

Media Contact:
Heather Otten Jungnitz
Bainbridge Island Arts & Humanities
Phone: 206.842.7901
Email: admin@artshum.org

19th Annual Bainbridge In Bloom Garden Tour 2007
July 12 – 15
Bainbridge Island, Washington

The Pacific Northwest's Premiere Garden Tour Expands to 4-Day Gardening Celebration
Featuring a Special Presentation by Dan Hinkley, International Plantsman

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, WA (May 25, 2007) - The 19th Annual Bainbridge In Bloom Garden Tour 2007, the primary fundraising event for the Bainbridge Island Arts & Humanities Council (BIAHC), this year expands to a four-day gardening celebration, scheduled Thursday – Sunday, July 12-15, which features new opportunities to embrace the arts via workshops and lectures while enjoying the beauty, wonder and whimsy of five private island gardens.

“This year’s expanded gardening celebration brings this important fundraising event closer in line with the spirit of the BIAHC,” says event spokesperson David Lewis, of Little and Lewis, and former Board President of the BIAHC. “Our mission is to create an environment on Bainbridge Island in which the arts and humanities can flourish. The 19th Annual Bainbridge In Bloom Garden Tour, with its addition of writing and painting workshops, presentations by recognized experts, and the exposure and sale of works by local artists and craftspeople does just that -- creates and supports a nourishing environment for the arts.”

The Bainbridge In Bloom Garden Tour will showcase five owner-designed, owner-tended gardens of long-time island residents. The gardens -- of varying size and scope -- are long-established island treasures that have provided lofty, leafy, flowering, and often edible sanctuaries for their island families, neighbors, and friends for many years. The Bainbridge

In Bloom Garden Tour is scheduled Saturday and Sunday, July 14 & 15, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. General garden tour tickets for adults are \$25 through May 25 and \$30 after. Tickets are \$10 for children under age 12. Tickets for Seniors age 65 and over are \$25. Bike the Bloom tickets are \$20 and include a route map and bicycle parking. To purchase tickets and for more information call 206.842.7901 or visit our Web site at www.gardentour.info.

Additional garden tour highlights include:

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Gardening “Green”: A variety of Sustainable Gardening exhibitions will educate visitors about natural garden care; composting with compost tea; tree care and heritage trees in Kitsap County; environmentally safer approaches to pests on fruit trees; and, the importance of bees in gardens via in-garden demonstrations.

Words of gardening wit and wisdom from garden columnist, Mary Robson, and Master Gardener Ciscoe Morris, at lunch presentations in Battle Point Park, at 1:00 p.m., on Saturday and Sunday, respectively.

The “Festival,” located in the fields behind Commodore School on the corner of High School Road and Madison Avenue, features an Arts & Crafts Fair offering the work of local artists and craftspeople, an array of fine food choices “to go” or to eat on-site, and the opportunity to shop for plant and gardening goods.

Dan Hinkley Presentation

As a special feature of the Bainbridge In Bloom Garden Tour, Dan Hinkley, international plantsman and founder of Heronswood Nursery, will give a presentation on

“Beautiful and Tough Drought-Resistant Plants” on Sunday, July 15, at 5:00 p.m. at St. Cecilia’s Conger Hall on Bainbridge Island. Appetizers and beverages will be served before the presentation at 4:00 p.m. Separate tickets are required and cost \$25.

Free Narrated Shuttle Transportation

All garden tour ticket holders are required to travel to the gardens on Saturday and Sunday via Kitsap Transit shuttles. Attendees will enjoy spacious, air-conditioned travel that includes shuttle hosts sharing island history and points of interest while Kitsap shuttle drivers handle the traffic, routing and parking hassles. Shuttles are offered free throughout the weekend and will meet designated arriving and departing Seattle-Bainbridge ferries. Attendees will board shuttles for the garden tour at the Festival site. Ample parking is available adjacent to the Festival site.

Special Workshops, Thursday, July 12

The 19th Annual Bainbridge In Bloom Garden Tour 2007 four-day gardening celebration kicks off on Thursday, July 12 with two workshops:

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A Garden Writing Workshop, “*Germinating the Written Word*,” with writer, teacher and garden designer, Lucy Hardiman. The day-long workshop will be in the gardens of a beautiful Bainbridge Island waterfront home and includes a catered lunch and beverages. The workshop, 10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., is limited to 20 participants. Tickets are \$85.

A Painting Workshop, “*Painting Your Landscape*” with painter and illustrator Max Grover. The all day workshop includes a catered lunch and beverages. The workshop will be held in the internationally renowned Bainbridge Island gardens of Little and Lewis. The workshop,

10:00 am. – 4:30 p.m., is limited to 10 participants. Tickets are \$150.

Patron Day, Friday, July 13

Patron Day is an opportunity to enjoy the garden tour independently – with special amenities and additional features exclusively for Patron Day participants:

Garden Benefactors enjoy an intimate tour of the gardens’ with special guest and guide, Mary Robson, Seattle Times columnist and author; feast on a catered lunch in the beautiful gardens of an historic Bainbridge Island home overlooking Port Orchard Sound. In the evening join other benefactors, garden owners and celebrity guests at the Bloedel Reserve for a “Magical Mid-Summer Evening,” featuring dinner, musical entertainment, a silent art auction and more. Tickets are \$300 each.

Garden Enthusiasts enjoy a private, self-directed, drive-it-yourself garden tour with complimentary refreshments in the gardens. Tickets are \$100 each.

Garden Enthusiast Dinner Package: Add dinner to the Garden Enthusiast ticket; \$175 each.

Tickets for a “Magical Mid-Summer Evening” at the Bloedel Reserve also may be purchased separately for \$95 each.

Sponsors

The 19th Annual Bainbridge In Bloom Garden Tour 2007 is possible only through the support of our generous sponsors including Kitsap Bank, Kitsap Transit, John L. Scott Real Estate, Northwest Design Center, Bainbridge Gardens, Savage Plants, Whitney Farms, Stewart Title of Kitsap County, MyWedding.com, Vern’s Organic Topsoil, Bay Hay and Feed, Valley Nursery, Sherrard McGonagle Bohannon & Miller PS, and Town & County Market, Bainbridge Island.

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Garden Photographs

Please go to our Web site at www.gardentour.info to download photographs of the Bainbridge In Bloom 2007 gardens. The images are available in the Press Room.

The 19th Annual Bainbridge In Bloom Garden Tour 2007 is the primary fundraising event for the Bainbridge Island Arts & Humanities Council (BIAHC). For more information, event schedules, and to purchase tickets call 206.842.7901 or visit www.gardentour.info.

The Web site is updated regularly.

About BIAHC: The BIAHC, now entering its third decade, plays a central role in the vitality and expansion of Bainbridge Island's cultural life. Through a broad array of programs and activities, the BIAHC coordinates financial support capacity building for local cultural organizations; provides creation and performance support for individuals and groups of people; expands and manages the City's growing Public Art collection; engages 4,000 schoolchildren each year with in-school cultural opportunities, and, fosters regular discussion and planning among arts and humanities leaders. For a complete listing of programs and activities, please visit our Web site at www.artshum.org.

The Council invites all Bainbridge residents, new and old, to discover the many facets of culture, the variety and richness of arts and humanities activity on the island.

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