

Naples Botanical GARDEN



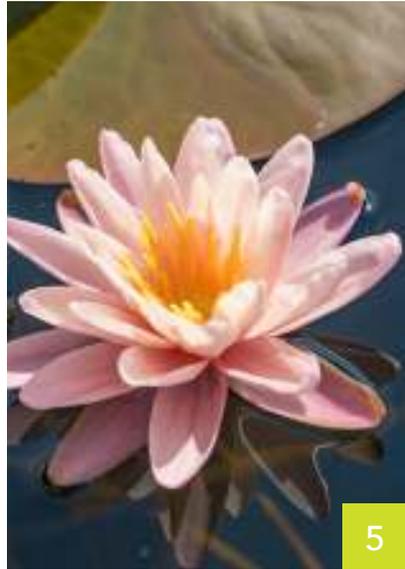
FALL 2019

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OUR MISSION

Conserve & Discover.
Engage & Inspire.

To develop and **conserve** collections and habitats representative of the flora and cultures between the 26th latitudes. To **discover**, research, and share knowledge about these plants and their gifts to us of beauty, tranquility, sustenance, and well-being. And to **engage** and **inspire** everyone to care for the plants around them and become stewards of the environment.

ON THE COVER

Garden Staff Celebrating a Decade in Bloom

Photo: Mary Dominguez, Digital Asset Coordinator, Naples Botanical Garden



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MISSING OUT ON THE GARDEN'S E-COMMUNICATIONS?

Send your name and email address to membership@naplesgarden.org to keep up to date with what's "growing on" in the Garden.



Top-rated TripAdvisor Attraction 



A Decade in Bloom!

We celebrate botanical beauty every day, but this season we have an even bigger reason to cheer: our 10th anniversary, a Decade in Bloom.

I did not witness the Garden's start, but I love its origin story: how plant-loving residents laid out a vision for this place; how the late philanthropist Harvey Kapnick Jr. put up the money to buy the property; how our founding staff and volunteers cleared the land of invasive plants; how the best landscape artists of the subtropics collaborated to create the beautiful spaces you enjoy today. And I love working side by side with a passionate staff eager to write our next chapter. You can read more about our history and vision for the future on page 13.

As part of our yearlong celebration, we'll feature the work of Paul Osborn, a volunteer and avid photographer who has documented the Garden's development and beauty throughout the years. His exhibit, *Inner Beauty: A Photographic Celebration of Naples Botanical Garden*, runs November 15 to January 5. We'll dig into our archives for images that tell our story, which you'll see displayed at the Eleanor and Nicholas Chabraja Visitor Center starting October 1.

Even as we commemorate the past, we're laying the groundwork for the future. Our new Horticulture Campus, under construction now, represents the next phase of the Garden's development. It will offer the space and technology to grow more unique flora for our display gardens and expand our ability to conserve at-risk plants from Southwest Florida, Latin America, and the Caribbean. We're grateful to longtime patrons Grace and Ken Evenstad (see page 31) for offering the lead gift on this project.

We look forward to spending this special year with you, celebrating how far we've come, and looking ahead to an exciting future. 🌸



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. McGinnis', enclosed within a circular flourish.

Donna McGinnis

Join Us for W.O.N.D.E.R. in the Garden!



October: Super Seeds Lea Asian Garden

Have you ever planted a seed and waited patiently to see that first little sprout of green pop up above the soil? Even the smallest of seeds contains all that it needs to develop into a full-grown plant and produce seeds of its own. This October, discover the magic of seeds as we discuss where they come from, where they go, and what they need to grow. Then, plant a seed to care for at home!

Daily at 10:30am

Together we will **w**alk, **o**bserve, **n**avigate, **d**raw, **e**xplore, and **r**ead about a monthly theme throughout the Garden! No prior registration necessary. All W.O.N.D.E.R. programs are included with regular Garden admission; free for Members.

November: Little Green Thumbs Smith Children's Garden

Want to get your hands dirty? Come garden with us! Learn how we take care of our vegetables, herbs, flowers, and more in this program. You'll even get to find out how to grow plants from cuttings; plus, pot up your own little piece of the Garden for home!

December: Tremendous Trees Performance Lawn

Take a break from decorating your holiday tree, and come hang out with the trees at Naples Botanical Garden. This December, count the rings in a tree cookie, read stories, and plant your very own tree-mendous tree to take home.

January: Feathered Friends Scott Florida Garden

Beaks, feathers, and wings, oh my! Discover the world of birds this month. Explore feathers up close, and create your own pair of binoculars to search out birds on the fly. Encourage a bird-friendly habitat in your own backyard by planting some Florida-native fiddlewood seeds. 🌿

Family Planting Day

This Fall, come dig up your favorite holiday side dish: sweet potatoes! Get your hands dirty during our annual Family Planting Day as we harvest our summer sweet potatoes and plant our vegetable garden. Have you ever wondered how to plant a tomato seedling or a tiny carrot seed? Join us in the Vicky C. and David Byron Smith Children's Garden to find out!

9am–5pm, Saturday, November 9
Included with regular Garden admission;
free for Members. 🌿



Sensory-Friendly Saturdays

Join us for a FREE Sensory-Friendly Saturday for families with autism spectrum disorder or other processing needs. Experience the peacefulness and fun of the Garden with disturbances minimized. An air-conditioned take-a-break space will be provided, as well as hands-on activities for the whole family. Free admission applies between 4–6pm only; last admission at 5pm. Registration required; please RSVP to education@naplesgarden.org.

4–6pm, Saturday, October 12, November 16, and January 18. 🌿



Dig Deeper

Now you can dig a little deeper into garden topics every day of the week! Join Garden staff for Dig Deeper, a fun, fast, and interactive learning opportunity geared toward adults. Every week we feature new themes, including some that highlight varying flora—like herbs, carnivorous plants, and seasonal vegetables—and other topics that impart practical information, such as propagating succulents or repotting orchids.

Want to know what we're digging into during your visit? A program schedule with locations can be found on our website, naplesgarden.org/calendar. Join us daily at 11:30am and 1pm now through November; in December, you can Dig Deeper every day except Wednesdays.

Included with regular Garden admission; free for Members. 🌿



Ideas à la Cart

Starting Wednesdays in December, you can join Naples Garden Club for creative and hands-on demonstrations in the Idea Garden within the Scott Florida Garden. Visitors are invited to pop in for 10–15 minutes anytime between 10:30am and 12:30pm to discover topics such as leaf manipulation for floral design, centerpiece creation, air plants, and more.

Included with regular Garden admission; free for Members. 🌿



Competition Waterlilies Thrive in the Garden's Grove



Vote a Waterlily Into Our Collection!

Hybridizers have the option to donate their plants to the Garden once the competition ends.

Which one would you most like to see as a part of our Water Garden?

View all of the waterlilies, vote for your favorite, and learn results at naplesgarden.org/waterlily.



No two competitors are quite the same. Some arch skyward a full foot above the water, reaching for the sun, while others take their time, unfolding petal by petal just above the pool's surface. One exudes a tapestry of lilac from the outside in, all the way to its tissue-paper white petals.

What sets these hybrid plants of the *Nymphaea* genus apart from other aquatic plants of their kind is that they herald the traits intrinsic to tropical and hardy waterlilies, resulting in truly unique botanic creations. All of them, nearly two dozen in number, are a part of the International Waterlily & Water Gardening Society's 2019 New Waterlily Competition.

The waterlilies arrived this spring from across the U.S. and even environs as far-flung as France and Thailand as mere rhizomes ready for planting. Aquatic Areas Manager Danny Cox, along with Aquatic Areas Technician Matt Herrman, nurtured the plants to maturity, eventually transferring them to six freestanding display tanks.

Catch a glimpse of these hybrids in the Grove, nestled between the Lea Asian Garden and Scott Florida Garden. They'll be on display through the Fall, when professional judging occurs, and back again every June through 2022. Results will be shared at naplesgarden.org/waterlily. ♡

Inner Beauty: A Photographic Celebration of Naples Botanical Garden

Friday, November 15 – Sunday, January 5

Inner Beauty: A Photographic Celebration of Naples Botanical Garden will highlight the spectacular flora of the Garden to kick off our 10th Anniversary Season, A Decade in Bloom. The exhibition, featuring the work of award-winning photographer Paul Osborn, will bring you up close and personal to the intricate, exquisite flowering plants and trees in the Garden's collection through macro photography, revealing distinct characteristics and details often unseen by the naked eye.

Paul Osborn began his photography journey in 1994. A self-taught artist, Osborn is skilled in macro photography, creating powerful compositions that capture the stunning beauty of our natural world. Since 2013, Osborn has shared thousands of his images, which have been used in Garden publications, appeals, presentations, maps, websites, and other materials. He is an active member of the Naples Digital Photography Club and resides in Naples, Florida, where he has lived since 1980.

*Included with regular Garden admission;
free for Members. ♡*



Summer Volunteers

Naples Botanical Garden thanks our incredible summer volunteers! You have worked alongside our staff through a very hot and rainy summer to keep our gardens healthy and beautiful for our visitors. Thank you for all you have done to help the Garden grow. We look forward to enjoying a wonderful (and cooler) season with you!

If you are already a volunteer at Naples Botanical Garden, you know that there's no better place to share your talents and time, and with all of the new volunteer opportunities, special events, and, of course, the celebration of our 10th anniversary, this is sure to be our best year yet! There are many opportunities to fit a range of interests and schedules; all you have to do to get started is complete our application online. Whether you want to help guide guests through the wonder and magic of Night Lights, get your hands dirty with our fabulous flora, or assist guests as they navigate the Garden, there's something special waiting just for you! 🌿



326,846

Number of hours volunteers have contributed since the Garden opened in 2009!



To become a volunteer, visit naplesgarden.org/volunteer, or contact Karen Pattison at kpattison@naplesgarden.org.

Conserving Plants in the Caribbean

Something interesting happened following the 2016 Botanical Bridges Conference in Panama. Six Naples Botanical Garden staff members attended the meeting, and the experience confirmed something they had sensed for some time.

“We have more in common with the Bahamas and entire Caribbean than we do with North Carolina, Jacksonville, even,” says Chad Washburn, Vice President of Conservation. “Our flora overlaps, and we face many of the same threats. We came back from that and realized the opportunity for us to be leaders in the Caribbean.”

Partnerships throughout the region have continued to flourish, and this November, the Garden will host colleagues from the U.S., Caribbean, and Central America to collaboratively draft the next decade’s goals for plant conservation. More than a dozen experts in the field of plant conservation will convene at the Garden to draft the 2021–2030 Caribbean region goals for submittal to the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation. At their core, the goals in the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation aim to protect the diversity of plants and survival of plant species.



“It’s building a momentum in the region to conserve plants.”

Chad Washburn
Vice President of Conservation

In 2006, the last time these goals were drafted, Washburn had a place at the table.

It’s not every day that colleagues from the U.S., Dominican Republic, Bahamas, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Haiti, Belize, Costa Rica, Honduras, and Panama have the chance to gather. Plans are in the works to maximize time with roundtable discussions ranging from storm resilience and disaster recovery initiatives to regional training needs and seed banking.

“It’s building a momentum in the region to conserve plants,” says Washburn. ♡

TICKETS NOW ON SALE!

Enjoy Fall, Florida Style



**Thursday, October 17–Thursday, October 31
6–9pm each evening**

Usher in the change in season with Fall Walk. Festive lights illuminating our cultivated collections invite you to delight in autumn in the tropics. As the sun dips below the horizon of Deep Lake in the Scott Florida Garden, enjoy live music, games, and spectacular photo ops. While you're at it, savor specially crafted menu items for purchase from the Garden's own Fogg Café.

FALL WALK ADMISSION

Adults: \$10 Members / \$20 Non-Members
Children (4–14): \$5 Members / \$10 Non-Members
Children (3 and under): Free, ticket required

Purchase tickets online at naplesgarden.org or in person at the Chabraja Visitor Center during regular Garden hours. Call 239.325.1354 for details.

When purchasing your tickets to Fall Walk, select your preferred time of entry. This time only applies to your estimated time of arrival and does not affect the length of your stay at the event. Please arrive at your selected entry time to better facilitate parking. Naples Botanical Garden, including the Café, will be closed from 5–6pm to facilitate setup. 🌿

Media Support Provided By



Special Thanks





Enjoy Daily Tours All Year Long!

Join us for a guided experience in the Garden on any day you choose to visit. Included with admission, these themed 45-minute tours have something for everyone to enjoy!

Whether you are interested in rare and endangered plants, beautiful water features, or our 90 acres of conserved habitat, these engaging tours will open your eyes to the wonders of the Garden. No reservations are necessary, but do arrive early! Daily tours are first come, first served and can accommodate up to 15 people.

In October, daily tours begin at 10am. In November and December, daily tours begin at 10am, 12pm, and 2pm.

Visit naplesgarden.org/tour-options for a full schedule of tour themes. 🌿



Take Your Group on an Adventure!

If you have seen the Garden once, or if you have seen it 100 times, a private group tour is always a fun adventure for a group outing.

Join us for a 90-minute private group tour, and enjoy a refreshing lunch at Fogg Café. Personalized to your group's interests, these tours unveil the hidden secrets of the Garden.

Your group of 10–50 people can choose from three different tour themes: Highlights of the Garden, Conservation and Rare Plants, or Orchids and Epiphytes. Reservations are required for private group tours.

To book your next group adventure, email tours@naplesgarden.org, or visit naplesgarden.org for more information. 🌿

I t's about that time when, for a large part of America, the change of seasons grows palpable. In our neck of the woods, this transition can feel a bit underwhelming. Surrounded by the peak of pumpkin lattes and holiday decor that glorifies the beauty of deciduous trees, what's a Floridian to do? The autumn conundrum is one that Fogg Café's Chef Jack Raben, Midwestern roots and all, has faced many times.

Chef Jack's resolution is simple: "We don't have to exclude ourselves from celebrating the change in season," he says. "So let's celebrate what makes us different." With that, we can evolve the meaning of the harvest season and the recipes we use for our holiday feasts, like this delicious sweet potato gnocchi.

If celebrating the holidays in Southwest Florida means breaking Northern tradition for you, enjoy this gentle reminder, and spread the word: Sweet potatoes are a tropical staple crop. In particular, they thrive in extended, warm growing seasons. In the Spring, our Education program focuses on starting thousands of sweet potato plants for the Garden, and to share with local schools through our outreach program, Collier Greens.

"We use sweet potato plants as our cover crop for the summer to protect our plant beds from the heat," says Education Programs Manager Kaitlyn Dillard. Each plant is started from a slip, which is a cut vine that sprouts from another sweet potato. They grow from what we know as the "eyes" of the sweet potato. Each slip that is planted can produce between three and five potatoes, depending on growing conditions.

Knowing the capabilities of these plants, let's rethink the idea that sweet potatoes are to be used sparingly, and only as side dishes. They can incorporate a huge range of flavor profiles, from sweet to savory, and are packed with essential vitamins and protein.



Sweet Revelation



Chef Jack Raben

Enjoy the flavors of Fogg Café from 9am–5pm daily.
Beginning October 1, Garden Members receive 10% off at Fogg Café.

Over the summer, you may have noticed sweet potato vines spilling over plant beds in the Smith Children's Garden, the Naples Garden Club Idea Garden, the Buehler Enabling Garden, or the Lea Asia Garden. "Their growing period is about four months, though the longer they stay under, the bigger they get!" says Dillard.

The potatoes will need to be cured by storing them in a dark place for about 10 days. Then, try out this recipe for sweet potato gnocchi, and see how you can upgrade your side dish to the main course. Our growing seasons may be different from American tradition, but the spirit of gratefulness is all the same. 🌿

We don't always celebrate the possibilities that sweet potatoes open up for our future: healthy, sustainable food for generations to come. Join us for Family Planting Day, November 9, from 9am–5pm. Bring the kids to help us redefine picky eating as we dig through the soil in the Smith Children's Garden to harvest sweet potatoes. Included with regular Garden admission; free for Members.

Sweet Potato Gnocchi with Roasted Mushrooms, Gouda Cream Sauce, Rosemary, and Sage



Sweet potato gnocchi makes a great side or main dish. This is a basic recipe for gnocchi that substitutes sweet potatoes. Roasted chicken or leftover turkey shredded and mixed in would make a great leftover Thanksgiving meal.

Ingredients

- 1 pound sweet potatoes, washed
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 large egg, beaten
- 1/2 tablespoon salt
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 3 leaves sage, fresh, sliced thin
- 1/4 cup heavy cream
- 1/4 cup gouda, shredded (young melts better)
- 8 ounces mushrooms, roasted until slightly dry
- 2 tablespoons rosemary, leaves only, minced

For the Gnocchi

1. Roast the sweet potatoes with the skin on until fork tender
2. Let cool just until able to handle
3. Peel from the skin, and mash pulp into a mixing bowl (a counter mixer might be easier, if available)
4. Add the flour, salt, and the egg; more flour may be needed for rolling

5. While still warm (should not be sticky, if so, add some flour), shape into a ball, and divide in four
6. Roll on the counter in flour into snakes, (like you did as a child with clay)
7. Use a butter knife to cut rolls into 3/4–1 inch pieces, and make sure they are coated lightly in flour not to stick (at this point they may be frozen, spread out on a pan, or cooked)
8. Cook just like pasta in boiling salted water, and use a spider or strainer to pull the gnocchi that float out of the water into a strainer, toss with oil while hot (to keep from sticking), and lightly salt

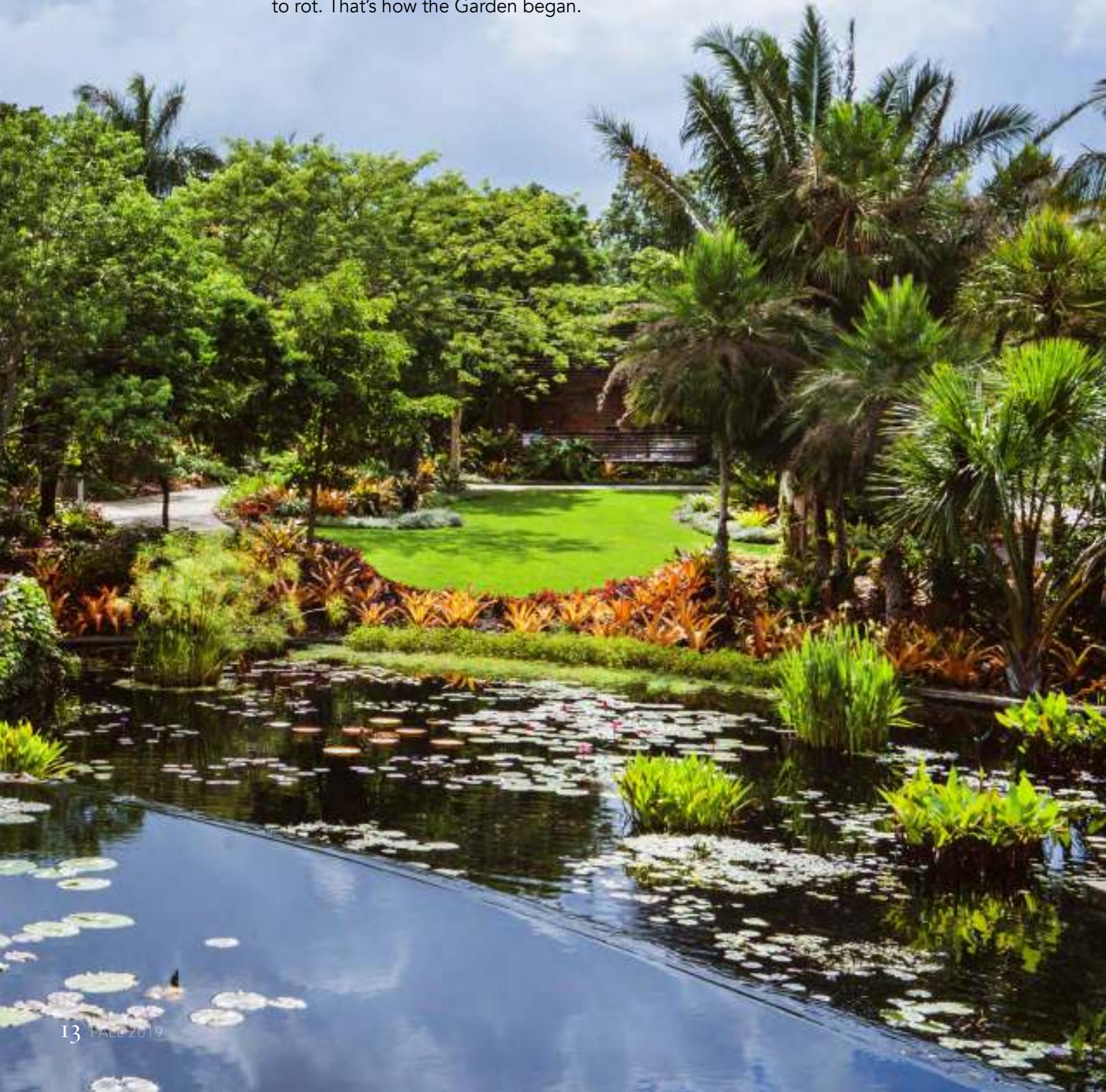
For the Gouda Sauce

1. In a saucepan, melt butter with sage until just browned
2. Add the gnocchi to stop the butter and brown the pasta
3. Once there is color on the gnocchi, add the cream and cheese
4. Once melted, add the mushroom and chicken or turkey, if using

Serve with fresh rosemary over the top, or sauté in to save a step.

Paradise Found

There's a thicket of melaleuca straddling Naples Botanical Garden's southern property line, scraggly trees jutting out from the marsh's edge. Imagine those trees multiplied, so dense their trunks practically touched. They squeezed out native plants, robbed wildlife of habitat, and concealed junk that people had left to rot. That's how the Garden began.



This October, the Garden marks its 10th anniversary of operations and the 25th of its incorporation. In this milestone year, we pause to remember where we've come from and the remarkable pace at which our 170 acres were transformed from wasteland to wonderland—the youngest garden ever to receive the American Public Gardens Association's Award for Garden Excellence.

Join us as we look back, and, more critically, look ahead to a future that promises to bloom even brighter.

At its roots, Naples Botanical Garden is homegrown. In the early 1990s, local plant enthusiasts decided that Naples deserved a botanical garden in the way it did a performing arts center, art museum, zoo, and the other major cultural institutions shaping up around town.

"We had to drive either to Miami or to Selby Gardens," remembers founding board member Connie Alsbrook, now the Garden's volunteer archivist, of the trek Neapolitans made to see botanical gardens elsewhere in Florida.

A network of volunteers came together—including some well-credentialed botanical experts who lived or retired here—and laid out a vision for a subtropical garden. They combed the region for available land and wooed donors for seed money. In 2000, Naples philanthropist Harvey Kapnick Jr. answered their call, offering \$5 million to buy 170 acres off Bayshore Drive. The purchase included a little shopping plaza, which became the administrative center and the Windstar Room, a community venue. In 2003, the first glimpse of the Garden opened—a one-acre tropical oasis, anchored by a mosaic wall and guided by executive director Sondra Quinn, a veteran of the museum world. The little garden offered a preview of what was to come.

In 2005, Quinn handed the reins to Brian Holley, the executive director of the Cleveland Botanical Garden and a known force in the botanical world, charging him with leading the design and construction of the main

site. In an unorthodox approach, Holley assembled some of the best-known landscape architects in the world and asked each to create a themed garden, one that reflected their individual styles but also blended together to create a cohesive whole. His other directive: Reflect the founding board members' chosen theme, Gardens with Latitude. The landscape architects—Ellin Goetz, Raymond Jungles, Herb Schaal, Bob Truskowski, and Made Wijaya—were to feature the flora and culture of places that, like Naples, are found between the 26th latitudes.

Imagine handing a group of renowned painters a blank canvas and asking for the same!

In 2006, the group, dubbed the "Dream Team" by the *Miami Herald*, completed the Garden's blueprint.

It included 80 acres of cultivated gardens and 90 acres set aside as natural areas, showcasing Southwest Florida's native habitats and serving as a model for how to reclaim a landscape from invasive plants like melaleuca and cattails. Additionally, the property would include water-management strategies such as a manmade wetland in the parking area, a replicated swath of the Everglades in the Mary and Stephen Byron Smith River of Grass and other hydrologic strategies to conserve water and limit runoff into nearby Naples Bay.

"Anyone can plant a garden," muses Brian Galligan, Vice President of Horticulture.

"But you can't replicate these beautiful natural areas. To have a trail system here and see all the diversity of life, that's priceless."

The whole project was a leap of faith. Britt Patterson-Weber, Director of Education and Visitor Experience and one of the Garden's longest-tenured staff members, recalls her job interview in 2009. At its end, she stood outside the administrative building, looking out at a barren landscape.

"This was a construction site. There were no plants here. There was nothing," she says. At the time, she also was fielding an offer from the well-established Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden in Coral Gables. The novelty of Naples won. "I couldn't imagine not taking a job here. There was so much possibility."



But first, there was the matter of melaleuca. Chad Washburn, Vice President of Conservation, imposed a firm mandate: no heavy machines.

The equipment would leave ruts and alter ecosystems. The hired crews and inaugural Garden staffers trekked in on foot, wielding chainsaws.

“My first year and a half here was spent running a chainsaw, cutting melaleuca,” Washburn says. Just as bad were the cattails. Nine acres of them, so dense one could practically walk atop them, and nearly impossible to kill. The humans prevailed, eventually.

The rebound was almost immediate, Galligan remembers.

“We cut it all back, sat back, and it filled right in. It was almost like there was a native plant seed bank laying there, dormant.” They saved existing natives, too. Liz Chehayl, who is now the Brian Holley Curator of Collections, was a volunteer then. She remembers joining other residents to pluck *Tillandsia*, air plants, from trees and salvage other indigenous species, such as cordgrass, *Spartina bakeri*. “It was fun,” she says. “There was maybe one road through at the time.” Staff handled the tree transplants, figuring out the process as they went along.

“No one knew how to dig a pond apple. No one knew how to dig a red mangrove or a black mangrove,” Galligan says. “No one digs those things. They just bulldoze them.”

The pace was remarkable. Within months of her July 2009 arrival, Patterson-Weber says the property had transformed from construction zone to bona fide botanical garden. Following the landscape architects’ master plan, crews installed thousands of plants reflecting different regions of the world. That November, the first gardens opened: The Vicky C. and David Byron Smith Children’s Garden, the Kathleen and Scott Kapnick Brazilian Garden, the Kapnick Caribbean Garden, and the Mary and Stephen Byron Smith River of Grass.

Opening day dawned blue and sunny, Patterson-Weber recalls. Her emotions were less clear, a mix of excitement, nervousness and, yes, a twinge of sadness that their Garden was no longer the staff’s alone.

She saved a snippet of purple ribbon from that day.



Sondra Quinn, Brian Holley, and Donna McGinnis

“The first time I came out there and saw people actually sitting in the Café and enjoying a meal and a glass of wine was just a revelation. We finally had turned into a real botanical garden.”

Liz Chehayl
Brian Holley Curator of Collections



The Garden hummed with development for the next several years. In 2010, the Garden opened the Karen and Robert Scott Florida Garden, the Buehler Family Foundation Enabling Garden, the Naples Garden Club Idea Garden, the Marcia and L. Bates Lea Asian Garden, the Water Garden, and Florida Gulf Coast University's Kapnick Education and Research Center. The master plan was completed in 2014 with the opening of the Eleanor and Nicholas Chabraja Visitor Center, Kathryn's Garden, Irma's Garden, the LaGrippe Orchid Garden, Kapnick Hall, the Jane and Chuck Berger Shop in the Garden, and Fogg Café.

"The first time I came out there and saw people actually sitting in the Café and enjoying a meal and a glass of wine was just a revelation," says Chehayl with a quick laugh. "We finally had turned into a real botanical garden."

Not that anyone paused long to celebrate.

"A garden is never completed," Galligan says.

His words proved oh so true. On September 10, 2017, just months after the Garden received that coveted Award for Garden Excellence, Hurricane Irma roared through Collier County. The 140 mile-per-hour winds rendered the Garden unrecognizable. More than 500 trees blew over or were severely damaged with four acres worth of horticultural debris created.



Nature, however, is stunningly resilient, as are the people who take care of it. The Garden reopened three weeks to the day after Irma. The leadership, now under the direction of President and CEO Donna McGinnis, who had assumed her position a mere nine months earlier, decided to use the storm as a catalyst for fast-tracking their long-term plans to become a key player in a global effort to conserve threatened and endangered flora.

"We realized we didn't want to just rebuild," McGinnis says. "We wanted to rebuild with a deeper purpose."

In choosing what to replant, the Garden's horticulture and conservation experts would look for species deemed to be at risk, magnifying the organization's commitment to conservation and biodiversity. They would also install, to the greatest degree possible, plants with "known wild provenance," those that come from the wild and whose origins and genetic data are documented.

Hurricane Irma, and the ensuing Maria, also underscored the need to work with other regional gardens to protect plants. Since the storms, Garden leaders have accelerated efforts to build relationships with peer organizations in Latin America and the Caribbean, regions similar to Naples in climate, soil, and plant life.



Elizabeth Beans, Britt Patterson-Weber, and Andrea Grace during post-Irma cleanup.

"The hurricane made us realize the threats to our shared flora are maybe greater than we thought. We read about these things, but when it hits you, it's a wake-up call."

Chad Washburn
Vice President of Conservation



Chad Washburn, Christian Torres Santana, Carlos Olivencia-Gayá, Donna McGinnis, and Brian Galligan following the signing of a memorandum of understanding with Arboretum Doña Inés in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

The Garden has signed two formal memoranda of understanding related to conservation with gardens in Puerto Rico and Cuba and has developed partnerships with four others in the Bahamas, Haiti, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Dominican Republic. (See page 19 for details on international partnerships.)

“The hurricane made us realize the threats to our shared flora are maybe greater than we thought,” says Washburn. “We read about these things, but when it hits you, it’s a wake-up call.”

“We realized we didn’t want to just rebuild. We wanted to rebuild with a deeper purpose.”

Donna McGinnis
President & CEO

conservation goals. Fundraising is underway for the project, which includes a 22,000-square-foot Greenhouse Complex, Recycling Center, Sun Nursery, and Horticulture Operations Center.

“After seeing the response to Irma from our staff, members, volunteers, donors, and visitors, I saw firsthand the strength of this organization and how much support we have for our mission,” McGinnis says. “I’m excited to see our Garden grow into its full potential and expand our work in Southwest Florida and throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. We have so much to offer.” ♡

Construction has commenced once again, this time for a state-of-the-art Horticulture Campus that will enhance standard growing operations as well as make it possible to pursue these

To contribute to the Garden’s Horticulture Campus, contact Cindy Learned at 239.325.1927 or clearned@naplesgarden.org.



Want to learn more about the Garden’s past?

Check out a special display featuring historical highlights at the Eleanor and Nicholas Chabraja Visitor Center starting in October. Then, be sure to catch *Inner Beauty: A Photographic Celebration of Naples Botanical Garden*, a photography exhibit featuring the work of longtime friend of the Garden Paul Osborn, which runs November 15–January 5.

Growth Pattern

A lot can happen in 10 years.
Here's a glimpse.

There are at least
100,000+

living plants in the Garden (including the natural areas); our curators hold records for some 18,000 of them—an important distinction as we strive to track and record the origins of our plants.



500+

plants in the Garden are listed as "endangered" by the International Union for Conservation of Nature, with the same number listed as endangered Florida plants.



540

volunteers assist with everything from tending the gardens to engaging visitors.



We hit a milestone 10,000 **member households** in February 2018; today, we have

12,000



Our most robust collections include

1,800+
palms

3,000+
bromeliads

5,000+
orchids



230,000+

guests visit the Garden each year.



Philanthropy started the Garden and continues to sustain it. Contributions have reached

\$4.3 million

for the **Horticulture Campus**, a \$13 million project.



We hold the **Nationally Accredited Plumeria Collection**, with some

500+

cultivars and species, and are in the process of redesigning their display to create a more visitor-friendly experience.



250,000

yards of fill dug from Deep Lake and Lake Tupke were used to sculpt the first step in the Garden's design.



40,000+

plant specimens are preserved in the Garden's Herbarium of Southwestern Florida.





Going Global

Naples Botanical Garden has always showcased plants from around the world. These days, we're focused on saving them. Led by Vice President of Conservation Chad Washburn, the Garden is forming relationships with gardens throughout Latin America and the Caribbean to share plant material, conservation strategies, and management tools in order to ensure rare and threatened species survive for generations to come. Why the focus on those regions? Because climatically speaking, subtropical Naples has more in common with them than it does much of the rest of our country.

How We Collaborate



Hurricane Recovery

Just as botanical gardens came to our rescue after Hurricane Irma, we dispatched teams and equipment to Jardin Botanique des Cayes and Arboretum Parque Doña Inés following Hurricane Maria.



Plant Protection

There are two main strategies for plant conservation: We protect plants in their natural habitat, and we collect species from elsewhere to safeguard them from threats they face in their places of origin. As examples, we're working with the Arboretum Parque Doña Inés to grow the island's endemic cacti here, and we're talking to The Retreat in the Bahamas about adding Southwest Florida's at-risk palm species to their significant collection of palms.



Plant Assessment

Using the parameters developed by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), a global authority on environmental protection, scientists from Naples and our partnering gardens assess plants and determine their conservation status—from species of least concern to those that are extinct. We report that data to the IUCN and use it to prioritize the plants we collect.



Supporting Regional Efforts

Our Garden is lending support to regional projects such as the Virgin Islands Rare Plant Initiative and the Caribbean and Central American Botanic Garden Congress, to be held next year in the Dominican Republic.



Why it Matters

Conservation International lists the Caribbean as a biodiversity hot spot—a place teeming with plant life, but also a place where the threats to long-term survival are great. Many plants are endemic, belonging exclusively to their islands. As storms intensify, seas rise, weather patterns change, and invasive insects overwhelm, regional conservation and collaboration has become imperative.

Night Lights
tickets go on
sale October 8
for Members,
October 29 for
Non-Members.

Night Lights



IN THE GARDEN

10 Years Aglow

Presented By



W

hat better way to celebrate winter in the tropics than with an annual lighted extravaganza awash in color? Stroll through the Garden, and marvel at the beauty of our collections illuminated in thousands of lights. Soak up the spirit of the season with family, friends, and loved ones as you sample specialty menu items from the Garden's own Fogg Café and sip on a signature cocktail in celebration of this special time of year. Make a wish on a Wishing Tree or hum along to live music every evening, including performances from Opera Naples Youth Chorus, Naples Ballet, a selection of talented artists from Artis—Naples, and more.

Tickets are available online at naplesgarden.org or in person at the Chabraja Visitor Center during regular Garden hours. Members and Non-Members must purchase Night Lights in the Garden tickets in advance for this popular event. Call 239.325.1354 for details.

NOVEMBER 29–DECEMBER 23, 26–30, 2019
& JANUARY 1–5, 2020
6–9PM EACH EVENING

Celebrating 10 Years of Night Lights in Naples

NOVEMBER 29–DECEMBER 15 TICKET PRICES

Adults: \$12 Members / \$25 Non-Members
Children (4–14): \$6 Members / \$12 Non-Members
Children (3 and under): Free, ticket required

DECEMBER 16–JANUARY 5 TICKET PRICES

Adults: \$15 Members / \$30 Non-Members
Children (4–14): \$7 / \$15 Non-Members
Children (3 and under): Free, ticket required

When purchasing your tickets to Night Lights, please select your preferred time of entry. This time only applies to your estimated time of arrival and does not affect the length of your stay at the event.

Fogg Café will be open during Night Lights in the Garden, serving light fare and beverages. No reservations are accepted for the restaurant. Naples Botanical Garden, including the Café, will be closed from 5–6pm to facilitate setup. Questions? Call 239.643.7275. ♡

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Special Thanks


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Member Events

MEMBERS-ONLY PICNIC

4:30–6:30pm, Sunday, October 13

Pack a picnic, and celebrate the start of the fall season in a tropical paradise.

Enjoy live music from the Sarah Hadeka Trio on the Performance Lawn as you find the perfect spot to spread out and relax. The Kapnick Caribbean Garden will feature lawn games and family-friendly activities for children of all ages. Wander the Garden, and enjoy the quiet breezes of a late Sunday afternoon.

Remember to bring your own picnic along with a blanket or chair(s). Chairs allowed in designated areas only. Alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase. Please, no outside alcohol. Fogg Café will serve a limited menu. Guests beyond your membership admitted at regular admission price.



Register at naplesgarden.org/memberevents by October 4.

MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY

9am–3pm, Saturday, November 2

Our Members impact our mission, and we want to say thank you! Join us for a day to celebrate you—our Members—with special perks during Member Appreciation Day.

FIRST 100 GIVEAWAY – The first 100 members to visit the Membership table will receive a special gift. Limit one per membership.

BRING A FRIEND – Treat a friend to free admission when you show your membership card. One additional guest per membership, please.

DOUBLE THE DISCOUNT – Enjoy an additional 10 percent off in the Jane and Chuck Berger Shop in the Garden for a total of 20% off your purchase that day, 9am–5pm.

FREE CAFÉ TREATS – Complimentary bag of freshly baked cookies at Fogg Café with a \$5 purchase. Limit one bag per membership. While supplies last.

Thank you for all you do for the Garden!

MEMBERS-ONLY BRING-A-FRIEND DAYS

Have you been eagerly waiting to share Naples Botanical Garden with a friend? On Bring-a-Friend Day, seize the opportunity to share the Garden with a non-member for FREE. Simply have your guest join you on your visit, and open their eyes to the tropical gardens and restored Florida landscape. Limit one non-member guest per membership card. **As a reminder, Royal Palm Society members can always bring their guests FREE of charge.**

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

Saturday, January 11, 2020

Tuesday, February 4, 2020

Thursday, April 9, 2020



By Invitation Only

FALL WALK PATRON PARTY

5:30–6:30pm, Thursday, October 17

Members at the *Garden Fellows* level and above will be treated to a festive social with complimentary cocktails and light bites on the first evening of Fall Walk.

*Space is limited, and RSVP is required. Look for your invitation in the mail soon.



NIGHT LIGHTS IN THE GARDEN PATRON PARTIES

Members at the *Sustaining* level and above will be treated to a festive reception with complimentary cocktails and light bites on a select evening of Night Lights in the Garden.

ROYAL PALM SOCIETY MEMBERS:

5:30–6:30pm, Wednesday, December 11

SUSTAINING AND GARDEN FELLOWS MEMBERS:

5:30–6:30pm, Thursday, December 12

*Space is limited, and RSVP is required. Look for your invitation in the mail soon. ♡

For information on upgrading your membership to enjoy these exclusive invitation-only events, contact Brian Russo at 239.315.7293 or brusso@naplesgarden.org.

Music

IN THE GARDEN

Royal Palm Society Sip & Social at Music in the Garden

Royal Palm Society Members are invited to drop in for refreshing complimentary beverages during Music in the Garden. Find more information on the exclusive benefits of Royal Palm Society membership on page 28.

Welcome the return of Fall with leisurely afternoons spent lounging on our Performance Lawn, as Music in the Garden moves back outdoors. There's something for everyone with this family-friendly entertainment, offered from 12–2pm every 1st and 3rd Sunday. Take in the sounds of jazz, indie folk, bluegrass, and more from the Water Garden stage. Food and beverages will be available at Fogg Café for purchase.

Included with regular Garden admission; free for Members. Bring your own chair! 🪑

Performers

The Woodwork | October 6
The John Patti Project | October 20
Reckless Saints | November 3
Bugtussle Ramblers | November 17
Patchouli and Terra Guitarra | December 1
Mirage | December 15
Kelly & Mason Duo | January 5
The Woodwork | January 19

Presented By



Special Thanks





GREETING CARDS
For a variety of occasions,
featuring local artists.
Price range: \$3.99–\$10.99



BANANA LEAF PLATE
For home decor, or serving in style
at the next holiday gathering.
Designed by Michael Aram.
Price: \$295.99



JEWELRY SET
Matching earring and necklace set,
handmade in
Naples, Florida.
Price: \$120.99

**These Gifts
Give Thanks**

Fall is here, and with it, a season to celebrate. Embrace the months ahead with a tapestry of keepsakes from the Jane and Chuck Berger Shop in the Garden. From indulgent, botanical-infused soaps and autumn-inspired artisanal jewelry to a bountiful selection of houseplants—and outdoor plants—that thrive in Florida year-round, there's something to express your gratitude for everyone on your shopping list (especially when that person is you!). 🍂

Shop Hours: 9am–5pm daily
Members always receive 10% off.

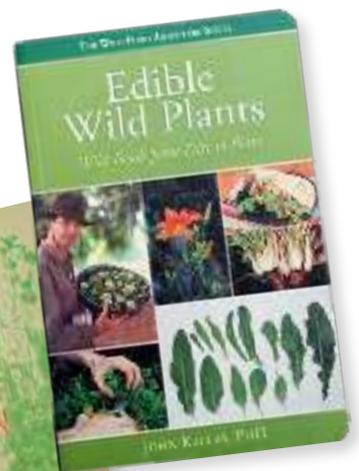


ENGRAVED MEASURING SPOON SET
Adorable cookware
made for nature lovers!
Price: \$24.99



OWL TOWEL
A twist on seasonal decor,
perfect inspiration for
tropical holiday cooking.
Price: \$12.99

PLANTS
This is perfect for the person
who already has everything!
Price range: \$8–\$80



GARDEN-BASED COOKBOOKS
Garden-to-table
inspiration for days!
Price range: \$10.99–\$39.99

Discover the Plants on the Red List

As you journey through the Garden, we invite you to explore some of the most fragile flora in our collections. If you take a close look next to the plants, you'll notice some have red tags.

These indicate inclusion on the International Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List. This initiative tracks plants and animals in danger of extinction and helps educate and persuade governments to enact laws to protect these threatened species.

More than 500 plants in our collections are red listed. Their loss would negatively impact the biodiversity of ecosystems ranging from mangroves to wetlands. When you decide to become a Naples Botanical Garden Royal Palm Society Member, you provide support to ensure that partnerships aimed at saving our region's at-risk flora can flourish.

For more on our conservation partnerships in the Caribbean, see page 19. 🌿

Look for these Red List plants the next time you're in the Garden:



Chloroleucon tortum
Kapnick Brazilian Garden
This small tree is actually a legume, like peanuts and peas.



Consouea corallicola
Kapnick Caribbean Garden
This cactus only occurs naturally in the Florida Keys.

PERENNIAL
LEGACY SOCIETY



Seeding the Garden's Future

Join the Perennial
Legacy Society

The Garden serves the needs of our community through education, conservation, and wellness. You can ensure this impact will touch people's lives for generations.

Please Consider a Gift to the Garden in Your Will or Estate

You can make a bright future for the Garden, without impacting current finances, by including the Garden as a beneficiary in your will, trust, retirement account, IRA, or other estate plans.

Share the Good News

Already included the Garden? Please let us know to invite you to Society events, which range from exclusive behind-the-scenes lectures to enjoyable cocktails. 🌿

To inform us of your future gift intention, or for a free "how to" legacy brochure, contact Cindy Learned at 239.325.1927 or clearned@naplesgarden.org.



ROYAL PALM SOCIETY

Naples Botanical Garden

ANNUAL BENEFITS:

- Free general admission for you and all accompanying guests
- Four one-time-use guest admission passes
- Complimentary invitation to Naples Flower Show Preview Party, Night Lights Patron Party, and more
- Invitation to Hats in the Garden and other exclusive Garden events
- Royal Palm Society membership card(s)
- Recognition in Annual Donor Listing
- Advanced registration opportunities
- Complimentary use of accessibility scooter
- 10% discount in the Berger Shop in the Garden and access to the Loyalty Program

Join the Royal Palm Society

Demonstrate Your Leadership Support

As a Royal Palm Society member, you provide the resources necessary to advance our most important projects to their fullest potential. These projects include new partnerships in the Caribbean and Latin America aimed at saving plants and addressing threats to subtropical flora posed by a changing climate. Locally, we have begun educating local governments, HOAs, and citizens on their role and opportunity to positively impact water quality and wildlife habitat.

All Royal Palm Society supporters enjoy the unique combination of delivering vital philanthropic funding and experiencing exclusive benefits. From complimentary general admission for you and all accompanying guests to private receptions illustrating your impact on our projects, you will be among a group of dedicated patrons helping the Garden fulfill its mission to become a world-class botanical garden and global leader in plant conservation. ♡

ROYAL PALM SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:

Bougainvillea: \$1,500–\$2,999

- Basic Royal Palm Society benefits for two adults

Ginger: \$3,000–\$4,999

- Bougainvillea membership benefits, *plus*
- Prearranged private Naples Botanical Garden tour for six
- Two additional one-time-use guest admission passes (6 total)

Heliconia: \$5,000–\$9,999

- Ginger membership benefits, *plus*
- A *Family* level membership to give as a gift (must be a new Member)
- Two additional one-time-use guest admission passes (8 total)

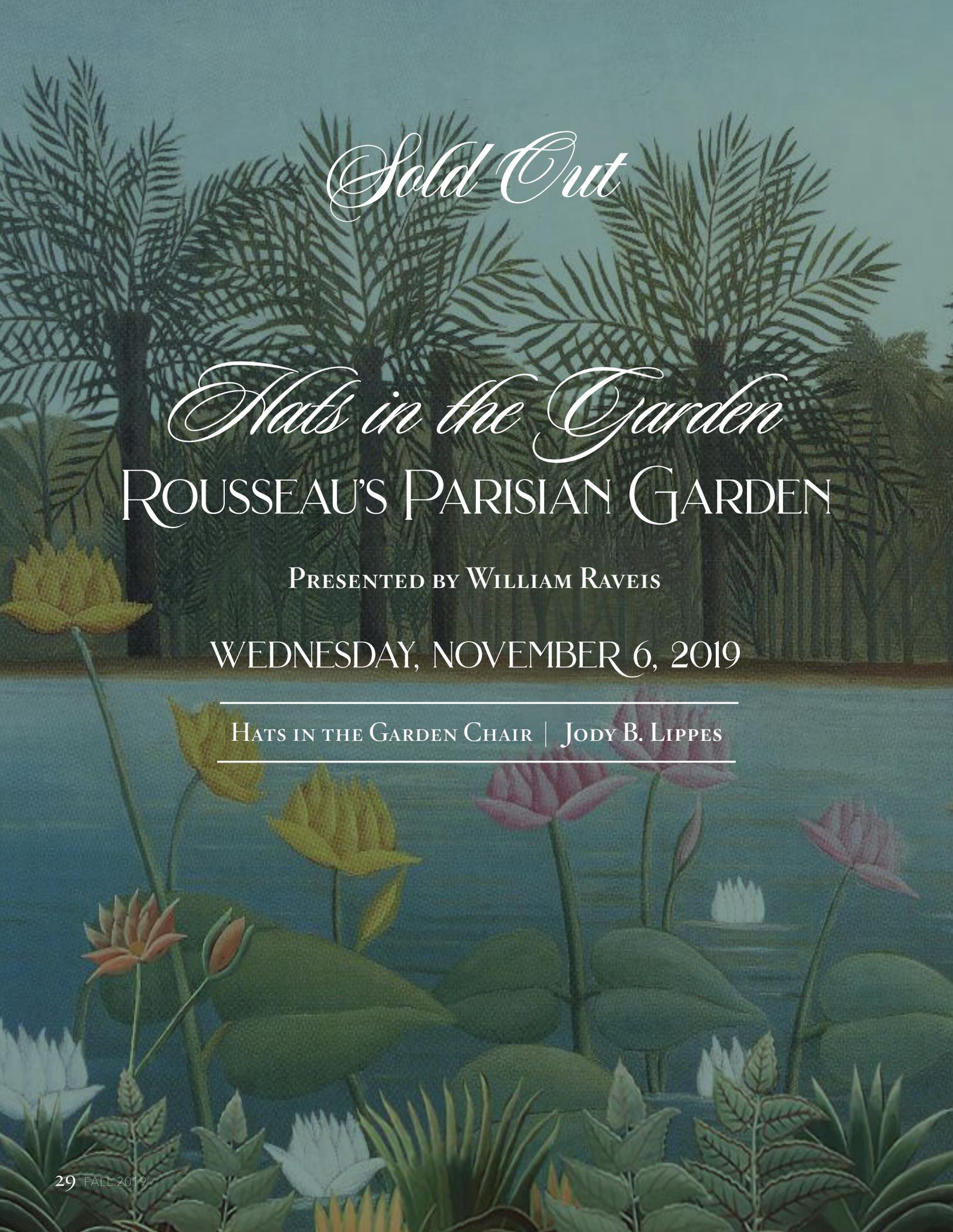
Bromeliad: \$10,000–\$14,999

- Heliconia membership benefits, *plus*
- Invitation to lunch with the President & CEO at Fogg Café
- Two additional one-time-use guest admission passes (10 total)

Orchid: \$15,000+

Our highest membership level, Orchid level members are closely connected to the Garden through philanthropic leadership. Your commitment to the Garden at this level is making a difference to ensure the future of the Garden. Experience all of the above benefits, plus a heightened sense of belonging to Naples Botanical Garden. We are so grateful for your support.

For questions about the Royal Palm Society or to join, please contact Brian Russo at 239.315.7293 or brusso@naplesgarden.org. Contributions are 100% tax-deductible.



Sold Out

Hats in the Garden
ROUSSEAU'S PARISIAN GARDEN

PRESENTED BY WILLIAM RAVEIS

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2019

HATS IN THE GARDEN CHAIR | JODY B. LIPPES

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Naples Botanical
GARDEN

Elevate Your Year-End Philanthropy



By Lisa Merritt and Carlos Batlle
J.P. Morgan Private Bank, Naples

Charitable giving is powerful—it allows you to make a direct impact and affect positive change with the organizations you support, and the level of giving across the country is ever more significant, representing 2.1% of U.S. GDP. We see year after year that our clients continue to be more purposeful with their wealth through their philanthropy. Giving season provides an opportunity to optimize philanthropic gifting and align gifting strategies to long-term wealth goals.

What are your opportunities?

The rules for charitable giving can be complicated. But, if handled well, they may help significantly impact your tax efficiency. Here are examples of options that may be available.

Consider “Bunching”

Taxpayers may want to try to benefit from one of the few deductions left intact following the 2017 tax law update: charitable giving. With no transfer taxes on charitable gifts, donors may enjoy an unlimited transfer tax charitable deduction for gifts made during their lifetimes when those gifts are made to qualified charities.

The increase in the standard deduction has caused taxpayers to be more thoughtful and strategic when making charitable gifts. By restructuring the cadence with which you gift to charity, you can preserve your ability to itemize and thereby maximize the benefit of the charitable deduction. Cluster or “bunch” gifts this year that you had intended to gift to charity over the next several years, and take the deduction now.

Appreciated Assets

Gifting low-basis, highly appreciated long-term capital asset—such as marketable securities or company stock—to qualified charities and non-profits such as Naples Botanical Garden is also a great strategy as it provides more “bang for the buck.” Taxpayers can use the deduction to reduce their taxable incomes and avoid having to recognize as income the asset’s unrealized appreciation. The recipient charity can also sell the asset without paying capital gains tax.

IRA Charitable “Rollover”

“Rollover” contributions to charity are increasingly popular, and for good reason, as they allow individuals to fulfill their philanthropic intent, and in doing so, escape their income tax obligation on the amount they are required by law to distribute from their IRA. IRA owners who are at least 70½ must start taking Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) from their IRAs (unless it is a Roth), or face penalties. Individuals 70½ or older who do not need or want the income can avoid having the RMD amount added to their taxable income for the year by opting to have up to \$100,000 of their annual RMD made directly to a qualified charity of their choice. They would not receive a charitable deduction for the amount.

Remember to keep year-end deadlines in mind as you make your gifts, particularly with respect to rollover contributions, as it can take time to implement those transfers.

J.P. Morgan’s insights are drawn from our nearly two centuries of advising the world’s philanthropists, the deep experience of our advisors in The Philanthropy Centre at J.P. Morgan, and our interactions with today’s prominent and innovative philanthropists.

Wealth Advisor Carlos Batlle and Senior Banker Lisa Merritt serve clients out of J.P. Morgan Private Bank in Naples, Florida, where they and a team of local professionals provide wealth management advice, strategies, and services to successful individuals, family offices, foundations, and endowments throughout the region.

This is for information purposes only; JPMorgan Chase & Co. and its subsidiaries do not render tax advice. For tax advice specific to your situation, please consult your tax advisor. ♡

To make a charitable gift, contact Cindy Learned at 239.325.1927 or clearned@naplesgarden.org.



Ken and Grace Evenstad

“The botanical garden that we have is so much more than a garden that you go to and enjoy the beauty of.”

Grace Evenstad

Like her fellow Neapolitans, Grace Evenstad, a member of the Naples Botanical Garden Board of Directors, braced for the worst as Hurricane Irma roared toward the coast.

What a relief to return to her winter home and find her beloved Garden intact and in bloom. Grace has supported the Garden for most of its history, but of all the milestones she’s been a part of, the response to Irma is what wowed her the most.

“I was so impressed after Irma to see the way the team came together,” says Grace, also a member of the Sustaining Leadership Council. “Donna McGinnis had only been there for a few months, and she was such a leader after that disaster. The Garden came through in such wonderful shape. I could see a change in the team and how close they were after having gone through that disaster.”

After the initial recovery, the staff regrouped and laid out plans for the Garden’s future. At its core, they decided, would be the development of a new, \$13 million Horticulture Campus. Grace and her husband, Ken, embraced the vision and pledged a significant gift toward its construction.

“The botanical garden that we have is so much more than a garden that you go to and enjoy the beauty of,” Grace says. She cites the Garden’s myriad endeavors, including conservation, education, and work with other gardens, particularly those in the Caribbean.

The new campus will foster all of that, giving Garden horticulturalists state-of-the-art facilities to enhance display gardens, grow collections, and support research and conservation efforts. Moreover, the buildings are designed to accommodate visitors, offering new opportunities to educate and engage the public.

“I like being involved with businesses that are growing. It’s exciting to me,” Grace says.

This comes as little surprise—in addition to running a Minnesota-based pharmaceutical firm, she and her husband are owners of Domaine Serene, an Oregon vineyard, and have propelled their products to the top echelon of American wines.

Grace’s love of plants runs deep. Her mother and grandmother were avid gardeners, and her homes—in Minnesota, Oregon, and Naples—abound with plantings. That’s what drew her to the Garden in the first place.

“I love the diversity of it, the different gardens,” she says. “I think it’s very interesting to see plants from around the world in the same growing area, and I really love the people who are involved as well.”



SAVE THE DATE

April Foolin'

IN THE GARDEN PRESENTS

A Caribbean Soirée

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2020

*Join us at Naples Botanical Garden for an evening soirée
as we celebrate the Garden and all its Caribbean wonders.*

*This evening will enchant and mesmerize every partygoer.
Enjoy trickery, cocktails, and hors d'oeuvres in the
Kapnick Caribbean Garden. A sumptuous dinner follows,
surrounded by mystery and entertainment on the
Sustaining Leadership Council Event Plaza.*

Chair

Christine Williamson

Honorary Chairs

Jane Purdy Berger, Leslie and Joe Fogg,
Kathleen and Scott Kapnick,
Karen and Bob Scott, Vicky and David Smith

*Call the April Foolin' in the Garden Line
at 239.643.7275 for more information.*

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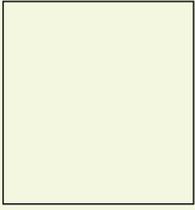


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**With a Gift Membership to
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This one-size-fits-all solution is a meaningful gift for friends, family members, and loved ones. They'll enjoy an entire year of benefits, including unlimited general admission, stunning exhibits, fun events, discounts, and more!

Visit naplesgarden.org or the Chabraja Visitor Center for information on levels and pricing and to purchase your gift membership.



Naples Botanical
GARDEN

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