



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 10, 2020

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BUTTERFLIES TAKE FLIGHT FOR SPRING AT THE CONSERVATORY

Columbus, OH— The 26th year of Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens iconic *Blooms & Butterflies* exhibition will be open 10am-5pm daily from Sunday, March 14-July 5, 2020.

During this exhibition, visitors have a chance to observe a variety of exotic butterfly species soaring overhead and basking among the colorful blooms within the tropical Pacific Islands Water Garden biome.

For those looking to get a deeper insight into the butterfly species presented in the exhibition, *Butterflies 101* occurs twice daily at 1pm and 3pm. A specialist releases a selection of individual butterflies into the biome as they emerge from their chrysalises. Every presentation is unique, as different butterflies emerge each day.

The opening days of this exhibition will overlap with the current *Chihuly: Celebrating Nature* glass artwork exhibition, which runs through March 29.

Other special occasions to see the butterflies:

- Members Fly First on March 14, 21, 28 and April 4 (sold out; waitlist is available)
- Mother's Day Butterfly Release on May 10
- Cocktails at the Conservatory on May 21 and June 25

Blooms & Butterflies would not be possible without the sponsorship of the Cardinal Health Foundation, Giant Eagle, and Honda.

Bonsai, another popular annual exhibition at the Conservatory, also begins on Sunday, March 14. Journey through the Dorothy M. Davis Showhouse and take in new ways to view specimens from the Conservatory's bonsai collection. Trees on display will rotate regularly, offering distinct viewing experiences throughout the run of the exhibition.

The Dorothy M. Davis Showhouse is celebrating its 125th anniversary. Experiencing *Bonsai* is a wonderful way to see the historic glasshouse.

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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.