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For Immediate Release

Chicago Flower & Garden Show Photo Competition Now Open

Photographers Encouraged to Submit Images by Feb. 1, 2012 deadline

CHICAGO (Jan. 2, 2012) – The flowers are ready for their close-up! Organizers of the Chicago Flower & Garden Show, with its fashion-inspired “Hort Couture” theme, are accepting submissions for the event’s annual Photo Competition, open through Feb. 1, 2012.

Shutterbugs of all experience levels are encouraged to submit their original photographs of flower and plants. The competition is divided into youth (ages 7 to 15) and adult (ages 16 and up).

Photos can be printed in color, black-and-white or sepia. All photos must be mounted on black foam core and submitted by mail with a proper registration form. Full competition details and a registration forms are available at www.ChicagoFlower.com, listed under the “How to Participate” tab.

Entrants can submit one photo per class. This year’s classes include:

- *“Hemmed Up”*: Close-up of a plant or flower
- *“Accessorized”*: Photo of people and plants/flowers
- *“Seasons Collection”*: Landscape photo
- *“Pattern Freeze”*: Still-life photo with its focus on plants or flowers
- *“High Style”*: Abstract photo with plants or flowers as primary focus
- *“Stone Washed”*: Photo incorporating water and flowers
- *“Triple Stitched” Triptych*: Three related photographs featuring Chicago and plants mounted on a single board.
- *“One of a Kind” Diptych*: Two color photographs--one original and one manipulation of the original, mounted on a single board.
- *“Go Overboard”*: Single photo featuring any item or event on Navy Pier. Plant material not required in this class.

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- “*Novice Eye*”: Photos in the youth class (ages 7-15) only, focused on a single plant or flower.

Winning photos will be judged on a point scale based on creativity, composition, technical merit, distinction and interpretation of the show’s “Hort Couture” theme. Winners will receive a special award and have their photos displayed during the Chicago Flower & Garden Show, from March 10-18 at Chicago’s Navy Pier.

With a legacy in Chicago that can be traced to 1847, the Chicago Flower & Garden Show welcomes 60,000-plus visitors to Navy Pier annually. Tickets to the Chicago Flower & Garden Show are available at the Navy Pier box office and online at www.ChicagoFlower.com. Weekday admission is \$15 when tickets are purchased online; \$17 at the box office. Weekend admission is \$17 when tickets are purchased online; \$19 at the box office. Tickets for children ages 4 through 12 are \$5. Discounted parking at Navy Pier, and group rates and tours also are offered.

For additional information about the Chicago Flower & Garden Show, including a schedule of events, parking information and directions to Navy Pier, visit www.ChicagoFlower.com.

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About Flower Show Productions, Inc.

Flower Show Productions, Inc. is the production company for the annual Chicago Flower & Garden Show at Navy Pier, and for grand-scale public events that celebrate sustainable living and eco-friendly lifestyles. The company provides year-round messaging, education and information about the benefits of earth-friendly choices to our yards, neighborhoods, communities and the planet. For information, please visit <http://flowershowproductions.com>. For information about the Chicago Flower & Garden Show, please visit www.chicagoflower.com.