

# News Release

South Seattle Community College

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 17, 2006

## **21<sup>st</sup> Annual Arboretum Tour & Tea**

South Seattle Community College Arboretum

Tour & Program: Arboretum, north entrance, 1 p.m.

Tea: Jerry M. Brockey Student Center, 3 p.m.

Lecture: Landscape Horticulture Building, room 2, 4:30 p.m.

764-5809

South Seattle Community College and the South Seattle Community College Foundation invite the public to the college's 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Arboretum Tour & Tea on June 1. The event begins with tours of the Arboretum at 1:00 p.m. followed by tea and refreshments at 3:00 p.m. in the Jerry M. Brockey Student Center. Admission is free.

This annual event showcases interesting developments in the South Seattle Community College Arboretum. Besides being a wonderful place to take a relaxing walk and see spectacular views of downtown Seattle and Elliott Bay, the 6-acre site serves as a living laboratory for students in the college's Landscape Horticulture program.

As guests tour the gardens, Landscape Horticulture students will be on hand to answer questions. Highlights of the Arboretum included the Helen Sutton Rose Garden, the Mason Garden featuring herbaceous perennials and flowering shrubs, and the recently completed Coenosium Rock Garden, which includes a world-class collection of dwarf conifers, alpine plants and a naturalistic waterfall and pond.

A short program to recognize student accomplishments and Arboretum supporters will follow the tour. Guests are then invited to enjoy tea and pastries in the Jerry M. Brockey Student Center. The day's events will conclude with an illustrated lecture by Lynn Thompson, coordinator of the Seattle-based Great Plant Picks program, at 4:30 p.m. Thompson is a graduate of the Landscape Horticulture program. The Garden Center, located next to the Arboretum, will be open for guests to purchase plants at 20 % off their original price.

The Landscape Horticulture Program has grown by 42% over the last three years. Program courses combine technical expertise, theory and practical hands-on training in the adjacent Arboretum to prepare graduates for jobs in a rewarding, healthy field. The Arboretum is regularly open to the public everyday during daylight hours. A virtual tour can be found at <http://dept.seattlecolleges.com/arboretum>.

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For more information:

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