



Contact: Leasha LaBruzzi
publicity@sonomacountyfair.com
(707) 545-4200 x202

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Best of Show Garden Award Goes to Debbie & Marty Thorsson

“Holidays in Bloom” opens with a grand celebration at the Sonoma County Fair

SANTA ROSA, Calif. – August 3, 2017 – With wonderful sights, smells, and tastes as the backdrop, the Sonoma County Fair officially kicked off on Wednesday, August 2 with the Preview Party for the popular Hall of Flowers exhibit. A full house of floral enthusiasts enjoyed the sneak preview event, which offered the first chance to experience the glamor of Sonoma County in this year’s Hall of Flowers themed “Holidays in Bloom.” The exhibit features 11 beautifully designed landscapes inspired by a handful of favorite holidays” The “Holidays in Bloom” theme goes hand and hand with the Fair’s overall theme “Holidaze at the Sonoma County Fair” and together the two create an enormous celebration... and everyone is invited to the party.

The expansive Hall of Flowers annual exhibit is one of the largest in the country. It takes more than 120 days to construct and uses all 27,000 square feet of the Hall of Flowers building. With this year’s “Holidays in Bloom” theme, master designer Greg Duncan and his talented team of gardeners used the space to create a cultural snapshot of each festivity. The centerpiece showcases a 40’ tree decorated to the hilt and surrounded in water. Fairgoers can linger in the Mexican cemetery of pastel monuments and colorful décor of Dia de los Muertos as they make their way to the livelier exhibits of Mardi Gras and Cinco de Mayo. Celebratory beverages are poured in the New Year’s Garden. Other gardens include glorious floral interpretations of Valentine’s Day, Easter, St. Patrick’s Day, 4th of July, and Thanksgiving.

The following are the complete results of this year’s garden judging:

PROFESSIONAL GARDENS

Best of Show	Debbie & Marty Thorsson
Best Use of Theme	Men’s Garden Club of Santa Rosa
Best Garden Design	Daniel R. Gibbs Botanical Artist
Best Use of Hydrangeas	Hulsman Landscapes
Best Use of Mums	Rebecca D. Pozzi
Best Use of Dahlias	Tiffany Thorsson
Best Use of Azaleas	Nelson & Justus
Best Fibrous/Tuberous Begonias	Debbie & Marty Thorsson
Best Use of Multi Flowers	Michael Golas Landscape Design
Best Water Feature	Debbie & Marty Thorsson
Best Use of Black & White	Michael Golas Landscape Design
Best Use of Fuchsias	Tiffany Thorsson

AMATEUR GARDENS

Best of Show	Carly Stinson
Best Use of Theme	Carly Stinson



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Best Garden Design	Pamela Hansen/Kellie Cronin
Best Use of Mums	Matt Rogina Jr.
Best Use of Hydrangeas	Matt Rogina Sr.
Best Use of Dahlias	John & Michelle Farley
Best Use of Impatiens	Courtney Tkacz
Best Use of Roses	Matt Rogina Jr.
Best Use of Summer Annuals	Cindy Luisotti
Best Use of Water Feature	Elena Canett
Best Use of Multi Flowers	Pamela Hansen/Kellie Cronin
Best Use of Black & White	Pamela Hansen/Kellie Cronin
Best Use of Geraniums	Debbie Rogina
Exhibitors Choice	Matt Rogina Jr.

JUNIOR GARDENS

Best Jr Garden by Group	Elsie Allen FFA
Best Jr Garden by Individual	Alex Justus
Best Use of Color	Katie Terra
Best Planting Design	Rachel Harwood
Best Use of Summer Annuals	Dunham School Garden
Best Water Feature	Elsie Allen FFA
Best Backdrop Group	Healdsburg FFA
Best Backdrop Individual	Roberto Canett
Best Use of Black & White	Janelle Rogina
Best Use of Sustainable Plants	Penngrove 4H
Exhibitors Choice	Elsie Allen FFA

“Holidays in Bloom” in the Hall of Flowers is free with Fair Admission and is open daily from 11:00 am till 10:00 pm. The building will close at 8:00 p.m. on August 13. Then take advantage of the Fair Flower Show Plant Sale on Monday, August 14, beginning at 7:00 a.m. Come early for best selection!

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