



Winterthur Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CELEBRATE THE FIRST FLOWERS OF SPRING DURING BANK TO BEND AT WINTERTHUR ON MARCH 10

Winterthur, DE February 9, 2018—Visit Winterthur on March 10 for a special garden program, including a lecture by Peter Zale, curator and plant breeder at Longwood Gardens, a guided garden walk, self-guided tours, and sale of rare and unusual bulbs, perennials, and woody plants.

In his presentation, “Intrinsic Beauty: Snowdrops, Choice Bulbs, and How They Enrich Gardens,” Dr. Peter Zale will discuss snowdrops and other early bulbs that bring much more to the garden than beauty. They are the objects of passion and desire that have led plant explorers to remote regions of the world. They are controversial; their provocative taxonomy and obsessive horticultural interest sometimes bringing out the best, or worst, of the people intimately associated with them. Many are rare in the wild, and serve as flagship species for conservation efforts. Lastly, they are exotic, providing a sense of place in the garden at a time of the year that few other plants can rival. In this presentation, Dr. Zale will touch on these topics while highlighting some of the more interesting stories related to these plants. He will also discuss their role in garden amplification efforts at Longwood Gardens and in his personal garden. The lecture begins at 11 am and costs \$20; members, \$10.

The day’s other activities include “Snowdrops and Other Minor Bulbs,” a garden walk with Chris Strand, Winterthur’s Brown Harrington Director of the Garden and Estate, at 1 pm and a sale of rare and unusual plants from 10 am to 3 pm. Nurseries this year include Carolyn’s Shade

Gardens (www.carolynsshadegardens.com), Edgewood Gardens (www.edgewoodgardens.net), and RareFind Nursery (www.rarefindnursery.com). Visitors may also tour the garden on their own throughout the day, or on a walk led by Winterthur staff at 1 pm. These activities are included with general admission.

The March Bank at Winterthur has been in cultivation for more than 100 years. When Henry Francis du Pont began his horticultural experiments at Winterthur, this was one of the first areas on which he focused, planting tens of thousands of bulbs at a time. Today the bulbs number in the millions, beginning to flower in March and continuing until spring ephemerals and ferns take their place in May.

Winterthur—known worldwide for its preeminent collection of American decorative arts, naturalistic gardens, and research library for the study of American art and material culture—offers a variety of tours, exhibitions, programs, and activities throughout the year. General admission includes a tour of some of the most notable spaces in the 175-room house as well as access to the Winterthur Garden and Galleries, special exhibitions, a narrated tram tour (weather permitting), the Campbell Collection of Soup Tureens, and the Enchanted Woods children’s garden. Admission costs \$20 for adults; \$18 for students and seniors; and \$6 for ages 2–11. Group rates available. For details, visit winterthur.org or call 800.448.3883.

Winterthur is open from 10 am to 5 pm, Tuesday–Sunday and is located on Route 52, six miles northwest of Wilmington, Delaware, and five miles south of U.S. Route 1. Closed on Mondays, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day.

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****High-resolution jpeg images available upon requests***