

Bromeli Advisory



© Pamela Koide Hyatt
Bird Rock Tropicals

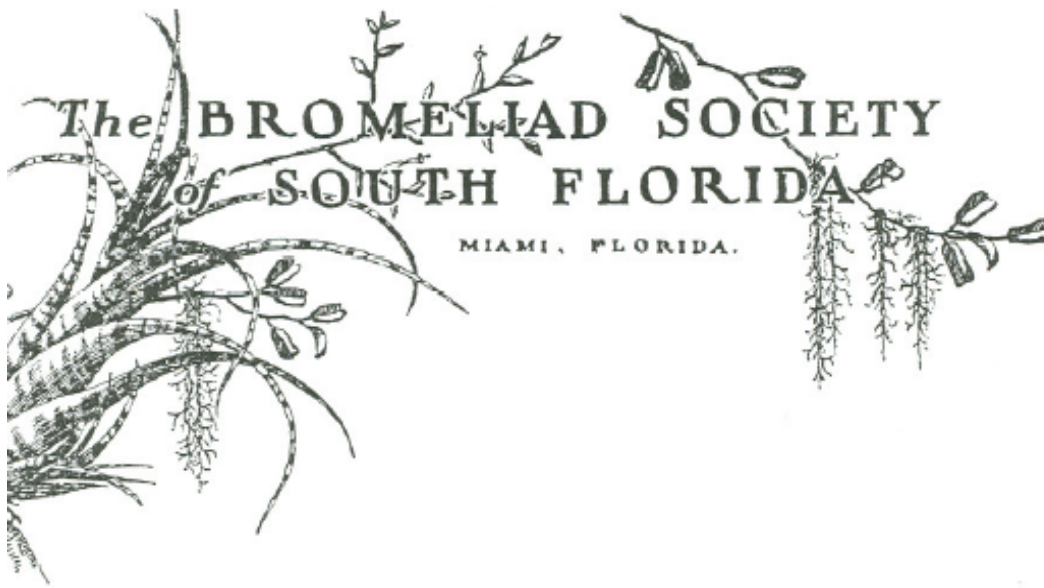
Tillandsia 'Samantha' Photo by Pamela Hyatt Koide Hyatt

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BromeliAdvisory

Stop and Smell the Bromeliads

April 2018

WEBPAGE: <http://www.bssf-miami.org/>



http://www.facebook.com/groups/BromeliadSF/?bookmark_t=group



<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Bromeliad-Society-of-South-Florida/84661684279>

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What	Who
Sales Table	Pam Koide Hyatt

APRIL 17, 2018 AT 7:30 PM AT FAIRCHILD

CORBIN A

SPEAKER: Pamela Koide Hyatt "Tillandsias from Mexico"

RAFFLE TABLE: Barbara Sparling

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

[From Bird Rock Website]

Pamela Koide Hyatt, has been exploring and growing Bromeliads, with an emphasis on Tillandsias for more than half her life. Since starting Bird Rock Tropicals in 1981, Pamela has traveled extensively throughout Mexico, Central and South America in search of tillandsias. During these travels she has discovered more than a dozen species new to science as well as many more natural hybrids. Experiencing plants in habitat and growing for more than 35 years gives her a unique insight into this amazing genus.

Pam created Tillandsia Samantha which was nominated for 'Plant of the Year' at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show in 2012, and in 2013, Tillandsia Samantha won the 'Glass Tulip Award' in the category of houseplants. The Glass Tulip Award is one of the most prestigious awards in Horticulture awarded by FloraHolland.

Additionally, Pamela is an International Accredited Bromeliad Master Judge and has served as President and newsletter editors of both the San Diego Bromeliad Society and the North County Bromeliad Society. She has served as a Director of the Bromeliad Society International (BSI), and Publications Chairman for the BSI, and currently, the Editorial Advisory Board for the Journal of the Bromeliad Society (BSI). She recently completed nine years as a Trustee at the San Diego Botanic Garden.

Pamela has consulted on a several different botanical projects. These include consulting not only at private gardens, but Botanical Gardens in Thailand, Singapore, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles and San Diego, as well as hotel installations at the Mirage, Bellagio and MGM in Las Vegas.

President's Message

by Alex Bello

First and foremost, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you who participated in our 40th Annual BSSF Show and Sale. We had a terrific weekend and everything went extremely well. I would like to give a HUGE thank you to Alan Herndon who year after year does an amazing job making this show and sale what it is today. As we begin to move closer to the summer our days continue to get warmer. And with the recent lack of rain, our landscapes are in dire need of some watering. Rain dances, everyone. In the meantime, we have some nice guest speakers that are lined up for the next few months. I hope to see each of you there

Alex

In Case You Missed It Chip Jones

by Leonard Goldstein

The speaker confided to a crowd of nearly 50 innocent souls that he likes to raise plants that are “slow-growing and can hurt you.”

Was he Seymour Kelborn, the man who grew the people-eating plant, Audrey II, in “Little Shop of Horrors”? No, it was Chip Jones, Broward County nurseryman and landscaper, whose favorite plants, including cycads, bromeliads and succulents, normally just wound their victims. Chip is really a kind-hearted fellow who—we steadfastly believe and fervently pray—never seeks the ultimate sacrifice.

Happily, Chip's program on March 20, “Successful Design with Bromeliads,” was not only non-threatening, but also very informative. Right off the bat (and by “bat,” I mean that of the baseball metaphor and not of blood-sucking disrepute), Chip made an important distinction: Most of us have a collector's garden, that is, a yard in which we grow a large variety of plants, a “horticultural zoo.” And we often have shadehouses. In contrast, there are those plants used as elements in a planned landscape and not just acquisitions by the collector, and it is that subject which Chip focused on in his presentation.

He advised homeowners to identify their conditions and needs. Among the concerns they should pay attention to are the following:

Light levels – Be cognizant of exposures. A species/cultivar that flourishes in full sun in the winter may bleach in the summer.

Clean spaces – Bromeliads don't like floods or competition from grass clippings or leaf drop. Likewise, avoid placing them where weed-eaters will chew the edges of their leaves. Avoid installing bromeliads where they will be exposed to granular or liquid fertilizer drift or to copper fungicides.

Perspective for viewing – Situate bromeliads with an awareness of how they will appear from the various vantage points from which they will be seen: from a distance as a composition, from close-up as individuals, from multiple angles, looking along a path, at eye level on a tree or in a pot.

Layout – It's not necessary to bookend to achieve balance. A decorative container doesn't have to be matched up with an identical second decorative container. Usually, but not universally, a common-sense approach works well:

- Place small bromeliads in front of large ones, and place large ones to the outside of the landscape.
- Go informal; use imbalance. Be guided by the proposition that “Randomization is far too important to be left to chance.”
- Don't emphasize rows.
- Go vertical.
- Use silver and yellow specimens, although the latter are not always easy to find.
- Use burgundy-colored plants to make others stand out.
- Group plants by the similarity of their needs – water-loving vs. water-averse.
- Design to create groups, but ignore the old axiom about using only odd numbers.
- Plant bromeliads in triangle-shaped groups. Add mondo grass.
- Create kidney-shaped or paisley-shaped beds for larger groupings.
- Show bromeliads off by mixing them with other plants.
- Break the rules.

Chip expanded on the theme of making sure that bromeliad choices are able to handle lots of light. His picks for full-sun exposures include the following Neoregelias: ‘Compacta,’ ‘Bossanova,’ ‘Annick,’ ‘Sheba,’ x *correia-araujo* (‘Tequila’), ‘Dr. Ken Lawson’ (which can become huge with fertilizer), ‘Royal Burgundy,’ ‘Luca,’ ‘Sunkiss,’ ‘Lila,’ ‘Rafael,’ ‘Monet’ (which prefers to grow in a container), ‘Purple Star,’ ‘Medium Rare,’ ‘Zoe’ (like a variegated ‘Fireball’), ‘Hannibal Lecter’ (good clumper), ‘Martin’ (variegated, loves to climb, fast grower, pups well), ‘Governor’s x *rubrifolia*’ (looks better viewed from above), ‘Picasso’ (tolerates oak leaves), ‘Pimiento’ (appearance changes with light and fertilizer), and ‘Ornato Tiger.’

To that list Chip added some Aechmeas: ‘Chocolate,’ ‘Bert’ (loves to climb), *nudicaulis* ‘Parati’ (features a variety of looks), and *blanchetiana variegata* (which should be starved to elicit yellow coloration).

Recommendations of plants that require zero maintenance when grown in the ground include dwarf Ananas, *Hechtia texensis*, *Dyckia* ‘Cherry Coke.’ Chip also gave a thumbs-up to *D.* ‘Nickel Silver,’ and *Alcantarea odorata*, as well as *Ursulaea macvaughii*, a plant which looks drab and dangerous until it flowers.

Chip concluded with a consideration of bromeliads that function well as ground covers. *Dyckias* provide a good alternative to mondo grass. Specifically, *D. choristaminea* ‘Frazzle Dazzle’ makes a great, consistently 2-in. tall ground cover. The plants are easy to separate, take well to trimming, and eventually flower yellow. They bloom year after year, rather than putting on a one-and-done display. They look good under cycads.

This cultivar can take lots of water, and it likes deep, black soil. When grown in a 7-gal. container, it won't need much watering, since its root system has room to become well-developed. When working with *D. choristaminea* ‘Frazzle Dazzle,’ don't hesitate to cut off a root. The plant's energy is in its stem, and it is a liability to leave a broken root on the plant. When potting, put the white part of the exposed base in the soil. Provide some water in the beginning, every 4-7 days until roots develop.

At the end of the program, a head count was made. Joyously, no one had disappeared, and no blood had been shed—a very copacetic outcome.

In Case You Missed It – Reprint

Pam Koide Hyatt

by Leonard Goldstein
[Reprint from December 2015]

Californian Pamela Koide Hyatt has been raising bromeliads since 1980, when she was in her mid-20s. She has spent the 35 years since then scouring the Americas for outstanding specimens and developing hybrids of her own. Those of us in attendance at the November meeting of the BSSF became the beneficiaries of Pamela's vast experience, as she shared highlights of her career in a fast-paced, photo-packed program.

Pamela founded her business, Bird Rock Tropicals, in 1981, and made Tillandsias her specialty. In 1983 she began to grow bromeliads from seed, from which she then made selections. Two years later she started hybridizing, a decision due in part to her feeling that she wouldn't be able to collect in the wild. Despite that concern, she has never stopped making collecting trips.



Following two relocations of her nursery over the years, her stock is now 20% of its former size. She is now 1½ miles from the Pacific Ocean, giving her property a good climatic niche for growing high-elevation plants. She has also adapted to the smaller space by hanging her bromeliads on greenhouse walls, using alligator clips.

humidity. She dealt with the challenge by lining the ground with plastic. In addition, she grows her bromeliads on multiple levels, with the heat-loving plants positioned at the upper levels of the house. This solution has proven particularly helpful in raising Tillandsias.

Pamela also has learned to overcome a problem that we in southern Florida would characterize as a blessing – low

Pamela then described how she creates hybrids. Her preference in pollinating bromeliads is to use her finger, instead of a brush, to collect pollen. She emphasized the importance of tagging plants, because some take two years to produce ripe seeds. Good records are essential, she stressed, because it may take 6-20 years to see the result of a cross! The information on her tags indicates the cross (seed plant listed first), followed by the date. In the last few years, she has also entered records into a computer. Fortunately, not all Tillandsia hybrid seed development is slow. Seedpods of the species *aeranthos*, *neglecta* and *stricta* are ready in 4-8 months, so crosses made with them are considered quick.

In nature, seedpods which have been drying open up just before the onset of the rainy season to release seeds. Seeds attached to fine hairs known as coma spin like propellers until they alight on trees. With the onset of the rainy season, the coma then act like wicks to absorb precipitation. A grower can intervene to preserve a high percentage of seed by harvesting them before pods open.

Seeds are placed on horizontal shade cloth for 6-24 months while germination and root development take place. Seedlings may bloom and, fortunately, even pup, while on trays. Those seedlings that need less moisture are kept bare-root; those more needy are put in a

potting medium. Like older plants, seedlings are kept on four levels in the greenhouse, based on their particular needs.

Pamela devoted the rest of her program to surveying *Tillandsia* hybrids. Natural hybrids occur by three means: (1) in habitat, among nearby species, (2) accidentally or voluntarily in private or commercial sites, and (3) intentionally. For example, *T. ionantha* X *fasciculata* is a natural hybrid in Mexico. But both species of the cross are variable, so the resulting hybrid plants are also variable. However, most natural hybrids produce plants whose features are intermediate to their parentage. Other natural hybrids of Mexico include *T. circinnatoides* X *ionantha* and *T. ionantha* X *schiedeana*. Among Pamela's earliest finds in Mexico were hybrids of *T. ehlersiana*, a species which crosses with *T. streptophylla* and *T. schiedeana*. *T. schiedeana* itself naturally crosses with a number of other species. A hybrid found in the Dominican Republic is *T. compressa* X *moscosoi*.

Other natural hybrids that Pamela singled out include *T. fasciculata* X *xerographica* (Guatemala) and *T. fasciculata* X *roland-gosselinii*. Among high-elevation natural hybrids, she likes *T. borealis* X *mooreana* (Mexico) and *T. rodrigueziana* X *seleriana*, but the most spectacular natural hybrid she has seen at high elevation is *T. punctulata* X *eizii*, a plant featuring a lot of red coloration. It occurs in an area where fog is common, with breaks for sun.

This year, Pamela and Andy Siekkinen, whom we recall from his presentation in August 2014, went on a collecting trip in which they were surprised to find 45 natural hybrids in just one week. What explains the upsurge in natural hybrids? Pamela believes it is due to logging. The *Tillandsias*' pollinators, hummingbirds, are distributing pollen over a broader range as they are forced to work harder to find sustenance.

Pamela also noted on that trip that *T. prodigiosa* is crossing a lot as elevations increase. She believes that birds are spreading the pollen into many *Tillandsia* species. Based upon her knowledge of how long it takes for pods to develop and plants to flower, she surmises that the advent of this phenomenon happened 17 years ago.

On the topic of artificial hybrids, Pamela first offered a few comments about several accomplished *Tillandsia* breeders. Mark Dimmitt has created very nice hybrids using *T. albertsiana*, and he also makes good crosses with *T. chiapensis*. She added that our own Steve Correale has always used *T. chiapensis* as a seed parent in his crosses. She also mentioned John Arden, a hybridizer who has relied heavily on *T. capitata* in his crosses. She noted that one of his crosses stays in color for nearly a year!

Finally Pamela discussed some of her *Tillandsia* hybrids, including 'Coral Reef,' Coral Star,' and 'Mini Star.' She disclosed that she uses *T. neglecta* a lot in her crosses, as well as *T. mooreana* (which has multiple forms), *T. achyrostachys*, and *T. schusteri*. She pointed out that 'Chameleon' produces multiple colors, including black. But her favorite cross may be 'Queen's Delight' (*T. carlsoniae* X *chiapensis*), and one of her favorite little hybrids is 'Queen's Trinket.' Other crosses that she likes include *T. bulbosa* X *punctulata*, a beautiful red plant, and *T. compressa* (Dominican Republic) X *fasciculata* (Mexico).

Pamela's hybrid 'Samantha' (*T. mooreana* X *kalmbacheri*) has a special story attached to it. Another grower asked her for a seedling of this cross, and she gave him one, though she held on to the best-looking of the batch. Nevertheless, this 'lesser' creation won the Glass Tulip Award in 2013 in the houseplant category. The Glass Tulip is an award given annually in the Netherlands to the most successful market introductions.

On the subject of her use of technology, Pamela noted that she uses an app to give care instructions and photos in the form of a flappable card. The app allows her to correct

mistakes more easily than if she were using printed cards.

Pamela concluded her very interesting presentation with a word of concern. Her years of experience help her recognize natural hybrids, but with the recent proliferation of natural hybrids, she is concerned that some newcomer won't know how to interpret what he/she is seeing.

Plants to Select for the Next Show

Somewhere between predicting hurricanes and predicting the color of the sky lies the art of predicting which plants will be in bloom for next year's show. Many items are variable. TIME?: expected to be around the middle of March. That being said, when reviewing previous articles from the BromeliAdvisory, and particularly Alan Herndon's articles entitled "What's In Bloom" [remember those great writings?], I created a list of what should be in bloom or near bloom. Pick some of these plants now and you should be rewarded in March 2019. List is below.

Aechmea subgenus *Ortgiesia* (*caudata*, *guaratubensis*)

Aechmea (*abbreviata*, Alvarez, *alopecurus*,,, *amicorum*, *angustifolia*, *bracteata pacifica*, *bromeliifolia*, *capixabae*, *carvahloi*, *chantinii*, *chantinii amazonica*, *cylindrata*, *fosteriana*, *gamosepala 'Lucky Stripes'*, *gamosepala*, *guaratubensis*, *gurkeniana*, *kerteziae*, *linharaesiorum*, Little Harv, *maculata*, *mexicana*, *milsteiniana*, *miniata discolor*, *nudicaulis*, *orlandiana*, *pineliana*, *racinae*, *recurvata benrathii*, *seidelii*, *seideliana*, *stobilina*, *tillandsioides*, Victoria, *victoriana*, *warasii discolor*, *weilbachii* var. *albietala*, *winkleri*)

Androlepis skinneri

Billbergia (*amoena*, *iridifolia concolor*, *laxiflora*, *lymanii angustifolia*, *nutans*, *pyramidalis* [variegated])

Canistropsis billbergioides, *seidelii* (red and yellow)

Canistrum (*fosterianum*, *lanigerum*, *montanum*)

Cryptanthus (*alagoanus*, *arelii*, *bahianus*, *correia-araujoi*, *dianae*, *fosterianus*, *incrasattus*)

Dyckia 'Espirito Santo' *Fosterella* (*micrantha*, *petiolata*)

Fosterella (*caulescens*, *micrantha*)

Guzmania (*lingulata*, Noah, *ronhoffiana*)

Hechtia marnier-lapostollei

Hohenbergia (*augusta*, *distans*, *pennae*, *undulatifolia*)

Neoregelia (*Annick*, *bahiana*, Bossa Nova, *carolinae*, *compacta*, *correia-araujoi*, *eltoniana*, *j o h a n n i s*, *macwilliamsii*, *marmorata*, Nonis, *olens*, *rosea*, Sheba, *Ultima*)

Nidularium (*albiflorum*, *innocentii*, *kris-greeniae*)

Orthophytum (*alvimii*, *duartei*, *fosterianum*, *gurkenii*, *harleyi*, *lanuginosum*, *lemei*, *leprosum*, *lymaniana*, *magalhaesii*, *duartei*, *fosterianum*, *saxicola*)

Pitcairnia (*pseudoundulata*, *recurvata*)

Portea (*alatisepala*, *petropolitana* var. *petropolitana*)

Quesnelia (*arvensis*, *lateralis*, *liboniana*, *marmorata*, *quesneliana*, *strobilospica*)

Ronnbergia brasiliensis

Tillandsia (*bartramii*,, *dyeriana*, *ionantha*, *fasciculata clavispica*, *festucoides*, *leonamiana*, *neglecta*,

polzii, tricolor acanthocrater)
Vriesea (botafogensis, carinata, colnagoi

, ensiformis, erythrodactylon, incurvata, Mariae, ospinae, pinottii, rafaelii, saundersii)

UPCOMING EVENTS

FTBG Spring Garden Festival and 39th Spring Plant Sale

April 14-15, 2018
10901 Old Cutler Road
Coral Gables, FL 33156



Herndon Nursery Picnic

April 28, 2018
16400 SW 240 St
Miami, FL 33031
305-484-2743



Redland International Orchid Show

May 18-19, 2018
Fruit and Spice Park
24801 SW 187th Ave,
Homestead, FL 33031



<http://www.redlandorchidfest.org/>

**World Conference
May 29, 2018-June 3, 2018
San Diego, CA**

May is only months away. The World Conference is always-too-good-to-be-true-sunny San Diego. Other than the usual show, you have the following: (a) xciting Optional Bus Excursion up to see two fantastic member gardens; (b) a visit to the San Diego Botanic Gardens where they'll have an Alfresco dinner together; (3) a stop in Balboa Park to see the world-famous Botanical Building; (4) included in your registration fee is a half-day afternoon tour in central San Diego; and (5) more. Want to register online for \$ 2 9 0 . 0 0 - go to <http://www.bsi.org/new/wb-c-registration/> Or use the registration form at the end of this Advisory. Still need to know more, go to



<http://www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org/world-conference.html>
<https://www.facebook.com/Bromeliad-Society-International-BSI-468938213148940/>

Caladium Festival

July 27-29, 2018
Stuart Park
Lake Placid, FL
<http://www.lpfla.com/caladium.htm>

MESSAGES

**NEW MEMBERS
PLEASE COLLECT BADGES**

We have 16 new members. Your membership entitles you to Membership Badges. We have them. Come to our meeting and pick them up. Ask for Maureen. She holds the badges.

If You Got'em, Donate'em Crystal or Give Donations for Awards

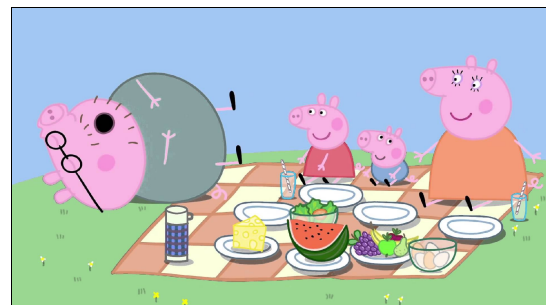
Anyone who has previously well deserved and won crystal from the Bromeliad Show is urged to recycle and give the same to Barbara Sparling who handles the awards for the show.

Anyone wanting to donate for awards needs to merely give Barbara an email or call.

Badges Wear Them

We make some pretty neat badges. They help our fogged aged memories for names. Starting next month, anyone who wants a door prize *must* be wearing a name badge. This way we will better address one another by name. FYI - do not put the badge onto anything which may be affected by an external magnet.

**PICNIC at Herndons' Nursery
Tradewind Tropicals
April 28, 2018 at 12 NOON**



MAJOR AND SPECIAL AWARDS FOR THE 40TH ANNUAL BSSF SHOW AND SALE

BLOOMING BROMELIAD DIVISION

Nat DeLeon Award for Best Blooming Bromeliad	40	Havens, Gina	<i>Billbergia</i> 'Mucho Mas'
Best Blooming Aechmea	52	Meyer, Robert	<i>Aechmea apocalyptic</i>
Best Blooming Guzmania	48	Meyer, Robert	<i>Guzmania</i> 'Oranga Crush'
Best Blooming Tillandsia	70	Rossiter, Urszula	<i>Tillandsia ionantha</i> 'Druid'

NON-BLOOMING BROMELIAD DIVISION

Ed Prince Award for Best Non-Blooming Bromeliad	41	Grills-Konefal, Shirley	x <i>Sincoregelia</i> 'Galactic Warrior'
Best Non-Blooming Aechmea	35	Blackwood, Becky	<i>Aechmea orlandiana</i>
Best Non-Blooming Ananas	85	Partagas, Barbara	<i>Ananas</i> 'Uba Tuba'
Best Non-Blooming Billbergia	34	Blackwood, Becky	<i>Billbergia</i> 'Hallelujah'
Best Non-Blooming Cryptanthus	107	Partagas, Barbara	<i>Cryptanthus</i> 'Tutti Fruitti'
Best Non-Blooming Dyckia	69	Rossiter, Urszula	<i>Dyckia</i> 'Brittle Star' x f2 x 'Arizona'
Best Non-Blooming Hechtia	106	Partagas, Barbara	<i>Hechtia</i> 'Wildfire'
Best Non-Blooming Neoregelia	71	Bello, Alex	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Titania'
Best Non-Blooming Quesnelia	31	Frazel, Maureen	<i>Quesnelia marmorata</i> 'Tim Plowman'
Best Non-Blooming Tillandsia	59	Meyer, Robert	<i>Tillandsia capitata</i>

HABITAT DIVISION

Best Habitat	88	Partagas, Barbara	<i>Tillandsia stricta</i> on driftwood
Best Non-Blooming Habitat	26	Sorzano, Ofelia	<i>Dyckia choriostaminea</i> clump in a pot

ARTISTIC DIVISION

Best Artistic Entry	170	Rusty Brown	an Artistic arrangement called 'Cobra' featuring <i>Tillandsia ionantha</i> and <i>Neoregelia</i> 'Chiquita Linda'
Best Cut Inflorescence	29	Jones, Samantha	<i>Hohenbergia stellata</i>
Best Decorative Container	66	Rossiter, Urszula	<i>Cryptanthus</i> 'Absolute Zero'
Best Fruiting Bromeliad	23	Sorzano, Ofelia	<i>Acanthostachys pitcarnioides</i>
People's Choice Award for Artistic Arrangement	77	Chieng Manlee	
People's Choice Award for Decorative Container	25	Sorzano, Ofelia	'Gaz pacho' featuring <i>Neoregelia</i> 'Gespacho'

SPECIAL AWARDS

Sweepstakes		Barbara Partagas	
Intermediate Sweepstakes		Robert Meyer	
Harvey Bullis, Jr. Award for Best Variegated Bromeliad	41	Grills-Konefal, Shirley	x <i>Sincoregelia</i> 'Galactic Warrior'
Ralph Davis Award for Cultural Excellence	41	Grills-Konefal, Shirley	x <i>Sincoregelia</i> 'Galactic Warrior'
Steve Correale Award for the Best Tillandsia	88	Barbara Partagas	<i>Tillandsia stricta</i> on driftwood
Warren Loose Award for Best Cryptanthus Cultivar (awarded by the Cryptanthus Society International)	107	Partagas, Barbara	<i>Cryptanthus</i> 'Tutti Fruitti'