

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **TheDCH honors Andrew Bunting and Ann Wick**



The Delaware Center for Horticulture congratulates Andrew Bunting and Ann Wick, the 2014 winners of TheDCH's most prestigious annual honors: the Mary Marsh Award and Emily du Pont Award, respectively.

The Mary Marsh Award recognizes someone of stature in the horticulture or gardening community for his or her significant contribution to amenity horticulture (gardening for pleasure) over an extended period of time. Lauded for his commitment, leadership, exceptional plant aptitude, and impeccable taste and sense of garden design, Bunting has been a longtime member of the plant selection committee for the Rare Plant Auction at Longwood Gardens, and shepherded TheDCH through its recent green renovations and expansion at the organization's Trolley Square headquarters as the President of the Board of Directors in 2013 and 2014. Bunting brought to the position a considerable amount of professional expertise: he is the Curator of Plants at Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College, and is a renowned plantsman whose private home garden, Belvidere, has been featured in several national magazines.

Bunting is a philanthropist at heart whose leadership has given the entire organization an exhilarating lift of spirit, and has habitually supported the efforts of aspiring plantsmen, said longtime friend and colleague Lenny Wilson, TheDCH Associate Director of Development. "He puts his heart in it, gives tirelessly of himself, provides encouragement and motivation and, in turn, he is rewarded by the successes of those very seeds he planted."

Bunting's professional dossier includes The Chanticleer Foundation, Tintinhull House in Somerset England, and Titoki Point in Taihape, New Zealand. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Plant and Soil Science from Southern Illinois University. He serves on the Street Tree Committee in Swarthmore, is past president of the Magnolia Society International, chairs the North American Plant Collections Consortium for the American Public Garden Association, helps coordinate the Gardener's Studio at the Philadelphia Flower Show, and owns the garden design firm, Fine Garden Creations, Inc.

The Emily du Pont Award recognizes an individual for his or her outstanding service to TheDCH. Wick has been a dedicated, generous, and selfless supporter of TheDCH for three decades: as a volunteer, member of the Council of Advisors, and now as a Board member and member of the Donor Cultivation Committee – a key group supporting renovations and the Capital Campaign. Wick has provided valuable leadership: recommending a consultant, providing guidance, writing letters and notes, hosting lunches and other functions, making phone calls, and rallying her family to make a substantial gift in honor of her mother (also a longtime supporter of TheDCH).



“We are very fortunate to be able to count such a remarkable women among our friends,” said TheDCH Executive Director Pam Sapko.

Wick has served on numerous boards of well-respected organizations in leadership roles, including chairing the Rodney Square restoration project for the Garden Club of Wilmington, and the first chair of the Delaware Early Care and Education Council under Gov. Ruth Ann Minner, playing an active role in establishing the Stars Quality Rating Initiative and other strategies still in practice.

The Mary Marsh and Emily duPont awards were given to Bunting and Wick during TheDCH Annual Meeting on November 13, 2014.

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*The Delaware Center for Horticulture cultivates a greener community; inspiring appreciation and improvement of our environment through horticulture, education and conservation. We create neighborhoods that are healthier, more attractive and ecologically sustainable. Our work includes community gardens, public landscapes, road-side beautification, tree programs, educational programs and community and membership events. The DCH is the only nonprofit membership organization that mobilizes and inspires community greening statewide in urban and suburban environments.*