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## FOUR CHILDREN'S BOOKS RECOGNIZED FOR FOCUS ON GARDENING AND PLANTS

**Alexandria, VA** (August 5, 2010) Four children's books received the 2010 "Growing Good Kids – Excellence in Children's Literature Award" this July during the American Horticultural Society's 2010 National Children & Youth Garden Symposium in Pasadena, California. This award program recognizes children's books that effectively promote an appreciation for gardening, plants, and the environment.

This year's winners, selected from books published in 2009, are:

- ***Bring Me Some Apples and I'll Make You a Pie*** by Robbin Gourley (Clarion Books)
- ***The Busy Tree*** by Jennifer Ward, illustrated by Lisa Falkenstern (Marshall Cavendish Corp)
- ***The Curious Garden*** by Peter Brown (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)
- ***Our Shadow Garden*** by Cherie Foster Colburn, illustrated by the children at Children's Cancer Hospital at M. D. Anderson Cancer Center (Bright Sky Press)

“Books are a powerful way to engage children, and these four titles were selected by a national panel of experts as the best new gardening and nature-themed story books for kids,” says Randy Seagraves, national curriculum coordinator for the National Junior Master Gardeners Program, which jointly administers the award program with the American Horticultural Society. “The inspirational stories and creative illustrations make these books a welcome addition to any school or home library.”

Nominations for books published in 2010 will be accepted beginning August 6, 2010, and must be received by April 22, 2011. For more information about the "Growing Good Kids" book award program, and for cover images and synopses of the winning books, visit <http://www.jmgkids.us>; or contact Randy Seagraves at (979) 845-8565 or [seagraves@tamu.edu](mailto:seagraves@tamu.edu).

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The American Horticultural Society (AHS), founded in 1922, is an educational, non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization that recognizes and promotes excellence in American horticulture. One of the oldest and most prestigious gardening organizations, AHS is dedicated to **making America a nation of gardeners, a land of gardens**. Its mission is to open the eyes of all Americans to the vital connection between people and plants, to inspire all Americans to become responsible caretakers of the Earth, to celebrate America's diversity through the art and science of horticulture; and to lead this effort by sharing the Society's unique national resources with all Americans.