



Volunteer at the North Jersey Orchid Show and Sale

No Experience Necessary! Everyone Welcome!

Sign up for volunteer activities by emailing Carrie Buchman (cbuchman@tncb.net). It is helpful to know who and how many people are coming in advance, but walk-ins are always welcome.

Wednesday, January 11, 2017 beginning at 9 am

Begin the transformation of Traves Hall in the Douglass Student Center into an orchid oasis. Workshop, judging, exhibits and vendor areas are set up; and the North Jersey orchid exhibit is built including orchid taxonomy verification and plant labeling. Pizza lunch is provided. All volunteers are welcome. Volunteers gain insight into orchid taxonomy, orchid exhibits, art & skill of displaying orchids.

Thursday, January 12, 2017 beginning at 9 am

The transformation of Traves Hall is completed with the remaining exhibitor and the vendors loading in. This may involve unpacking shipping crates and/or building displays. Workshop, exhibits and vendor area set-up is completed. Pizza lunch is provided. All volunteers are welcome. Volunteers gain insight into orchid taxonomy, orchid exhibits, orchid genus, species & hybrids, orchid classification, art & skill of displaying orchids.

Friday, January 13, 2017 beginning at 8:30 am

Ribbon Judging: Following a light breakfast, clerk-volunteers work in teams with American Orchid Society (AOS) accredited judges to locate plants in exhibits, record awards, and place show ribbons. Judging teams assess the orchids in each class awarding ribbons based on the relative merits of the entries. Judging is a team activity and clerks are often invited to participate in ribbon and trophy award conversations. Lunch is provided. Advance sign up for volunteers is greatly appreciated (email to cbuchman@tncb.net) to facilitate the creation of name badges. Volunteers are introduced to the basics of orchid ribbon judging, orchid classes, orchid genus, species & hybrids, comparative differences in orchids of same class.

AOS Judging: After lunch, 4 to 6 clerk-volunteers pull selected plants from exhibits for American Orchid Society (AOS) judging and return them after judging. AOS judging evaluates orchids against an established database of prior awards. Volunteers/students are welcome to observe the judging process and discussion, and ask questions as time permits. Volunteers are introduced to basics of the American Orchid Society judging and award system, characteristics/attributes that judges look for, orchid classes, orchid genus, species & hybrids.

Welcome Table: 3 to 5 volunteers welcome visitors to the show and answer questions about the show and general information about RU campus, including handing out orchid culture sheets and North Jersey orchid Society membership forms. The welcome desk also coordinates twice-daily orchid raffles. Welcome desk volunteers work in 2 hour shifts.

Saturday, January 14, 2017

Fragrance Judging: 2 to 4 clerk-volunteers pull selected plants from exhibits for fragrance judging, coordinate fragrance ribbon placement and return plants once judging is complete. Lunch is provided. Volunteers/students are welcome to observe the judging process and discussion, and ask questions as time permits. Volunteers learn about the basics of orchid fragrances and fragrance judging from our panel of expert perfumers.

Welcome Table: See above.

Sunday, January 15, 2017

Welcome Table: See above.

Tear Down: At the conclusion of the show, volunteers help exhibitors and vendors remove their exhibits and pack up and return Traves Hall to its former self.