

DIVISION AND SWEEPSTAKES AWARDS

SWEEPSTAKES IN HORTICULTURE – Mel Grice with five blue ribbons, three red ribbons and two yellow ribbons – an award from the New England Gesneriad Society in memory of Jessie Crisafulli

RUNNER-UP TO SWEEPSTAKES IN HORTICULTURE – Vicki Ferguson with four blue ribbons and three red ribbons – an award from Margaret Califano

SWEEPSTAKES IN ARTISTIC – Karyn Cichocki with three blue ribbons and three red ribbons – an award from Paul Susi in honor of Judy Zinni

SWEEPSTAKES IN THE ARTS – Vicki Ferguson with three blue ribbons – an award from Terri Vicenzi in honor of Stephen Maciejewski

SWEEPSTAKES IN EDUCATION – Stephen Maciejewski with three blue ribbons and one red ribbon – an award from Winston Goretsky

BEST IN HORTICULTURE – *Sinningia* ‘Judy Becker’ – exhibited by Dee Stewart – an award from the Long Island Gesneriad Society in honor of Joseph Svitak, Paul Susi and Mel Grice

RUNNER-UP TO BEST IN HORTICULTURE – *Streptocarpus* ‘Bristol’s Lollipop’ – exhibited by Rachel Armstrong – an award from the Greater New York Gesneriad Society

BEST IN ARTISTIC – Natural Garden – exhibited by Jill Fischer – an award from the Stampede City African Violet Society

RUNNER-UP TO BEST IN ARTISTIC – “Under the Boardwalk” – design exhibited by Karyn Cichocki - an award from the Stampede City African Violet Society

BEST IN THE ARTS – Needlework or textile – *Streptocarpus* quilt – exhibited by Vicki Ferguson – an award from Peter Shalit in honor of Doreen Hovermale and MJ Tyler on the occasion of their 90th birthdays

RUNNER-UP TO BEST IN THE ARTS – Color print of parts of a gesneriad – *Primulina* ‘Lavender Apple’ – exhibited by Vicki Ferguson – an award from Barbara Stewart

SWEEPSTAKES IN EDUCATIONAL/COMMERCIAL -- awarded to Stephen Maciejewski with 3 first place and 1 second place ribbons

BEST IN COMMERCIAL/EDUCATIONAL – Exhibit illustrating information of scientific or horticultural importance – “Exploring Gesneriads in Malaysia” exhibited by Wallace Wells – an award from the Gateway West Gesneriad Society

SECTION AWARDS

BEST IN SECTION A – NEW WORLD TUBEROUS GESNERIAD IN FLOWER – *Sinningia* ‘Judy Becker’ exhibited by Dee Stewart – an award from Molly Schneider in honor of her husband Rickey who helps keep the gesneriads alive

BEST IN SECTION B – NEW WORLD RHIZOMATOUS GESNERIAD IN FLOWER – *Achimenes* ‘Glory’ exhibited by Vicki Ferguson – an award from the Richmond African Violet Society

BEST IN SECTION C – NEW WORLD FIBROUS-ROOTED GESNERIAD IN FLOWER – *Columnnea spathulata* exhibited by Michael Riley – an award from Jill Fischer in honor of Karyn Cichocki and Ginny Heatter, best gesneriad friends

BEST IN SECTION D – OLD WORLD GESNERIAD IN FLOWER – *Streptocarpus* ‘Bristol’s Lollipop’ exhibited by Rachel Armstrong – an award from the Tampa Bay Gesneriad Society in honor of JoAnne Martinez

BEST IN SECTION E – GESNERIAD GROWN FOR ORNAMENTAL QUALITIES – *Episcia* ‘Silver Skies’ exhibited by David Turley – an award from the National Capital Area Chapter

BEST IN SECTION F – NEW GESNERIAD – *Primulina* ‘MB Dark and Stormy’ exhibited by Barbara Borleske – an award from Ray Coyle

BEST IN SECTION G – LESSER-KNOWN GESNERIAD – *Ridleyandra morganii* exhibited by Wallace Wells – an award from Linda Palmero in memory of her late father, Charles M. Boone

BEST IN SECTION I – BEST GESNERIAD GROWN BY A NOVICE – *Sinningia bullata* exhibited by Mickey Hamell – an award from the New England Gesneriad Society in memory of Wanda Macnair

BEST IN SECTION J – COLLECTION OF GESNERIADS – *Primulina* collection exhibited by Paul Kroll – an award from Rick Fadden

BEST IN SECTION K – DESIGNS OF FRESH-CUT, DRIED AND/OR GROWING GESNERIAD MATERIAL – “Under the Boardwalk” exhibited by Karyn Cichocki – an award from Paul Susi

BEST IN SECTION L – DESIGNS OF FRESH-CUT GESNERIAD MATERIAL – “Atlantic City” exhibited by Laura Buckner – an award from Dorothy Raymond

BEST IN SECTION M – DESIGNS OF GROWING GESNERIAD MATERIAL – “Grounds for Sculpture” exhibited by Mel Grice – an award from Laura Buckner in memory of her husband Steven

BEST IN SECTION N – CONTAINER PLANTINGS OF GROWING GESNERIAD MATERIAL – Natural Garden exhibited by Jill Fischer – an award from the National Capital Area Chapter

BEST IN SECTION P – PHOTOGRAPHY – *Primulina* ‘Lavender Apple’ exhibited by Vicki Ferguson – an endowed award from the Crisafulli Family in memory of Jessie and Anthony Crisafulli

BEST IN SECTION Q – ARTS AND CRAFTS REPRESENTING GESNERIADS – *Streptocarpus* quilt exhibited by Vicki Ferguson – an award from the Tennessee Gesneriad Society in memory of Alex Melnuchenko, a Tennessee Gesneriad Society 'family' member who was always helpful at the chapter meetings, shows and sales. He especially supported his wife Ella in her love of growing gesneriads

BEST IN SECTION R – EDUCATIONAL – “Exploring Gesneriads in Malaysia” exhibited by Wallace Wells – an award from Barbara Borleske

SPECIAL AWARDS

- BEST ACHIMENES – *Achimenes* ‘Glory’ exhibited by Vicki Ferguson – an award from Julie Mavity-Hudson in memory of Mike Kartuz, who was a fellow *Achimenes* lover
- BEST COLUMNEA – *Columnnea spathulata* exhibited by Michael Riley – an award from Laura Buckner in honor of her daughter Amanda
- BEST DRYMONIA – *Drymonia chiribogana* exhibited by Ray Coyle – an award from Erika Geimonen
- BEST EPISCIA - *Episcia* ‘Silver Skies’ exhibited by David Turley – an award from Laura Buckner in honor of Bill Price
- BEST KOHLERIA – *Kohleria hirsuta* exhibited by David Turley – an award from Johanna Zinn in honor of Brandon Erikson saying thanks for inspiring her to try kohlerias again
- BEST PETROCOSMEA – *Petrocosmea* collection exhibited by Hung Nguyen – an award from the New England Chapter in memory of chapter member Mary Bozoian
- BEST PRIMULINA – *Primulina sinovietnamica* exhibited by Mel Grice – an award from Hung Nguyen
- BEST SAINTPAULIA CULTIVAR – Saintpaulia ‘Zhemchuzhnyi Vostorg’ exhibited by Vicki Ferguson – an award from the Toronto African Violet and Gesneriad Society in memory of John Brownlie, who produced many beautiful Saintpaulia cultivars
- BEST SINNINGIA – *Sinningia* ‘Judy Becker’ exhibited by Dee Stewart – an award from Mary Helen Maran in memory of her dear friend, Jay Sespico
- BEST STREPTOCARPUS – *Streptocarpus* ‘Bristol’s Lollipop’ exhibited by Rachel Armstrong – an award from Terri Vicenzi in honor of Mel Grice
- BEST DALE MARTENS CULTIVAR – *Streptocarpus* ‘Dale’s Smurf Party’ exhibited by Rachel Armstrong – an award from Terri Vicenzi in honor of Paul Susi for mentoring her in the role as Awards Chair
- BEST IAIN JAMES (PERIDOTS) CULTIVAR – *Sinningia* ‘Peridots Darth Vader’ exhibited by Mel Grice – an award from Wallace Wells in memory of Mike Kartuz
- BEST JIM VLASIC CULTIVAR – *Sinningia* ‘JV RJ One’ exhibited by Jim Vlasic – an award from Conrad Leighton
- BEST MARGERY ANDERSON-CLIVE CULTIVAR – *Sinningia* ‘Misty C.’ exhibited by Mel Grice – an award from Dale Martens
- BEST PETER SHALIT CULTIVAR – *Primulina* ‘Omen’ exhibited by Vicki Ferguson – an award from Paul Susi

BEST TAIWAN CULTIVAR – *Sinningia* ‘WSL’s Flitter’ exhibited by Michael Riley – an award by James Dean Parise

BEST VIOLET BARN CULTIVAR – *Streptocarpus* ‘Bristol’s Lollipop’ exhibited by Rachel Armstrong – an award from Gary Hitchcock

BEST GESNERIAD GROWN BY A FIRST TIME CONVENTION ATTENDEE – *Streptocarpus* ‘Bristol’s Lollipop’ exhibited by Rachel Armstrong – an award from Winston Goretsky

BEST GESNERIAD GROWN BY A FIRST-TIME CONVENTION FLOWER SHOW EXHIBITOR – *Streptocarpus* ‘Hannah’ exhibited by Christina VanWyk – an award by Heidi Dillenbeck

BEST GESNERIAD EXHIBITING FRUIT – *Streptocarpus linguatus* exhibited by Michael Riley – an award from the African Violet and Gesneriad Society of New Jersey in memory of Maryjane Evans

BEST NEW CULTIVAR – *Primulina* ‘MB Dark and Stormy’ exhibited by Barbara Borleske – an award from Jim Vlasic

BEST NEW SPECIES – *Diastema* species exhibited by Karyn Cichocki – an award from the African Violet and Gesneriad Society of New Jersey

BEST RECENTLY REGISTERED HYBRID (GHA Award) – *Sinningia* ‘Misty C.’ exhibited by Mel Grice – an award from the Gesneriad Hybridizers Association

BEST SCENTED GESNERIAD – *Streptocarpus* ‘MK-Tropical Sunset’ exhibited by Ray Coyle – an award from Donna Guiliano

CLASS AWARDS

SECTION A – New World Gesneriads in Flower - Tuberous

Class 2 *Sinningia speciosa* cultivars – *Sinningia* ‘Peridots Darth Vader’ exhibited by Mel Grice – an award from Mel Grice

Class 4 *Sinningia* species and cultivars (leaf max 2.5” long) – *Sinningia* ‘Paper Moon’ exhibited by David Turley – an award from the Toronto African Violet and Gesneriad Society in memory of John Brownlie

Class 5 Other *Sinningia* species – *Sinningia leucotricha* ‘Max Dekking’ exhibited by Karyn Cichocki – an award from the South Coast African Violet and Gesneriad Society in memory of Jacquie Eisenhut

Class 6B Other *Sinningia* cultivars – coral flowers – *Sinningia* ‘Judy Becker’ exhibited by Dee Stewart – an award from Mary Helen Maran in memory of Jay Sespico

Class 6C Other *Sinningia* cultivars – compact – *Sinningia* ‘Misty C.’ exhibited by Mel Grice – an award from Doris Brownlie in memory of John Brownlie

Class 6D Other *Sinningia* cultivars – green leaves – *Sinningia* ‘JV Creamsicle’ exhibited by Jim Vlasic – an award from Laura Buckner in honor of Paul Kroll

Class 7 Other tuberous gesneriads – *Nautilocalyx pemphidius* exhibited by David Turley – an award from Eileen McGrath

SECTION B – New World Gesneriads in Flower - Rhizomatous

Class 8 *Achimenes*, ×*Achimenantha* – *Achimenes* ‘Glory’ exhibited by Vicki Ferguson – an award from Mel Grice in memory of Ingrid Lindskog

Class 9 *Kohleria* – *Kohleria hirsuta* exhibited by David Turley – an award from the National Capital Area Chapter in honor of Brandon Erikson

Class 13 Other Rhizomatous gesneriads – *Gloxinia erinoides* exhibited by Dee Stewart – an award from Vicki Ferguson

SECTION C – New World Gesneriads in Flower – Fibrous-Rooted

Class 15 *Columnnea* – *Columnnea spathulata* exhibited by Michael Riley – an award from Barb Festenstein in memory of Faye Wagman

Class 16 *Episcia*, *Alsobia* – *Alsobia chiapensis* exhibited by Francisco Correa Mendoza – an award from Dell Sherk

Class 18 *Nematanthus* – *Nematanthus* ‘Heart Throb’ exhibited by Mel Grice – an award from Betsy Gottshall

SECTION D – Old World Gesneriads in Flower

Class 20 *Aeschynanthus* – *Aeschynanthus* ‘Mona Lisa’ exhibited by Judy Du Pont – an award from Gary Hitchcock

Class 23A *Primulina* species – *sinovietnamica* – *Primulina sinovietnamica* exhibited by Mel Grice – an award from Jim Vlasic

Class 23B *Primulina* species – other – *Primulina tabacum* exhibited by Deborah Donaldson – an award from Mary Schaeffer

Class 24A *Primulina* cultivars – mid-sized flowers – *Primulina* ‘Dale’s Smokey Incense’ exhibited by Michael Riley – an award from the Stampede City African Violet Society

Class 24B *Primulina* cultivars – small flowered – *Primulina* ‘GCCC’s Purple Sweet Potato Cake’ exhibited by Karyn Cichocki – an award from Linda Hall in honor of Mel Grice

Class 24C *Primulina* cultivars – other – *Primulina* ‘Tan Boy’ exhibited by Jim Vlasic – an award from Linda Hall in honor of Karyn Cichocki

Class 25 *Streptocarpus*, subgenus *Streptocarpella* – *Streptocarpus linguatus* exhibited by Michael Riley – an award from the Gateway West Gesneriad Society

Class 27 Sect. *Saintpaulia* cultivars classified as miniatures – *Saintpaulia* ‘Persian Prince’ exhibited by Barbara Borleske – an award from the Stampede City African Violet Society

Class 28 Sect. *Saintpaulia* cultivars classified as semi-miniatures – *Saintpaulia* ‘Hunter’s Cabbage Goddess’ exhibited by Vicki Ferguson – an award from Gary Hitchcock

Class 29 Sect. *Saintpaulia* cultivars classified as standards – *Saintpaulia* hybrid exhibited by Scott Ammann – an award from the African Violet and Gesneriad Society of Western New York

Class 30A *Saintpaulia* trailers – pink – *Saintpaulia* ‘Skart Litet Moin’ exhibited by Mel Grice – an award from the African Violet and Gesneriad Society of Western New York

Class 30B *Saintpaulia* trailers – purple – *Saintpaulia* ‘Carolina Jubilation’ exhibited by Erika Geimonen – an award from the Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society

Class 32A *Streptocarpus* – other – *Streptocarpus* ‘Hannah’ exhibited by Christina VanWyk – an award from Leonard Re

Class 32B *Streptocarpus* – ruffled flowers – *Streptocarpus* ‘DS-2238 Gingerhead’ exhibited by Scott Ammann – an award from Bill Schmidt

Class 32C *Streptocarpus* – small flowers – *Streptocarpus* ‘Bristol’s Lollipop’ exhibited by Rachel Armstrong – an award from Edna Alexander

SECTION E – Gesneriads Grown for Ornamental Qualities Other Than Flowers

Class 35 *Episcia* with pink-and-white/cream leaf variegation – *Episcia* ‘Pink Smoke’ exhibited by Jill Fischer – an award from Heidi Dillenbeck

Class 36 Other *Episcia* – *Episcia* ‘Silver Skies’ exhibited by David Turley – an award from the Northern Illinois Gesneriad Society in memory of Bonnie Formella

Class 37A *Primulina* species – *linearicalyx* – *Primulina linearicalyx* exhibited by Judy Niemera – an award from the Puget Sound Gesneriad Society in memory of John Wrightson

Class 37B *Primulina* species – other – *Primulina sinovietnamica* exhibited by Barbara Borleske – an award from Bill Schmidt

Class 38A *Primulina* cultivars – large leaf – *Primulina* ‘Pretty Turtle’ exhibited by Rachel Armstrong – an award from Donna Coleman in honor of her mother, great aunt, and grandmother who fostered a love of African violets in her from childhood

Class 38B *Primulina* cultivars – small leaf – *Primulina* ‘Omen’ exhibited by Vicki Ferguson – an award from Jeanne Katzenstein in honor of Dirk Bellstedt

Class 39 Other gesneriads with variegated foliage – *Aeschynanthus* ‘Bolero Bicolore’ exhibited by Maria Walueff – an award from Wallace Wells in memory of Craig Presnell

Class 40 Other New World species or cultivars – *Drymonia chiribogana* – exhibited by Ray Coyle – an award from the Heart of America Gesneriad Society

Class 41 Other Old World species or cultivars – *Saintpaulia* ‘Zhemchuzhnyi Vostorg’ exhibited by Vicki Ferguson – an award from Eileen McGrath

SECTION F – New Gesneriads: Introductions Made Within the Last 5 Years

Class 42 Species in flower – *Diastema* species exhibited by Karyn Cichocki – an award from Winston Goretsky

Class 43 Species not in flower – *Petrocosmea pubescens* exhibited by Hung Nguyen – an award from the Stampede City African Violet Society

Class 45 Cultivars not in flower – *Primulina* ‘MB Dark and Stormy’ exhibited by Barbara Borleske – an award from Joan Wood

Section G – Lesser Known Gesneriads Seldom Grown or Seen in Shows

Class 47 Not in flower – *Ridleyandra morganii* exhibited by Wallace Wells – an award from Joel Egan

Section I – Gesneriads Grown by a Novice

Class 50 Gesneriads grown for ornamental qualities other than flowers – *Sinningia bullata* exhibited by Mickey Hamell - an award from the South Coast African Violet and Gesneriad Society

Section J – Collections of Gesneriads

Class 51 Plants of a single genus – *Petrocosmea* collection exhibited by Hung Nguyen – an award from Eileen McGrath

Class 52 Kinship group – *Primulina yungfuensis* kinship collection exhibited by Jim Vlasic – an award from Heidi Dillenbeck in honor of Julie Mavity-Hudson

Section K – Designs of Fresh-cut, Dried and/or Growing Gesneriad Material

Class 54 “Jersey Devil” exhibited by Karyn Cichocki – an award from the Liberty Bell Gesneriad Society in honor of Russell Strover

Class 55 Challenge Class “Jersey Girl” exhibited by Paul Kroll – an award from the Gateway West Gesneriad Society

Class 56 “Thomas Edison” exhibited by Paul Kroll – an award from the Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society

Class 57 “Under the Boardwalk” exhibited by Karyn Cichocki – an award from the Stampede City African Violet Society

Section L – Designs of Fresh-cut Gesneriad Material

Class 60 Challenge Class “Jersey Boy” exhibited by Julie Thompson – an award from Wallace Wells

Class 61 “The Jersey Shore” exhibited by Karyn Cichocki – an award from the African Violet and Gesneriad Society of Western New York

Class 62 “Atlantic City” exhibited by Laura Buckner – an award from Leonard Re in memory of Ben Paternoster

Section M – Designs of Growing Gesneriad Material

Class 65 “Grounds for Sculpture” exhibited by Mel Grice – an award from Joan Wood

Section N – Container Plantings of Growing Gesneriad Material

Class 67 Terrarium, curved – exhibited by Jill Fischer – an award from the South Coast African Violet and Gesneriad Society

Class 68 Tray Landscape – exhibited by Barbara Stewart – an award from the Northern Illinois Gesneriad Society in memory of Bonnie Formella

Class 69 Natural Garden – exhibited by Jill Fischer – an award from the Stampede City African Violet Society

Section P – Photography

Class 71 Color print of parts of a gesneriad – *Primulina* ‘Lavender Apple’ exhibited by Vicki Ferguson – an award from Barb Stewart

Class 72 Color print of a whole gesneriad plant – *Sinningia* ‘SimSim Salaviem’ exhibited by Deanna Belli – an award from the Stampede City African Violet Society

Class 73 Color print of gesneriad(s) growing in a natural habitat – *Gesneria tuberifera* exhibited by Stephen Maciejewski – an award from Elizabeth Varley in honor of Julie Mavity-Hudson

Class 74 Monochrome print – *Sinningia speciosa* ‘Serra da Vista’ exhibited by Dale Martens – an award from the Heart of America Gesneriad Society

Section Q – Arts and Crafts Representing Gesneriads

Class 75 Painting or Drawing – *Primulina maciejewskii* exhibited by Wu Xiang-Hong – an award from the Stampede City African Violet Society

Class 76 Needlework or Textile – *Streptocarpus* quilt exhibited by Vicki Ferguson – an award from Joan Wood

Class 77 Other Arts and Crafts – *Kohleria* ‘Designer’s Halloween’ exhibited by Vicki Ferguson – an award from Edna Alexander

Section R – Educational Exhibits

Class 78 Exhibit illustrating information of scientific or horticultural importance – “Exploring Gesneriads in Malaysia” exhibited by Wallace Wells – an award from Wallace Wells

Class 79 Exhibit of plant material with educational information – *Columnea domingensis* exhibited by Stephen Maciejewski – an award from Mel Grice in memory of Ben Paternoster

Class 80 Exhibit of photograph(s) of gesneriads that because of seasonal nature and/or rarity are not often exhibited – *Bellonia spinosa* exhibited by Stephen Maciejewski – an award from Leonard Re

Class 81 Exhibit of photograph(s) of gesneriads growing outside as bedding, accent, or container plants – “New Growing Areas at the GCCC” exhibited by Stephen Maciejewski – an award from the Stampede City African Violet Society

One or more awards sponsored by the following members and chapters were not distributed this year and will be held over to 2026: Edna Alexander, Margery Anderson-Clive, Barb Borleske, Carol Brown, Carol Ann Burrell, Margaret Califano, Paulo Castello da Costa, Karyn Cichocki, Ray Coyle, Winston Goretsky, Austin Grevious, Mel Grice, Kitty Hedgpeth, Gary Hitchcock, Jeanne Katzenstein, Paul Kroll, Mary Helen Maran, Eileen McGrath, Barbara Stewart, Levin Tilghman, Jim Vlastic, Wallace Wells, Lan Wu, Johanna Zinn, The African Violet and Gesneriad Society of Syracuse, The Puget Sound Gesneriad Society, and The Wisconsin Gesneriad Society. I will be in touch with everyone in early January.