THE AMERICAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY’S 18TH ANNUAL

NATIONAL CHILDREN & YOUTH GARDEN SYMPOSIUM

THE VITALITY OF GARDENS:
ENERGIZING THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

JULY 22 - 24, 2010 • PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

Hosted by:
Descanso Gardens
Garden School Foundation
The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens
Kidspace Children’s Museum
Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden
Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden
University of California Common Ground Garden Program

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SYMPOSIUM ATTENDEES WILL:

- Participate in the only national symposium that explores the positive impact of gardens in the lives of children and youth;
- Meet and learn from a variety of leading youth garden experts;
- Receive useful and relevant project, curriculum, design, and garden management ideas;
- Explore the gardens and programs of the Symposium hosts;
- Participate in three dynamic days of workshops, lectures, poster sessions, and field trips; and
- Network and share your own expertise with children’s gardening advocates from across the nation.

For more information, or to be added to the mailing list, visit www.ahs.org, e-mail youthprograms@ahs.org, or call (703) 768-5700 ext. 137.
A garden can be many things—a source of nutritious food, a habitat for wildlife, a showcase for favorite plants, and a refuge for seeking spiritual restoration. For children and youth, a garden can also be a science lab, art studio, kitchen, gathering place, theater of the imagination, and a special place to stimulate curiosity about the natural world. In short, a garden can be an open classroom for nurturing science lab, art studio, kitchen, gathering place, and 24th street elementary school. The schools range from a year-round garden in only 21 of the United States public schools.

Join leading national children’s and youth gardening experts, teachers, parents, volunteers, and the young people themselves to learn how to create and use gardens as dynamic environments for experimentation, social engagement, self-expression, and fostering a connection to the natural world. With more than 60 educational sessions highlighting youth programs and children’s programs from across the nation—as well as in-depth exploration of the landscapes and programs of the Symposium host gardens—the 2010 National Children & Youth Garden Symposium is a must-attend event for educators, garden designers, youth program leaders, and children’s gardening advocates to share ideas and learn about the vital role gardens play in the lives of today’s youth.

**Intro**

The **Vitality of Gardens**

**Energyizing the Learning Environment**

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**Descanso Gardens**

Located in La Cañada Flintridge, Descanso Gardens is a 150-acre urban retreat with internationally renowned botanical collections, and spectacular horticultural displays where young visitors can experience nature up-close through enrichment classes, public programs, and annual festivals.

**Garden School Foundation**

A coalition of citizens, businesses, and community organizations, the Garden School Foundation is dedicated to bringing verdant traffic buffers, sports facilities, and a variety of gardens to Los Angeles Unified School District public schools.

**The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens**

The Huntington is an educational and cultural center renowned for its collections of rare books and manuscripts, priceless works of art, and botanical specimens from around the world. Fourteen themed gardens on the 207-acre estate in San Marino in the San Gabriel Valley delight visitors young and old.

**Kidspace Children’s Museum**

The three-acre Kidspace Children’s Museum in Pasadena provides hands-on science exhibits, gardens, and outdoor learning opportunities for young children and their families.

**Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden**

The Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden is a 127-acre botanical garden and historical site in Arcadia that is home to plant collections from all over the world.

**Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden**

Founded in 1927, the 86-acre Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden in Claremont is the largest botanic garden dedicated exclusively to California’s native plants.

**University of California Common Ground Garden Program**

Since 1978, the Common Ground Garden Program—part of the University of California Cooperative Extension in Los Angeles County—has helped residents to grow their own food and healthfully prepare their harvest.

**Alice Waters**

Chef, author, and proprietor of Chez Panisse Restaurant in Berkeley, Alice Waters is a pioneering proponent of cooking with fresh organic products served only in season. Alice’s commitment to education led to the founding in 1996 of the Edible Schoolyard, a one-acre garden and an adjacent kitchen classroom at Berkeley’s Martin Luther King, Jr., Middle School. The Edible Schoolyard, a program of Alice’s Chez Panisse Foundation, is a model public education program that gives students the knowledge and values they need to build a humane and sustainable future by actively involving them in all aspects of the food cycle. The program is nationally recognized for its efforts to integrate gardening into the core academic curriculum. The success of the Edible Schoolyard gave rise to the School Lunch Initiative, which aims to include nutritious daily lunch and experience cultivating food into the curriculum of all U.S. public schools.

**Sam Levin**

Sam Levin, a rising senior at Monument High School in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, is one of three co-founders of Project Sprout, an organic, student-run garden on the school grounds. As a freshman, Sam was already an avid naturalist. Now in its third year, Project Sprout supplies three school cafeterias with fresh fruits and vegetables, helps feed the hungry in the community, and serves as a living laboratory for students of the Monument school system. As the leaders, fundraisers, gardeners, educators, and believers that gardens can make a difference, Sam and his co-founders of Project Sprout are pioneers. As Sam relays, “The story of Project Sprout is a window through which all of us can get a glimpse of the power of youth. It is a promise to our parents, to all of you, that we will continue what you started.”

**Roger Swain**

Known as “the man with the red suspenders,” Roger Swain is familiar to many American gardeners as the host for 15 years of the popular PBS television program “The Victory Garden.” He is also the author of five books—Earthly Pleasures, Field Days, The Pragmatic Gardener, Saving Graces, and Groundwork—and was co-host of “People, Plants, and Places” on HGTV and the science editor of Horticulture magazine. Roger, who earned a doctorate in biology from Harvard University, began his gardening hobby as a teenager by proudly exhibiting his homegrown vegetables at county fairs. According to Roger, all of us—whether we realize it or not—are linked to the garden because photosynthesis sustains almost all life on earth.
Introduction

Keynote Speakers

Symposium & Youth Garden Programs at Public Gardens

Environmental Educational Programs

School Gardens

The Growing Good Kids—Excellence in Children’s Gardens

Growing Good Kids—Excellence in Children’s Literature Awards

Linking People And Plants

The AHS Recognizes Outstanding Achievement in Children & Youth Gardening

PRE-SYMPOSIUM TRIP & IN-SYMPOSIUM EXPLORATIONS

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Your Tournament of Roses® experience will begin with a behind-the-scenes visit to one of the floatbuilder’s “barns” where the Rose Parade’s elaborate floral creations are constructed. You will see what it takes to assemble one of the parade floats from the ground up and learn about each of the steps that leads up to its New Year’s Day debut on Colorado Boulevard.

We will then travel to Tournament House, the Pasadena headquarters of the Tournament of Roses. Surrounded by a 4 ½ acre display garden, Tournament House is an Italian Renaissance-style mansion that was once owned by chewing gum pioneer William Wrigley, Jr. Our visit will start with a reception and tours of the historic Tournament House. The evening will conclude with a very special dinner and presentation from one of the Tournament’s head volunteers sharing about the effort behind the world-famous spectacle and what it takes to make “America’s New Year Celebration®” come together.

Thursday, July 22 12:15 – 8:15 p.m.

Kidspace Children’s Museum and the Huntington Botanical Gardens

On Thursday afternoon, you will visit two gardens that are specifically designed to engage children and youth in the exploration of plants and the world around them. The first stop will be at Kidspace Children’s Museum, which features interactive learning environments and complementary educational programs designed to stimulate young minds through play.

Departing Kidspace, you will continue on to The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens home to the Helen and Peter Bing Children’s Garden and The Rose Hills Foundation Conservatory for Botanical Science. The Children’s Garden provides young visitors, primarily ages two to seven, with experiences that demonstrate scientific principles related to earth, fire, air, and water amid whimsical and interactive garden elements. Stepping in the Conservatory, you will delve in the strange and wonderful world of plants as you experience the award-winning exhibition “Plants are up to Something,” an innovative model for how botanical gardens can become a cornerstone in science education and the ideal place for inspired, interactive science learning. The visit to Huntington will include a round of concurrent educational sessions. Following the sessions, you will be taken on a progressive dinner, experiencing the collections and gardens as you dine.

Friday, July 23 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Friday Concurrent Garden Explorations

Please select your first and second choice for Friday’s Garden Explorations. (Full descriptions are available at www.ahs.org)

School Gardens

This tour will highlight the diversity of school gardens in the LA area: including North Hollywood High School, Milagro Allegro Community Garden, and 24th Street Elementary School. The schools range from a year-round agricultural program with 200 students to a collaborative effort teaching nutrition, cooking, and gardening to 24th Street Elementary, a pilot school of the Garden School Foundation.

Environmental Educational Programs

Experience some of LA’s unique environmental educational initiatives as you go on a “green” tour at TreePeople, an environmental nonprofit that unites the power of trees, people, and technology to grow a sustainable future for LA. The tour gets even greener as you visit The Audubon Center at Debs Park, which has received Platinum LEED Status by the U.S. Building Council. As part of the Audubon Society’s focus on establishing Centers in urban and underserved communities, the educational programs provides for 50,000 schoolchildren who live within two miles of the park.

Garden Programs at Public Gardens

Descanso Gardens and the Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden have identified unique avenues to engage children and youth in gardening that do not depend on built environments. Instead, the engagement is through programs that utilize the unique resources and collections of the gardens. You will experience first-hand the legacy of Descanso’s Harvest Garden, which has provided gardening experiences and vocational skills to special needs students for nearly 50 years. At Los Angeles County Arboretum, dig into its new permaculture program, a holistic approach to land use design, based on ecological principles and patterns.

Wednesday, July 21, 3:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Behind the Scenes at the Tournament of Roses®

Pre-registration required ($75 before June 1st and $100 after June 1st)

Start your visit to Southern California with a once-in-a-lifetime insider’s look at the Tournament of Roses—what that iconic New Year’s tradition that originates right from Pasadena. Discover the story behind the Rose Parade®, get the scoop on how the amazing floral floats are made, and learn about the international, multi-channel volunteer effort that makes the Tournament of Roses one of the most widely recognized events in American culture.

The Growing Good Kids—Excellence in Children’s Gardens

In 1999, the Board of Directors of the American Horticultural Society established the Jane L. Taylor Award to recognize an individual, organization, or program that has inspired and nurtured future horticulturists through efforts in children and youth gardening. The 2010 winner of the Jane L. Taylor Award is Growin’ Gardeners, a hands-on, interactive program that inspires and nurtures young horticulturists and their families. The program is the centerpiece of the Dow Gardens Children’s Garden in Midland, Michigan, engaging families from planting to the harvesting of edible plants in a four-by-four-foot plot around the Children’s Garden. Through weekly lessons and a workbook, they learn the basics of plant growth, weed and insect control and the use of gardening tools. Growin’ Gardeners, which began in 2003 with 10 garden plots and 34 participants, has grown under the leadership of Horticulturist Melissa Butkiewicz to include 84 garden plots and 270 participants.

The AHS Recognizes Outstanding Achievement in Children & Youth Gardening

The 2010 “Growing Good Kids—Excellence in Children’s Literature Awards” will be unveiled during the Symposium on Friday afternoon. Presented by the National Junior Master Gardener Program and the American Horticultural Society, these awards honor engaging and inspiring works of plant-, garden-, and ecology-themed children’s literature. This unique book award program debuted in 2005 with a one-time designation of “Classics” for the best 40 kids gardening books of the last 100 years. “The Growing Good Kids—Excellence in Children’s Literature Award®” annually recognizes titles published in the previous year.

The AHS Recognizes Outstanding Achievement in Children & Youth Gardening

The AHS would like to thank the following symposium sponsors:
The Symposium is headquartered at the Westin Pasadena. All Symposium events are held at the Westin unless otherwise noted. Registrants will receive a map and directions with their Symposium confirmation.

Air Transportation
The Westin Pasadena hotel is conveniently located 13 miles from Bob Hope Airport (BUR) in Burbank and 27 miles from Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). Please refer to www.ahs.org for further information regarding ground transportation.

Cancellations and Refunds
A full refund, less a $50 processing fee, will be made if requested in writing prior to June 20, 2010. No refunds will be made after June 21, 2010.

Lodging
Lodging for Symposium attendees is available at the Westin Pasadena at a special rate of $155 per night single/double occupancy for reservations made by July 9. There is a $15 charge for each additional adult in the room. Please note that there are a limited number of rooms available, so be sure to make your reservations early. After July 9, reservations at this special rate are subject to availability. When making your reservation, ask for the National Children & Youth Garden Symposium room block.

The Westin Pasadena
191 North Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91101
(866) 837-4181
www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/nationalchildren

Membership
AHS members receive a discount on Symposium registration. If you are not a member, you can join today by registering as a full Symposium non-member attendee. Please see the registration form for details.

Parking
The Westin Pasadena offers two parking options. Valet parking costs $14 with in/out privileges, while self-parking costs $9 without in/out privileges.

Poster Session
The Symposium will include a poster session. The interactive portion of the poster display will be on Thursday, July 22 from 10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. The posters will remain on display throughout the Symposium. If you would like to showcase an activity or program through a poster, please download the poster session proposal form by visiting the National Children & Youth Garden Symposium page on www.ahs.org. The call for posters will remain open until June 1.

Professional Development/CEU’s
Attendees are eligible to receive CEU credits. If you are interested in obtaining CEU credit, you must work with your Local Professional Development Committee (LPDC) prior to any participation. Decisions regarding the awarding of CEUs are the sole responsibility of your local LPDC.

The credit hours by day are:
Wednesday (Pre-Symposium Workshop): 5.0 contact hours
Thursday: 6.5 contact hours
Friday: 6.5 contact hours
Saturday: 4.5 contact hours

The AHS would like to thank the following Symposium Sponsors:

Have questions or need more information? Visit www.ahs.org, e-mail youthprograms@ahs.org, or call (703) 768-5700 ext. 137.
Mr. □ Mrs. □ Ms. □ Other □ Name: ________________________________

Organization or Institution: __________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________________________

City: _______________________ State: ___________________ Zip: ________________

This address is: □ Home □ Work □ E-mail: ________________________________

Home Phone: __________________________________ Work Phone: ____________

Lodging Information: □ Westin Pasadena □ Other __________________________

Special Needs: □ Vegetarian Meals □ Other ________________________________

I am a presenter for a □ Poster Session □ Educational Session

Do you want your full contact information to be included in the shared listing of attendees? □ Yes □ No

How many youth do you work with in a calendar year?

□ I do not work with children directly □ < 100
□ 101-500 □ 501-1,000
□ 1,001-2,500 □ 2,501-5,000
□ 5,001-10,000 □ Other

How many years have you attended the NCYGS prior to 2010?

□ I am a first-time attendee □ I have attended before ____________________ number of years

Three Ways to Register:
1. Online: Visit www.ahs.org
2. FAX: 703-768-7533
3. Mail to:
American Horticultural Society
Attention NCYGS Registration
7931 East Boulevard Drive
Alexandria, VA 22308

Attendee Demographics:
To assist the AHS in writing grants to support the Symposium, please tell us about yourself.

I am a (check all that apply):
□ Garden Designer/Landscape Architect □ Horticulturist
□ Garden Club Member □ Educator - □ classroom □ home school
□ extension □ informal (zoo, museum, public garden) □ university □ youth group
(4-H, scouts)

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