



## THE GARDEN CONSERVANCY

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For Immediate Release

### **Jenny Young du Pont to Step Down as Head of the Garden Conservancy**

JULY 22, 2016, GARRISON, NY: Jenny Young du Pont, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Garden Conservancy, a national nonprofit organization based in Garrison, New York, will be stepping down on August 12, Benjamin F. Lenhardt, Jr., Chairman of the Board, announced today. Mr. Lenhardt commented, “The Garden Conservancy has made significant progress under Ms. du Pont’s leadership. She has expanded our work to save outstanding and emerging public gardens across the country, and overseen innovations and the growth of our Open Days national garden visitation program. Ms. du Pont also led our 25th anniversary celebrations in 2014/15, culminating in the publication of our best-selling book, *Outstanding American Gardens*, last September. The Board is deeply grateful for her contributions over the last three and a half years and is pleased to name her a Distinguished Fellow upon her departure.”

“I have loved leading the Garden Conservancy,” said Ms. du Pont, “and it has been an honor and a privilege to work with such an amazing board and such a talented and dedicated staff. We have accomplished a great deal in recent years, and I am proud to have been a part of all that the Garden Conservancy has achieved during this time and to be a part of its heritage. Other opportunities beckon me, however, and some family business matters are now demanding more of my time, so it seems the right moment for me to move on and to allow new leadership to build on the many successes and strengths of this organization. I leave full of admiration for all that the Garden Conservancy represents and does, and with great confidence that it will grow and thrive in the years to come, continuing to pursue its important mission of saving and sharing outstanding gardens for the education and inspiration of the public.”

The Board of the Garden Conservancy has appointed Donna M. Mortensen, Vice President of Finance and Administration, acting Executive Director while an executive search for a new President and Chief Executive Officer is conducted.

*The Garden Conservancy saves and shares outstanding American gardens for the education and inspiration of the public. A national nonprofit founded in 1989 by renowned plantsman Frank Cabot, the Garden Conservancy partners with individual garden owners as well as public and private organizations to save gardens across the country for future generations. It assists private gardens in emerging as public gardens and helps to restore or rehabilitate existing public gardens. Every year since 1995, the Garden Conservancy’s signature Open Days program also provides access to hundreds of America’s finest private gardens. The Garden Conservancy’s educational lectures, symposia, publications, and garden-study tours share contemporary ideas relevant to horticulture, design, and preservation with its members and the public. Through all of its programs and outreach, the Garden Conservancy champions the vital role gardens play in America’s culture, history, and quality of life. [www.gardenconservancy.org](http://www.gardenconservancy.org)*

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