2027 RULES & REGULATIONS

HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW AND RODEO HORTICULTURE COMPETITION

Horticulture Committee

COMPETITOR REQUIREMENTS

Texas Youth, 8-18
FFA or 4-H Membership*
Applicable to all competitions except Photography

COMPETITION CATEGORIES

Photography
Miniscapes*
Texas Tables*
Rodeo Cup*
Petit Container Grown Plants*
Dining Duets*

Table of Contents

Section A: General Rules & Information 1

Section B: Competition Guides

Texas Tables 6

Rodeo Cup 9

Dining Duets 12

Petit Container Grown Plants 14

Photography 17

Miniscapes 19

Section C: Exhibitor Project Log

Texas Tables 22

Petit Container Grown Plants 26

Section D: Maps

Photography Delivery 29

Miniscapes 30

Rodeo Cup / Dining Duets / Awards Ceremonies 31

Texas Tables / Petit Container Grown Plants 32

SECTION A: General Rules & Information

HOW TO ENTER:

- Competition registration opens **Monday, November 2, 2026, at 9 a.m.**
- Entry forms can be found at rodeohouston.com/exhibitors-contestants/horticulture/
- Entry forms for all competitions excluding Horticulture Photography must be submitted by the exhibitor's FFA or 4-H advisor.
- **Competition entry fees are as follows:**

Competition	Entry Fee
Rodeo Cup Dining Duets	$35
Miniscapes Texas Tables	$25
Horticulture Photography Petit Container Grown Plants	$0

- Entry fee(s) can be paid online via credit card or by mailing a check. Please make checks payable to "HLSR-Horticulture".
- Checks should be mailed to:
  Angela Gutierrez
  HLSR-Horticulture
  3 Reliant Park
  Houston, TX 77054
- Incorrect or incomplete information may result in entry disqualification or a delay in issuing awards.
- It is the responsibility of advisors to confirm that an entry form has been received.
- Submission of an entry form indicates that the exhibitor, advisor, parent/guardian understand that all judging decisions are final, and they agree to abide by all the rules and regulations.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (EXCLUDES PHOTOGRAPHY):

- Exhibitors must be members of an FFA or 4-H chapter to participate in the 2027 Horticulture Competition.
- All communication, tickets, and passes will be sent to the exhibitor's FFA or 4-H advisor.
- If an exhibitor is under the age of eighteen (18), a parent or legal guardian must provide their name, address, phone number, and email address.
- **Exhibitors must submit a signed Release of Liability and Indemnity Form. Forms must be completed, notarized, and uploaded to the entry system at the time of entry.**
- The Release of Liability and Indemnity form can be found at rodeohouston.com/exhibitors-contestants/horticulture/ under the section titled "2027 Downloads".

SECTION A: General Rules & Information

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (PHOTOGRAPHY ONLY):

- All communication, tickets, and passes will be sent to the exhibitor's photography advisor. If entering without an advisor, all information will be sent to the parent that is listed on the entry form.
- If an exhibitor is under the age of eighteen (18), a parent or legal guardian must provide their name, address, phone number, and email address.
- Exhibitors must submit a signed Release of Liability and Indemnity Form. Forms are completed digitally and require a parent or guardian to submit a photo of their drivers license or identification card.
- A link to the form can be found at rodeohouston.com/exhibitors-contestants/horticulture/ under the section titled "2027 Downloads".

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- Exhibitors must be Texas residents between the ages of eight (8) and eighteen (18) as of February 27, 2027.
- Photography, Texas Tables, Rodeo Cup, and Petit Container Grown Plants are individual competitions. Team entries are not allowed.
- Miniscape entries may be submitted by an individual or a team of two (2). Both team members must meet all entry requirements.
- Dining Duets requires a team of exactly two (2). Both team members must meet all entry requirements.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

Competition	Deadline
Miniscapes Texas Tables Rodeo Cup Dining Duets	Registration will close when entry limits are met.
Horticulture Photography Petit Container Grown Plants	Friday, January 15, 2027, at 4 p.m.

ALTERNATE CONTESTANTS:

- Rodeo Cup
  - An alternate list will open on competition day (Sunday, March 7, 2027).
  - The first ten (10) people to sign up on the day of the competition will be allowed to join the alternate list. Advance sign ups are not available.
  - Alternates must be present and checked in before the mandatory meeting begins to be eligible for an open spot.

SECTION A: General Rules & Information

ALTERNATE CONTESTANTS CONTINUED:

- Rodeo Cup
  - Registered contestants who are not checked in before the mandatory 10:45 a.m. meeting will lose their spots.
  - Available spots will be offered to alternates in the order in which they signed up. Alternates must be present when called; otherwise, the spot will go to the next person on the alternate list.
  - Alternates who receive a spot must attend the mandatory 10:45 a.m. meeting with all contestants.
- Dining Duets
  - A school/FFA or 4-H chapter may substitute one or both team members with other students from the same school/FFA or 4-H chapter.
  - Substitutes do not need to be identified in advance, but they must check in on competition day before the mandatory 10:45 a.m. meeting begins.
  - If a team withdraws from the competition, the open spot may be offered to an alternate team in attendance.

GENERAL ENTRY GUIDELINES:

- Entries should not include identifying information (exhibitor name, school, school district, FFA or 4-H chapter, etc...).
- Entries must be the sole work product of the listed exhibitor(s).
- HLSR reserves the right to refuse any entry with a disease or insect problem.
- No entries with copyright or licensing infringement will be accepted. HLSR reserves the right to disqualify any entry that reproduces, in whole or in part, a registered trademark, or the work of another individual.
- HLSR is a family oriented event and reserves the right to disqualify an entry deemed inappropriate for family viewing, controversial, or in poor taste at its sole discretion.
- HLSR will not be responsible for entries submitted in error and will not reopen judging to accommodate such entries.
- Any entry that does not comply with the competition rules will be disqualified.

ADMISSION TICKETS & SEASON PASSES:

- Exhibitors entered in Photography will receive two (2) Reliant Park season passes if their entry form and photograph are received by the deadline.
- Exhibitors entered in Miniscapes will receive two (2) Reliant Park season passes when checking in on the day of the competition.
- Exhibitors entered in Texas Tables, Rodeo Cup, Petit Container Grown Plants, or Dining Duets will receive two (2) Reliant Park admission tickets valid for their competition and awards ceremony. The exhibitors will receive two (2) Reliant Park season passes on the day of their competition.
- The maximum number of Reliant Park admission tickets and/or passes per exhibitor is two (2), regardless of the number of competitions in which they are entered.

SECTION A: General Rules & Information

CONSENT & LIABILITY:

By participating in the 2027 HLSR Horticulture Competition, the exhibitor, teacher/advisor, parent/guardian agree to the following:

- HLSR is granted permission to display, photograph, film, record, and reproduce the exhibitor's entry in whole or in part, or as a composite.
- Waive and release all rights to inspect or approve the final product and hold HLSR harmless from any liability arising for use of the entry or images.
- HLSR and the Horticulture Committee are not responsible for loss, theft, or damage of entries.
- Damaged entries will not be replaced.

JUDGING:

- HLSR will select qualified judges for each competition. Questions about judging criteria may be directed to horticulture@rodeohouston.com.
- Competition results will be posted at rodeohouston.com.
- In the event of a tie, the steering judge will cast a single first place vote to break the tie.
- Judge's decisions are final. Protests will not be considered.
- Copies of exhibitor score sheets will be sent to the email on file by Monday, March 22, 2027.

AWARDS:

Competition Placement	Awards
1st Place	$1000 + Buckle
2nd Place	$750 + Banner
3rd Place	$500 + Banner
4th Place	$250 + Ribbon
5th - 10th Place	$100 + Ribbon

AWARDS CEREMONIES:

Competition	Awards Ceremony
Horticulture Photography Miniscapes Texas Tables Rodeo Cup Petit Container Grown Plants	Sunday, March 7, 2027, at 6 p.m. NRG Center, 2nd Floor, Cafe on the Park West End - Kirby Dr.
Dining Duets	Sunday, March 14, 2027, at 4 p.m. NRG Center, 2nd Floor East End - Fannin St.

SECTION A: General Rules & Information

ENTRY PICK UP:

- Entries placing first (1st) through third (3rd) in Texas Tables, Rodeo Cup, Petit Container Grown Plants, and Dining Duets will remain on display for the duration of the 2027 Show.
- Photography and Miniscape entries will remain on display for the duration of the 2027 Show.
- Miniscape exhibitors may remove props from their entries once all entries have been judged.
- All remaining Photography and Miniscape entries and props can be picked up on Monday, March 22, 2027, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Exhibitors competing in Texas Tables, Rodeo Cup, and Petit Container Grown Plants who do not place first (1st) through third (3rd) may take their entries at the conclusion of the awards ceremony. **Any unclaimed entries will be discarded after 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 7, 2027.**
- Exhibitors competing in Dining Duets who do not place first (1st) through third (3rd) may take their entries at the conclusion of the awards ceremonies. **Any unclaimed entries will be discarded after 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 14, 2027.**
- Exhibitors may request an entry be shipped by contacting horticulture@rodeohouston.com on or before Saturday, March 20, 2027. Items over thirty (30) pounds or too large to fit in a standard box cannot be shipped. Living plant materials cannot be returned via shipping.

CONTACTS:

For questions or additional information, please contact the staff that is listed below.

Should you require special accommodations, please reach out to staff at least forty-five (45) days before the 2027 HLSR Horticulture Competition:

Angela Gutierrez
Sr. Manager, Attractions & Competitions
Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo
3 Reliant Park
Houston, TX 77054
horticulture@rodeohouston.com

Ashly Thornton
Coordinator, Attractions & Competitions
Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo
3 Reliant Park
Houston, TX 77054
horticulture@rodeohouston.com

To visit the 2027 HLSR Horticulture Competition page, scan the QR code below:

SECTION B: Competition Guide - Texas Tables

OVERVIEW:

Exhibitors will design a floral centerpiece that is for a rodeo fundraising gala themed "Under the Big Top". The entry design should be inspired by the daring trapeze, the ringmaster's welcome, and the excitement of the circus' center ring. The centerpiece will help set the stage for an unforgettable evening "Under the Big Top" in support of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. A maximum of one hundred (100) exhibitors may participate.

FAST FACTS:

Texas Tables	
Competition Type	Individual
Entry Limit	105 Exhibitors
Competition Theme	Under the Big Top
Registration Deadline	Registration will close when competition entry limits are met.
Delivery Date	Sunday, March 7, 2027 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Delivery Location	Reliant Center, 2nd Floor East End - Fannin St.
Entry Set Up Deadline	Entry must be completely set up by 10:45 a.m. on Sunday, March 7, 2027
Judging Date	Sunday, March 7, 2027 11 a.m.
Awards Ceremony	Sunday, March 7, 2027 6 p.m. Reliant Center, 2nd Floor, Cafe on the Park West End - Kirby Dr.
Parking	Enter via Gate 21 and park in the 610 Exhibitor Lot. Take the tram to Reliant Center.

SECTION B: Competition Guide - Texas Tables

DESIGN GUIDELINES:

- Entries will be displayed on a 36" round particle board with a table covering.
- Exhibitors are responsible for positioning their design on the table covering. The table covering is for display purposes only and will not be judged.
- The entry should be designed to be viewed from all sides.
- Accessories may not be added to the table setting (no silverware, decorative items, placemats, books, etc...)
- Commercially grown materials may be used.
- No painting or internal/external dyeing of fresh flowers is permitted.
- Flowers and foliage should be free of blemishes, insects, and disease.
- The design must be a sole effort by the exhibitor. No assistance from anyone in any manner is permitted.
- No talking is allowed during the competition.
- Electronic devices are prohibited from being used at any point during the competition. Devices include mobile phones, tables, smart watches, etc...
- If an exhibitor cannot deliver their entry, a designee may place it on the table. The entry will be disqualified if HLSR determines the designee altered the design in any way.

EXHIBITOR PROJECT LOG:

Texas Tables requires an Exhibitor Project Log, which counts for fifty (50) points of the total score. Logs are assessed for content and completeness, not creativity. The log must include:

- A brief narrative describing the source of the inspiration and the steps taken during the creative process (material selection, sourcing, color choice, etc...).
- A minimum of four (4) printed photographs taken during the construction. Photos may not be submitted digitally. HLSR will not print photos.
- A sketch of the design with each plant labeled by botanical and common names.
- A list of plant materials used, including botanical and common names.
- An itemized cost list identifying each material used and its individual purchase price.
- The retail price of the finished arrangement calculated based on standard retail pricing practices (typically 3-4 times the wholesale cost). Exhibitors should show their pricing calculations.
- Logs must be completed and ready to submit at check in. HLSR will not print logs. NO EXCEPTIONS.
- The official project log is available at rodeohouston.com/exhibitors-contestants/horticulture/.
- Other log formats will not be accepted.

SECTION B: Competition Guide - Texas Tables

JUDGING CRITERIA:

Criterion	Points	What Judge's Evaluate
Theme interpretation and originality	20 pts.	Clear storyline with elements that reinforce the theme "Under the Big Top"
Design composite and balance	20 pts.	Scale, proportion, unity
Floral technique and craftmanship	20 pts.	Neatness and cleanliness
Color harmony	15 pts.	Deliberate and unified pallet
Use of round surface	10 pts.	Balanced and thoughtful use of the full round surface
Overall polish and impression	15 pts.	Finished, memorable, and professional
Exhibitor Project Log	50 pts.	Completeness and content
TOTAL	**150 pts.**	

ENTRY PICK UP:

- Entries placing first (1st) through third (3rd) will remain on display for the duration of the 2027 Show.
- Exhibitors not placing first (1st) through third (3rd) may collect their entry after the awards ceremony. **Any unclaimed entries will be discarded after 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 7, 2027.**
- Only the container and decorative items provided by the exhibitor will be returned.

SECTION B: Competition Guide - Rodeo Cup

OVERVIEW:

Rodeo Cup is an individual competition where all materials are provided by HLSR. **Exhibitors compete three (3) progressive rounds - a nosegay bouquet and boutonniere set, and interpretive design, and a surprise situation final round open to the top twenty (20) competitors**. Each round challenges exhibitors to demonstrate technical skill, creativity, and adaptability using only the materials provided. **A maximum of one hundred and five (105) exhibitors may participate.** Alternates are allowed for this competition. Please review the alternate policy on page 2 of the rules and regulations.

FAST FACTS:

Rodeo Cup	
Competition Type	Individual
Entry Limit	105 Exhibitors
Registration Deadline	Registration will close when competition entry limits are met.
Check In	Sunday, March 7, 2027 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Mandatory Meeting	Sunday, March 7, 2027 10:45 a.m.
Note	Exhibitors arriving after the meeting may participate if space allows, however entries will not be judged or scored.
Judging Date	Sunday, March 7, 2027 11 a.m.
Awards Ceremony	Sunday, March 7, 2027 6 p.m. Reliant Center, 2nd Floor, Cafe on the Park West End - Kirby Dr.
Parking	Enter via Gate 21 and park in the 610 Exhibitor Lot. Take the tram to Reliant Center.

SECTION B: Competition Guide - Rodeo Cup

COMPETITION FORMAT:

Round 1 - Nosegay Bouquet and Boutonniere Set

Design Time: 40 minutes

Exhibitors will create a nosegay bouquet and boutonniere set using HLSR provided materials. No advance design work is permitted.

Round 2 - Interpretive Design

Design Time: 45 minutes

Exhibitors will create a design incorporating and HLSR provided container and/or prop. No advance design work is permitted.

Round 3 - Surprise Situation (Top 20 ONLY)

Design Time: 20 minutes

The top twenty (20) exhibitors by combined score from Round 1 and Round 2 advance to the final round. All finalists receive the same surprise situation prompt immediately before the time starts and will create a floral design appropriate for the situation. No advance design work is permitted.

DESIGN GUIDELINES:

- All cut materials are provided by HLSR.
- Each exhibitor will receive an identical box of materials, including fresh flowers, foliage, containers, decorative embellishments and supplies.
- Only materials provided by HLSR are permitted. No outside materials may be used.
- Exhibitors are responsible for determining which materials to use in each design.
- No advance design work is permitted in any round.
- All designs must be a sole effort. No assistance from anyone is permitted.
- Exhibitors must bring their own tools. Tools cannot be shared between exhibitors.
- Permitted tools include: glue, picks, floral cutters, glue pan/pen, wire cutters, knife, scissors, measuring stick/tape, tape, and floral wire.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

Each round is scored independently using the criteria listed on the following page. The top twenty (20) exhibitors by combined score from the nosegay bouquet and boutonniere set and interpretive design rounds advance to the surprise situation (final round). The top ten (10) finalists are formally placed with the highest scoring exhibitor in the final round placing first.

SECTION B: Competition Guide - Rodeo Cup

Round 1 - NOSEGAY BOUQUET & BOUTONNIERE SET:

Criterion	Points	What Judge's Evaluate
Bouquet construction and technique	25 pts.	Secure, even hand tie
Boutonniere construction and technique	20 pts.	Secure, compact, complete work
Coordination between pair	20 pts.	Color, style, materials align
Design principles	20 pts.	Symmetry, proportion
Intentional use of provided palette	10 pts.	Palette use across pieces
Overall polish and impression	5 pts.	Professional, ready to wear
TOTAL	**100 pts.**	

Round 2 - INTERPRETIVE DESIGN:

Criterion	Points	What Judge's Evaluate
Interpretation of design item	20 pts.	Required item is featured prominently
Design principles	25 pts.	Balance, scale, proportion
Techniques and mechanics	20 pts.	Invisible mechanics
Intentional use of palette and texture	15 pts.	Palette and texture feel purposeful
Overall impact and originality	20 pts.	Memorable design
TOTAL	**100 pts.**	

Round 3 - SURPRISE SITUATION:

Criterion	Points	What Judge's Evaluate
Interpretation of design item	20 pts.	Required item is featured prominently
Design principles	25 pts.	Balance, scale, proportion
Techniques and mechanics	20 pts.	Invisible mechanics
Intentional use of palette and texture	15 pts.	Palette and texture feel purposeful
Overall impact and originality	20 pts.	Memorable design
TOTAL	**100 pts.**	

ENTRY PICK UP:

- Entries placing first (1st) through third (3rd) will remain on display for the duration of the 2027 Show.
- Exhibitors not placing first (1st) through third (3rd) may collect their entry after the awards ceremony. **Any unclaimed entries will be discarded after 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 7, 2027.**

SECTION B: Competition Guide - Dining Duets

OVERVIEW:

Dining Duets is a team competition where two (2) exhibitors collaborate to design and execute a floral centerpiece arrangement with a complete table setting reflects the theme "Let the Adventure Begin'. The arrangement should capture the thrill of setting out for somewhere new. Whether the journey leads the traveler across the ocean, through a bustling city, or a destination all of their own, the design should tell the story of where the traveler is headed. **A maximum of fifty (50) teams of two (2) may participate.** Alternates are allowed for this competition. Please review the alternate policy on page 3 of the rules and regulations.

FAST FACTS:

Dining Duets	
Competition Type	Team
Entry Limit	Fifty (50) teams of two (2)
Registration Deadline	Registration will close when competition entry limits are met.
Check In	Sunday, March 14, 2027 8 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Reliant Center, 2nd Floor East End - Fannin St.
Mandatory Meeting	Sunday, March 14, 2027 10:45 a.m.
Note	Exhibitors arriving after the meeting may participate if space allows, however entries will not be judged or scored.
Design Time	One (1) Hour
Judging Date	Sunday, March 14, 2027 11:45 a.m.
Awards Ceremony	Sunday, March 14, 2027 4 p.m. Reliant Center, 2nd Floor East End - Fannin St.
Parking	Enter via Gate 21 and park in the 610 Exhibitor Lot. Take the tram to Reliant Center.

SECTION B: Competition Guide - Dining Duets

DESIGN GUIDELINES:

- Teams will be furnished with an identical box of materials including fresh flowers, foliage, containers, decorative elements, and supplies. All materials are identical across all teams.
- All materials are provided by HLSR. Only provided materials may be used. No outside materials are permitted.
- Teams must utilize the entire provided place settings.
- Entries will be displayed on a 36" round particle board with a table covering provided by HLSR. Teams are responsible for positioning all elements of their design.
- All elements of the entry should reflect or enhance the theme Let the Adventure Begin.
- The design must be a sole team effort. Team members may communicate with each other during the competition. Communication with other teams, coaches, teachers, or any spectator is strictly prohibited. No outside guidance or assistance of any kind is permitted.
- Electronic devices are prohibited from use at any point during the competition. Devices include mobile phones, tablets, smart watches, etc...
- Entries should be designed to be viewed from all sides.
- Teams must bring their own tools. Tools cannot be shared with other teams.
- Permitted tools include: glue, picks, floral cutters, glue pan/pen, wire cutters, knife, scissors, measuring stick/tape, tape, and floral wire.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

Criterion	Points	What Judge's Evaluate
Design composition	25 pts.	Balance, scale
Craftmanship and mechanics	20 pts.	Clean mechanics
Intentional use of texture	15 pts.	Purposeful texture combinations
Incorporation of design item	15 pts.	Natural integration of design item
Utensil placement	10 pts.	Position of cutlery and place setting
Overall polish and impression	15 pts.	Professional and memorable
TOTAL	**100 pts.**	

ENTRY PICK UP:

- Entries placing first (1st) through third (3rd) will remain on display for the duration of the 2027 Show.
- Exhibitors not placing first (1st) through third (3rd) may collect their entry after the awards ceremony. **Any unclaimed entries will be discarded after 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 14, 2027.**

SECTION B: Competition Guide - Petit Container Grown Plants

OVERVIEW:

Exhibitors will grow three (3) or more species of plant and/or blooms in a single appropriate container. The entire entry - plant, container, and decorative items - must measure between three (3) and twenty (20) inches in height, width, and depth.

AT A GLANCE:

Petit Container Grown Plants	
Competition Type	Individual
Registration Deadline	Registration will close when competition entry limits are met.
Entry Size	3" - 20" : Total height, width, and depth including the container and plant elements.
Delivery Date	Sunday, March 7, 2027 8 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Delivery Location	Reliant Center, 2nd Floor East End - Fannin St.
Entry Set Up Deadline	Entry must be completely set up by 10:45 a.m. on Sunday, March 7, 2027
Judging Date	Sunday, March 7, 2027 11 a.m.
Awards Ceremony	Sunday, March 7, 2027 6 p.m. Reliant Center, 2nd Floor, Cafe on the Park West End - Kirby Dr.
Parking	Enter via Gate 21 and park in the 610 Exhibitor Lot. Take the tram to Reliant Center.

SECTION B: Competition Guide - Petit Container Grown Plants

PLANT & CONTAINER REQUIREMENTS:

- Entries must have been owned and grown by the exhibitor on or before January 17, 2027.
- Plants should show clear evidence of being grown in the container (e.g. securely rooted in soil). If plants appear freshly potted or fail to stand during the Show, potential awards will be withheld.
- If a single element required replanting during the eight (8) weeks prior to the competition, exhibitors must document the change in writing and with photos. The documentation will become part of the Exhibitor Project Log.
- Entries must include three (3) or more different plants and/or bloom species per container. Plant/bloom selection is at the exhibitor's discretion. Plant may belong to any species.
- Plants and blooms are the only living items permitted in the container.
- Vivarium's are excluded from this competition.
- The entire entry (plant + container + decorative items) must measure between three (3) and twenty (12) inches.
- Double potting is permitted, provided natural top dressing is used and the inside of the container is not visible. Top dressing must not float when watered.
- Terrariums are permitted (open or closed). Double potting is not permitted for terrariums.
- Leaf polishes, foliage enhancers, dyed plants, and artificial plants are not permitted.
- Accessories are permitted but emphasis should be on the creative use of natural, fresh, planted materials rather than accessories.
- Entries should be designed to be viewed from all sides. To designate a preferred viewing side, mark the center back of the container with a white chalk mark.
- Entries should be complete upon arrival. If an exhibitor cannot deliver their entry, a designee may place it on the table. The entry will be disqualified if HLSR determines the designee altered the design in any way.

EXHIBITOR PROJECT LOG:

Petit Container Grown Plants requires an Exhibitor Project Log, which counts for fifty (50) points of the total score. Logs are assessed for content and completeness, not creativity. The log must include:

- A brief narrative describing the source of inspiration and the steps taken during the creative process (material selection, sourcing, color choice, etc...).
- A minimum of ten (10) printed photographs taken during the construction and growing process. Photos may not be submitted digitally. HLSR will not print photos.
- A timeline journaling and documenting planting and maintenance activities.
- A list of plant materials used, including botanical and common names.
- Logs must be complete and ready to submit at check in. HLSR will not print logs -NO EXCEPTIONS.
- The official project log is available at rodeohouston.com/exhibitors-contestants/horticulture/. Other log formats will not be accepted. Failure to submit a log

SECTION B: Competition Guide - Petit Container Grown Plants

JUDGING CRITERIA:

Criterion	Points	What Judge's Evaluate
Plant heath and vigor	20 pts.	Growth, health, disease free
Cultural perfection	20 pts.	Well groomed with no dead items
Species selection and use of natural material	20 pts.	Thoughtful combination of plant species
Size and proportion compliance	15 pts.	Entry is within the 3" - 20" range
Container and presentation	10 pts.	Clean and well chosen
Uniformity and symmetry	15 pts.	Even, balanced growth
Exhibitor Project Log	50 pts.	Completeness and content
TOTAL	**150 pts.**	

ENTRY PICK UP:

- Entries placing first (1st) through third (3rd) will remain on display for the duration of the 2027 Show.
- Exhibitors not placing first (1st) through third (3rd) may collect their entry after the awards ceremony.
- **Any unclaimed entries will be discarded after 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 7, 2027.**
- The entire entry (plant and container) will be returned to exhibitors.

SECTION B: Competition Guide - Horticulture Photography

OVERVIEW:

Exhibitors will submit a photograph that represents the theme Flowers by the Moonlight. Entries should capture the beauty, mood, and atmosphere of flora illuminated by or evoking moonlight - whether through actual nighttime photography, creative lighting techniques, or artistic interpretation of a moonlit environment.

Entries are limited to subjects related to horticulture, floral arrangements, gardens, landscapes, and similar topics. Photographs may include living subject but focus should be on the featured flora. Nighttime settings, moonlight, and low-light environments are encouraged and appropriate for this theme.

AT A GLANCE:

Horticulture Photography	
Competition Type	Individual
Entries per Exhibitor	Only one (1) photograph is allowed per exhibitor
Submission Deadline	Friday, January 15, 2027 4 p.m.
Shipping Address	Ashly Thornton HLSR - Horticulture Photography 3 Reliant Park Houston, TX 77054
In Person Delivery	Enter via Gate 10 and park in visitor parking lot. HLSR offices are on the 2nd floor of Reliant Center. Deliveries are accepted Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Judging Date	Saturday, February 27, 2027
Awards Ceremony	Sunday, March 7, 2027 6 p.m. Reliant Center, 2nd Floor, Cafe on the Park West End - Kirby St.
Parking	Enter via Gate 21 and park in the 610 Exhibitor Lot. Take the tram to Reliant Center

SECTION B: Competition Guide - Horticulture Photography

PHOTO & FINISHING REQUIREMENTS:

- Entries must be titled.
- Minimum size: 8" x 10" (regardless of orientation or use of mat)
- Maximum size: 11" x 14" (regardless of orientation or use of mat)
- Mats are permitted; the total dimensions, including the mat, must remain within the guidelines above.
- Surface finish is the exhibitor's choice.
- Printing and mounting may be done professionally.
- Glass and framing are not permitted.
- The exhibitor's full name, address, school, and entry title must be labeled on the back of the photo.
- The correct orientation of the photo should be indicated by marking the top edge at the back.

JUDGING FORMAT:

There are two (2) rounds of judging. All entries are evaluated in Round 1. The top fifty (50) entries (at the judge's discretion) advance to Round 2, where they will be scored on a one hundred (100) point system.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

Criterion	Points	What Judge's Evaluate
Composition	25 pts.	Deliberate framing and clear focal point
Technical quality	25 pts.	Focus, exposure, color
Creativity and originality	20 pts.	Fresh angle, lighting, concept
Subject presentation	15 pts.	Floral subject detail and texture
Adherence to theme	15 pts.	How well the photo conveys the "Flowers by the Moonlight" theme
TOTAL	**100 pts.**	

ENTRY PICK UP:

- All photography entries remain on display for the duration of the 2027 Show.
- Photos may be picked up on Monday, March 22, 2027 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Photos can be shipped upon request. Please contact horticulture@rodeohouston.com on or before Saturday, March 20, 2027.

SECTION B: Competition Guide - Miniscapes

OVERVIEW:

The Miniscapes competition challenges FFA and 4-H participants to design and plan a creative, well maintained planter on site at Reliant Park. Entries are constructed in HLSR provided planters that are displayed outdoors for the duration of the 2027 Show.

Participants should plan their design as a front porch planter with the theme "Southern Welcome, Texas Style". Designs should capture the warmth and hospitality of a Texas creating an inviting atmosphere that makes guests feel welcome to stop by, sit a spell, and enjoy the front porch. A maximum of forty (40) exhibitors may participate. Exhibitors can participate individually or in teams of two (2). Teams count as one (1) exhibitor.

AT A GLANCE:

Miniscapes	
Competition Type	Individual or teams of two (2)
Entry Limit	Forty (40) exhibitors - teams count as one (1) exhibitor
Registration Deadline	Registration will close when entry limits are met
Competition Date	Sunday, February 28, 2027
Check in and Build Window	10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Check and installation must be complete by 1 p.m.
Location and Parking	Reliant Park grounds Enter via Gate 2 to unload supplies. Exit the grounds and reenter via Gate 3 and park in the Orange Lot.
Planter Size	Water trough: 2' x 4' x 2' Provided by HLSR and prefilled with dirt and fertilizer.
Display Duration	23 days (February 28 - March 21, 2027)
Judging Date	Sunday, February 28, 2027
Awards Ceremony	Sunday, March 7, 2027 6 p.m. Reliant Center, 2nd Floor, Cafe on the Park West End - Kirby Dr.
Parking	Enter via Gate 21 and park in the 610 Exhibitor Lot Take the tram to Reliant Center

SECTION B: Competition Guide - Miniscapes

DESIGN GUIDELINES:

- No living creatures may be used in the design.
- No artificial or faux plant enhancements are allowed.
- Entries should be designed to be viewed from all sides.
- **Exhibitors may remove props and accessories at the conclusion of the competition judging. Keep this in mind when designing your entry.**
- Small items and accessories should be securely fastened to the planter.
- **Items of great sentimental value should not be used. HLSR is not responsible for lost or damaged items.**
- Entry should not display any identifying information (exhibitor name(s), school, school district, FFA or 4-H Chapter, etc...)
- No copyright or licensing infringement will be accepted. HLSR reserves the right to disqualify any entry that reproduces, in whole or in part, a registered trademark or the work of another individual.
- HLSR reserves the right to disqualify any entry with a serious disease or insect problem.
- HLSR is a family oriented event and reserves the right to disqualify any entry deemed inappropriate, controversial, or in poor taste.

INSTALLATION DAY GUIDELINES:

- Exhibitors must bring all tools, plants, and props needed to construct their entry. HLSR will not provide these items.
- Carts and wagons are strongly recommended for transporting materials from the parking lot to the exhibit area.
- Water will be available on installation day.
- Paper sketches are permitted in the competition area.
- Electronic devices are prohibited from use at any point during the competition. Devices include mobile phones, tablets, watches, etc...)
- The design and planting must be performed by the exhibitor(s) only.
- Parents and adult leaders may assist with moving supplies to the competition area but must vacate the area once materials are in place.
- HLSR will water and maintain entries for the duration of the display period.
- Planters will be displayed outdoors for 23 days and must be able to withstand warm, sunny, Houston conditions. Choose plants accordingly.

SECTION B: Competition Guide - Miniscapes

JUDGING CRITERIA:

Criterion	Points	What Judge's Evaluate
Design composition	25 pts.	Clear focal point. Plants, colors, accents feel deliberate
Use of trough space	20 pts.	Layout is shaped around the troughs dimension. No crowding or dead zones.
Plant selection	15 pts.	Plants are well suited to outdoor conditions.
Craftsmanship and decorative accents	20 pts.	Accents are well suited and well integrated into the design.
Creativity and overall impression	20 pts.	Distinct and memorable concept
TOTAL	**100 pts.**	

TIPS FOR PARTICIPANTS:

- Choose plants with similar sunlight and watering needs so they thrive together in the planter.
- Plan and sketch your design in advance - paper sketches are allowed in the competition area.
- Consider your design from all angles, as entries will be viewed from all sides.
- Select plants that can tolerate 23 days of warm, sunny, outdoor, Houston weather.
- Securely fasten all small props and accessories so nothing shifts or falls during the display period.
- **Leave items with sentimental value at home.**

ENTRY PICK UP:

- Miniscape entries will remain on display though the duration of the 2027 Show.
- Exhibitors may remove props and accessories at the conclusion of judging.
- Props and accessories may be picked up on Monday, March 22, 2027, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Props and accessories can be shipped upon request. Please contact horticulture@rodeohouston.com on or before Saturday, March 20, 2027.



TEXAS TABLES
Exhibitor Project Log

Exhibitor Name:_____

Entry Title:_____

Project Start Date:_____

Source of Inspiration & Creative Process

Describe the source of inspiration for your design and the steps taken during the creative process - from concept and research through conditioning, construction, and finishing.

Plant Material List

List every plant material used. Provide the botanical name and the common name, plus the role or placement in the design.

	Botanical Name	Common Name	Role/Placement
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

Original Design Sketch

Sketch the original design idea, labeling the plant materials used. Exhibitors in the Texas Tables competition must attach a minimum of four (4) photographs taken during the construction of the entry.

Itemized Cost List

Identify each material used and its individual purchase price. Include the retail price of the finished arrangement, calculated based on standard retail pricing practices.

	Material	Source/Vendor	Qty	Unit Price
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
TOTAL				



PETIT CONTAINER GROWN PLANTS
Exhibitor Project Log

Exhibitor Name:_____

Entry Title:_____

Project Start Date:_____

Source of Inspiration & Creative Process

Describe the source of inspiration for your design and the steps taken during the creative process - from concept and research through conditioning, construction, and finishing.

Plant Material List

List every plant material used. Provide the botanical name and the common name, plus the role or placement in the design.

	Botanical Name	Common Name	Role/Placement
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

Timeline

Journal/document the planting and maintenance activities for your entry. Exhibitors entered in Petit Container Grown Plants must submit a minimum of ten (10) photographs taken during the growing process.

Horticulture Photography
In Person Delivery




Miniscapes
reliant park
S. BRAESWOOD BLVD.
KIRBY
MAIN ST.
N. STADIUM DR.
OST 1
GREENBRIAR ST.
OLD SPANISH TRAIL
FANNIN ST.
LA CONCHA LN.
12
11
PURPLE LOT
15
RED LOT
KIRBY
reliant center
FANNIN ST.
S. MAIN ST.
MCNEE RD.
10
16
YELLOW LOT
NRG PARKWAY
Enter to unload supplies
2
HOLLY HALL
3
Enter Here to park
BRIDGE
TEAL LOT
14
reliant stadium
ASTRODOME
MURWORTH
LANTERN POINT DR.
13
GREEN LOT
BRIDGE
ORANGE LOT
WESTRIDGE
NAOMI
9
BLUE LOT
reliant arena
MAROON LOT
8
6
INTERSTATE 610
8
BRIDGE
5
INTERSTATE 610
24
EXIT ONLY
25
EXIT ONLY
26
EXIT ONLY
N
23
610 LOT
KIRBY
EXIT ONLY
22
FANNIN ST.
W. BELLFORT ST.
21
ENTRANCE
ENTRANCE
20
ENTRANCE
19
ENTRANCE
BELLFORT ST.


Rodeo Cup
Dining Duets
reliant park
S. BRAESWOOD BLVD.
KIRBY
MAIN ST.
N. STADIUM DR.
OST 1
GREENBRIAR ST.
FANNIN ST.
OLD SPANISH TRAIL
LA CONCHA LN.
S. MAIN ST.
PURPLE LOT
MCNEE RD.
KIRBY
RED LOT
reliant center
NRG PARKWAY
FANNIN ST.
YELLOW LOT
LANTERN POINT DR.
BRIDGE
TEAL LOT
METRORAIL STATION
HOLLY HALL
MURWORTH
reliant stadium
ASTRODOME
ORANGE LOT
GREEN LOT
BRIDGE
WESTRIDGE
NAOMI
BLUE LOT
reliant arena
MAROON LOT
INTERSTATE 610
INTERSTATE 610
BRIDGE
EXIT ONLY
EXIT ONLY
EXIT ONLY
610 LOT
N
KIRBY
EXIT ONLY
FANNIN ST.
W. BELLFORT ST.
ENTRANCE
ENTRANCE
ENTRANCE
BELLFORT ST.
Enter Here

Texas Tables
Petit Container Grown Plants

