



Franklin Park Conservatory
and Botanical Gardens

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“Hat Day” to take place in the gardens of Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens.

Fashion mentor and expert, author, and television personality Tim Gunn is featured speaker.

(February 12, 2013 - Columbus, Ohio) – On Friday, May 3, 2013, more than 600 guests will gather on the Conservatory’s Grand Mallway for the 13th annual Les Chapeaux dans le Jardin (Hat Day) luncheon.

One of the largest annual fundraisers for the organization, Hat Day has become one of Columbus’ premier social traditions. Debuting in 2001, Hat Day has raised a total 2.3 million dollars in support of the Conservatory’s horticulture and education programs. For this 13th installment, guests will once again turn out in their favorite spring fashions and hats, but this year they will also have the opportunity to hear from Tim Gunn, one of the country’s top fashion experts and co-host of BravoTV’s “Project Runway.”

Currently the Chief Creative Officer of Liz Claiborne Inc., Tim Gunn previously served for 24 years as a member of the administration and faculty at Parsons School of Design. Gunn has lectured widely on fashion and lifestyle design. His interviews have appeared in a wide range of publications, from Newsweek and The New York Times to Entertainment Weekly and Martha Stewart Living, as well as Women’s Wear Daily, Fortune and Fast Company. He has also covered the red carpet at the Academy Awards, Emmy Awards and Golden Globes for The Today Show and Entertainment Tonight, and he co-hosted the Official Oscar Red Carpet Pre-Show in 2009 and 2011 for ABC. He has written articles for Elle, Seventeen, People, US Weekly and Fortune and has a monthly feature in People Style Watch and Marie Claire. The now 59-year-old was named one of People magazine’s “sexiest men alive” in 2006.

“Hat Day has always had a special quality...cocktails and a luncheon in the gardens on the first Friday afternoon in May,” said Bruce A. Harkey, Executive Director of Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens. “With this visit from Tim Gunn, Hat Day— always fashionable and creative— is this spring’s not-to-be-missed event. We are anticipating another successful event, led by co-chairs Katie Wolfe Lloyd, Sara Wolfe Perrini and Rita Wolfe.”

Also featured at this annual event is the presentation of the Ann Isaly Wolfe Award, given to an individual that, through their enduring service, leadership, and financial support, has elevated the Conservatory to its place among the leading cultural institutions in Columbus. Past recipients of the award have included: Liz Fox, Paige Crane, Barbara Trueman, Beth and Doug Morgan, Pamela Thomas Farber, Mo Meuse, Bill and Jackie Wells, Paul B. Redman, Cherie Lucks, and Ann Isaly Wolfe.

Sponsors for Hat Day 2013 include The Dorothy M. Davis and William C. Davis Foundation, The Columbus Dispatch, Nationwide, and Limited Brands Foundation. Individual seats start at \$300 each with table sponsorships available. Call 614.715.8044 for tickets and information.

About Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens

Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens offers botanical collections, art and nature-based exhibitions, plant shows, and educational programs for all ages. Situated in an 88-acre urban park, the Conservatory features the historic 1895 John F. Wolfe Palm House and 83,000 square feet of glasshouses, classrooms, and meeting and event spaces. The Conservatory owns

a signature collection of glass artwork by Dale Chihuly. *Light Raiment II*, a permanent installation by internationally recognized light artist James Turrell, illuminates the John F. Wolfe Palm House every evening from dusk until dawn.

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