

Village Nurseries Donates \$10,000 in California Native Plants to CURRENT:LA Water Public Arts Event

July 28, 2016 07:00 AM Eastern Daylight Time

ORANGE, Calif.--(<u>BUSINESS WIRE</u>)--Village Nurseries Wholesale, a specialty grower for landscape professionals, has donated California native, low-water-use plants valued at \$10,000 to the city of Los Angeles' first public art biennial known as <u>CURRENT:LA</u>. Los Angeles was one of four cities selected to receive \$1 million for public art as part of the <u>Bloomberg Philanthropies Public Art Challenge</u>.

"Our donation to CURRENT:LA Water is in keeping with our ongoing commitments to landscape professionals and our communities in offering beautiful plants that conserve water," said David House, Village Nurseries CEO. "Mel Chin, the artist responsible for creating the event's Bowtie exhibits, chose to use native California plants as public art and was especially impressed with the wide variety of sustainable plants we supplied for his palette."

Mel Chin's project, <u>"The Tie that BINDS: the MIRROR of the FUTURE,"</u> reimagines 18.6 acres at Bowtie, an area adjacent to the LA River, with a new landscape of native, drought-tolerant plants. The public can take home free blueprints of the art/landscape to plant their own "mirror" sites. The blueprint clearly details the design, plant varieties and quantities needed to 'mirror' the plot at a home or business of a committed participant. The project's goal is to have hundreds of these 'mirrored' gardens installed all over Southern California thus reducing water.

For the landscaping, Village Nurseries provided Julia Phelps Ceanothus (Ceanothus Julia Phelps); California fuchsia (Zauschneria californica); Our Lord's Candle (Yucca whipplei); Salvia California Blue Sage ('Winifred Gilman'); and Dwarf Coyote Bush (Baccharis 'Pigeon Point'), among other California native varieties.

A year ago, Village Nurseries launched a <u>Save Water Stay Green</u>TM campaign to specifically address the five year drought in the West. It's designed to help educate landscape professionals and consumers how they can save water while still enjoying beautiful landscapes and gardens by installing low-water-use plants with reduced irrigation, such as drip irrigation and low-flow sprinkler heads.

Currently, Village Nurseries estimates approximately 70 percent of its 950 acres of inventory will perform well in the drought-stricken markets they serve. A complete listing of low-water-use plants is available in the company's extensive plant library at https://www.villagenurseries.com/product-category/low-water-use/.

About CURRENT:LA Water Public Art Biennial

Running from July 16 to August 14, 2016, CURRENT:LA Water (@Current_LA) focuses on issues affecting Los Angeles and other global cities to inspire civic discourse and to use contemporary art to deepen connections among people. It democratizes how people access art by featuring temporary art projects and public programs at outdoor locations.

About Village Nurseries

Founded in 1976, Village Nurseries (<u>@VillageNursries</u>) currently has major wholesale sales offices in Orange and Sacramento, California and more than 950 acres under cultivation in growing facilities located strategically throughout Northern and Southern California. It serves markets throughout the western United States while maintaining four specialty <u>Landscape Center</u> locations to serve landscape professionals. For more information, visit http://www.villagenurseries.com.

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