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Media Contact: Barry Bartlett, barry@bartlettgrouppr.com or 206-335-4694(m)

Spring arrives early at the Northwest Flower & Garden Festival, February 20-24 at the Washington State Convention Center

SEATTLE— Spring arrives a month early in downtown Seattle as the Northwest Flower & Garden Festival returns February 20-24 at the Washington State Convention Center. North America's second-largest garden event celebrates "Gardens of The World" as its theme for 2019—inspiring the creation of over 20 spectacular gardens by top regional designers.

The five-day festival encompasses over 100 free seminar presentations, entertaining and educational interactive attractions, more than 350 high-quality Marketplace vendors (including 70 new additions) and more. Attracting gardening newbies and veteran "green thumbs" alike, the 31st annual event includes a packed line-up of features, including:

- **Over 20 stunning display gardens**--boasting thousands of blooming flowers--spotlighting spectacular colors, textures and lifestyle features plus useful take-home ideas. These fully landscaped gardens are created by leading garden design professionals.
- Around-the-clock **free seminars** with a line-up of 70 nationally-known authorities and top regional experts. The seminar program includes 102 presentations in nine categories including gardening with houseplants, edibles, culinary skills, a variety of DIY demonstrations, sustainability trends and more.
- World-class shopping in the **Marketplace**, including over 30 vendors in the "Plant Market," tasty regional food products in the "Gourmet Marketplace," eclectic offerings in the "Vintage Garden Market," tasteful art for the home and garden, clever tools, useful services and much more.
- For those making their home in an apartment or condo—or have a ground-level spot ready for a makeover—"City Living" gardens are both inspiring and beautiful! Located on the Skybridge, ten 6-foot x 12-foot garden gems are created by leading Pacific Northwest designers and retail nurseries.

- Dueling garden luminaries take the stage in “**Container Wars**” at 11:30 a.m. daily, giving festival-goers a first-hand look at creating beautiful and practical containers. It’s fast-paced, fun and informative with plenty of good-natured verbal jousting between the expert participants!
- The new “**Blooms & Bubbles**” floral design workshops led by local experts. Sip on a glass of champagne while creating a lovely finished product to take home. Space is limited, and cost for attendees (age 21 and over) is \$45 per person, including materials and bubbly, of course!

For a look the 2019 festival and its many attractions, visit www.gardenshow.com.

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Festival hours, ticket info, sponsors and more

Dates and hours for the 2019 Northwest Flower & Garden Festival are Wednesday through Saturday (Feb. 20-23), 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Sunday (Feb. 24), 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Purchase tickets online and save! Early Bird tickets are now on sale for \$19 (a savings of \$5), available through Feb. 19. For added value, skip the lines once the doors open and purchase Adult admission tickets online for \$22 (a savings of \$2). Regular Adult admission at the door is \$24; Student (13 to 23 years) - \$10; and Children (12 and under) are FREE. To purchase tickets online, visit www.gardenshow.com.

The Northwest Flower & Garden Festival is made possible through the support of sponsors and partners including Bradford White, Corona Tools, Fine Gardening Magazine, Gardeners Supply Company, Marenakos Rock Center, Mutual Materials, Osmocote, Pacific Topsoils, Sawdust Supply, Sunnyside Nursery, Western Washington Toyota Dealers, KING5 and The Seattle Times.

About the Producer

The Northwest Flower & Garden Festival is produced by Marketplace Events, creating vibrant expositions connecting enthusiasts with experts, products and services in dynamic face-to-face environments. The company produces 42 consumer home shows in the US, 16 in Canada, and 6 holiday shows. The 64 combined events, in 32 markets, attract 20,000 exhibitors, 1.8 million attendees and another 3 million unique web visitors annually. From 14 offices, the 150-person staff produces some of the most successful and longest-running shows in North America, including market-leading shows in Minneapolis, Philadelphia, Indianapolis, Seattle, Vancouver, Calgary and Montreal—some of which have thrived in their markets for more than 75 years. For more information, visit www.marketplaceevents.com



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Northwest Flower & Garden Festival introduces “Blooms & Bubbles” make-and-take floral workshop series, Feb. 20-24

SEATTLE—The [Northwest Flower & Garden Festival](http://www.gardenshow.com) introduces “[Blooms & Bubbles](#)” a fun and engaging series of design workshops devoted to make-and-take floral creations. This new feature is one of many festival attractions, February 20-24 at the Washington State Convention Center.

Led by local experts from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. daily, participants can enjoy a glass of champagne while creating lovely floral centerpieces, bouquets and headpieces. Space is limited, and cost for attendees (age 21 and over with ID) is \$45 per person, including admission to the show, all materials, and bubbly (or non-alcoholic beverage), of course!

If a workshop sold out, festival-goers are encouraged to visit the workshop area in the North Hall for inspiration. Here’s the daily line-up of experts and workshops:

WEDNESDAY, FEB 20th: Dinner Party Centerpiece with Jeni Nelson of The London Plane

Draw inspiration from the garden to create a spring centerpiece with Jeni Nelson, manager of [The London Plane Flower Shop](#). Learn design techniques including selection of flowers and foliage, proper scale and proportion for a centerpiece, and placement of stems as you design a fresh, romantic arrangement to grace your table. You'll arrange in a beautiful glass cylinder vase manufactured in the U.S.A. by Syndicate Sales and use all American-grown and Northwest-grown floral and foliage ingredients.

THURSDAY, FEB 21st: Plant-Lover's Centerpiece with Baylor Chapman of Lila B. Design *(sold out)*

Borrow Baylor’s step-by-step approach to designing a centerpiece with living plants and cut flowers. Learn techniques based on her popular how-to book, [The Plant Recipe Book](#), and go home with a long-lasting arrangement of your own creation. You'll arrange in a beautiful glass

vessel manufactured in the U.S.A. by Syndicate Sales and use all American-grown and Northwest-grown florals, plants and foliages.

FRIDAY, FEB 22nd: Floral Headpiece with Meridith Isaacson, Verde & Co.

Learn how to weave and wrap a festive and lavish floral crown with simple materials and ingredients from the garden. Meridith, founder [Verde & Co.](#), will share techniques to create a floral crown any season of the year to wear yourself or to give as a gift. You'll use all American-grown and Northwest-grown floral and foliage ingredients and USA-made ribbon supplied by Offray.

SATURDAY, FEB 23rd: Table Runner for Doorway, Mantle or Tabletop with Hannah Morgan of Fortunate Orchard

Designer and artist Hannah Morgan, owner of the [Fortunate Orchard](#), will lead you through the creation of a textured and detailed table runner using her favorite design techniques. The finished piece will be suitable as a centerpiece and can also be hung from a mantel or a doorway, vertical or horizontal. You'll use all American-grown and Northwest-grown floral and foliage ingredients.

SUNDAY, FEB 24th: Hand-Tied Bouquet with Jean Louise Paquin Allen of Juniper Flowers

Learn how to create hand-tied bouquets suitable for gifting or for displaying in a vase. Using a floral palette of lush foliages, feminine focal flowers and textural accent flowers, Jean Louise of [Juniper Flowers](#) will lead the workshop sharing her favorite tips and techniques for tying a floral bouquet. You'll use American-grown and Northwest-grown botanical ingredients and finish the bouquet stems with beautiful USA-made ribbon supplied by Offray.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Feb. 5, 2019

Northwest Flower & Garden Festival spotlights free, how-to seminars by new and returning experts, Feb. 20-24

SEATTLE—Top speakers will share their gardening expertise in over 100 [free seminars](#) at the [Northwest Flower & Garden Festival](#), February 20-24 at the Washington State Convention Center. Always informative and engaging, the five-day festival is geared for gardening newbies and veteran “green thumbs” alike.

North America’s second-largest garden event celebrates “Gardens of The World” as its theme for 2019—inspiring the creation of over 20 spectacular [display gardens](#) by top regional designers. The festival includes entertaining and educational interactive attractions, more than 350 high-quality vendors in the [Marketplace](#), and small space gardening inspiration at [“Container Wars”](#) and the ten-garden [“City Living”](#) display.

The festival has once again attracted a line-up of 70 nationally-known authorities and top regional experts, including 27 new speakers, for a packed schedule of 102 seminars. Presentations in nine categories include gardening with houseplants, small space gardening, edibles and culinary skills, a variety of DIY demonstrations, sustainability trends, and how-to advice in selecting the best plants for your garden. Spotlighting specific interests, the show has bundled seminar topics into multiple categories— a handy way to plan your time at the festival. They include:

- *“One of a Kind: The Connections Between People, Places and Plants”*
- *“Get Growing: Plants Galore for Northwest Gardens”*
- *“Interior Plant Design: Houseplants and Countertop Gardens*
- *“Solving Design Challenges with Style: Artistic Inspiration for Every Garden”*
- *“It Starts with Soil: Sustainability, Garden Health and Low Water Gardening”*
- *“Fresh Picked: Edible Gardening, Urban Farming and Culinary Skills”*

- *“Sharing the Earth: Attracting Beneficial Pollinators and Wildlife”*
- *“See It, Learn It, Do It: Practical Insights to Grow Your Gardening Skills”*
- *“Get Crafty: Home Décor, Garden Art and Floral Design”*

For a complete schedule of seminars, speaker bios, and information more than 60 book signings and show features, visit www.gardenshow.com/seminars

Among the new, visiting speakers are luminaries judging the show’s inspiring display gardens. They include Susan Arca, founder and principal, Arca Design Group (“The Garden as a Tapestry”); Charles A. Birnbaum, president/CEO, The Cultural Landscape Foundation (“Public Visibility, Value and Engagement in our Shared Landscape Heritage”) and William A. McNamara, president and executive director, Quarryhill Botanical Garden (“The Good, The Bad and The Ugly: The Trials and Tribulations of Plant Hunting”).

A sampling of other new speakers and topics include horticulturist and author Lorraine B. Ballato (“Shrubs, The New Perennial – Only Better”), Jenny Rose Carey, author and director of PHS Meadowbrook Farm (“Glorious Shade Gardens”), Lynn Brunelle, educator, Emmy award-winning writer and author (“Mason Bees – Super Pollinators”), Lisa Eldred Steinkopf, author and The Houseplant Guru (“Cultivating Your Green Thumb Indoors with Houseplants”) plus many more.

Among the returning favorites are Sue Goetz, author and owner/designer of the Creative Gardener (“A Taste for Herbs”), television/radio host and author Ciscoe Morris (“Garden Jeopardy Game Show”), Mary-Kate Mackey, award-winning writer, speaker and author (“Midsummer Garden Nightmares: Mistakes I’ve Made So You Don’t Have To”) and Lucy Hardiman, educator, writer and designer (“Design Solutions of Small Gardens: Making the Most of Your Outdoor Space”).

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“Gardens of the World”: Garden Creators embrace 2019 festival theme with cavalcade of spectacular gardens

Embracing the theme of this year’s festival, “Gardens of the World,” the Northwest’s top landscape design firms are taking you on an around-the-world journey through their impressive gardens.

From the British Isles to India, Italy to Asia – and closer to home - this year’s line-up of gardens are sure to inspire festival-goers with their creativity and practical ideas that you can incorporate into your own garden!

Adam Gorski Landscapes, Inc. “Escape to the Mountains”

The Alps...the Himalayas...the Andes. The stunning Cascades in our own backyard. On every continent there are mountain ranges that inspire us with their beauty and vistas.

This is indeed an escape to the mountains...a retreat with an “altitude.” Influenced by his work on both sides of the Cascades, this Garden Creator blends hardy plants and splashes of color into an inviting patio setting.

The centerpiece of this sanctuary is a stunning waterfall formed by natural rock and surrounded by native plants.

For a weekend or longer, a getaway to this mountain retreat is sure to rejuvenate visitors for “peak” performance when they return to urban life.

Take-home ideas: *plants that are cold/dry climate-tolerant; extensive use of natural rock*

Garden Creator:
Adam Gorski Landscapes, Inc.; Snoqualmie Pass, WA.
www.adamgorskilandscapes.com

Designed by:
Adam Gorski

Dakara Landscape Design **“The Lost Gardens of Heligan”**

This is a tribute to a genuine garden—one of the most mysterious and romantic gardens in England. Created from the mid-18th century to the beginning of the 20th century, the spectacular gardens spanned a thousand acres, but become overgrown and “lost” following World War I. Restoration of its natural beauty began in the 1990’s, and today “The Lost Gardens of Heligan” are one of the most popular botanical gardens in the UK.

This garden pays homage to the woodland garden on the Heligan estate, with meandering path to a once-hidden gate, past a bubbling spring and into a forest grove. It’s early spring and the landscape is dotted with daffodils, azaleas, rhododendrons and late-blooming winter species.

This is a place to find a sense of beauty from the past and nearly lost and forgotten.

Take-home ideas: *pathway to discover garden features, use of natural woodland plants*

Garden Creators:

Dakara Landscape Design; Edmonds, WA
www.dakaradesign.com

Wintergreen Landscapes & Nursery; Lake Stevens, WA
www.wintergreenlandscapes.com

Designed by:

Natasha Roberts, Dakara Landscape Design

designs by deLeuw **“Orto di Casa”**

Italy’s Chianti Valley is your destination...in the heart of old Tuscany. It’s world-renowned for its famous wines, so it’s not hard to imagine this home is a perfect gathering place for friends and family.

Located between the Provinces of Florence and Siena, the is valley is an ideal place for those who wish to undertake original trips amid vineyards, hills and characteristic little villages. Entertaining guests is a mission in this garden, with two levels of seating and a brick pizza oven... for those with an appetite.

Look closely, since this garden spotlights the strategic use of space from large to small. Either way, you can create an area your friends and family will flock to!

Take-home ideas: *functional use and enjoyment of outdoor spaces; multi-tiered seating art*

Garden Creator:

designs by deLeuw; Kenmore, WA

www.designsbydeleuw.com

Designed by:

Lori deLeuw, Dana Nunnely and Zilly Aigner

Elandan Gardens

“Asian Sensibilities, Northwest Style”

Sharing similar climates and geological features, the gardens of Japan have long inspired our own region’s landscapes. The stature and grace of this garden represents a seamless transition from traditional Asian artistry to the Northwest lifestyle.

Framed by impressive granite stones and large trees, the garden has plenty of eye-catching spring color generated by plantings of iris, Japanese forest grass and hellebores. A gentle waterfall and peaceful pond are focal points in this serene setting.

Of note: look for the mature Black pines grown from seed in 1962 and trained by Elandan Gardens’ Dan Robinson over the past 56 years. Like other healthy and mature trees, they require little chemicals or fertilizers.

***Take-home ideas:** options for “big ideas” in small spaces; use of mature specimen plants*

Garden Creator:

Elandan Gardens; Bremerton, WA

www.elandangardens.com

Designed by:

Will Robinson

Fancy Fronds Nursery

“Imagining Ireland: Myth, Magic and Mystery”

Step into the Emerald Isle’s poetic past in this landscape depicting the Irish countryside. There’s a striking feudal flavor to this garden, dominated by a 10-foot-tall tower reminiscent of many tower homes still dotting the landscape of Southern Ireland. Once used for protection, these lordly structures were converted into opulent manors surrounded by lavish gardens.

A large circular cobblestone patio, flanked by two wooden arbors, elicits the look and feel of ancient henge. Its centerpiece is a sacred spring, crowned by fountain depicting a Celtic-style dragon. And look for the thatch-roof home of the local puca - a leprechaun-like creature common in Irish folklore!

Southern Ireland’s mild, temperate climate is welcoming to both its native plants and the introduction of exotic specimens. That diversity is reflected here: native plants such as yews, ivy, clover, sorrel and heather. There’s also a verdant garden of lush, tropical foliage, including hibiscus, begonias and leopard plants.

***Take-home ideas:** simple construction with timber and textured paint; plantings to support native critters and pollinators*

Garden Creators:

Fancy Fronds Nursery; Gold Bar, WA
www.fancyfrondsnursery.com

ALBE Rustics; Freeland, WA

Designed by:

Joshua Bathke and Felix Jones

Fancy Plants Gardens, Inc. | Susan Browne Landscape Design **“Alpenhaus—Switzerland and Germany”**

“The hills are alive...”

The settings for the *Sound of Music* come to life in celebrating alpine locales in both Switzerland and Germany. Your journey through the spectacular Swiss Alps leads to a chalet and with a sun-splashed patio - an inviting place to relax before continuing your mountain trek.

You'll know you've reached your destination in the Bavarian Alps when you see a friendly landmark – a 16-foot-high cuckoo clock! Once you've reached the hillside cottage, you'll be welcomed with Bavaria's traditional fare. It's time to celebrate!

You don't have to “climb every mountain” to enjoy this dual-garden paradise, representing the unusual collaboration between two veteran festival Garden Creators.

Take-home ideas: *creating international flavor within your garden; use of unusual man-made props/garden art as focal points*

Garden Creators:

Fancy Plants Gardens, Inc.; Bothell, WA
www.fancyplantsgardens.com

Susan Browne Landscape Design; Everett, WA
www.facebook.com/Susan-Browne-Landscape-Design-141229616238654/

Designed by:

James Sprague, Fancy Plants Gardens, Inc.
Susan Browne, Susan Browne Landscape Design

Flower Growers of Puget Sound **“Flora Across the World”**

The Flower Growers of Puget Sound invite you for a floral flyover around the globe – before you begin your journey through the festival! Once again local flower growers welcome you with the colorful Entry Garden.

Spotlighting locally-grown plants donated by its members, you're greeted by a travel cavalcade of floral color - and the sweet scents of flowers. Signage and travel posters guide you, with plantings arranged in zones to match the growing conditions of a geographic area.

You won't need a passport to purchase these plants – they're locally-grown and available at area garden centers and other retailers.

Take-home ideas: *visit your local garden center or nursery for plants grown by members of the Flower Growers of Puget Sound*

Garden Creator:

Flower Growers of Puget Sound; Seattle, WA

www.flowergrowers.org

Designed by:

Gayle Payne and Lloyd Glasscock

Folia Horticultural + Design **“Notting Hill Modern English Garden”**

Step into one of London's most fashionable neighborhoods, known for its walled, private gardens that invite curiosity. Partially enclosed by a wall of columnar dark yews (backed by mirrors!), this garden does indeed create the desire to see more.

Viewed through a window, you'll get a peek at a welcoming entertainment area. Its centerpiece is a distinctive free-standing stone fountain, complimented by a seating area with sleek, modern furniture. Traditional box hedging establishes the planting beds filled with an assortment of white flowering perennials and annuals. Distinctive large stones are used liberally in the patio and walkway.

A fitting touch in this “artsy” district of London, look for stainless steel orbs of various sizes that provide a pleasing balance to the strong geometric lines of this garden.

Take-home ideas: *symmetrically placed boxwoods of various shapes supporting architectural lines; use of non-plant elements embracing the look and feel of a garden space*

Garden Creator:

Folia Horticultural + Design; Seattle, WA

www.foliahd.com

Designed by:

Peter Norris

Little Prince of Oregon Nursery **“The World at Your Feet”**

Our world is favored with diverse climates, and in this unusual display you find flora representing multiple environments.

Arranged in the orderly fashion of a classic “grange display” you'd find at a country fair, you'll find a wide variety of plant material that could be grown in various regions. The eye-catching focal point in the center of the garden is a large stone sculpture - symbolizing mountain peaks around the globe.

This visual journey showcases a wide range of plant materials grown by one of the Northwest's largest commercial growers.

Take-home ideas:

Garden Creator:

Little Prince of Oregon Nursery; Aurora, OR
www.littleprinceoforegonnursery.com

Designed by:

Planting designed by Little Prince of Oregon Nursery
Concept by the Northwest Flower & Garden Festival

Nature Perfect Landscape & Design

“Mystic Garden”

Mystery surrounds this stylized Chinese garden, a quiet “poet’s garden” but also a place for exuberant celebrations.

Garden walls surround this enchanting spot, adding to its intrigue. But viewers will have ways to peak into this Sichuan-inspired garden through its distinctive moon gate entrance and windows strategically arranged around the hidden garden. Drawing you in with from different perspectives, you’ll see stepping stones leading to tranquil pond and Chinese-style waterfall.

And look for the unusual, water-worn Gongshi or “scholar’s stone,” typical of the fantastically-shaped stones that have inspired China’s poets and painters.

Reflecting the style of gardens in this Chinese province, it’s less formal than you might expect, with simple plantings unifying hardscape elements in the garden.

Of note: look for borrowed items, including selected stones and plants, courtesy of the Seattle Chinese Garden, located in West Seattle.

Take-home ideas: *controlling vantage points to create mystery and anticipation*

Garden Creator:

Nature Perfect Landscape & Design; Olympia, WA
www.natureperfectlandscaping.com

Designed by:

Landen Moore

NW Bloom - Ecological Services

“Herban Sanctuary”

Whether you’re home or abroad, the concept behind this garden is that everyone deserves a sanctuary. Though the backdrop is one of futuristic decay, this is a place of regrowth and regeneration.

You're stepping into the year 2050, with the urban center of Seattle serving as the 'sci-fi-like' setting. But rays of hope and positivity abound: medicinal and edible plants are integrated into a planting scheme emphasizing native plant material. And residents have fully embraced clean energy, with use of solar panels and cooker.

A unique feature: a tent that serves as a central gathering place for inspiration and healing. A variety of musicians and performance artists, including musicians and poets, will perform periodically during the festival.

Take-home ideas: *the simplicity of sanctuary; combining natural and man-made features for sustainability*

Garden Creator:

NW Bloom Ecological Services; Woodinville, WA

www.nwbloom.com

Designed by:

Jessi Bloom

Northwest Flower & Garden Festival Theme Garden

"Celtic Travels; Hibernia to Caledonia"

Hike up your woolen kilt hose and roam through a highlands landscape in a fanciful trip from Ireland to Scotland.

You'll be transported into the lands of castles, wild coastlines and legendary poets in this visual journey. Your eyes are drawn to a large stone portal revealing fields of heather and thyme dotted with stone. The rugged landscape is ringed with conifers giving way to birch and holly. Your curiosity is further piqued by the sound of water—a spectacular waterfall and sheltered pond surrounded by massive boulders and tree specimens.

There is plenty of color and texture throughout the garden with ample plantings of narcissus, shamrock and native grasses. Works of whimsical art abound, including glass reeds and cattails surrounding the pond, and of course – glass shamrocks!

The trek from ancient Eire to Alba is sure to work up a powerful "drouth." Perhaps a pint or "wee dram" is in order?

Take-home ideas: *low maintenance, drought-resistant gardening; garden art underscores theme elements*

Garden Creators:

Northwest Flower & Garden Festival

www.gardenshow.com

Terra Firma Hardscapes; Everett, WA

www.terrafirmahardscapes.com

Designed by:

Lloyd Glasscock, Northwest Flower & Garden Festival

John Stout, Terra Firma Landscapes

Northwest Orchid Society

“Orchids in Balance”

China’s fabled Li River valley is known for its dramatic topography, including towering, near-vertical sandstone karsts. It also home to innumerable varieties of orchids, and in this garden you’ll find hundreds of flowering orchids grown by members of the Northwest Orchid Society.

Spotlighting the “yin-yang” balance and peacefulness orchids provide, festival-goers may stroll through and around this garden. The amazing array of orchids are grouped by color and variety against a backdrop of basalt columns representing the karsts of the Li River. Structures of sustainably-harvested, custom-made bamboo structures are symbolic of the villages in the valley.

The orchids on display range from common plants available in grocery stores to rare specimens that are only available for public viewing at the Northwest Flower & Garden Festival. It is a unique opportunity to see these plants in bloom.

Take-home ideas: orchid varieties grown here in the home or in a greenhouse; meet Northwest Orchid Society volunteers for growing tips

Garden Creator:

Northwest Orchid Society; Seattle, WA

www.nwos.org

Designed by:

Joe Griener and Joff Morgan

Puget Sound Conservation Districts

“Better Ground”

We’re fortunate to live in one of the world’s most spectacular regions, framed by snow-capped mountains and the Salish Sea. We’re also home to diverse and delicate ecosystems, and this garden stresses the importance of protecting these environments.

You’ll find ample use of native plants and cultivars - coupled with and conservation methods readily available to us all. You’ll find ideas ranging from creating pollinator friendly habitat to developing smart rain water management using rain barrels and rain gardens. There are elements applicable to home and garden, farm and wooded properties - highlighting approachable conservation efforts in each setting.

This garden has been created through the combined efforts of ten Conservation Districts and their “Better Ground” initiative. Representatives of this coalition will provide additional “how-to” information at their booth at the show.

Take-home ideas: implementing a rain garden complementary water feature; on-site informational resources

Garden Creators:

Puget Sound Conservation Districts; Puget Sound, WA
www.betterground.com

Designed by:

Puget Sound Conservation Districts' staff

Redwood Builders LLC, Landscaping **“Taoist Myth: The Isles of the Blest”**

This Japanese-style garden is a representation of Taoist myth “Isles of the Blest,” which has influenced Chinese and Japanese followers for centuries. Legend has it that somewhere far, far east of the Chinese coastline, inhabitants of five islands had attained immortality and lived together in perfect harmony. They flew about the islands’ lofty peaks on backs of cranes, and the islands themselves were carried on the backs of giant sea turtles.

Expeditions were mounted by Chinese emperors, and later the Japanese, to find the islands and snatch the elixir of youth from their immortal inhabitants. As history shows, the Japanese were also captivated by this – and the myth of the “mountain as center of the universe.”

Bonsai specimens are known for their lengthy lifespan, and here five specimens symbolize the islands and their immortal residents. Accented with bamboo, moss, a raked gravel area and boulders, it’s a place to reflect on a myth that intrigues many to this day.

Of note: one of the garden’s bonsai is on loan from the Pacific Bonsai Museum collection in Federal Way.

Take-home ideas: *an impactful experience created with fewer plants and large negative space*

Garden Creators:

Redwood Builders Landscaping LLC; Maple Valley, WA
www.redwoodbuilderslandscaping.com

Bonsaiko, Maple Valley, WA

www.bonsaiko.com

Designed by:

Anthony Fajarillo, Redwood Builders Landscaping

Treeline Designz **“Shalimar”**

Your journey takes you half a world away, and your destination is known for its centuries-old marble palaces and ornate mosques. It’s inspired by the famed gardens of Shalimar in LaHore, Pakistan.

Now a UNESCO World Heritage site, these splendid gardens were laid out as a [Persian “paradise garden.”](#) Constructed in 1641, they are representation of an earthly utopia where humans co-exist in perfect harmony with all elements of nature.

This courtyard garden has been heavily influenced by the historic royal complex. It embraces the fourfold garden concept complemented by channels of water. And there's ample use of fragrant flowers, underscoring the exotic setting and design of this garden.

Take-home ideas: *formal design scheme; garden provides multiple viewpoints*

Garden Creator:

Treeline Designz; Portland – Seattle – San Francisco

www.treelinedesignz.com

Designed by:

Iftikhar Ahmed

Washington Park Arboretum

“Under the Mediterranean Sun”

This time of year, who could be faulted for dreaming of a sun-drenched landscape with a bright, warm, full-sun garden...filled with iconic Mediterranean flowers and specimen trees.

Dream no longer. The subtle elegance of this garden captures the age-old charm and romance of the Mediterranean. It's a celebration of the formal Mediterranean-style garden, which dates to Classical antiquity.

A country villa fronted by a portico of stately columns provides a backdrop for this colorful courtyard garden. It's a study in graceful symmetry as planting beds, paths, and boxwood hedges create formal lines and geometric patterns. A grove of cypress and a grape vine draping from the portico create welcome areas of shade and relief. For visitors not accustomed to these sunny climes, a stone fountain provides soothing movement, serene sounds, and a cooling ambience (it offers both a respite for visitors *and* a habitat resource for birds).

Take-home ideas: *a Mediterranean garden is attainable here with careful planning, soil preparation, and plant selection; tiling demarcating planting beds*

Garden Creator:

Washington Park Arboretum; Seattle, WA

The Arboretum Foundation

www.arboretumfoundation.org

Designed by:

Bob Lilly, Roger Williams and Phil Woods

Washington State Nursery & Landscape Association

“Solera Wine Garden”

“#Fakation – Create Your Destination”

This is a fun twist on a “staycation” - where you are a tourist in your own town. But why leave the neighborhood? The “fakeation” recreates a modern luxury resort feel in your own backyard with bold colors, grandiose foliage, and dramatic textures.

Lounge in the inviting cabana and escape from the rest of the world in this tranquil landscape. Wander among luscious foliage and a water feature that washes away the stress of the day. Pause to admire the artwork that inspires you to dream those dreams that stir the senses.

Though small in stature, this garden is powerful in scale with novel use of bold foliage and exclusively available containers, sculptures, and accents. It pushes the envelope on Pacific Northwest planting zones, incorporating tropical touches along with hardy plant varieties.

So “order in” and don’t leave the comfort of home!

Take-home ideas: *the garden is staffed with Certified Professional Horticulturists and other landscape professionals...available to answer questions about the garden and landscape industry*

Garden Creator:

Washington State Nursery & Landscape Association; Seattle, WA
www.wsnla.org

Designed by:

Members of the Washington State Nursery & Landscape Association

West Seattle Nursery

“Patterns of Peace on Earth”

Set your GPS for West Central Africa, with the picturesque nation of Ghana as the garden destination! Though this part of the world may not be represented often in a garden shows, Ghana is known for its lush forests, miles of sandy beaches and beautiful architecture.

The “indoors goes outdoors” in this garden, with houseplants (found in the Northwest) used extensively to represent tropical varieties found outdoors in Ghana. Patterns are used widely in the African culture, and this garden makes liberal use of this design element. Visual patterns are created through the arrangement of plantings, and a kick plate (painted in Ghana’s unique Frafra-patterned style) frames the garden. A distinctive waterfall adds a visual focal point that creates further ambiance and a feeling of peace.

Take-home ideas: *use of bromeliads, bird of paradise and sansevieria to create tropical settings indoors here in the Northwest*

Garden Creator:

West Seattle Nursery; Seattle, WA
www.westseattlenursery.com

Devonshire Landscapes, Inc.; Seattle, WA
www.devonshirelandscapes.com

Designed by:

The Staff at West Seattle Nursery

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Media Contact: Barry Bartlett, barry@bartlettgrouppr.com or 206-335-4694(m)

Live in a condo or apartment? “City Living” offers inspiring beauty and practical ideas for small space gardening

If you’ve wanted to take advantage of a small space for gardening enjoyment, then “**City Living**” should be a destination at the festival! Located on the Skybridge above Pike Street, you’ll find ten, 6 ft. x 12 ft. garden gems created by leading Pacific Northwest designers and retail nurseries.

If you make your home in an apartment or condo—or have a ground-level spot you want to reinvent – “City Living” gardens are both inspiring and beautiful!

Bonsai Akira (Portland) presents “Windsong Garden,” featuring Obsidian Windchimes, in this tranquil patio setting. You’ll find select bonsai trees, miniature shrubs and flowers lining a path to a pocket-sized teahouse. Handmade windchimes provide a gentle background melody to create a mood of reverence.

digs inside & out (Portland) brings formality to this stylized French balcony. Enjoy “Croissants and the City...” with its lovely park benches, bistro table and chairs. You’ll find boxwoods in Versailles planters, with the white annuals accented with black and white draperies. It’s topped off with a French chandelier...voila!

Fashion Plants LLC (Rolling Bay) creates an imaginative “*Krukker Have*” garden, influenced by Scandinavian designers. The title (Danish for “Garden Pots”) is appropriate: this stylized front-entrance garden consists entirely of potted plantings. Wedged into a tiny space on a busy street, it’s a lush seasonal garden to be enjoyed by neighbors and passersby.

Ma Petite Gardens (Snohomish) spotlights exciting and unusual plants from New Zealand that do well in Northwest gardens. Inspired by the native Maori name for this naturally beautiful island nation, “Land of the Long White Cloud – A New Zealand Garden” represents a medley of New Zealand gardens visited by the designer.

Mad Mosaics (Federal Way). It’s a lazy “Sunday Afternoon” in the city, featuring distinctive, handmade works of glass and mosaics by the designer to create an open feeling. There’s privacy, too, with an arbor providing a cozy, yet comfortable “secret space.”

Rain Dog Designs LLC (Gig Harbor) presents “Herbes/Fleurs de Provence,” combining beauty with garden-to-table practicality. This inviting Provence-style garden of herbs and flowers features a rain water catchment system, and an appropriately-scaled storage tank for year-around watering.

Rocky Bay Garden Creations (Gig Harbor) takes you to South America’s lush Amazon region in “Beneath the Jungle Sky,” with its variety of shapes, forms, foliage and textures. This intimate outdoor retreat has distinctively modern features and spotlights both tropical and Pacific Northwest-hardy plant varieties.

SZH Urban Design (Seattle) draws parallels between container “balcony gardening” and alpine settings in “The Micro-Garden: Alpine Gardening for Urban Heights.” Plants have been selected for their hardiness to withstand wind and inconsistent rainfall. It’s an attractive, self-contained modular garden that collects, stores and delivers rainwater to plants.

Urban Earth Nursery (Seattle) presents “Earthling Oasis,” where the bustle of city life dissolves beyond the boundaries of luscious plant life. This balcony garden habitat cultivates our vital bond with nature—inspiring its visitors to fulfill their destiny as enthusiastic “plant nerds” and observant naturalists.

Urban Soule (Seattle) presents “The Botanist Balcony,” showcasing botanical art and cold-hardy tropical plants from around the world. This modern, “city living” balcony features a botany lab-inspired propagation station and inviting seating areas.

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Visit the Atrium Lobby as the top area florists are spotlighted in the colorful “Floral Competition”

Inspired by the festival’s theme for 2019, “Gardens of the World,” the creativity of many of the area’s best floral designers is on display in the “Floral Competition,” located in the Atrium Lobby.

Fasten your seatbelt as these spectacular creations take you on a colorful global journey with such titles as “Parisian Gardens,” “Tropical Delight” and “Atlantis.”

You’ll find entries by Fena Flowers (Kirkland), Flora Grand (Puyallup), Grant & Jensen Flora Events (Burien), Ikebana by Megumi (Brier), LaVasser Florists (Seattle), Spirit Line Pottery (Hansville), The Flower Lady (Seattle), Tiaré Floral Design Studio (Ruston) and Young Flowers (Seattle).

Cast your vote for the “People’s Choice” award for this competition (and the Display Gardens and City Living, too) at gardenshow.com/vote - right from your smartphone! If you don’t own one, just submit your vote at any of the three Information Booths.

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Sample tasty, high-quality regional food items at the popular “Gourmet Marketplace”

As you stroll through the festival’s Marketplace, plan on savoring tasty regionally-produced offerings in the “Gourmet Marketplace” where over two dozen merchants serve up samples and sell their specialty foods and beverages.

Prepare your taste buds for new adventures...you’ll see both new and returning gourmet vendors for 2019:

At Bonnie B’s Peppers, Des Moines, you’ll find three styles of their signature organic Hungarian wax peppers- from “Mom’s” original recipes. Great as condiments, they’re locally-grown and gluten free.

Friday Harbor House of Jerky, from Friday Harbor (of course!) features over 100 high quality jerky products to choose from—all sliced from lean, whole, premium meats.

Tukwila’s **Grimm Brothers Foods** produces a variety of hot sauces and condiments from three of the hottest peppers on Earth! There’s variety of “heat” options to spice up your favorite meals or beverages.

Holmquist Hazelnut Orchards, from Lynden, has been growing and processing Hazelnuts in for over 90 years. Choose from chocolate-coated, sea salt, orange honey, dry roasted, oil and flour varieties and more! For gardeners, you can order hazelnut shells for your landscaping needs, too.

At **Mama’s Sweet Treats**, hailing from Enumclaw, you’ll find a selection of ready-to-eat baked goods including their popular cupcakes, mini-pies and cranberry scones.

Nil Organic Tea, from Scappoose, OR, brings a variety of hand-blended loose-leaf teas. Using only 100% organic ingredients, their high-quality teas are known for their delicious and unique flavors.

New York City's **HelloFresh** provides the opportunity to enjoy wholesome home-cooked meals with no planning, no shopping and no hassle. Meals are carefully planned, locally sourced and delivered straight to your door.

The Shrubbery, from Seattle, share their products – and knowledge – for you to produce natural sodas or mixers for tasty seasonal drinks. As they say:” Fruit. Vinegar. Sugar. Magic.”

Whimsy Chocolates, from Battleground, WA, are crafted with painstaking attention to detail, flavor and quality. They combine natural ingredients and imaginative recipes to create salted caramels, peanut butter balls, wine truffles, mint meltaways and other sweets.

Absolutely Nuts! (Lake Stevens), **Bees In The Burbs** (Maple Valley), **Beruna** (San Diego), **Caramel Kitchen** (Rathdrum, ID), **Craft & Associates/Killian Korn** (Mount Vernon), **Farm Fresh Northwest** (Stanwood), **Pete's Perfect Toffee** (Mountlake Terrace), **Pickney Cookie Café** (Bellevue), **PNW International** (Puyallup), **Saku Tea** (Bellingham) **Samfuego Foods** (Kirkland), **Seattle Fudge** (Seattle) **Skylake Ranch** (Chico, CA), **Terri Sue's Toffee & Treats** (Chico, CA) and **Tom Douglas Seattle Kitchen** (Seattle)

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2019 Great Plant Picks: “A Garden for All Seasons”

“To everything there is a season,” and the 2019 edition of Great Plant Picks (GPP) has a variety of outstanding plants to choose from for winter, spring, summer and fall. “A Garden for All Seasons” is the focus of this always-anticipated list of hand-picked plants that thrive in Northwest gardens.

The GPP display, located among the show’s spectacular display gardens, has been designed by Richie Steffen of the [Elisabeth C. Miller Botanical Garden](#). You’ll find a variety of trees, shrubs, and perennials for every season of the year selected from over one thousand plants in this year’s GPP line-up.

When visiting the GPP display, pick up the 2019 edition poster highlighting this year’s selections, while supplies last. These posters are both functional and attractive!

Great Plant Picks is the primary educational program of the [Elisabeth C. Miller Botanical Garden](#) in Shoreline. Twenty-five professional horticulturists from our region volunteer each year to discuss and evaluate the best plants for Northwest gardens. Selection criteria include ornamental value, ease of care, and pest and disease resistance. Since 2001 over 1,000 exceptional plants have been selected for gardeners living west of the Cascade Mountains.

For the full list of plants that stand out in each season as well as plants selected to debut in 2019 and other information, please go to: www.greatplantpicks.org

Festival sponsors Corona Tools and Hartley Botanical showcased in unique “hybrid” garden display

Two of the festival sponsors share the limelight in this engaging display, located among the show’s blooming gardens.

Hartley Botanic (hartley-botanic.com) makers of fine English greenhouses since 1938, presents “Victoria Villa” complete with plantings, flats of vegetables and annuals. Planters packed with floral colors surround the company’s popular Villa Greenhouse model.

Corona Tools (coronatoolsusa.com) has offered a full range of professional-grade lawn and garden tools for over 90 years. What better way to spotlight these quality tools than putting them to work! Corona's portion of the garden is devoted to daily demonstrations of pruners, shears and loppers and other great products.

Weaving the two displays together, you'll find a raised herb garden and an inviting patio accented with colorful plantings.

Award-winning garden designer and author Sue Goetz, "The Creative Gardener" (thecreativegardener.com) created the innovative planting design for this attractive and informational garden display.

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From practical to palatial, the Marketplace offers a vibrant one-of-a-kind shopping experience

Just one word captures the magic of one of the biggest attractions at the Northwest Flower & Garden Festival: *shopping!*

You'll be hard pressed to find the rich variety and quality of products in the show's-popular Marketplace. Discover the offerings of 350 top-notch vendors (including over 70 additions for 2019!) with tasteful art and gifts for the home and garden, plants, bulbs and seeds, one-of-a-kind clothing and accessories, clever tools and wide range of accessories.

Stroll the aisles of the "Plant Market" the "Gourmet Marketplace" and the "Vintage Garden Market" - with its collection of local vendors showcasing unusual home and garden items, lighting, re-purposed furniture and more.

Don't let your Marketplace purchases slow you down...check them at one of the show's free and convenient package-check stations--and keep on shopping! Some of our new Marketplace additions for 2019 include:

Fat Dragonfly (Bellingham) is showcasing original paintings, prints, wall clocks, keepsake boxes and more with distinctive Mid-Century Modern-meets-Contemporary Folk look.

Georgetown Home & Garden (Seattle) features high-quality garden and gift products, including whimsical "Blob House" creatures, Fairies and Fairy garden accessories and Zen gardens.

ORTA Kitchen Garden (Oakland, CA) brings beautiful, useful and plastic-free tools that make gardening easier. Look for self-watering seed pots, seeds and tools that are "green to the core."

Plantillo (Berkeley CA), features unique pillows that appear as life-like plants. Incredibly "3D" they are functional and make great conversation pieces. Surround yourself with nature!

Among the returning favorites:

Burnett Forge (Poulsbo) is known for wrought iron pieces used as décor accents and its functional architectural iron work. You'll find hand-forged creations for the garden- and every room in the house!

Carleton Fine Work (Bothell) creates welded elemental art of wood, steel and glass. These handcrafted sculptures and furniture are both contemporary and innovative.

Larry Richmond Pottery (Bellingham) features ceramic work influenced by Northern California Indian baskets. These are beautiful interpretations of traditional basket shapes and designs.

Len's Fabrication (Newman Lake, WA) is admired for its decorative and functional metal work for the garden and home. Their work includes hand-crafted railings, gates, fences and panels.

PotteryLand (Lynnwood), features an array of colorful clay pots – perfect for that special place in your home, patio and garden. Their handmade pots are fired at high temperatures to resist our region's weather.

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From 10-foot-tall lilies to dainty air plants, you'll find plants, bulbs, seeds and much more in the "Plant Market"

Great gardens large and small begin with quality plants, bulbs and seeds that grow to brighten our lives with beauty or nourishment. You'll find over 30 vendors offering a variety of quality products to enhance your gardening in experience, and they're there with how-to advice on the care and nurturing of your purchases, too.

Here's a partial preview of "Plant Market" vendors at this year's festival:

-At **American Bamboo Company** (Seattle), find traditional Japanese bamboo fencing and services for bamboo plant removal, installation, containment and maintenance.

-**Andy's Orchids** (Encinitas, CA) cultivates orchid species and grows them as they do in the wild - primarily mounted on natural wood branches. Their offerings include vanilla cuttings and scores of different orchid species.

-**Bamboo Garden** (North Plains, OR) features a variety of popular bamboos for screening, groves, groundcover and garden focal points. You'll find both running and clumping types, too.

- **Flower Bulb Mania! (Stayton, OR)** displays a wide range of flowering bulbs, ranging from Trumpet lilies (growing up to 10-feet tall) to short pot varieties.

-**Irish Eyes Garden Seeds** (Ellensburg) brings gardening supplies, seed potatoes, garlic, onion sets, organic Walla Walla transplants, strawberry and asparagus roots, plus a variety of vegetable seed packets.

-**Kileen's Garden Boutique** (Clovis, CA) spotlights the latest trend in gardening - going vertical! They'll offer beautiful, handmade frames of re-purposed cedar, then planted with succulents. Festival-goers can have their purchases custom-planted on-the-spot!

-**Mak Lilies & Perennials, Inc.** (Stayton, OR) features bulbs and bare root perennials in a major display with over 160 products. You'll find Hybrid Lilies, Hosta, Astilbes and very large Peony roots; they also feature Itoh Peonies - a cross between herbaceous and a tree Peonies.

-**Owens Gardens** (Monroe) brings air plants (tillandsia), sold individually or in mini garden arrangements - suitable for a tabletop or windowsills.

-**Swan Island Dahlias** (Canby, OR), the nation's largest and leading dahlia grower, features over 200 beautiful varieties of dahlias at the festival – all grown on the company's Oregon Farm.

-**Raintree Nursery** (Morton) features a variety of edible plants for sale from around the world.

-**Sedum Chicks LLC** (Turner, OR), specializes in hardy succulents - creative and unique plants and decor for any plant lover. You'll find a variety of Sedum and Sempervivum plant stock, living wall hangings and succulent-related art.

-**Viridescence** (Seattle) spotlights all things indoors," including house plants, cactus, tropical varieties, air plants, succulents, a variety of terrariums, wall hangings, planters and much more.

Other great Plant Market vendors include **Bonsai Akira Nursery** (Portland), **Dahlia Barn** (North Bend, WA), **Dan's Dahlias** (Oakville, WA), **Emerald City Orchids** (Seattle), **Franchi Seeds/The Heirloom Seed Store** (Half Moon Bay, CA), **French Prairie Perennials** (Hubbard, OR), **Garden of Mini Delights** (Bellevue), **Keeping It Green Nursery** (Morton), **Killdeer Farm Market** (Ridgefield, WA), **Maples For All Seasons** (Eagle, ID), **N & M Herb Nursery** (Hubbard, OR), **Sundquist Nursery** (Poulsbo), **The Lily Pad** (Olympia) and **Urban Earth Nursery** (Seattle).

In the festival's **South Hall**, look for returning favorites **Pelindaba Lavender** (Friday Harbor), **Ravenna Gardens** (Seattle), **Swanson's Nursery** (Seattle) and **The Butchart Gardens LTD** (Victoria, B.C.).

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