

2023 AIS Tall Bearded Iris Symposium

COMPILED BY RILEY PROBST, AIS SYMPOSIUM CHAIRMAN, CALIFORNIA

The symposium is an annual popularity poll of Tall Bearded (TB) iris conducted by the American Iris Society.

The TB symposium began in 1940, with only AIS judges voting. Now, all AIS members and non-members may vote in this symposium.

The top 100 Tall Bearded iris are then ranked. Ties may increase the total number to more than 100.

These are the results for 2023, with 2022 rankings included for comparison.

Rank 2023	Rank 2022	Cultivar	Votes 2023	Hybridizer	Intro. Year	Bloom Season	Ht In	Brief Description
1	7	DAUGHTER OF STARS	56	Spoon, D.	2001	EM & RE	35	purple luminata w. white edge
2	1	BOTTLE ROCKET	53	Sutton, M.	2010	EM & RE	35	S. orange; F. ruby red veined orange
2	5	THORNBIRD	53	Byers, M.	1989	M	35	ecru tan w. violet horns
4	16	SHARP DRESSED MAN	51	Johnson, T.	2010	M	36	S. purple; F. purple black
5	4	DUSKY CHALLENGER	50	Schreiner	1986	M-L	39	dark purple
6	2	QUEEN'S CIRCLE	48	Kerr, F.	2000	ML	32	white, blue border on F.
7	10	FLORENTINE SILK	47	Keppel, K.	2005	ML	40	S. peach; F. violet w. pink edge
7	11	STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN	47	Lauer, L.	1993	E-M	40	S. off white; F. medium blue
9	11	MONTMARTRE	44	Keppel, K.	2008	EM	33	S. purple w. yellow edge; F. purple w. white edge
10	31	FOOTBALL HERO	43	Miller, L.	2015	M	36	S. butter yellow; F. plum-purple w. orchid edge
10	5	JESSE'S SONG	43	Williamson, B.	1983	M	36	white & violet plicata
12	3	THAT'S ALL FOLKS	41	Maryott, B.	2005	M	40	S. gold; F. white w. gold band



'Football Hero' (Lynda Miller 2015, TB)

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'That's All Folks' (Bill Maryott 2005, TB)


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2023 AIS TALL BEARDED IRIS SYMPOSIUM RESULTS CONT.

Rank 2023	Rank 2022	Cultivar	Votes 2023	Hybridizer	Intro. Year	Bloom Season	Ht In	Brief Description
13	7	GYPSY LORD	40	Keppel, K.	2006	ML	40	S. white; F. violet w. white ctr & red beard
14	20	IMMORTALITY	39	Zurbrigg, L.	1982	M & RE	30	white
14	25	PAUL BLACK	39	Johnson, T.	2003	M	42	dark purple, orange beard
14	34	SPLASHACATA	39	Tasco, R.	1998	M	35	purple on white dotted plicata
17	13	CONJURATION	38	Byers, M.	1989	M-L	36	white & violet & white w. horns
18	14	BELLE FILLE	36	Smith, M.	2015	E - L	34	S. blue-violet; F. purple luminata w. cream edge
19	35	SILVERADO	35	Schreiner's	1987	M	38	light silver blue
20	25	MESMERIZER	34	Byers, M.	1991	M	36	white w. white flounces
21	9	ABSOLUTE TREASURE	33	Tasco, R.	2006	M	42	sky blue w. white beard
21	28	DON'T DOUBT DALTON	33	Burseen, T.	2015	EML	35	S. white; F. white w. gold hafts & purple splattering
23	21	CLARENCE	32	Zurbrigg, L.	1991	M & RE	35	S. white; F. light blue
24	23	BEVERLY SILLS	31	Hager, B.	1979	M	36	pink
24	40	CELEBRATION SONG	31	Schreiner	1993	E-M-L	37	S. apricot pink; F. blue lavender
26	21	GOLDEN PANTHER	29	Tasco, R.	2000	M	34	gold/bronze
26	89	HAPPENSTANCE	29	Keppel, K.	2000	M	37	pink
28	28	DECADENCE	28	Blyth, B.	2004	M	38	S. apricot; F. plum w. apricot edge
28	41	TITAN'S GLORY	28	Schreiner's	1981	E-M	37	dark violet
30	19	AUTUMN EXPLOSION	27	Tasco, R.	2013	EM & RE	33	white & pansy-purple fancy plicata
30	15	HAUNTED HEART	27	Keppel, K.	2010	M	36	pinkish grey-white-lavender
32	23	NOTTA LEMON	26	Burseen, T.	2010	EML	37	S. yellow; F. white w. lemon yellow edges
32	28	STEPPING OUT	26	Schreiners	1964	M-L	38	white & violet plicata
34	70	BLACK IS BLACK	25	Schreiner	2010	M	37	black self
34	41	CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE	25	Niswonger, D.	1987	M	33	pink & apricot
36	35	BEFORE THE STORM	24	Innerst, S.	1989	M	36	near black
36	18	LADY FRIEND	24	Ghio, J.	1981	VE-E	38	garnet red
36	46	RECKLESS ABANDON	24	Keppel, K.	2010	M	38	S. white-yellow; F. burgundy black




'Belle Fille' (Marky Smith 2015, TB)
 JIM MORRIS



'Beverly Sills' (Ben Hager 1979, TB)
 CLAIRE SCHNEIDER



'Reckless Abandon'
 (Keith Keppel 2010, TB)
 KEITH KEPPEL

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36	70	STARRING	24	Ghio, J.	2000	ML	33	S. white; F. purple black
36	46	WINTRY SKY	24	Keppel, K.	2002	EM	36	S. blue; F. blue white
36	35	YAQUINA BLUE	24	Schreiner	1992	M	37	medium blue
42	89	CROWNED HEADS	22	Keppel, K.	1997	M	38	S. wisteria; F. lt. blue
42	17	DARING DECEPTION	22	Johnson, T.	2012	M	35	S. white; F. violet w. wide white band
42	31	DRAMA QUEEN	22	Keppel, K.	2003	EM	38	cyclamen purple/capucine buff plicata
42	46	GOT MILK	22	Aitken, T.	2002	ML	40	white self
46	70	EDITH WOLFORD	20	Hager, B.	1986	M	40	S. yellow; F. blue-violet
46	43	SEA POWER	20	Keppel, K.	1999	M	38	ruffled blue
46	67	VICTORIA FALLS	20	Schreiner's	1977	E-L	40	blue; white spot on F.
49	89	BLUEBIRD OF HAPPINESS	19	Black, P.	2012	M-VL	45	blue w. orange beard
50	35	DON'T STOP BELIEVING	18	Johnson, T.	2013	LM	42	S. pink; F. white
50	46	GLITTER GULCH	18	Burseen, T.	2009	EM	36	cadmium orange w. spoons
50	53	INK PATTERNS	18	Johnson, T.	2007	ML	36	white plicata w. blue-violet stitched edges
50	70	MONEY IN YOUR POCKET	18	Black, P.	2007	M	44	S. blue; F. blue, darker at hafts
50	46	RUSTLER	18	Keppel, K.	1988	M	37	gold-brown
50	55	SLOVAK PRINCE	18	Mego, A.	2003	M	33	S. orchid w. gold rim; F. purple w. white zone
56	70	HELLO DARKNESS	17	Schreiner	1992	E-M	37	purple black
56	43	MARY FRANCES	17	Gaulter, L.	1973	M	38	blue-orchid
56	55	VANITY	17	Hager, B.	1975	E-L	36	pink
59	61	GHIRARDELLI SQUARE	16	Keppel, K.	2016	EM	38	S. brown; F. white w. purple-chocolate plicata edge
59	55	INSANIAC	16	Johnson, T.	2012	M	33	S. white; F. white overlaid violet lines
59	43	SKATING PARTY	16	Gaulter, L.	1983	M-L	40	white
59	25	SUPERSTITION	16	Schreiner's	1977	M	36	maroon black
59	89	VOLCANIC GLOW	16	Keppel, K.	2012	M	36	luminata; S. aureolin; F. red
64	61	BLACK LIPSTICK	15	Keppel, K.	2016	EM	35	purple black



'Drama Queen'
(Keith Keppel 2003, TB)
📷 CLAIRE SCHNEIDER



'Don't Stop Believing'
(Thomas Johnson 2013, TB)
📷 JIM MORRIS



'Skating Party'
(Larry Gaulter 1983, TB)
📷 CLAIRE SCHNEIDER

2023 AIS TALL BEARDED IRIS SYMPOSIUM RESULTS CONT.

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64	55	MARRY THE NIGHT	15	Johnson, T.	2017	E	32	dark purple & white plicata
64	61	MILLENNIUM FALCON	15	Kasperek, B.	2000	M	38	blue bitone w. white streaks
64	35	RISE LIKE A PHOENIX	15	Black, P.	2017	M-L	46	S. gold; F. dark velvety red-black
64	70	ROYSTON RUBIES	15	Cordes, A.	2017	LM	32	S. mauve; F. dark ruby red
64	61	TUSCAN SUMMER	15	Keppel, K.	2010	M	38	blackish port wine w. yellow striations on F.
70	61	BETTER THAN BUTTER	14	Black, P.	2010	E-L	41	S. white w. yellow bands; F. light medium yellow
70	--	I PINK I CAN	14	Schreiner	2013	M	28	pink
70	55	TIJUANA TAXI	14	Kanarowski, D.	2014	M	41	S. red-orange; F. ruby-red; B. red-tangerine
73	31	BLACK MAGIC WOMAN	13	Tasco, R.	2008	EM	34	S. red-violet; F. black
73	98	BLINDED BY THE LIGHT	13	Lauer, L.	2017	E-M	32	S. nasturtium orange; F. tangerine-orange
73	70	ELIZABETHAN AGE	13	Baumunk, L.	2005	EM	33	S. apricot; F. purple white luminata w. apricot band
73	70	HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS	13	Duncan, R.	2001	M	32	deep purple black, white spray
73	85	LACED COTTON	13	Schreiner's	1980	M-L	34	laced white
73	70	RARE TREAT	13	Schreiner's	1987	E-M	34	blue & white plicata
79	--	CELTIC TARTAN	12	Keppel, K.	2015	E-M	36	S. buff; F. lt. purple luminata
79	--	COAL SEAMS	12	Schreiner	2013	M	41	S. dark purple; F. darker purple
79	85	COW PATTY	12	Burseen, T.	2014	M-L	36	S. brown; F. henna; B. saffron
79	46	OIL PAINTING	12	Ghio, J.	2013	EM	38	orange w. tan band on F.
79	--	YOU'RE SO VEINED	12	Tasco, R.	2020	EM	35	S. aster violet; F. white ground veined dark violet
84	53	BRAVERY	11	Ghio, J.	2012	EM	37	S. blue white; F. blue purple w. white band
84		METRO BLUE	11	Lokatell, M.	2015	E-M & RE	33	moorish blue self
84	98	SNAPSHOT	11	Johnson, T.	2008	M	32	S. yellow; F. mahogany w. yellow center
84	70	TIGER HONEY	11	Kasperek, B.	1994	EM	38	butterscotch caramel w. white & yellow streaks
88	83	BEAUTY BECOMES HER	10	Black, P.	2010	M-VL	42	S. medium dark yellow; F. pale yellow w. darker edge
88	--	CHINESE LANTERN FACTORY	10	Kanarowski, D.	2020	M	36	S. white; F. red-violet w. sunburst & blue-violet rim
88	98	DAZZLE	10	Ghio, J.	2011	ML	40	S. apricot pink; F. purple w. pink rim



'Rise Like A Phoenix' (Paul Black 2017, TB)
 ANITA MORAN



'Metro Blue' (Mike Lokatell 2015, TB-RE)
 GLENN GRIGG



'Chihuahuan Desert' (Howard Dash 2016, TB)
 HOWARD DASH

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88	--	GHOST WRITER	10	Keppel, K.	2011	M	36	S. white; F. oyster white overlaid grey veining
88	--	GLOBAL CROSSING	10	Van Liere, B.	2011	M	36	S. light blue; F. dark blue w. lighter edge
88	--	GOOD MORNING SUNSHINE	10	Johnson, T.	2014	M-L	33	S. bright yellow; F. violet-purple wash w. yellow hafts
88	--	GRATEFUL RED	10	Schreiner	2011	EM	36	red self
88	--	HIGH DESERT	10	Keppel, K.	2015	M	40	S. lemon; F. plicata white w. red-purple band
88	98	KATHY CHILTON	10	Kerr, F.	2006	ML	35	S. gold; F. red-black; B. gold
88	--	KAW	10	Jones, R.	2014	ML	35	S. yellow; F. white ground w. yellow border
88	89	PEGGY SUE	10	Lauer, L.	2006	EML&RE	34	pink w. red beard
88	--	SERGEY	10	Johnson, T.	2016	M-L	34	S. blue; F. yellow w. blue undertones
100	--	BABY I LOVE YOU	9	Black, P.	2012	M-L	35	S. white; F. white heavily veined olive
100	98	BOUNDLESS	9	Sutton, M.	2010	E-L & RE	35	S. canary yellow; F. white w. violet-blue rim
100	--	BRIGHT AND SHINING STAR	9	Black, P.	2020	E-M	32	S. white; F. white w. purple plicata band
100	67	BROKE AGAIN	9	Tyson, B.	2012	EM & RE	34	S. peach pink; F. pink w. purple splashes; pink horns
100	46	CHIHUAHUA DESERT	9	Dash, H.	2016	EM	37	S. white; F. tan-violet over white
100	70	GOING MY WAY	9	Gibson, J.	1972	M	37	white & violet plicata
100	--	HEARTS AFIRE	9	Aitken, T.	2017	ML	30	S. orange; F. peach w. brown rim
100	--	JELLY BEAN PARADE	9	Kanarowski, D.	2014	E-M	33	S. white; F. red-grape w. white zonal spot
100	98	JURASSIC PARK	9	Lauer, L.	1995	EM	36	S. yellow; F. purple
100	--	MAD ABOUT SAFFRON	9	Price, N.	2017	M	40	S. white; F. yellow; horns yellow
100	--	MARRYING KIND	9	Keppel, K.	2015	M	35	S. peach-pink; F. medium dark lavender
100	--	MULTNOMAH FALLS	9	Black, P.	2014	M-L	38	S. light slate blue; F. slate blue w. darker edge
100	--	PUMPKIN PIE ALA MODE	9	Johnson, T.	2014	M	40	S. white; F. burnt orange
100	--	ROCKET FUEL	9	Sutton, M.	2017	E-L	37	S. chinese yellow; F. orange buff w. red band
100	--	SWEDISH LULLABY	9	Keppel, K.	2015	M	37	S. chrome yellow; F. lavender-blue
100	--	VELVET VALENTINE	9	Tasco, R.	2015	E-L	35	S. rose; F. aster mauve

Dropped from the list: (18) Brouhaha, Core Values, Day On The Bay, Double Platinum, Folies Bergere, Honky Tonk Rumble, Irresistible Charm, Jeanne Clay Plank, Molokini, New Found Glory, Not Broke This Time, Opposites, Plot Line, Prissy Christy, Rare Coin, Spice Trader, Strawberry Shake, and Superhero.

New to the list: (24) Baby I Love You, Bright And Shining Star, Celtic Tartan, Chinese Lantern Factory, Coal Seams, Ghost Writer, Global Crossing, Good Morning Sunshine, Grateful Red, Hearts Afire, I Pink I Can, Jelly Bean Parade, Kaw, Mad About Saffron, Marrying Kind, Metro Blue,

Multnomah Falls, Pumpkin Pie Ala Mode, Rocket Fuel, Sergey, Swedish Lullaby, Velvet Valentine, and You're So Veined.

Runners-Up: Arizona Cave Painting, Barney's Gal, Born This Way, Boston Cream, Champion Bloodlines, Cotillion Gown, Fire And Ice, Red Hot Momma, & Strawberry Shake with 8 votes each.

Close: Irresistible Charm, Locomotion, & Why Cows Gossip with 7 votes each.

