



2017 VOS SHOW RULES

Welcome to the 2017 VOS Pre-Spring Show!

This year, the theme of the show is: “Orchids in Wonderland”

GENERAL INFORMATION

Show Location. The 2017 Virginia Orchid Society Spring Show will be held Friday, February 17 through Sunday, February 19, at Strange’s Garden Center located at 12111 West Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia 23233.

Show Schedule

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| Thursday | 8am – 5pm | Show Setup for Exhibitors and Vendors |
| Friday | 8am – 1pm | AOS Plant Judging |
| | 1 – 6pm | Show Open to the Public |
| Saturday | 8am – 6pm | Show Open to the Public |
| Sunday | 10am – 4pm | Show Open to the Public |
| Sunday | 4pm | Show Take Down |

Vendor Hours. Vendor booth and exhibit set-up will take place on Thursday, February 16th. Vendor booths will be open to the public during Strange’s open hours.

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| Friday | 1pm – 6pm |
| Saturday | 8am – 6pm |
| Sunday | 10am – 4pm |

Only vendors and VOS officials will be permitted to enter the vendor area before and after sales hours. VENDORS ARE EXPECTED TO BE PRESENT AT THEIR SALES TABLES ON ALL DAYS OF THE SHOW AND TO KEEP THEIR TABLES WELL STOCKED. VENDORS SHOULD NOT LEAVE THEIR TABLES UNATTENDED.

Safety and Security. The Virginia Orchid Society (VOS) and Strange’s Garden Center will make every effort to assure the safety and security of Exhibits, artwork and sales areas but cannot be responsible for any loss or damage of plants or other exhibitor properties. Each competitor agrees, upon making an entry, to abide by the rules and regulations of the show. All questions regarding the interpretation of application of rules shall be referred to the Show Chairman. Her decision shall be final.

EXHIBITOR INFORMATION

Requests to Exhibit. Everyone is welcome to exhibit plants at the show at no cost. Please contact either of the Show Exhibit Chairmen by **January 15, 2017** via **phone or email** to exhibit at the show. Reasonable effort will be made to provide the amount of space requested.

Exhibition Space and Tables. Exhibition space and tables will be furnished without cost. Exhibitors are responsible for their own staging and fabric table covers.

Exhibit Set-Up. Exhibit set-up will be from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on Thursday. All exhibits must be completed by 5:00 pm. To have your plants judged for ribbons and awards, they must be registered (see Plant Registration below).

Electricity, Water Features, Lighting. Electric power will be supplied for any exhibits upon request prior to show setup day. Any lighting used for effect is the responsibility of and must be furnished by the exhibitor. Defective or damaged lighting or other equipment shall not be used. If you plan to include a water feature, please indicate this on your exhibit entry form so your exhibit can be located near a floor drain.

Exhibit Identification. Exhibitors are encouraged to bring their own identification signs for their displays however, all exhibits will be identified during the judging process with numbers provided by the show committee. Exhibitor signs must be covered or removed until judging has been completed on Friday.

Plant and Exhibit Eligibility. The Show Committee reserves the right to exclude any plant that is not clean or that is not free of insects and diseases. Exhibits should have a sufficient number of blooms to balance and account for the total amount of space it occupies. The appropriateness and tastefulness of exhibit contents is at the sole discretion of the VOS Show Committee.

Supplemental and Companion Plants. Foliage plants, moss, etc., may supplement exhibits but no artificial plants or foliage of any kind will be permitted, with the exception of artificial grass used as a floor covering. Orchids are to be the **only** flowering plants in the exhibits.

Exhibit Take Down. Exhibits and plants must remain in place until the end of the including any plant sold which is part of an exhibit. All exhibits and plants must be removed after the close of the **Show at 4:00 pm on Sunday**, but may not be removed until that time. No boxes/crates may be brought into the show area and no take down may begin until the show is officially closed. Exhibitors are responsible for bagging all mulch/moss used in their exhibits. Refuse containers will be provided at the close of the show. The Show Committee and Strange's Garden Center will dispose of exhibits and plants remaining after 6:00 pm.

PLANT INFORMATION

Plant Registration. Exhibitors are required to register their plants online prior to show setup day. Approximately ten days before the show you will receive an e-mail from our Show Registrar with complete instructions, entry forms, class list, and general information documents. **Exhibitors are responsible to ensure their plants are properly classified. Plant registration will close promptly at 4 pm on show setup day, NO EXCEPTIONS!!! Additional information will be posted on the Virginia Orchid Society website vaorchidsociety.org in early February.**

Unless otherwise noted, all registered plants are automatically entered for AOS judging. Each plant may be entered in only one plant class, with the exception of first-bloom seedlings and fragrant plants that may ALSO be entered in a standard class.

Show Classes and Awards. A current listing of show classes and awards will be included in the e-mail package e-mailed to all registering parties as well as be available on the VOS website www.vaorchidsociety.org in early February.

Plant Preparation. All plants must be properly cleaned and prepped by the grower with staking as necessary. Pots shall be free of weeds and plants shall be free of chemical and fertilizer residue on the leaves. The grower shall ensure that all plants are free of pests and diseases. Pest-ridden, diseased, or unkempt plants may be rejected. Plants should be sufficiently watered at the time of registration in order to carry them safely through the duration of the show.

PLANT JUDGING

Judges and Clerks. Judges and Clerks are expected to familiarize themselves with the show rules, regulations and plant classifications prior to the judging session.

AOS Judging. In addition to the ribbons and/or trophies awarded by the judges, plants and flowers may be considered by the judges for American Orchid Society (AOS) awards. Submission of plants or cut flowers for judging shall obligate the exhibitor to accept any award granted and to pay any fees connected with such an award except where he or she has clearly indicated before the judging that the entry is "Not to be AOS-judged".

Awards. Ribbons, Rosettes, and Trophies will be awarded in each class at the judges' discretion. Judges will have the final authority on combining or deleting classes as entries merit, or withholding the awarding of any ribbon, rosette, or trophy for any reason. Plants found by the judging team to be classified improperly may be moved to the correct class if that class has not yet been judged. Best-of-Section rosettes and trophies will be awarded to individual plants. **The AOS Show Trophy will be awarded to the best exhibit. The Orchid Digest Show Trophy will be awarded to the best amateur exhibit.** There will also be four People's Choice rosettes awarded for Best Display, Best Use of Theme, Most Fragrant Orchid, and Best Orchid Plant.

Hours for Ribbon Judging and AOS Judging. Judging will begin at 8:00 am on Friday, and continue until 1pm. Only judges, clerks, and authorized persons will be allowed in the vicinity of the exhibits during judging.

Plant Labels. All plants for judging must be properly labeled by the Exhibitor as to name and/or cross. Labels must be clearly printed. Traditionally, labeling has been with a flat black label with the name of the plant written in silver or gold. Computer generated labels that are legible and tasteful are also acceptable.

Exhibitors are free to make their own plant labels prior to show setup. Labels may be displayed using uniform stakes or hangers provided by the exhibitor.

Open Competition: Exhibit competition that is open to any group, individual or commercial entity.

Society Competition: Exhibit competition with involvement by members and friends of an established orchid society installing an exhibit on behalf of that society.

Amateur Competition: Exhibit competition that is open to any individual or group not affiliated with an orchid society or commercial entity.

Growers' Choice: The Growers' Choice table is open to any person that wishes to enter a plant in competition for ribbon and AOS judging but is not part of an exhibit. Growers' Choice plants will be staged by the Show Committee. Growers' Choice plants must be registered by Thursday at 4pm.

PARKING



Strange's Garden Center has requested that once delivery of plants and display materials has been completed, please move all vehicles and trailers to the far end of the parking lot beyond the second entrance from N. Gayton Road. This applies to all vendors, societies, and VOS host's vehicles. Let's reserve the closest parking spaces for Strange's paying customers!

VOS Show Committee

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