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The Maine
FLOWER SHOW



Inaugural Maine Flower Show Grows Local, Supports GSFB

MELNA show embraces local growers, joins national pollinator support campaign

PORTLAND, Maine (March 14, 2017) – The Maine Landscape & Nursery Association (MELNA) has announced that its inaugural Maine Flower Show, held March 29 through April 2, 2017, will vastly increase the number of gardens on display from past shows, will benefit Good Shepherd Food Bank, and will support cultivation of gardens and pollinators throughout Maine. The Maine Flower Show will be the first consumer show hosted at Thompson’s Point’s “Brick South” building.

“Gardening and planting is so ingrained in Maine’s culture that not having a flower show in Southern Maine last year was a real loss,” said MELNA President Jake Pierson. “This year’s show is exciting for everyone at MELNA and our members – we’re going as big and as colorful as we can! Maine and New England haven’t seen a show like this years!”

In addition to over 100 exhibitors, the show boasts 16 display gardens and 37,000 square feet of gardens and displays all on one floor, and four days of hands-on workshops for gardeners eager to get their hands dirty.

“We’ve committed to using all plant material that’s been grown or forced here in Maine, really embracing our local businesses,” said MELNA Maine Flower Show chairman Mark Faunce. “And we’re proud to partner with Good Shepherd Food Bank to add a charitable element to the show. Agriculture and food security are a natural fit.”

All profits from The Maine Flower Show Premiere Night will benefit Good Shepherd Food Bank, which provides food for hungry and food insecure families throughout the state. Dovetailing with Good Shepherd’s mission of food security, the Maine Flower Show is also encouraging participation in the national Million Pollinator Garden Challenge. The challenge seeks to support pollinators – bees and butterflies, among others – that are responsible for 1 out of 3 bites of food and yet are at a critical point in their survival. Volunteers will be distributing free pollinator garden seed packets throughout the show to both support food supply and work with MELNA’s own Plant Something! campaign.

FMI: Tickets for the Premiere event on Wednesday, March 29 and for the 2017 Maine Flower Show from Thursday, March 30 – Sunday, April 2, 2017, are available with more information at – www.MaineFlowerShow.com.

The Maine Flower Show is grateful for the support of its sponsors – 94.9 WHOM, 97.9 WJBQ, WGME-13/FOX-23, the Maine Media Collective, Estabrook’s, Wallace Events, Moonlighting Production Services, Rowe Ford, Beauregard Equipment Inc., Chad Little Outdoor Power Equipment, New England Specialty Stone, MB Bark, and Broadreach Public Relations.

About The Maine Flower Show

Owned and produced by members of Maine’s horticulture industry, The Maine Flower Show in its first year is one of the biggest gardening and horticultural shows in the region. The Maine Flower Show boasts an exciting new location at Thompson’s Point, with over 100 exhibits, 16 display gardens and vastly more square footage of plants, hardscape, arbor and garden supplies than any recent local garden show. The Maine Flower Show is encouraging and facilitating participation in the Million Pollinator Garden Challenge and provides in-depth, hands-on workshops throughout the show on all aspects of horticulture. All profits from Maine Flower Show Premiere Night benefit Good Shepherd Food Bank. For more information, please visit www.maineflowershow.com.

About Maine Landscape & Nursery Association

Established in 1970, the Maine Landscape and Nursery Association (MELNA) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the encouragement and promotion of its members throughout the industry, including financial support of secondary horticultural education and product research, website connectivity, media representation, and a professional certification program. For more information, please visit www.melna.org and www.plantsomethingmaine.org.

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