



# NEWS RELEASE

## American Rose Society

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 1, 2021

### INAUGURAL AMERICAN ROSE CENTER INTERNATIONAL ROSE TRIALS CELEBRITY JUDGING

**Shreveport, LA** – The American Rose Society and the American Rose Center are excited to announce the Inaugural American Rose Center International Rose Trials Celebrity Judging to be held on October 30 at America’s Rose Garden.

In 2019, the ARC joined other major gardens around the world offering prestigious rose trials. That year, rose breeders were invited for the first time to enter their new roses in the American Rose Center’s new International Rose Trials. After two years in trials, rose entries will be judged one final time by a Celebrity Team of Judges and awards will be presented. Those awards will be associated with the winning roses as long as they are in commerce.

This final judging concludes the trial period for the first group of roses at the new international trial grounds. These special roses, hand-selected for the trials by their breeders and introducing nurseries have been judged five times per year by our Permanent Jury. The Celebrity Judging is an opportunity to share in the challenge of selecting the Most Outstanding Roses of the Trials.

Our rose trials were modeled after the Biltmore International Rose Trials in Asheville, North Carolina, thanks to assistance by Paul Zimmerman former Biltmore Trials Director. Marilyn Wellan is acting Director of the Trials, Connie Reeve is Chairman of the Permanent Jury, ARC Garden Director Don Morgan is Trial Grounds Director. The Trial Grounds are located at the ARC’s Windsounds Carillon Tower, the majestic 30-foot garden centerpiece designed by the late award-winning designer Calvin Bishop of Houston and installed when the gardens were being created 50 years ago

Winners will be announced in the following categories:

- Dr. J. Horace McFarland Award for Most Outstanding Rose – Gold Medal
- Dr. Joseph & Marion Klima Award for Best Growth Habit Rose
- Virginia K. Shehee Award for Most Fragrant Rose
- William J. ‘Will’ Radler Award for Most Disease Resistant Rose
- American Rose Society President’s Award for Best Hybrid Tea Rose
- Jane Owen & Quintin T. Hardtner, Jr. Award for Best Grandiflora Roses
- Dr. Charles & Carolyn Beaird Award for Best Climbing Rose
- Dr. Jim Hering Award for Best Miniflora Rose
- American Rose Center Committee Award for Best Shrub-Bush Rose
- Volunteers of America’s Rose Garden Award for Best Shrub-Groundcover Rose



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**About the American Rose Society:** The American Rose Society is a non-profit, educational organization founded in 1892 to promote the culture, preservation and appreciation of the rose and to improve its standard of excellence for all people through education and research. Its headquarters is located in Shreveport, Louisiana, at the American Rose Center, home of “America’s Rose Garden.”

**About the American Rose Center:** The American Rose Center was established in 1974 and serves as the national headquarters site for the American Rose Society. The Center is the largest public garden in the United States dedicated to roses.