

NAPLES
BOTANICAL
GARDEN

Cultivate

FALL 2024



Technician measuring a panel on a workbench.

Two technicians working on a panel.

Green SUV elevated on a lift.

Two technicians working on a bucket on the floor.

FLAMMABLE
3



Photo by John Eder

On any given day, the 19-member Operations Team literally keeps the Garden running. Whether performing maintenance on carts, used daily for Garden upkeep and seasonally during special tours, installing artwork for one-of-a-kind exhibitions or renovating high-traffic guest areas, the Operations Team often works behind the scenes. You may see them during your Garden visit—and other times, you may not—but your experience here on these 170 acres is directly impacted because of their work for you, our Members.



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FALL 2024

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CULTIVATE FALL 2024

OUR MISSION

Where Plants & People Thrive Together™

Naples Botanical Garden conserves the plants and habitats of the tropics, cultivates beauty, offers knowledge, and inspires the protection of nature.

ON THE COVER

Morning mist rises in the Kapnick Brazilian Garden.

Photo: John Eder

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Thank you to Edwards Asset Management for support of this publication.



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Top-rated
Attraction



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Grow with a Garden Workshop

Learn the art of smartphone nature photography. Try your hand at nature journaling. There's something for everyone.

Learn more and register today.  Members save with steep discounts!



We've created a host of new experiences to help you discover the Garden in new ways. There's something for every visit.

We've always treated our 170-acre campus as an outdoor classroom, a place to discover everything from Florida ecology to the interconnections among plants, people, and wildlife.

Our 2024 - 25 season offers new opportunities to learn about our Garden and the tropical ecosystems it represents. Vice President of Education & Interpretation Britt Patterson-Weber introduces the theme in a thoughtful essay on page 25. She details how we'll treat the Garden like art, framing it—quite literally—analyzing its composition, and exploring the relationship between form and function.

To this end, we've created a host of new experiences to help you discover the Garden in new ways. There are options for every interest: workshops on how to pot your own orchids or succulents; a primer on nature journaling or botanical painting (no experience needed!); or a Botanical Breakfast Tour to jumpstart your morning. See page 12 for more details.



This issue of *Cultivate* offers similar learning opportunities. We examine the amazing floral adaptations that encourage reproduction and offer ideas on how property owners can modify their landscapes to support pollinators. We delve into begonias in honor of our growing collection, a donor-funded display, and a curator's wish to convert more people into "begoniacs." She'll teach you how to propagate and grow your own on page 19.

A desire to exchange

knowledge and plants compelled us to seek a special certification allowing us to share endangered plants with fellow botanical and academic institutions. Our diligence in pursuing it has already paid off, as you'll discover on page 31.

This is a great time to remind you how much your support matters. You—our Members, donors, and guests—allow us to continually refine programming, enhance educational offerings, conserve plants, and cultivate a garden showcasing the best of the tropics, a masterpiece of our community's making.

See you in the Garden!

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, looping 'D' followed by a flourish that extends to the right.

Donna McGinnis

*President & CEO
Naples Botanical Garden*

✉ Questions and letters to the editor may be sent to email@naplesgarden.org.

2024 – 2025 Events & Exhibitions

Music IN THE GARDEN

OCTOBER 2024 - JUNE 2025

Every second Saturday • 2 - 4pm through May • 12 - 2pm in June

Relax and soak up the sounds of local musicians as they perform in your favorite tropical setting.



DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS CELEBRATION

NOVEMBER 2 • 10AM - 7PM

NOVEMBER 3 • 10AM - 4PM

Explore culture & connection!

SUPPORTED BY

NAPLES · MARCO ISLAND
EVERGLADES...
PARADISECOAST.COM

MEMBER TICKETS ON SALE OCTOBER 25



NIGHT LIGHTS

IN THE GARDEN

Celebrate Winter in the Tropics

NOVEMBER 29, 2024 - JANUARY 5, 2025 *

TITLE SPONSOR



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PARADISECOAST.COM

Fifth Third Bank
FPL

Naples Daily News

Tech-Tronics
WAVE 101.1 FM

*Excludes December 24, 25, and 31, 2024



Plein Air Fest

JANUARY 25 • 10AM - 2PM

Local artists showcase their creativity as they paint en plein air in the Garden. Presented in partnership with Naples Art District.



Sunset Wednesdays

WEEKLY, FEBRUARY - APRIL • 5 - 8PM

Supported by Wintrust Banking Center.



Friday After 5

FRIDAYS, FEBRUARY - APRIL • 5 - 8PM

Welcome the weekend with extended evening hours! With live music, pop-up markets, and flower shows select evenings.

The Garden will be closed March 28, 2025.



ANNUAL IKEBANA EXHIBITION

FEBRUARY 14 - 16 • 8AM - 5PM

EXTENDED HOURS FRIDAY • 5 - 8PM

Presented in partnership with the Naples Chapter of Ikebana International.



NAPLES ORCHID SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW & SALE

FEBRUARY 21 - 23 • 8AM - 5PM

EXTENDED HOURS FRIDAY • 5 - 8PM

Presented in partnership with the Naples Orchid Society.



NAPLES FLOWER SHOW & GARDEN MARKET

MARCH 14 & 15 • 8AM - 5PM

EXTENDED HOURS FRIDAY • 5 - 8PM

Presented in partnership with Naples Garden Club.



Zee Anna Photography for Gulfshore Life

Hats in the Garden

MARCH 28 • 11AM - 3PM



BLOOMS & BREWS

APRIL 19 • 6 - 9PM

Want all the details?



Plan your season at the Garden—
or visit naplesgarden.org



Summer Showers Bring Fall Flowers

By Sammy Meinders, Communications Associate

Fall is a colorful time in Southwest Florida, as many plant species take advantage of the cooler temperatures to show off their magnificent blooms. One of the brightest is Colville's glory (*Colvillea racemosa*).

Colvillea racemosa is native to the seasonally dry forests and savannahs of Madagascar. Often mistaken for a royal poinciana, Colville's glory proves its uniqueness with one-of-a-kind bright orange flowers that grow in large, cone-shaped clusters. The nectar-filled blooms attract an array of wildlife, including butterflies and hummingbirds. (Read more about pollinators and the plants that feed them on page 27.)



WHERE

Irma's Garden, along the Smith Entry Prow



WHEN

See *Colvillea racemosa* in bloom late fall through early winter.

Plus!

Keep an eye out for these fall and winter showstoppers in the Kapnick Brazillian Garden, Scott Florida Garden, and Lea Asian Garden.



Silk Floss Tree
(*Ceiba speciosa*)



**Hong Kong
Orchid Tree**
(*Bauhinia ×
blakeana*)



Crinum Lily
(*Crinum asiaticum*)

What's that smell?

By Sammy Meinders, Communications Associate

When guests stroll through the Garden, it's only fitting that nature sparks curiosity. As a result, Garden staff field many questions (which, of course, are happily answered). One of the most common: "What's that smell?"

Fragrant plants bloom in every corner of the Garden, so naturally, there are many answers to that question. Here is a bit more on the Garden's top three question-inducing smells.

You Asked

We Answered



White Stopper (*Eugenia axillaris*)

The white stopper is a Florida native plant with an earthy odor that will have you wondering if a skunk is nearby. While its aroma may not be sweet, its nectar-filled blooms attract native pollinators including the tantalus sphinx moth, known for its stark white band across its abdomen and ability to hover like a hummingbird.

 Garden location: Scott Florida Garden	 Native to: Southern Florida	 Bloom time: Year-round
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Photo by John Eder

Magnolia rajaniana

The yellow blooms of the towering and rare *Magnolia rajaniana* emit a creamy floral and citrus aroma. With just six reported conservation collections worldwide, the Garden is among the few locations that work to preserve this vulnerable species.

 Garden location: Lea Asian Garden	 Native to: Thailand	 Bloom time: Year-round
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Photo by John Eder

Tahitian Gardenia (*Gardenia taitensis*)

Often used in perfumes and lotions, the sweet, alluring scent of the Tahitian gardenia wafts through the air whenever this evergreen shrub blooms. Follow your nose and you'll be greeted by the white, pinwheel-shaped flowers that are commonly used in leis as a symbol of love and respect.



 Garden location: Grove	 Native to: Southwest Pacific	 Bloom time: Spring/Summer
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Photo by John Eder

What's Happening

Your Garden, Behind the Scenes

See (and taste!) the botany behind your favorite breakfast foods or try your hand at a plant-inspired artistic masterpiece.

Scan to select the Garden workshop you want to try next.

Additional fees apply.



Bring Your Group to the Garden!

Consider group options, ideal for connecting with our tropical surroundings—and one another. Perfect for groups of 15 or more, opt to take a guided staff tour or try a hands-on experience.



Want to know more about the Garden's conservation work?

Learn about the Garden's impact throughout Southwest Florida and beyond. There's a lot to catch up on in the 2024 issue of *Conserve*, from addressing a native seed shortage to using prescribed fire to heal and protect the landscape.

Haven't had a chance to read your mailed copy yet? Scan to read a digital version.



Only at Fogg Café

Your seasonal menu awaits. On your next visit, try something new, such as the chorizo hash skillet or the decadent deep-fried cheesecake.

PLUS! Turn to page 37 to see what two of our Fogg Café team members are cooking up.

You've Got it Made in the Shade

Your go-to Garden resting spaces just got cooler. Sit back a spell and enjoy those fall breezes from vantage points in the Scott Florida Garden, Lea Asian Garden, and Buehler Family Foundation Enabling Garden, complete with re-thatched roofs.



Cultivating New Growth

Pictured here, staff begin move-in operations to one of the new nursery spaces within the Evenstad Horticulture Campus. Thank you for your support of our mission.

Photos by John Eder



As we celebrate the five-year milestone of the Garden for All program, I am deeply inspired by the strides we have made in making Naples Botanical Garden a place where every family feels welcome. This program exemplifies our collective commitment to inclusivity and serves as a reminder of the power of community collaboration in enriching the lives of all our residents."

—*Tiffani Mensch,*
President & CEO,
United Way of Collier and the Keys

29,000+
Garden visits

2,700
Qualifying personnel

The Garden's Community Access Program, which provides free admission to first responders, health care workers, educators, and those employed in essential and tourism industries, has touched thousands of individuals who impact our lives for the better, each and every day.



Community Care

5 Years, 1,600 Visits & Counting

As part of the Garden for All program, nearly **600 families** may experience the beauty and benefits of the Garden's 170 acres. Now in its fifth year, the program, which partners with United Way, Grace Place, Salvation Army, and Catholic Charities, continues to grow in impact.



BOTANISTS *in* BLOOM

How the Garden's Budding Botanists program plants seeds of inspiration in the lives of thousands of Collier County students

By Adrienne Lewis

What did you want to be in elementary school? A teacher? Firefighter? Actor?

Plant scientist probably wasn't on your list. But it might be for fourth graders who attend the Garden's Budding Botanists field trip.

Fourth grade is typically when students first explore botany in depth, and what better place to learn than a botanical garden? For their visit, students become botanists for a day, and the Garden becomes their laboratory. But field trip preparation starts long before a school bus rolls up to the gate.

Students will use plant material for a hands-on science experience, dissecting and analyzing seeds and flowers from our collection. First, Garden educators amass a trove of interesting seeds, representing the diverse plant kingdom, months in advance. Kids use these to learn all about seed dispersal. Some seeds fly, others swim, and a few even explode—perfect for curious botanists-to-be!





Photo by John Eder



Then, mere hours before students arrive, educators collect 60 fresh flowers for an investigation into bloom biology. Dissecting flowers from 15 different plants gives kids insight into the various pollination adaptations plants possess. But it's not all lab coats and microscopes. The other half of their day-long visit is spent outdoors, experiencing native plants and habitats within the Garden's Preserve.

Even after many years, the experience sticks with students; they return and express the impact of this field trip. It opens possibilities and sparks new interests that kids likely did not know they had. One day as a Budding Botanist can create a lifelong appreciation for plants.

Adrienne Lewis is the Garden's Philanthropy Stewardship Coordinator.

FIELD TRIPS — with — IMPACT

40
Average number of students per excursion

~9,000
Budding Botanists since 2011



Every membership purchase supports the Garden's community outreach. Learn more about our work with students and teachers.





Photo by John Eder

Connecting Members

Jackie Coppard

Development Operations Manager

A record in a database is like a journal, says Jackie Coppard, Development Operations Manager. “Every year that you’re with us, that’s another page.” In her role, she’s responsible for tracking how Members’ and donors’ stories intersect with the Garden’s.

And she and her team do so, meticulously and in staggering numbers, managing the Garden’s database. Exactly what does that entail? Processing over 16,000 gifts a year—one for every Member household (and then some)—and tracking 55,000 constituent records and counting. Jackie tackles this with one over-arching idea in mind: **our motto.**

We’re plants and people. We thrive together; you can’t have one without the other. The way we value the people who are connected to the Garden is with meticulous accuracy in the records, to the best of our ability. If we have that respect for data, Members can take advantage of their benefits, and they’re understanding the impact they are having on the organization.

A membership is a contribution to the Garden. We have a responsibility to be meticulous—to appropriately acknowledge the contributions supporters are making toward our mission.

If everything is accurate, it means Members can have access to the Garden.

We want to make sure they are getting the communications for their membership, so they know what’s going on and what they’re supporting. If they have attended certain events, that all goes in their journal, so we know what’s most important to them. Hopefully, they can take the greatest advantage of their benefits when they stay connected to us.

One way we stay connected is through Blackbaud Raiser’s Edge NXT, a platform designed to accommodate multiple mailing addresses per Member household. Most other nonprofits we speak with don’t really have that need, because they are not in a seasonal location. It requires a little extra effort.

Consistency is the biggest challenge. There are a handful of us who enter gifts and update records, and we make sure that everyone is operating things in the same way. All our users have different responsibilities, so they all have different rights in the system. We have standardized practices for our user group that are constantly evolving to accommodate new platform features and any changes to Garden needs. A database is never the same from one day to the next.

Every gift is vital to the Garden's growth.
The Development Operations team diligently processes all gifts \$1 and up.
Do you have a question about your membership or Garden gift? Reach out to us at development@naplesgarden.org.

Propagating Begonias

By Liz Chehayl, Brian Holley Curator of Collections

Begonias are the ultimate pass-along plant. They can reproduce from seeds, cuttings, rhizomes, or sometimes even leaves. Sharing with friends is rewarding, especially if you are growing rare or unusual species or cultivars, or just because you want to inspire others to become “begoniacs.” Sharing is a great way to back up your collection, just as Naples Botanical Garden is reinforcing Fort Worth Botanic Garden’s nationally accredited begonia collection. Every few months, we receive a package with propagation-ready cuttings, rhizomes, and leaves. (Learn more about how we are adding these plants to our cultivated gardens on page 21.)

Begonias, plants that originate in subtropical and tropical climates, are ideal to grow in Southwest Florida. Their only real requirement is good drainage, which I accomplish with a 2-1 ratio of potting soil to perlite. A slow-release fertilizer, like Dynamite or Osmocote, should be added to the mix. As the plant matures and I step it up to a larger pot, the fertilizer can be sprinkled on the top of the soil.

A good rule of thumb is to grow begonias in partial sun. A lanai screen, which usually has about 30% coverage, works well. I grow my potted begonias in a covered area where the amount of water can be controlled. It’s best to water begonias only when the soil is dry to the touch. It is also possible to grow begonias outside in the ground if there is excellent drainage. You can see examples in the Kapnick Brazilian Garden.





To propagate begonias, follow these practices:



Cuttings

You only need two nodes (the slightly swollen area where buds and leaves grow) per stem, but it is better to have more. Make a fresh cut below the lowest node and dip that in rooting hormone. If there are many leaves, or the leaves look disproportionate to the stem, trim them back. Insert the stem vertically in damp potting mix.



Rhizomes

A rhizome is a modified stem that can develop aerial stems and adventitious roots, or roots that sprout from a portion of the plant other than the main root. Simply dip the rhizome in rooting hormone, then plant it horizontally in a trough that allows the rhizome to be partly, but not completely, buried in damp potting mix.



Leaves

Growing new begonias from leaves is uniquely satisfying. Rhizomatous begonias are the best to use with this technique. With an inch or two of petiole (stem) left on the leaf, turn the leaf over, and with a razor blade, make quarter-inch cuts perpendicular to the larger veins. Sprinkle with rooting hormone and nestle the leaf right side up in a container filled with damp potting mix. Make sure the stem is planted in the mix, then use floral pins to ensure the leaf lies flat on the soil. Cover the pot with an unsealed zip-close bag, then wait for the magic to begin. In about six weeks you will see tiny plants arise from the cuts in the veins. Very often the stem produces the largest plant. Use tweezers to carefully transfer the rooted plants into a new container.





Where the Begonias Grow

From stems to shrubs to perpetual bloomers, these distinctive plants have won the heart of the Garden's Curator. Yours might just be next.

By Jennifer Reed

Liz Chehayl remembers meeting a begonia collector at a Garden-hosted class years ago.

At that time, she knew begonias only as the wax varieties commonly planted in garden beds. "I thought, 'How could you be a collector of those?'" Chehayl recalls. "Then I learned all about them."

Now, she's a bona fide "begoniac" and hoping Garden guests will grow to love this wide-ranging plant family, too. Chehayl, the Brian Holley Curator of Collections, is working to expand the Garden's begonia collection through a partnership with Fort Worth Botanic Garden. The Texas garden holds a nationally accredited begonia collection, which it wants to back up by sharing the plants with other botanical institutions.

We currently have about 60 begonia species in our collection; Chehayl hopes to grow that to more than 100.

"At least for me, their primary appeal isn't their flowers. It's their foliage," Chehayl says. "They can look very different from one another, yet they're very distinctive. You know it's a begonia."

The begonia family is wide ranging, with more than 2,000 species and 10,000 cultivars. They range in height from a few inches to 12 feet. The foliage that appeals to Chehayl can be satiny smooth or textured, as if embossed. Veins are a prominent feature for many begonia types. The leaf coloration and patterning seem limitless—green, pink, red, white, purple, silver, and black, appearing as polka dots, stripes, swirls, outlines, or simple monotonies.

Most begonias are tropical, making South Florida an ideal place to showcase them. In fact, we've recently redesigned a portion of the Kapnick Brazilian Garden along the "S" curve to feature begonias,



Begonia masoniana

with other tropical favorites such as bromeliads and peperomias. (Meet this new display's donor on page 43.)

Chehayl is focused on amassing more begonias from Brazil, Asia, and the Caribbean to complement our cultivated gardens. She's also seeking species favored by the late Brazilian landscape architect Roberto Burle Marx, whose work inspired the Brazilian Garden design.

“

"[Begonias] can look very different from one another, yet they're very distinctive. You know it's a begonia."

**—Liz Chehayl,
Brian Holley Curator
of Collections**

In the future, Chehayl hopes to expand the collection to include more begonias in need of protection. The International Union for Conservation of Nature lists more than 90 begonia species on its “Red List” of at-risk plants. Of those, 40 are considered Endangered or Critically Endangered. Botanical gardens play a key role in conserving such disappearing species by sharing, growing, and tending them. Our Garden currently has 5,500 plants on the IUCN Red List, about 1,200 of which are on display.

Begonias carry a bit of mystique, which adds to their allure. The American Begonia Society lists more than 700 begonia as “unidentified.” These are labeled with a number until their species or cultivar is determined or a taxonomist concludes they are a new species.

Such was the case with one of Chehayl's favorites, a vigorous plant known simply as U402. She's had it since the early 2000s. A botany professor in Pennsylvania recently confirmed its identity, declaring it a dark-leaved variant of *Begonia ulmifolia*, a Brazilian species that produces small white flowers.

If you are intrigued by the possibility of growing begonias, see Chehayl's article on page 19. She recommends two nurseries for begonia purchases: Logee's Plants for Home & Garden (logees.com) and Steve's Leaves (stevesleaves.com).

Common Types of Begonia

Rhizomatous

These begonias are known for their colorful, patterned leaves and copious blooms that can cover the entire plant. Subcategories include the popular “Rex cultorum,” hybrids derived from India’s *Begonia rex*, or “king begonia,” and “upright jointed” rhizomatous begonia. These grow upright instead of hugging the ground.

Cane

These easy-to-grow begonias include 81 species, dubbed “cane-like” for their stems. They include the ever-popular “angel wing” varieties, named for their leaf shape. Cane begonias are widely hybridized, with some 2,000 cultivars. In 1926, a hybridizer crossed *Begonia aconitifolia* with *Begonia* ‘Lucerna,’ an heirloom cultivar first created in the 1890s. The cross yielded the first of what are now known as “superba” hybrids.

Shrub

These begonias are called “shrubs” because of the way in which they grow, producing multiple shoots to make a full plant. Shrub begonias can be quite tiny, but they can also reach 12 feet tall and produce 24-inch leaves. Most have white flowers, though pink and red ones are not uncommon.

Semperflorens

If you remember high school Latin, you may have figured out that these begonias are “always blooming.” Semperflorens are the wax begonias commonly used in garden beds and known for their thick, waxy leaves.

Tuberous

Widely hybridized tuberous begonias are best known for their flowers, which appear in a multitude of colors and sizes. The pendula types produce long, trailing stems and are popular as hanging baskets. Southwest Florida’s climate is too hot to grow these outdoors, but you might try them in an air-conditioned space.

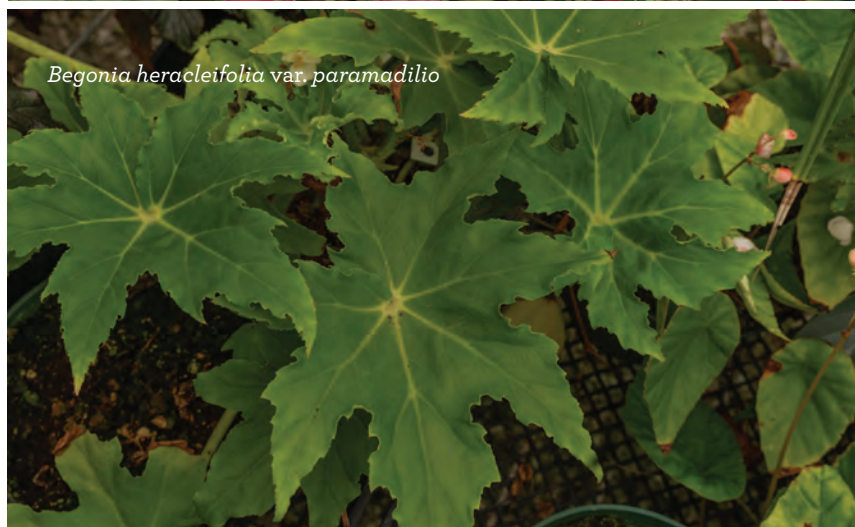
Source: American Begonia Society



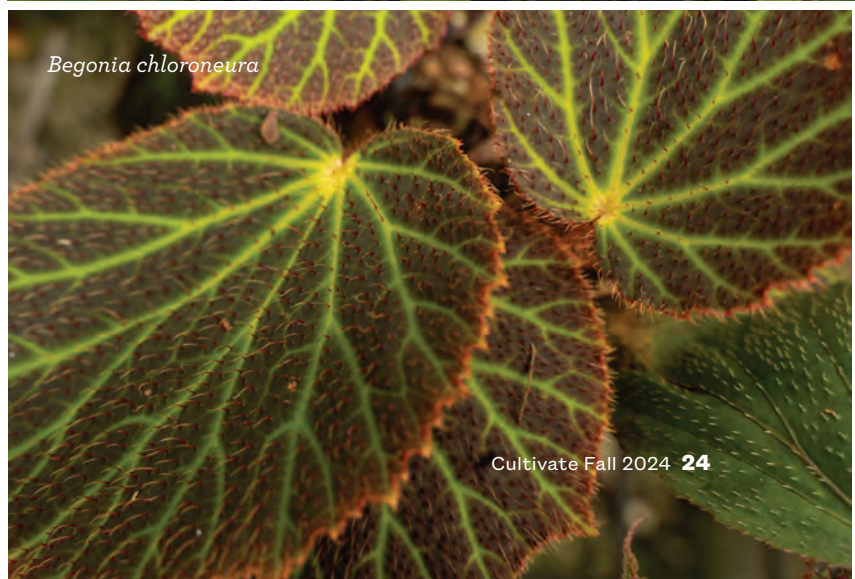
Begonia 'Lynda Dawn'



Begonia petasitifolia



Begonia heracleifolia var. *paramadilio*



Begonia chloroneura





Living Art

We're reframing nature. Experience our “museum of plants” in a whole new way this season.

By Britt Patterson-Weber, Vice President of Education & Interpretation

The moment you enter the Garden, you sense it. Plants and their infinite possibilities take center stage. From your vantage point under the canopy, pops of orange and red radiate from dark green, jungle-like foliage. You may spot the fleeting fire-red leaf of the flame-thrower palm (*Chambeyronia macrocarpa*) or view the vivid orange of the rose of Venezuela (*Brownea macryophylla*). While this cultivated space, Kathryn's Garden, was literally designed after Henri Rousseau's paintings, the entire Garden is maintained with the same intentionality and appreciation for artistic detail.

It's this synergy among the Garden's many elements that creates a greater whole. In *Naples Botanical Garden: A Living Canvas*, our season theme, we invite you to explore the Garden as a dynamic work of art. From container-sized vignettes to entire landscapes, we'll explore how we put plants together for form and function.

Like a painter plots a mural, we, too, have processes that drive our work. What you see in the ground here in the Garden is not accidental; it is a result of careful curation and deliberate thought. With this theme, we'll pull back the curtain on our creative and scientific processes. Because we assemble plants in groups,

instead of individually, you'll gain a deeper sense of what plants comprise the landscapes you enjoy during any given Garden visit. In turn, you'll leave with a heightened awareness of these tropical collections and maybe even be inspired to create cohesive and captivating botanical scenes of your own.

Our winter exhibit, *Frame & Flora*, transforms the Garden into a museum gallery. We'll frame portions of the property—literally—encouraging viewers to see the landscape as botanical compositions, rich in colors, textures, and shapes. For the first time, the Preserve will be part of the outdoor exhibit experience and illustrate the connection between aesthetic curation and ecological stewardship. And that's not all. Expect other exhibitions this season that celebrate the Garden as a work of art in more traditional ways, such as through pastels and paints on canvas or the delicate use of watercolor in a nature journal.

Every time you walk the Garden and explore its paths, you are part of this ever-changing art piece. To learn more about what awaits this season, visit the Garden calendar, page 7, or naplesgarden.org/events.



Nymphaea 'Star of Zanzibar'

Planting for *All* Pollinators

With a few tweaks to your landscape, you can support a spectrum of insects, birds, and bats—and the plants that depend on them

By Jennifer Reed

Search online for “butterfly gardens,” and you will find books, inspirational pictures, kits, how-to guides, nursery advertisements, demonstration landscapes, and endless other content. People sure do love lepidopterans!

We at the Garden, however, argue it’s time to start sharing our affection—and our landscapes. Certainly, butterflies are important pollinators. But so are bees, birds, bats, beetles, moths, flies, and the wind, all of which move pollen from plant to plant, triggering the production of fruit and seeds. Some 80% of the world’s flowering plants—including our fruits, vegetables, beans, and nuts—require pollination.

Pollinators are in peril because of habitat loss, pesticide use, increased temperatures, and dwindling plant diversity. While humans can grow new plants through cuttings of existing ones, that practice produces genetically identical plants. The loss of genetic diversity weakens plants and makes them more susceptible to disease. In short: Pollinators keep our ecosystems and crops healthy.

“We can’t conserve plants on our own in a lab,” says Vice President of Education & Interpretation Britt Patterson-Weber. “We need redundancy and diversity in our systems, just as a human would diversify their financial savings. Pollinators are doing this work for free.”

So, let’s remove our “butterfly blinders” and start thinking about planting for a spectrum of pollinators. With a few tweaks to your landscape, you can support many types of species moving pollen among many types of plants.



Pollinator-friendly yards

Here are several steps you can take to support pollinators.

- 1 Avoid pesticides.** These toxic compounds are among the biggest contributors to pollinator decline.
- 2 Diversify your plants.** See the accompanying chart on page 30 to understand how different flowering plants attract different pollinators. Research plant bloom times and select species that flower at different times of the year.
- 3 Confirm your plant selections are not invasive.** The Florida Natural Areas Inventory (fnai.org) offers an invasive plant directory on its website.
- 4 Don't give up your annuals!** Even as you create a more deliberate landscape, there's nothing wrong with a little eye candy. While annual ornamental plants can't support complex pollinator communities on their own, they can meet the needs of generalist pollinators, those that are attracted to a range of plants.
- 5 Incorporate showy native grasses** into your landscape to add visual interest while supporting wildlife. Grasses don't require an animal pollinator (the wind spreads their genetics), but they do provide nesting material and wildlife habitat, and can feed some pollinators in their larval stage. Lopsided indiagrass (*Sorghastrum secundum*), for example, hosts three species of butterfly.
- 6 Consider pollinators** when designing potted plant arrangements. Even small steps like this make a difference.

Not sure where to start? The Institute for Regional Conservation's (regionalconservation.org) "Natives for Your Neighborhood" database allows South Florida residents to search native plants by ZIP code to identify the trees, shrubs, grasses, groundcovers, vines, and wildflowers best suited for their region.



How pollination works

A flower's anthers, its male component, produce dust-like pollen granules. This pollen must be deposited in the stigma, or female part of a flower, to trigger reproduction. It's true that some plants can self-pollinate, but by and large, plants depend on helpers to spread their genetics.

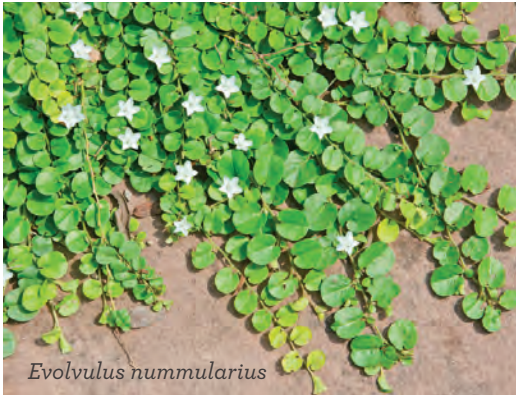
Over the eons, plants and their pollinators have co-evolved, developing physical characteristics that make them more likely to interact.

- Hummingbirds, for example, seek tubular flowers that complement their long beaks.
- Beetles, nature's "recyclers," gravitate to fetid-smelling plants.
- Nocturnal bats favor flowers that bloom or emit fragrance at night.

"Unlike animals, plants can't travel around their habitats to seek the most attractive mate," says Britt Patterson-Weber, Vice President of Education & Interpretation. "Plants need an agent to transfer pollen for them. Isn't it cool that a whole kingdom of non-sentient organisms has gotten animals to work for them?"



Cacao tree flower



Evolvulus nummularius



Oenothera drummondii

The *unusual* suspects

- We wouldn't have chocolate if not for no-see-ums. They may be the bane of our existence, but the teeny-tiny bugs are just the right size to pollinate miniscule cacao tree flowers, which are smaller than a thumbnail.
- We don't usually think of snails as pollinators, but they pollinate roundleaf bindweed (*Evolvulus nummularius*), an annual herb in the morning glory family. We imagine the process is *slow*.
- Some plant species can "hear" their pollinators through sound waves and ramp up nectar production within minutes, a phenomenon called "phytoacoustics." A good example is beach evening primrose (*Oenothera drummondii*), which increased its sugar production by 12 to 20% when exposed to a bee's hum, as demonstrated in a 2019 study by an evolutionary theoretician at Tel Aviv University.
- Conversely, the *Evolvulus evenia*, a rainforest vine native to Cuba, produces a cup-shaped leaf above its flower. Its pollinators, nectar-feeding bats, find the flower by bouncing sound off the leaf's surface.



Did you ever consider how a carnivorous plant can achieve pollination without eating its reproductive helper?

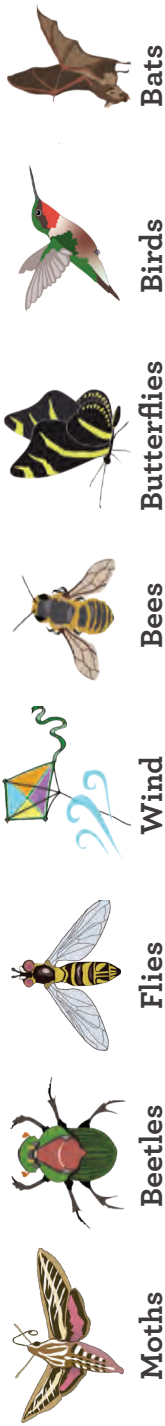
They have a few strategies:

- Their flowers are usually high above the ground and attract flying pollinators, while their traps are situated lower and swallow non-flying prey.
- They reproduce first and eat later by developing flowers to attract pollinators and then traps to lure prey once the flowers fall away.
- They produce pollinator-attracting fragrances in their flowers and scents or color patterns that draw food in their traps.





Save this chart for reference as you select plants for your pollinator-friendly landscape!



Pollinators

	Moths	Beetles	Flies	Wind	Bees	Butterflies	Birds	Bats
Color	Pale and dull red, purple, pink, or white	Dull white or green	Pale to dark brown or purple; flecked/spotted	Dull green, brown, or colorless; petals reduced	Bright white, yellow, blue, or UV	Bright colors, including red and purple	Scarlet, orange, red, or white	Dull white, green, or purple
Odor	Strong and sweet; emitted at night	None or strongly fruity/feetid	Putrid	None	Fresh, mild, pleasant	Faint, but fresh	None	Strong and musty; emitted at night
Pollen	Limited	Ample	Modest	Abundant; small, smooth and not sticky	Limited; often scented and sticky	Limited	Modest	Ample
Nectar	Ample; deeply hidden	Usually present	Usually absent	None	Usually present	Ample; deeply hidden	Ample; deeply hidden	Abundant; somewhat hidden
Nectar guides	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Present	Present	Absent	Absent
Flower shape	Tubular; without a lip	Large, bowl-like	Shallow; funnel-like, or trap-like	Small, with stigmas exerted	Shallow or tubular; landing pad present	Narrow tube with spur; wide landing pad	Large funnel or cup; strong perch support	Bowl-shaped; closed during the day

Plant Traits

Illustrations by Donnamarie Richmond



CHICAGO

UNITED STATES

ATLANTIC OCEAN

Plant Sharing *Across the Atlantic*

How one scientific certification opened up a world of opportunity in the fight to save threatened species

By Jennifer Reed

NAPLES



The first time the Garden tried to ship native Florida orchids to the Chelsea Flower Show in London—one of the world’s premier horticultural events—we failed. It wasn’t our doing. We’d allotted months to obtain the international permits needed to transport endangered plants. Still, our approval arrived too late. We instead sent native bromeliads and other non-regulated plants to complement native orchids from other institutions.

Quietly, however, specialists in our horticulture and conservation departments were working to secure a “Certificate of Scientific Exchange,” or COSE, a designation allowing vetted institutions to send and receive living materials. It took a year and a half of scrutiny and back-and-forth with the

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, which administers it for American institutions, but we received it in September 2023.

With the certificate and other necessary approvals, we shipped 113 native orchids to the 2024 Chelsea Flower Show last spring. Most were from our collection, but we also assumed responsibility for orchids that Chicago Botanic Garden had assembled from its holdings and those of six other organizations. We accessioned those plants into our collection—in effect making them ours—so they’d get to London in time. We had our COSE certificate in hand; Chicago was awaiting its permits.

The exhibition, which featured native orchids from North America, Great Britain, and India, was a hit. Thousands of spectators viewed it, and hundreds stopped to talk to

orchid experts, including Nick Ewy, Director of Collections, and Liz Chehayl, the Brian Holley Curator of Collections.

“This year was dramatically different. Our orchids were vitally important to the whole process,” Chehayl says.

New opportunities for plant sharing

The benefits of COSE don't end with a single exhibition. The designation expands our ability to research, conserve, educate, and share resources globally.

“We can freely exchange now with any institution that has the same designation around the world,” Ewy says. Hundreds of organizations in 76 countries have COSE certification.

The quest for COSE kicked off a few years earlier when a partner from Montgomery Botanical Center in Coral Gables offered us seeds from a rare cycad, explains Sandra Rigotti-Santos, the Curator of Records, who oversaw the COSE application with Conservation Administrative Manager Esther Chiddister. Without COSE, we had to turn him down; the cycad, a *Microcycas calocoma*, is ranked as Critically Endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature, and subjected to strict regulation, even when moving domestically from institution to institution.

Garden staff spent about three months researching the process and submitted our application in August 2022.

“It's a lot of paperwork,” Rigotti-Santos says. But the advantages are many. For one, researchers benefit from the



“

We can freely exchange now with any institution that has the same designation around the world.”

—Nick Ewy,
Director of Collections

The illegal plant and wildlife trade: Why regulation is so rigorous

In July 1975, governments from around the world agreed to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, or CITES, to rein in unsustainable harvesting and poaching. Today, almost 200 countries adhere to it. The Garden's Certificate of Scientific Exchange (COSE) falls under CITES.



What it protects

Almost 40,000 species of animals and plants, both living, and nonliving (fur coats and dried herbs, for example).

How it works

Anyone seeking to transport a species protected by CITES must obtain licenses and permits to import, export, or introduce regulated species. The flora and fauna are afforded different levels of protection, the most rigorous for species threatened with extinction.

Why it's important

Even with CITES, the illegal wildlife trade persists. The black market for plants and animals is valued as high as \$216 billion in U.S. dollars, according to a 2020 study by the Royal Botanic Garden, Kew. CITES helps deter some would-be criminals and can be used to sharpen the punishments for perpetrators.



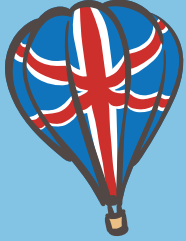
exchange of plants, Rigotti-Santos notes. The native orchids we sent to the Chelsea Flower Show, for example, are now in the permanent collection at the Royal Botanic Garden, Kew, renowned for its plant studies. That garden, in turn, may share some of the orchids with other COSE-certified institutions for further research and visitor displays.

Building shared collections

COSE also helps institutions build “meta-collections,” compilations of designated species or taxonomic groups held at different institutions, Vice President of Conservation Chad Washburn says. These multiple collections provide stronger safeguards and ensure greater genetic diversity than a single garden can do on its own, he explains.

“This helps gardens work less in isolation,” he says.

With our COSE designation, we intend to send seeds and cuttings from our collection of threatened Puerto Rican cacti to other institutions, Washburn says. Puerto Rican botanists asked us to protect the plants in Naples because invasive insects are attacking them in their native habitat. With increasingly intense—and frequent—storms, droughts, floods, freezes and other catastrophes, a single backup isn’t enough. “We’re seeing all of these disasters, and gardens are being hit. We need to do more,” Washburn says.



What does it take to get endangered plants overseas?



Just before Director of Collections Nick Ewy was supposed to leave for the Chelsea Flower Show in London, there was a glitch in the paperwork, prompting an early morning dash to Miami International Airport to see U.S. Department of Agriculture inspectors.

At the last minute, officials in England noticed that some of the declarations needed were missing from the paperwork our inspector issued. That sent us scrambling to reconnect with him to redo the paperwork so that we could obtain a new federal permit. A Certificate of Scientific Exchange alone, you see, does not authorize an institution like ours to send and receive endangered plants. There's a multitude of other steps—and plenty of places where things can go awry.

In order to share these rare plants, the Garden also had to:

- ✓ Acquire import/export approvals.
- ✓ Follow plant quarantine mandates specific to the importing countries.
- ✓ Prove plants are pest- and disease-free by securing a phytosanitary certificate.
- ✓ Obtain government verification of your shipping manifest, proving you are only sending what you say you are sending.

The paperwork glitch was discovered on a Monday, the day before Ewy was scheduled

to leave. Curator of Records Sandra Rigotti-Santos spent the rest of the day on the phone, making arrangements for a revised Florida permit and then a corrected federal one.

Once she got the paperwork in order, Ewy began the 8-hour process of packing delicate orchids for their transatlantic flight. He staked each plant and taped their containers to the box and to each other, locking them in. Then, he filled the spaces between them with polyester stuffing and added packing peanuts as a final cushion.

Complicating the process: Some of the plants from chilly Chicago that we had assumed responsibility for had burst into bloom when they hit Florida's heat. "I was just very careful," says Ewy, of his surgeon-like care.

"But then English law changed!" interjects Liz Chehayl, the Brian Holley Curator of Records, who also attended the show. About a week before the flower show, the British government decreed that exporters had to use a shipping service, such as DHL, rather than commercial airlines to transport live plants. Moreover, the packages could not weigh more than 2 kilograms. Ours weighed 19. Ewy and Chehayl learned about the new regulation as they packed the orchids.

Fortunately, England's Royal Botanic Garden, Kew, had a good relationship with its government's security agency

and persuaded inspectors to meet Ewy at the airport.

Ewy set off for Miami the morning of his overnight flight to see our government regulators for a final review. "I got nervous," he says. "What if something goes wrong again? What if I have to drive back to Naples?"

He didn't. USDA agents signed off, Ewy affixed their approval to the two boxes, winced as less-than-gentle baggage handlers took them away, and settled in for a very long day and night. We are happy to report the orchids arrived in London intact and ready for display.



FROM FOGG CAFÉ

.....
From the Fogg Café Family
to Yours



Members receive 10% off in Fogg Café and the Berger Shop every day!

Just one bite into her family’s time-tested chicken verde flautas transports Veronica Ramirez to another time and place: “It is a constant unaltered memory to this day ... the savory and spicy taste of the salsa verde. The crunchiness of the flautas paired up with the queso and lime crema. Us asking for seconds and bellies filled with the love and passion of Mom’s cooking.”

For Veronica and Jessica Ramirez, sisters and Fogg Café staff members, this dish represents family and tradition. The memories date back to afternoons after elementary school. Their mom would make the salsa and roll the tortillas. Jessica and their brother would crumble the queso fresco. Veronica—the oldest—would cut the lettuce.



Special thanks to Veronica and Jessica Ramirez and the Fogg Café team for contributions to this article.

“Helping out Mom helped us gain an understanding and passion for cooking,” says Veronica, Café Supervisor. They’ve gathered around this meal countless times: on routine weeknights, when hosting friends and family, and even milestone moments—Jessica, on the Café Service Staff, specifically asked for this meal for her high school graduation. “It’s strengthening bonds and creating memories with loved ones that we will cherish and pass down to future generations,” Veronica says.



Stop by Fogg Café **November 2 & 3** to try these flautas during our Día de los Muertos Celebration.

Flautas de pollo con salsa verde

Filling

- 3 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 1/2 onion
- 2 teaspoons salt

Salsa verde

- 1 pound tomatillos, whole, husks removed
- 3 jalapeños, whole*
- 1/4 onion, diced
- 1 cup chicken broth
- 3 tablespoons vegetable oil

Lime crema

- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 lime
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

Additional ingredients

- Queso fresco
- 1 head of lettuce, shredded
- 1 avocado
- Tortillas (3 – 4 per serving)
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- Toothpicks

*Removing seeds reduces spiciness.

Instructions

Filling: Add chicken breast, 1/2 onion, and 2 teaspoons of salt in a pot. Cover halfway with water. Bring to a medium boil and cook for 10 minutes until tender. Once cooled, shred chicken. Reserve 1 cup of resulting chicken broth for salsa.

Salsa verde: Add tomatillos and jalapeños in a pot. Add just enough water to cover the tomatillos. Boil for 10 – 12 minutes until soft. Scoop tomatillos and jalapeños into a blender; add the cup of chicken broth. Heat 3 tablespoons of oil in a skillet on medium heat. Once hot, add the diced onions and sauté. Remove onions and add to blender; keep the remaining oil to fry the salsa. Blend the mixture until puréed. Heat oil in skillet on medium heat; add the purée. Let it simmer on medium heat for 10 – 12 minutes until salsa has turned a dark green. Add salt to taste.

Cooking and assembling: In a skillet, add 1/2 cup oil on medium heat; don’t let it smoke. Fill one side of a soft tortilla with shredded chicken. Roll tight and add toothpicks to retain shape. Once you have rolled your tortillas, you’re ready to pan fry them. Keep 4 – 6 tortillas in skillet at a time; turn over once until golden brown on both sides. Set on a dish lined with paper towels to absorb excess oil.

Lime crema: Scoop 1 cup of sour cream into a bowl. Zest and juice your lime; add to sour cream. Add salt. Whisk it all together.

For the build: Place 4 flautas on your plate; add the salsa verde on top. Garnish with shredded lettuce, sliced avocados, lime crema, and finish with queso fresco—enjoy!

Pro tip:

Use extra salsa verde in other recipes, such as potatoes with nopales (cactus pads), rice, and beans.

BERGER SHOP FINDS



Hummingbird ornament - \$30

Look for eye-catching gold accents on this year-round crowd favorite.

Butterfly wildflower grow kit - \$20

Bring out the blooms, and the butterflies!



What the Bees See book, by Craig P. Burrows - \$40

View the world through the eyes of these amazing insects.

Members save 10% every day!

Bee Inspired with Pollinator-Themed Treasures

By Dominique Caruso | Photos by John Eder

Be a botanical trendsetter this winter season with gifts that celebrate plants and the creatures that pollinate them. These finds are perfect for friends, family, and fellow Garden lovers (yourself included!).

Kalanchoe - 4" container, \$12

Provides a burst of color and attracts a variety of pollinators.



Butterfly shawl - \$40

Add a touch of nature to your wardrobe.



Savannah Bee Company body lotion, Tupelo honey - \$21

Beeswax + honey = luxury at your fingertips.



Support the Garden & Enjoy Member Perks All Year Long

Here's a look at the many Member advantages that await throughout season and beyond

Photo by John Eder

Discounts for Ticketed Events

Receive 50% off and secure the best dates and times for Johnsonville Night Lights in the Garden with our Members-Only Presale, starting October 25.

In the spring, an exclusive Members-Only discount will be offered for tickets to Blooms & Brews on April 19, 2025.

NEW! Monthly Member Coffee Breaks

First Friday of the month • October – May • 9 – 10am
While supplies last

Perk up your morning with complimentary coffee and pastries at Nina's Pavilion.

NEW! Member Appreciation Weeks

October 27 – November 2, 2024 & March 16 – 22, 2025

As a Garden Member, you'll enjoy extra perks and surprises all week long!

Discounts at Fogg Café & the Berger Shop in the Garden

Members receive a 10% discount on regularly priced items year-round.

Garden Circle Insider Experiences

By invitation only • RSVP required

Inspiring and engaging programming offered only to *Waterlily* and *Plumeria* level Members. Details to come!

Members-Only Sunset Saturday

March 22, 2025

Join us for our most popular Members-Only event of the season—an evening of special entertainment, including a beautiful Naples sunset! Bring chairs, blankets, and your own picnic—or purchase dinner from Fogg Café.

Members-Only Preview of *Eternally Curious: A Journey of Creation and Growth*

April 24, 2025 • 5:30 – 8pm

Members are invited to a special evening preview of our spring exhibition by Tanya Trinkhaus Glass. Meet the artist, dine at Fogg Café, and stroll the Garden.

Exhibits, tours,
and more—all
FREE with your
membership!



Scan for a complete list of benefits, or go online to naplesgarden.org/membership

Membership Levels & Benefits

Level Updates

Just as our living collections grow and evolve year to year, so, too, does our approach with the Garden's membership program and Royal Palm Society. As of October 1, 2024, we:

- Changed the names of our *Sustaining* and *Garden Fellows* levels to *Waterlily* and *Plumeria*, respectively.
- Retired our *Contributing* level. All *Contributing* level Members have been upgraded to *Waterlily* level (formerly *Sustaining*).

In our Royal Palm Society, we increased the minimum contribution amount for *Bougainvillea* to \$2,000. Active supporters at this level do not need to take action until their renewal contribution.

Additionally, we retired our *Ginger* level of support, and all active *Ginger* level supporters will be recognized at the *Heliconia* level until their renewal date.

Benefits*	Individual \$95	Family \$160	Family & Friends \$295	Garden Circle <i>Members at this level help sustain the Garden and receive additional privileges.</i>	
				Waterlily <small>Formerly Sustaining</small> \$650 <small>(FMV - \$100)</small>	Plumeria <small>Formerly Garden Fellows</small> \$1,250 <small>(FMV - \$150)</small>
Number of named Members	1	2	2	2	2
Member Appreciation Weeks	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10% discount – Berger Shop & Fogg Café <small>Regularly priced items</small>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Free Garden admission for children and grandchildren under 18		✓	✓	✓	✓
Two additional Garden admission adults per visit			✓	✓	✓
Invitation to exclusive Garden Circle Insider Experiences				✓	✓
Complimentary guest admission passes (annually)				2	2
Invitation to Johnsonville Night Lights in the Garden Patron Party				✓	✓
Invitation to select President's Receptions and VIP Events					✓

**Member benefits subject to change without notice.*

Individual, Family, and Family & Friends membership levels are fully tax deductible. *Waterlily* and *Plumeria* levels include a fair market value (FMV) of benefits. The Garden welcomes contributions from all types of funding sources, including Donor Advised Funds (DAFs), Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs), and securities in addition to personal checks and credit cards. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) rules limit the use of DAF distributions and IRA qualified charitable distributions. We encourage our supporters to consult with their tax advisor regarding questions about these specific contribution types and membership.



Photos by John Eder

Join the Royal Palm Society

As a Royal Palm Society supporter, you help ensure plants and people thrive together.

Your impact enables our living collections to continue to flourish, while providing programming that highlights the importance of plants and nature. Beyond the beauty of the Garden, your gifts support our work in conservation and resilient landscaping solutions near and far. In the Royal Palm Society, you gain access to behind-the-scenes opportunities to view the Garden's work and engage with key mission staff.

We invite you to join us by making your generous gift today.



Learn more about Royal Palm Society membership levels and benefits.



Groundbreaking Giving

By Jennifer Reed

Photos by John Eder

It's one thing to write a check to a nonprofit organization, stick it in an envelope, and know you've done something good for a worthy cause.

It's another to sit down with an organization, discover its needs, direct your dollars to an initiative of your choice, and, literally, stand amid the outcomes of your generosity.

On an afternoon last spring, that is exactly where Christine Williamson found herself—touring a section of the Kapnick Brazilian Garden, which horticulturists had just transformed into an eye-catching new display dominated by begonias. Her gift supported the Garden's growing begonia collection (see page 21) and the display's making.

"The outcome is better than anything I could have imagined," Christine says.

Together with Garden leadership, Christine spearheaded—and made the first contribution to—the new "Collector's Circle." This funding opportunity focuses on enhancing plant collections, the heart of our work, and seeks to make philanthropic giving more accessible and intimate. Collector's Circle donors can choose from four collections to augment (trees, orchids, waterlilies, and ornamental horticulture) and interact with our horticulture

or conservation specialists to understand the objectives of those collections and the impact of the gifts.

"I want to highlight the brilliance of the horticulture staff who take a vision and make it so much more than we, the donor, could have imagined," Christine says, reflecting on the staff-designed display, featuring a juxtaposition between plants and hardscape.

As much as she wants to grow the collections, Christine also wants to cultivate donors. The Collector's Circle giving levels are capped at \$100,000, allowing emerging philanthropists an opportunity to contribute to the Garden in meaningful ways. Philanthropic giving is a journey, Christine explains. Her own started some 30 years ago when she began buying gala tickets, and then tables, and then offering ever-more substantive gifts.

Christine's professional background is in construction and commercial real estate, and she's an officer in her family-run Galliford-Mulard Foundation. She purchased a home in Naples in 2000, discovered our Garden through Greater Naples Leadership in 2005, and later joined the Sustaining Leadership Council, a group of the Garden's most ardent advocates and supporters.

Botanical gardens are among the causes dearest to her. Christine also supports the Norfolk Botanical Garden in her native Virginia.

"The Collector's Circle is exploring opportunities to bring endangered species into the Garden, add beauty, and give something back to the environment," she says, noting that our collections include many plants at risk of extinction.

She hopes future Collector's Circle donors discover, as she has, a deep and meaningful connection to the Garden and a joy in leaving an imprint upon it for generations to come.

"It is important to me that my grandchildren have a place to go. And they know I was there," she says. "That's the legacy for me."

“

"The Collector's Circle is exploring opportunities to bring endangered species into the Garden, add beauty, and give something back to the environment."

**—Christine Williamson,
Collector's Circle donor**



Christine Williamson (second from left), with Brian Galligan, Vice President of Horticulture; Nick Ewy, Director of Collections; and Stephen Jurek, Assistant Director of Landscape Maintenance.

Interested in learning more about this this new giving opportunity with the Garden?

Of the plants in the Collector's Circle, many are among our 6,000 species considered at risk of extinction. Funding these collections provides vital protection for threatened plants. It also allows the Garden to grow thousands of plants to buffer natural disasters, increase coastal resilience, and strengthen Southwest Florida.

Choose from one of four impactful collections:



Orchids



Waterlilies



Ornamental horticulture



Trees

To learn more on how to join this informed group of Garden friends, contact:

Rhea Merrill, Director of Development, at 239.571.3806 or rmerrill@naplesgarden.org.

Naples Botanical Garden and
the Sustaining Leadership Council announce

The 21st Annual

Hats in the Garden

LA DOLCE VITA

Friday, March 28, 2025

Hats in the Garden Chair | Joan Clifford

FEATURING

An afternoon with co-host of “TODAY with Hoda & Jenna” and
#1 *New York Times* Bestselling Author, Jenna Bush Hager

Runway show powered by Saks Fifth Avenue

For sponsorship opportunities or to donate, please contact
Rhea Merrill at rmerrill@naplesgarden.org

Table and Patron ticket sales begin mid-November 2024.
Limited quantities of individual tickets may be available in January 2025.

For more information, please visit naplesgarden.org/hats



Photo by John Eder

Ah, serenity.

The shrubs, ferns, aquatic plants, and grasses form a picture frame around the lakes, inviting visitors to stop and gaze a while.

But these pretty plants also act as sentries, protecting the lakes from nitrogen and phosphorus that enter the water through sources like grass clippings and storm runoff, spurring algae growth. With this year's historic rainfall, we're working to educate the community on how to use plants to promote water quality.



Scan for our plant list and pond management guidelines.



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