



MEDIA RELEASE

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Gardens of Distinction

Canada Blooms hands out annual awards for outstanding design and execution

TORONTO, Ont. — Year after year, landscape architects and garden designers wow Canada Blooms with their ingenuity and innovation in conceiving and building spectacular feature gardens.

The annual Canada Blooms Garden Builder Awards recognize the best of the best; following the 2019 edition of Canada's largest garden and floral festival, A Japanese Touch by J. Garfield Thompson Landscape Ltd., was named winner of the Tony Giovanni Canada Blooms Judge's Choice awards as the garden of the year — one of four awards they took home this year.

"The gardens are what makes Canada Blooms great, and the people who put all of the hard work and thought into first designing the space and then building it deserve recognition," says Terry Caddo, General Manager of Canada Blooms. "We had some fantastic gardens that really took our Family Affair theme to heart. Every feature garden in Canada Blooms 2019 was a great space for gathering with those close to you and sharing quality moments."

Other multiple winners include BB Pools and Landscaping with four, Landscape by Evergreen with three and Mountainhill Landscape, Aquaspa Pools & Landscape Design, Green Play Streets (by Landscape Ontario, Wentworth Landscapes and Come Alive Outside), AKa Designs & MBL Landscaping, Green Art Landscape Design, Landscape Ontario & Genoscape Ltd., City of Toronto and Ecoman with two each.

Feature Garden Judges considered the following criteria in evaluating the gardens: overall visual impact, quality of materials used, outstanding creativity, innovation, imagination, aesthetic appeal, technical hardscape/constructed aspects, harmony of design elements and detailing, unique use of plant material, organization and completeness, environment (ie. cleanliness, safety, etc.), as well as specific criteria for each individual award as either noted in the award name or included with it below.

Mark's Choice is Mark and Ben Cullen's personal seal of approval on more than 200 gardening products available exclusively at Home Hardware stores across Canada.

Co-located with the National Home Show, Canada Blooms takes place March 8th to 17th, 2019, at the Enercare Centre at Exhibition Place in Toronto. For more information or for tickets, please visit canadablooms.com. Follow Canada Blooms on Twitter [@CanadaBlooms](https://twitter.com/CanadaBlooms) and Like it on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/CanadaBlooms).



About Canada Blooms

Canada Blooms is an annual world-class festival that connects people to the joys and benefits of nature through experiences with gardens and flowers by promoting, educating, inspiring and celebrating all aspects of horticulture. A not-for-profit organization that gives back to the community throughout the year by funding community garden projects around Ontario, Canada Blooms is also dedicated to providing the community with horticulture expertise, education and resources on an ongoing basis.

Now entering its 23rd year, Canada Blooms was founded by Landscape Ontario and The Garden Club of Toronto. Each year it is supported by a committed group of partners, sponsors and volunteers. Canada Blooms has been named One of Ontario's Top 100 Events by Festivals and Events Ontario and One of North America's Top 100 Events by the American Bus Association.

About Mark's Choice

Mark's Choice Ltd. is a horticultural communications and marketing company, with the brand being attached to dozens of products available at Home Hardware stores across Canada — including gardening tools, soil, seeds, gloves and other equipment useful in the garden. Before a product is approved as Mark's Choice, it must pass rigorous testing, ensuring it is made from high-quality materials, meets the needs of Canadian home gardeners, is tough enough to stand up to commercial use and will help Canadians create great looking lawns and gardens. Possibly Canada's best-known gardener, Mark's Choice President Mark Cullen is a third generation career gardener, and a "garden communicator" unlike any other. He is a best-selling author, with more than 20 books on gardening to his credit. Mr. Cullen actively maintains his website markcullen.com, where he has answered more than 10,000 questions from gardeners across the country.

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Backgrounder

**Canada Blooms presented by Mark's Choice 2018
Feature Garden Award Winners
Presented by Hub International and Aviva Insurance**

AWARD NAME	WINNER	BUILDER
The Unilock Award for Outstanding Garden, Small Size	BOREAL-US	Greer Design Group
The S.G. Ulbright Award for Outstanding Garden, Medium Size	A JAPANESE TOUCH	J. Garfield Thompson Landscape Ltd.
The Gordon A. MacEachern Award for Outstanding Garden, Large Size	ENJOY EVERY MINUTE OF LIFE	BB Pools & Landscaping
Outstanding Interpretation of Festival Theme <i>presented by Isuzu Commercial Truck of Canada</i>	GREEN STREETS PLAY ZONE	Landscape Ontario, Wentworth Landscapes, Come Alive Outside
Most Accessible Garden Award	HORTUS FAMILIA CANADENSIS – THE CANADIAN FAMILY GARDEN	Mountainhill Landscape
Best Use of Landscape Lighting <i>presented by Landscape Ontario Lighting Sector Group</i>	TRANQUILITY FOR THE FAMILY	Landscape by Evergreen and Elite Environments
Outstanding Use of Natural Stone <i>presented by Beaver Valley Stone</i>	CLIFF CITY	Ecoman
Outstanding Use of Precast Pavers <i>presented by Humber College</i>	HANGING WITH THE FAMILY	DPR Landscapes
Outstanding Use of Structures	ENJOY EVERY MINUTE OF LIFE	BB Pools & Landscaping
Best Use of Bulbs <i>presented by Pioneer Flower Farm</i>	SPA GARDEN	ExperTrees



Outstanding Outdoor Entertainment Area	ROYAL STONE GROUP FAMILY	Aquaspa Pools & Landscape Design and Royal Stone Landscaping & Design
Outstanding Use of Artistic Elements in a Garden <i>presented by Kooy Bros</i>	GARDEN RE-MIX	Green Art Landscape Design
Outstanding Use of Trees <i>presented by GroBark Ontario</i>	TRANQUILITY FOR THE FAMILY	Landscape by Evergreen and Elite Environments
Outstanding Use of Interior Plants <i>presented by Ontario Flower Growers Cooperative</i>	PLANTS, IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR	City of Toronto
Outstanding Use of Annuals and/or Perennials <i>presented by Proven Winners</i>	TRANQUILITY FOR THE FAMILY	Landscape by Evergreen and Elite Environments
Outstanding Use of Walkways	MAYFAIR HOUSE	Flattery Design Inc.
Outstanding Use of Innovative Elements in a Garden <i>presented by Van Belle Nursery</i>	HEIRS OF HORTICULTURE	Landscape Ontario Trades Association and Gelderman Landscape Services
Outstanding Education Garden	FUSION GARDEN	Landscape Ontario and Genoscape Inc.
The Perry Molema Award for Outstanding Use of Water <i>presented by Aquascape Inc.</i>	GATHERING BY THE POND	Jackson Pond
The Ontario Association of Landscape Architects (OALA) Award of Excellence	A JAPANESE TOUCH	J. Garfield Thompson Landscape Ltd.
Most Imaginative Garden Design <i>presented by Mark's Choice</i>	CLIFF CITY	Ecoman
'Do Up The Doorstep' Award <i>presented by Oaks Landscape Products</i>	THE DOMINO EFFECT	AKa Designs and MBL Landscaping



<p>'Do Up The Backstep' Award <i>presented by Oaks Landscape Products</i></p>	<p>GARDEN RE-MIX</p>	<p>Green Art Landscape Design</p>
<p>Best Balcony Garden</p>	<p>COLOUR OF LOVE</p>	<p>AKa Designs and MBL Landscaping</p>
<p>The Garden Club of Toronto Award for Best Overall Use of Colour <i>presented by Van Belle Nursery</i></p> <p><i>Additional judging criteria: Visual impact of colour; innovative, creative and effective use</i></p>	<p>GREEN STREETS PLAY ZONE</p>	<p>Landscape Ontario, Wentworth Landscapes, Come Alive Outside</p>
<p>The W.E. Bridgeman Award for Best Overall Use of Hard Landscape Elements</p> <p><i>Additional judging criteria: Aesthetic selection and placement appropriate to design style; proportion and scale; well-balanced integration</i></p>	<p>ENJOY EVERY MINUTE OF LIFE</p>	<p>BB Pools & Landscaping</p>
<p>The Award for Best Overall Use of Plant Material <i>presented by PremierTech</i></p> <p><i>Additional judging criteria: Aesthetic impression; impact of texture and form, use and placement; selection diversity suitable to design style and relationship to hardscape.</i></p>	<p>PLANTS, IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR</p>	<p>City of Toronto</p>
<p>The Leslie L Solty Memorial Award for Best Overall Quality of Workmanship <i>presented by HUB International</i></p> <p><i>Additional judging criteria: Ingenuity in execution of design style; attention to form, scale balanced; innovative use of element; aesthetic integration of hardscape and softscape.</i></p>	<p>A JAPANESE TOUCH</p>	<p>J. Garfield Thompson Landscape Ltd.</p>
<p>Outstanding Use of Living Space <i>presented by University of Guelph</i></p>	<p>ENJOY EVERY MINUTE OF LIFE</p>	<p>BB Pools & Landscaping</p>
<p>The Tony DiGiovanni Canada Blooms Judge's Choice Award</p>	<p>A JAPANESE TOUCH</p>	<p>J. Garfield Thompson Landscape Ltd.</p>



The Dig Safe Builder's Award presented by ORCGA	HORTUS FAMILIA CANADENSIS – THE CANADIAN FAMILY GARDEN	Mountainhill Landscape
Toronto Star's People's Choice Award for Best Garden <i>Winners are chosen by Canada Blooms visitors</i>	GARDEN RE-MIX	Green Art Landscape Design
Supplier of the Year: Softscape		AVK Nursery Holdings Inc.
Supplier of the Year: Hardscape		Aquaspa Pools & Landscape Design
Special Award <i>Special Recognition for years of service to the Horticultural Profession</i>		Stanley Roszak