GROWING GOOD KIDS BOOK AWARDS ANNOUNCED

THE AMERICAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (AHS) and the Junior Master Gardener (JMG) program have announced four winners of the 2022 Growing Good Kids–Excellence in Children’s Literature Awards program. This year’s awards were announced during the AHS’s National Children & Youth Garden Symposium, held in July in Richmond, Virginia.

The winning books are: Let’s Pop, Pop, Popcorn! by Cynthia Schumer (Sleeping Bear Press); Little Dandelion Seeds the World by Julia Richardson (Sleeping Bear Press); Saguaro’s Gifts by Kurt Cyrus (Sleeping Bear Press); and The Wall and the Wild by Christina Dendy (Lantana).

All the books selected this year have engaging and inspiring themes related to plants, gardens, and ecology, according to Randy Seagraves, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service program specialist and JMG program curriculum director. “The year’s winners are must-haves for any school or home library as they will engage kids with powerful messages,” says Seagraves. “Their content ranges from the ubiquitous dandelion to America’s favorite snack food to the folly of trying to have a ‘perfect’ garden to a centennial birthday celebration for a grand Saguaro cactus. These books are beautiful, novel and great fun. We’re sure their content and compelling illustration will inspire young readers.”

Jointly developed by AHS and the Junior Master Gardener group, the Growing Good Kids–Excellence in Children’s Literature Awards is an annual program recognizing picture book titles published within the previous year. Since 2005, winners have been selected as representing the best in children’s garden- and ecology-related books.

NEW WEBINAR SERIES ANNOUNCED

THE AHS is co-hosting a new series of gardening webinars in partnership with Garden Communicators International (GardenComm). Titled “Plants and Gardens Happy Hour: Tips and Secrets,” the webinar series debuted September 9 and will continue on October 7 and November 4. Each hour-long webinar is built around a live-streamed tour of a public garden, followed by presentations from noted garden experts facilitated by a moderator.

For the October 7 webinar, the Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center in Texas will be the featured garden, and presenters include garden designer Claire Jones on “Pollinator Pathways,” organic gardening expert Jacob Mogler on...


“This series of three webinars is designed to be fast-paced and fun,” says Jentz. “Newbie plant parents and veteran gardeners alike will find something of value plus be entertained and inspired by the rotating selection of great presenters. They offer tips and tricks from insiders on gardening practices, new plant picks, and much more.”

The webinars, which begin at 7 p.m. Eastern time, are priced at $15 each and participants will receive a recipe for a signature garden-based beverage from mixologist Ellen Zachos, author of The Wildcrafted Cocktail. For more information, visit the AHS website at www.ahsgardening.org.

2023 GREAT AMERICAN GARDENERS AWARD NOMINATIONS
THE DEADLINE for nominating candidates for the 2023 Great American Gardeners Awards has been extended to October 14. This is your chance to recognize individuals and organizations for exceptional contributions to the field of horticulture. To view the list of awards for which nominations are being accepted, visit https://ahsgardening.org/gardening-programs/national-awards/great-american-gardeners.

MAHROU AKHUNDZADEH receives the American Horticultural Society’s Meritorious Service Award from President and CEO Suzanne Laporte, left, at the Society’s headquarters at River Farm in July. This award is given to an individual in recognition of outstanding service and support of the AHS. Mahrou has been a dedicated volunteer in the membership office at River Farm for over two decades.

Anna Weatherley invites you to support the American Horticultural Society
Anna will donate 15% of sales of her Hungarian hand-painted porcelain to AHS

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Perfect gifts for the holidays!
MEMBER DISCOUNTS ON BOOKS, GARDEN SHOWS, SEEDS, AND BULBS

As we move into fall, remember that your AHS membership includes some special savings from a number of quality garden product vendors. These include discounts on books from Princeton University Press and Timber Press, and discounts on seeds from Renee’s Garden. Information on all these discounts can be found by logging into your member account on the AHS website.

Another important vendor to remember at this time of year is Brent & Becky’s Bulbs, which through its Bloomin’ Bucks program allows customers to designate a nonprofit of their choice as the beneficiary of a percentage of the sales from their purchase. So if you are shopping for bulbs or plants from Brent & Becky, you can help support the AHS at the same time. For more information, visit https://brentandbeckysbulbs.com.

You can also support the AHS by participating in Amazon’s Smile program (https://smile.amazon.com). If you select AHS as the recipient of Amazon Smile, we will receive a commission on your order at no cost to you.

Written by AHS Staff.