



May 2010



International Award of Excellence in Conservation Thursday Evening, May 20, 2010

Join us in celebrating the presentation of BRIT's 2010 International Award of Excellence in Conservation honoring Ramona Bass, Conservation Champion, Philanthropist and co-chairman of the Fort Worth Zoological Association.

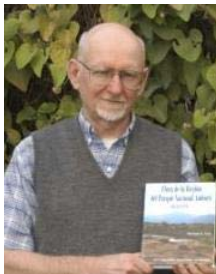
The celebration will be held at the Renaissance Worthington Hotel in downtown Fort Worth. We are pleased to have tickets beginning at the \$300 level this year. [Register Online](#)



Visiting
Scientist
Lecture

The Squashes and Pumpkins: Where did they come from?

With [Michael H. Nee](#), Ph.D., Curator, Institute of Systematic Botany, [New York Botanical Garden](#)



Since the 1960s, Michael Nee's interests have been in the plants of tropical America, primarily Mexico, Panama, and now Bolivia. He is a world-renowned expert on the Cucurbitaceae (squash, pumpkin, melon, cucumber) family. Join Dr. Nee to explore one of the great stories of plants, people, history and botany – how wild squashes native to Central and South America, which are small, hard, and bitter, came to be domesticated by humans and now produce large, fleshy, and tasty fruit.

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

12:00pm to 1:00pm

BRIT Conference Room

500 E. 4th Street, Fort Worth, TX ([MAP](#))

(this lecture is complimentary and free off-street parking is available)



Botanical Research Institute of Texas

Free Film
Screening

***"Pollen Nation"* a film by Singeli Agnew and Joshua Fisher**

Hosted by John Storm, Managing Director of the Lone Star Film Society

The [Lone Star Film Society](#), host of the annual Lone Star International Film Festival in Sundance Square, will present a screening of the 30-minute documentary film, [Pollen Nation](#).

The film chronicles the journey of one migratory beekeeper and his charges, and explores the consequences that result when pollination -- nature's ancient and ingenious intersection of plants and insects -- becomes a global commodity.

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

4:30pm to 5:30pm

BRIT Conference Room

500 E. 4th Street, Fort Worth, TX ([MAP](#))

(the screening is complimentary & free off-street parking is available)



Family
Educator
Morning

Impressions of Nature

BRIT Education will join the [Kimbell Art Museum](#) to present hands-on learning activities. This interdisciplinary program explores math and science connections with landscapes and still-life paintings in the Kimbell collection.

These learning experiences are structured for home-school students (ages 8–16) and their adult partners. Activities include interactive gallery tours, demonstrations for "at-home" projects, and hands-on art activities.

Although the event is free, space is limited and advanced registration is required. For more information, call 817-332-8451, ext. 271 or send an email edintern@kimbellmuseum.org.



10:00am to 12:00pm

[Friday, May 14, 2010](#)

Kimbell Art Museum

3333 Camp Bowie Boulevard, Fort Worth, TX 76107-2792

[Reservations are required](#)



Hard Hats Required

BRIT staff toured the construction site en masse on April 21. The rapid rise of the building walls is now complete. Go to www.brit.org for the time-lapse photos of construction.



Winners Honored in 2010 Great Tree Story Contest

The 2010 Great Tree Essay Contest exceeded last year's participation with submissions from talented third graders across 15 elementary schools across Fort Worth.



In collaboration with other [Great Tree Ring](#) members, BRIT honored the top prize winning authors from Alice Carlson Applied Learning Academy, along with their teachers and classmates, with an exclusive tour of the "Butterflies in the Garden" in the Fort Worth Botanic Garden's conservatory. Through on-site videoconferencing, with butterflies flying in the background, the budding authors shared their prize-winning stories to students in 74 schools across Texas, Montana, Pennsylvania, and New York.

[Read more about this event and the winning stories on our website.](#)



Botanical Research Institute of Texas

New Staff

Amanda Stone Norton, Ph.D. New Program Director in Education



Amanda Stone Norton, Ph.D., was appointed in March as the Program Director for the new teacher education center in development at BRIT to carry on the work inspired by Suzy Peacock. Dr. Stone Norton earned her MA in Educational Administration from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, her Ph.D. in Higher Education from the University of Denver, and has extensive experience training K-12 teachers through experiential learning. Bringing enthusiasm and tireless energy to this work, she is currently leading the strategic planning process to outline the first five years for this exciting new center at BRIT.

Regan Haggerty Head of Special Events

Regan Haggerty joined BRIT in April as the new Head of Events. Regan comes to us after running her own business, Details & Designs Event Production for the past 3 years. Prior to starting her own company, Regan earned her Bachelors in Business Administration with an emphasis on marketing and business management from Baylor University in Waco, Texas. She is excited to be involved with BRIT and is looking forward to many wonderful events ahead.



CARE with us
about our
planet and
[support BRIT](http://www.brit.org)

BRIT's mission is to conserve our natural heritage by deepening our knowledge of the plant world and achieving public understanding of the value plants bring to life.