



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COCKTAILS AT THE CONSERVATORY RETURNS MAY 23

Columbus, OH—Back by popular demand, the *Cocktails at the Conservatory* series returns to Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens May 23, 2019.

Every event will embrace a different botanical theme and showcase a rotating cast of local distilleries, breweries and wineries, while giving adults (21+) the chance to explore the Conservatory after regular business hours. The price of admission includes a sample of a featured drink, special activities and demonstrations, musical entertainment, a theme-inspired menu served from the Conservatory food truck or Garden Café, and access to the current Conservatory exhibitions.

The 2019 Cocktails at the Conservatory schedule is as follows:

May 23: Throwback Thursday: Adults' Night at the Children's Garden

The new Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation Children's Garden has captured the attention of children and adults alike, but never before have the adult visitors had the chance to fully let loose and play like a kid again *without* the kids. Attendees can splash in the water features and explore the other nature-play areas while enjoying wines by Camelot Cellars and Firelands Winery (or other drinks from the cash bar), popsicles by Rime Time Curiously Crafted Pops, and musical entertainment by Night Music DJ Professionals.

June 27: The Bees' Meads

In honor of Pollinator Month, this month's featured drinks highlight ingredients made possible by bees – mead (made from fermented honey), and vanilla (a flavor derived from bee-pollinated orchids). This event also includes a chance to meet a queen bee and learn more about the beekeeping practice from the experts of the Central Ohio Beekeepers Association. Featuring drinks by Brothers Drake Meadery, OYO's Vanilla Bean Vodka, and live pop/blues/soul music by Honey and Blue duo.

July 25: Backyard Brews & BBQ

Local breweries Land Grant, Endeavor and Wolf's Ridge are the highlight of this event, as well as a seasonal cocktail featuring boozy jams by Glass Rooster Cannery. Attendees are invited to play summer lawn games, such as corn hole and giant Jenga, while enjoying live, smooth rock music by Buzzard Kings. A backyard-inspired BBQ menu will be offered from the Conservatory food truck.

Aug. 29: Botany of Booze

There is no booze without botany, and few appreciate that more than distilleries such as Middle West Spirits. The creators of Vim & Petal will be bringing the botanical ingredients used to make



their gin so that attendees can see, touch, smell and taste the entire process, while The Rice Brothers Celtic/grass band provide live musical entertainment.

Sept. 26: On the Rocks: Crystals & Cocktails

Transformation is the theme of this event as attendees are invited to excavate the mysteries of Ohio's native geology, unearth revelations through tarot card readings, and enjoy classic cocktails on the rocks. Watershed bourbon and Root 23 Simple Syrups are the highlighted ingredients at the full bar, with musical entertainment by Night Music DJ Professionals.

Oct. 23: Plants & Potions*

The 2019 cocktail series wraps up with a costume contest and bewitching activities fit for muggles and wizards alike. Inspired by J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter, this event will feature spookily delicious sour beers by Pretentious Brewing and Platform Brewing, tea-infused concoctions by Wild Ohio Brewing, and musical entertainment will be provided by Night Music DJ Professionals.

*The October event will be indoors only (will not include access to the Grand Mallway or Children's Garden) and offer food from the Garden Café instead of the Conservatory food truck.

Event info:

Times: 5:30-9pm.

Price: \$25/person; \$20/person for Conservatory members

Discount: Save \$15 off your total when buying tickets to three Cocktails at the Conservatory event, using promo code CHEERS.

Website: www.fpconservatory.org/cocktails-at-the-conservatory-adults-night

Facebook link: bit.ly/2Ec2QN9

To keep up to date on the latest news and happenings, follow the Conservatory on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) via @FPConservatory or #FranklinParkConservatory, or online at fpconservatory.org.

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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.