NEW SPEAKER SERIES DEBUTS
WE'RE EXCITED to announce the debut of our new speaker series, Conversations with Great American Gardeners, featuring current and past recipients of our national awards program. Since 1953, the AHS has been recognizing and celebrating horticultural champions who represent the best in American gardening. We are thrilled to have a dedicated webinar series to highlight these outstanding individuals. In a lively and engaging conversation with our host, Holly Shimizu, former executive director of the United States Botanic Garden and an AHS board member, these speakers will share their knowledge and experience, gardener to gardener. The host’s questions will get to the most inspirational and practical information that everyone wants to know before opening the live conversation up to the viewing audience, granting participants exclusive and convenient access to the speakers.

The first conversation in the series is set for Friday, October 8, with Karen Washington, an award-winning longtime community gardener and food justice activist in New York City who was the recipient of the 2018 Community Greening Award. Washington is also a trustee of the New York Botanical Garden. Then, kicking off the New Year and the AHS’s Centennial on January 27, 2022, will be Michael J. Balick, a renowned ethnobotanist and recipient of the 2020 H. Marc Cathey award for scientific research, who will discuss his work with traditional cultures in tropical and subtropical environments. Our third speaker, in April, will be Shane Smith, a 2012 Professional Award winner who recently retired as the founding director of the Cheyenne Botanic Garden. Smith, who now lives in Colorado, is a leading authority on greenhouse growing.

The cost of each program is $10 for AHS members and $20 for non-members. To register for the first conversation, visit the AHS website (www.ahsgardening.org).

MEMBER SURVEY REMINDER
THE AMERICAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY will be celebrating its Centennial in 2022. As we look forward to this milestone and beyond, we want to get your thoughts on ways we can improve our educational programs and member benefits to better achieve our national mission.

By now you should have received by mail (and e-mail) a short survey that will help us better understand which of our current programs are most effective, what other kinds of programming might be useful to you, and, most importantly, how these educational programs can be effectively delivered to the broadest spectrum of our membership. The results of this survey will help inform our plans for developing garden programs, enhancing our national outreach, and securing new member benefits in 2022 and beyond.

If you are returning the mailed survey, it must be postmarked by September 30. You can also opt to complete it online by using the link in the e-mail you received or by visiting our website (ahsgardening.org). Please note that to fill out the online survey you will need to have or create an online account.
**2021 GROWING GOOD KIDS AWARDS ANNOUNCED**

THE 2021 Growing Good Kids—Excellence in Children’s Literature award winners were announced at the AHS’s virtual National Children & Youth Garden Symposium on July 8.

Created by the American Horticultural Society and the Junior Master Gardener program, the Growing Good Kids awards have been honoring the best new gardening- and nature-themed children’s books since 2005.

Each year, these awards recognize books that are especially effective at promoting an understanding of, and appreciation for, gardening, nature, and the environment to young audiences. The selection committee includes AHS staff, Junior Master Gardener specialists and coordinators, teachers, youth leaders, and kids. This year’s three winners are:

- **One Little Lot: The 1-2-3s of an Urban Garden**, by Diane C. Mullen; illustrated by Oriol Vidal, published by Charlesbridge.
- **Mae the Mayfly**, by Denise Brennan-Nelson, illustrated by Florence Weiser; published by Sleeping Bear Press.
- **Butterflies Belong Here**, by Deborah Hopkinson; illustrated by Meilo So; published by Chronicle Books.

If you’ve been looking for ways to share the joy of gardening and the natural world with the children in your life, consider gifting one or more of these books. Many other wonderful choices can be found by browsing previous winners of the award at [https://jmgkids.us/bookawards](https://jmgkids.us/bookawards). When you order them through Amazon Smile, a percentage of your purchase can be donated to support the national programs of the AHS.

**INSIDE OUTSIDE—HOUSE & GARDEN IS NEWEST AHS PARTNER**

WE’RE DELIGHTED to announce a new partnership with Inside Outside—House & Garden, an international streaming channel featuring several house and garden design shows that can be viewed on any connected device. This partnership brings a new benefit offer for all AHS members: President’s Council members can opt-in for a free three-month unlimited streaming service subscription offer, and all other AHS members can opt-in for a free seven-day trial and 50% discounted three-month unlimited streaming service subscription rate.

For AHS members interested in the programs, refer to the Inside Outside—House & Garden advertisement (below) and follow instructions on how to opt in at [www.inside-outside.tv](http://www.inside-outside.tv) to receive your special AHS three-month streaming member discount offer.
Gifts of Note

In addition to vital support through membership dues, the American Horticultural Society relies on grants, bequests, and other gifts to support its programs. We would like to thank the following donors for gifts received between July 1, 2021 and August 30, 2021.

$1,000+ Gifts
Ms. Marion Bardman
Ms. Charlotte Bingham
Ms. Joan Flaherty and Mr. Charles Garlow
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If you would like to support the AHS, please call Susan Kleist, Vice President of Development, at (703) 768-5700 ext. 127.

AHS President’s Council (PC) members will receive a dedicated e-mail with instructions on how to opt in for the free three-month streaming subscription. Any PC members who have not previously shared their e-mail address with the AHS can take advantage of this offer by sending an e-mail to development@ahsgardening.org with a request to opt-in for the Inside Outside–House & Garden free three-month streaming subscription.

FALL VIRTUAL GARDEN MARKET AND ONLINE AUCTION

FROM October 4 to 11, you can shop at the AHS’s Fall Virtual Garden Market, a dedicated online marketplace of curated goods and services ranging from tools to professional landscape design, plants, repellents, seeds, books, and botanical products for gardeners across the country. You’re sure to find something for yourself or a special gift just in time for the holidays!

The Virtual Garden Market will also feature educational on-demand videos and podcasts offering gardening tips and techniques, and opportunities to tune in to an episode from Cultivating Place, a podcast hosted by garden book author Jennifer Jewell. There’s also a botanically themed art show and sale. Look for more details about the fall market on our website (www.ahsgardening.org).

Following close on the heels of the online market, from October 28 to November 10, will be our popular annual Online Auction, which will feature personalized tours of public gardens, autographed books, a curated collection of distinctive artworks, rare plants, vacation stays, unique experiences, and more. Your donation supports the AHS’s national educational programs. More information on the auction will soon be available on our website.

Written by AHS Staff.