



For Immediate Release: Fri., Jan. 6, 2017

Contact: Connie George | Director of Marketing and Communications
412/638-6008 | cgeorge@phipps.conservatory.org

Pittsburgh Educator Receives Scholarship to Bolster Community Development

Chanticleer Scholarship awardee Gabe Tilove enhances his training as a public garden professional

Pittsburgh, Pa. — [Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens](#) is thrilled to announce that Adult Education Coordinator Gabe Tilove has been awarded the [Chanticleer Scholarship in Professional Development](#). This scholarship will enable Tilove to continue his education and expand his skills in public garden leadership, bringing exciting new ideas to Phipps and the Pittsburgh community.

Tilove has been the adult education coordinator at Phipps for six years, overseeing Phipps' adult education and community outreach programs. In accordance with the Chanticleer Scholarship's belief that a stronger and more creative staff results in better public gardens, Tilove plans to further his education in ways that will enhance not only his standing as a public garden professional, but the Pittsburgh community as a whole.

"We host two conferences and 150 classes per year," he said. "The best way to impact the community is to ensure these programs reflect the goals of our region." Utilizing the knowledge and training made available by the Chanticleer Scholarship, Tilove plans to enrich the educational programs so they provide training relevant to Pittsburgh's environmental hurdles. This could encompass anything from expanding [Homegrown](#), a program promoting edible gardening as a means of making healthier food choices, to boosting awareness of [Sustainable Landcare Accreditation](#), a program enabling landscapers to use only the greenest, healthiest practices.

"So much change happens in Pittsburgh at a neighborhood level. As a cultural institution and botanic garden, Phipps is in a great position to help Pittsburgh convene around these issues and push the conversation forward," he said.

"The scholarship has two core components: training in the first year, and travel in the second year," explained Tilove. "In the first year, I will train through NeighborWorks, a national community development non-profit, to earn a certificate in Community Engagement. In the second year, I will travel nationally (and maybe internationally) to meet other public garden leaders who are utilizing their gardens and the passion and expertise of their staff to improve their communities as a whole."

Tilove hopes to emerge from these experiences with a better understanding of community development and the role Phipps can play to help the region grow in beauty, health and biodiversity. "Chanticleer is one of my favorite gardens to visit, but I did not know about their scholarship program until Richard Piacentini, Phipps' executive director, made me aware of it," said Tilove. "This is my first time applying, so I'm thrilled to be accepted on my first try!"

###

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: phipps.conservatory.org.

| [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) |