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**Missouri History Museum in Forest Park Helps the
Missouri Botanical Garden Celebrate 150 Years**

Gallery Installation Features Timeline, Photographs and Artifacts

ST. LOUIS, March 2, 2009— Opened to the public on June 15, 1859, the Missouri Botanical Garden has provided St. Louisans and visitors from across the globe with the best in horticultural displays. As one of the finest botanical research institutions in the world, the Garden has served the scientific community in building a sound base of knowledge about plants during its history.

The Missouri History Museum, the Missouri Botanical Garden's junior by seven years, is pleased to partner with the Garden to present a special Missouri History Museum gallery installation, *Missouri Botanical Garden: Green for 150 Years, 1859-2009*. Featuring a timeline of the Garden, photographs, artifacts and an audio tour, the 1,000-square-foot gallery examines the rich history of the oldest continually operating botanical garden in the United States. The FREE gallery installation opened February 14, 2009.

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The Missouri Botanical Garden's successful century and a half of botanical research and horticultural displays dates back to the early vision of the Garden's founder, Henry Shaw. Shaw had a strong desire to give back to his adopted home, the city of St. Louis. It would be his vision that would guide the Garden through the ups and downs that it would encounter. Looking back over the past one hundred and fifty years Shaw would be pleased to see that his botanical garden is not only still surviving but also thriving in ways that would surely amaze him. The Garden—much like the city of St. Louis—has grown and paid witness to history and the changes it brings. Thanks to the support of the public and the guidance of the Garden trustees, staff, and volunteers, the Missouri Botanical Garden is poised today not only to celebrate its 150th anniversary but to revel in the promise of the next one hundred and fifty years, a legacy that would make Henry Shaw proud.

"Henry Shaw's legacy has proven to be one of the treasures of our community, a gift that has been and will be a source of both personal delight and worldwide significance," said Dr. Robert R. Archibald, president of the Missouri History Museum. "It is an honor to celebrate with our sister institution so memorable an anniversary."

The Garden's Web site also offers information on the history, as well as special sesquicentennial events (www.mobot.org/150).

"The Missouri Botanical Garden is truly grateful to its outstanding sister institution, the Missouri History Museum, for helping us celebrate our 150th anniversary in such a meaningful way," said Dr. Peter H. Raven, president of the

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Missouri Botanical Garden. “We, like the history museum, are proud of our role in the community since the mid-19th century and are committed to strongly moving forward to help mold the future of our community and our region.”

Hours and General Information:

The **Missouri History Museum** is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Monday; Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. For general museum information, call (314) 746-4599 or visit our interactive Web site at www.mohistory.org.

The Missouri History Museum

The **Missouri History Museum** has been active in the St. Louis community since 1866. Founding members established the organization “for the purpose of saving from oblivion the early history of the city and state.” Today the museum operates the **Missouri History Museum in Forest Park** and the **Library and Research Center** at 225 South Skinker Boulevard near the Washington University campus.

The Missouri Botanical Garden

The Missouri Botanical Garden’s mission is “to discover and share knowledge about plants and their environment, in order to preserve and enrich life.” Today, 150 years after opening, the Missouri Botanical Garden is a National Historic Landmark and a center for science, conservation, education and horticultural display.

For more information, visit www.mohistory.org or call 314/746-4599.

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