FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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****Images available upon request.**

LAS NOCHES DE LAS LUMINARIAS DETAILS ANNOUNCED

General Public Tickets Go On Sale October 23, 2010

WHAT: Las Noches de las Luminarias, the Valley's premier holiday event, returns for 21 nights of musical entertainment, delicious food and of course, 8,000 hand-lit luminarias. **Tickets for *Las Noches de las Luminarias*, go on sale to the General Public Thursday, October 23, 2010. Garden Members** will be able to purchase tickets beginning October 11, 2010.

Eleven musical groups perform each night of *Luminarias*: The Bad Cactus Brass Band, Chris Burton Jacome Ensemble, The Dickens Carolers, The Hey Boys, Huney Brown, Ken Duncan, Mariachi Pasion, Scott Jeffers and Traveler, The Swingtips and Will Clipman. *Luminarias* would not be complete without the best of the Valley Handbell Choirs in Webster Auditorium.

Luminarias ticket buyers will have the opportunity to help those in need by donating to Season for Sharing, *The Arizona Republic* and 12 News' annual holiday fundraising campaign, when they purchase their tickets. Season for Sharing funds agencies that help at-risk children and families, improve education, aid victims of domestic violence and serve the elderly.

Las Noches de las Luminarias begins the Thursday, December 2 and culminates on December 30, 2010. This is the perfect holiday event to share with family, friends and out-of-town guests. The Garden's distinctive and world-renowned plant collection provides the ideal setting to enjoy more than 8,000 hand-lit luminarias that line its trails, buildings and courtyards

A sumptuous buffet dinner is available at an additional cost from Fabulous Food Fine Catering and Events and the Garden's Patio Café will also be open for ala carte items. The Garden's gift and plant shop will be open each night of Luminarias and is the ideal place to find unique gifts for the holiday season. Meal tickets are $16.50 for adults and $8.95 for children.

Las Noches de las Luminarias is presented by The Arizona Republic, and sponsored in part by US Airways, Fabulous Food Fine Catering and Events and Phoenix Coca-Cola Bottling Company. SRP EarthWise Energy is the entertainment sponsor.

WHEN: **December 2, 3, 4, 5 (Garden Members and their Guests Preview)**
December 9, 10, 11, 12 (General Public)
December 16, 17, 18 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 (General Public)
December 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 (General Public)

TIME: **5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.**

WHERE: **Desert Botanical Garden**
1201 North Galvin Parkway (in Papago Park)
Phoenix, AZ 85008

COST: **Members: Adults $20**
Children: $10 (ages 3-12)
General Public: Adults $25
General Public: Children $12.50 (ages 3-12)
Children 2 and under are admitted free.
Dinner and beverages available at an additional cost.

TICKETS: **TO PURCHASE TICKETS: Tickets on sale October 1, 2009**

1. **Order tickets on-line at www.dbg.org**
2. **Call 480-481-8188 (9 a.m. – 4 p.m., daily)**
3. **Visit the Admissions Box Office (8 a.m. – 8 p.m. daily)**

INFO: For additional information, a full list of entertainment and a detailed menu, call 480-481-8188 or visit www.dbg.org.

A "Phoenix Point of Pride", the Desert Botanical Garden is one of only a few botanical gardens accredited by the American Association of Museums. It is a privately funded, non-profit organization and depends on revenues from admissions and gift shop sales, as

well as contributions from individuals and businesses to fund its programs of environmental education, plant conservation and research.

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