2019 Plant Discovery Day Silent Auction

1. **Abies nordmanniana** ‘Secrest’
   This dwarf, rounded witch’s broom was found on a large Nordmann fir at Secrest Arboretum. It will grow very slowly and reach about 3’ by 3’ after 15-20 years. ‘Secrest’ is the perfect collector’s item for any lover of dwarf conifers. Take a home a living piece of Secrest Arboretum!
   Plant size: #1 container; 10” tall. Starting bid: $35

2. **Acer palmatum** ‘Englishtown’
   Like conifers, Japanese maples occasionally produce witch’s brooms of abnormally congested foliage. Named for the place of its discovery (Englishtown, New Jersey), this compact red-leafed cultivar is nearly identical in habit to larger, more common cultivars but matures at only 6-8’ tall, making it perfect for tight spots and smaller gardens.
   Plant size: #2 container; 30” tall. Starting bid: $30

3. **Acer palmatum** ‘Koto-no-ito’
   The apt name for this intriguing cultivar is from the Japanese for “golden old harp.” Each leaf features conspicuously narrow, strap-like lobes of varying sizes, with the thinnest mimicking delicate green harp strings. ‘Koto-no-ito’ has an upright vase-shaped habit and will grow to about 15’ tall by 8-10’ wide in 20 years.
   Plant size: #2 container; 18” tall. Starting bid: $35

4. **Acer palmatum** ‘Mikawa yatsubusa’
   Perhaps no other Japanese maple cultivar has become so popular so quickly. In recent years, this semi-dwarf clone has enamored maple aficionados everywhere. ‘Mikawa yatsubusa’ sports the typical green leaves of **Acer palmatum**, but on amazingly short internodes, lending a layered, bunchy look. On more than one occasion, this peculiar appearance has been likened to that of the illicit *Cannabis sativa*. Secrest Arboretum will be happy to provide sworn legal testimony should the auction winner undergo criminal prosecution. Mature size is approximately 8-10’ tall after many years.
   Plant size: #2 container; 12” tall. Starting bid: $30

5. **Acer saccharum** (Compact Form)
   Long listed in Secrest Arboretum’s inventory as **Acer saccharum** ‘Kompact’, this densely branched sugar maple has never been formally introduced. It grows less than half the rate of seedling sugar maples and forms a pudgy, pyramidal “Hershey’s Kiss” in the landscape. A pair of 50-year-old specimens can be found along Green Drive, just across from Secrest’s shade tree plot.
   Plant size: #3 container; 48” tall. Starting bid: $60
6. *Aesculus glabra ‘J.N. Select’ (Early Glow™)*
   One of two buckeyes in this year’s auction, Early Glow™ is a fine selection of our state tree noted for bright red fall foliage that appears several weeks earlier than other Ohio buckeyes. It also shows excellent resistance to the unsightly leaf blotch that plagues most of the genus *Aesculus*. It will mature into a large, rounded shade tree measuring 40-50’ tall by 30-40’ wide.
   **Plant size:** #3 container; 48” tall. **Starting bid:** $50

7. *Aesculus pavia ‘Ohio State Scarlet’*
   Selected by noted nurseryman Van Wade of Wade & Gatton Nurseries, this superior form of Red Buckeye features reliably deep red flowers. Several plants of this clone grace The Oval in Columbus. *Aesculus glabra* makes a lovey small ornamental tree where other buckeyes would grow too large. ‘Ohio State Scarlet’ will reach approximately 20-25’ tall at maturity.
   **Plant size:** #2 container; 18” tall. **Starting bid:** $40

8. *Cercis canadensis ‘NCCC1’ (Carolina Sweetheart™)*
   Yet another remarkable new redbud from the renowned breeding program at North Carolina State! Following a display of pinkish purple flowers each May, this colorful chameleon puts forth a mesmerizing array of leaf variegation including purple, cream, green and every shade of pink imaginable. The leaves go completely green by summer, but your affection for this beauty will live on. This is a perfect accent plant for that monochromatic part of the garden that could use a touch of flamboyance. Carolina Sweetheart™ will reach about 20’ tall at maturity.
   **Plant size:** #7 container; 6’ tall. **Starting bid:** $85

9. *Cercis chinensis ‘Shirobana’*
   Secrest Arboretum grows a number of pink-flowered Chinese redbuds, but only the rare ‘Shirobana’ offers pure white flowers. This smaller-statured tree features a dense, multi-stemmed habit and grows quite slowly compared to other *C. chinensis* selections. It will eventually attain a height of 8-10’ after about 15-20 years in the garden.
   **Plant size:** #2 container; 15” tall. **Starting bid:** $40
10. *Euonymus obovatus*

Attention native plant collectors! Burning bush (*Euonymus alatus*) gives this genus a bad name, but Eastern North America is actually home to three native *Euonymus* species. The diminutive *E. obovatus* is a running groundcover found in woodlands from Arkansas north to Canada. It is similar to its larger cousin, *E. americanus*, but rarely reaches more than 18” tall and spreads quite rapidly. It would be an excellent choice for a shady, woodland garden or any hillside with bare ground to cover.

**Plant size:** 1.5 gallon (7” square) container; 8” tall.  **Starting bid:** $25

11. *Fagus sylvatica* ‘Felderbach’

Few folks have room for a majestic European beech, but the curious ‘Felderbach’ fits into even the tiniest of gardens. This hard-to-find selection is replete with tiny green leaves on shortened internodes that lend a bonsai-esque demeanor. It takes on a narrow, columnar habit as it ages and will eventually attain dimensions of 6-8’ tall by 2-3’ wide after many years. This lovable runt would even make a nice container specimen.

**Plant size:** #2 container; 12” tall.  **Starting bid:** $40

12. *Hamamelis japonica* ‘Tsukubana-kurenai’ (aka ‘Shibamichi Red’)

Arguably the most impressive red-flowered Witch-hazel to date, this exciting Japanese import serves as a botanical stoplight in the late winter garden. Named and introduced in 2008, this rising star has only recently been discovered by American growers and gardeners. It will display a spreading, vase-like habit as it matures to 10-12’ wide by 6-8’ wide.

**Plant size:** #2 container; 12” tall.  **Starting bid:** $35

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*Hamamelis japonica* ‘Tsukubana-kurenai’
13. *Metasequoia glyptostroboides* ‘Hamlet’s Broom’
Many folks have experienced Secrest’s soaring dawn redwood grove and have likely noticed countless sizeable specimens in and around Wooster. However, this year’s auction features two of the handsomest semi-dwarf dawn redwoods on the horticultural scene. ‘Hamlet’s Broom’ is a distinctive, slow-growing selection with creamy yellow foliage and a loosely pyramidal habit. Landscape maturity is estimated at 10-12’ tall by 6-8’ wide. To bid or not to bid: that is the question!
**Plant size: #2 container; 18” tall. Starting bid: $35**

14. *Metasequoia glyptostroboides* ‘Schirrmann’s Nordlicht’ (aka ‘Northlight’)
Don’t be discouraged by this plant’s lengthy German cultivar name! This stunning semi-dwarf is a bit slower growing than ‘Hamlet’s Broom’, making it a perfect specimen for tighter spots—especially sites that are a bit slow to drain. This junior dawn redwood features golden yellow foliage with green undertones and looks like a glowing magical orb in the landscape. The expected mature size on ‘Schirrmann’s Nordlicht’ is much shorter than its name—8-10’ wide by 4-6’ wide.
**Plant size: #3 container; 18” tall. Starting bid: $50**

15. *Picea abies* ‘Virgata’
Commonly known as the snake branch spruce, this enigmatic cultivar defies the rules and conventions of Sprucedom. Its wild, undulating growth habit is hard to put into words, so this description will defer to the late Alfred Rehder of Harvard’s Arnold Arboretum who noted it as being “sparingly branched, with much elongated straight or curved branches, destitute of branchlets, usually the upper ones ascending, the lower pendant.” Take this odd cultivar home and you can describe it however you like. It does grow large with time, but only a fool would put an estimate on those dimensions.
**Plant size: #3 container; 3’ tall. Starting bid: $35**

16. *Pinus sylvestris* (Secrest Broom)
A yet unnamed branch mutation found in a mature Scots Pine at Secrest Arboretum, this is an interesting conversation piece for devotees of dwarf conifers and Wooster’s favorite arboretum. This bluish-green globe has not been registered as a cultivar with the American Conifer Society, so the winning bidder is encouraged to suggest a name. This comely conifer will likely attain a size of 6’ tall by 6’ wide in 15-20 years.
**Plant size: #1 container; 12” tall. Starting bid: $30**

17. *Pinus thunbergii* ‘Ogi’ (aka ‘Ogi-matsu’)
Japanese black pine typically exhibits a wide-spreading, picturesque growth habit in its native haunts along the coasts of Japan. Not ‘Ogi.’ This dwarf cultivar is notable for two reasons: first, it has an extremely slow, rounded growth habit, akin to a frightened hedgehog. Second, it produces bizarre, fasciated buds that produce equally bizarre “cock’s combs” as the foliage expands. ‘Ogi’ is a perfect addition to the rock garden or any conifer addict’s collection. Top size might reach 4’ by 4’ in 15-20 years.
**Plant size: #1 container; 15” tall. Starting bid: $35**
18. *Torreya taxifolia*

The Florida Nutmeg, Stinking Yew, or just Florida Torreya is a critically endangered species found only in a few sites in extreme southern Georgia and the Florida Panhandle. Unfortunately, native populations have been decimated by a fatal fungal blight and very few mature plants remain. Thankfully, a group known as the Torreya Guardians has embarked on an “assisted migration” project to expand its range and prevent extinction. Though native to the Deep South, *Torreya taxifolia* is surprisingly cold hardy and can be grown into northern Ohio and beyond. It is quite tolerant of shade but takes full sun as well. Protection from deer browse is highly recommended.

**Plant size:** #2 container; 36” tall. **Starting bid:** $45

19. *Zelkova serrata* ‘Goblin’

‘Goblin’ is not your average Japanese Zelkova. This cute semi-dwarf is a ball of rich green foliage that turns various shades of orange and red in autumn. This little guy’s identity is sure to stump even the most astute of garden visitors. ‘Goblin’ is an elusive cultivar that will be lucky to reach 6’ tall by its 20th birthday.

**Plant size:** #2 container; 24” tall. **Starting bid:** $35

Also up for bid will be three unique items handcrafted by Jon Hubacher of Smithville, OH from wood salvaged from mature trees felled by Secrest’s devastating tornado in 2010. Each piece is comprised of a number of native and exotic species that once grew in the Arboretum. These are truly one-of-a-kind and serve as beautiful, functional reminders of Secrest’s date which will live in infamy.

**Cheese Board & Slicer**

**Starting bid:** $50
Bread Board & Slicer
Starting bid: $60

Cutting Board
Starting bid: $65