



For Immediate Release

Leadership News: Kathy Connelly Now Vice President and Chief of Staff at Naples Botanical Garden

NAPLES, FL – October 23, 2019 – Kathy Connelly is now vice president and chief of staff at Naples Botanical Garden, where she is responsible for managing business operations, including IT, finance, human resources and professional development.

Connelly joined the Garden staff in June 2017 as director of human resources.

As a natural collaborator, she has helped for-profit and nonprofit organizations work together effectively to design strategy, develop leaders and increase institutional capacity. At the Garden specifically, Connelly has helped to grow the team to more than 100 employees, created leadership development opportunities and implemented enhanced benefits packages.

“In the spirit of the Garden, I have focused on connecting our people as much as they are connected to the plants,” Connelly said. “It is about enjoying the environment that you work in, and it is about conserving, educating, engaging and inspiring. I am inspired and educated every single day, which truly engages me.”

Prior to her role with the Garden, Connelly’s experience in human resources centered on the banking arena, including 11 years as senior vice president and human resources business partner for Fifth Third Bank South Florida.

For more information on Naples Botanical Garden, please visit naplesgarden.org/media, or contact info@naplesgarden.org or 239.643.7275.

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About Naples Botanical Garden

Naples Botanical Garden is a 170-acre, world-class garden paradise that features plants from around the world. The Garden provides arts, culture, youth and adult education, conservation, wellness, and volunteer programs that contribute to the quality of life in Southwest Florida. The Garden’s living collections are always growing and evolving, leaving our audiences with a deeper engagement with our curated gardens and Preserve, broadened with every visit. Regular hours of operation are 8 am–5 pm

every day, with the Berger Shop in the Garden and Fogg Café opening at 9 am. Regular admission is \$19.95 for adults, \$9.95 for children (4–14); Members and children 3 and younger get in free.