



Janet Gallagher AIFD is an Associate Professor of Horticulture at Kishwaukee College Malta, Illinois. Janet is the founder and CEO of Designs by Janet, a successful special event floral company. She has been actively involved in the floral industry for over 34 years as both an educator and a designer. She has been a member of The American Institute of Floral Designers for 18 years, has served as both the Education Chair and the National Student Chapter chair. She has served on the board and is currently the scholarship chairperson for the North Central Regional Chapter of AIFD.

As a highly regarded, passionate educator, Janet mentors and inspires her students. She helps them realize their dreams of exceling in a flower shop environment, pursuing other horticulture industry careers or starting their own floral businesses. For her, seeing her students succeed and make a difference in the floral industry is a true joy.

Being a lifelong learner is a passion for Janet. Each opportunity and new project presents a host of unique ways to combine her floral design, horticulture and education skills. Whether it's designing at the White House, creating a floral display for the Chicago Flower and Garden show, arranging at the Dana Thomas House in Springfield, IL or designing at the Krannert Art Museum at the University of Illinois Champaign with her fellow AIFD designers, Janet has consistently fostered creativity through collaboration and team spirit. Additionally, Janet has worked with her students to plan, design and implement the event décor for the College Foundation Gala and the historic Ellwood House Museum each year. Her unique vision continually challenges and inspires her students to view their floral designs from many different design aspects.

Because of her background in education, Janet is a highly sought-after program presenter to many area organizations including garden clubs, Cantigny Park and Museum and state high schools. She currently serves as the floral instructor for the Illinois State Florist Association Certified Professional Florist program and, as a certified floral evaluator, Janet has also served as a judge for numerous floral competitions, including FFA.