



BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: November 23, 2010

Contact:

Michael Hansen
205.414.3960

mhansen@bbgardens.org

Andrew Krebbs
205.414.3959

akrebbs@bbgardens.org

Antiques at The Gardens Raises more than \$291,000 for Birmingham Botanical Gardens

BIRMINGHAM, AL – Antiques at The Gardens celebrated its fifth year at Birmingham Botanical Gardens in style, kicking off the event with the glamorous, red-themed Sterne Agee First Look Party on September 30. More than 400 guests attended the elegant evening, complete with a red carpet runway and statues clothed in couture botanical gowns. Twenty-four dealers from across the United States filled the Garden Center with Continental and American furniture, antique silver, jewelry, paintings, lighting, china, oriental rugs, majolica, books and more.

Other highlights of the weekend-long event included the *flower* Designer Preview on Friday, October 1. Interior designers, decorators and architects were invited to shop with clients before the sale opened to the general public that morning. Also on Friday, the Red Diamond Lecture Series brought in guests from across Alabama, with talks from renowned floral designer and event planner DeJuan Stroud and famed interior designer Miles Redd, both of whom have their own design studios in Manhattan.

Antiques at The Gardens raised more than \$291,000, benefiting educational programs at Birmingham Botanical Gardens. Last year nearly 10,000 schoolchildren attended free, curriculum-based Discovery Field Trips at The Gardens because of support from Antiques at The Gardens, Junior League of Birmingham, Vulcan Materials Foundation, Regions Financial Corporation, Robert R. Meyer Foundation, Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation, Susan Mott Webb Charitable Trust, Hugh Kaul Foundation, Daniel Foundation of Alabama and the cities of Mountain Brook and Vestavia Hills.

Guests at the First Look Party included Doug and Susan Elliott, Clarissa Harms, Jim Muir, William and Diana Slaughter, William and Maggie Brooke, David Lee Holland, Yanni Kyriazis, Tom and Elizabeth Broughton, Barbara Burton, Tom Jones, Keith Langham, Anne Schaeffer, Andrew and Tricia Noble, Hanson and Melissa Slaughter, Richard and Mitzi Davis, Randy and Jenny Reed, Lou Willie, Rosane Lidstrom, visiting from Jamaica, Troy and Randi Rhone, and Rev. Gates and Margo Shaw.

About Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Birmingham Botanical Gardens is Alabama's largest living museum with more than 10,000 different plants in its living collections. The Gardens' 67.5 acres contains more than 25 unique gardens, 30+ works of original outdoor sculpture, miles of serene paths and a public horticulture library. The Gardens is open daily and offers free admission.