

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## FARMERS' MARKET AT FRANKLIN PARK CONSERVATORY BEGINS JUNE 7

Columbus, Ohio – A colorful array of fresh fruits, vegetables, herbs and other produce from local farmers will be available for purchase at the Conservatory's Farmers' Market beginning next week. The market will be held from 3:30 to 6:30pm every Wednesday from June 7 to September 6, 2017.

In addition to plants and produce, the market features baked goods, honey, oils and vinegars, eggs, cheeses, mushrooms, salsas, syrups, pies, body care products, homemade accessories and other local goods. Shoppers can also enjoy free cooking and wellness demonstrations, live music, access to food trucks and kid-friendly crafts.

"The Farmers' Market showcases a lesser known aspect of the Conservatory: the edible gardens," said Jenny Pope, Director of Community Outreach and Education. "The market is exciting for us because they give us a chance to promote economic development of local farmers while providing access to fresh produce, both of which support the Conservatory's mission."

The Conservatory's produce is harvested from a garden maintained by Teen Corps, a summer program designed to teach life and work skills to low-income teens through hands-on experiences in urban farming.

The Conservatory's booth is joined by dozens of other local vendors, including farms, bakeries and craft artisans. The vendors and their produce change throughout the season, so every Farmers' Market is a new experience. For a complete list of vendors, <u>click here</u>.

Vendors accept Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) dollars with the Ohio Direction Card, and offer Veggie SNAPS (Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program), an incentive program that matches dollar for dollar (up to \$10) for fresh produce.

The Farmers' Market is open to the public and free to attend.

More information is available on the Conservatory's <u>website</u> and the <u>Facebook event page</u>, as well as <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Twitter</u>.

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Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens offers botanical collections, art and nature-based exhibitions, plant shows, and educational programs for all ages. Situated in an 88-acre urban park, the Conservatory features the historic 1895 John F. Wolfe Palm House and 83,000 square feet of glasshouses, classrooms, and meeting and event spaces. The Conservatory owns a signature collection of glass artwork by Dale Chihuly. Light Raiment II, a permanent installation by internationally recognized light artist James Turrell, illuminates the John F. Wolfe Palm House every evening from dusk until dawn.