

**PRESS RELEASE****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**International Plantscape Awards Submissions Top Charts**

Columbus, Ohio – With a nearly 30 percent increase in submissions, the 2016 International Plantscape Awards are reaching new heights. This year's 63 entries were submitted by 20 participating companies. Each entry is judged on its own merit and not against others in the same category. The three-person judging team of distinguished landscapers awards points based on how well the entry description and images submitted meet the published judging criteria. Acquiring 90 percent or more of the total number of points possible will earn a project a Platinum Award, and earning 80 percent to 89 percent of the total number of points possible will earn a project a Gold Award.

The awards will be presented on Sunday, July 10 during Cultivate'16 in Columbus, Ohio. The awards program will allow interior landscapers to connect with their peers, and to be inspired by the award-winning ideas and designs. Interiorscapers are encouraged to join their colleagues at the Celebration Dinner to recognize and celebrate excellence in the interiorscape community.

Information about the International Plantscape Awards and Cultivate'16 are available at [AmericanHort.org/Cultivate](http://AmericanHort.org/Cultivate).

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AmericanHort was formed in 2014 by the consolidation of the American Nursery & Landscape Association and OFA – The Association of Horticulture Professionals. With a combined history of 220+ years, AmericanHort supports nearly 16,000 member and affiliated businesses that include breeders, greenhouse and nursery growers, garden retailers, distributors, interior and exterior landscape professionals, florists, students, educators, researchers, manufacturers, and all of those who are part of the industry market chain. The horticulture industry's production, wholesale, retail, and landscape service components have annual sales of \$163 billion, and sustain over 1.15 million full- and part-time jobs. Our mission is to unite, promote, and advance the horticulture industry through advocacy, collaboration, connectivity, education, market development, and research. The association has offices in Columbus, Ohio for administration and member services, and in Washington, DC to facilitate government relations and research activities.