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NEWS RELEASE

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EXCITEMENT REIGNED THROUGHOUT GCA'S SAN FRAN SUMMER TOUR

CLEARWATER, FL – IGC retailers from across the country and around the world met last week in San Francisco for Garden Centers of America's Summer Tour, getting a behind-the-scenes look at 14 of the area's most successful stores and what puts them at the top of their market. More than half of those in attendance were first-time tour-goers, including international representation from Canada, Costa Rica and Europe. They talked shop and swapped strategies during the tour's breakfast, lunch and evening networking events, and offered these comments post-tour:

"The GCA Summer Tour was very well-organized. There were a great variety of garden center styles."

"I met a lot of great people. I'm usually pretty shy, but I felt very comfortable. I had a great time on this, my first GCA Tour!"

"We enjoyed the diversity of garden centers, and will take home inspiration and ideas from them."

"It was great networking with people and making new friends in the industry."

"The GCA Summer Tour allowed us to connect with people in the industry."

"This year's GCA Summer Store Tour featured just the right amount of stops in a day."

For more information about Garden Centers of America and the myriad benefits of membership, visit www.GardenCentersofAmerica.com.

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