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**PLANTING FIELDS FOUNDATION NAMES STEPHEN H. WATTERS  
PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Oyster Bay, New York – December 2** – Planting Fields Foundation (“Planting Fields” or “the Foundation”) today announced that Stephen H. Watters has been named President of the Board of Trustees. Mr. Watters joined the Foundation as a board member in 2016. A long-time Oyster Bay resident, from 1995 to 2015 he served as Headmaster of the Green Vale School in Old Brookville, New York, prior to which he was Director of the Middle School at the William Penn Charter School in Philadelphia, PA. Mr. Watters is also Vice President of the Youth and Family Counseling Agency of Oyster Bay.

Said Executive Director, Gina J. Wouters, “We are so fortunate to have Stephen in the role of President at this important moment of expansion at Planting Fields. His shared vision of the future of Planting Fields and dedication to our mission as we implement a new strategic plan spanning the next three years is essential to our success.” Hal Davidson, the Foundation Chairman added, “Stephen’s vast experience in education and not-for-profit leadership brings significant strength to the board at an exciting time for our organization. I look forward to future collaboration with both him and Gina as Planting Fields becomes a destination for art, architecture, exceptional gardens and historic landscape.”

Mr. Watters officially assumed the role of President earlier this year. The Foundation has recently made new appointments to its board for a total of 21 members.

**About Planting Fields Foundation**

Planting Fields Foundation strives to preserve and make relevant to all audiences the heritage of Planting Fields, an early 20th century 409-acre estate, designed as an integrated composition of the built and natural world. Founded in 1952 by William R. Coe, the Foundation is a not-for-profit public educational foundation chartered by the New York State Board of Regents and tax exempt under the status of a 501(c)(3) organization.

Located in Oyster Bay, New York and originally landscaped by the Olmsted Brothers of Brookline, Massachusetts, the grounds feature 409 acres of greenhouses, rolling lawns, formal gardens, woodland paths, and outstanding plant

collections. The original historic estate buildings remain intact including Coe Hall, a 65-room Tudor Revival mansion designed by Walker & Gillette. The interior of the house is a showcase of artistry and craftsmanship and features a distinctly American aesthetic through original ironwork commissions by Samuel Yellin and murals painted by artists Robert Winthrop Chanler and Everett Shinn. Planting Fields is included in the National Register of Historic Places, the official list of the Nation's historic sites worthy of preservation.

To learn more about Planting Fields Foundation, please visit our website at [www.plantingfields.org](http://www.plantingfields.org).