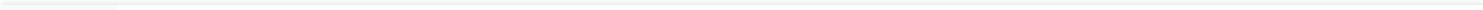


# AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY ANNOUNCES AWARD WINNING ROSES

By Minden Press-Herald - Jun 30, 2023

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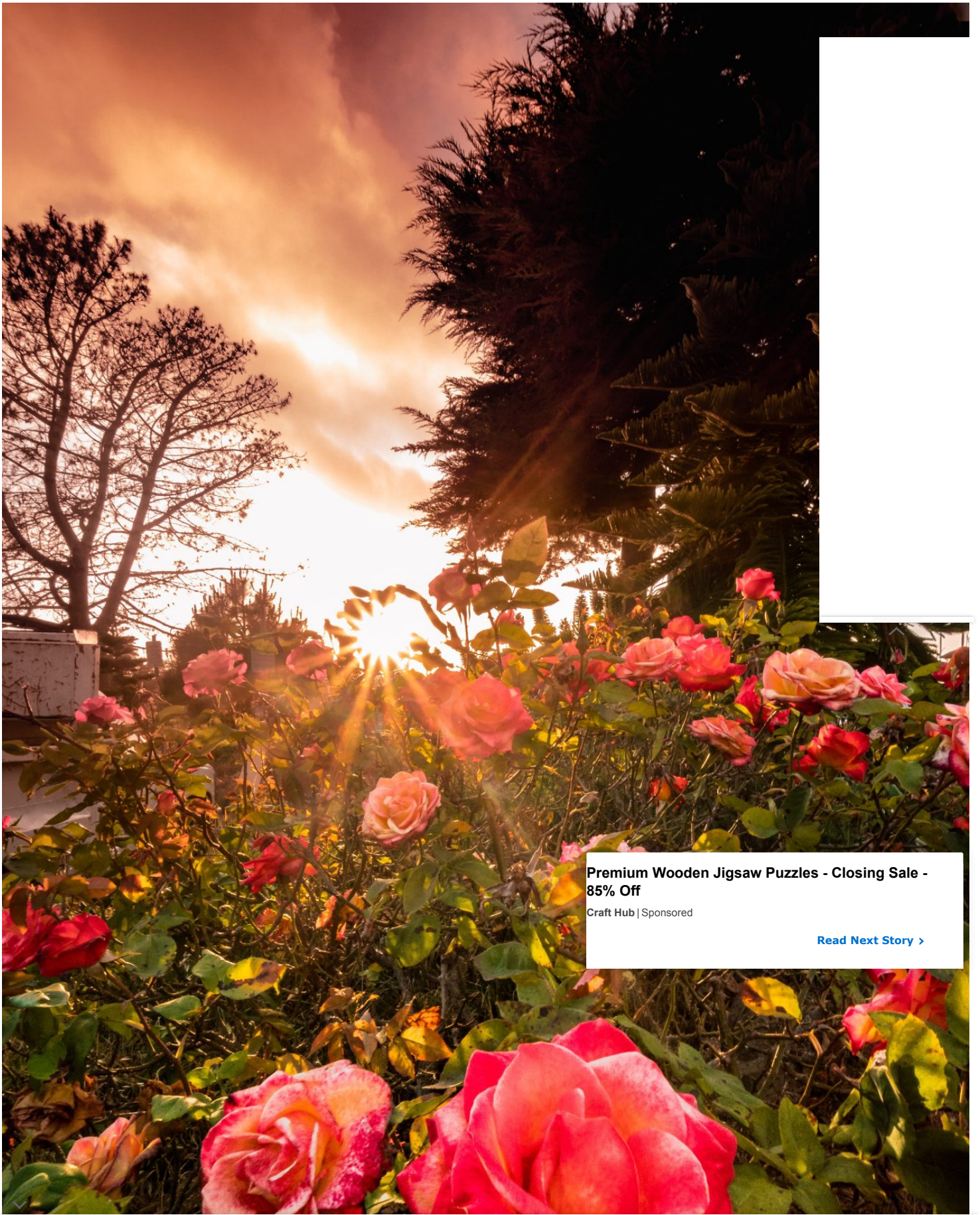
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SHREVEPORT, LA – The American Rose Society announces six roses have been given three separate hardiness, longevity or tested quality.

The American Rose Society Members' Choice: These awards honor roses receiving high national ga "Roses in Review", both are widely grown and do well in most parts of the country. The Members' C goes to 'Celestial Night', a mauve, floribunda from Weeks Roses, hybridized by Christian Bedard an 2019. This rose is widely grown with a garden rating of 8.7 and slightly fragrant. The 2023 Member Fragrance Award goes to 'Sweet Spirit', a red blend grandiflora from Meilland, introduced in 2018. ' widely grown with a garden rating of 8.5 and is the highest rated for fragrance.

The American Rose Society Miniature and Miniflora Rose Hall of Fame: Since its creation in 1999, th Miniflora Rose Hall of Fame has honored those miniatures and minifloras that have stood the test c commerce for at least 20 years, recognizing excellence and longevity. Each year a "Call for Nominat in American Rose, posted on the ARS website and distributed to bulletin editors. This year 150 nom received from 36 rosarians, and 47 different varieties were nominated. The ARS Miniature/Miniflor Committee determines the honoree(s) from the nominations submitted. Since 1998, there have bee: miniflora roses inducted into the Hall of Fame.

This year the three Miniature and Miniflora Rose Hall of Fame honorees are 'Nancy Jean', hybridized by the late Vernon Rickard, 'Erin Alonso', a sport of 'Bees Knees' found by Peter G. Alonso, Jr. and 'Simplex', hybridized by the late Ralph Moore.

- Nancy Jean ('RICnancy') is an apricot blend miniflora borne mostly solitary with outstanding exhibition form, but no noticeable fragrance. The foliage is large, dark green and glossy. Its parentage is ('Fairhope' x 'Michel Cholet'); it was introduced by Almost Heaven Roses; and it is Vernon's first introduced miniflora.
- Erin alonso ('ALOerin') is a medium yellow miniature sport of 'Bees Knees', borne mostly solitary, with exhibition form, but with no noticeable fragrance and semi-glossy. Erin Alonso was introduced in 2002 by Peter G. Alonso, Jr., and it is Peter's first Hall of Fame honoree.
- Simplex is a white single miniature, borne singly and in small clusters with slight fragrance. The foliage is leathery, and the plant shows vigorous bushy growth. Its parentage is [(R.wichurana x 'Floradora') x seedling]. 'Simplex' was introduced by Sequoia Nursery in 1961 and is Ralph Moore's seventh Hall of Fame honoree.

The American Rose Society Award of Excellence: In 1973 the American Rose Society Board of Directors established the Award of Excellence to recognize new miniature and miniflora rose varieties of superior quality and marked

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Miniature and miniflora roses which have been in commerce for less than one year, as well as unnamed seedlings or sports, are eligible for evaluation for two to three years in five AOE public test gardens and two precisely spaced geographically across the United States. Since 2013 roses may be entered in a “no spray” division or “preventive spray” division or both. Each public garden has an AOE supervisor and five evaluators who evaluate entries on eleven criteria four times during each growing season. At the end of the trial period, Awards are given to deserving entries, with a maximum of five per year. The public test gardens are: American Rose Society, Shreveport, Louisiana; Edisto Memorial Gardens, Orangeburg, South Carolina; Mesa Community College, Mesa, Arizona; Toledo Botanical Gardens, Toledo, Ohio; and Virginia Clemens Rose Garden, St. Cloud, Florida.

The official public announcement of the Award of Excellence winner(s) is made each year in America at the awards banquet of the ARS National Rose Show and Conference.

After two years of evaluation one Award of Excellence winner has been selected. The 2024 AOE winner is ‘Petite Peach™’, an orange-pink miniature sport discovered by Teresa Byington and propagated and entered in the “no spray” division of the AOE Trials.

‘Petite Peach™’ PPAF (AOE #2021-03)(BYI bloomthyme) Teresa Byington discovered this orange-pink miniature sport of ‘Petite Pink™’ which was hybridized by David Zlesak. It has decorative form with petals which fade to white with age and is borne one to a stem and in clusters but with no appreciable fragrance. The growing rounded plant is very floriferous, “the showplace of a garden”, and quite disease resistant. It was introduced by High Country Roses and is an excellent garden rose (photo courtesy Teresa Byington).

\* See [www.rose.org](http://www.rose.org) for a complete list of all previous winners of each award and photos.

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