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MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OPENS 1.3 ACRE SUNFLOWER FIELD FOR DISPLAY AND PICK-YOUR-OWN TODAY, TUESDAY AUGUST 13

WELLESLEY, MA — Massachusetts Horticultural Society is excited to announce the unveiling of Sunflower Spectacular, a stunning field of thousands of blooming sunflowers available for display and pick-your-own, just 20 miles from downtown Boston. The spectacular will start today, Tuesday, August 13th and currently run through Sunday, September 25th. Timed tickets will be required for this event and will be available for purchase starting Thursday, August 8th at www.masshort.org/sunflower-spectacular. Admission includes 3 pick-your-own sunflower stems and access to the 1.3 acre display area.

Sunflower Spectacular is part of the expansion of the Garden's lower field, featuring three large-scale flower installations for the 2024 season: Tulip Mania in spring, Sunflower Spectacular in August, and Dahlia Fantasia in September. The MHS team has planted 100,000 sunflower seeds this spring, ensuring a successive bloom that will create a breathtaking and long-lasting display. As the newest and closest sunflower field to Boston, Sunflower Spectacular will delight guests with the flower of summer in shades of orange, lemony-yellow, and firecracker red.

"Seeing these bright, beautiful flowers in full bloom on such a grand scale is truly captivating," says Chandler Simental, Grounds Supervisor at MHS. "The gradient of colors from the various sunflower varieties creates a remarkable floral spectacle, and it's been an honor to help bring this space to life. We're eager to welcome visitors to experience it and hope the community will come out to walk through the sunflowers and enjoy the scenery."

MHS's popular children's program, <u>Little Sprouts</u>, will host two sunflower-themed sessions in late September. This one-hour program, designed for children ages 3-5 and their caregivers, includes a five-senses walk through the Garden, a sunflower art project, and a take-home sunflower kit.

Press, Media, and Influencers are invited to reach out for a first-look at the all-new sunflower field before it opens to the public. Please contact Meghan Connolly at mconnolly@masshort.org or 617.933.4934.

About Massachusetts Horticultural Society

Massachusetts Horticultural Society seeks to help people change their lives and communities for the better through growing plants together. MHS disseminates information on horticulture and related sciences through its Library, educational programming, exhibitions and community outreach initiatives. Through these, MHS seeks to engage guests with the importance of plants, gardens and natural landscapes in their lives and help them to become active growers and gardeners themselves. As America's first established horticultural society, MHS has been practicing horticulture 'for the public good' since 1829.