

*For Immediate Release*

## Tree Climbers Converge on Eco-Friendly Portland

CHAMPAIGN, IL (July 16, 2012) – Laurelhurst Park will be the site for the ISA International Tree Climbing Championships (ITCC) on August 11 and 12. The world’s best professional tree climbers from 16 countries will be showcasing their skill and agility at maneuvering in the trees.

The tree climbing competition simulates working conditions of arborists in the field. Male and female competitors perform five different events during the preliminary round in which each event tests a competitor’s ability to professionally and safely maneuver in a tree while performing work-related tree-care tasks efficiently.

Preliminary competition events for the ITCC presented by The Davey Tree Expert Co. will be held on Saturday, August 11 with the finals on Sunday, August 12. This unique event is held in conjunction with the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) annual conference that will follow the competition.

Showcasing the highest level of professional skills and safety, the events provide a competitive learning environment for those working in the industry. “The ITCC is an opportunity for arborists from around the world to learn new techniques from one another and to see the use of new and different equipment,” says ISA Executive Director Jim Skiera. “Competitive tree climbing also introduces the public to the skills professional tree climbing arborists must use for safe, professional tree work.”

Professional tree climbing competitions are held around the world to provide a platform for arborists to learn about the latest in climbing techniques and innovations in equipment. Winners of these competitions are invited to compete in the world championships. Skiera adds, “This competition brings together the best of the best from around the globe.” Sixty-one competitors will be competing to earn the title of world champion.

The male and female competitors with the highest scores during the preliminary events move on to compete in the Masters’ Challenge competition sponsored by Husqvarna which will be held on Sunday, August 12. The Masters’ Challenge winners from each division are named the world champions and earn the opportunity to return the following year to defend the championship.

ISA will also host an Arbor Fair on Saturday during the event. All events are free and open to the public. For more information on the ITCC, visit [www.itcc-isa.com](http://www.itcc-isa.com).

### *About ISA*

The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), headquartered in Champaign, Ill., is a nonprofit organization supporting tree care research and education around the world. To promote the importance of arboriculture, ISA manages the consumer education web site, [www.treesaregood.org](http://www.treesaregood.org), which fulfills the association’s mission to help educate the public about the importance and value of proper tree care. Also, as part of ISA’s dedication to the care and preservation of shade and ornamental trees, it offers the only internationally-recognized certification program in the industry. For more information on ISA and Certified Arborists, visit [www.isa-arbor.com](http://www.isa-arbor.com).



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