

# “Chicagoland Celebrates 75 Years of The Gesneriad Society” — 2026 Convention Schedule of Activities

## Saturday, June 27

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Convention Registration Ballrooms Area

## Sunday, June 28

8:00 am - 8:45 am Convention Registration / Information Ballrooms Area  
 8:45 am - 9:00 am Board Bus for Pre-Convention Trip Outside Lobby  
 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Trip to Conservatory and Chicago Area -  
 5:30 pm - 6:15 pm Convention Registration / Information Ballrooms Area

## Monday, June 29

7:30 am - 8:15 am Convention Registration / Information Ballrooms Area  
 8:30 am - 8:45 am Board Bus for trip Outside Lobby  
 8:45 am - 3:30 pm Trip to Chicago Botanic Garden & Nursery -  
 10:00 am - 11:00 am Informal Discussion with Terri Vicenzi Birch A/B  
 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Board of Directors Meeting (Part I) Birch A/B  
 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm Video of Virtual Flower Show Entries River Ballroom C  
 5:30 pm - 6:00 pm Convention Registration / Information Ballrooms Area  
 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Meet-the-Board Social (Credit Bar only) Ballrooms Area  
 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Opening Dinner Ravinia Ballroom E/F  
 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm Anniversary Presentations (panel) River Ballroom C

## Tuesday, June 30

7:30 am - 8:15 am Convention Registration/Information Ballrooms Area  
 7:30 am - 7:45 am Board Bus for Trip Outside Lobby  
 7:45 am - 12:15 pm Trip to Hausermann Orchids & Arboretum -  
 8:30 am - 12:15 pm Student Judges Training Willow A/B  
 10:30 am - 11:00 am Repeat Video of Virtual Show Entries River Ballroom C  
 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm Lite Lunch Ravinia Ballroom E/F  
 1:45 pm Deadline for Submitting Show Entry Forms Ballrooms Area  
 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm Judges Training (students/seniors) Willow A/B  
 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm Judges Workshop River Ballroom C  
 3:45 pm - 5:00 pm Judges Training (all groups) River Ballroom C  
 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm Informal Discussion with Jonathan Ertelt Birch A/B  
 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm Judges Interest Group Meeting (for all) River Ballroom C  
 5:30 pm - 5:45 pm Convention Registration / Information Ballrooms Area  
 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Dinner Honoring Members/Chapters Ravinia Ballroom E/F  
 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm Program #1 “Genus *Primulina*” (Wen Fang) River Ballroom C  
 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm Program #2 Panel “Growing Primulinas” River Ballroom C

## Wednesday, July 1

8:00 am - 8:30 am Convention Registration / Information Ballrooms Area  
 9:00 am - 9:30 am Show Entries Only for Entries Workers Ballrooms Area  
 9:30 am - 11:00 am Flower Show Entries for All Ballrooms Area  
 10:30 am - 11:30 am Informal Discussion with Betsy Gottshall Birch A/B  
 11:00 am - 2:00 pm Designers Additional Time in Showroom Botanic Garden Ballroom  
 11:45 am - 12:45 pm Lite Lunch Ravinia Ballroom E/F  
 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Anniversary Presentations: Present-Day River Ballroom C  
 2:15 pm - 3:45 pm Auction Donations Accepted River Ballroom B  
 4:00 pm - 5:15 pm GHA Meeting/Program (M. Steel-Brown) River Ballroom C  
 5:30 pm - 5:45 pm Convention Registration / Information Ballrooms Area  
 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Dinner and Annual Membership Meeting Ravinia Ballroom E/F  
 8:00 pm - 8:30 pm Early Sales (entry by registration number) River Ballroom A/B  
 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm Plant Sales for Registrants only River Ballroom A/B  
 9:00 pm - 10:00 pm Designers Extra Time in Showroom Botanic Garden Ballroom

## Thursday, July 2

6:30 am - 7:00 am Flower Show Late Entries (w/ permission) Botanic Garden Ballroom  
 7:00 am - 8:00 am Breakfast (and judging instructions) Ravinia Ballroom E/F  
 8:00 am - 11:30 am Flower Show Judging Botanic Garden Ballroom  
 8:30 am - 9:00 am Convention Registration / Information Ballrooms Area  
 9:00 am - Noon Plant Sales Open for Registrants River Ballrooms A/B  
 Auction Open for Bidding River Ballroom Bs  
 Repeat Video of Virtual Show Entries River Ballroom C  
 Discussion with John and Keri Buell Birch A/B  
 Lite Lunch Ravinia Ballroom E/F  
 9:45 am - 10:15 am Final Silent Auction Bidding / Registrants River Ballroom B  
 10:30 am - 11:30 am Plant Sales Open for Registrants River Ballroom A/B  
 Noon - 1:00 pm Presentation “*Streptocarpus*” (Willoughby) River Ballroom C  
 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm Silent Auction Bidding Closes River Ballroom B  
 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm Flower Show Open for Registrants Botanic Garden Ballroom  
 1:45 pm - 2:30 pm Program #3A: “*Petrocosmea*” (Fu Jia Xin) River Ballroom C  
 3:00 pm Program #3B: “*Petrocosmeas*” (Williams) River Ballroom C  
 3:00 pm Convention Registration / Information Ballrooms Area  
 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm Social Hour (Credit Card Bar only) Ballrooms Area  
 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm Flower Show Awards Dinner Ravinia Ballroom E/F  
 4:30 pm - 5:00 pm Flower Show Open for Registrants Botanic Garden Ballroom  
 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm Convention Registration / Information Ballrooms Area  
 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Social Hour (Credit Card Bar only) Ballrooms Area  
 6:30 pm - 8:15 pm Flower Show Awards Dinner Ravinia Ballroom E/F  
 8:15 pm - 9:45 pm Flower Show Open for Registrants Botanic Garden Ballroom

## Friday, July 3

8:00 am - 8:45 am Photographers Only in Show Room Botanic Garden Ballroom  
 8:45 am - 9:45 am Flower Show Judging Review Botanic Garden Ballroom  
 9:30 am - 10:00 am Convention Registration / Information Ballrooms Area  
 10:00 am - 11:00 am Program #4 “Neotropical Ges... (Clark) River Ballroom C  
 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Flower Show Open to the Public Botanic Garden Ballroom  
 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Plant Sales Open to the Public River Ballrooms A/B  
 11:45 am - 12:45 pm Lite Lunch Ravinia Ballroom E/F  
 1:00 pm - 2:15 pm Board of Directors Meeting (Part II) Birch A/B  
 1:00 pm - 3:15 pm Judges Tests Willow A/B  
 1:30 pm - 2:00 pm Repeat Video of Virtual Show Entries River Ballroom C  
 2:45 pm - 4:00 pm Conservation Meeting and Program River Ballroom C  
 4:15 pm - 5:15 pm Mini-Programs (Student Grant Recipients) River Ballroom C  
 5:15 pm - 5:30 pm Convention Registration / Information Ballrooms Area  
 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Social Hour (Credit Card Bar only) Ballrooms Area  
 6:30 pm - 7:45 pm Anniversary Dinner Ravinia Ballroom E/F  
 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm Anniversary Presentations: Future Panel River Ballroom C

## Saturday, July 4

8:00 am - 9:00 am First-Time Registrants Flower Show Review Botanic Garden Ballroom  
 8:30 am - 9:30 am Repeat Video of Virtual Show Entries River Ballroom C  
 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Flower Show Open to the Public Botanic Garden Ballroom  
 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Plant Sales Open to the Public River Ballroom A/B  
 9:30 am - 9:45 am Convention Registration / Information Ballrooms Area  
 10:00 am - 11:00 am “Gesneriad Challenges” Panel River Ballroom C  
 11:45 pm - 1:30 pm Lunch Honoring Commercials/Live Auction Ravinia Ballroom E/F  
 1:30 pm - 2:15 pm Auction Settlement (live and silent) River Ballroom A/B  
 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm Breakdown of Show and Sales BG and River Ballrooms  
 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Anniversary Party/Social/Program Ravinia Ballroom E/F  
 9:00 pm - 10:00 pm Fireworks Viewing and Socializing -