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Credit: Rob Cardillo for The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Pennsylvania Horticultural Society Announces Award Winners for 2021 Philadelphia Flower Show**

*Best in Show Award, The Governor’s Trophy, and The Philadelphia Trophy Among More Than 30 Awards Presented for Horticultural Excellence*

**June 23, 2021, PHILADELPHIA, PA –** The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS) announced the award winners for its 2021 Philadelphia Flower Show, “Habitat: Nature’s Masterpiece.” Located in South Philadelphia’s FDR Park, the Flower Show was held outdoors for the first time in its 193-year history from June 5-13, 2021. Garnering inspiration from the Show’s alfresco location, designers created exhibits utilizing the historical district’s stunning natural beauty as its backdrop.

Categories for the 2021 awards included “Best in Show,” “The Governor’s Trophy,” and “The Philadelphia Trophy” among others. To judge this year’s landscape creations, The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society handpicked a group of horticultural experts consisting of Flower Show Committee members and gardening professionals. This year featured the most designers, gardens, and floral displays in the Show’s history, with over 75 unique installations spanning the Show’s 15-acre outdoor footprint for guests to see and interact with.

The coveted “PHS Philadelphia Flower Show Cup--Best in Show” award was presented to East African horticulturalist and landscape designer **Wambui Ippolito**. Ippolito’s design won by combining color, horticulture, and unique design elements. Influenced by her upbringing in the Great Rift Valley in Africa and lifelong travels, Ippolito’s show garden “Etherea” was a contemporary re-interpretation of the moorlands where humanity’s earliest ancestors lived. The creation evoked light, air, and peace in nature.

Below is the complete list of winners in competitive categories.

**2021 Philadelphia Flower Show Award Winners**

| **Award Title** | **Winner** |
| --- | --- |
| The PHS Philadelphia Flower Show Cup--Best in Show | Wambui Ippolito |
| The PHS Philadelphia Flower Show Silver Trophy | Mark Cook Landscape & Contracting LLC |
| The American Horticultural Society Environmental Award | Refugia Design Ltd. |
| The Garden Club of America Certificate of Excellence in Photography | Lorentzen-Bell, Evelyn |
| The Governor's Trophy - Innovative/Unique Design  | Nomad Studio |
| Herb Society of America Award | Petit Jardin en Ville |
| The Kate and Robert Bartlett, Jr. Award - Best Use of Trees | Patrick Cullina |
| Men's Garden Club of Delaware Valley Award | Wambui Ippolito |
| The Pennsylvania Landscape & Nursery Association Trophy | Waldor Orchids |
| The Philadelphia Trophy - Best Use of Color  | Treeline Designz |
| The PHS Gardening for the Greater Good Award | Refugia Design Ltd. |
| The PHS Gardening for the Greater Good Award | WRT, LLC |
| The PHS Gold Medal Award (Best Use of PHS Gold Medal Plants) | J. Downend Landscaping |
| PHS Gold Medal | Irwin Landscaping, Mark Cook Landscape & Contracting LLC, Nomad Studio, Treeline Designz, Wambui Ippolito, WRT LLC |
| PHS Silver Medal | Donald Pell Gardens, Men's Garden Club of Philadelphia, Inc., Patrick Cullina, Petit Jardin en Ville, Refugia Design Ltd. |
| PHS Bronze Medal | Abdallah Tabet, Balmori Associates, J. Downend Landscaping, Jacques Amand International, Ltd., Waldor Orchids |
| Special Achievement Award - Garden Club Fed of PA (Conservation: 1,000 sq ft & over) | Patrick Cullina |
| Special Achievement Award - Garden Club Fed of PA (Conservation: under 1,000 sq ft) | Refugia Design Ltd. |
| Special Achievement Award - Garden Club Fed of PA (Creativity: 1,000 sq ft & over) | Wambui Ippolito |
| Special Achievement Award - Garden Club Fed of PA (Creativity: under 1,000 sq ft) | Nomad Studio |
| Special Achievement Award - Garden Club Fed of PA (Education: 1,000 sq ft & over) | Petit Jardin en Ville |
| Special Achievement Award - Garden Club Fed of PA (Education: under 1,000 sq ft) | WRT, LLC |
| Special Achievement Award -Garden Club Fed of PA (Horticulture: 1,000 sq ft & over) | Waldor Orchids |
| Special Achievement Award - Garden Club Fed of PA (Horticulture: under 1,000 sq ft) | Irwin Landscaping |

**ABOUT PENNSYLVANIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

**The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS)**, an internationally recognized nonprofit organization founded in 1827, plays an essential role in the vitality of the Philadelphia region by creating healthier living environments, increasing access to fresh food, growing economic opportunity, and building deeper social connections between people. PHS delivers this impact through comprehensive greening and engagement initiatives in more than 250 neighborhoods; an expansive network of public gardens and landscapes; year-round learning experiences; and the nation’s signature gardening event, the Philadelphia Flower Show. PHS provides everyone with opportunities to garden for the greater good as a participant, member, donor, or volunteer. For information and to support this impactful work, please visit [PHSonline.org](http://www.phsonline.org/).

**ABOUT THE PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW**

The PHS Philadelphia Flower Show is the nation's largest and the world’s longest-running horticultural event and features stunning displays by some of the world’s premier floral and landscape designers. The Show has been named “Best Event” by the International Festivals and Events Association and “Best of the Best” by the American Bus Association (for the fifth consecutive year) in 2020-2021.

Started in 1829 by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, the Show introduces diverse and sustainable plant varieties and garden and design concepts. In addition to acres of garden displays, the Flower Show hosts world-renowned competitions in horticulture and artistic floral arranging, gardening presentations and demonstrations, special events, and the citywide Bloom Philly! pre-Show celebration. Visit: [PHSonline.org/the-flower-show](http://www.phsonline.org/the-flower-show)

**PHILADELPHIA PARKS & RECREATION (PPR)** advances the prosperity of the city and the progress of her people through stewardship of nearly 10,200 acres of public land and waterways, and management of 500 recreation buildings, 166 miles of trail, and 250 playgrounds. PPR offers safe, enjoyable recreation, environmental and cultural programs and events throughout Philadelphia's parks and recreation system. PPR promotes the well-being and growth of the city’s residents by connecting them to the natural world, to each other and to fun, physical and social opportunities.

In 2017, Philadelphia Parks & Recreation Commissioner Kathryn Ott Lovell, set about implementing the park system’s first strategic plan: Our Path to 2020 and Beyond. As a result, PPR is undertaking a period of historic change, setting the department on a course to become a modern, equitable and exceptional parks and recreation system. Visit us at [www.phila.gov/parksandrec](http://www.phila.gov/parksandrec), and follow @philaparkandrec on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram.

**FDR PARK –1500 Pattison Avenue and S. Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA**

Franklin Delano Roosevelt Park (FDR Park) is Philadelphia’s iconic 348-acre park carved out of the tidal marshes in South Philadelphia. Designed by the Olmsted Brothers in 1914, FDR Park’s sequence of picturesque lakes with adjacent lawns are connected by a network of carriage and foot paths. In 1926, the park hosted the national Sesquicentennial Exhibition and several grand civic buildings, including the iconic Boathouse, opened for the first time.

Today, FDR Park hosts a playground, 4 baseball diamonds, a renowned skate park, a network of lakes, the Swedish American Museum, and 126 acres of woodland. In 2019, after engaging with nearly 3,000 community members and stakeholders, Philadelphia Parks & Recreation and the Fairmount Park Conservancy published a master plan to reimagine a historic Olmsted Park to serve 21st century Philadelphians. The plan, designed by WRT, creates an ecologically sustainable vision for FDR Park that inspires investment, meets the needs of all users today and tomorrow, and focuses on resiliency in the face of a changing climate.

Read more at: <https://myphillypark.org/what-we-do/capital-projects/fdr-park/>

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