

# The American Dahlia Society

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June 28, 2021

## **Open Letter to the American Dahlia Society Members Regarding Activities This Summer/Fall**

The Covid-19 pandemic that started in 2020 has brought many changes to our lives. With the roll out of vaccines in 2021 we are seeing signs that we will be able to return to some of our usual activities this summer/fall. However, the path ahead is still uncertain, so ADS and the local dahlia societies still need to act cautiously.

What this means for the local dahlia societies is that they will need to determine if they can or want to hold a show or other in-person events this year. The paramount duty for the local dahlia societies will be to safeguard the safety of their members and the general public. They should adhere to their local health requirements and/or guidelines when planning shows and events this year.

The National Dahlia Show hosted by the Midwest Dahlia Conference and Dahlia Society of Ohio will take place as planned. The show will be held in Wooster, Ohio on September 9 – 12. The ADS appreciates the efforts of the Midwest Dahlia Conference and Dahlia Society of Ohio to plan and host this event during a worldwide health crisis. The organizing committee for the show has put certain measures in place to safeguard the health of the attendees to the 2021 National Dahlia Show. The ADS Executive Board supports their decision to do so.

The ADS will be publishing a 2022 Classification and Handbook of Dahlias (CHD). The 2022 CHD will include:

- Those cultivars listed in the 2020 CHD.
- Trial Garden and Seedling Bench Evaluations results for 2020 and 2021.
- Cultivars winning at least two blue ribbons at dahlia shows in 2021.

The local dahlia societies need to report their show results this fall in accordance with established procedures. It is important to remember that there are two different show reports that need to be prepared – one for the CHD and one for the December Bulletin.

Have a great growing season and stay safe,

Brad Freeman, President  
American Dahlia Society

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