



Date: June 17, 2009

For Immediate Release

GARDEN HOSTS LARGEST SUCCULENT EVENT IN MIDWEST
Henry Shaw Cactus Society Show and Sale, July 25 through August 2

- WHAT:** Henry Shaw Cactus Society Show and Sale
WHEN: Saturday, July 25 from noon to 5 p.m.; July 26 through Aug. 2 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Kids Corner, Aug. 1 from 10 a.m. to noon.
Workshops: Aug. 1 at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.; Aug. 2 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.
WHERE: Missouri Botanical Garden, 4344 Shaw Blvd., south St. Louis
COST: Included with Garden admission (\$8 adults; \$4 St. Louis City/County residents) or membership. Free children ages 12 and under.
INFO: www.mobot.org; (314) 577-9400, 1 (800) 642-8842 toll free

(ST. LOUIS): Cacti and succulents of all shapes and sizes will be available for viewing and purchase at the annual **Henry Shaw Cactus Society Show and Sale**, July 25 through Aug. 2. Choose from **thousands of plants** appealing to varied tastes and experience levels, with prices starting at \$1.50. Ask questions and get growing tips from society members. Attend one of four workshops to learn about seasonal plant care, potting and more. Show and sale hours are noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday, July 25 and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. July 26 through Aug. 2. The event is free with Garden admission (\$2-\$8).

Novice gardeners can begin to grow their cacti and succulent collections with a variety of inexpensive and easy-to-care-for plants. Collectors and serious enthusiasts will enjoy browsing many unusual and hard-to-find varieties. Henry Shaw Cactus Society (HSCS) members will be on hand to offer information, and each visitor will receive a generalized plant care sheet with their purchase.

On Aug. 1 and 2, experienced HSCS members will lead workshops designed to enhance your plant knowledge. At 1 p.m. on Aug. 1, pick up tips on potting and learn about seasonal care for

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ADD ONE: Cactus Society

cacti and succulents at 3 p.m. The workshops repeat on Aug. 2 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. in reverse order; visit www.hscactus.org for details.

This year's HSCS show and sale includes a new feature, the **"Kids Corner."** On Aug. 1, from 10 a.m. to noon; several members will help children (12 and under) learn how to pot a succulent seedling as a gift to take home. Children delight in the magic of succulent plants and can learn that they are indeed "finger friendly."

Before they go on public display, over 800 cacti and succulents will compete for top HSCS show honors. Member exhibitors bring their best specimens for judging in over 160 categories. Visitors can compare the prize winners with other entries and sale plants when the show opens on July 25.

Succulents grow throughout the world, while cacti are native only to North and South America. To learn more about these diverse groups of plants, consider joining the Henry Shaw Cactus Society, an affiliate chapter of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America. Those who join during the show will receive a discount on select plant purchases, along with monthly club newsletters and other benefits. For more information, visit www.hscactus.org or contact HSCS President Nikki Murdick at (314) 771-4942.

The Missouri Botanical Garden is located at 4344 Shaw Blvd. in south St. Louis. For general information, visit www.mobot.org or call the recorded event line at (314) 577-9400.

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.*

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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.*

The Missouri Botanical Garden is located at 4344 Shaw Blvd. in St. Louis, just south of I-44 at Vandeventer-Kingshighway (exit #287B). Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day except Dec. 25. Grounds open at 7 a.m. every Wednesday and Saturday. Admission is \$8; free children ages 12 and under and Garden members. St. Louis City and County residents are \$4 and free every Wednesday and Saturday until noon (exception: special admission rate events). Park for free on site and two blocks west at the Shaw-Vandeventer intersection. The Garden is easily accessible by taking the MetroLink commuter rail line to the Central West End station and picking up a Metro bus (www.metrostlouis.org). For general information, log on to www.mobot.org or call the 24-hour recording at (314) 577-9400 or 1-800-642-8842. For membership information, call (314) 577-5118 during weekday business hours. For volunteer opportunities, call (314)-577-5187 or visit www.mobot.org/volunteer. The Missouri Botanical Garden is a tobacco-free environment.