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**For Immediate Release**

**DIY Television Network Star Ahmed Hassan to Headline  
Chicago Flower & Garden Show Presentation Series**

*Gardening Live!, Tablescape How-Tos, Seminar Series ~ March 18-26, 2017*

**CHICAGO (Jan. 3, 2017)** – DIY Television Network star and accredited landscape design/build professional [Ahmed Hassan](#) will headline the 2017 [Chicago Flower & Garden Show](#)'s new Get Growing Series of performances, demonstrations and presentations during "Chicago's Blooming!" – the action-packed, nine-day event presented by [Mariano's](#), at [Navy Pier](#), March 18-26, 2017.

The Get Growing Series offers something new every day of the show, including high-energy Gardening Live! stage performances, interactive Tablescape How-Tos and classroom-style Seminar Series presentations. Find out what shrub deserves to be called the "queen of the garden." Learn which plants are hungry bug-eaters. Get tips for making organic beer, and uncover perennial, annual and vegetable plants that are 2017 garden must-haves.

In all, more than 80 idea-rich sessions are designed to power the know-how behind the coming gardening season and turn visitors' "how can I?" into "look what I created!" For a full list of the series' pro-presenters, their topics and times, visit [www.chicagoflower.com/attractions](http://www.chicagoflower.com/attractions).

Hassan takes the fast-paced Gardening Live! stage at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Friday, March 24, and at 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 25. He will show what's new in organic food trends, offer tips on when to prune and why, and provide ideas for living and thinking sustainably while promoting health and wellness holistically.

**- more -**

## Chicago Flower & Garden Show // Add One

Find out which path will take you straight to success from another noted garden celebrity and author – William Moss the Garden Boss. Moss will provide a calendar for what to do in the garden and when, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 19. If roses are your thing, you'll love hearing from "The Redneck Rosarian" – leading U.S. rose authority, author and host of Rose Chat Podcast, Chris VanCleave, at 12 p.m. on Sunday, March 26. VanCleave also will present, "Which Rose is Right for You?" during the show's Seminar Series at 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 25. Gardening Live! also features performances that will help you take better smart-phone garden photos, craft botanical balms and healing lotions for winter-dry skin, and create an edible salad bowl container for a unique side dish to any deck, patio or balcony.

Want to set a table like the pros? Designers will answer questions and offer ideas for turning ho-hum dinner tables into effortless works of art. Learn from high-profile tablesetters – whose work includes the dining rooms of America's most noted celebrities and companies. The Chicago Flower & Garden Show's new Tablescape How-Tos will feature Debi Lilly of A Perfect Event, Ramsey Jay Prince of Ashland Addison Florist and more.

Learn how to save money, grow plants that thrive, and get the most performance from your garden during the show's popular Seminar Series, featuring renowned experts presenting on a variety of topics for every skill level of gardener. Dig into backyard basics with Chicago radio host Mike Nowak, as he unveils the myths and misinformation of gardening at 12:30 p.m. on Monday, March 20. Find out what's new in soilless gardening from Eric Weber, technology coordinator at Plant Chicago – a groundbreaking food production space designed to be a net-zero, closed loop system in Chicago's Back of the Yards – at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 25. Learn how to manage those creaky knees and bad backs for more effortless gardening from noted wellness lifestyle advocate, professional author and media host Shawna Coronado, kicking everything off at 11 a.m. on opening day of the show, Saturday, March 18.

The Chicago Flower & Garden Show Get Growing Presentation Series is free to visitors with paid show admission and is generously supported by Random House Audio. Gardening Live! performances begin Sunday, March 19 and run daily through March 26. Times are 12 p.m., 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Tablescape How-Tos are daily at 1 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. Seminar Series presentations also are daily, at 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2 p.m., 3:30 p.m.; and at 5 p.m. on March 18, and March 23- 26.

For a handy day planner to schedule presentations and activities during your visit, as well as tickets, schedules and more, visit [www.chicagoflower.com](http://www.chicagoflower.com). For the very latest updates and unique extras, sign up to receive the Chicago Flower & Garden Show e-newsletter, like the show on [Facebook](#) and tweet with us on Twitter @chicagoflower.

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**Editors, please note:** Fact-checking with the press representative on this release is recommended before publishing information. Story leads, photos, interviews and press passes are available on request. For a video overview of the show, visit <https://youtu.be/DYwjYOM2k54>. For additional news releases, please visit the “News” page at [www.chicagoflower.com](http://www.chicagoflower.com).

*Flower Show Productions, Inc. produces the annual Chicago Flower & Garden Show at Navy Pier and other grand-scale public events that celebrate sustainable living and eco-friendly lifestyles. The company also manages [Chicago Gateway Green](#), a nonprofit dedicated to greening and beautifying Chicago. Flower Show Productions provides philanthropic assistance to community organizations, along with year-round messaging, education and information to anyone about the benefits of earth-friendly choices to our yards, neighborhoods and the planet. Save March 18-26, 2017 for the next Chicago Flower & Garden Show. Evening in Bloom is March 17. For information, please visit [www.chicagoflower.com](http://www.chicagoflower.com). Find the show on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/chicagoflower](http://www.facebook.com/chicagoflower) and on Twitter @ChicagoFlower.*

**About Mariano’s:**

*Mariano’s, the Midwest’s most exciting food destination, is one of four grocery banners of Roundy’s Supermarkets, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of The Kroger Co. (NYSE: KR). Mariano’s, founded in 2010, is an integral part of the communities it serves. With 35 locations across the Chicagoland area, Mariano’s places a premium on the customer experience, offering a highly differentiated food shopping experience combined with exceptional customer service. Mariano’s incorporates Chicagoland’s distinctive neighborhood culture into its signature grocery merchandising allowing customers to enjoy a truly unique foodie experience.*



**Caption follows for photo above:**

DIY Network Television star and landscape design pro Ahmed Hassan will headline the 2017 Chicago Flower & Garden Show’s new Get Growing Series of performances, demonstrations and presentations during Chicago’s Blooming! – the action-packed, nine-day event presented by Mariano’s, at Navy Pier, March 18-26, 2017. (Photo courtesy Ahmed Hassan)