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Philanthropy's in full bloom for TheDCH 34th Rare Plant Auction® staged throughout Longwood Gardens East Conservatory

Every plant – the rare and the not so rare – has a story to tell. The Delaware Center for Horticulture invites the public to celebrate those stories, and perhaps even create a few more, at this year's Rare Plant Auction® on April 26, 2014.

Last year's RPA raised \$110,000 through ticket sales and auctions for TheDCH public landscapes, tree and urban agriculture programs that often serve low-income neighborhoods. The 2013 gala's show-stopping plant was *Euscaphis japonica* (Korean Sweetheart Tree), which sold in a live auction hosted by a Christie's auctioneer to a Malvern Pa. couple for \$4,000.



Noteworthy for the [2014 RPA](#):

- Tree lovers won't have to go looking for them this year: they'll be staged under a **big tent** near the other silent auction tables
- This year's catalog – with cover illustration by local artist Ann A. Biggs, includes a wealth of information about the plants up for auction including fun, insider **back-stories of select plants**
- When guests [register online](#) by April 23, they are welcome to enjoy event day **complimentary admission to Longwood Gardens**, before the gala which begins at 5:30 pm
- Auction checkout is quicker and easier than ever with **electronic bidding**
- A **special announcement** about the TheDCH green renovations and capital campaign will happen just prior to the live auction at 8:45 pm

Every year, hundreds of plant lovers from across the nation plan their calendars around this event, because they know that renowned experts have carefully curated a premier selection of beautiful, unusual, newly-introduced and difficult to propagate specimens from across the country, as well as unique garden accents.

*The **Delaware Center for Horticulture** cultivates greener communities by inspiring appreciation and improvement of the environment through horticulture, education and conservation. Founded in 1977, TheDCH supports numerous community gardens and school gardens; organizes park improvement projects, beautifies Delaware's roadsides with native vegetation; maintains the landscaping of many urban streetscapes; leads regional community forestry projects; and provides educational programs for children, teens, and adults. For more information, visit thedch.org*