July 12, 2017 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Chanticleer Scholarship Receives the American Public Gardens Association Program Excellence Award



Chanticleer was awarded the American Public Gardens Association Program Excellence Award for the Chanticleer Scholarship in Professional Development; the honor is given to a garden that has displayed an innovative spirit in the development of an original program. The Program Excellence Award was presented to R. William Thomas, Chanticleer's Executive Director, on Wednesday, June 21st, 2017 at the American Public Gardens Annual Conference in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

Established in 2008, the Chanticleer Scholarship in Professional Development has made an extraordinary impact on its recipients, their respective public gardens, and the institutions they have collaborated with. To date, the Scholarship has supported 47 public garden professionals who enhanced their leadership skills and professional acumen through academic coursework and experiential training.

The Scholarship is for experienced staff at any level in a public horticulture organization. Horticulturists, curators, educators, fundraisers, and directors have been awarded the scholarship for projects tailored to meet specific professional and organizational goals. A key part of the program is the involvement and support of the Scholar's institution, to ensure both the garden and the scholar benefit. Gardens of all types and sizes have participated, including

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• The Brenton, Hoyt, Morris, Morton, Polly Hill, and Scott Arboreta

- The Brooklyn, Cheyenne, Chicago, Cleveland, Denver, Desert, Des Moines, Fairchild, Georgia, Huntington, Kew, Missouri, Naples, Paul J. Ciener, Phipps, Quarryhill, Rotary, Santa Barbara, Toronto, Tulsa, and University of British Columbia Botanical Gardens,
- Allen Centennial, Bloedel Reserve, Bok Tower, Descanso, Halifax Public, Reiman, Shofuso Japanese House, Vizcaya, Wave Hill, and Wyck gardens, and
- Agriculture Canada, American Horticultural Society, APGA, Assiniboine Park Conservancy, Chicago Park District, Delaware Center for Horticulture, and Randall's Island Park.

Projects range from structured programs, such as the Getty Leadership Institute and the Chicago Botanic Garden's Horticultural Therapy Certificate Program, to individually tailored projects such as an individual working alongside a mentor to deepen knowledge of a specific skill set. A number of scholars traveled internationally to conduct plant collection research or to pursue formal training, such as the International Diploma in Botanic Garden Education at Kew, coursework in historic preservation in Italy, and the Royal Horticultural Society's "Train the Trainer" program. For more information about the Scholarship visit chanticleergarden.org/scholarship.html.

Chanticleer is a 35-acre pleasure garden featuring contemporary designs within an historic setting located 30 minutes west of Philadelphia. This season the garden is open Wednesdays through Sundays through October 29, 2017. For more information please visit chanticleergarden.org.