

# LEARN

*How to Get More from Your Garden*



Wilfreta Baugh (below with her daughter Gabrielle) works with a combination of collected and purchased materials. This informal composition—incorporating a Japanese maple branch, anthurium flowers, and graceful blades of miscanthus, an ornamental grass—embodies six basic design tenets for good floral arranging: line, form, space, texture, size, and color.



## *Less Is Best*

THE ART OF SIMPLE YET  
DRAMATIC FLORAL DESIGN

by JESSIE KEITH

**THE DYNAMIC MOTHER-DAUGHTER FLOWER-ARRANGING DUO** Wilfreta and Gabrielle Baugh are PHS Philadelphia Flower Show institutions. For more than 45 years, Wilfreta has contributed award-winning arrangements to the show, and Gabrielle has competed for over 25 years, since 1991. Both women have also served the show in various capacities—as arrangement class chairs and advisors, as teachers of workshops, and as informal advisors always willing to provide advice and encouragement to less experienced exhibitors. Recently, Gabrielle's children began to compete, giving the family a three-generation presence at the show.

When we asked the mother and daughter about creating a floral composition to

show PHS members the principles of their craft, we were expecting them to collaborate on the project, but we discovered that they have very different design styles. Gabrielle, who works as a health administrator, devotes months of careful planning to express her modern, minimalist approach. In contrast, Wilfreta, a retired internal medicine physician, is always pushing the envelope with her bold, cutting-edge, impromptu style. For the design you see here, Gabrielle deferred to her mother, and Wilfreta created a beautiful off-the-cuff showpiece.

"Once you know the basics of design, you can run with your creativity," says Wilfreta. "And always remember, less is best! Strive for dramatic simplicity."

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