create a framework for the flowers.

Add focal point flowers.

Add some additional transitional material as filler.

Tools

Containers - just about anything can be used as a container provided it is waterproof or can be made waterproof by lining it. Let your imagination run free. Check out second hand stores, dollar stores, your basement attic or the recycling bin.

Cutting - scissors, prunes, knife

Floral Tape is an all-purpose method for holding either soaked or dried foam in place. It comes in two colors: white and green. The tape is waterproof and pressure sensitive. Once adhered to a dry surface, it will remain firm and in place even when exposed to moisture. It sticks on pottery, metal, plastic, wood, glass, and ceramics ... almost anything.

Hot glue gun and glue sticks may be used instead of pan melt glue pellets. They come in high and low temperature styles and in various sizes.

Floral stem tape - a strong stretchable tape adheres to itself without sticking to your fingers. It is the ideal way to lengthen and strengthen stems. Use to create corsages, bouquets, headpieces, cascades, nosegays or boutonnières. As the tape is stretched, the adhesive material is activated. Stretch the material as you wrap it around fresh, dried or silk flower stems.

Floral Wires or stem wires comes in different gauge sizes, colors and styles. The higher the gauge numbers the more flexible and thinner the wire is. Floral wires come covered and uncovered as well as in different painted colors. Choose between spooled or pre-cut wires. Floral wires are used to lengthen and support stems. You can use them for hanging wreaths by shaping them into loops. Perfect for securing floral material to wreaths and forms.

Floral Foam

Before floral foam was available, arranged flowers were held in place with chicken wire, sphagnum moss, cut greens, pine needles or newspaper. Transporting

arrangements was difficult with water sloshing and flowers moving. Flowers lasted a day or two at most. There are many types of floral foam, and it comes in various shapes, styles, textures and sizes. The blocks can easily be cut with a serrated knife (or florist knife) to fit the size of your container.

Oasis foam or water holding floral foam is highly absorbent. It is best for fresh plants, because it holds water and is easy to penetrate. Leave a space between the foam and the sides of the container so water can be added to the flowers.

Lazy Susan makes for easy viewing of design from all angles

Buckets and watering can keep on hand for flowers, greens, extra materials. A small watering can helps to add water when done and an arrangement is in place. Always check before leaving a show to make sure lots of water.

WHAT IS THE JUDGE LOOKING FOR

Design Organization of the elements and principles have these been adhered to in creating the design, Is it balanced, is there good eye movement, is it to scale and proportion, is there good contrast in materials used, in colors textures. Is there a Dominant focus?

Is there good use of Color, Line, Space, Form Texture and Pattern?

Conformance does it comply with the schedule in space type do design. Plant material?

Creativity is it original?

Distinction does it stand out is it marked in superiority?

Background Information on Floral Design

Floral design is the art of using flowers and plant materials to create a pleasing and balanced composition. Floral design dates back to Ancient Egypt. Floral designs, arrangements incorporate the elements of floral design: line, form, space, texture, pattern and color, and the principles of art: balance, proportion, rhythm, contrast, scale and dominance.

Elements of Design

Line - structural framework, visual path the eye follows

Space - open area in a design and around a design

Form -the three dimensional shape of a design and each plant material a has its own form

Colour - visually most appealing can convey mood emotion

Texture- surface quality smooth rough, course fine dull shiny

Pattern - solids and spaces

Principles of Art

Balance:

Visual stability from any angle, can be symmetric or asymmetric

Example; not top heavy or bottom heavy or lopsided

Rhythm - is the visual path that suggests motion. Can be achieved using line form color

Proportion relative amount of one area to another. Plant to container rough to smooth round shapes to line shapes

Scale: size relation of all components example; size of one flower to another, size of design to space

Style

Are many styles.

Period	from art or architecture example: Baroque, Dutch Flemish Art Deco
Traditional	based on geometric shapes - from mid 20th century Example: Mass. line, crescent
Contemporary	In current or recent fashion example parallel, abstract,