



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 11, 2018

CONTACT:

Jennifer Wilson
Director of Marketing and Visitor Experience
Office: 614-715-8150
Cell: 740-398-8371
jwilson@fpconservatory.org

**THE CONSERVATORY WELCOMED OVER 550 GUESTS TO 18th ANNUAL
HAT DAY FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON**

Columbus, OH—On May 4, 2018, Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens held the 18th annual *Hat Day* fundraising event to benefit its pre-K and K-12 education and outreach programs. Guests sporting stunning hats of every size, color and shape mingled and lunched under a grand marquee just west of the Conservatory's historic John F. Wolfe Palm House.

Hat Day, also known as *Les Chapeaux dans le Jardin*, is one of Columbus' premier social traditions and the Conservatory's signature spring fundraising event. The luncheon features a cocktail hour on the Wolfe Terrace, cuisine by Cameron Mitchell Catering, and a Spring Style Show celebrating the marriage of fashion and flora.

The annual event was chaired by Nancy Cardenas. Yolanda Harris and Pete Scalia, WBNS 10TV, served as emcees for the afternoon.

Proceeds from this year's event exceeded \$285,000 to benefit the Conservatory's pre-K through K-12 education and outreach programs. *Hat Day* has raised more than \$3.8M since it began in 2001.

This year, guests enjoyed a Spring Style Show featuring local boutiques—Ladybird, Rowe, THREAD and LEÁL—along with floral fashion designs by Franklin Park Conservatory, Cassandra Darling of Zen Genius, Brian Coovert of Brian Coovert Floral Design and Bart Krogman of Flourish Bespoke.

Each year the Ann Isaly Wolfe Award, given in honor of its first recipient, recognizes individuals or organizations that have provided longtime leadership, service or financial support to the Conservatory. This year, the 15th annual Ann Isaly Wolfe Award was presented to Karen Fiorile.

Past Ann Isaly Wolfe Award winners include:

2017 Barbara Brandt
2016 Alexis Jacobs
2015 I. Lorraine Thomas
2014 Beth Fisher
2013 Beth Henry
2012 Liz Fox
2011 Paige Crane
2010 Barbara Trueman
2009 Beth and Doug Morgan
2008 Pamela Farber Thomas



2007 Mo Meuse
2006 William H. Davis, Dorothy M. Davis and William C. Davis Foundation,
and Bill and Jackie Wells
Paul B. Redman
2005 Cherie Lucks
2004 Ann Isaly Wolfe

Hat Day 2018 Sponsors include:

Presenting Sponsor: Davis Foundation

Cocktail Party Sponsor: Nationwide

Supporting Sponsor: I. Lorraine Thomas

Media Sponsor: WBNS 10TV

Valet Sponsor: Lindsay Honda

Premier In-Kind Sponsor: Flourish Bespoke

Platinum Sponsors: Nancy & John Cardenas; Huntington; L Brands Foundation; Ohio Health

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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.