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MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN PRESIDENT RECEIVES TWO NEW AWARDS
Dr. Peter H. Raven Receives Honorary Life Member Award from the American Public Gardens Association, Better Earth Award from the Brooklyn Botanic Garden

(ST. LOUIS): Dr. Peter H. Raven, noted conservationist and president of the Missouri Botanical Garden for over 38 years, received two new honors from the botanical garden community in the past month. The American Public Gardens Association (APGA) presented Raven with the **Honorary Life Member Award** at its 2009 Annual Conference in St. Louis. The Brooklyn Botanic Garden (BBG) also honored Raven with its **Better Earth Award** at its 2009 Spring Gala.

The Honorary Life Member Award is the APGA's most prestigious award, given to an individual who has provided meritorious service to the APGA for many years, displayed an uncommon devotion to the field of public horticulture, and held leadership positions that further the mission of public gardens. Raven becomes only the 16th individual to receive the award since 1958. The honor was bestowed during an awards luncheon on June 26 as part of the APGA 2009 Annual Conference, which was held in St. Louis, Mo. and hosted by the Missouri Botanical Garden.

The BBG's Better Earth Award was launched in 1992 to recognize individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions toward making the world a better place. Raven was a co-recipient of this year's award alongside the Brooklyn-based Independence Community Foundation.

"Dr. Raven and the Independence Community Foundation have made extraordinary contributions to the well-being and sustainability of our communities both locally and globally," said Scot Medbury, president of the BBG. "Through their vision and foresight, they have each sought to

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ADD ONE: Raven Awards

protect and revitalize diversity.”

Raven received the award on June 9 at the BBG’s 2009 Spring Gala in Brooklyn, Ny.

Dr. Peter H. 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, education, and horticultural display. Described by *Time* magazine as a “Hero for the Planet,” Raven champions research around the world to preserve endangered plants.

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: Images available upon request. Download media materials at http://www.mobot.org/press/Media_Room_Images/Dr_Raven/Dr_Raven_Images.asp.

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*.