



7931 East Boulevard Drive
Alexandria, VA 22308-1300
Tel: 703-768-5700
Fax: 703-768-8700
www.ahsgardening.org

AMERICAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY HONORS HARRY RISSETTO WITH MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (April 7, 2021) – **Harry Risetto** of Falls Church, Va., has been named the 2021 recipient of the American Horticultural Society’s (AHS) Meritorious Service Award, which recognizes outstanding service and generosity in support of the American Horticultural Society and sustainable gardening.

The accolade is one of the [Great American Gardeners Awards](#) that the AHS presents annually to individuals, organizations, and businesses that represent the best in American gardening. Each of the recipients has contributed significantly to fields such as scientific research, garden communication, landscape design, youth gardening, and conservation.

Harry Risetto’s long connection with the American Horticultural Society began nearly 40 years ago when he first came to its River Farm headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia, to assist with a trial garden of dahlias. Risetto became an AHS member and continued his regular visits to River Farm. In 2004, he joined the AHS Board, where he quickly became active on many committees and participated in Travel Study programs.

In 2010, Risetto became Chair of the Board, an office he held until 2013. He remained on the Board until 2019. Now retired following a long career as a lawyer, Risetto has received a number of awards for his volunteer work with plant societies, including the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Dahlia Society.

This year’s Great American Gardeners Awards winners will be honored from all around the country by way of video acceptance speeches that will be released on our website and social media starting in April. For more information on this year’s recipients, please visit our [2021 Award Winners](#). Photographs of the award winners and additional information about the awards program are available upon request by contacting Katherine Somerville at ksomerville@ahsgardening.org or calling (703) 768-5700, ext. 121.

Founded in 1922, the American Horticultural Society is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization committed to modeling, educating about, and advocating for earth-friendly and sustainable gardening practices. Our mission is to share with all Americans the critical role of plants, gardens, and green spaces in creating healthy, livable communities and a sustainable planet. To learn more, visit <https://ahsgardening.org>.

###