

**Show Schedule
and Information**
for
“California Dreaming”

**A BSI Standard Show
for
World Bromeliad Conference 2026**

April 14-18, 2026

at the

**Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa
3050 Bristol St., Costa Mesa, CA 92626**

Presented by

Bromeliad Society International

and the

Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society



Information for the Standard BSI Show

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Event Category	Need	Information
Obtaining show entry cards	Requesting entry cards prior to the conference	Email or call Jeff Sorensen, Show Chair email: jeffsorensen@sbcglobal.net (preferred method) Phone (Cell Phone), leave a clear message if not answered, or text: (949) 275-1586, including your name
Entries	Dates, times, & place	Tuesday, April 14, 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM Wednesday, April 15, 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM The Pacific Ballroom II room at Hilton Orange County
Entry Cards	Maximum number (pre-show) allowed	10 per person (hobbyist) or company (commercial); Category I, Divisions I – VI combined Additional cards, up to 10, at the venue
Judging	Date, time, & place	Wednesday, April 15, 1:00 PM (promptly) – 5:00 PM or until judging is completed
Judges' & clerks' luncheon	Date, time, and place	Wednesday, April 15, 12:00 PM– 1:00 PM
Show setup	Date & time	Thursday, April 16, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (reorganization of plants; setup of head table, placement of awards)
Show	Dates & times	Thursday, April 16, 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM (registered attendees only) Friday, April 17, 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM (attendees & public) Saturday, April 18, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM (attendees & public)
Dismantling	Date & time	Saturday, April 18, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM (all show participants are required to help)

SHOW COMMITTEES

Position	Chair(s)	Contact information
Show Chair	Jeff Sorensen	(949) 275-1586 jeffsorensen@sbcglobal.net
Judges Chair	Jeff Sorensen	(949) 275-1586 jeffsorensen@sbcglobal.net
Awards Chair	Jeff Sorensen	(949) 275-1586 jeffsorensen@sbcglobal.net
Classification Chair	Cristy Brenner	(949) 837-3722 cbrenner4@cox.net
Entries Chair	Terrie Bert	(941) 795-6012 theresa.bert1949@gmail.com
Exhibits & Displays	TBD	
Head Table	TBD	
Judges' Clerks	Nada Chatwell	nchat@cox.net
Photography	TBD	
Placement	TBD	
Show Schedule	Jeff Sorensen	(949) 275-1586 jeffsorensen@sbcglobal.net

SHOW RULES

1. *The Handbook for Judges, Exhibitors, & Affiliates*, plus any official additional updated material published in the Journal of the Bromeliad Society International is the final authority for the rules and regulations governing Standard BSI Shows, all Internationally Accredited BSI Judges and BSI Instructors. The Scales of Points as described in *The Handbook for Judges, Exhibitors and Affiliates* will be applied to the appropriate categories (also see pages 14 - 15 in this document).
2. Great caution will be exercised to safeguard entries and exhibits; however, the Hilton Orange County, the Bromeliad Society International, the Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society, and the members of these institutions are not responsible for losses or damage to the property of the exhibitor. All entries, exhibits, and/or sales areas are entered at the owner's risk.
3. Competition is open to all registrants of the 26th World Bromeliad Conference. All entries except those in the Artistic Design and Exhibits categories (see below) must have been in the possession of the exhibitor a minimum of six months before the show.
4. The Show Chair, Entries Chair, and Judges' Chair are the final authorities on show-related matters under their jurisdictions and on emergency or other matters not covered by these rules. The Classification Committee reserves the right to reclassify any entry not meeting the requirements of the Division or Section assigned by the exhibitor. The Classification chair is the final authority on the names of all entries.
5. Bromeliads must be free of disease and insects. Bromeliads in questionable condition may be disqualified by the Show or Entries Chair or their representatives, without prior notification to the exhibitor.
6. Bromeliads and their containers or mounts should be cleaned prior to entry to remove dust, water spots, moss, algae, debris, mineral deposits, etc. Agents such as carbonated water, vinegar, or plain water may be used, but no enhancing residue should remain. **Agents that shine plant leaves or otherwise artificially enhance appearance (e.g., milk, cream, other shining substances) may not be used.** Plants with evidence of such artificial enhancement will be disqualified.
7. No exhibitor or judge may change the class or name of any entry without the consent of the Show Chair, Entries Chair or his/her representative. Record keepers must be notified of any changes at the time of the change. No one may change the class or name of an entry after judging for individual ribbons is complete.
8. The Placement Committee will place in the showroom all entries except Artistic Arrangements, Decorative Containers, Exhibits, and certain art. These entries may be placed by the exhibitor, or the exhibitor may designate the Placement Committee to place the item. No one may move, water, or otherwise disturb his or her plants after they have been placed in the show by the Placement Committee.
9. To ensure maximum protection of the items being judged, only the General Show Chair and the chairs of entries, placement, and exhibits, and as well as designated individuals working under these

chairs; will be allowed in the show area during entry and placement of all entries. Only the General Show Chair; the chairs for judges, clerks, and awards; and the judges and judges' clerks will be allowed in the show room during the time of judging. Any exceptions will be permitted at the discretion of the listed chairpersons.

10. General judging will be done using the merit system. Each plant will be judged on its individual merits, in accordance with the BSI Judges Handbook. Final judging for major awards will be done by comparative judging.

11. The show will have two separate groups: hobbyist and commercial, as defined in the Definitions section below. The categories, divisions, and awards for each group are described below.

12. To be eligible for major awards in each group (hobbyist, commercial), entries must be properly named at time of entry and classification (genus, species, variety, and/or cultivar if applicable). Hybrid names must be registered in the electronic version of the Bromeliad Cultivar registry within the BSI website or in the Updated December 2023 Special Rules and Eligible *Cryptanthus*. If only the established parentage is known, the exhibitor must write that parentage on the entry sheet.

13. The *Cryptanthus* Group is defined as species, cultivars of species, hybrids or cultivars of hybrids in the following genera: *Forzzaea*, *Hoplocryptanthus*, *Rokautskyia*, *Siqueiranthus* and *Cryptanthus*. Entries by hobbyists in any of these genera are eligible for special *Cryptanthus* Society Awards. A species or cultivar of a species must be listed in the updated *Cryptanthus* Society's Special Rules and Eligible *Cryptanthus* for *Cryptanthus* Society Show Awards publication or in the case of cultivars of species, registered in the BSI Bromeliad Cultivar Registry. A hybrid or cultivar of a hybrid is eligible for these awards only if one or more of the following applies: 1) the parentage of the hybrid is known and established at time of entry; 2) the hybrid has been registered in the BSI Bromeliad Cultivar Registry or 3) the hybrid is listed in the updated *Cryptanthus* Society's Special Rules and Eligible *Cryptanthus* for *Cryptanthus* Society Show Awards publication and subsequent updates. (Published by and available from the *Cryptanthus* Society); 4) posted on the *Cryptanthus* Society Homepage at www.cryptanthussociety.net. Only entries in the Hobbyist category and that have received Awards of Merit are eligible. Award winners may have won other awards.

At the 2026 BSI WBC, a special award in honor of the late Carole Richtmyer has been donated and will go to the Best *Cryptanthus* Group Entry in an artistic category (Artistic Arrangements, Decorative Containers and Artistic Expression) where *Cryptanthus* Group plants predominate, which includes plants of the genera: *Forzzaea*, *Hoplocryptanthus*, *Rokautskyia*, *Siqueiranthus* and *Cryptanthus*. This exhibit must be an entry in the Hobbyist category, have received an Award of Merit and may have won other awards.

14. All Horticultural Display entries must be either freestanding on a table or on the floor, or suitable for hanging with appropriate hooks or hangers. **Exhibitors must provide their own hangers for hanging plants.**

15. It is not permitted to enter more than one entry in the same division, section, and genus. For example, the exhibitor may not enter two single, blooming *Neoregelia carolinae* v. *tricolor* plants

in the same section and division. **Each exhibitor is limited to 20 entries total for all entries combined.**

16. Judges may not pick up or move entries. The clerks will assist any judge who wants a different view of an entry. No artistic entry shall be moved after it has been placed or set up. Artistic entries that are moved to the Head Table following judging will be placed in their origin orientation.

17. To be eligible for the Sweepstakes Award, an exhibitor must have at least one Category I, Horticulture (see below) entry in each of the *Bromelioideae* and *Tillandsioideae* subfamilies and in one of the following subfamilies: *Pitcairnioideae*, *Brocchiniodeae*, *Hechtioideae*, *Lindmanioideae*, *Navioideae*, *Puyoideae*; only one Horticulture entry in one of these six subfamilies is required.

18. No exhibits or awards may be removed before 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 18, 2026, without the express approval of the Show Chair or the Conference Chair. Plant removal arrangements necessary for those who are leaving on early flights or who are donating entry plants to the Rare Plant Auction should be made with Jeff Sorensen or Chris Bruce. Entries that have not been claimed or removed from the showroom by 3:00 P.M. Saturday, April 18, 2026, will become the property of the Conference Committee. All exhibitors should help with the dismantling and cleaning of the show area.

19. Violation of any of these rules may result in forfeiture of awards or disqualification from the show.

ENTERING PLANTS

DEFINITIONS

“Artistic Arrangements”: A floral design of bromeliads and/or bromeliad foliage, inflorescences, roots, stolon, etc. used singly or in combination with other plant materials or manmade materials (no artificial plant material may be used) and organized according to the principles of design to express beauty. One or more accessories (designer’s choice), bases, and backgrounds are permitted. Other plant material, fresh or dried may be used, but bromeliads must be emphasized. Only dried material may be painted. Plants may be placed in the arrangement just prior to exhibition in the show. They may have been grown by the exhibitor, borrowed, or purchased for the arrangement.

“Artistic Expression”: Manmade expressions designed to be viewed for their artistic qualities can be shown in this category. Bromeliads must be the focal point of the exhibit; but live, dead, or dried bromeliads or their parts may not be used. Photography may be matted or framed and will be exhibited in a vertical position against a neutral background. Other items will be displayed on tables. The exhibitor may also provide his or her own mechanism for display.

“Blooming” bromeliad: A bromeliad entry must be entered into the appropriate blooming category if any bromeliad in the entry shows evidence of blooming. Neoregelias with immature inflorescences in their

central cups and any other species exhibiting conformational or color changes indicative of blooming will be placed in a blooming category. The final determination will be made by the Classification Committee.

“Commercial” exhibitor: Any exhibitor who derives at least 50% of his/her income from selling bromeliads or who maintains bromeliad collections composed of many plants of the same species, cultivar, or hybrid resulting from past commercial activity. This includes present and former owners of nurseries recognized for selling bromeliads. All other exhibitors are deemed hobbyists. To qualify for a hobbyist entry, employees of commercial bromeliad growers must enter bromeliads that they have grown physically independently of the commercial enterprises they work for. Commercial entries will be judged in the Commercial Division (see below) and are subject to the same rules and restrictions in this show schedule that pertain to hobbyist entries. A Mulford Foster Best of Show award will be given in the Commercial Division, as will silver and bronze medallions for 2nd and 3rd place, all sections combined. **Entry sheets and entry tags must be marked "Commercial" prior to submission of the entries.**

“Cut Bromeliad Inflorescence”: The entry consists of a cut inflorescence only, displayed in a plain glass bud vase or something comparable. No other foliage or parts of the bromeliad plant is permitted.

“Decorative Container”: Items such as fancy ceramic pots, ceramic animals or figures, fancy bark, carved tree ferns (such as ferns carved into animal shapes), ornamental wood, rocks, seashells, and other containers that attract the eye and are finished in some way. Plants can be placed in the container specifically for the judging and do not have to be grown in the container in which they are exhibited but must have been grown by the exhibitor for at least 6 months prior to show entry. The pot in which the plant is grown may be placed into the decorative container but must be hidden in some way. Decorative containers can either be hanging or set upon a table. Hangers for hanging decorative container exhibits must be provided by the exhibitor.

“Foliage” bromeliad: No bromeliads in the entry show evidence of developing an inflorescence. Neoregelias with small buttons at the bottom of their central cups may be entered into non-blooming sections if the formation of any inflorescences has not caused changes in coloration and conformation of the plant typical of a blooming *Neoregelia*. The final determination will be made by the Classification Committee.

“Fruiting Bromeliad”: Specimens exhibited in a past-bloom state. These plants must exhibit development of at least one prominent fruit or berry. Exhibits can be entered in containers as for divisions I through IV (see below).

“Hobbyist” exhibitor: Any exhibitor who grows bromeliads for his or her enjoyment and sells only surplus plants. *NOTE: A hobbyist who sells bromeliads at this WBC will not necessarily be considered a commercial grower.*

“Horticultural Display”: A single specimen, or two or more mature bromeliads, mounted on a natural medium or free-standing. The plant(s) may be started from the same or different genera, species, forms, varieties, hybrids, or cultivars and allowed to grow and multiply in a natural fashion, with emphasis on horticultural excellence. Plants may be mounted epiphytically on non-

decorative media such as wood, cork bark, or tree fern; grown in nondecorative baskets of natural materials (e.g., wooden slats); or potted in non-decorative containers. Mounted plants should show evidence of root attachment or appear established and not recently attached to the mount. Plants may be started from one or more than one bromeliad. There should be no plants (i.e., ferns, weeds, etc.) other than bromeliads in or on the container. No living materials, including mosses or *Tillandsia usnioides*, may be added to enhance the entry.

“Multiple” bromeliad: Two or more fully mature bromeliads contained in a single pot or on a single mount. Other bromeliads at any stage of maturity may be growing in the same pot or on the same mount. All bromeliads must show evidence of being established in the container or on the mount and of being naturally interconnected. If the bromeliads are not naturally interconnected, the entry must be placed in a division of Horticultural Display. If the bromeliads show no evidence of establishment on their mounts, they must be placed in an artistic or non-standard category.

“Panel Judge”: Any individual who participates in the actual judging of this WBC. These individuals must enter plants or bromeliad-related artistic contributions only in the “Judges” Division (X, see below). All plants must have been grown at least 6 months by the judge entering the plants and all artistic contributions must have been constructed or otherwise developed solely by the judge, except for the printing of photographs and framing of artwork. Entries into this Division will be judged by a panel of BSI judges who do not have entries in the division, using the appropriate scale of points. A “Best Judges Entry” award will be given. Judges who enter plants in the genus *Cryptanthus* may compete for Cryptanthus Society awards.

“Single” bromeliad: One fully mature plant in a pot or mounted. Plants with small, immature offsets too small for removal from the mother plant (i.e., about one-third or less than the size of the mother plant) may be entered in Individual Plant sections. Immature plants attached to the mother plant should not detract from the appearance of either the mother plant or the whole plant assembly.

“Top dressing”: Materials placed on top of the potting medium in potted plants. Top dressings are allowed as long as they do not distract from the exhibit. Do not use shiny plastic or glass chips or beads or brightly colored gravel; also avoid charcoal. No living plants such as mosses or *Tillandsia usnioides* can be used as a top dressing.

“Unadorned pot”: a non-decorative container such as clay, plastic, terra cotta, unadorned bonsai, or Styrofoam pot; typical, unadorned, single-color commercial pots constructed of these materials are allowed. The Entries, Classification and/or Show chairs will have final word on the appropriateness of pots and containers used for any entry in any division.

ENTRY PROCEDURES

1. Only one exhibitor will be allowed per entry. Each plant entered into the show must be properly labeled, **in pencil** using standard BSI entry cards (**no ink or permanent marker, please**). This includes plants entered into special divisions and exhibits. The information on the card must include the genus, species, variety or cultivar (if applicable) of the plant, or the full name of both

parents for each unnamed hybrid. If the entry is a miniature or unusual cultivar of a variety or species, this should be so noted on the entry card, to inform the judges.

2. Only fully named plants of recognized species or hybrids (see rule 12, above) are eligible for major awards. The entry sheet and entry cards must be completed by each exhibitor prior to submitting them for entry into the show. Entry cards will be available from the Entries Chairperson, Dr. Theresa Bert (941) 795 6012, please leave a clear message if no one answers; theresa.bert1949@gmail.com) prior to the show and during conference registration. Only a maximum of 20 entries per exhibitor will be provided. Fill out both top and bottom parts of entry cards. An entry card that is completely (both top and bottom) and correctly filled out (in pencil) must accompany each entry.

3. Guide for writing bromeliad names on entry cards:

Category	Entry card line	Directions	Examples
Genus	<i>Genus</i>	Capitalize and italicize or underline	<i>Neoregelia</i> ; <u>Neoregelia</u>
Intergeneric hybrid	<i>Genus</i>	Capitalize and put an “X” before the name; do not italicize or underline	X Neoma
Species	<i>species</i> or Hybrid	Lower case, italicize or underline	<i>marmorata</i> ; <u>marmorata</u>
Hybrid	<i>species</i> or Hybrid	Capitalize each word if the hybrid has a name; do not put single quotes around name, do not italicize or underline	Blushing Bride
Formula cross	<i>species</i> or Hybrid	Write all names if the hybrid has a formula name; maintain capitalization and punctuation rules, as above	<i>marmorata</i> X <i>carolinae</i> ; <i>marmorata</i> X Blushing Bride; <i>marmorata</i> X Isabel ‘Buckingham’; (<i>carolinae</i> X <i>concentrica</i>) X Dexter’s Pride; (<i>carolinae</i> X <i>concentrica</i>) X (<i>tristis</i> X Golden Grace)
Subspecies	<i>variety, form,</i> or ‘Cultivar’	Lower case, include abbreviation for the category	ssp. <i>variegata</i>
Variety	<i>variety, form,</i> or ‘Cultivar’	Lower case, include abbreviation for the category; italicize or underline the name	var. <i>striata</i>
Form	<i>variety, form,</i> or ‘Cultivar’	Lower case, include the Latin name for the category; italicize or underline the name	forma <i>lingulata</i>
Cultivar	<i>variety, form,</i> or ‘Cultivar’	Capitalize and put the name in single quotes; do not italicize or underline	‘Buckingham’

Important Notes About Nomenclature:

Do not put single quotes around hybrid names (correct form is, e.g., *Neoregelia* Blushing Bride, *Neoregelia* Dexter's Pride). Hybrids are crosses between two plants in any combination of species, hybrids, or cultivars of different types. One plant is the maternal (ovarian, within the stamen) parent; the other is the paternal (pollen, within the pistil) parent.

Do put single quotes around cultivar names (e.g., *Pitcairnia echinata* 'Streaker'--the cultivar of the species *Pitcairnia echinata* is 'Streaker'; *Neoregelia* Isabel 'Buckingham'—'Buckingham' is a cultivar of the hybrid *Neoregelia* Isabel). Cultivars are special types of species, hybrids, or even other cultivars. If you have a cultivar, please put the species name and then the cultivar name as illustrated.

Basically, the entry form shows you how to write the plant name.

ENTRIES HIERARCHY

CATEGORY I – HORTICULTURE

Entries into divisions I through IV must be potted in unadorned pots and be grown originally from a single plant. Multiple plants should have evidence of connectivity. Plants may have pups too small to grow independently (usually less than about 1/3 of the parental size). Top dressings may be used but should not draw attention.

Plants in divisions V and VI must be free-standing or mounted on or in a non-standard-container with non-decorative materials that have no artistic or decorative embellishment. They must have evidence of being rooted to the mount or of living and growing on the mount long enough to be well-established. Please see the **AWARDS** section below for description of the awards that bromeliads entered into any level of Category I are eligible for.

Division I – Individual Plant, Foliage, Potted

Plant must be mature and must not have an inflorescence.

Section A – Individual Plant, Foliage, Potted

Division II – Individual Plant, Blooming, Potted

Plant must be mature and have a visible inflorescence or characteristics of a developing inflorescence.

Section A – Individual Plant, Blooming, Potted

Division III – Multiple Plants, Foliage, Potted

Two or more mature plants growing interconnectedly; no plant should have a visible inflorescence or characteristics of a developing inflorescence.

Section A – Multiple Plants, Foliage, Potted

Division IV – Multiple Plants, Blooming, Potted

Two or more mature plants growing interconnectedly; at least one plant must have a visible inflorescence or characteristics of a developing inflorescence.

Section A – Multiple Plants, Blooming, Potted

Division V – Horticultural Displays, Single

A single plant is mounted on or placed within wood or another non-decorative medium; the plant should show signs of growth or sustained attachment to the material.

Section A – Foliage

Plant must have no evidence of inflorescence.

Section B – Blooming

Plant must have evidence of inflorescence.

Division VI – Horticultural Displays, Multiple

Same criteria as Division V, but multiple plants are used; plants may be separated; they do not need to be connected; multiple species may be used.

Section A – Foliage

Plants must have no evidence of inflorescence.

Section B – Blooming

At least one plant in the group must have evidence of inflorescence.

CATEGORY II - ARTISTIC DESIGN

Entries into these divisions are bromeliads on or in containers or mounts that are decorative (i.e., add to the esthetics of the entry). See definitions above. **All entries must be accompanied by a card (e.g., index card) with the title of the arrangement and the name(s) of the most prominent bromeliads in the entry.** Please see the **AWARDS** section below for description of the awards that bromeliads entered into any level of Category II are eligible for.

Division VII – Decorative Containers

The artistic creation may be named, but that is not required; however, bromeliads used in the creation must be listed on the entry card.

Section A – Natural Materials

Section B – Man-made Materials

Division VIII - Artistic Arrangements

The artistic creation must be named; bromeliads used in the creation must be listed on the entry card.

Section A – Theme: California Dreaming

Section B – Exhibitor’s Own Theme

CATEGORY III – SPECIAL ENTRIES

Non-standard divisions will be judged within their divisions. They are not eligible for BSI awards but are eligible for Cryptanthus Society awards. They receive awards within their respective divisions.

Division IX – Non-standard Bromeliad Entries

A Best non-standard Bromeliad Entries Division award will be given, as will section awards.

Section A – Fruiting Bromeliad

Plant must have fruits (berries) and no active flowers on any inflorescence.

Section B – Cut Bromeliad Inflorescence

Only inflorescence is displayed, in a plain, unadorned, appropriately sized vase. Inflorescence should be in prime (mid) bloom, not developing or past bloom prime.

Division X – Judges’ Challenge

Invited BSI judges who wish to enter plants for judging must use this division. First and second place awards within this division will be given. **Entry sheets and entry tags must be marked "Judge" prior to submission of the entries. All plants must have been grown by the exhibiting judge at least 6 months prior to the show. Any non-plant entries must have been made, constructed, or otherwise created only by the judge exhibiting the entry. No outside assistance is permitted other than the printing of photographs and framing of photographs and original artwork.**

Division XI – Novice

BSI members who have never won a blue ribbon in a bromeliad show may use this division; but if they enter plants into this division, they may not enter plants into any other judged division. First and second place awards within this division will be given. **Entry sheets and entry tags must be marked “Novice” prior to submission of the entries.**

Division XII – Commercial

Growers who make 50% or more of their annual income from sales of bromeliads must use this division or who maintain bromeliad collections composed of many plants of the same species, cultivar, or hybrid resulting from past commercial activity. The sections include only potted plants and horticultural displays. Commercial entries are subject to the same rules and restrictions in this show schedule that pertain to hobbyist entries. A Mulford Foster Best of Show award will be given in the Commercial Division, as will silver and bronze medallions for 2nd and 3rd place, all sections combined. **Entry sheets and entry tags must be marked “Commercial” prior to submission of the entries.**

Section A – Single potted plants (blooming or foliage)

Section B – Multiple potted plants (blooming or foliage)

Section C – Mounted or free-standing plants (blooming or foliage)

Division XIII – Artistic Expression

This division includes all types of bromeliad-related art except decorative containers and arrangements. Bromeliads must be the focal point of the exhibit, but live or dried bromeliads or their parts, may not be used. Entries include creations such as original artwork, prints, photography, ceramics, quilting, etc. Exhibitors with large or unusual size entries must provide their own mechanics for exhibition. Exhibitors with hanging entries must provide the hangers. Entries must have been created and made only by the exhibitor. A Best Artistic Expression Division award will be given, as will section awards. **No outside assistance is permitted other than the printing of photographs and framing of photographs and original artwork.**

Section A -- Photography

Section B – Original artwork

Section C – Other artistic endeavors

CATEGORY IV – EXHIBITS

Entries into this division are judged and receive ribbon awards.

Division XIV – Exhibits

Informational or artistic displays typically covering several square feet on a table or on the floor; information must convey a message related to the conference theme, bromeliads, or bromeliad organizations; prior arrangements with Show Chair, Entries Chair, and Exhibits Chair are required.

Section A – Individual

Section B – Society

Section C -- Commercial

CATEGORY V – NONCOMPETITIVE

Division XV - Display Only

Any bromeliad society member may enter bromeliads or bromeliad-related art into this non-judged category. An official BSI entry tag must accompany these entries.

JUDGING

Explanations of the requirements for judging each category in the list of points awarded (below) are lengthy and detailed. They can be obtained from the BSI Judges Handbook or requested from the Classification Chair (theresa.bert1949@gmail.com).

RANGE OF NUMERICAL VALUES FOR RIBBONS AWARDED

Award of Merit	95-100; Category I entries correctly named according to BSI rules (see above) that receive an Award of Merit are eligible for the BSI Mulford Foster Best of Show award. Category II entries receiving an Award of Merit are eligible for the BSI Morris Henry Hobbs award. The Award of Merit is a special subdivision of blue ribbon.
Blue	90-100
Red	85-89
Yellow	80-84
White	70-79

In practice, yellow and white ribbons are seldom awarded. Instead, the entry may be simply marked as “judged” without a ribbon award.

DISTRIBUTION OF POINTS, MERIT JUDGING

INDIVIDUAL SPECIMEN AND MULTIPLE SPECIMEN DIVISIONS

Blooming Bromeliads

Potted plants having evidence of an inflorescence. Neoregelias with budding inflorescences and changes in coloration and/or shape characteristic of the blooming condition will be classified as blooming bromeliads.

Cultural perfection	30
Conformation of plant, including inflorescence	20
Color and marking of plant, excluding inflorescence	20
Inflorescence: size, quality, quantity, color	20
Maturity of plant	<u>10</u>
Total	100

Foliage Bromeliads

Potted plants with no inflorescence or evidence of a developing inflorescence.

Cultural perfection	30
Conformation of plant	30
Color and marking of plant	30
Maturity of plant	<u>10</u>
Total	100

HORTICULTURAL DISPLAYS

Displays of plant(s) grown naturally on a medium, with emphasis on horticultural excellence.

Blooming Bromeliads

Cultural perfection	25
Conformation of plant, including inflorescence	15
Color and marking of plant, excluding inflorescence	15
Overall balance and symmetry	15
Inflorescence size, quantity, quality, color	20
Maturity of plant(s)	<u>10</u>
Total	100

Foliage Bromeliads

Cultural perfection	30
Conformation of plant	20
Color and marking of plant	25
Overall balance and symmetry	15
Maturity of plant(s)	<u>10</u>
Total	100

DECORATIVE CONTAINERS

Displays of skillfully grown plant(s), with emphasis on harmony or contrast between plant and container.

Harmony, compatibility, and attractiveness of plant and container, as related to color, texture, and degree of formality	30
Originality and uniqueness	10
Cultural perfection	20
Conformation of plant, including inflorescence, if applicable	20
Color and marking, including inflorescence, if applicable	<u>20</u>
Total	100

ARTISTIC ARRANGEMENTS

Floral designs of bromeliads and/or bromeliad foliage, inflorescences, roots, or solons used singly or in combination with other plant materials, and/or man-made materials, and arranged according to the principles of design to express beauty. The design is judged as an artistic entity, and bromeliads must be emphasized, either by placement, prominent featuring of their bold forms, distinctive markings and/or vibrant hues, or by quantity.

Adherence to design principles:	
Balance, rhythm, proportion, scale, contrast, and dominance	40
Compatibility of colors and materials selected	15
Originality	15

Distinction, marked superiority in all respects, including:	
Condition of plant material	10
Interpretation of theme or title	10
Emphasis on bromeliads	<u>10</u>
Total	100

SPECIAL EXHIBITOR DIVISIONS

Plants in the Judges, Commercial, and Novice divisions will be judged by the scales of points listed above.

MAJOR AWARDS JUDGING

All category descriptions written above the previous point tables also apply here.

INDIVIDUAL SPECIMENS AND MULTIPLE SPECIMENS, MAJOR AWARDS

Blooming plants

Cultural perfection	25
Conformation of plant, including inflorescence	20
Color and marking of plant, excluding inflorescence	20
Inflorescence size, quantity, quality, color	20
Difficulty of cultivation	10
Maturity of plant(s)	<u>5</u>
Total	100

Foliage plants

Cultural perfection	25
Conformation of plant	30
Color and marking of plant	30
Difficulty of cultivation	10
Maturity of plant(s)	<u>5</u>
Total	100

HORTICULTURAL DISPLAYS, MAJOR AWARDS

Blooming

Cultural perfection	20
Conformation of plant, including inflorescence	15
Overall balance and symmetry	15
Color and marking of plant, excluding inflorescence	15
Inflorescence size, quantity, quality, color	20
Difficulty of cultivation	10
Maturity of plant(s)	<u>5</u>
Total	100

Foliage

Cultural perfection	25
Conformation of plant	20
Color and marking of plant	25
Overall balance and symmetry	15
Difficulty of cultivation	10
Maturity of plant(s)	<u>5</u>
Total	100

ARTISTIC DESIGN, MAJOR AWARDS

The point system is the same as that used for ribbon judging (see above).

AWARDS

BSI AWARDS

Entries into hobbyist CATEGORY I and CATEGORY II (divisions I – VIII) and Commercial Division XII are eligible for BSI awards. Mulford B. Foster and Morris Henry Hobbs plaques are donated by the BSI for, respectively, Best of Show Horticulture (hobbyist and commercial) and Best of Show Artistic (hobbyist). The BSI also donates the following medallions:

gold for recipients of Best of Show Horticulture, hobbyist and commercial, and Best of Show Artistic, hobbyist, and for Sweepstakes.

silver for winners in hobbyist divisions I – VIII and for the second-place bromeliad in the commercial division, all sections combined.

bronze for section winners in hobbyist divisions I – VIII and for third place in the commercial division, all sections combined.

To be eligible to win any BSI Major Award, the entry must be properly named (genus, species, variety, form, parentage, etc., if applicable) at the time of entry and classification. BSI Awards are judged by the applicable BSI distribution of points (see above).

MULFORD B. FOSTER BEST OF SHOW, HORTICULTURE

This award, for Best of Show in the Horticulture Category, is an engraved plaque given to the entry selected from the Best of Division winner. Plaques will be given in the Hobbyist group; Hobbyist Group divisions I – VI are eligible.

MORRIS HENRY HOBBS BEST OF SHOW, ARTISTIC

This award, for Best of Show in the Artistic Design Category, is an engraved plaque given to the Hobbyist Group entry selected from the Best of Division winners in the Decorative Container and Artistic Arrangement divisions.

SWEEPSTAKES AWARD

This award is given to the Hobbyist exhibitor with entries in three or more genera in at least three different bromeliad subfamilies, as defined in Rule 17 (above), and receiving the most

blue and award of merit ribbons. It is not necessary to enter twenty plants to win this award. The principal criteria are the total blue and award of merit ribbons. In case of a tie, the one with the most award of merit ribbons will be the winner. If a tie still exists, the one with the most entries placed on the head table will win. If they are still tied, the one with the highest award, i.e., Best in Show, then Best Artistic followed by most Division awards, and finally Section awards will be the winner.

OTHER AWARDS

1. BEST OF JUDGE'S CHALLENGE DIVISION
2. BEST OF COMMERCIAL DIVISION
3. BEST OF NOVICE DIVISION
4. BEST ARTISTIC EXPRESSION
5. Sponsored Awards

Some BSI members volunteered to sponsor special awards. Exhibitors receiving sponsored awards will receive the prizes provided by the sponsor's donation. The Best of Show Horticulture plant is not eligible for these awards; nor are plants in the Judges, Novice, or Commercial divisions. Except for best variegated bromeliad, winners of these awards must be chosen from Award of Merit winners in Divisions 1 – VI. Plants are not required to be registered in the BSI Bromeliad Cultivar Registry.

Best Variegated Bromeliad in Honor of Chester Skotak - Blue ribbon or Award of Merit entry from Category I – Horticulture. Entry with superior quantity and quality of variegation defined as longitudinal striping (marginated, variegated, striated, or lineated) of white, cream, or shades of red, pink or purple. Not required to be a Chester Skotak hybrid or cultivar. It is not required to be registered in the BSI Bromeliad Cultivar Registry. Sponsored by Eloise Beach - Apopka, Florida.

Best Vriesea in Memory of Jay Thurrott - Award of Merit entry from Category I – Horticulture. Should show outstanding qualities for the species, hybrid, or cultivar that it represents; Sponsored by Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society, FECBS

Best Tillandsia Species - Award of Merit entry from Category I – Horticulture. Should show outstanding qualities for the species that it represents; Sponsored by Pam Koide Hyatt – Birdrock Tropicals, Encinitas, CA

Best Tillandsia Hybrid - Award of Merit entry from Category I – Horticulture. Should show outstanding qualities for the hybrid or cultivar that it represents; Sponsored by Jerry Robinson – Rainforest Flora, Torrance, CA

CRYPTANTHUS SOCIETY AWARDS

To qualify for *Cryptanthus* Society awards in a Standard BSI show, a plant must be an Award of Merit winner. Judges Section entries that meet the required BSI and *Cryptanthus* Society criteria are also eligible for *Cryptanthus* Society Awards.

BOB WHITMAN BEST CRYPTANTHUS SPECIES

A plaque is awarded to the entry judged to be the Best *Cryptanthus* Species in Category I, Horticulture, individual or multiple plant divisions.

WARREN LOOSE BEST CRYPTANTHUS HYBRID

A plaque is awarded to the entry in the same sections as above but is judged to be the Best *Cryptanthus* hybrid.

CAROLE RICHTMYER BEST CRYPTANTHUS ENTRY IN AN ARTISTIC CATEGORY

(Artistic Arrangements, Decorative Containers and Artistic Expression) Sponsored by the Bromeliad Society/ Houston

At the 2026 BSI WBC, a special award in honor of the late Carole Richtmyer has been donated and will go to the Best Cryptanthus Group Entry in an artistic category (Artistic Arrangements, Decorative Containers and Artistic Expression) where Cryptanthus Group plants predominate, which includes plants of the genera: *Forzsea*, *Hoplocryptanthus*, *Rokautskyia*, *Siqueiranthus* and *Cryptanthus*. This exhibit must be an entry in the Hobbyist category, have received an Award of Merit and may have won other awards.

Any of the above award winners may have won other awards. To be eligible for a Cryptanthus Society Award, a species must be named, and a hybrid must be one of the following:

1. Listed in the Bromeliad Cultivar Register or its online supplements on the BSI website;
2. Registered with the BSI;
3. Listed in the Hybridizer's Handbook and Checklist of Bromeliad Hybrids and Cultivars compiled by the BSI Cultivar Registrar, where parentage is listed and available on at www.bsi.org;
4. Listed by parentage (i.e., its formula);
5. Published in the Cryptanthus Society journal with color picture and description;
6. Published in the Cryptanthus Society Cumulative Reference of *Cryptanthus* Cultivars where parentage is listed.

**ENJOY THE SHOW, HAVE FUN ENTERING PLANTS,
AND GOOD LUCK!**