

2026 Tucson Area Iris Society Show

Iris of Interest



Iris: Blutique

Saturday, April 18, 2026
at Trinity Presbyterian Church
400 E. University Blvd.

Entries from 6:00 - 9:30 a.m.
Judging from 10 a.m. - noon
Free & Open To The Public 1-4 p.m.
Potted Iris Plants For Sale

Tucson Area Iris Society

An Affiliate of the American Iris Society

Welcome to the Tucson Area Iris Society's Spring Iris Show! Our theme this year is 'Iris of Interest,' and our show will comprise elements of horticulture as well as iris arrangements to bring you a great experience of the iris that can be grown in Tucson. The competition is open to the public. We appreciate the use of Trinity Presbyterian Church for the display of our show.

To learn more about the Tucson Area Iris Society, you are welcome to visit one of our monthly meetings.

Our meetings are typically held on Saturday afternoons and are free to the public.

Visit our website at www.tucsoniris.org

Public meetings are held at various locations. So check with the TAIS website for more information.

— Terry Swartz, 2026 Show Chairman

Tucson Area Iris Society
Presents Our Spring Show

Iris of Interest

Show Registration #2026-024

**Trinity Presbyterian Church
400 E. University Boulevard
Tucson, Arizona**

April 18, 2026

Free and open to the public from 1-4 p.m.

This is an American Iris Society sanctioned show, conducted according to AIS rules and regulations and judged according to AIS rules.

The show committee will endeavor to protect all exhibits but cannot be responsible for the loss or damage to the exhibitor's property.

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SHOW COMMITTEE

Show Chairman: Terry Swartz

TAIS Awards: Kevin Kartchner

Entry and Placement: Bonnie Else

Classification: Show Committee

Judges: Terry Swartz

Clerks: Joyce Knill & Bonnie Else

Hospitality: Linda Briggs

Publicity: Diane Pavlovich

Tally: Sue Clark

Set-Up And Tear Down: All members

JUDGES

Phyllis Dale Liggett - Mesa, Arizona (G-E)
Sharon Peterson - Gilbert, Arizona (G-E-AD)
Cheryl Dreska - Scottsdale, Arizona (G-E)
Gerry Snyder - Sedona, California (M-AD)

TAIS OFFICERS-2026

President: Kevin Kartchner

Vice President: Cindy Long

Secretary: Sue Clark

Treasurer, Asst. Secretary: Jim Wilcoxon

Publicity: Diane Pavlovich

Programs & Places: Pat Olsen & Brian Moon

Hospitality: Cindy Long & Linda Briggs

Door Prizes: Bonnie Else & Susan Schaefer

Membership: Cindy Long & Linda Briggs

Photographer: Dave Smith

Newsletter: Sue Clark

GENERAL RULES

1. This approved show is being held and judged under the rules and regulations of The American Iris Society as set forth in the latest edition of 'The Handbook for Judges and Show Officials' and any subsequent rules and regulations approved by The American Iris Society Board of Directors. These rules and regulations may not be violated.

2. Accredited judges of The American Iris Society will judge all entries in the Horticulture Division(s). Judges' decisions will be final.

3. Entries will be received from 6 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on April 18, 2026.

4. Judging will begin at 10 a.m., April 18, 2026.

5. Only specifically authorized personnel will be allowed in the show area during judging.

6. The Classification Committee may divide, sub-divide, combine or create groups as necessary.

7. Youth exhibitors (persons under 19 years of age) may enter exhibits in the Youth Horticulture Division or the Open Horticulture Division, but not both, in the same show. Since our show has no youth division, youth should enter in Division I.

8. Show judges are not permitted to exhibit in this show.

9. The Show Committee will exercise all possible care but is not responsible for loss or damage to exhibits.

10. Exhibits must remain in place until 4 p.m., April 18, 2026.

SPECIAL RULES HORTICULTURE DIVISIONS

1. This is a VARIETY/CULTIVAR show, staged according to type and in alphabetical order within the various sections and groups. Each variety constitutes a separate class and must be correctly named. No unnamed variety may be exhibited, except seedlings, which may be entered under number.

2. Division, Section and Group numbers and name of variety (number or name in seedling division) must appear on entry card. The entry card should be prepared by the exhibitor.

3. The horticulture and seedling divisions are open to any grower.

4. Entries (except for seedlings) **must have been grown and entered in person by the exhibitor whose name appears on the entry tag.** Members of a family may exhibit from the same garden as a single exhibitor or as a separate exhibitor (but not both, in the same show) provided they both work in the garden.

5. An exhibitor may enter a seedling originated or grown by another person, but the hybridizer's name and the seedling name or number must appear on the entry tag.

6. An exhibitor may enter **only one stalk of a variety** in single specimen and seedling sections but may enter any number of varieties.

7. Unnamed stalks (except seedlings), potted entries (except for entries in the container section) or labeled iris grown by another person **are not eligible** for AIS ribbons and awards but may be displayed on the table marked "FOR DISPLAY ONLY".

8. Containers will be furnished by the show committee for all single specimens. Containers appropriate for English Box are furnished by the show committee.

9. Unobtrusive material may be used for bracing stalks at the necks of the containers. Show Committee will provide Styrofoam wedges for exhibitors to use to brace specimens.

10. Single specimens should be placed by the Placement Committee. Collections may be placed by the exhibitor.

11. An English Box will consist of six individual flowers of the same classification of iris, same or different varieties.

12. Sections or groups for bulbous iris, collections, container grown iris, and English Boxes, are eligible to receive award ribbons, special section awards, and section rosettes. Award ribbons are included in the tally for Silver and Bronze Medals/Certificates although these entries are not eligible for the Best of Show Award.

DIVISION I – OPEN HORTICULTURE

SECTION A: TALL BEARDED

SECTION B: ARIL AND ARILBRED

Group 1 – Aril

Group 2 – Arilbred

Group 3 – Arilbred-medium

SECTION C: MEDIAN AND DWARF

Group 1 Border Bearded

Group 2 Miniature Tall Bearded

Group 3 Intermediate Bearded

Group 4 Standard Dwarf Bearded

Group 5 Miniature Dwarf Bearded

SECTION D: BEARDLESS

Group 1 Spuria

Group 2-Lousiana

Group 3 Siberian

Group 4 Japanese

SECTION E: HISTORIC IRISES

(Introduced 1996 or earlier)

SECTION F: MISCELLANEOUS

(Any Iris not listed above)

SECTION G: COLLECTIONS:

Three stalks. Exhibitors may enter more than one collection in each group, but each collection must be a different type, for example: Tall Bearded, Spuria, Louisiana

Group 1 - Same type, same variety

Group 2 - Same type, 3 different varieties

SECTION H: ENGLISH BOX

(not eligible for Best Specimen of Show)

SECTION I: CONTAINER-GROWN IRIS

(not eligible for Best Specimen of Show)

DIVISION II - SEEDLINGS

Any type of iris not introduced into commerce. Must be entered under seedling number or registered name and must be made in the name of the originator (hybridizer). To indicate type of seedling on the entry tag, use Section/Group as outlined in Division I

DIVISION III – ARTISTIC DESIGN

SPECIAL RULES

1. Arrangements must be the work of the exhibitor, but the plant material need not have been grown by the exhibitor.
2. Exhibitors are limited to one entry in each class.
3. Iris must be used in all arrangements and must be the pre-dominating feature. Iris of any type may be used, unless specified. Though not required, iris used may be identified on a separate card.
4. Dried or treated natural plant material is acceptable, but fresh material must predominate. No painted fresh material or artificial plant material is permitted.
5. Interpretive accessories may be used, but must be subordinate. Use is required only if specified.
6. Containers should be marked on the underside with owner's name and address.
7. Exhibitors are responsible for maintaining arrangements in fresh, groomed condition after judging is completed and for removing exhibits promptly at the close of the show.
8. The use of any part(s) of plants on the state conservation list, plants that are illegal in the State of Arizona, and plants that are poisonous are strictly prohibited. When in doubt, leave it out.
9. **Please make a reservation for arrangements** you plan on entering with Terry Swartz 520-661-8967 by Wednesday, April 15, 2026.

Use card to help define arrangement. See Judge's Handbook.

The show committee will endeavor to protect all exhibits but cannot be responsible for the loss or damages to the exhibitor's property.

DIVISION III - ARTISTIC DESIGN (Continued)

This year's theme is "IRIS OF INTEREST"

Express yourself this year with your interpretation of our **IRIS OF INTEREST** theme as noted in the classes below. We look forward to seeing all the entries/entrants with anticipation. Have fun and create away.

SECTION A - Open to All

Class 1 "An Iris of Interest" An East Asian design in a low container. Water must show in arrangement.

Class 2 "Under A Cloud" An East Asian design in a tall container.

Class 3 "The Inner Circle" A traditional mass arrangement using all fresh plant material. Designed to be naturalistic. Mass designs are symmetrical, and each bloom is distinct and not crowded.

Class 4 "Out of the Lineup" A line-mass design that incorporates a distinctive line throughout the arrangement. Iris in the arrangement must show a gradation of size and progression of stage of bloom.

Class 5 "Denizen of the Deep" An underwater design, must have a focal area of the design placed underwater in a clear or transparent container. Approximately 1/3 of the design at a minimum should be underwater. The level of the water may be left up to the arranger.

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY EXHIBITION AWARDS

AIS RIBBONS for first, second, third place, and honorable mention will be awarded in each cultivar/class as merited.

AIS ROSETTES and Certificates available will be awarded for:

Horticulture Division:

- Best Specimen in each Section (Rosette)
- Section Sweepstakes (Certificate)
- Best Specimen of Show (Rosette & Certificate)
- Sweepstakes (Rosette, Certificate & Medal)
- Sweepstakes Runner-up (Certificate & Medal)

Seedling Division:

- Best Seedling of Show (Rosette & Exhibition Certificate)

Artistic Division:

- Best Design of Show (Rosette & Certificate)
- Artistic Sweepstakes (Rosette & Certificate)

The AIS SILVER METAL and certificate will be awarded to the winner of the most first place ribbons in Horticulture.

The AIS BRONZE MEDAL and certificate will be awarded to the winner of the second most first place ribbons in Horticulture.

Exhibition certificate also awarded to any seedling receiving 5+ votes from accredited judges.

TAIS IRIS SOCIETY AWARDS

TAIS will present AWARDS to exhibitors for:

Horticulture Division

- Best Tall Bearded
- Best Aril/Arilbred
- Best Median Dwarf
- Best Spuria
- Best Louisiana Iris
- Best Siberian
- Best Japanese
- Best Miscellaneous
- Best Container-Grown Iris
- Best Collection
- Best English Box
- Best Specimen of Show
- Sweepstakes
- Sweepstakes Runner-up

TAIS Awards to have an assigned value of \$10 Iris Bucks per trophy for the Horticulture Division.

TUCSON AREA IRIS SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

We are a non-profit organization whose purpose is to promote the knowledge, culture and appreciation of plants in the genus Iris.

We hold a Flower Show in the Spring, a Rhizome Sale in September and a Iris Photography Contest in the Fall of every year.

Our meetings are held on Saturday afternoons and are free to the public.

Dues are \$15 per year per household.

Make your check payable to TAIS and send to:

**Linda Briggs
2242 E. Water Street
Tucson, AZ 85719**

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

The American Iris Society (AIS) created and maintains the registrar of iris, qualified judges, and competition standards for show such as this one.

AIS memberships are separate from TAIS membership.

Benefits of membership include a quarterly color bulletin with topics of interest to iris enthusiasts.

Special section memberships are also available in AIS for those wishing information on other types of irises than Tall Bearded Irises.

For AIS membership information, contact:

**AIS Membership Secretary
Jean Richter
1126 High Street
Alameda, CA 94501
Phone: (510) 205-4033
Email: memsec@irises.org**

Website link is www.irises.org/aismembers/ais-membership/

DIRECTIONS

**Trinity Presbyterian Church
400 E. University Blvd.
Tucson, Arizona**

From I-10

- Take the Speedway exit east. Proceed past Main and Stone to 4th Avenue.
- Turn right/south on 4th Avenue to University Boulevard.
- Turn left onto University Boulevard to the church parking lot.

From Tucson International Airport

- Proceed north on Tucson Boulevard to Benson Highway.
- Veer left onto Benson Highway and proceed to Park Avenue.
- Turn right/north onto Park Avenue (which runs under I-10).
- Proceed north on Park Avenue (which becomes Euclid) to University Boulevard.
- Turn left/west onto University Boulevard and continue to the church parking lot (on the left) which is about 4 blocks.