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**Plant a Border Competition**

Blenheim Palace Flower Show is now established as one of the UK’s leading Flower Shows, it attracts around 30,000 visitors a year. Our visitors enjoy a show that is full of quality plants, the Show Gardens, Grand Floral Pavilion, floral art competitions and an opportunity to purchase products from sculpture to fashion, furniture to a wide selection of gardening sundries.

New for 2019 is our **Plant a Border Competition**, which provides an opportunity for horticultural students, designers, community groups, horticultural societies and budding gardeners to experience design, planning and building a horticultural exhibit at a Flower Show.

Each Border consists of a raised bed that will be installed ready for planting when competitors arrive on site. Each Border will be judged by our panel of horticultural judges and the best exhibit will be awarded the ‘Best Border Award 2019’ which carries a prize of £250.

There is no specific theme but the emphasis should be on exciting planting schemes.

**General information**

* Each Border measures 2m x 1m space and will be marked out with a wooden frame, 15cm high.
* No digging is allowed into the ground due to the show ground being a National Heritage Site.
* All competitors to provide all soil and compost for use in their Border.
* A water supply is available during build up and throughout the show.
* All Borders must be designed and viewed from all sides but will be judged from the front.
* Any elements including trees in Borders should not exceed a height of 2m.
* Any props or structures used should not account for more than 20% of the overall Border.
* Watering and maintenance of Border is the responsibility of the competitor.
* All details about the Border will be included on the Show website and in the Show Brochure.
* All Borders including soil must be completely cleared at the end of the show. Plants may be sold off but not until after 4pm on the last day of the show on Sunday 23 June.

**Key Dates**

Application Form Deadline Friday 1 March 2019

All Borders allocated by Friday 29 March 2019

Show Brochure copy deadline Friday 31 May 2019

Staging on Wednesday 19 June 2019 8am to 20.00

Judging Thursday 20 June

**Show Days** **21, 22, 23 June 10.00 – 17.00**

Plant Sell Off 16.00 Sunday 23 June

Breakdown begins from 17.30 Sunday 23 June

**Entry Deposit**

A refundable deposit of £50 is required with the completed application form. This will be refunded after participation in the show.

**Awards**

Each Border will be judged by a panel of horticultural judges and awarded Gold, Silver Gilt, Silver, Bronze certificates. A ‘**Best Border Award 2019’** award will be made of **£250.**

**Tickets and Passes**

Four Security passes will be issued for the build up and breakdown periods plus the necessary vehicle permits.

For each day of the show four Competitor badges plus one vehicle permit will be issued.

**What to do next?**

Complete the Plant a Border Application form and include a plan showing your idea for the border, including a preliminary planting list showing the type of plants that will be used in the scheme.

**For more information contact Mig Kimpton 07831 838851.**

**Your application form can be emailed to mig@migkimpton.com or**

**posted to Mig Kimpton,
Flower Show Manager, Aztec Events 48 South Street, Rochford, Essex SS4 1BQ**