<u>What Judges Look For:</u>

    a. Is the design staged as required in the schedule description and Design Rules in the allotted space?

    b. Is a card listing plant material present?

    c. Does the design qualify for the Section Award offered?

*NOTE: If a Design Style, Type or Color Harmony is not required, then all 14 points are **divided equally** among the Schedule requirements.*

*NOTE: If schedule states only the frame of reference within the class description, designer is free to use any appropriate staging equipment within her/his area. However, if schedule states "**May** use or incorporate a background, niche, frame, pedestal or open column, etc.", exhibit must never be penalized under Conformance for not using or incorporating the staging. Only when the schedule **requires** specific staging be used or incorporated and designer fails to do so, is the exhibit penalized under Conformance.*

B. Design (48 pts)

    1. Balance (8 pts) – visual balance, symmetrical or asymmetrical, top to bottom, side to side, front to back

        <u>What Judges Look For:</u>

        a. Does the design appear to be stable or does it appear to be leaning or falling over?

        b. Is the design balanced left to right, top to bottom and front to back?

        c. Does a color, texture, line and/or pattern create a visual imbalance?

    2. Contrast (8 pts) – achieved by placing opposites or unlike characteristics of a single Element together in order to emphasize their differences. All components of the design are included.

        <u>What Judges Look For:</u>

        a. Are there equal or unequal amounts of contrasting textures? Contrasting colors? Contrasting sizes? Contrasting patterns?

        b. Is there too much contrast resulting in a busy confusing design?

        c. Is there not enough contrast? Is everything too similar?

    3. Dominance (8 pts) – emphasis of one component with all others being subordinate

        <u>What Judges Look For:</u>

        a. What catches your eye first? Is it the most obvious or strongest part of the design?

        b. Is the dominant quality strong, though not necessarily in amount or size?

        c. Is there enough subordinate material. Do several components fight for attention?