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Phipps' Fall Flower Show Celebrates the Harvest with Colorful Blooms and Rambling Railroad Displays *New seasonal exhibit features room after room of model trains and chrysanthemums in festive hues.*

Pittsburgh, Pa. — Chrysanthemums in shades of yellow, red, purple, orange and green will soon be on display at <u>Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens</u> for <u>Fall Flower Show 2014</u>, opening on Oct. 18. Featuring gorgeous horticultural designs and whimsical model train displays all throughout the Conservatory, this annual exhibit celebrates the very best of the harvest season and its changing hues.

The signature blooms of autumn, chrysanthemums have been highlighted at Phipps since 1893, grown using a variety of techniques to form blossoms of different sizes and shapes — several varieties of which will be showcased for guests. Beautiful foliage and other flowers will also be incorporated into each garden scene as tiny trains wind their way through many of the Conservatory's display rooms.

Reimagined with a new theme for fall, the Garden Railroad exhibit in the South Conservatory, designed by Phipps Exhibit Coordinator Jordyn Melino and Display Horticulturist Aaron D'Addio, will take visitors back in time to the Gold Rush as they explore the landscapes of northern California and Mt. Shasta — complete with prospectors, water features, interactive buttons, and miniature living plants, shrubs and trees. Of additional interest is a beekeeping display — showcasing tools of the trade, bee-friendly plants and a large bee skep handmade from Phipps-grown grasses — planned for the Gallery.

Two new art exhibits will be open for the duration of Fall Flower Show as well. The first, located in the Welcome Center Gallery, is FLORA: Natives on the Rooftop, a collaboration between Phipps' <u>Botanical Art and Illustration Certificate</u> students and the Allegheny Highland Botanical Art Society, featuring drawings of plants that grow on the <u>Center for Sustainable Landscapes</u>' (CSL) green roof. The second, displayed in the CSL Gallery, highlights original photography created by eight local high school students who participated in Phipps' <u>Learning for a Greener Future</u> summer internship program. FLORA will be on view from Oct. 3 – Jan. 12, and the youth photography showcase will run from Oct. 10 – Jan. 30.

Fall Flower Show, designed by Display Horticulturist and Plant Recorder Laura Schoch, runs through Nov. 9, 2014 and will be open daily from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and until 10 p.m. on Fridays. Admission costs \$15 for adults, \$14 for seniors (age 62 +), \$14 for students (with valid ID), and \$11 for children (ages 2 – 18). Members and children under 2 enter for free. Learn more at **phipps.conservatory.org**.

About Phipps: Founded in 1893, Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens in Pittsburgh, Pa. is a green leader among public gardens with a mission to inspire and educate all with the beauty and importance of plants; to advance sustainability and promote human and environmental well-being through action and research; and to celebrate its historic glasshouse. Learn more at <u>phipps.conservatory.org</u>.

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