



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ANNUAL ORCHIDS DISPLAY REACHES NEW HEIGHTS
AT FRANKLIN PARK CONSERVATORY**

Columbus, OH—The annual *Orchids* exhibition is a winter tradition at Franklin Park Conservatory, providing central Ohio visitors respite from frigid temperatures and grey skies. This year, *Orchids* goes above and beyond as these unique flowers take to hanging baskets and suspended sculptural displays in the Dorothy M. Davis Showhouse, on view now through March 3, 2019.

“The catalyst for the whole exhibit” says Horticulture Exhibitions Designer Gareth Martin, “is that we wanted to create something visitors have never seen here before.” Visitors experience five unique artistic interpretations of ‘suspended orchids’ as they tour the Showhouse. Hanging installations made from fabric, tubing and rope cascade around mossy baskets bursting with orchids.

With nearly 2,160 orchids on display, representing 45 different hybrids and species, visitors witness the rich diversity of the orchid family. For example, the *Phalaenopsis schilleriana* species orchid is on display alongside the well-known hybrid phalaenopsis to illustrate generations of adaptations—experienced in native habitats as well as human-facilitated hybridization efforts.

In the Cardinal Health Gallery: *Waning Light*

In the Cardinal Health Gallery, local artist Dana Lynn Harper strings together thousands of laminated dichroic film discs and suspends them from the ceiling, creating a cloud of iridescent petals floating and bending through the space. Harper manipulates material, size, color and light to build a dreamlike and otherworldly installation.

An Evening with Dana Lynn Harper

Thursday, February 21, 6:30–8pm

Join us for a conversation and gallery tour with Dana Lynn Harper, creator of *Waning Light*. View this iridescent, otherworldly installation with the artist as she shares her artistic process and conceptual inspiration.

More information about *Orchids* and *Waning Light* is available [here](#). To connect on social media, please follow @fpconservatory on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#); or the Facebook event page for [Orchids and Waning Light](#).



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Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens offers world-class horticulture, art and nature-based exhibitions, and educational programs for all ages. Situated on 40 acres on the eastern side of Franklin Park, the Conservatory features the historic 1895 John F. Wolfe Palm House; 83,000 square feet of glasshouses; botanical gardens including the Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation Children's Garden; and meeting and event spaces. The Conservatory owns the largest collection of glass artwork by Dale Chihuly in a botanical garden and is home to internationally recognized light artist James Turrell's Light Raiment II, which illuminates the John F. Wolfe Palm House every evening from dusk until dawn.