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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

# **ART IS BLOOMING!**

*Art Abounds at The Secret Gardens Tour® 2010*

**WHO:** The Secret Gardens Tour® is a non-profit organization benefiting brain injury recovery needs.

**WHAT:** The Secret Gardens Tour® invites the public into private gardens designed by renowned national and local landscape architects. Aside from the intrinsic beauty of nature's bounty, many of this year's gardens feature extensive outdoor art collections including sculpture and metalwork by noted New Orleans and Louisiana artists. Aside from self-guided and guided walking tours, additional attractions include boxed lunches and bottled water for sale, ongoing musical performances and *Secret Treasures*: the outdoor boutique offering garden accessories, gifts and art by local artists and merchants. As in tours past, the floral labyrinth will be featured in a garden. Tickets may be purchased beginning October 1, 2009 at [www.secretgardentour.org](http://www.secretgardentour.org) for \$25 each, or on the day of the tour for \$30 at one of the designated gardens. Private tours are \$60 online.

**WHERE:** Twelve private gardens in Uptown New Orleans on St. Charles Avenue; Exposition Boulevard; Henry Clay and Prytania Streets near historic Audubon Park. One of the tour stops will be Bird Island, a natural rookery in Audubon Park.

**WHEN:** *Guided Tours* Friday, March 12, 2010 9:00 a.m.--1:00 p.m.  
*Self-Guided Tours* Saturday, March 13, 2010 9:00 a.m.--4:00 p.m.

**WHY:** In the United States, as a result of trauma, stroke and other causes, 5 million and more Americans have acquired brain injuries. Raising more than \$40,000 in 2009, The Secret Gardens Tour® funds a brain injury recovery guide and various programs that serve brain injury survivors. Proceeds from the 2010 Tour will also benefit the Brain Injury Alliance of Louisiana, Acquired Brain Injury Survivor Support group (ABIS) and St. Andrew's Village among others.

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