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DOA Announces Capitol Floral Garden Design Winners

The Department of Administration (DOA) announces that the State Capitol and Executive Residence Board (SCERB) selected the winning floral garden designs created by UW-Madison Landscape and Architecture students. This is the first time student designs have been planted in the circle floral gardens located at the corners of the Capitol Square.

“This is an exciting opportunity for the students who will have their beautiful designs seen by thousands of visitors who come downtown every year,” said DOA Secretary Mike Huebsch. “It will also be an impressive experience they can add to their resume to help build their landscape architecture career. We look forward to partnering with the landscape program in years to come.”

SCERB, which directs the maintenance and decoration of the Capitol, unanimously voted for the following designs to be planted in the west and south circles:

- **Polka – The Wisconsin State Dance (team submission):** submitted by Robert Holicek and Arianna Netzky. The designers stated that their design reflects the “rich Czech-Polish and German heritage found throughout the state.” The floral design reflects the traditional outfits worn by the dancers, called kroje.
- **Early 1900’s Heirloom Flower Garden (individual submission):** submitted by Kristi Sherfinski. The design includes both spring and summer plants, and the axis of the design will shift over the course of the season.

The floral gardens are 24 foot circles at the east, west and south corners of the Capitol Square. The north circle flower bed is a memorial for law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty.

On the 13.5 acres of Capitol grounds, there are 15 flowerbeds which hold more than 25,000 annual plants each year. The grounds are also home to 30 different varieties of trees.

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