



CONTACTS FOR AHS PROGRAMS, MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS & DEPARTMENTS

For general information about your membership, call (800) 777-7931. Send change of address notifications to our membership department at 7931 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria, VA 22308. If your magazine is lost or damaged in the mail, call the number above for a replacement. Requests for membership information and change of address notification can also be e-mailed to membership@ahsgardening.org.

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 (800) 777-7931 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://americanhort.ahs.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 (800) 777-7931 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 the Gardening Programs section of www.ahsgardening.org.

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 2017

PROGRAMS • EVENTS • ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW WEB ADDRESS FOR THE AHS

THE AMERICAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (AHS) has begun transitioning to a new website address: www.ahsgardening.org. Until March 31, 2017, links to the old web address will redirect to this new one, but please change your bookmarks now.

This move is part of a long-term strategy to update and refresh the AHS's assets and branding leading up to the Society's 100th anniversary in 2022. "There are several organizations that have initials, or acronyms, similar to ours, so our new website address will help to differentiate us when people are searching online for gardening information," explains AHS Executive Director **Tom Underwood**. "Our new domain name is intended to more clearly indicate what we're all about."

Although the address has been changed, the AHS website itself remains the same, so visitors to www.ahsgardening.org will still find all the resources and other content available at the old address. AHS e-mail addresses are also changing accordingly.

AHS AND CORNELL REISSUE GUIDE TO KIDS' GARDENS

THE AHS AND the Garden-Based Learning Program at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, have collaborated to update and make available a free online guide to starting gardening programs for children. Titled *Sowing the Seeds of Success: How to Start and Sustain a Kids' Gardening Project in Your Community*, the 160-page publication is designed to address "the increased interest in school and community garden projects and the troubling issues of food insecurity and nature deficit disorder," says **Fiona Doherty** of the School of Integrative Plant Science at Cornell.

Originally published in 1999, the guide has been updated and expanded with input from youth gardening experts around the country. As a downloadable online publication, it can be used by communities anywhere in North America and around the world. The guide includes sections designed for different audiences, along with relevant activities, program tools, and links to additional resources.

By promoting effective engagement through a variety of community programs, Doherty sees the guide as a resource for empowering youth with the confidence and "skills to become our next generation of environmental stewards."

To view or download the guide, visit www.gardening.cals.cornell.edu.

2017 MEMBER SEED EXCHANGE

AS LAST YEAR came to a close, packages filled with seeds of all shapes and sizes flooded in from AHS members for the 2017 AHS Seed Exchange.



Combined with the seeds donated by seed companies, there are more than 100 varieties of annuals, perennials, vines, shrubs, trees, vegetables, and herbs available this year. The list of these seeds and an order form is available on pages 57 to 59 of this issue; for full descriptions of the seeds and to order online, visit www.ahsgardening.org/seeds. A number of the seed varieties are available only in

limited quantities, so ordering early is recommended. Those who donated seeds to this year's exchange get first pick until February 18; the final deadline to order is March 4.

GET INVOLVED WITH AMERICA IN BLOOM

COMMUNITIES ACROSS the country have until February 28 to register for the 16th annual America in Bloom (AIB) competition. This friendly contest allows participants to showcase their beautification and environmental efforts for a national audience.



Flowers brighten a commercial area in AIB participating town of Ottawa, Illinois.

Two AIB judges visit each participating community to rate them in a variety of categories ranging from floral displays to heritage preservation, urban forestry, and environmental efforts. Awards are given in 10 categories based on population. Cities, towns, townships, universities, business districts, military bases, and city boroughs are eligible. An AIB startup kit helps guide participants who are just beginning to reinvision their landscapes. Previous registrants have praised AIB as the most cost-effective way to get in-depth, expert comments on their efforts, and for offering the rare opportunity to meet with dozens of other communities to exchange ideas. The AHS is a longtime supporter of the AIB program and sponsors the organization's Community Involvement Award.

For more information, go to www.americainbloom.org.

GREAT GARDENS AND LANDSCAPING SYMPOSIUM

THE AHS is once again co-sponsor of the Great Gardens and Landscaping Symposium, slated for April 22 at the Woodstock Inn & Resort in Woodstock, Vermont.



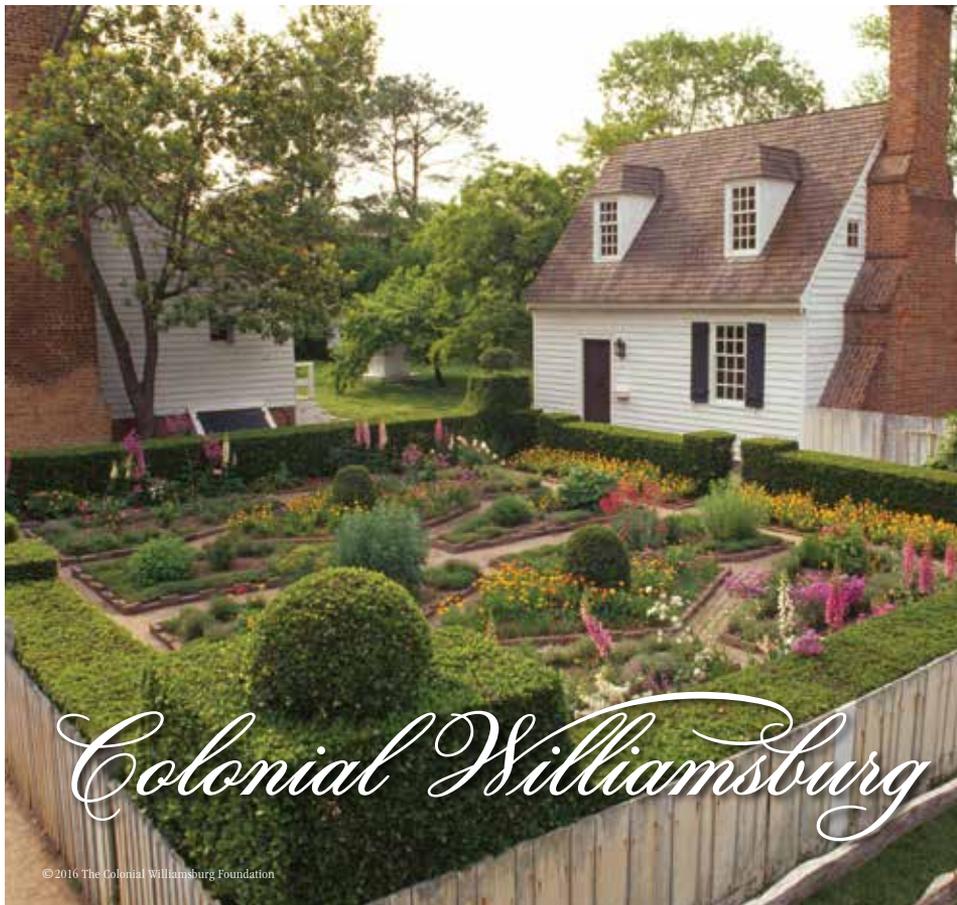
Speakers include garden designer and author **Kerry Ann Mendez**, foodscaping expert **Brienne Gluvna Arthur**, horticulturist

Featured speakers at the symposium include foodscaping expert Brienne Gluvna Arthur, top left, and garden designer Kerry Ann Mendez, bottom left.



Andy Brand, and **Laura Mumaw Palmer** of the Garden Conservancy. For those looking to make a weekend of it, an optional Flower Gardening Class hosted by Mendez will be held the afternoon of Friday, April 21. There's a separate fee for this three-hour class.

Early registration is encouraged. "The 2016 symposium sold out three months before its start date," says Mendez, who organizes the event. For more information about the symposium and flower gardening class, visit <http://pyours.com/symposium>.



71st Annual
Garden Symposium

Small Spaces, Great Rewards

APRIL 28-30, 2017

Information available at
colonialwilliamsburg.org/conted
or call 1-800-603-0948.

Cosponsored by
the American Horticultural Society.



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AHS 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. 4–17. **Springtime in Japan: Inspiring Gardens & Landscapes.** AHS Travel Study Program.
- APR. 21 & 22. **Spring Garden Market.** River Farm, Alexandria, VA.
- APR. 22. **Great Gardens and Landscaping Symposium.** Woodstock, VT. (AHS partner event.)
- APR. 22–29. **Historic Garden Week in Virginia.** (AHS partner event.)
- APR. 29 & 30. **Colonial Williamsburg Garden Symposium.** Williamsburg, VA. (AHS partner event.)
- MAY 16–25. **Gardens of Southern Scotland.** AHS Travel Study Program.
- JUNE 8. **Great American Gardeners and AHS Book Awards Ceremony.** River Farm, Alexandria, VA.
- JUNE 26–30. **AHS President's Council Trip to Connecticut Gardens: Litchfield Hills and Points East.**
- JULY 12–15. **National Children & Youth Garden Symposium.** Portland, OR.
- SEPT. 5–15. **Gardens of Genoa, the Italian Riviera & Florence.** AHS Travel Study Program.
- SEPT. 23. **AHS Annual Gala.** River Farm, Alexandria, VA.
- OCT. 30–NOV. 8. **Gardens of Argentina: Buenos Aires, Mendoza & Salta** (with optional post-tour to Iguaza Falls, Nov. 8–10). AHS Travel Study Program.
- 2018**
- JAN. *TBD.* **Gardens, Wine & Wilderness: A Tour of New Zealand.** AHS Travel Study Program.



SPRING GARDEN MARKET

IT MAY STILL be winter, but it's not too early to save the date for the AHS's annual Spring Garden Market, April 21 and 22. Held at the AHS's River Farm headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia, this event features vendors from across the mid-Atlantic region offering an array of plants and garden-related products.

Current AHS members will get first dibs on purchasing plants during the members-only preview on the morning of April 21 from 10 a.m. until noon. Then the event opens to the general public until 4 p.m. and again on the 22nd from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Parking is free for AHS members and \$5 for non-members. Visit www.ahsgardening.org for details.

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 to December 23, 2016.

\$1,000+ Gifts

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If you would like to support the American Horticultural Society as part of your estate planning, as a tribute to a loved one, or as part of your annual charitable giving plan, please call Susan Klejst, Director of Development & Engagement, at (703) 768-5700 ext. 127.

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG GARDEN SYMPOSIUM

ANOTHER SPRING event the AHS is co-sponsoring is the 71st annual Colonial Williamsburg Garden Symposium, from April 28 to 30 in Williamsburg, Virginia. This year's symposium, titled "Small Spaces, Great Rewards," focuses on design for small garden areas.

The symposium overlaps with Historic Garden Week in Virginia (April 22–29), offering attendees an opportunity to tour private Williamsburg gardens that exemplify ideas from the symposium. AHS members are eligible for a discounted registration fee. Please visit www.history.org for more information.

Written by AHS staff.