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For Immediate Release

**“GARDENING BLITZ” IS A FULL WEEKEND OF EXPERT GARDENING
ADVICE AND RESOURCES
*Registration Opens For Spring Class Feb. 1***

(ST. LOUIS): Get ready for **spring** at the Missouri Botanical Garden’s indoor **“Gardening Blitz” weekend!** Select from an ala carte menu of the Garden’s most popular full-length classes and create your own custom-fit educational program over one weekend, **Saturday, Feb. 27** and **Sunday, Feb. 28**. Choose up to four classes during the two-day Gardening Blitz.

Gardeners can choose from a wide variety of topics, including complete shade gardening, perennials for Saturday gardeners, hillside and slope gardens, spring lawn care, container gardening, growing orchids, and more.

Classes are also available for those who are not gardeners. Take a class in birds and birding in St. Louis, gardening photography, watercolor painting, beginner’s cake decorating, and new twists for comfort foods.

Fees are \$30 to \$50 per class, with a discount for Garden members. Pre-registration is required. For complete class descriptions and to register, call (314) 577-5140 or go online to www.gardeninghelp.org and click on “classes.”

If you can’t make it to Gardening Blitz weekend, the Garden offers more than 100 classes this spring on plants, landscaping, arts and crafts, floral design, photography, cooking, wine, nature study and more. For full details, visit www.gardeninghelp.org. Registration for spring classes opens Feb. 1.

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ADD ONE: Gardening Blitz

Also on Feb. 27 and Feb. 28, view exquisitely hand-decorated cakes and cookies. **“Sugared, Spiced and Everything Iced”** will be on display from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days in the upper level of the Ridgway Visitor Center. The event is included with Garden admission of \$8; St. Louis City and County residents enjoy discounted admission of \$4 and free admission on Wednesday and Saturday mornings until noon. Children ages 12 and under and Garden members are free.

The Missouri Botanical Garden is located at 4344 Shaw Blvd. in south St. Louis, easily accessible from Interstate 44 at the Vandeventer exit. Free parking is available on-site at the west lot and two blocks west at the corner of Shaw and Vandeventer.

For general information, visit www.mobot.org or call the recorded event line at (314) 577-9400 or toll-free 1 (800) 642-8842.

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. Wednesdays and Saturdays. Admission is \$8; free children ages 12 and under and Garden members. St. Louis City and County residents are \$4 and free Wednesdays and Saturdays 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.