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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

“Container Wars” returns with fast-paced fun and ideas for great container gardens at the Northwest Flower & Garden Festival, Feb. 20-24

Dueling experts share tips in daily competition starting at 11:30 a.m.

SEATTLE—Mixing friendly verbal jousting with a “pot-load” of tips for container gardening, “Container Wars” returns to the 2019 [Northwest Flower & Garden Festival](#) with lively competitions each day. The festival runs February 20-24 at the Washington State Convention Center.

“Container Wars” gives festival-goers a first-hand look at dueling gardening luminaries creating beautiful and practical containers. Looking to spice up a dull spot or group containers for eye-popping impact? Container gardening has never been so informative, entertaining and competitive!

All the fun is MC’d by gardening columnist and television host Marianne Binetti. The action takes place each day on the North Hall stage from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Audiences are encouraged to come early to take advantage of café seating. For added inspiration, check out free seminar presentations by the competitors following each “Container Wars” episode.

Here’s a look at the daily match-ups:

Wednesday, Feb. 20: Rebecca Sweet vs. Jenny Rose Carey

This match pairs two garden design experts sharing their unique sense of style and hands-on experience for the Container Wars audience.

More from Rebecca and Jenny on Wednesday:

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1:45 p.m. (Hood Room) - DON'T SNUB THE SHRUB!

Rebecca Sweet: designer, Harmony in the Garden; author, "Refresh Your Garden Design" and co-author "Garden Up"

3:00 p.m. (Hood Room) - GARDENING WITHOUT SPRINKLERS? DRY GARDENS AND RAIN GARDENS

Jenny Rose Carey: director, PHS Meadowbrook Farm and author, "Glorious Shade"

Thursday, Feb. 21: C.L. Fornari vs. Ellen Zachos

Though friends away from the "Container Wars" stage, look for competitive hijinks and ribbing between these two consummate gardening educators!

More from C.L. and Ellen on Thursday:

3:00 p.m. (Hood Room) - PLANTRAMA: EAT, DRINK, & BE MERRY...WHILE COPING WITH RABBITS & DEER

C.L. Fornari: radio host and author of eight books, including "Coffee for Roses" and "The Cocktail Garden Hour" is competing against Ellen Zachos, author of "The Wildcrafted Cocktail" and "Growing Healthy Houseplants." Together C.L. and Ellen co-host "Plantrama," a weekly podcast they will be recording live in their Plantrama seminar on Thursday!

Friday, Feb. 22: Ciscoe Morris vs. Richie Steffen

Local legend Ciscoe brings familiar fun and informative style to this returning "grudge match" with Richie, an energetic evangelist for plants suitable the Pacific Northwest.

More from Ciscoe and Richie on Friday:

4:30 p.m. (Rainier Room) - GARDEN JEOPARDY GAME SHOW

Ciscoe Morris: radio and TV host, columnist & author, "Ask Ciscoe"

5:30 p.m. (Hood Room) - GREAT PLANT PICKS: 25 PLANTS TO CREATE A GORGEOUS YEAR-ROUND GARDEN

Richie Steffen — director/curator, Elisabeth C. Miller Botanical Garden and co-author, "Plant Lover's Guide to Ferns"

Saturday, Feb. 23: Sean James vs. Charlie Nardozi

Sean James – new to the festival - is a noted garden designer, horticulturist, writer and speaker. He's pitted against Charlie Nardozi, a radio and TV host, and co-author of "Gardening Complete" and three other titles.

More from Sean and Charlie on Saturday:

1:45 p.m. (Hood Room) - MAKING A SPLASH: BENEFITS OF WATER FEATURES IN THE GARDEN

Sean James: garden designer, horticulturist, writer and speaker

3:15 p.m. (DIY Stage) - GROW AND PROTECT YOUR PRIZED CONTAINER GARDEN

Charlie Nardoizzi: radio/TV host and author of "Gardening Complete," "Foodscaping" and other titles

Sunday, Feb. 24: Melinda Meyers vs. Denise Schrieber

Melinda is a nationally recognized TV/radio host and author and author of "Small Space Gardening," She'll go "toe-to-toe" with Denise - a festival newbie, author well-recognized gardening authority.

More from Melinda and Denise on Sunday:

2:15 p.m. (Rainier Room) - WHAT'S FOR DINNER? EDIBLE FLOWERS! (Gardening 101 series: Focus on Flowers)

Denise Schreiber: award-winning garden writer and author of "Eat Your Roses"

3:15 pm. (DIY Stage) - FROM ONE TO MANY: PROPAGATING HEIRLOOM HOUSEPLANTS

Melinda Myers: award-winning author of 20 books and a nationally recognized garden expert

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.

Buy Online & Save!

Early Bird tickets are \$19 (a savings of \$5) and can be purchased 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 - \$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 Western Washington Toyota Dealers, Corona Tools, Fine Gardening Magazine, Marenakos Rock Center, Mutual Materials, Osmocote, Sawdust Supply, KING5 and The Seattle Times.

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