

DESERT BOTANICAL GARDEN

PRESS KIT

FALL 2020



DESERT
BOTANICAL
garden

Overview

THE GARDEN:

Discover the tranquil vibrancy of 50,000 desert plants nestled amid the red rocks of the Papago Buttes at Desert Botanical Garden. Visitors can stroll through five thematic trails to explore plants, including towering cactus, alluring succulents and brilliant desert wildflowers. Delve deeper to experience world-class art exhibitions, festive events and so much more.

MISSION:

The Garden's commitment to the community is to advance excellence in education, research, exhibition and conservation of desert plants of the world with emphasis on the Sonoran Desert. We will ensure that the Garden is always a compelling attraction that brings to life the many wonders of the desert.

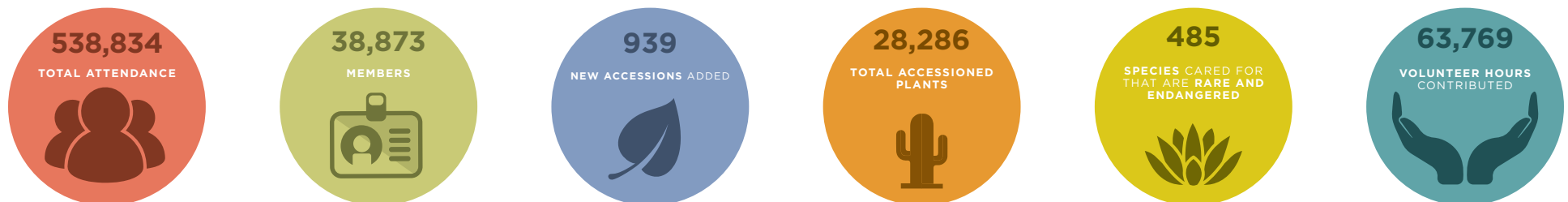
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YOUR GARDEN | BY THE NUMBERS *(As of 2019)*:



History

In the 1930s, a small group of passionate local citizens saw the need to conserve the beautiful desert environment. One was Swedish botanist Gustaf Starck, who found like-minded residents by posting a sign that said “Save the desert,” with an arrow pointing to his home. More than eight decades later, thanks to leadership and investments from many individuals, Desert Botanical Garden has blossomed from a dream into a living museum unlike any other. See how the Garden has grown during its history into a compelling attraction and desert conservation pioneer.



1939

The Garden opens its doors to the public.



1947

Gertrude Webster dies leaving her estate to support the Garden.



1957

The Garden's collections increase from 1,000 to more than 18,000 specimens.



1970

The new library is built to house a valuable donation of rare books and prints.



1977

The Docent Program is established.



1983

The American Association of Museums accredits the Garden.



2009

Joy and Howard Berlin Agave Yucca Forrest opens.



2008

Dale Chihuly's exhibition draws more than 500,000 people to the Garden.



2008

Ottosen Entry Garden opens.



2002

The Garden completes a \$17 million expansion.



1988

Plants and People of the Sonoran Desert Loop Trail opens.



1985

The Garden becomes a charter member of the Center for Plant Conservation.



2013

The Garden celebrates its 75th Anniversary.



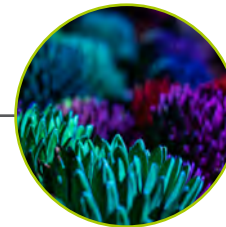
2015

The Garden hosts its first nighttime only exhibition by Bruce Munro.



2017

New Butterfly Exhibit and Hazel Hare Center for Plant Science open.



2018

Electric Desert | A Light and Sound Experience by Klip Collective sees nearly 200,000 visitors.



2019

Desert Botanical Garden celebrates its 80th Anniversary.



2020

Wild Rising by Cracking Art invades the Garden.

Trails & Exhibitions

Desert Botanical Garden provides a world-class experience for every visitor. Through permanent trailside exhibits, temporary art installations and seasonal experiences, the Garden ignites discovery about the desert and the plants that have adapted to this fascinating ecosystem.

TRAILS:

DESERT DISCOVERY LOOP TRAIL | Exhibits desert plants from around the world.

PLANTS & PEOPLE OF THE SONORAN DESERT LOOP TRAIL | Explores the use of desert plants for nourishment, cultural activities and tools.

SONORAN DESERT NATURE LOOP TRAIL | Illustrates the relationship between desert plants and animals.

CENTER FOR DESERT LIVING LOOP TRAIL | Displays ideas and strategies for sustainable ways to live with nature.

***Harriet K. Maxwell* DESERT WILDFLOWER LOOP TRAIL** | Showcases the diversity of desert wildflowers.



Signature events

Music in the Garden



Ages 21 and older

Desert Botanical Garden offers an exciting and diverse lineup of talented performers in the Spring and Fall Music in the Garden concert series.

Fall & Spring Plant Sales



Free Admission

Don't let 30,000 plants intimidate you! On-site horticulture experts will help you find the perfect cactus, agave and ornamental to plant in your own garden.

Dog Days at the Garden



Early risers are invited to bring their whole pack to the trails mornings. Treat your dog to a morning stroll at the Garden. You and your pup will have a tail-wagging good time exploring all the beauty and sniffs of the Garden.

Las Noches de las Luminarias



Experience the simplicity and beauty of Las Noches de las Luminarias this holiday season with 8,000 flickering luminarias and twinkling lights throughout the Garden. Enjoy a festive drink while listening to holiday melodies.

Overview



CREDITS:

- Accredited by the American Association of Museums
- Founding member of the Center for Plant Conservation
- Designated by popular vote in 1993 as a “Phoenix Point of Pride”
- Named one of “Arizona’s Treasures” by Governor Janet Napolitano in 2005



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