

BASKET OF BLOOMS 2021

Entry: Monday, July 26, 2021

9:00 – 12:00 noon

Jackson County Fairgrounds

The Basket of Blooms contest is being organized and offered by the Jackson County Master Gardeners. Prize money of \$150 is compliments of the Jackson County Fair Association. Entry for the Basket of Blooms contest will be at **the east overhead door to Pearson Hall.** PLEASE USE THE EAST GATE ENTRANCE TO THE FAIRGROUNDS FROM HIGHWAY 62. This will allow for less traffic congestion at the west entrance. Watch for signs. Current safety protocol will be followed. Rules for the contest are as follows:

1. The contest is open to any 4-H club, FFA chapter, civic club, church group, family (a great grandparent/grandchild project) or other organization as well as any individual, including garden club members and Master Gardeners. **NO COMMERCIAL ENTRIES ACCEPTED.**
2. Flowers, plants, grasses, herbs must all be real but may be grown or purchased.
3. Additional accessories such as flags, plant sticks, figurines, etc. are acceptable.
4. Entries may not be removed until 7:00 am on Monday, August 2, 2021.
5. Entries may be used by the Master Gardeners organization for their entry in the fair parade plus being used to beautify the Pearson Memorial Hall center stage.
6. Judges will be selected by Master Gardeners.
7. Judges will be considering best use of texture, color, originality, creativity and condition of materials.
8. Please name plant varieties on the entry tag if possible. This adds to the educational aspect of the entry for the fairgoers.
9. Prize money will be awarded in each class if merited. An overall winner will be selected at the judges' discretion.
10. The 7 classes are as follows:
 - A. Any Container featuring the 2021 Fair flower – Impatiens.
 1. Any kind of container may be used. It must be light enough to be moved easily by one person.
 2. Any variety of Impatiens may be used. May be grown by the exhibitor or purchased from a garden center.
 3. Other filler plants to make a complete arrangement may be used. Actual number of plants depends on size of container and desire of the exhibitor.
 - B. Unique container
 1. Use your imagination for a container-suggestions are old purses, shells, shoes, etc.
 2. Must be easily transported by one person.
 3. Plants used are the choice of the exhibitor. (See rule 2 above.)
 - C. Vintage – “Old –fashioned” flowers or old container (or both)
 1. Plants suggested are ones we found in our grandmother's garden, such as nasturtiums, petunias, begonias, herbs.

2. Old or antique container, such as old wooden box, white enameled dish pan, etc.
3. Be creative! Mix and match old containers and plants. (See rule 2 above)
4. Must be easily transported by one person.

D. Best foliage

1. Any kind of container may be used. It must be light enough to be moved easily by one person.
2. Plants grown for their beautiful foliage should be used, such as coleus, caladium, mini-hostas.

E. Fairy/Gnome Garden

1. Size should not exceed 34x24 inches.
2. Can be grown in hypertufa, wood box, bowl, etc.
3. All plants and accessories must be miniatures. A fairy or gnome should be part of the display.
4. Consider a theme for the garden such as farm, camping, fairies, gnomes, etc. Use your imagination.
5. Must be light enough to be moved easily.

F. Succulent Garden

1. Any container featuring one or more succulents.
2. Only succulents must be grown in the garden.
3. Size should not exceed 24x24 inches.
4. Must be light enough to be moved easily.
5. Examples of succulents are hen & chicks, aloe, small sedum, small cacti, jade, etc.

G. Junior class

1. 15 years of age and under.
2. Rules 1 through 9 apply.
3. Entries can be from any of the classes listed above (A-F).

11. There is no limit to the number of entries an exhibitor can enter in any of the classes.

12. All reasonable caution is used to protect entries, but neither Jackson County Master Gardeners nor the Jackson County Fair board can be held responsible for theft or damages.

13. Questions about the contest may be directed to any member of the of the Basket of Blooms committee:

Alice Mans, Chair - Maquoketa – 563-652-5064

Daphne Ritchie – Bellevue - 630-945-6400

Dianne Henry – Maquoketa – 563-590-8259

Brenda Carlson, Maquoketa – 563-672-3533

Doris Currier – Maquoketa – 563-652-4403

Julie Streets, Maquoketa – 563-652-4546

Kathleen Koch – Maquoketa --563-212-5452

Terry Ihrig – Maquoketa – 563-652-3079

Judy Tonderum-Maquoketa -563-652-2667