



AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE 2021

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.



Award of Excellence



The highest award of National Garden Clubs presented to a Non-member of NGC and sponsored by a State Garden Club organization/federation. It may be awarded to an individual, organization or institution that has made a significant contribution toward the advancement of goals and purposes of National Garden Clubs.



Award of Excellence



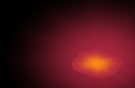
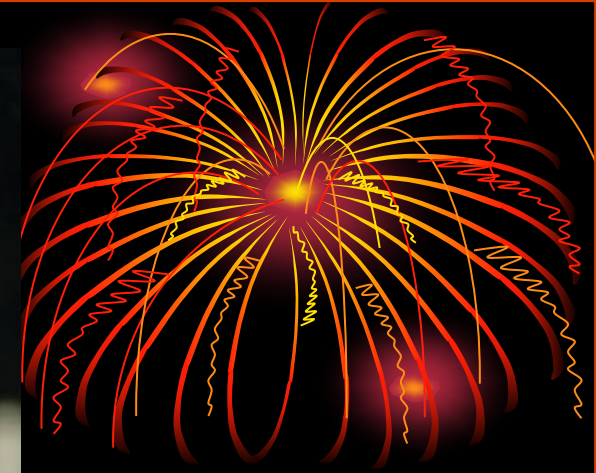
**Gay Austin, president,
National Garden Clubs:**

The Award of Excellence is our organization's highest honor for non-members and by recognizing these deserving recipients from different parts of the nation, NGC hopes to educate and inspire others in communities coast-to-coast.



President Gay Austin





Bruce Crawford

**Hometown of Andover, NJ
Nominated by the
Garden Club of New Jersey**



Bruce Crawford

- **Owner of Garden Architecture, landscape design, for 25 years**
- **Director of Rutgers Gardens**
- **Adjunct Professor at Rutgers University**



Bruce Crawford



Gardens

- **year-round interest**
- **lesser used plants**
- **low maintenance**
- **sustainable**
- **outdoor classroom**



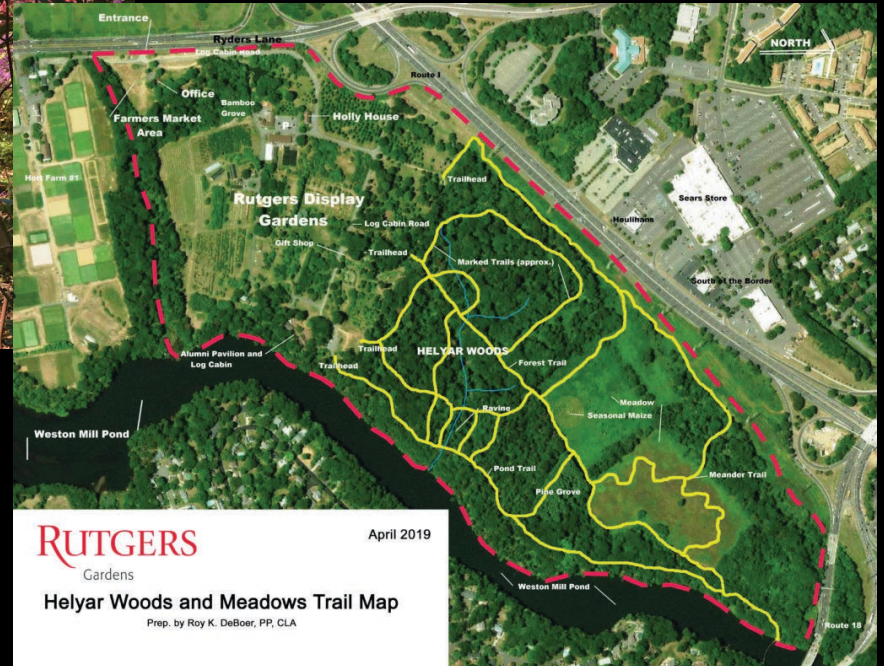
Trails at Rutgers Gardens

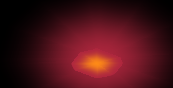


Bruce Crawford



Rutgers Gardens





Nancy Vehrs

**Hometown of Manassas, VA
Nominated by the National
Capital Area Garden Clubs**



Nancy Vehrs

- **Founder and President of the Native Plant Society of Virginia**
- **Recipient of the Heart of Gold Award from the Prince William Conservation Alliance, Virginia**



Nancy Vehrs



Projects

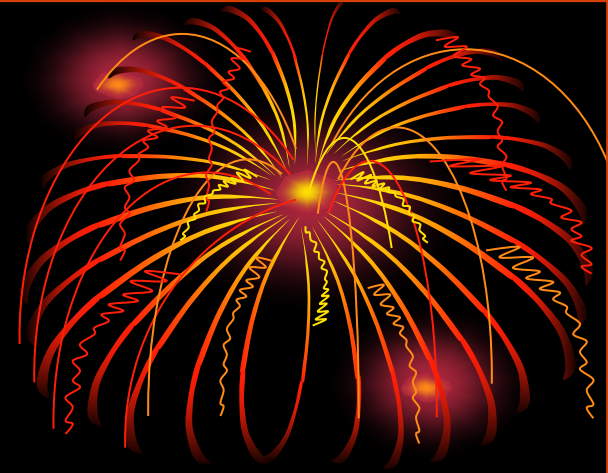
- **pollinator friendly gardens at rest areas along roads**
- **green education for budding naturalists**
- **native plantings to attract birds and other wildlife**



Roadside Planting



Nancy Vehrs



Teaching Moments





Pat Woodrum

**Hometown of Tulsa, OK
Nominated by the
Oklahoma Garden Clubs**



Pat Woodrum

- **Master Gardener**
- **Founding Executive Director of the Oklahoma Centennial Botanical Garden now the Tulsa Botanic Garden**



Pat Woodrum



Collaboration

- a world-class botanical garden
- funding of over \$2million
- blessing of the land by Osage Nation Chief



Blessing Ceremony



Pat Woodrum



Tulsa Botanic Garden



Award of Excellence for Regions



The highest award of National Garden Clubs presented to a Region. It may be awarded for distinguished work in a Region for a coordinated activity in accordance with the programs and objectives of NGC in which all states in the Region have participated.





New England Region

**Connecticut, Maine,
Massachusetts, New Hampshire,
Rhode Island, Vermont**



New England Region



- **Suzanne Bushnell, Director**
- ***Planting the New England Victory Garden***
- **Fighting food insecurity in New England**



New England Region



Project

- **grow extra vegetables, herbs and fruit to donate**
- **volunteer at community gardens**
- **aid organizations feeding the hungry**



Medfield Community Garden



New England Region



**Over nine tons of produce
was grown and donated!**



THANK YOU!



**National Garden Clubs, Inc.
thanks all of the Award of
Excellence recipients and
nominees for their hard work
and dedication.**

CONGRATULATIONS!

