

# Honoring a well-rounded professional

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Noah Schwartz, the head grower and greenhouse manager at Matterhorn Nursery in Spring Valley, has been named Young Grower of the Year by GrowerTalks magazine.

Schwartz, who grows everything from one-of-a-kind annuals for some of the best gardeners in the Northeast to painted poinsettias for casual Christmas shoppers, won over four other finalists. Criteria for the award included innovation, leadership, continuing education and industry involvement.

“While all the finalists were amazing, Noah was the hands-down favorite among the judges because he is so well-rounded, and because he grows for one of America’s most-respected garden centers, Matterhorn Nursery,” Chris Beytes, editor of GrowerTalks, said in a statement. “He’s proof that the future of the greenhouse industry is in good hands.”

The finalists submitted essays, which were published in the June issue of GrowerTalks, in which they described their vision of the greenhouse Industry’s future and how they wanted to position their businesses to be successful. Here’s an excerpt from the one Schwartz wrote:

“Today, more than ever, floriculture is about balance. Balance between competing in a world of mass markets and aesthetics. Balance between staying true to our botanical names and educational practices and giving our customers ready-made gardens and containers. Balance between limitless possibilities, countless plant varieties, and our customized approach and utilizing our physical structures and resources to create the most efficient and economical growing conditions.”

Schwartz, 35, first worked at Matterhorn as an intern with the School of Professional Horticulture at the New York Botanical Garden and came on board full time in 1993 when the previous grower retired.

GrowerTalks was founded in 1937 and remains one of the leading greenhouse industry trade publications. Schwartz, who lives in Congers, and the Young Grower award will be featured in the September issue.

Peter Carr/The Journal News

***Greenhouse manager Noah Schwartz shows some of his plants on Monday at Matterhorn in Spring Valley. Schwartz was named Young Grower of the Year by GrowerTalks magazine.***

Matterhorn was founded in 1981 by Matt and Ronnie Horn. It features 12 acres of display gardens, including the only David Austin Rose Garden outside of the United Kingdom.

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