

For Immediate Release

July 30, 2013

Norfolk Botanical Garden
6700 Azalea Garden Road
Norfolk, VA 23518



**NORFOLK
BOTANICAL
GARDEN**
Celebrating 75 Years

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**Norfolk Botanical Garden 75th Anniversary
Fall Garden Gala
Saturday, October 5, 2013**



Announcement

(Norfolk, VA) –Join Norfolk Botanical Garden (NBG) for the 75th Anniversary Gala - ***An Evening in the Garden with Earthly Delights*** on Saturday, October 5, 2013 at 6 p.m. in Baker Hall. This fundraising event will feature artwork by renowned artist Mary Page Evans, botanical sculptures created by local Garden Clubs, live ambiance provided by the Elbert Watson Dance Troupe, delectable delights by local chefs and caterers and music by Charles Darden who will perform swing, jazz and blues! It's an evening you won't want to miss!

Evans is a Norfolk Native whose career expands more than four decades. In 2012, her work was featured at the Delaware Art Museum - Painted Poetry: the Art of Mary Page Evans, Retrospective. Evans is married to former Congressman Tom Evans and lives in Delaware. The couple's longtime friends Vice President Joe Biden and his wife Jill purchased three paintings that now hang in the vice president's residence in Washington D.C.

Mary Page Evans is creating an oil painting of Norfolk Botanical Garden's Sara Lee Baker Perennial Garden to be auctioned off that evening. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Garden and educational programming for children and adults. Beginning September 4, 2013, Norfolk Botanical Garden will feature Mary Page Evans work in Baker Hall with an exhibit entitled ***Painting from Nature***.

Committee members for the event have worked tirelessly for several months to plan “*An Evening in the Garden with Earthly Delights*.” Their love of the Garden is evident and a spectacular evening is in store! Co-chairs Mac Houfek and Royce Frazier agree that NBG is the most beautiful setting in Hampton Roads and this event is sure to be a memorable evening that will benefit all Garden guests.

“Norfolk Botanical Garden is an extraordinary community resource for all ages,” Houfek and Frazier said. “Our 75th Anniversary fundraising event will help us to continue pursuing the highest standards of horticultural display and public education as well as a fun and beautiful place to visit.”

Beginning at 6 p.m., guests will have an opportunity to ride the tram to the new Reflection Garden before all the festivities begin at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$75 per person. If you are not able to attend, you can still support our 75th anniversary with a \$250 donation and your name will be engraved on a metal leaf on the donor recognition tree located in Rose Garden Hall. For additional information visit <http://norfolkbotanicalgarden.org/events/75th-anniversary-gala/>

About Norfolk Botanical Garden

Norfolk Botanical Garden represents an oasis of more than 40 themed gardens encompassing 155 beautiful acres. From stunning plant collections to *WOW- World of Wonders: A Children's Adventure Garden*, this diverse natural beauty can be explored by tram, boat, or walking tours. The Garden is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, is recognized as a Virginia Historic Landmark, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, a Virginia Green attraction, and is managed by the Norfolk Botanical Garden Society supported by the City of Norfolk. Norfolk Botanical Garden is dedicated to enriching life by promoting the enjoyment of plants and the environment through beautiful gardens and education programs. Admission is \$11 for adults, \$10 for seniors and military, \$9 for ages 3-17, 2 and under are free. For more information, visit www.norfolkbotanicalgarden.org

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