



## **GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA UNVEILS PLANS TO RESTORE HISTORIC BEALE MEMORIAL GARDEN AT HOLLINS**

*Project Will Make Hollins A Permanent Location On Garden Club's Annual Tour;  
Restoration Will Follow 1930 Plan With Added Emphasis On Indigenous Plants*

**ROANOKE, Va. (June 16, 2004)** – Hollins University announced that the Garden Club of Virginia will restore the historic Beale Memorial Garden on campus in collaboration with the university.

The restoration of the garden, which was established in 1930 in honor of Hollins alumna Lucy Preston Beale, Class of 1864, will enhance its aesthetic appeal and its value as a site for outdoor meetings and other activities. In addition, Beale Garden will become a permanent location on the Garden Club of Virginia's annual tour, which has drawn as many as 40,000 gardening enthusiasts in recent years.

"Hollins is thrilled to join in this collaborative project with the Garden Club of Virginia, which really has become synonymous with garden restoration, both in Virginia and across the nation," said Hollins trustee Anna Lawson, who was deeply involved in the effort to secure the Garden Club of Virginia's participation. "The most obvious benefit for Hollins is that the restoration will create another extraordinarily beautiful spot on our campus, but along the way we are discovering that this project has also really struck a chord with many of our alumnae."

Beale Memorial Garden will be one of about 40 historic gardens restored and regularly monitored by the Garden Club of Virginia, which requires that such gardens be opened to the public on a regular basis. As a result, the Beale restoration project will enhance Hollins' value as a community asset for the greater Roanoke area and broaden the university's exposure as well, Lawson said.

“This is an exciting project for us and a great partnership,” said Bessie Carter of Charlottesville, former chair of the Garden Club of Virginia’s restoration committee. “Many Hollins alumnae are involved in the Garden Club of Virginia through our member clubs, so we know the restoration of the Beale Memorial Garden will be appreciated greatly by the entire Hollins community as well as by the community at large.”

Will Rieley, of Rieley and Associates in Charlottesville, will serve as landscape architect for the project. The restoration will follow the landscaping plan used by A.A. Farnham in 1930, but Rieley will emphasize the use of indigenous plants and use fewer exotic plants than called for in Farnham’s original plan, Carter said.

Hollins is an independent liberal arts university offering undergraduate education to women, specialized graduate programs for men and women, and community outreach initiatives. Founded in 1842 as Virginia’s first chartered women’s college, its distinctions include a nationally ranked creative writing program, one of the oldest study-abroad programs in the country, and extensive internship opportunities for students. In addition, Hollins has been named number one in the nation for overall quality of life by *The Princeton Review* for the past two years.

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