



For Immediate Release

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**The 2008 Southeastern Flower Show's Opening Night Party
Previews Brilliant Horticultural Displays, Offers Magnificent Auction Items**

ATLANTA – Dec. 11, 2007 – *Imagine That!*, the 2008 Southeastern Flower Show, (www.flowershow.org), is sure to be a crowd-pleaser with its extraordinary indoor gardens and blooming displays. Eager patrons who don't want to wait for Jan. 30, the official first day of the Show, are invited to the **Opening Night Party, Tuesday, Jan. 29 at 7 p.m., at The Georgia World Congress Center**, where guests will kick-off the excitement in style. Mary Wayne Dixon (Mrs. William) and daughter Ginger Dixon Molloy (Mrs. Daniel) have planned an elegant black-tie evening of music, cocktails, entertainment, and a first look at the Show.

Jovita Moore, WSB-TV News Anchor, is hosting the gala, which is sponsored by Hirtle, Callaghan & Company. She will be joined by WSB-TV's Sports Director, Chuck Dowdle and Meteorologist David Chandley. Guests will stroll through the newly unveiled exhibits to learn which displays have been awarded top prizes by the panel of distinguished judges from across the country. In addition to the horticultural beauty, another highlight of the evening will be the live and silent auctions, featuring items as magnificent as the Show exhibits themselves.

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Beth Ventulett (Mrs. Tom), who, with her husband is honorary chair of the Show, has amassed an outstanding collection of items for the live and silent auction. Christie's International Auctioneer, Hugh Edmeades, who is Chairman of Christie's South Kensington, will serve as the Guest Auctioneer. Items included in the auction are:

- Fighter Pilot simulation at Air Combat USA
- Weekend getaway to Dubai
- Palmetto Bay Plantation scuba in Honduras
- Fly fishing in Mongolia
- Singer Sewing Castle in New York
- Walk-on role with the Atlanta Opera
- Lady's Cartier Watch, Shawl trimmed in sable and love song written just for her
- Little girl's palatial playhouse
- Little boy's sleep-in fort

Tickets to the Southeastern Flower Show's Black-Tie Opening Night Party are \$200 each and may be purchased by calling 404/351-1074.

About the Southeastern Flower Show

The Southeastern Flower Show proudly continues its reign as the region's premiere juried gardening and horticultural event. For more than two decades, spectacular displays created by top garden designers have showcased the latest landscaping trends as well as the newest and most desirable plant material and gardening products. In addition to competition in floral design, horticulture, landscape and photography, the five-day indoor gardening extravaganza appeals to a variety of interests.

Imagine That!, the 21st annual Southeastern Flower Show, will be led by Show Chairman Nan Henson and her team of over 2,000 volunteers. Honorary Chairs for the 2008 Show are long-time Southeastern Flower Show supporters Tom and Beth Ventulett. The Show artist is Timothy Martin. Show tickets are available at www.flowershow.org or by calling 404/351-1074.

Featuring a new theme every year, the Southeastern Flower Show inspires and entertains visitors, regardless of their gardening acumen. More than 200 invited judges from across the country critique the entries of the expert horticulturists. Unlike commercial home and garden shows, the Atlanta-based event is produced by a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting horticultural excellence in addition to awareness and conservation of the natural environment. A highlight of the Show is The Legacy Garden, an annual outreach program that provides assistance with creating or augmenting a garden for a deserving local community institution or organization each year. In 2008, the Legacy Garden will be awarded to the Horticultural Therapy program at Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta, including the Byrd Barrier-Free Garden and the Infusion Center Deck.

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