

# Canada Blooms

THE FLOWER AND GARDEN FESTIVAL

## Spring arrived at Canada Blooms

**March 23, 2010 – Toronto, ON** – Spring came early in Toronto last week, both outdoors and inside at the Direct Energy Centre where Canada Blooms, Canada’s largest flower and garden festival, was held from March 17-21. With spring weather in the air the five-day garden festival brought garden lovers to life – particularly on Sunday as the Festival closed its doors on the first day of spring. Now in its fourteenth year, Canada Blooms was a huge success with attendance up by 20% and an estimated audience of just over 90, 000 guests.

“We are extremely pleased with the success of Canada Blooms this year. Each year visitors from Canada and beyond, come and enjoy the gardens, marketplace and educational features of Canada Blooms,” said Gerry Ginsberg, General Manager, Canada Blooms. “Ensuring that Torontonians continue to enjoy the gardens that were on display, all of the plant and building materials used to create the spectacular gardens of Canada Blooms have been reused and recycled. The plants and flowers left over have been, once again, donated to the City of Toronto”.

The City of Toronto, Canada Blooms and Procter’s Cartage Ltd. partnered to distribute 500 spring blooms and shrubs to seniors living at Fudger House, one of the City of Toronto’s long-term care homes. Flowers have also been made available to seniors’ facilities and programs including Belmont House, Fellowship Towers, Re kai Centre, Seniors Pride Network, Dixon Hall, Toronto Tamil Seniors Association, True Davidson Acres Meals on Wheels, Winchester Square and Home Makers and Nurses Services clients. In addition to repurposing the flowers, the City and Canada Blooms have partnered to save 40 trees from the show, which will be planted in City parks this spring.

“We are particularly please to share the flowering bulbs and annuals with seniors who may not have been able to attend the festival,” adds Ginsberg.

### Award Winning Designs

Each year visitors and industry contributors to Canada Blooms are invited to participate in the Festival by voting for their favourite display and gardens. This year, the **People’s Choice Garden Award** winner was:

- **The Disney Garden**, created by Teamscape with credit to Frank Ferragine of BT, Beth Edney of Gardens for Living and Jordan Murfin of Vast Exteriors.

The finalists for the **People’s Choice Garden Award** were:

- **Green for Life**, created by Landscape Ontario and
- **The Cellar**, created by D.A. Gracey.

Visitors of Canada Blooms who casted their vote at the Tourism Ireland booth for the **People’s Choice Garden Award** entered for a chance to win a trip for 2 to discover the gardens of Ireland, presented by Tourism Ireland, Air Transat and the Toronto Star. The winner of the Trip to Ireland was Vera Petrovic of North York, Ontario. Also, Canada Blooms visitors were encouraged to visit the VIA Rail Garden Route Lounge in the Blooms Marketplace and enter the **New Classical 96.3 fm/VIA Rail Garden Route ‘Win a Trip to the Garden Route Garden of your Choice’ Contest**. The winner of the VIA Rail Garden Route Trip to a Garden Destination in Canada was John McCullam of Clarksburg, Ontario.

## Award Winning Booths

**Artemesia Daylilies** from Princeville, ON (booth 734) won for **best booth 100 sq ft.** Artemesia Daylilies have been growing daylilies for over 10 years and currently feature more than 780 cultivars.

“Receiving the Best Booth Award is an amazing form of peer validation”, said Alain Johnson, co-owner, Artemesia Daylilies. “We are thrilled to be acknowledged for our years of hard work and careful play selection as well as all the labour, thought and detail that went into creating this booth”.

**Vandermeer Nursery Ltd.** from Ajax, ON (booth 716) took the prize for **best booth over 100 sq ft.** Vandermeer Nursery has been in business for 49 years and are a one stop shop for all gardening needs. They locally grow 99% of all their annuals, perennials and waterplants and they also sell a huge selection of nursery stock, pond hardware and provide complete landscape design and installation service.

“It’s an honour to be recognized for a Best Booth award and to have all our hard work and long days pay off”, said Pradeep Suriar, general manager, Vandermeer Nursery, “I’m very proud of my team of designers and staff who helped make this possible and grateful to Brian March and his staff at Earth Art Landscaping who added beauty to your booth by constructing the pergola and pond”.

## 2010 Feature Gardens Award Winners

AWARD NAME	WINNER
The Sheridan Nurseries Award for Outstanding Garden, <i>Small Size</i>	<b>G12</b> ADEN EARTHWORKS INC.
The S.G. Ulbright Award for Outstanding Garden, <i>Medium Size</i>	<b>G20</b> ORIOLE LANDSCAPING LTD.
The Gordon A. MacEachern Award for Outstanding Garden, <i>Large Size</i>	<b>G6</b> D.A.GRACEY & ASSOCIATES
Outstanding Interpretation of the Show Theme <i>“A Celebration of Passion”</i>	<b>G3</b> SCOTT TORRANCE LA INC. Contractor: Coivic Contracting Ltd. <i>Garden Sponsor: Canadian Cancer Society</i>
Outstanding Use of Innovative Elements in a Garden <i>Presented by The Vineland Research and Innovation Centre</i>	<b>G25</b> MIYABI INC.
Outstanding Use of Artistic Elements in a Garden	<b>G22</b> Designer: JORDAN MURFIN Contractor: VAST EXTERIORS
Outstanding Representation of Sponsor Message <i>Presented by Sinclair-Cockburn</i>	<b>G5</b> ALLWEATHER LANDSCAPE CO. LTD. <i>Garden Sponsor: The Home Depot</i>
Most Imaginative Garden Design	<b>G2</b> GREEN FOR LIFE LANDSCAPE ONTARIO CHAPTER TEAM: Tim Kearney, Tony Lombardi, Beth Edney, Jason Smalley, Lindsay Drake Nightingale and James Garfield Thompson
Best Use of Bulbs <i>Presented by TradeWinds</i>	<b>G16</b> EVERGREEN ENVIRONMENTS
Outstanding Educational Garden ( <i>for students</i> )	<b>G19</b> HUMBER COLLEGE LANDSCAPE TECHNICIAN PROGRAM
Outstanding Use of Trees <i>Presented by Kobes Nurseries</i>	<b>G13</b> LANDSCAPES BY LUCIN <i>Designed by Sean Anderson</i>

<b>Outstanding Use of Interior Plants</b>	<b>G1</b> ROYALTY LANDSCAPING <i>Design by Colomba Fuller in collaboration with Ronald Holbrook</i>
<b>Outstanding Use of Annuals and/or Perennials</b>	<b>G24</b> CITY OF TORONTO
<b>Outstanding Use of Water</b>	<b>G8</b> SO-GREEN CANADA
<b>Outstanding Use of Natural Stone</b> <i>Presented by Beaver Valley Stone</i>	<b>G4</b> ELITE ENVIRONMENTS
<b>Outstanding Use of Pre-Cast Pavers</b>	<b>G18</b> STONE-LINK
<b>Outstanding Use of Structures</b> <i>Presented by Enbridge Gas Distribution</i>	<b>G14</b> PARKLANE LTD.
<b>Outstanding Use of Walkways</b>	<b>G15</b> b sq. landscape design studio
<b>Outstanding Outdoor Living Space</b> <i>Presented by Home Depot</i>	<b>G11</b> TORONTO BOTANICAL GARDEN
<b>Outstanding Outdoor Entertainment Area</b>	<b>G9</b> OCAD Frogpond/Canadian Physicians for Aid and Relief
<b>Universal Access Award</b>	<b>G24</b> CITY OF TORONTO  <u>Honourable Mentions:</u> G14 – Parklane Ltd. G22 - Jordan Murfin & Vast Exteriors
<b>The Garden Club of Toronto Award for Best Overall Use of Colour</b>	<b>G2</b> GREEN FOR LIFE LANDSCAPE ONTARIO CHAPTER TEAM: Tim Kearney, Tony Lombardi, Beth Edney, Jason Smalley, Lindsay Drake Nightingale and James Garfield Thompson
<b>The W.E. Bridgeman Award for Best Overall Use of Hard Landscape Elements</b>	<b>G20</b> ORIOLE LANDSCAPING LTD.
<b>The Humber Nurseries Award for Best Overall Use of Plant Material</b>	<b>G24</b> CITY OF TORONTO
<b>The Leslie L. Solty Memorial Award for Best Overall Creativity in Garden Design</b>	<b>G14</b> PARKLANE LTD.
<b>The Landscape Ontario Award for Best Overall Quality of Workmanship</b>	<b>G3</b> COVIC CONTRACTING LTD. Designer: Scott Torrance La Inc. <i>Garden Sponsor: Canadian Cancer Society</i>
<b>Certified Landscape Designer Award</b>	<b>G2</b> BETH EDNEY, CLD
<b>Evergreen Brick Works SEED Award (Society, Environment, Education, Design)</b>	<b>FINALISTS:</b> G6 G9 G11 G14 G20 G24

**Canada Blooms Founding Sponsors:** Landscape Ontario and Garden Club of Toronto.

**Canada Blooms 2009-2010 Presenting and Supporting Festival Sponsors:** The Home Depot Canada, Royal Bank of Canada, Grey Power, Canadian Cancer Society, VIA Rail Canada and Ontario Tourism.

**Canada Blooms Corporate Sponsors**

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**Canada Blooms Media Sponsors**

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- CTV/CP24
- The Epoch Times
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- Gardener Living Magazine
- The New Classical 96.3 FM
- CHFI Radio
- Garden Making Magazine
- Toronto Star
- CTS TV
- Gardens Central Magazine

**About Canada Blooms**

Canada Blooms is a not-for-profit organization that gives back to the community throughout the year by funding community garden projects around Ontario. Canada Blooms, now in its fourteenth year, is also dedicated to providing the community with horticulture expertise, education and resources on an ongoing basis.

For more information, please visit: [www.canadablooms.com](http://www.canadablooms.com).

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