

## Colvin Randall, P.S. du Pont Fellow

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### About the Speaker

As the first P.S. du Pont Fellow, Colvin Randall knows the history of Longwood Gardens better than anyone. He's spoken all over the world about Longwood Gardens, its history, magnificent garden features, the evolution of its bucolic landscape, and the performing arts in the Gardens that take place throughout the year. He is also the author of three books on Longwood Gardens including the centennial publication, *Longwood Gardens: 100 Years of Garden Splendor*.

Colvin became interested in the history of Longwood Gardens in 1973 as a Longwood Graduate Fellow researching the story of the garden's fountains. He began his career with the organization in 1977 as Longwood's public relations manager and held that position for the next 28 years. From 2004 to 2008 he was the organization's historian/information manager and in 2008 became the first P.S. du Pont Fellow. Currently, Colvin oversees Longwood's fireworks displays, the world's largest resident 10,010-pipe organ as well as the 62-bell carillon in the Chimes Tower.

Colvin holds a Master of Science Degree in Public Horticulture Administration from the Longwood Graduate Program at the University of Delaware and a Bachelor of Architectural History from the University of Virginia. He has also studied horticulture at the University of Maryland and has frequently traveled to Europe to visit gardens and fountains. In his free time, Colvin can be found playing the organ and harpsichord, collecting and reading books on the arts, traveling and cooking.

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### Signature Presentation

*Longwood Gardens: 100 Years of Garden Splendor*

Hear the complete story of Longwood Gardens over the past century from the planting of the original arboretum by a Quaker family, to Pierre du Pont's creation of the gardens, conservatory and fountains, to its transformation from a private estate to one of the world's greatest horticultural showplaces.

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### Recent Presentations/ Appearances

Longwood Gardens Christmas

Performing Arts Program at  
Longwood Gardens

The World's Largest Residence Pipe  
Organ at Longwood Gardens

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### In the News

The New York Times

Readers Digest

Washington Post

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Financial Times of London

Chester County Press

*“Longwood Gardens exemplifies The Garden as Theatre. The flowers, fountains, architecture, and arts events ‘wow’ visitors just as founder Pierre du Pont had been wowed by the theatrical gardens of Italy and France and by the dazzling 19th century world’s fairs he so enjoyed. Even non-gardeners will be impressed by Longwood!”*

**Social Media  
(Videos, Blogs, etc.)**

100 Years of Garden Splendor  
<http://video.google.com/>

