

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact:
Andrew Krebbs
205.414.3959
akrebbs@bbgardens.org

"Glorious Gardens" Features Eight Premiere Local Gardens

(BOTANICAL GARDENS) – Seven homes and one urban farm will showcase their exceptional Birmingham gardens to the public for only two days. Collectively, the gardens will form the Glorious Gardens Tour - Saturday, May 3rd from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and Sunday, May 4th from Noon-5:00 p.m.

This popular garden tour benefits The Gardens' educational mission and allows the public a unique glimpse into gardens that offer tranquility, privacy and clever use of limited space. The tour will feature gardens in a variety of styles, sizes and scales, offering an exceptional way to educate visitors in intimate settings.

Admission is \$25 per person and grants access to all the gardens on the Glorious Gardens Tour. Tickets may be purchased beginning March 1 at Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Leaf & Petal at The Gardens Gift Shop or at many of the local garden and accessory shops including: Colliers Nursery, Leaf and Petal, Little Hardware, Oak Street Garden Shop, Plant Odyssey and Sweet Peas.

Admission tickets may also be purchased by visiting www.bbgardens.org or calling 205.414.3965

Please contact Andrew Krebbs, Director of Marketing & Membership, at 205.414.3959 or akrebbs@bbgardens.org for more information or to pre-arrange interviews with one of the home owners on the tour.

The Glorious Gardens tour will be held rain or shine. High Resolution Photographs and full descriptions of each garden can be found online at www.bbgardens.org under our NEWS section.

Details about the gardens featured in Glorious Gardens are on the following page.

About Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Birmingham Botanical Gardens is Alabama's largest living museum with over 10,000 different plants in its living collections. The Gardens' 67.5 acres contains over 25 unique gardens, 30+ works of original outdoor sculpture and miles of serene paths. The Gardens features the largest public horticulture library in the U.S., conservatories, a wildflower garden, two rose gardens, the Southern Living garden, and a Japanese garden with a traditionally crafted tea house. Education programs run year round and over 11,000 school children enjoy free science-curriculum based field trips annually. The Gardens is open daily, offering free admission to over 325,000 yearly visitors.

Glorious Gardens 2008 Tour

Katherine & Gary Ard

Overhill Road

This private garden is arranged in seven outdoor rooms: porch, pool, pool house, terrace, orchard, alley and parterre. The garden rooms share a common system of proportions with the house.

Ann & Lucian Bloodworth

Canterbury Road

The Bloodworth garden features a formal lawn surrounded by a gravel path with a unique wall fountain as a focal point. Other highlights include a rose adorned arbor, beech trees and camellias.

Lynn & Steve Briggs

Surrey Road

This playful garden includes a terrace of eco-friendly, loose laid, native stone, indigenous plantings and permeable gravel pavings. A new cutting garden will soon provide a year-round source of flowers.

Michael Dyer & Dale Gann

Glocca Morra Farm

Pump House Road

Once home to the late artist, Arthur Stewart, this garden features hosta, camellias, hydrangeas, roses, coneflower, lilies, phlox, iris, ginger and many more varieties. Unique to this garden is a 4,000 square foot greenhouse which houses thousands of rare orchids from all over the world.

Fran Griffin

Country Club Road

The Griffin garden is a summer Southern garden with a variety of plants, color, heights and textures. Perennials include coneflower, black-eyed susan, bee balm, salvia and daylilies.

June & Joe Mays

Country Club Road

This lush hillside garden features a series of rooms – off a central axis – including a Charleston-style courtyard, a woodland garden, scented plants, grasses and water features.

Edwin Marty

Jones Valley Urban Farm

7th Avenue North & 25th Street

JVUF strives to be a model sustainable urban farm, teaching youth and the Birmingham community about sustainable agriculture and nutrition through outdoor experiential education.

Louise & John Wrinkle

Beechwood Road

This lush two acres of woodland are accessible by a network of paths and includes a collection of holly, azalea, native plants. This garden boasts an incredible Belgian fence made of native crabapple.