



california state floral association

CaliFlora 2026 - “Golden State of Mind”

Student Design Competition

Friday, November 6, 2026

**The following are the rules for the
competition:**

“Student Surprise Package”

1. The “Surprise Package” will consist of one part of the competition.
2. All competitors will receive identical materials, excluding the basic tools and supplies allowed. Absolutely no other materials may be supplied by the contestants or anyone else.
3. The theme will be announced five (5) minutes before the competition begins; these five (5) minutes will be considered ‘idea time’ and contestants may use this time to review and separate their materials and start planning their compositions.
4. Thirty minutes (30) will be allowed for the completion of the surprise package.
5. **Tools & Supplies Allowed:** See the enclosed list for the allowed tools and supplies.
6. All designs will be judged on the overall composition. Competitors may use as little or as much of the materials provided.
7. One (1) assistant will be allowed to assist in moving your compositions to the judging area. No rearranging of any materials will be permitted in the judging area.
8. All designs in this category are the property of CSFA.

“ Student Designer’s Theme Composition”

1. The “Designer’s Theme Composition” will be allowed forty-five minutes (45) for construction.
2. Fresh flowers, greens, and plant material should be predominate in the composition.
3. Props should be original and not previously used in a floral competition. Props, accessories and containers will be limited to forty (40) percent of the overall composition. An automatic twenty (20) point penalty will be applied for any violations of this rule.
4. The entire composition may not exceed four (4) feet in height, three (3) feet in width, and three (3) feet in depth. Any materials extending beyond these dimensions will result in an automatic ten (10) point penalty.
5. There is no cost limit on any materials used in this design.
6. The qualifying judges will review all product to be used. The “Designer’s Theme Composition” cannot be composed of more than 10% fruit.
7. If any questionable materials are found in the finished composition, the competitor will be informed, it will be removed by a qualifying judge, and a fifteen (15) point penalty will be assessed. The composition will be re-judged.
8. Containers and/or props for the “Designer’s Theme Composition” may be pre-assembled, pre-painted, floral foam liners or containers attached, and pre-soaked floral foam cut and inserted.
 - a. No other materials may be added, inserted or attached to the container, prop or floral foam.
 - b. This includes dried material, moss, permanent floral products, reeds, grasses, bamboo, twigs, branches, leaves, raffia, twine or any other material.

9. All fresh flowers must be in their original length and state as received from the grower or wholesaler. All precut or processed fresh floral product (except foliage and plants) will be disallowed and confiscated.
10. Precut foliage and plants from the “garden” will be allowed.
11. Glue guns and glue pans will not be allowed.
12. Each contestant’s composition will be his or her own sole effort with no assistance or communication with anyone in the audience during the competition.
13. Each contestant will be required to move their “Designer’s Theme Composition” to the judging area *and may use one assistant if necessary*. The Designer is fully responsible for movement of the design. No rearranging of any materials will be permitted in the judging area.

CONTESTANTS MUST BRING THEIR OWN TOOLS

The theme selected for the CaliFlora 2026 “Student Designer’s Theme Competition Composition” will be:

“GOLDEN STATE OF BLOOM”

The scale used for judging for “The Designer’s Theme Composition will be 40% and 60% for “The Surprise Package”

The CSFA Student Designer’s Qualifying Competition Committee therein will resolve any questions regarding the CSFA Student Designer’s Qualifying Competition and the contestant’s participation. All decisions of the committee, judges and jury are final.