

SUMMER 2025 IN THIS ISSUE

Blooms & Butterflies

Sean Kenney's Nature Connects

Explore Nights

Farmers Market
and more!



Franklin Park Conservatory
and Botanical Gardens

A SUMMER TO REMEMBER

Create unforgettable summer memories with your friends and family at the Conservatory. From vibrant gardens to captivating exhibitions, inspiring art, and exciting events, there's something for everyone to explore. With so much to discover, you may find yourself returning for multiple visits! Clickable links are available throughout the magazine.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

RESERVE TICKETS NOW!

MEMBERSHIP

Members will make the most out of the summer season thanks to free General Admission, half-off Special Engagement admission, exclusive events, garden center perks, reciprocal admission and more!

Most memberships pay for themselves in only 2–3 visits.

JOIN TODAY

SUPPORT THE CONSERVATORY!

Love what we do at the Conservatory? 30% of our operations are supported by generous donors like you! Your support keeps us blooming! Consider making a gift today and help us continue to connect people to nature and create life-enhancing experiences. Together, we can cultivate a greener, more vibrant future for all.

DONATE TODAY



BLOOMS & BUTTERFLIES

IN FLIGHT THROUGH JULY 6, 2025

Experience *Blooms & Butterflies* and immerse yourself in the enchanting Pacific Island Water Garden, where hundreds of vibrant exotic butterflies flutter freely in a warm, tropical paradise filled with brilliant nectar flowers. Visit the Metamorphosis Lab to witness new butterflies emerging from their chrysalises every day.

[VIEW BLOOMS & BUTTERFLIES](#)

SUMMER BLOOMS & BEYOND

ON VIEW THROUGH EARLY SEPTEMBER 2025

Experience lush, colorful, summer seasonal blooms throughout the gardens and within hundreds of containers and hanging baskets. Elephant and giraffe topiaries, living art from the Conservatory's topiary collection, are featured in the Grand Mallway, and the cardinal and pot of gold return to The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation Children's Garden.

BONSAI COLLECTION

ON VIEW THROUGH OCTOBER 2025

Trees from the Conservatory's bonsai collection will be displayed in the Dorothy M. Davis Showhouse and the Bonsai Courtyard through late October.

[VIEW BONSAI COLLECTION](#)

CHIHULY COLLECTION

ON PERMANENT DISPLAY

The Conservatory's Chihuly Collection—the largest permanent collection in a botanical garden—is on view year-round. Eighteen installations of stunning glass art are displayed throughout the interior Conservatory. **[VIEW CHIHULY COLLECTION](#)**

SEAN KENNEY'S NATURE CONNECTS® MADE WITH LEGO® BRICKS

ON DISPLAY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

You're invited on an inspirational and moving journey to *Nature Connects*®. This award-winning exhibition of art made with LEGO® bricks, whimsically designed within the horticulture summer displays, showcases the work of acclaimed artist Sean Kenney, whose enormous, ambitious, gravity-defying, and astoundingly precise structures will delight the whole family. At times whimsical, gripping, and awe-inspiring, the exhibition is sure to be an unforgettable experience!

VISIT NATURE CONNECTS

PRESENTING SPONSOR



produced by
imagine

BUILDING CONTEST

ENTRIES DUE: JULY 18-21; 10AM-5PM

Engineering, imagination and nature combine in the Conservatory's first ever building block competition!

Use the Conservatory as inspiration for creating botanical, art, exhibition and nature themed entries.

DOWNLOAD ENTRY FORM

BRICK BUILD GALLERY

Step into a world of endless possibilities where creativity knows no bounds! Our brick build space invites dreamers of all ages to explore, design, and construct with colorful bricks in a hands-on gallery of innovation. From towering structures to whimsical sculptures, every creation is a masterpiece in the making. Engage in open play, test your engineering skills, and let your imagination take shape in this dynamic, family-friendly experience. Whether you're a master builder or just getting started, there's always something new to discover. Come play, create, and be inspired!

VIEW BRICK BUILD GALLERY





CONSERVATORY EXPLORE: *BRICK NIGHTS*

5-9PM | SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT

A rare opportunity to explore the Conservatory and Sean Kenney's Nature Connects® Made with LEGO® bricks at night! Each night will feature a theme popular with brick building enthusiasts, and creative building opportunities for the young, and the young at heart!

Guests are encouraged to join in on the fun and dress to the theme! If you like building bricks, you will LOVE these nights at the Conservatory!

[VIEW ALL BRICK NIGHTS](#)

CHEERS FOR THE HOME TEAM: JUNE 7

Dress in scarlet and gray as this Conservatory Explore: Brick Night pays homage to the home team!

JUNE 27: SUPER HEROES & VILLAINS

Grab your cape and celebrate our favorite comic book heroes and villains.

JULY 11: WANDS & WIZARDS

Pull out your wands and put on your school robes for a night of magical brick building fun.

JULY 26: KNIGHTS & PRINCESSES

Come dressed in your finest the way knights and princesses dressed to attend grand parties, celebrating castles, dragons and everything from once upon a time.

AUGUST 9: PIRATES & MERMAIDS

Ahoy me hearties! Come dressed as your favorite pirate, mermaid or character from the high seas.

AUGUST 23: FAVORITE VIDEO GAMES

Dress as your favorite video game characters and build your very own digital world with bricks in real life!

SEPTEMBER 5: JEDI MASTERS

Spend an evening at the Conservatory training your imagination with building bricks, no space travel required!



CHIHULY NIGHTS

SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT | 7–10PM

SEPTEMBER 13 | OCTOBER 4 | NOVEMBER 8

ADD A GUIDED TOUR TO YOUR CHIHULY NIGHT!

Learn more about Dale Chihuly and the Conservatory's Chihuly collection by adding a docent-led tour to your Chihuly Night experience. These 45-minute experiences will walk you through the collection and focus on installations, as you learn about the history of the Chihuly Collection and the incredible contributions that Dale Chihuly has made to the development of glass as an art medium.

TOURS AVAILABLE 7:30PM AND 8:30PM NIGHTLY

Pre-registration is recommended as spaces are limited.

NEW THIS YEAR!

A rotating line-up of musicians provides entertainment from 8–9pm, while you relax and enjoy exploring the gardens and plant collections:

GEORGE BARRIE: SEPTEMBER 13 | 8–9PM

Enjoy an upbeat blend of groovy rock n' roll inspired by bluesy songwriters across genres and generations. George first picked up his dad's red Duo-Sonic Fender guitar at age 11 and has since built a career as a musician, songwriter, and producer in Columbus, Ohio.

THE SIRENS: OCTOBER 4 | 8–9PM

These Columbus music scene veterans feature the diverse, emotive voice of Kay Harris combined with the bass, drums and guitar skills of Molly Pauken, Jeffery Peters on drums and Pete Cary on guitar. Sirens will present a blended group of songs including funk, pop, rock and jazz.

EFLAT JAZZ BAND: NOVEMBER 8 | 8–9PM

Listen to the smooth sounds of this Columbus band. Led by David Dennis on the Sax, Charles Small on keys, Aaron Thomas on bass, and Robert Riley on drums.

[VIEW CHIHULY COLLECTION](#)





FROM THE MINDS OF APPLIED IMAGINATION

*TWO EXCITING EXHIBITIONS ON DISPLAY
THROUGH JANUARY 4, 2026*

Paul Busse GARDEN RAILWAY

All aboard! *The Paul Busse Garden Railway* returns to the Grand Mallway. Explore four unique botanical themes on an enchanting and immersive scale, from Fairytale Land and Wild West Town to animal-themed models in Who Lives Here and European Travels.

Guests will wind their way through a miniature world of 51 botanical models made from all-natural plant material gathered in fields and forests near and far. Whirling overhead and below, the nine G-scale model trains move along the elegant shape of the track which totals 1,122 feet.

[VIEW PAUL BUSSE GARDEN RAILWAY](#)

Through the Vines A SEASONAL JOURNEY

A site-specific installation created by the artists at Applied Imagination will invite guests to explore the lights, sights, and sounds of the seasons with a series of vine arches that will take guests on a walking trip through the four seasons of a garden. Pass through the lively bright blooms of spring, transition to the warmth and vitality of summer, wander through the rich hues and crisp air of fall and then finally experience the tranquility and serene beauty of winter. Explore the ever-changing tapestry of nature's cycle within this captivating exhibit installation.

[VIEW THROUGH THE VINES](#)

MADE POSSIBLE THANKS TO



WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FROM





COCKTAILS AT THE CONSERVATORY

\$35, \$30 FOR MEMBERS
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED | 21+ ONLY

JUL 18 | AUG 15 | SEP 25 | DEC 4

Cocktails at the Conservatory continues with all new themes. These cocktail parties feature samples from breweries, wineries, and distilleries as well as themed activities, live music, food trucks and prizes, all in the most beautiful gardens in Columbus.

PARTY WITH A PURPOSE!

Each ticket includes a \$5 donation to support our mission to connect people to nature and create life-enhancing experiences. By attending, you support programs that benefit our entire community and inspire a love of nature!

Summer Sips GARDEN PARTY

JULY 18 | 5:30-9:30PM

Hello summer! You are invited to explore vibrant exhibitions and gardens while exploring wine and bubbly samples from local wineries and wine shops. This delightful evening promises a perfect blend of art, nature, and fine beverages, offering a relaxing and elegant summer experience.

MORE COCKTAILS AT THE CONSERVATORY

FRIDAY AUGUST 15: PAWS & PINTS

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 25: FALL FESTIVAL

THURSDAY DECEMBER 4: MERRY MARTINI

VISIT COCKTAILS AT THE CONSERVATORY





FARMERS MARKET

EVERY WEDNESDAY,

JUNE 4–SEPTEMBER 10 | 3:30-6:30PM

Shop seasonal produce, plants and artisanal goods while supporting local businesses and the Conservatory's Teen Corps! Located in the Wells Barn parking lot, vendors accept EBT with the Ohio Direction Card and offer Produce Perks incentives.

[VIEW FARMERS MARKET](#)

POLLINATOR PALOOZA

SATURDAY, JUNE 21 | 11AM–3PM | FREE

We're celebrating National Pollinator Week with a fun-filled day of hands-on learning opportunities, crafts, food, music and more at the Scotts Miracle-Gro Company Community Garden Campus! Celebrate bees, butterflies and the other wonderful creatures that make our gardens grow during Pollinator Palooza.

[VIEW POLLINATOR PALOOZA](#)

THE FLUTTER RUN 5K

SATURDAY, JUNE 21 | 8:30-11AM

Run, flutter, or walk with us! The Conservatory is thrilled to host our second annual 5k, raising funds to support the Conservatory's mission to connect people to nature and create life-enhancing experiences. By participating in our 5k, you're not only embarking on a scenic journey through the beautiful Franklin Park but also contributing to impactful efforts that sustain our mission. [REGISTRATION REQUIRED](#)

PROMUSICA SUMMERFEST

AUGUST 7 & 8 | 8–9PM | FREE

Join ProMusica for two free concerts in the Grand Mallway! Spend a magical evening in the gardens, with world-class orchestral performances each night against the backdrop of the illuminated John F. Wolfe Palm House. [VIEW PROMUSICA](#)



LEARN SOMETHING NEW AT THE CONSERVATORY

Take horticulture, arts and culinary classes taught by Conservatory educators & local experts.

Pâte à Choux Pastry Workshop	JUNE 13
Bonsai Demystified (2 Week Series)	JUNE 14 & 21
Nature Printmaking	JUNE 19
Chefs In The City: Early Summer Dinner	JUNE 26
Nature Connects: Walk & Sip	JULY 16
Stained Glass Fireflies	JULY 19
Sushi In The Garden	JULY 22
Edible Foraging Walk	JULY 24
Midnight Mothing	JULY 25
Stained Glass Hanging Planter	AUGUST 2

[VIEW FULL CLASS SCHEDULE](#)

HOT SHOP & GLASS BLOWING CLASSES

THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025

The Conservatory's glass blowing studio is open for the season! Watch daily demonstrations by local artists or register for a personal session or a class, no prior experience required. Spring class offerings include blown hummingbird feeders, mushroom paperweights, blown small vessels, and sculpted paperweights. Take a three hour personal session, or an Introduction to Glass Blowing six week series class. [VIEW FULL HOTSHOP CLASSES](#)

GROWING TO GREEN COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERING

Are you looking for a meaningful way to volunteer and connect with your community? Growing to Green's Community Volunteering program offers opportunities for community members to roll up their sleeves and support local community gardens across Central Ohio. [VOLUNTEER TODAY](#)





SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO FOUNDATION CHILDREN'S GARDEN

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS & WATER FEATURES

APRIL 18–OCTOBER 5

The Children's Garden is open all year, but educational programming and special guests are scheduled for the summer and early fall! Children will discover fun ways to connect with nature during these recurring events and activities centered around a monthly theme.

MONTHLY THEMES:

JUNE	Aquatic Adventures
JULY	Creepy Crawly Critters
AUGUST	Beneath the Branches
SEPTEMBER	Forest Friends & Fairy Tales

RECURRING PROGRAMS:

DAILY | 11AM–2PM: Discovery Station
TUESDAYS, MAY 6–SEPT 30, 10:30AM: Storytime
WEDNESDAYS, JUNE 18–SEPT 30, 10:30AM: Garden Club
These programs will meet in the Learning Pavillion and will be weather-dependent.

SPECIAL GUESTS:

JULY 6, 11AM	Realm of the Reptile
AUG 3, 11AM	Ohio Canid Center
SEPT 7, 11AM	Ohio Wildlife Center

[VIEW CHILDREN'S GARDEN](#)

COMMUNITY DAYS

FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Residents of Franklin County and the City of Columbus receive free General Admission during Community Days. In addition to the Conservatory's daily offerings, many Community Days include activities, live performances and local resources.

THANKS TO OUR PRESENTING SPONSORS

JULY 6: Netcare Access

[VIEW COMMUNITY DAYS](#)

HOST YOUR EVENT AT THE CONSERVATORY

EVENT SALES | 614.715.8100
EVENTSALES@FPCONSERVATORY.ORG

Love is always in bloom at the Conservatory!

The botanical gardens are a gorgeous location for your special day. Our outdoor venues are perfect for a romantic ceremony, and our indoor venues deliver a destination-style wedding experience. We're booking weddings, receptions and other private events in 2025 and beyond!

HOST AN EVENT

BOTANICA GIFT SHOP & GREENHOUSE

Like our gardens this season, Botanica is blooming with beauty. Discover something wonderful during General Admission or the next event at the Conservatory.

BOTANICA PLANT OF THE MONTH

20% off for members and 10% off for non-members.

JUNE: Palm **JULY:** Bromeliad
AUGUST: Aloe **SEPTEMBER:** Sansevieria

UPCOMING SALES

JUNE 7 & 8

Celebrate National Pollinators Month with Ohio native plants. All Ohio native outdoor plants are 20% off.

JULY 6

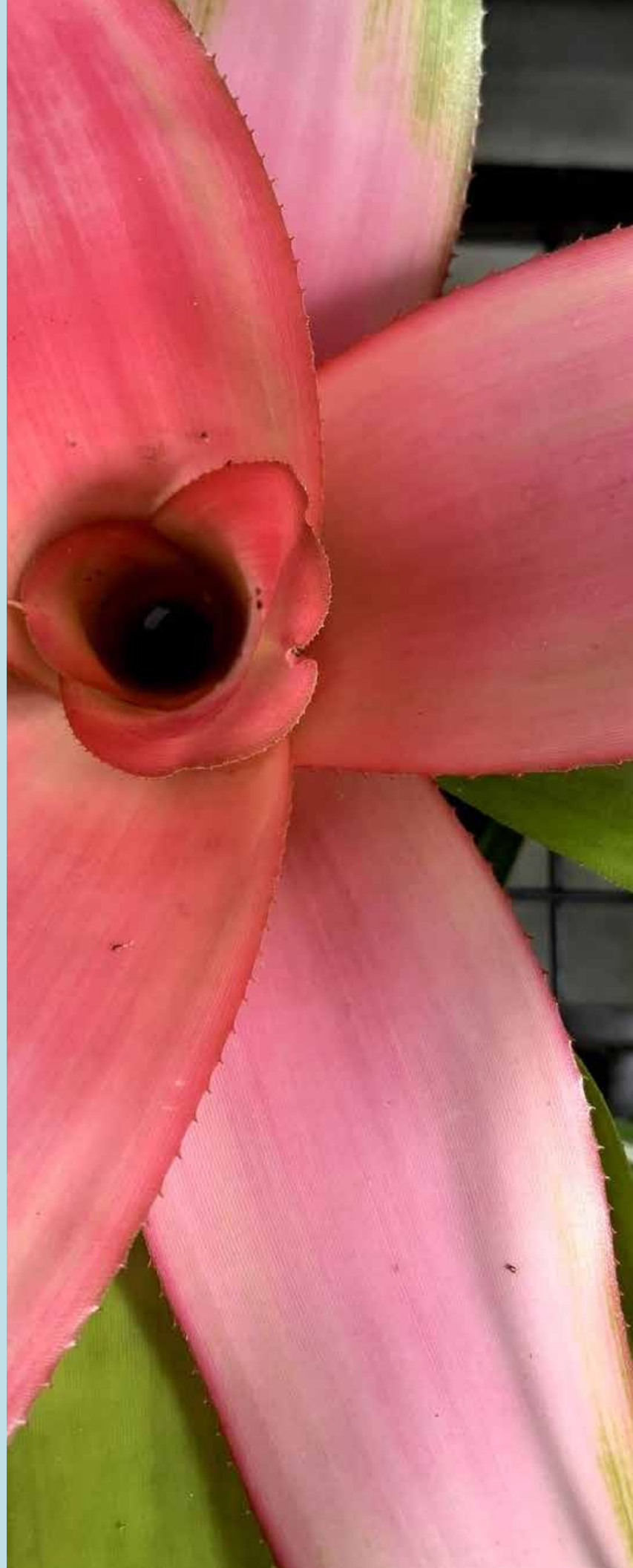
30% off all butterfly themed merchandise to align with the last day of the *Blooms & Butterflies*.

AUGUST 23 & 24

All glass art made in the Hot Shop is buy one, get one free. Does not include glass blown that day.

SEPTEMBER 13 & 14

20% off all spring-blooming bulbs



COMING THIS FALL

HARVEST BLOOMS

SEPTEMBER 27–NOVEMBER 2, 2025

PUMPKINS AGLOW

OCTOBER 15–19, 22–26
& OCTOBER 29–NOVEMBER 2, 2025

SPONSOR *PUMPKINS AGLOW*

Illuminate the night and your organization's presence by sponsoring *Pumpkins Aglow*! With over 30,000 guests annually, our event offers a unique opportunity to showcase your organization's commitment to community engagement and provide an opportunity to engage your associates.

To learn more about sponsorship opportunities, contact Naomi Merino at nmerino@fpconservatory.org.

