



PHS Receives \$1 Million Gift to Enhance Philadelphia Flower Show

William H. Frederick, Jr. and Nancy G. Frederick Fund will support innovative and informative content in three aspects of Flower Show

PHILADELPHIA – The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society has received a \$1 million gift from William H. and Nancy G. Frederick for the PHS Philadelphia Flower Show. The William H. Frederick, Jr. and Nancy G. Frederick Fund will focus on three priorities for the Flower Show: expand the use and diversity of new and unusual hardy plants among major exhibitors; draw attention to the impact of climate change on Philadelphia-area gardens; and support the superior level of design in garden exhibits. This gift will catalyze PHS’s efforts to make the Flower Show an unmatched source of inspiration and education for horticulturists and plant lovers.

“We are incredibly grateful to the Fredericks for their generous commitment to the horticultural and educational integrity of the Philadelphia Flower Show,” said Matt Rader, PHS President. “Bill and Nancy’s contributions to PHS and other institutions continue to have a lasting impact on our region’s eminence in the field of horticulture. This gift continues the Fredericks’ remarkable legacy and guarantees an enlightening experience for the next generation of Flower Show attendees.”

A member of PHS for more than 60 years, William H. “Bill” Frederick Jr. is a world-renowned landscape architect, preservationist, painter, and author. Since the 1960s, Bill has shared his expertise and passion for gardening with thousands of professional gardeners, landscape architects, and students, as well as 33 summer interns, at Ashland Hollow, the magnificent 17-acre garden and property he and his wife Nancy developed over the span of 50 years. After embarking on a path of study together at Cornell University – Bill for nursery management and design and Nancy for plant science – they opened Millcreek Nursery in 1952, and began a storied career of horticultural excellence, which includes designing Scott Arboretum’s Harry Wood



Courtyard Garden, serving as the first Board President of Longwood Gardens and, for many years, conducting special visits for Longwood Gardens' graduate students to the Flower Show.

Partners in work and in life, the Fredericks have been instrumental in shaping horticulture in our region over the last half-century. Besides their professional contributions, investments in local institutions include a gift to establish the Endowment for the Directorship of the Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College and gifts to Winterthur and the Delaware Center for Horticulture. In addition to writing three classic horticulture books, Bill Frederick is the recipient of the prestigious Royal Horticulture Society Veitch Medal and Winterthur's Henry Francis DuPont Award for Garden Design.

The Philadelphia Flower Show is the nation's largest and longest-running horticultural event, featuring stunning displays and educational exhibits by the world's premier floral and landscape designers. Since its inception in 1829, the Flower Show has introduced generations of visitors to new and diverse plant varieties, leading garden and design concepts, and organic and sustainable practices, through competitions, workshops, presentations, and demonstrations.

"The Flower Show educates people about gardening, what they can do in a small space, and how they can grow plants and design with what's available," said Bill Frederick. "This is what it's all about – it's education of the public in a beautiful way," added Nancy Frederick.

The Philadelphia Flower Show supports PHS's efforts to transform lives and communities through horticulture and greening projects.

ABOUT PHS



The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society is a not-for-profit organization, founded in 1827, that works to engage everyone in gardening and apply horticulture to transform lives and communities while solving tough challenges facing society. PHS's best known activities include the Philadelphia Flower Show, street tree planting and maintenance, community gardening, public beautification, and the PHS Pop Up Gardens. PHS is supported by individual members and supporters, foundations, partners and government grants. PHS programs bring together people from diverse backgrounds to engage in horticultural projects that advance social equity, environmental sustainability, and urban livability. For information or to support our work, visit [PHSonline.org](https://www.phsociety.org).

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