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TOPIARIES TAKE OVER THE CONSERVATORY FOR A NEW SUMMER EXHIBITION

COLUMBUS, OH – Wild topiary displays will be the stars of the botanical gardens this summer. *Topiary Takeover*, a brand new exhibition, begins June 4, and will be on display through September 11, 2022.

The exhibition features twenty-five topiaries—fourteen of which will be on display for the first time. Of the twenty-five total topiaries, twenty are animals from UNESCO World Heritage Sites. These topiaries are lifelike interpretations of animals that use live plants to mimic the colors and textures of feathers, fur, scales and skin. The surrounding plantings mimic the plant life and terrains of the corresponding World Heritage Sites, creating immersive visual experiences.

The topiaries displays are as follows:

- Three flamingos with plantings that complement their pink color.
- Six tropical fish, five seahorses and three jellyfishes with plantings mimicking the Great Barrier Reef.
- A bison with plantings that evoke prairies in Yellowstone National Park.
- A royal Bengal tiger with plantings inspired by the mangrove forests of the Sundarbans.
- A peacock inspired by those found in Keoladeo National Park.
- A marine iguana with plantings imitating the rocky coasts of the Galápagos Islands.
- Two camels surrounded by an interpretation of the environment at Wadi Rum.
- A cardinal representing the state bird of Ohio.
- A pot of gold at the end of a rainbow.

The new topiaries and garden displays were conceived, designed, constructed and largely grown by Conservatory Horticulture and Exhibitions staff. The exhibition is completely unique to Franklin Park Conservatory & Botanical Gardens.

Guests will be able to travel through the Conservatory to experience scenes that transport them out of Central Ohio. As part of the exhibition's interpretation, an audio tour that poetically describes the scenes found in the exhibition will be available. The topiaries will also be accompanied by music. Access to the audio descriptions and playlists will be available through signage and the Conservatory website.

Topiary Takeover is included in admission from June 4-September 11, 2022. Guests are encouraged but not required to reserve tickets in advance when applicable. The exhibition is sponsored by Lead Sponsor, The Davis Foundation. For more details, visit fpconservatory.org/topiary-takeover, and follow the Conservatory on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#).

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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.