



**NEWFIELDS**

A PLACE FOR NATURE & THE ARTS

## **Art in Bloom 2026**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **1. What is Art in Bloom?**

Art in Bloom is a tradition of creating floral displays inspired by artworks on display at the Indianapolis Museum of Art at Newfields.

#### **2. Where can I look for examples of Art in Bloom?**

Many art institutions offer a version of Art in Bloom and can be searched easily online. Some examples of note include:

- Museum of Fine Art Boston
- North Carolina Museum of Art
- Saint Louis Art Museum
- San Diego Museum of Art

#### **3. Who can apply to participate?**

Art in Bloom is open to professional florists, garden club members and those with floral design experience.

#### **4. What can't I include in my display?**

We have guidelines on the website that will also be included in the Designer's orientation packet. It is a long list and not meant to hamper the Designer's creativity, but rather to protect Newfields' art collection, living collection, and keep guests safe during busy times.

#### **5. How do I check if a material is permitted?**

Please email [AIB@discovernewfields.org](mailto:AIB@discovernewfields.org) with the specifics of the material and how it will be used. Newfields will only answer these inquiries after acceptance to Art in Bloom and will not pre-approve any materials during the application phase.

#### **6. Are synthetic flowers (silk, plastic, fiber, etc.), synthetic plants or other synthetic materials allowed?**

Synthetic flowers, synthetic plant materials or synthetic natural materials (paper butterflies, etc.) are not allowed into Art in Bloom. If Designers bring these materials with them during install and inspection, they will not be approved and cannot be used in the display.

#### **7. Are dried flowers allowed?**

Yes, but they must be used sparingly, and the bulk of the design cannot be dried materials.

**8. I'm a plant person, can my arrangement be mostly leaves, greenery, plants or succulents?**

No, the majority of the display must be floral materials accentuated by leaves and greenery. No plants in soil are permitted into the show, even if they are in sealed containers (for example, terrariums).

**9. I can't attend all the listed time requirements; can I still participate?**

All Designers or a designated representative of the Designer are required to be at all listed time requirements on the application webpage.

**10. Is refresh really mandatory every day?**

Yes. To provide exceptional experiences for all our guests, it is important that each display looks like it was just installed, making refresh vital to the success of the show. Designers are allowed to send a designated representative to refresh if they cannot make it each morning. That information along with the contact information of the Designer's representative must be sent to [AIB@discovernewfields.org](mailto:AIB@discovernewfields.org) at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance.

**11. Something happened and I can't get to Newfields to refresh my piece, what do I do?**

Please alert Newfields as quickly as possible by calling or texting the Designer's Newfields contact AND emailing [AIB@discovernewfields.org](mailto:AIB@discovernewfields.org) to make alternate arrangements and inform Newfields of the Designer's absence. If the Designer or a designated representative do not contact Newfields and do not come to refresh, the display will be pulled from the show.

**12. I don't like where my pedestal or platform is located, can I move it?**

No, all pedestals and platforms are carefully placed by Newfields staff and cannot be moved.

**13. When do I find out what artwork I have been assigned?**

Upon acceptance to the show in the onboarding email, Designers will receive a link to the artwork to be viewed in the digital collection.

**14. I don't like my assigned artwork; can I pick something else?**

No, artwork cannot be reassigned or swapped. If the objection to the assigned artwork for moral, religious or other community beliefs reason(s), please get in touch with Newfields staff at [AIB@discovernewfields.org](mailto:AIB@discovernewfields.org) to discuss next steps.

**15. Can I visit Newfields to see where my design will be and view my inspiration artwork?**

Yes! After orientation all Designers are taken upstairs into the IMA Galleries to view their artwork. Additional viewing time can be accommodated by emailing [AIB@discovernewfields.org](mailto:AIB@discovernewfields.org).

**16. How big are the pedestals?**

Pedestals are 18" x 18" x 32" and 24" x 24" x 36". Designers will be notified of their pedestal size in their acceptance email.

**17. I want to be a Showstopper Designer, what do I need to know?**

Showstopper Designers craft large-scale floral installations for Art in Bloom, with platform sizes ranging from 3-foot circles to photobooth set ups. Assignments are based on application strength and proven

experience with large-scale designs. Showstoppers receive a higher honorarium, travel stipends, and onsite storage. Eligibility requires prior Newfields Art in Bloom participation or demonstrated expertise in large-scale floral work.

**18. Will I be paid for participation in Art in Bloom?**

Yes! Designers will be informed of compensation in their acceptance email.

**19. Can I do a floral demonstration during Art in Bloom?**

Yes! Designers can apply to host a floral demonstration during Art in Bloom when they apply to the show. Demonstrations are selected based on originality of the demonstration subject and strength of the overall application. If the demonstration is picked, Designers will be notified in their acceptance email along with the day and time. An additional honorarium is available for each Designer that is picked to host a demonstration.

**20. What is Flower Power Hour and how can I participate?**

Flower Power Hour offers guests a fast-paced, 60-minute floral workshop led by expert Designers focusing on a particular bloom or floral arranging style at 11 AM, 1 PM, 3 PM, and 5 PM on Saturday and Sunday during Art in Bloom. Designers can apply to host Flower Power Hour session when submitting their Art in Bloom application. Class subjects are selected based on the originality of the topic and the strength of the overall application. Selected Designers will be notified in their acceptance email with their assigned day and time. An additional honorarium and storage space is provided for each Designer chosen to host a Flower Power Hour.

**21. Is there a prize?**

Yes! There are three ribbons for Art in Bloom: Excellence in Art, Excellence in Nature, and Crowd Favorite. The Excellence ribbons are selected by Newfields staff. The Crowd Favorite will be selected via voting by guests on Thursday and Friday. All ribbons will be awarded at Fête of Florals on Friday night. There are no purses associated and only pedestals are eligible for these ribbons.

**22. Do I get to bring guests to Art in Bloom?**

Yes! Each Designer has two tickets for Fête of Florals. These tickets are meant for the Designer and one guest. Five (5) tickets will be given to each Designer for friends and family to attend Art in Bloom total, tickets can be redeemed for any day of the show during General Admission Hours. A ticket does not need to be used for the Designer or assistant during general run of show; an Art in Bloom badge will get them into the show at any time. No additional tickets will be issued.

**23. What are the days and hours of Art in Bloom?**

- Wednesday, March 18, 2026: 4 PM to 8 PM EST
- Thursday, March 19, 2026: 10 AM to 8 PM EST
- Friday, March 20, 2026: 10 AM to 10 PM EST (Fête of Florals)
- Saturday, March 21, 2026: 10 AM to 8 PM EST
- Sunday, March 22, 2026: 10 AM to 6 PM EST

**24. Do I have to be at my pedestal every day? How will guests know how to contact me or my business?**

Designers are not required to be present at their display each day. Designers may choose how often they like to be by their piece. Each display will include the Designer's name and, if applicable, the business name on its label. Designers will also be listed in the Art in Bloom guest guide. When Designers are present, they are welcome to hand out business cards directly to guests; however, business cards, order sheets, or other promotional materials may not be placed on the pedestal or platform. Designers will have the opportunity to sign up for specific times to be at their displays. Those dates and times will be listed on the label for guests to reference.

**25. Can I hire outside photography or videography to come during the show?**

No. Newfields has on-site photography and videography teams that will be filming during all aspects of Art in Bloom. Images are available to Designers after successful completion of the show by emailing [permissions@discovernewfields.org](mailto:permissions@discovernewfields.org)