

You are invited to

An evening with Freeman Patterson

November 6th, 2010 at the Meeting House



In recognition of the International Year of Biodiversity, Oakville Horticultural Society and the Region of Halton are proud to invite you for an evening with **Freeman Patterson**. Please join us for his inspirational presentation: ***Gardening with what you have*** - a photographic celebration of gardening and the diversity of life that gardens sustain. Funds raised from this fabulous event will go towards the creation and promotion of water-wise biodiverse gardens.

Freeman Patterson is an internationally acclaimed photographer, teacher of visual design, writer and gardener. He is a member of the ORDER OF CANADA and his photographic images are in the permanent collection of the National Gallery. In addition to his highly regarded instructional books, he has published several beautiful large format books including *Namaqualand: Garden of the Gods*; *Portraits of Earth*; and *The Garden*. His own garden was featured in the award-winning documentary series *Recreating Eden* and he was the photographic author of *In A Canadian Garden*, a book presenting 35 of Canada's finest private gardens from coast to coast.

Through the years, Freeman has received numerous awards and honours from around the world. He holds the PROGRESS MEDAL, the highest award offered by the Photographic Society of America (other recipients include Ansel Adams, Eliot Porter, and Jacques Cousteau). He was the recipient of a LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD from the North American Nature Photographic Association and he has received GOLD MEDALS for distinguished contribution to photography from Canada's National Association for Photographic Art and The National Film Board of Canada, as well as a FELLOWSHIPS from the Photographic Society of South Africa and The Nature Photographic Society of New Zealand.

"I believe that the ability of human beings to be creative depends fundamentally on the health and wellbeing of our biosphere - the few kilometres of air, water and soil that surround our planet like the skin of an apple." Thus Freeman believes in caring for the planet and protecting the diversity of life. He has demonstrated this care by deeding some 250 acres of his own property, Shamper's Bluff, to the Nature Conservancy of Canada as an ecological reserve and education area. Shamper's Bluff is a wooded promontory overlooking the St. John River in New Brunswick. In about 25 acres surrounding his home, Freeman has "the privilege of engaging with the land." Gardening since he was a young boy, Freeman has created many beautiful and distinct gardens all of which are set in natural habitats and include or feature native plants.

On November 6th, Freeman will describe the fields, forest, and bog where he lives and how he works to protect local native species while shaping a visually beautiful and healthy landscape. He will encourage listeners to "garden with what they have" which means being respectful of the local ecology - to be creative while protecting the health and wellbeing of the biosphere. He will also share images from his second home in Namaqualand, South Africa, where he bears witness "to the most spectacular annual display of spring wildflowers anywhere on the planet." This program will be an inspirational celebration of plant diversity from around the world. It will be a call to creativity. It will be a call to action for the care of biodiversity.

Funds raised from this event will be used to provide examples of how everyone can help grow a greener, healthier world. As part of this endeavour, an exemplary garden will be planted on the site of the Anderson Bridge Parkette in Oakville, with a design to be created by the Royal Botanical Gardens Head of Horticulture Belinda Gallagher. The landscape design will be an exemplar for biodiverse, water-wise streetscaping. This is among the many ways in which the Oakville Horticultural Society and the Regional Municipality of Halton are working to encourage citizens to celebrate, protect and grow a diversity of plant species for the benefit of all. Join us and make good things happen.

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Event Information:

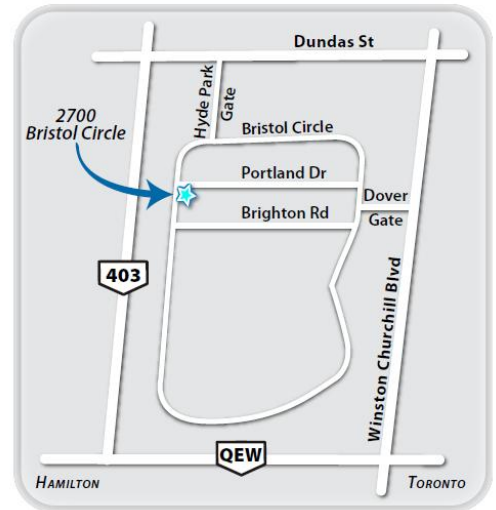
- Saturday, November 6th, 2010
- Presentation begins at 7:30 p.m.
- Pre-show events begin at 6:30 p.m.

Location:

- The Meeting House 2700 Bristol Circle, Oakville, ON

Ticket information:

- Regular seating: \$35.00
- Tickets available through the Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts box office by phone at 905-815-2021 or 1-888-489-7784 or online at: www.oakvillecentre.ca/1135
- Tickets also available from the Oakville Horticultural Society: www.oakvillehort.org
- For more information contact Cathy Kavassalis by phone at 905-849-7581 or email c.kavassalis@gmail.com



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