

## SUMMER 2026 IN THIS ISSUE

*Big Bugs*

*Blooms & Butterflies*

Biome Bonanza

Pollinator Palooza

and more!



Franklin Park Conservatory  
and Botanical Gardens

## A SUMMER OF FUN *AT THE CONSERVATORY*

Make this a summer to remember at the Conservatory. From the lush, vibrant gardens and the biomes to our lineup of seasonal events, there is always something new to discover. With so much to explore, one visit is rarely enough!

Tip: Look for clickable links throughout this digital issue to plan your next adventure.

### **CREATE A LASTING LEGACY: THE HEIRLOOM SOCIETY**

Did you know you can add the Conservatory to your estate plans? By including the Conservatory in your future plans, you leave a legacy that ensures the experiences and spaces that matter to you will continue to educate, inspire, and bring joy long into the future.

[LEARN MORE](#)

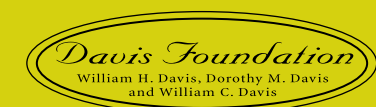


**JUNE 6 - SEPTEMBER 20, 2026**

David Rogers' *Big Bugs* brings the hidden world of insects to breathtaking scale. This traveling exhibition features oversized, anatomically accurate sculptures crafted from reclaimed wood and natural materials, revealing the intricate beauty of creatures often overlooked. From towering ants to a giant dragonfly and massive praying mantis, these monumental works invite visitors of all ages to explore, discover, and see nature from a new perspective.

For more than 30 years, American artist David Rogers has showcased his large-scale, nature-inspired sculptures in gardens and museums nationwide. Designed to blend seamlessly into the landscape, *Big Bugs* creates a magical outdoor environment that sparks curiosity and imagination while gently reminding us of the vital connection between protecting living creatures and sustaining a healthy environment. Each handcrafted sculpture reflects Rogers' lifelong dedication to transforming simple natural materials into extraordinary works of art.

PRESENTING SPONSOR



## ***BLOOMS & BUTTERFLIES*** **IN FLIGHT THROUGH JULY 5, 2026**

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 EXHIBITIONS](#)



# COLOR FLY BUTTERFLY

THROUGH AUGUST 23, 2026

The Cardinal Health Gallery will experience its own metamorphosis into an immersive butterfly coloring experience which invites guests to color their own butterfly and watch the butterfly creation come alive in the illustrated Pacific Island Water Garden.

Select and color a butterfly at a coloring station then scan the page at the kiosk to release the butterfly into the digital environment. Watch as the butterfly flutters around the garden and swoops down for a snack on a nearby flower!

MADE POSSIBLE THANKS TO



WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FROM



[VIEW EXHIBITION](#)

## BONSAI COLLECTION

ON VIEW THROUGH OCTOBER

Trees from the Conservatory's bonsai collection are now on display in the Himalayan and Desert biomes. Select trees from the bonsai collection will also be displayed in the Botanical Garden Welcome Patio late March through October.

[VIEW COLLECTION](#)





# FROM THE MINDS OF APPLIED IMAGINATION

TWO EXCITING EXHIBITIONS ON VIEW THROUGH JANUARY 3, 2027

## Paul Busse GARDEN RAILWAY

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

Guests experience the display from multiple points of entry and 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 g-scale model trains move along the elegant shape of the Grand Mallway path totaling 1122 feet of track and 9 g-scale trains.

VIEW EXHIBITION

## Through the Vines

A SEASONAL JOURNEY

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.

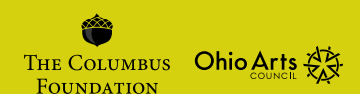
Pass through the lively bright blooms of spring, warmth and vitality of summer, rich hues and crisp air of fall and tranquility and serene beauty of winter.

VIEW EXHIBITION

MADE POSSIBLE THANKS TO



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# **NEW!** **SUMMER** Family Membership

MAY 1–AUGUST 31, 2026

**LIMITED TIME OFFER**  
**SUMMER FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: \$100**  
*Membership Expires August 31, 2026*

Have you ever wanted to give membership a try? This summer is the perfect time! Enjoy a Family Membership for just \$100 and visit all season long.

## **THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO ENJOY A CONSERVATORY MEMBERSHIP!**

### **MEMBER BENEFITS**

- ✓ **FREE** general admission
- ✓ Discounts on Special Engagements
- ✓ Members-only previews & events
- ✓ Discounts on education programs
- ✓ Savings at Botanica & Garden Café

### **GREEN THUMB DISCOUNT**

Show your Conservatory membership card at local businesses including landscapers, greenhouses, garden centers and nurseries for special discounts.

### **COLUMBUS MEMBER ADVANTAGE**

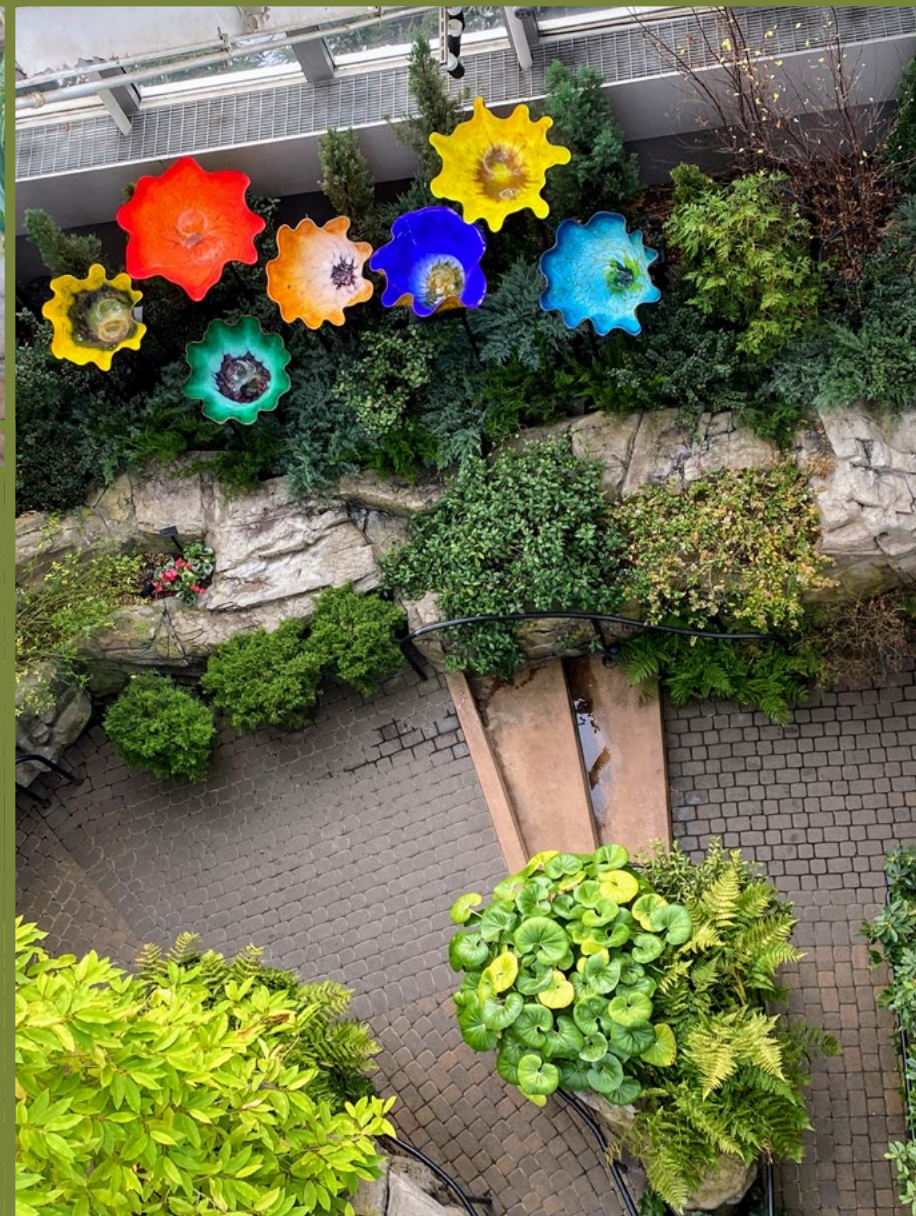
Use your membership to save \$4 on general admission at select Columbus museums and attractions like The Columbus Zoo & Aquarium, COSI and Ohio History Center.

### **RECIPROCAL ADMISSION**

Enjoy admission benefits at more than 300 gardens, arboreta and conservatories throughout North America with the American Horticultural Society.

**JOIN TODAY!**





## THIS SUMMER: **BIOME BONANZA!**

It's a *Biome Bonanza* at the Conservatory this summer! Highlighting some of the special features of each of the Conservatory's unique biomes.  
**JUNE 6, JULY 11, AUGUST 1 & SEPTEMBER 5**  
Included in admission no registration required.

### **RAINFOREST REVELRY**

**RAINFOREST BIOME:** JUNE 6 | 11AM-2PM

Come learn about wonderful plants and sweet treats growing in the rainforest Biome. We will be joined by Pure Imagination Chocolatier, Winans Coffee & Chocolates and Botanica Gift Shop associates. Musical performance by Winds Brilliante Woodwind Trio at 2pm in the Grand Atrium.

### **DESERT HEAT & COOL ART**

**DESERT BIOME:** JULY 11 | 11AM-2PM

Learn about glass (which is made by sand) from several local artists and our hot shop gaffer. Celebrate *America 250*, with patriotic demos in the hot shop! Ohio Bat Working Group will share how important bats are to Ohio and the desert biome.

### **KOIBITO OF THE WATER GARDEN**

**PACIFIC ISLAND WATER GARDEN:** AUG 1 | 11AM-2PM

Koibito = Sweetheart - a nickname many Japanese people call their koi fish. Visit the Conservatory's Koibito and learn about Koi fish, pond building, and water loving plants from the experts of Ohio Koi, Complete Aquatics, Kool Aquatics and a representative from the Conservatory's koi caretaking team.

### **SCENTS OF THE HIMALAYAS**

**HIMALAYAN MOUNTAIN BIOME:** SEPT 5 | 11AM-2PM

This biome is full of many fragrant plant species! Come to learn about Himalayan blooms that are sometimes used to manufacture oils and high-quality fragrances. We will be joined by Makes a Lot of Scents - oils and perfumes, Penn & Beech Candle Company, and Queen Charlotte's Teatime Trailer will be on site!

**PLAN YOUR VISIT**

# MORE TO DO THIS SUMMER!

## SUMMER BLOOMS & BEYOND

ON VIEW THROUGH EARLY SEPTEMBER 2026

Experience lush and colorful summer blooms throughout the gardens and within over 100 mixed containers, hanging baskets, and a new 9' tower of flowers!

Butterfly topiaries from the Conservatory's topiary collection are featured in the North Courtyard, and the cardinal and pot of gold return to The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation Children's Garden.

## FARMERS MARKET

WEDNESDAYS, JUNE 3–SEPTEMBER 16 | 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.

FARMERS MARKET

## COMMUNITY DAYS

FREE ADMISSION FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY & COLUMBUS RESIDENTS

Experience the Conservatory's daily offerings, plus many Community Days include activities, performances and local resources.

**JUNE 7:** Sustainable Columbus  
*Presenting Sponsor: Conservatory's Women's Board*

COMMUNITY DAYS





## SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO FOUNDATION CHILDREN'S GARDEN

The Children's Garden is open all year, with 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 activities centered around monthly themes.

### MONTHLY THEMES

**JUNE:** Forest Friends

**JULY:** Wetland Wonders

**AUGUST:** Wings & Webs

**SEPTEMBER:** Magic in the Meadow

### RECURRING PROGRAMS

**DISCOVERY STATIONS:** Daily 10:30am–1pm

**NATURE STORY TIME:** Tuesdays 10:30am

**GARDEN CLUB:** Wednesdays, June 17–Sept 9, 10:30am

### WATER FEATURES

The Sandstone Creek, The Floating Frame and Misting Boulders are open through the summer.

## 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.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERING

## POLLINATOR PALOOZA

SATURDAY, JUNE 20 | 11AM–3PM | FREE

In celebration of National Pollinator Week, enjoy a fun-filled day of hands-on learning, crafts, food, music and more at the Scotts Miracle-Gro Company Garden Campus! Celebrate butterflies, birds, and the other wonderful creatures that make our gardens grow during *Pollinator Palooza*.

POLLINATOR PALOOZA

## THE FLUTTER RUN 5K

SATURDAY, JUNE 27 | 8:30–11AM

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Run, flutter, or walk with us! The Conservatory is thrilled to host our third 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.

REGISTER TODAY!

## MATH IN BLOOM PRESENTS INFINITY DAY (8.8)

AUGUST 8, 2026

Celebrate Infinity Day with programming that explores the endless patterns of the plant world- past and present. From ancient fossils to living specimens, discover how repetition, spirals, and branching forms have shaped life on Earth for millions of years.

Uncover the connections between math, plants, and history to see how nature's patterns continue to unfold all around us.

This work is supported by the Simons Foundation and is part of its "Infinite Sums" initiative. For more information, visit [infinite.sums.simonsfoundation.org](https://infinite.sums.simonsfoundation.org).

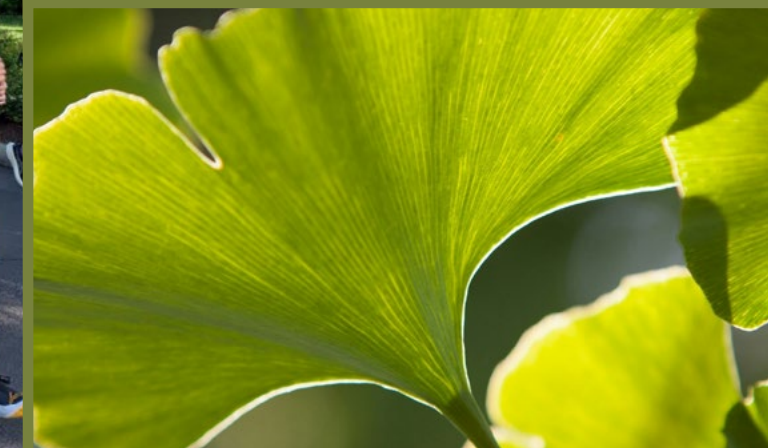
LEARN MORE

## PRO MUSICA SUMMERFEST

AUGUST 13 & 14 | 8–9PM | FREE

Due to the Palm House & Wolfe Terrace renovations, the event looks a little different this year. Please visit our website for updates. Join ProMusica for two free concerts in the Grand Mallway! Spend a magical evening in the botanical gardens, with world-class orchestral performances each night.

PRO MUSICA





## COCKTAILS AT THE CONSERVATORY

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

You're invited to golden hour drinks in the gardens! These themed cocktail parties feature free samples from local breweries, distilleries, and wineries as well as entertainment, live performances, food trucks and prizes at the most beautiful venue in the city.

## SUMMER OF SANGRIA

FRIDAY, JULY 17 | 5:30-9:30PM

Wander the gardens as they burst with color and fragrance, all while sampling a variety of refreshing, fruit-filled sangrias provided by local vendors. This relaxed evening is the perfect way to socialize with friends, enjoy the beautiful summer atmosphere, and cheers to the season!

### MORE COCKTAILS IN 2026

- THURSDAY AUGUST 6: FROM VINE TO VINTAGE
- THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 24: ULTIMATE TAILGATE
- THURSDAY OCTOBER 29: SPIRITS & SPELLS
- WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 2: SLEIGH BELL SIPS
- THURSDAY DECEMBER 3: SLEIGH BELL SIPS

[LEARN MORE!](#)

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!

# BOTANICA

GIFT SHOP & GREENHOUSE

## PLANT OF THE MONTH

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

**JUNE:** Schefflera     **JULY:** Ohio Natives  
**AUGUST:** Cactus     **SEPTEMBER:** Croton

**OHIO NATIVE PLANT SALE:** JUNE 20 & 21  
 Buy 2 get 1 free (limit 1 per customer)

**BIOME CANDLE SET SALE:** JULY 4 & 5  
 Buy 3 biome candles and get the new Pacific Islands candle for free to complete the set

**HOT SHOP GLASS SALE:** AUGUST 15 & 16  
 50% off all hot shop glass

**SPRING BULB SALE:** SEPTEMBER 19 & 20  
 20% off all spring blooming bulbs

VISIT BOTANICA

## TAKE A CLASS!

### CULINARY ARTS

Live Fire Theater: Argentine Cuisine     JUNE 30  
 Sushi From The Garden     JULY 27  
 Paw Paw Ice Cream Bar     AUGUST 8  
 Jam Making & Cocktails     AUGUST 20

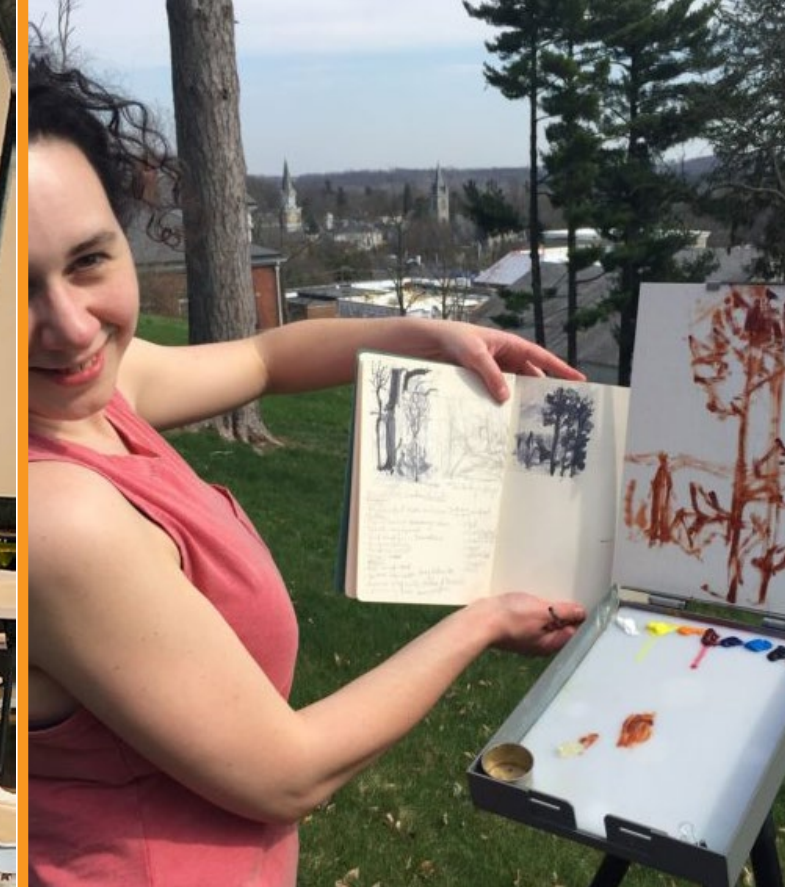
### FINE ARTS & CRAFTS

Botanical Bundle Dyes     JUNE 13  
 Plein Air Painting     JUNE 23  
 Rainforest Plant Watercolors     JULY 9  
 Stained Glass Grasshoppers     JULY 18

### GARDENING & ENVIRONMENTAL

Intro to Beekeeping     JUNE 8  
 Foraging in the Park     JULY 23  
 Midnight Mothing     JULY 24  
 Daylily 101     AUGUST 16

VIEW FULL CLASS SCHEDULE



**HOT SHOP & GLASS BLOWING**  
 The Hot Shop, the Conservatory's on-site glass blowing studio, offers daily demonstrations, as well as scheduled classes and personal sessions!  
**VIEW CLASSES**





## **HOST YOUR EVENT AT THE CONSERVATORY**

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 2026 and beyond!

### **CHOOSE YOUR SPECIAL VENUE**

#### **THE WELLS BARN**

A 200-year-old, hand-hewn timber frame from a Richland County barn provides the framework and inspiration for this one-of-a-kind venue.

#### **GRAND ATRIUM**

The Conservatory's largest indoor space features stately, plant-draped pillars and slate tile floors. The versatility of this venue makes it perfect for seated dinners or cocktail receptions.

#### **GARDEN PAVILION**

A charming black-framed tent, complete with hardwood floors, floor-to-ceiling tinted glass walls, creating a modern structure that feels both elegant and sophisticated. The premier Garden Pavilion blends year round indoor comfort with an outdoor feel.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT**

EVENT SALES | 614.715.8100

EVENTSALES@FPCONSERVATORY.ORG

**HOST YOUR EVENT!**

# CHIHULY COLLECTION

ON PERMANENT DISPLAY

The Conservatory's Chihuly Collection—the largest permanent collection in a botanical garden—is on view year-round. Seventeen installations of stunning glass art is displayed throughout the interior Conservatory.

## CHIHULY NIGHTS SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT | 6–10PM

SEPT 5 | OCT 3 | NOV 7

Franklin Park Conservatory owns the largest private collection of Dale Chihuly artwork in any Botanical setting in the United States. Chihuly Nights offer you the opportunity to view 17 installations spectacularly illuminated to create heightened drama and breathtaking views within the backdrop of the interior and of the warmth of the Conservatory.

**New this Year!** The Conservatory's hot shop will be open during Chihuly nights, featuring a duo of local glass artists doing demonstrations and working together to create a stunning piece of glass art. Botanica Gift Shop, The Garden Cafe and a cash bar will be open during these evening events. Enjoy a rotating line-up of musicians providing entertainment from 8:30–9:30pm and you can add a guided tour of the Chihuly collection to your evening experience.

### CHIHULY NIGHT PERFORMANCES

**THE SIRENS:** SEPTEMBER 5 | 8:30–9:30PM

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.

[VIEW COLLECTION](#)



Dale Chihuly, *Neodymium Reeds and Green Grass*, 2003. © Chihuly Studio



Dale Chihuly, *Blue Herons* (detail), 2003. © Chihuly Studio



# THIS FALL

## ***HARVEST BLOOMS***

SEPTEMBER 26–NOVEMBER 1, 2026

## ***PUMPKINS AGLOW***

OCT 7–11 | 14–18 | 21–25 | 28–NOV 1

### **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.

Contact Naomi Merino to learn more:  
[nmerino@fpconservatory.org](mailto:nmerino@fpconservatory.org)