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## **14<sup>th</sup> Annual Growing to Green Awards Honor Local Community Gardeners**

Columbus, OH— On the evening of September 10, 2015, more than 200 community gardeners and local business and civic leaders gathered on the Conservatory's ScottsMiracle-Gro Community Garden Campus for the 14<sup>th</sup> annual Growing to Green Awards. A potluck dinner and harvest celebration honored the hard work of community gardeners throughout central Ohio. This year's event featured remarks by Franklin County Commissioner Paula Brooks.

This year's nominations were judged by Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens' Women's Board and community garden leaders.

### **Winners of the 2015 Growing to Green Awards:**

#### **Neighborhood Improvement Project**

\$250 awarded to the park, gateway, streetscape or beautification project that does the most to benefit to its surrounding community. Presented by Ohio Health.

Our Community Garden One, 604 Kohr Avenue, Columbus, OH 43211

#### **Education Garden of the Year**

\$500 awarded to a garden that best utilizes garden projects for educational purposes. Presented by Barbara Brandt, Conservatory Trustee.

St. Stephen's Community House Project AquaStar, 1500 E. 15th Avenue Columbus, OH 43219

#### **Paul B. Redman Youth Leadership Award**

\$250 awarded to an outstanding youth gardener, to be applied toward his/her education or garden. Presented by the Amy Corna, member of the Conservatory's Women's Board

Quevon Silas, Clarfield Urban Farm, 3220 Groveport Rd., Columbus, OH 43207

#### **Sustainability Award**

\$250 and a garden cart awarded to a garden best utilizing sustainable gardening practices. Presented by Lori Fry, Folsom & Pine Farm.

Red Roots Community Garden, 150 Clinton Street, Columbus, OH 43202

**Community Gardener of the Year**

\$250 awarded to a person who is exceptionally dedicated to his/her community garden and the gardening movement. Presented by Bill Gerhardt, GreenScapes Landscape Company.

Eric Gates, The Miracle Garden, 1572 Aberdeen Ave and 2718 and 2724 Westerville Rd, Columbus, OH 43211

**Community Garden of the Year**

\$500 awarded to the top neighborhood gardening project for food production or beautification. Presented by Su Lok, The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company.

The Charles Madison Nabrit Memorial Garden, 1200 Brentnell Ave, Columbus, OH 43219

**Boyd D. Bowden, D.O. Garden Impact Award**

\$750 awarded to the top neighborhood gardening project for significant and sustainable impact on the health and vitality of its community. Presented by the Ellen Bowden, Osteopathic Heritage Foundation.

Kimball Farms Community Garden, 1670 East Main Street, Columbus, OH 43205

The Conservatory's Growing to Green Program is supported by: Cardinal Health, the City of Columbus, The Columbus Foundation, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, GreenScapes Landscape Co., The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, The Hinson Family Trust, The Nancy Wolfe Lane Family Fund, Nationwide, and the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation in cooperation with the Boyd Bowden Family.

**About Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens and Growing to Green**

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Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens features plant collections, art and nature-based exhibitions, plant shows, and educational programs for all ages. Situated in an 88-acre urban park, the Conservatory features the historic 1895 John F. Wolfe Palm House and 83,000 square feet of glasshouses, classrooms, and meeting and event spaces. The Conservatory's Growing to Green program is Columbus' largest organized effort to promote and provide free resources for community gardening. Established in 2000, Growing to Green has provided resources to more than 250 community gardens, schools gardens, and neighborhood beautification projects throughout the central Ohio area.