



CBHL Literature Awards Recognize Excellence in Botanical and Horticultural Literature June 18, 2015 – Decorah, Iowa – The Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, Inc. (CBHL) presented its sixteenth Annual Literature Award ceremony at the Hotel Winneshiek in Decorah, Iowa. This presentation was made during CBHL's 47th Annual Meeting hosted by the Seed Savers Exchange. The Annual Literature Award recognizes significant contributions to the literature of botany and horticulture.

CBHL is pleased to announce that **Flora Illustrata: Great works from the LuEsther T. Mertz Library of the New York Botanical Garden** edited by Susan M. Fraser and Vanessa Bezemer Sellers and published by the New York Botanical Garden (NYBG) and Yale University Press was presented with the 2015 Annual Literature Award. This work celebrates one of the nation's most important botanical literature collections and was edited by a long time CBHL member Susan Fraser. The book was published to mark NYBG's 125th anniversary and “raise awareness of the continued availability of the Library as a key resource for the study of plants and their roles in the arts and humanities.”

Lavishly illustrated, the book is a collection of essays by a distinguished international group of experts on topics such as great herbals, flower books, botanical exploration, American gardening and horticulture and specifically, the landscape of the New York Botanical Garden located in Bronx, New York. The contributors and editors not only describe the contents within the books but their importance as physical objects, noting the significance of the paper used, typefaces and bindings. The essays tell the stories of how some books came to be written, illustrated, and their social, cultural and scientific significance when first published as well as their present day influence and importance. Anyone who loves history, art, plants and gardens will enjoy this book.

CBHL is an international and independent professional organization serving the botanical and horticultural information services community. It recognizes the critical importance of collecting, preserving, and making accessible the accumulated knowledge about plants for present and future generations. To learn more about CBHL, please visit our website at <http://www.cbhl.net>.

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