

## **PHS Names Gardening and Greening Contest Winners**

*Groups and individuals from three states honored for outstanding green spaces*

**PHILADELPHIA (September 2018)** – The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society has named the Blue Ribbon winners and the Gardens of Distinction in the “2018 PHS Gardening and Greening Contest.” This year, over 300 gardens across the tri-state region were entered in the competition.

The participants were a diverse group of gardeners, including the McKean County Adult Probation Program in Smethport, Pa., and the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd’s Shepherd Garden in Wilmington, Del. Gardeners of all ages included students at Thomas Jefferson Elementary School in Morristown, N.J., and Stewart Middle School in Norristown, Pa., as well as residents at the Tel Hai Retirement Community in Honey Brook, Pa. Geographically, entries came from as far as Washington, Pa., Bear, Del., and Stockton, N.J.

The entries include colorful flower gardens, bountiful vegetable and community gardens, combination gardens, school gardens, container gardens, garden blocks, urban farms, and, public spaces including parks and community centers.

“The Gardening and Greening Contest brings together such a diverse, talented collection of individuals and community groups who are passionate about enhancing our world through horticulture,” said Matt Rader, PHS President. “We are so proud of these gardeners’ accomplishments and hope their participation will inspire their neighbors and fellow community members to start gardening and enter next year’s contest, one of the many ways PHS engages people with horticulture and the joys of gardening.”

A reception for this year’s winners will be held at PHS headquarters, 100 N. 20<sup>th</sup> Street in Philadelphia, on Wednesday, Nov. 7, from 6 to 8 p.m.

More than 63 panels of judges visited 313 gardens throughout Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware to view the beautiful, well-designed spaces filled with a variety of

# PHS gardening and greening contest

color and texture. Gardens were judged on maintenance and horticultural practices, as well as the variety, color, and suitability of plantings. Judges also looked at the design and total visual effect of the gardens and awarded extra points for imaginative ideas and creativity.

All winners will receive a garden sign and two tickets to the 2019 PHS Philadelphia Flower Show, “Flower Power,” March 2 to 10, at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. For a full list of winners, [click here](#).

## **ABOUT PHS**

**The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society** is a not-for-profit organization, founded in 1827, whose programs connect people to horticulture and collaboratively creates beautiful, healthy and sustainable communities. 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](http://PHSONline.org).

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