



## Trial Gardens Competition Past Themes and Award Winners

*Themes are selected by the 1<sup>st</sup> place winners  
from the previous year.*

- 1956**      **Concentric Circles of Gradient Pastel Colors** (started with with white around the millstone and circles continuing in shades of pink, rose, red, blues, mauve, purples, and yellow).
- 1957**      **Pastel Colors** (Garden Clubs selected their own plot themes)  
Certificate of Award won by Windmill Pointe Garden Club for "**True Blue Garden**"
- 1958**      **Accent on Color** ( using shades or tints of prismatic colors)  
Trial Gardens won the highest national award for which it was eligible at the annual meeting of the Federated Garden Clubs of Michigan. The award was for "meritorious service in establishing and maintaining the Trial Gardens."
- 1959**      "**3**" (3 pastel colors, 3 heights, and 3 materials)
- 1960**      **No Theme** (due to construction at the War Memorial)
- 1962**      **A Garden with a New Idea: An Attractive Garden Spot, A Garden Corner with a Focal Point or a Miniature Garden.**  
1st      Grosse Pointe Park Garden Club  
2nd      The Pointe Garden Club  
3rd      Grand Marais Garden Club  
4th      Windmill Pointe Garden Club  
Honorable Mention      Garden Club of Michigan
- 1963**      **A Garden with a New Idea: An Attractive Garden Spot, A Garden Corner with a Focal Point or a Miniature Garden.**  
1st      Grosse Pointe Farm & Garden  
2nd      Grosse Pointe Women's Club Garden Group  
3rd      Windmill Pointe Garden Club  
4th (tie) Grosse Pointe Shores Farm & Garden and Junior League
- 1964**      **A Garden with a New Idea: An Attractive Garden Spot, A Garden Corner with a Focal Point or a Miniature Garden. (different Color assigned to each club)**  
1st      Grand Marais Garden Club  
2nd      Grosse Pointe Park Garden Club  
3rd (tie) Junior League and Suburbia  
Maintenance      Suburbia  
Appearance      Grosse Pointe Shores  
Basic Plan      Grosse Pointe Women's Club Garden Group  
Color      Grosse Ponire Shores

New Material Grosse Pointe Garden Club

- 1965** Moratorium year for repairs and re-evaluation of the gardens. There was no theme but the Garden Center and Garden Clubs planted the gardens.
- 1968** ***Blue, Red and Yellow Gardens*** (clubs were assigned colors for their plots)  
1st Grosse Pointe Shores Farm & Garden Club  
2nd Windmill Pointe Garden Club  
3rd Little Garden Club
- 1969** ***Red, White & Blue*** (Patriotic gardens of new varieties of annuals)  
1st Garden Study Club  
2nd Trowel & Error  
3rd Grosse Pointe Women's Club
- 1970** ***Blue, Pink & Yellow Gardens*** (assigned colors to be planted in 3 shades, 3 varieties, and 3 heights)
- 1972** ***Shades of Pink***  
1st Trowel & Error  
2nd Junior League Gardeners  
3rd Grosse Pointe Farm & Garden
- 1975** ***Harmonious Color Combination Patchwork***
- 1976** ***Bicentennial Garden***
- 1977** ***Picasso Garden***
- 1978** ***A Wheel of Color***
- 1979** ***No Named Theme***  
1st Suburbia Garden Club  
2nd Grosse Pointe Garden Club  
3rd The Pointe Garden Club  
4th The Little Garden Club
- 1980** ***Convention Gardens*** (in honor of the GOP Convention held in Detroit)  
1st Suburbia Garden Club
- 1981** ***An English Country Garden***  
1st Garden Club of Michigan  
2nd Grosse Pointe Farm & Garden  
3rd Trowel & Error
- 1982** ***A French Palette***
- 1983** ***Color in Small Compass***

- 1984**      ***American Flair 1984!***
- 1986**      ***Palette of Color***
- 1988**      ***What's New?***  
1st      Garden Society  
2nd      Grosse Pointe Garden Club
- 1989**      ***American Patchwork Quilts***  
1st      The Garden Society  
2nd      Trowel & Error  
3rd      Grosse Pointe Park Garden Club  
4th      Suburbia Garden Club
- 1990**      ***Flags of the World***  
1st      Grosse Pointe Farm & Garden (*American Flag*)  
2nd      Grosse Pointe Park Garden Club (*Norwegian Flag*)  
Honorable mention to the Herb Society for their center ring gardens.
- 1991**      ***God Bless the Red, White, and Blue***  
1st      Grosse Pointe Farm & Garden
- 1992**      ***Palette of Pastels***  
1st      Grand Marais Garden Club  
2nd      Junior League Gardeners
- 1993**      ***Follow the Yellow Brick Road***  
1st      Grosse Pointe Park Garden Club  
2nd      Garden Club of Michigan
- 1994**      ***Monet***  
1st      Garden Club of Michigan  
2nd      Grosse Pointe Park Garden Club
- 1995**      ***European Country Gardens***  
1st      Grosse Pointe Shores Garden Club (*French Theme*)  
2nd      Deeplands Garden Club (*English Theme*)  
3rd      Windmill Pointe Garden Club
- 1996**      ***Cottage Gardens***  
1st      Grand Marais Garden Club  
2nd      Grosse Pointe Farm & Garden  
3rd      Grosse Pointe Garden Club
- 1997**      ***Butterfly Gardens***  
1st      Grosse Pointe Park Garden Club  
2nd      Deeplands Garden Club

- 1998      3rd      Junior League Gardeners  
**Cutting Gardens**  
1st      Deeplands Garden Club  
2nd      Garden Club of Michigan  
3rd      The Pointe Garden Club
- 1999      **Colour Wheel**  
1st      Grand Marais Garden Club (*Orange*)  
2nd      The Pointe Garden Club  
3rd      Deeplands Garden Club
- 2000      **New Century Garden**  
1st      Windmill Pointe Garden Club  
2nd      Trowel & Error Garden Club  
3rd      Deeplands Garden Club  
Honorable Mention: Grosse Pointe Farm & Garden Club
- 2001      **Hummingbird Garden**  
1st      Tie: Garden Club of Michigan and The Pointe Garden Club  
2nd      Trowel & Error Garden Club  
3rd      Deeplands Garden Club
- 2002      **Patriotic Gardens (50th Anniversary of the Trial Gardens- commissioned by the Garden Center and designed by Eleanor Roche in 1952)**  
  
1st      Grosse Pointe Park Garden Club  
2nd      Deeplands Garden Club  
3rd      Grosse Pointe Garden Club
- 2003      **Holidays**  
1st      Grosse Pointe Park Garden Club  
2nd      Junior League Gardeners  
3rd      Grosse Pointe Garden Club
- 2004      **Song Titles**  
1st      Grosse Pointe Park Garden Club (*Red Sails in the Sunset*)  
2nd      Junior League Gardeners (*Pretty in Pink*)  
3rd      Grosse Pointe Garden Club (*On the Street Where You Live*)
- 2005      **Toys**  
1st      Windmill Pointe Garden Club  
2nd      Deeplands Garden Club  
3rd      Tie: Junior League Gardeners and Men's Garden Club of Grosse Pointe
- 2006      **Around the World**  
1st      Deeplands Garden Club (England)  
2nd      Grosse Pointe Park (Japan)  
3rd      Garden Club of Michigan (Canada)

- 2007**      ***Captivating Combinations***  
1st      Garden Club of Michigan  
2nd      Grosse Pointe Park Garden Club  
3rd      Junior League Gardeners
- 2008**      ***Celebrate the Reopening of the DIA*** (Designs inspired by works of art at the DIA)  
1st      Grosse Pointe Park Garden Club  
2nd      Grosse Pointe Farm & Garden  
3rd      Deeplands Garden Club
- 2009**      ***Kaleidoscope of Color***  
1st      Grosse Pointe Park Garden Club  
2nd      The Pointe Garden Club  
3rd      Windmill Pointe Garden Club
- 2010**      ***A Century of Gardens 1910-2010*** (In celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Alger House)  
1st      Garden Club of Michigan  
2nd      Grosse Pointe Park Garden Club  
3rd      Junior League Gardeners
- 2011**      ***The Earth Laughs in Flowers***  
1st      Grand Marais Garden Club  
2nd      Grosse Pointe Park Garden Club  
3rd      Deeplands Garden Club
- 2012**      ***Flowers, Bees and Butterflies Adrift in Color***  
1st      Windmill Pointe Garden Club  
2nd      Grosse Pointe Park Garden Club  
3rd      Deeplands Garden Club
- 2013**      ***Wedding Gardens; Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Something Blue***  
1st      Deeplands Garden Club  
2nd      Windmill Pointe Garden Club  
3rd      Grosse Pointe Park Garden Club
- 2014**      ***The Garden of Earthly Delights-Cultivating the Senses***  
1st      Grosse Pointe Garden Club  
2nd      Grosse Pointe Park Garden Club  
3rd      Garden Club of Michigan
- 2015**      ***Gertrude Jekyll, a Study in Color and Design***  
1st      Windmill Pointe Garden Club  
2nd      Grosse Pointe Farm & Garden Club  
3rd      Grosse Pointe Park Garden Club

- 2016**      ***Quilts-Using Color and Texture to Create Pattern and Design***  
1st      The Pointe Garden Club  
2nd      Windmill Pointe Garden Club  
3rd      Grosse Pointe Farm & Garden Club
- 2017**      ***Summer of Love***  
1st      Windmill Pointe Garden Club  
2nd      Grosse Pointe Park  
3rd      Grosse Pointe Farm & Garden
- 2018**      ***Gardens Around the World***  
1st      Windmill Pointe Garden Club (Japan)  
2nd      Garden Club of Michigan (Brazil)  
3rd      Deeplands Garden Club (Italy)
- 2019**      ***Secret Garden***  
1st      Deeplands Garden Club  
2nd      Garden Club of Michigan  
3rd      The Pointe Garden Club
- 2020**      ***Rainbow Tribute Garden*** (No competition due to Covid pandemic)  
*A Special Garden with “Our Heartfelt Thanks” dedicated to all our frontline, health care, and essential workers who served us well during the Covid pandemic. Each garden club was assigned a color of the rainbow to plant annuals in their plot.*
- 2021**      ***Shakespeare Garden***  
1st      Grosse Pointe Garden Club  
2nd      Deeplands Garden Club  
3rd      Garden Club of Michigan
- 2022**      ***Milestone Celebrations*** (in celebration of the **Trial Gardens’ 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**)  
1st      Grosse Pointe Farm & Garden  
2nd      Grosse Pointe Garden Club  
3rd      Windmill Pointe Garden Club
- 2023**      ***Plants with a Purpose – Color....Texture....Fragrance....Shape***  
1st      Grosse Pointe Farm & Garden  
2nd      Windmill Pointe Garden Club  
3rd      Deeplands Garden Club
- 2024**      ***A Butterfly Garden***  
1st      Grand Marais Garden Club  
2nd      Grosse Pointe Farm & Garden  
3rd      Windmill Pointe Garden Club

**2025**

***A Cottage Garden***

- 1st Grosse Pointe Farm & Garden
- 2nd Deeplands Garden Club
- 3rd Grand Marais

**2026**

***250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Nation***

- 1st Deeplands Garden Club
- 2nd Grand Marais Garden Club
- 3rd Grosse Pointe Farm & Garden