



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tales from the Field: A Botany Story Slam; New England's Scientific Explorers, Authors, Farmers, and Botanists share their most harrowing and hilarious encounters in the world of plants; audience to vote for best tale.

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Native Plant Trust, the nation's first plant conservation organization and the only one solely focused on New England's native plants, announces a new event, **Tales from the Field: A Botany Story Slam**, to take place on Saturday, February 29, 6-8 p.m. at Garden in the Woods, its botanic garden in Framingham, MA. The event will be moderated by Native Plant Trust's Director of Conservation Michael Piantedosi, and the audience will be encouraged to interact with the storytellers and cast a vote for their favorite tale.

"Tales from the Field" will showcase New England botanists, horticulturists, and others, who will candidly share their most harrowing and hilarious career moments in the world of plants. A story slam is a live storytelling competition in which each storyteller has a few minutes to share an experience on a chosen theme. The featured storytellers will share the wild places they've been and the unusual experiences they've had in pursuit of scientific knowledge. It is sure to be a one-of-a-kind performance of adventure and humor. The storytellers include:

Leslie Duthie, horticulturist, Norcross Wildlife Foundation

Ted Elliman, botanist and author of *Wildflowers of New England*

Krista Heilmann, farmer, Salt Box Farm

Hope Leeson, botanist, Rhode Island Natural History Survey

Uli Lorimer, Director of Horticulture, Native Plant Trust

Laney Widener, Executive Director, Concord Land Conservation Trust

Seating is limited. Tickets for Tales from the Field: A Botany Story Slam are available at www.NativePlantTrust.org.

ABOUT NATIVE PLANT TRUST

Native Plant Trust is the nation's first plant conservation organization and the only one solely focused on New England's native plants. We save native plants in the wild, grow them for gardens and restorations, and educate others on their value and use. We are based at Garden in the Woods, a renowned native plant botanic garden that attracts visitors from all over the world. From this flagship property in Framingham, Massachusetts, 25 staff and many of our 1,500 trained volunteers work throughout New England each year to monitor and protect rare and endangered plants, collect and preserve seeds to ensure biological diversity, detect and control invasive species, conduct research, and offer a range of educational programs. Native Plant Trust also operates a nursery at Nasami Farm in western Massachusetts and manages six sanctuaries in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont that are open to the public. Native Plant Trust is among the first organizations worldwide to receive Advanced Conservation Practitioner accreditation by London-based Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI), which included an endorsement by an International Advisory Council representing six continents. Please visit www.NativePlantTrust.org.

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