

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

4 November 2009

Josh Byrne Recognised With Prestigious National Horticultural Media Award

Josh Byrne, WA's Presenter and Writer for ABC Gardening Australia, was awarded the prestigious 2009 Horticultural Media Association (HMA) Television Laurel Environmental category for outstanding achievement in communicating through a television programme, segment or series, at the Botanic Gardens in Adelaide on Thursday 29 October. These 'Laurels' recognise the best performers of Australian Television, Radio, Print and Information Technology in the Horticultural Media over the past two years.

Josh's entry "Creating a School Garden" featured on ABC Gardening Australia's Favourite Gardens DVD and was released earlier this year. The 6-part series showed Josh designing and constructing a productive, educational garden and wetland from scratch. Working with students, parents and teachers at SVACS, a school community in Perth's Swan Valley, a wonderful space for learning and growing was created over an 11 month period.

"I am really pleased to receive this recognition from industry peers and grateful for the opportunity to help inspire our schools and communities create productive gardens. Gardening is now being seen as more than just a hobby, it's also being valued as a way to help young people establish a deep respect for the environment", Josh said.

Josh has previously been awarded the HMAA Television Laurel in 2007 for his Permaculture and Organic Gardening DVD (ABC TV) and the HMAA Anita Boucher Young Achiever's Award in 2006.

"How we design and manage our gardens can make a major contribution to improving the sustainability of our homes, suburbs and cities. We can address pressing environmental challenges whilst still creating beautiful and productive landscapes", said Josh.

####

FOR ALL COMMUNICATIONS, MEDIA AND EVENTS ENQUIRIES

Yvette Canet-Gibson
Communications Manager
yvette@joshbyrne.com.au
www.joshbyrne.com.au
(08) 9433 3721

JOSH BYRNE – SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Josh Byrne is an environmental scientist with a passion for sustainable gardening, appropriate technology and innovative environmental design. He is recognised as a national leader in urban water management and permaculture and is well known for his role as the WA presenter and writer for ABC's *Gardening Australia* TV program and magazine, and as author of *The Green Gardener* published by Penguin. Josh is the patron of the WA Organic Growers Association and the WA chapter of Sustainable Gardening Australia, as well as an ambassador for the WA Department of Planning and Infrastructure's Living Smart Program. He is working on a PhD at Murdoch University exploring new approaches to water conservation for sustainable urban landscapes and is also engaged in teaching, as well as environmental and horticultural consultancy work in the areas of sustainable landscape design and management.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Available upon request