



CONTACT:

Susan E. Yoder
syoder@SeedYourFuture.org
(484) 798-5934

New BLOOM! Program Introduces Youth to Plant-based Solutions to Environmental and Community Challenges

Seed Your Future launches a new contest for students to explore how plants can solve issues in their own community.

MARTINSVILLE, Ind. (January 13, 2021) — Today, Seed Your Future announced the launch of “Plants to the Rescue!” — its 2021 BLOOM! campaign to excite young people about the power of plants and their unique ability to help solve some of the most pressing problems in their communities. In collaboration with Scholastic, the global children’s publishing, education, and media company, BLOOM! provides free eye-catching, fact-based, online content for educators, youth program leaders and parents.

Plants are critical to a healthy future for the planet and people, but their power is unknown to most American youth. The latest BLOOM! campaign marks year four of this initiative of [Seed Your Future](#), a coalition of more than 200 partners — including horticulture companies, gardening organizations, schools, colleges, universities, public gardens, youth organizations, nonprofit organizations and individual advocates — united in their mission to promote horticulture and careers working with plants.

“Youth have told us that they want to help solve some of the most difficult problems in our world today,” said Susan E. Yoder, executive director of Seed Your Future. “Students are learning about global health issues, world-hunger, climate change, flooding, air pollution, noise pollution, food deserts, and more and they’re eager to do something about it — but they don’t know how or even what would make a difference. BLOOM! helps them to identify the root of each challenge and opens their eyes to how the power of plants and the people who work with them can make a positive impact.”

Seed Your Future, along with Scholastic, has expanded its online educator website – [Scholastic.com/BLOOM](#). With the current national focus on online learning and resources, the site includes free downloadable educator lesson plans, student activities, inspiring wall posters and a robust online learning module. The module contains a dynamic video along with a trivia game, virtual plant dissection tool and plant matching game to reinforce the learning in the activities and video.

The new “Plants to the Rescue! Plant Mash-Up” contest* and sweepstakes takes learning a step further and engages students in imagining their own plant hybrid with unique qualities to benefit a specific challenge they identify in their own community. They will select an issue, then envision and describe a

new plant-based solution and illustrate their idea. A Grand Prize and a Runner Up Prize are awarded to both the student and the educator/youth program leader/parent of the winning submissions. In addition, a sweepstakes component, where a student is randomly selected from all entries, gives every submission the chance to be a winner.

BLOOM! is educating and inspiring young people about the power of plants and green-collar careers. This year, there is also a colorful, downloadable [poster](#) introducing youth to the more than 140 careers working with plants. In addition to the educator website, the main Seed Your Future website — SeedYourFuture.org serves as a digital hub of resources on careers in horticulture, including links to cool videos, real-life stories, and engaging content to inspire youth and their families.

Seed Your Future's premise is that whether BLOOM! introduces today's youth to a lifelong passion or a fulfilling career, one thing is clear — the more you know about plants, the more you can make a difference in the world today.

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About BLOOM!

BLOOM! is the movement to improve the world through the power of plants. Through eye-catching content delivered both inside and outside of the classroom, BLOOM! is inspiring youth across the U.S. to appreciate the plant world and ensure horticulture – and the millions of people who depend on it – thrives well into the future. With more opportunities to get involved in horticulture than ever before, BLOOM! is built to introduce youth to a lifelong passion – and perhaps even a career. Learn more and find your plant power at WeAreBLOOM.org.

About Seed Your Future

Seed Your Future is a national movement to promote horticulture and inspire people to pursue careers working with plants. Supported by more than 200 partner organizations, we envision a U.S. where everyone understands and values the importance of plants and the people who work in the art, science, technology, education and business of horticulture. For information, visit us at SeedYourFuture.org.

**No purchase necessary. Void where prohibited. [Contest rules.](#)*