



AIB 2009 Pam Beck *Best Garden Plants for NC* Press Release

Art in Bloom, a show of flowers and art at the Black Mountain Center for the Arts scheduled for June 18-21, will present Pam Beck, an award-winning freelance garden writer, photographer, and lecturer on Saturday, June 20 at 2 pm as the featured speaker. Beck's topic is "Best Garden Plants for North Carolina," based on her book by the same title, co-authored with Laura Peters.

According to Beck, her presentation on NC garden plants will "recommend some of the best landscape plants that are sure to thrive in the Old North State for new gardeners or newly transplanted gardeners. Many of these plants will be old familiar friends, and a large number are native plants, but none will be invasive or too difficult to grow successfully."

Pam has been a regular contributor and photographer for *Carolina Gardener Magazine* since 1993. In 2006 she received a national Silver Trowel Award for Magazine Writing from the Garden Writers Association of America for her May 2005 article in *CG* titled "For the Love of Magnolias." Her articles can also be found in *Seed Saver's Exchange*, *Wakefield*, *Wake Living* and *Fifteen/501*. The Raleigh News & Observer honored Beck as "Tarheel of the Week" in May 1997 for her tree conservation efforts in Wake Forest, NC.



Pam Beck

For five years Beck wrote "Perennially Yours," a monthly gardening column for the *Raleigh News & Observer*; she has also written columns for *The Wake Weekly*, *The Ivy Dispatch*, and *The Raleigh Extra*. Now in its second printing, Lone Pine Publishing published Peters and Beck's book on NC garden plants in 2006 in a series of gardening books for North Carolina gardeners. Another book on perennials is in the works.

In addition to her writing credits, her garden photography has been published in national and regional gardening books; for *Better Homes & Gardens Magazine* she is a local garden scout and stylist. Currently Beck serves the J C Raulston Arboretum in Raleigh, North Carolina as a member of their Board of Advisors.

In addition to teaching her class *Residential Landscaping* for Wake Technical Community College's Continuing Education Program, Beck's lecture schedule takes her to speak before garden clubs, conferences and symposiums throughout the Southeast. This spring her circuit ranged from Athens, GA, to Greenville, SC, and across the state of NC from Concord to Chapel Hill to Raleigh to Beaufort. In 2008 she was a speaker at the Focus on Flowers conference at the Arboretum in Asheville.

Tickets to this *Art in Bloom* event are \$20, and include admission to the *Art in Bloom* show of floral designs interpreting works in the Center's Upper Gallery. Also on Saturday from 10-4 is the *Art in Bloom* Garden Tour, for which tickets are \$15. To make reservations call 828/669-0930 or stop by the Black Mountain Center for the Arts at 225 W. State Street, or for more information visit blackmountainarts.org, and www.pambeckgardens.com.