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**For Immediate Release:**

**2019 Northwest Flower & Garden Festival highlights free, how-to seminars by new and returning experts, February 20-24 in Seattle**

***Topics include interior gardening, pollinators, veggie gardens, gardens near and far, floral design and much more...over 100 presentations plus 27 new speakers***

SEATTLE—Top speakers will share their gardening expertise in over 100 seminar presentations at the 2019 Northwest Flower & Garden Festival, February 20-24 at the Washington State Convention Center. Always informative and engaging, the presentations are geared for gardening newbies and veteran “green thumbs” alike - free with admission to the festival.

Celebrating “Gardens of the World” as the theme for 2019, the second-largest flower and garden event in the United States will feature over 20 spectacular show gardens, entertaining and educational interactive events, high-quality shopping opportunities in the Marketplace and much more.

The five-day 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, garden art, and how-to advice in selecting the best plants for your garden.

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”).

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 on 69 book signings and show features, visit [www.gardenshow.com/seminars](http://www.gardenshow.com/seminars).

### ***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](http://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, Sunnyside Nursery, 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](http://www.marketplaceevents.com)