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THE AMERICAN GARDENER To submit a letter to the editor of *The American Gardener*, write to The American Gardener, 7931 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria, VA 22308, or send an e-mail to editor@ahsgardening.org.

DEVELOPMENT To make a gift to the American Horticultural Society, or for information about a donation you have already made, call (703) 768-5700 ext. 127, or send an e-mail to development@ahsgardening.org.

E-MAIL LISTS To subscribe to specific e-mail lists for updates on programs and events, visit <http://connect.ahsgardening.org/email>.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM The AHS offers internships in communications, horticulture, and membership. For information, send an e-mail to internships@ahsgardening.org. Information and application forms can also be found in the Gardening Programs area of www.ahsgardening.org.

NATIONAL CHILDREN & YOUTH GARDEN SYMPOSIUM For information about the Society's annual National Children & Youth Garden Symposium, e-mail education@ahsgardening.org, or visit www.ahsgardening.org/ncygs.

RECIPROCAL ADMISSIONS PROGRAM The AHS Reciprocal Admissions Program offers members free admission and other discounts to 300 botanical gardens and other horticultural destinations throughout North America. A list of participating gardens can be found on www.ahsgardening.org/rap. For more information, call (703) 768-5700 ext. 119.

RIVER FARM The AHS headquarters at River Farm is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays year-round (except Federal holidays), and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays from April through September. For information about events, rentals, and directions, visit the About River Farm section of www.ahsgardening.org.

TRAVEL STUDY PROGRAM Visit spectacular private and public gardens around the world through the Society's acclaimed Travel Study Program. For information about upcoming trips, call (703) 768-5700 ext. 127, e-mail development@ahsgardening.org, or visit www.ahsgardening.org/travel.

WEBSITE: www.ahsgardening.org The AHS website is a valuable source of information about the Society's programs and activities. Users must set up a username and password to access the member's-only sections.

News from the AHS

January / February 2018

PROGRAMS • EVENTS • ANNOUNCEMENTS

NATIONAL CHILDREN & YOUTH GARDEN SYMPOSIUM AT CORNELL

NEW YORK'S Finger Lakes region will provide a picturesque backdrop for the 2018 AHS National Children & Youth Garden Symposium (NCYGS) from July 11 to 14. The event will be based in Ithaca, which will be a homecoming of sorts because the symposium took place there in 2004 as well.

Cornell Garden Based Learning will serve as the local host for this year's 26th annual symposium, so participants will enjoy the resources of Cornell University and experience the region's rich horticultural offerings. Among the scheduled tours will be visits to Cornell's renowned Lab of Ornithology, the Ithaca Children's Garden, and Cornell Botanic Gardens.

The symposium is the only national event where teachers, youth program leaders, garden designers, and others can explore topics such as curriculum development and kid-focused gardening techniques.

"Attending my first NCYGS in 2013 was a pivotal point in my career," says **Fiona Doherty**, a Cornell University Extension support specialist who is assisting with the planning for the 2018 event. "The symposium expanded my network, provided me with fresh perspectives, and fueled my passion for youth engagement and garden-based education. Each symposium I have attended since has continued to inspire and energize me and provide me with new skills and ideas."

Registration will open in April and includes discounts for current AHS members and students. For more information, visit www.ahsgardening.org/ncygs.

SEED EXCHANGE FOR MEMBERS

THE 2018 AHS Seed Exchange features 170 varieties of annuals, perennials, vines, shrubs, trees, vegetables, and herbs available to order. Current members may



order up to five selections free of charge, though donations are encouraged to defray packaging and shipping costs. Additional selections are available for a requested donation amount. Turn to page 57 of this issue to view the list of available seeds, along with an order form. Or go to www.ahsgardening.org/seeds to order online and access the full catalog that includes descriptions and cultural information.

Some seed varieties are in limited supply and high demand, so early ordering is recommended. Those who donated seeds this year get first pick until February 18; all other orders will be filled as received until March 10.

AMERICA IN BLOOM COMPETITION FOR 2018

REGISTRATION IS now open for the 17th annual America in Bloom (AIB) competition. This national urban beautification program allows communities of all sizes to showcase the innovative ways they use plants and gardens to improve their livability. As part of the program, two AIB judges visit each participating community and rate them in six criteria, including: floral displays, urban forestry, and environmental efforts. As a longtime supporter of the program, the AHS sponsors the organization's Community Involvement Award.



The registration deadline for entering the 2018 competition is February 28. This year's AIB awards ceremony will be held in Lexington, Kentucky, in the fall. For more information, visit www.americainbloom.org.

SPRING GARDEN MARKET AT RIVER FARM

SAVE THE DATE for the AHS's annual Spring Garden Market on April 13 and 14 at the Society's River Farm headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia. The event features vendors from across the mid-Atlantic region offering an array of plants along with garden-related products. "This is a one-stop-shop event where you can find specialty natives and other unusual plants, as well as colorful annuals, vegetable starts, and ready-made containers," says **Dan Scott**, associate director of gardens and facilities. Look for more details in the March/April issue of this magazine and on www.absgardening.org.

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG GARDEN SYMPOSIUM

THE 72nd annual Colonial Williamsburg Garden Symposium is scheduled for April 14 to 16 in Williamsburg, Virginia. Its theme this year, "Ordinary to Extraordinary: Creating Landscape Designs that Reflect Beauty and Awe," will focus on how to add personal creativity to one's garden. The AHS is once again a proud sponsor of this event, and members are eligible for a discounted registration fee. Visit www.colonialwilliamsburg.com/learn/conferences for more information.



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AHS 2018 NATIONAL EVENTS CALENDAR

Mark your calendar for these upcoming events that are sponsored or co-sponsored by the AHS. Visit www.ahsgardening.org or call (703) 768-5700 for more information.

- APR. 13 & 14. **Spring Garden Market.** River Farm, Alexandria, VA.
 APR. 14–16. **Colonial Williamsburg Garden Symposium,** Williamsburg, VA. (AHS partner event.)
 APR. 21. **Great Gardens and Landscaping Symposium,** Woodstock, VT. (AHS partner event.)
 APR. 21–28. **Historic Garden Week in Virginia.** (AHS partner event.)
 APR. 23–MAY 4. **Greece: Antiquity, Culture & Gardens.** AHS Travel Study Program Tour.
 MAY 16 & 17. **Coalition of American Plant Societies meeting.** Birmingham, AL. (AHS partner event.)
 MAY 14–18. **AHS President's Council Trip to St. Petersburg, FL.**
 JUNE 10–18. **England, Gardens of the West Country: Cornwall, Devon, Somerset & Wiltshire.** AHS Travel Study Program.
 JUNE 21. **Great American Gardeners and AHS Book Awards Ceremony.** River Farm, Alexandria, VA.
 JULY 11–14. **AHS National Children & Youth Garden Symposium,** Ithaca, NY.
 SEPT. 5–15. **Castles & Gardens of the Czech Republic: Prague, Bohemia & Moravia.** AHS Travel Study Program.
 SEPT. 22. **AHS Annual Gala,** River Farm, Alexandria, VA.
 SEPT. 27–29. **America in Bloom Symposium and Awards Program.** Lexington, KY. (AHS partner event.)
 OCT. 11–25. **AHS Online Auction.** National.
 DEC. 3–21. **Indoor Holiday Display.** River Farm, Alexandria, VA.
 DEC. 8. **Holiday Open House.** River Farm, Alexandria, VA.

GREAT GARDENS AND LANDSCAPING SYMPOSIUM

ON APRIL 21, the 14th Annual Great Gardens and Landscaping Symposium will take place in Woodstock, Vermont. The AHS is a co-sponsor of this event, organized by **Kerry Ann Mendez** of Perennially Yours. Mendez will give a presentation on new and unusual plant introductions, and other expert speakers will focus on herbs, succulents, ornamentals and vegetables suitable for northern gardens.



Mendez will also host a special pre-symposium class on April 20. She will discuss landscaping for pollinators and give a virtual tour of inspiring public and private gardens with exemplary plantings. There is a separate fee and registration for this program.

For more information, visit p.yours.com/symposium.

News written by AHS Staff

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 November 1 and December 31, 2017.

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