



BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Birmingham Botanical Gardens' Spring Plant Sale Returns To Colonial Brookwood Village

BIRMINGHAM, AL – For the fifth consecutive year, Birmingham Botanical Gardens will hold its annual Spring Plant Sale at the former Bruno's Supermarket at Colonial Brookwood Village. The sale, slated for April 16-18, is The Gardens' most attended event of the year, with more than 7,000 browsing well over 85,000 plants for sale. Last year's Spring Plant Sale was a historic one, bringing in more than \$265,000 for The Gardens' many programs.

The three-day sale is free and open to the public, with many plants starting at just \$2. According to Executive Director Fred Spicer, gardeners will have more choices this year too. "I'm especially excited about the 2010 Spring Plant Sale because throughout most plant groups, we'll have more cool and underused plants than in any previous year."

Each year, Mr. Spicer, along with the Spring Plant Sale committee, selects a special plant to feature as that year's Signature Plant. The 2010 Signature Plant is the SunPatiens®, a new impatiens hybrid selected for its heat tolerance, brilliant colors and nearly continuous flowering. SunPatiens® thrive in sunnier locations than do traditional impatiens, although they do require some shade in our climate.

The weekend-long event kicks-off Thursday, April 15 at 5 p.m. with the Brio Preview Party and the Members-Only Sale at 6:30 p.m. Tickets to the Preview Party are \$45, giving guests a chance to shop early and take home the best-looking and rarest plants available at the sale. Guests will also enjoy food by Brio Tuscan Grille, wine and a free SunPatiens®.

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Spring Plant Sale Schedule of Events

Thursday, April 15

Brio Preview Party

5 – 6:30 p.m.

\$45 in advance / \$50 at the door

Members-Only Sale

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Public Sale Hours

Friday, April 16

9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Saturday, April 17

9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday, April 18

11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

For more information about Spring Plant Sale or to purchase tickets to the Brio Preview Party, contact Shelly McCarty, special events coordinator, at 205.414.3965 or smccarty@bbgardens.org. More information is available online at www.bbgardens.org/springplantsale.

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 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 Japanese Gardens with a traditionally crafted tea house. Education programs run year round and more than 10,000 school children enjoy free science-curriculum based field trips annually. The Gardens is open daily, offering free admission to more than 350,000 yearly visitors.