

For Immediate Release

2019 International Waterlily Competition Hybrids Now on Display at Naples Botanical Garden

NAPLES, FL – June 11, 2019 – Naples Botanical Garden Members and guests are among some of the first individuals in the world to see novel waterlily hybrids as the Garden hosts the International Waterlily and Water Gardening Society's 2019 New Waterlily Competition.

Whether their blooms abound with unusual color, intense fragrance or vibrant new leaf patterns, the waterlily hybrids featured in the competition are not commercially available. More than 40 individuals and companies worldwide submitted entries in early 2019 — most in the form of rhizomes — and the Garden's Aquatic Horticulture team established the specimens, which are now [on display](#) in viewing tanks in the Garden's South Grove. Unlike other botanical competitions, the waterlilies are grown in a controlled environment so that the judges have an idea of how the plants may perform for other growers or hobbyists. Judging will conclude in October, and guests will even be able to enjoy the spectacular aquatic blooms between competitions.

The competition, now in its 18th year, moves to Naples Botanical Garden from its previous host, Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. It will remain at the Garden through 2022.

For those who want to see more of these floating plants, the Garden curates a growing collection of 85 varieties with 250 individual waterlilies throughout our many cultivated aquatic display gardens, which are most impressive during the summer months.

New Waterlily Competition photos:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/pdw46o9om043i96/AACuzg2jqPJSTaLzqySrFL5Va?dl=0>

For more information on Naples Botanical Garden, please visit naplesgarden.org or contact Jenny Fuentes, Communications Coordinator at 239.315.7289 or jfuentes@naplesgarden.org. For publishing, please direct the public to naplesgarden.org, info@naplesgarden.org or 239.643.7275.

About Naples Botanical Garden

Naples Botanical Garden is a 170-acre world-class garden paradise that features the plants and cultures of the tropics and subtropics between the latitudes of 26 degrees North and 26 degrees South including Brazil, the Caribbean, Southeast Asia and Florida. A hands-on interactive Children's Garden along with 90 acres of beautifully restored natural habitats, walking trails and a Butterfly Garden offer educational entertainment and enjoyment for people of all ages. During summer hours of operation from June 1-September 2, the Garden will be open Tuesday-Sunday, 8 am-4 pm, and closed Monday. Regular admission is \$19.95 for adults, \$9.95 for children (4-14); Members and children 3 and younger get in free.

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