



Date: March 24, 2009

Contact: Missouri Botanical Garden Public Relations Department, (314) 577-0254 or (314) 577-5141, karen.hagenow@mobot.org or julie.bierach@mobot.org (*media use only*)

09049

For Immediate Release

**PETER RAVEN RECEIVES SCOTT MEDAL AND AWARD FROM THE
SCOTT ARBORETUM OF SWARTHMORE COLLEGE**

(ST. LOUIS): Dr. Peter Raven, president of the Missouri Botanical Garden has received the Scott Medal and Award from the Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College in Swarthmore, Pa. The award was presented Mar. 15 during Scott Arboretum's Annual Spring Festival at the Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College.

The Scott Medal and Award are given annually to an individual, organization or corporate body who, in the opinion of the Selection Committee, has made an outstanding national contribution to the science and the art of gardening. As specified with the original gift fund, the purpose of the award is "to promote a greater love of nature, make the nation more conscious of the beauty of the outdoors, develop a greater knowledge and love of plants and flowers, spread the gospel of better planting and designing, and arouse a wider interest in better planting and more beautiful gardens among all citizens."

Peter Raven is one of the world's leading botanists and advocates of conservation, biodiversity, and a sustainable environment. For over three decades, he has headed the Missouri Botanical Garden, an institution he nurtured into a world-class center for botanical research and education, and horticultural display. Described by Time magazine as a "Hero for the Planet," Raven champions research around the world to preserve endangered plants.

Raven is the recipient of numerous prizes and awards, including the prestigious International Prize for Biology from the government of Japan and the U.S. National Medal of Science. He has

(over)

ADD ONE: Scott Medal

held Guggenheim and John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation fellowships. Raven was a member of President Bill Clinton's Committee of Advisors on Science and Technology. He also served for 12 years as the home secretary of the National Academy of Science and is a member of the academies of science in Argentina, Brazil, China, Denmark, India, Italy, Mexico, Russia, Sweden, the U.K., and several other countries.

The Missouri Botanical Garden is the oldest continually operating botanical garden in the nation, celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2009. *Missouri Botanical Garden: Green for 150 Years*.

#

NOTE: A digital color image is available by request. Download media materials at www.mobot.org/press.

The Missouri Botanical Garden's mission is "to discover and share knowledge about plants and their environment, in order to preserve and enrich life." Today, 150 years after opening, the Missouri Botanical Garden is a National Historic Landmark and a center for science, conservation, education and horticultural display. *Missouri Botanical Garden: Green for 150 Years*.