



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WE DIG OHIO SYMPOSIUM ON MARCH 7, 2026

A Morning of Youth Leadership, Soil Stewardship, and Community Collaboration

COLUMBUS, OH – Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens will host the 2026 We Dig Ohio Symposium on Saturday, March 7, 2026, beginning at 8am. This dynamic morning gathering will bring together community gardeners, youth leaders, educators, nonprofit partners, and sustainability advocates to explore the power of collective growth in agriculture and land stewardship.

Designed to inspire connection and equip participants with practical tools, the We Dig Ohio Symposium highlights the impact of collaboration in strengthening both soil health and community wellbeing.

Registration and refreshments begin at 8am, followed by opening remarks at 9am from Jenny Pope, Director of Outreach and Education at Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens.

Program Highlights

9:30am – Concurrent Sessions

Attendees may choose between a Youth Engagement and Leadership panel featuring community leaders from Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens and local partners, or a featured presentation by Dr. Tania Burgos-Hernandez on soil stewardship and regenerative practices.

10:15am – Networking Break

10:45am – Collaboration at the Local Level

A panel discussion with leaders from city departments and community organizations focused on partnership-building, shared resources, and collective impact.

11:50am – Keynote Address

Dr. Florentina Rodriquez will deliver an interactive keynote on collective growth in agriculture, highlighting collaboration across farming, education, and nonprofit sectors. She will also share resources from her traveling seed library for attendees to take home.

The We Dig Symposium underscores Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens' commitment to cultivating resilient, connected communities through education and outreach.

For more information and registration details, visit fpconservatory.org/we-dig-ohio-symposium-2026



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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; four biomes of plants in glasshouses; botanical gardens including the Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation Children's Garden; and meeting and event spaces. The Conservatory is also home to the largest collection of glass artwork by Dale Chihuly in a botanical garden.