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Unforgettable weddings come to 'treasured landmark'

Gibbs Gardens, Talk of the Town announce events agreement

Ball Ground, GA – Jim Gibbs, CEO of Gibbs Gardens, announced Monday, Jan. 21, 2013, Chris Archer, owner of Talk of the Town Catering & Special Events, will have exclusive rights to wedding, special events and corporate catering at the 300-acre world-class, destination garden.

"We are delighted to partner with an organization having the experience and reputation of Talk of the Town," says Gibbs, owner, designer and developer of Gibbs Gardens.

"Chris Archer has spent more than 20 years in the Atlanta hospitality market running one of the top catering and special event firms in the region. We believe his expertise and our beautiful garden setting will create unforgettable event experiences."

"We are thrilled to be providing exceptional events at Gibbs Gardens. What Jim has created is an ideal setting for gorgeous garden weddings, corporate events and other special occasions, and our entire team is excited to bring clients the best of what we have to offer in such a breathtaking place. Gibbs Gardens is a true landmark and we're proud to be so closely associated with it," says Chris Archer, president of Talk of the Town Catering & Special Events.

"Georgia's hidden jewel"

Southern Living magazine calls Gibbs Gardens "a landscape that undoubtedly will be considered one of our regions most treasured landmarks."

Less than an hour's drive north of Atlanta, Gibbs Gardens is set in the rolling woodlands of northeast Cherokee County. The Gardens encompass 300 acres of gentle hillsides covered with mature trees, 22 ponds, pristine streams, waterfalls and countless natural springs that flow seamlessly around 220 acres of artistically designed gardens.

Football legend and gardening author Vince Dooley described Jim Gibbs' magnificent gardens as "Georgia's hidden jewel."

Widely respected as one of the best wedding and special event caterers in Georgia, Talk of the Town is known for its imaginative cuisine and exceptional service.

The staff members share a common mission: to have every guest remember a Talk of the Town event for being truly wonderful. The culinary team, led by Chef Andrew Brackner, is committed to sourcing the best ingredients, both locally and from around the world. The service team is highly-trained, detail-oriented, and extremely knowledgeable about every event aspect, which clients appreciate and note quite frequently.

Talk of the Town Catering & Special Events has continuously been recognized with many accolades and awards from The Knot, Wedding Wire, *Atlanta Business Chronicle*, and many more.



Gibbs Gardens Quick Facts

The 300-acre estate garden designed by award-winning landscape designer Jim Gibbs, and featuring 16 luxurious gardens less than one hour from Atlanta, opened to the public in March 2013. The Gibbs Gardens estate is distinguished by 220 acres of gardens set in a mature forest in the foothills of the North Georgia Mountains. Gibbs started developing his gardens in 1980.

Sixteen garden venues

Gibbs Gardens' visitors stroll along meandering tree-shaded paths through 16 superb garden venues that offer a unique blend of garden experiences. The Grandchildren's Sculpture Gardens' whimsical recreations of Jim and Sally Gibbs' 11 grandchildren at play evoke smiles . . . and memories. The Pleasance beckons visitors to rest in the shade of soaring hardwoods, relax and reflect. Azalea, rhododendron, hydrangeas, rose, crape myrtle, daylily and wildflower gardens present an ever changing tableau of color, fragrance and texture. All visitors are captivated by Gibbs Gardens' four dramatically different feature gardens:

- The Manor House Gardens offer spectacular changes of color every season. Located on the highest ridge in northeast Cherokee County, these gardens feature seven flowering terraces flowing seamlessly down 150 feet of elevation to the Valley Gardens. Cascading layers of garden rooms and woodland embrace the home, flowing from each side of the house. The Manor House Gardens offer amazing views of terraces, lawns, pools, waterfalls, undisturbed woodland, North Georgia Mountain vistas and sweeping sky.
- The Waterlily Gardens feature 140 varieties of unique lilies in one of the largest natural displays of waterlilies in the nation. Five ponds reflect the beauty of hardy and tropical waterlily blooms from May through November. A replica of Claude Monet's Japanese Bridge in Monet's Garden at Giverny (outside Paris) is veiled with white and lilac wisteria blooms.
- The Japanese Gardens covering more than 40 acres with 7 spring-fed ponds, islands, bridges, massive boulders and rocks are the largest in the nation. Enter the Hill and Pond Stroll Garden, "*Tsukiyama*", through the Torii Gate and stroll along gentle paths, past pagodas, 40 hand-crafted Japanese lanterns, and decades old shrubs artistically sculpted through the Japanese art of bonsai. Chase away evil spirits as you cross the traditional Zigzag Bridge.

• The Daffodil Gardens begin_Gibbs Gardens' Seasons of Color with the 50-acre daffodil display of more than 60 varieties of daffodils in colors ranging from primrose-yellow to yellow, saffron, gold, orange, shades of yellow and orange, and blush pinks, creamy whites and white.

Gibbs Gardens

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