

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VISIT HOLIDAY BLOOMS AND CONSERVATORY AGLOW FOR FESTIVE AND HOLIDAY FUN THIS SEASON

COLUMBUS, OH – Two of Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens' popular holiday exhibitions—*Holiday Blooms* and *Conservatory Aglow*—kick off on November 18, 2023, and run through January 7, 2024. During this timeframe, the Conservatory will be open 10am-4pm and reopen at 5pm daily except for closures on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day. Please note: *Conservatory Aglow* will be closed on December 7th for an adults-only Cocktails at the Conservatory event; No one under the age of 21 will be permitted entry after 5pm on December 7th.

Holiday Blooms is included in the daytime and evening experiences. Visitors can spend the season amidst extravagant scenes featuring hundreds of unique poinsettias, the poinsettia trees and more. The Dorothy M. Davis Showhouse features photo-ready vignettes with distinct plantings, decorations and color palettes. Outdoors in the gardens, containers are creatively styled for the winter. Hardy plants and evergreens are accented by lights and decorative elements.

Conservatory Aglow is included in the evening experience and requires Special Engagement admission. Each night, guests can make their way through the gardens to see light displays. Visitors can explore captivating new displays, including mesmerizing lights synchronized with holiday melodies, immersive light installations, outdoor illuminated games, a lively dance celebration, and a retreat to festive igloos for an assortment of tabletop games. Admission not only grants you access to *Conservatory Aglow* but also includes a brand new experience with the interior Conservatory, featuring dazzling multi-color lit biomes and enchanting holiday scenes. Visitors looking for refreshments can make purchases from Conservatory dining, cash bars and a rotating set of food trucks. Visitors can also do holiday shopping at Botanica Gift Shop & Greenhouse.

NEW THIS YEAR: From December 1-14, *Conservatory Aglow* nights bring extra value as Franklin Park Conservatory adds a public ice skating rink to the nighttime experience. This additional amenity is brought to you through generous support by Ahlum & Arbor Tree Preservation. The rink is synthetic ice, so will operate regardless of the outside temperature. Guests can bring their own skates, or borrow some from the on-site inventory. The Ahlum & Arbor Ice Rink is limited in capacity to about 60 guests skating at a time and will operate on a first-come, first-served basis.

Both the daytime and evening experiences also feature live entertainment and musical performances on select dates. During *Holiday Blooms*, performances are scheduled for 2pm on the following dates:



- Sunday, November 19: Vaud Villities, VOCALities
- Saturday, November 25: Flutasia
- Sunday, November 26: Columbus Cello Choir
- Saturday, December 2: Columbus Children's Choir
- Sunday, December 3: Grace Notes
- Saturday, December 9: Blue Kids On The Block
- Sunday, December 10: Above The Noise
- Saturday, December 16: The Columbus Chorus
- Sunday, December 17: Ladies of Longford
- Saturday, December 23: Columbus Rings: Ring Out!

During select evenings of *Conservatory Aglow*, rotating entertainment from The Amazing Giants is scheduled 6-8pm in November and 6-9pm in December, and musical performances are scheduled for 7pm on the following dates:

- Saturday, November 18: The Amazing Giants
- Friday, November 24: The Amazing Giants
- Saturday, November 25: The Amazing Giants
- Friday, December 1: Scioto Valley Chorus
- Saturday, December 2: The Amazing Giants
- Friday, December 8: Imani & Halle
- Saturday, December 9: The Amazing Giants & The Molly Winters Duo
- Friday, December 15: Bryden String Quartet
- Monday, December 18: The Amazing Giants
- Tuesday, December 19: The Amazing Giants
- Wednesday, December 20: The Amazing Giants
- Thursday, December 21: The Amazing Giants
- Friday, December 22: Urban String Columbus Youth Orchestra
- Saturday, December 23: The Amazing Giants
- Tuesday, December 26: The Amazing Giants
- Wednesday, December 27: The Amazing Giants
- Thursday, December 28: The Amazing Giants
- Friday, December 29: The Amazing Giants
- Saturday, December 30: The Amazing Giants
- Sunday, December 31: Alex Burgoyne Quartet

Conservatory Aglow is made possible by Presenting Sponsor American Electric Power Foundation and Major In-Kind Partner Ahlum & Arbor Tree Preservation. Special Engagement tickets for *Conservatory Aglow* are available now and all guests are encouraged to reserve tickets in advance to guarantee their visit and make check-in efficient.

For the complete list of performances and Family Fun activities planned for this season, please visit <u>fpconservatory.org/holiday-blooms</u> and <u>fpconservatory.org/conservatory-aglow</u> and follow the Conservatory on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, and <u>TikTok</u>.



Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens offers world-class horticulture, art & nature-based exhibitions and educational programs. The 13-acre indoor and outdoor facility—situated two miles from downtown Columbus—features glasshouses including the historic John F. Wolfe Palm House; botanical gardens including the Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation Children's Garden and Scotts Miracle Gro-Foundation Community Garden Campus; and event venues. The Conservatory is home to the largest collection of Chihuly glass in a botanical garden and Light Raiment II by internationally renowned artist James Turrell. Committed to the community, the Conservatory strives to provide an accessible and welcoming experience to all.