

**CBHL Charles Robert Long Award of Extraordinary Merit to Sheila Connor –
May 27, 2016 – Cleveland, Ohio**

Sheila Connor, formerly Assistant Librarian and later advancing to Horticultural Research Archivist at Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, received the Charles Robert Long Award on May 27th, 2016 from the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries (CBHL). Connor worked at the Arboretum from 1980 until her retirement in 2012.

The Charles Robert Long Award of Extraordinary Merit is the highest honor presented by CBHL. This honor was established to recognize outstanding service to CBHL and/or to the field of botanical and horticultural literature, information services, and research. The award was presented to Connor during CBHL's annual meeting, hosted this year by the Cleveland Botanical Garden and Holden Arboretum.

Connor earned her bachelor's degree from Massachusetts College of Art in 1968. She is an active CBHL member, serving as its President in 2009-2010 and on several committees, including the Annual Literature Award Committee and the Archives Committee. Connor's prolific knowledge of botanical literature as an author and reader make her expertise on the Annual Literature Award Committee invaluable. This award recognizes Connor's leadership as an archivist particularly with regard to digital initiatives, providing access to significant botanical image collections of plant exploration in Asia and the US and the history of the Arnold Arboretum; her scholarly contributions on the culture and natural history of New England, as evidenced by her book, "New England Natives: a Celebration of People and Trees," published in 1994; and her depth of knowledge of the Arnold Arboretum and its archive collections as evidenced by her series of articles in "Arnoldia."

Beyond CBHL, Connor has come full circle from knowledge to activism and advocacy on behalf of the environment in her home area and state. She is a longtime member of the Conservation Commission for Hull, Massachusetts, serving as its Chair since 2005. In April of this year, she presented a lecture entitled "Shifting Sands" on the shifting landforms of Hull Peninsula, including a consideration of an historic study of Nantasket Beach some 100 years ago. The lecture was part of the Nantasket Beach Lecture Series sponsored by the Hull Life Saving Museum, Friends of the Hull Public Library, and other organizations.

The Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, Inc. is the leading international professional organization in the field of botanical and horticultural information services. It recognizes the critical importance of collecting, preserving, and making accessible the accumulated knowledge about plants for present and future generations. For more information, visit our web site at <http://www.cbhl.net>.

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