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**EIGHTH ANNUAL CHICAGO FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW**

**PRESENTED BY ACE HARDWARE**

**“Blossoms, Brooks and Shady Nooks”**

**MARCH 9-17, 2002**

**CHICAGO** – Find a bounty of blossoms, babbling brooks and romantic shady nooks at this year’s Chicago Flower and Garden Show, March 9 - 17, 2002. Presented by Ace Hardware, the show at Navy Pier’s Festival Hall, 600 E. Grand Ave., transports visitors from Chicago’s dreary winter into a full-bloom oasis. Heralding the promise of spring with a burst of welcome color, warmth and cheer, the more than 25 themed gardens brim over with spring’s budding delights. The eighth annual show, “Blossoms, Brooks and Shady Nooks” also features hourly educational lectures, hundreds of gardening products, ongoing demonstrations and workshops, and the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary Interflora World Cup, hosted by FTD Inc.

**INTERFLORA WORLD CUP**

Held every four years, the World Cup is the world’s most prestigious floral design competition. For the first time in its 40-year history, it will open its final competitions and award-winning creations exhibition for public viewing at the Chicago Flower & Garden Show. The Interflora World Cup events on March 15 and 16 are comprised of six competitions including Bridal Bouquet, Table for Two, Favorite Artist Interpretation and Surprise, among others. Some of the countries represented by local designers in the competition include Australia, England, Germany, Greece, Taiwan and Russia – showcasing eclectic, contemporary designs on March 17. Prior to the World Cup competition and exhibition, prominent U.S. designers will exhibit in the competition space March 9-14 traditional floral interpretations of the competing 22 countries.

**GARDEN HIGHLIGHTS**

**BOUNTY OF BLOSSOMS**

**Medieval Ruins**

Let your imagination run wild as you explore the overgrown gardens that surround the ruins of an ancient castle wall. The **Chicago Park District’s Department of Conservatories** contrasts this medieval scene with a traditional English setting that includes a knot garden and beds bursting with colorful bulbs, annuals and perennials.

**Room to Garden**

Beyond the entrance of **The Hidden Gardens’** cottage garden awaits a delightful surprise. Garden art, splashes of color and creativity combine to form witty room-like garden vignettes. The Hidden Gardens gleans its materials from its charming turn-of-the-century farm setting in Darien, where garden enthusiasts can buy unique trees, conifers, shrubs, perennials, grasses, hosta and garden art.

**Children’s Dream Garden**

2002 marks the fourth year that **Sid’s Greenhouse** has participated in the Chicago Flower and Garden Show. This year, Sid’s Greenhouse presents a child’s dream of a garden, complete with a carousel and flowers galore.

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### **Flowers, Flowers and More Flowers**

The **City of Chicago** proves once again that it is committed to the greening of the urban landscape with this magnificent display of a millefiori carpet created by world-class garden designer, Robert Isabell. **American Institute of Floral Designers** uses steel and aluminum structures to showcase its modern floral designs.

### **ROMANTIC SHADY NOOKS**

#### **Moonlight Serenade**

Experience the romantic ambience of a garden after dusk in “Moonlight Serenade.” **Leisure Woods Inc.**, the Midwest’s largest cedar gazebo kit manufacturer, recreates this magical time of day with innovative lighting that enhances the garden’s pond, waterfall, brick patio and gazebo, as well as its trees, flowers and shrubs.

#### **Nature’s Strangest Creatures: A Garden for Dr. Seuss**

All the Whos in Whoville will enjoy a visit to Dr. Seuss’ lopsided house and strange but wonderful garden. **Rich’s Foxwillow Pines Nursery**, which boasts of one of the largest conifer collections in the world, uses conifer and deciduous trees with fantastic weeping, globular and prostrate shapes to evoke the fanciful imageries of one of the most beloved children’s authors of all time.

**Celtic Gardens**, period gardeners who use architectural artifacts and materials from Ireland, England and Scotland, captures the splendor of the old country. A stonewall surrounds this provincial English garden. Bursting with roses and interlaced with grids of formal boxwoods, this authentic garden is complete with a regal sliver of a reflecting pool bordered with antique bluestone and a thatched-roof shed.

#### **Grasses With Gusto**

Discover why ornamental grasses are one of the trendiest plants in the garden in “Grasses with Gusto.” **The University of Illinois Extension**, an educational arm of the University of Illinois at Champaign/Urbana, chose the brilliance of coleus to complement a wide range of easy-to-grow grasses. This clever combo makes for a show-stopping garden of color and intriguing textures and forms.

#### **Bermuda Triangle**

Three exotic deserted islands — complete with a downed plane, a native hut and sound effects — evoke the mysterious locale of the “Bermuda Triangle.” Florida-based **EFG Orchids** returns to the Flower and Garden Show with an exciting range of rare and delicate tropical plants: orchids, anthuriums, bromeliads, heliconias, palm trees and grasses. Don’t miss a trip into the “devil’s triangle.”

#### **Mysteries Unfold**

Come discover the mysteries of the East in **Yasukunai Bonsai’s** secret Japanese room. Ancient scrolls, artifacts and, of course, bonsai plants envelop the visitor to create an exotic yet relaxing atmosphere.

### **BABBLING BROOKS**

#### **Illinois’ Best**

Extolling the virtues of disease- and insect-resistant plants, **Batavia Plain Dirt Gardeners** designed a domesticated garden entirely from native plants. Working with **Jack Pizzo & Associates**, a native plant grower and designer, these award-winning garden club volunteers landscaped the front and backyard of a “house” to include a Savannah, prairie and native woodland.

#### **Reflections**

**Home and Garden Supply**, a Matteson-based business that has been serving the Chicagoland area since 1948, uses the past to showcase the future in “Reflections.” Meander through the granite walkways that surround the tranquil reflecting pool in this suburban-cottage setting which features the newest releases from Pan American Seed.

### **An Old-Fashioned Garden**

Chicagoland's premier water garden installer, **RikRock**, teams with old-world gardener **JPS Landscape Inc.** to create "An Old-Fashioned Garden." Come see how tranquil water, stone columns, custom steel arbor and gates, and a picket fence integrate beautifully in this classic and artful rose garden.

### **For All Seasons**

**Triton College** uses a hardscape structures to show off its four-season garden. A bounty of spring and summer blossoms, fall's colorful beauties and winter's angular landscape provides an insight into Chicagoland's year-round garden experience.

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

### **Gardening Live!**

The Chicago Botanic Garden presents "Gardening Live" and informative series of demonstrations on all insects of gardening. "Gardening Live" will cover everything from composting to cooking. Certified horticulturists will lead hands-on demonstrations throughout the show.

### **Tablescapes**

Retailers and organizations join forces with a wide range of fine florists to create more than 15 dramatic tablescapes at the Chicago Flower and Garden Show. This year, a new improved location means visitors can enjoy the lovely tabletop creations will they dine.

### **Seminars**

Once again the Chicago Flower and Garden Show is chock full of hands-on seminars and workshops. No matter what your age or skill level, there are plenty of learning opportunities for you to improve your knowledge.

## **CHICAGO FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW FACTS**

The 2002 Chicago Flower & Garden Show is proudly presented by Ace Hardware. This year's major show sponsors are FTD Inc. and Jewel-Osco. The show's official landscape contractor is JPS Landscaping. Ben Industries is the show's official providers of retaining walls and pavers.

<b>Location:</b>	Navy Pier's Festival Hall, 600 E. Grand, Chicago
<b>Dates:</b>	March 9-17, 2002
<b>Times:</b>	Monday – Saturday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
<b>Interflora World Cup:</b>	
Sat., Mar 9-Thurs., Mar 14	Exhibition of world-class floral designs
Fri, Mar 15	Preliminary World Cup Competition Events
Sat., Mar 16	Exhibition of all 22 competitors creations from Preliminary Events Finalist World Cup Competition Events in Navy Pier's Grand Ballroom
Sun., Mar. 17	Exhibit of all World Cup creations and award-winners
<b>Education:</b>	The School of Chicago Botanic Garden presents a variety of "Gardening Live!" demonstrations in addition to the hourly how-to lectures by noted gardening experts.
<b>Garden Products:</b>	With more than 200 garden products and educational booths, the <i>Chicago Flower &amp; Garden Show</i> offers something for all garden interests.
<b>Admission:</b>	Adults \$10 weekdays and \$11.50 weekends Children (ages 4 – 12) \$4 weekdays and \$5 weekends

**Coupons:**

Presenting sponsor Ace Hardware offers *Chicago Flower & Garden Show* discount coupons one month prior to the show at participating stores. Call your local store for details.

**Contact:**

For information call (312) 321-0077 or visit [www.chicagoflower.com](http://www.chicagoflower.com).