



DESERT
BOTANICAL
garden



DESERT BOTANICAL GARDEN
Press Kit | Summer 2023



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.

By the Numbers (as of 2022)



870,000+
TOTAL ATTENDANCE



33,108
MEMBERS AND
DONORS



909
NEW ACCESSIONS
ADDED



50,000
PLANTS IN THE
COLLECTION



95,900
TOTAL HERBARIUM

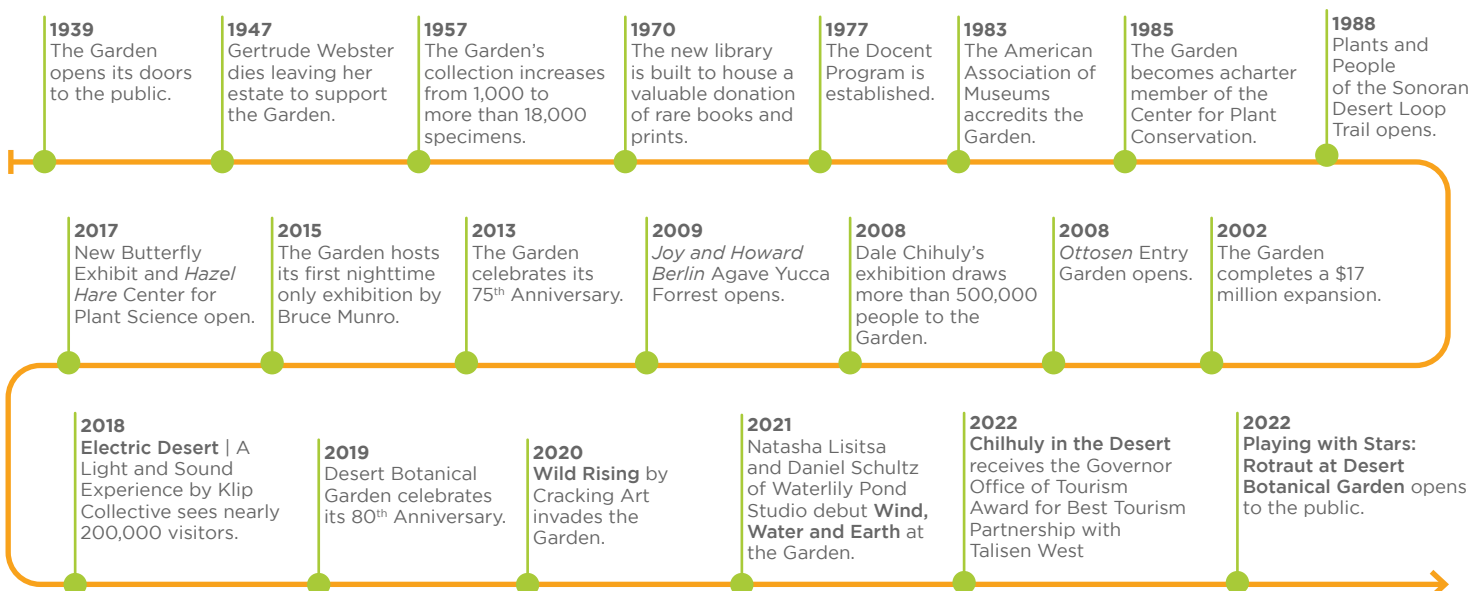


38,000
VOLUNTEER HOURS



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 Stark, 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.



Trails

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.



DESERT DISCOVERY LOOP TRAIL

Explore the Garden's main trail and discover the many ways desert plants from around the world have adapted to the environment. Featuring a diverse array of cactus and succulents as well as historic plant collections, this central route connects visitors to the beauty of the desert.



***Harriet K. Maxwell* DESERT WILDFLOWER LOOP TRAIL**

Stroll along this meandering trail where you'll encounter brightly colored blooms as well as the pollinators they attract, like bees, butterflies and hummingbirds. Find out how flowers, insects and birds play an essential role in thriving desert ecosystems.



CENTER FOR DESERT LIVING TRAIL

Fragrant herbs, vegetable beds and shady spots to relax make this trail a delight for the senses. Come see what's growing this season and discover tips for creating a robust, water-wise home garden.



SONORAN DESERT NATURE LOOP TRAIL

Take this trail to the top for sweeping mountain views, telescopes and an organ pipe cactus forest. Then look closer to gain insight to the resilience and survival strategies of Sonoran Desert plants and animals.



PLANTS AND PEOPLE OF THE SONORAN DESERT LOOP TRAIL

Wander through five diverse desert habitats and discover the variety of ways indigenous people have used native plants for food, fiber and shelter.

Events & Exhibits



MOTHER'S & FATHER'S DAY

May 14 (Mother's Day) & June 17 (Father's Day)

Celebrate the moms and dads in your life with a botanical good time! On May 14, the Garden will offer complimentary photo opps, live entertainment, the Spring Butterfly Exhibit and more for Mother's Day. On June 17, for Father's Day, cool off with free popsicles for the dads and a discount on beers at Garden bars!

Included with general admission

Moms are free with paid child (5/14) | Dads are free with paid child (6/17)



STORYTIME

May 26 | June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 | July 14, 21, 28 | Aug. 4, 11, 18, 25

Summer Storytimes are back this summer. The Garden invites kids five and younger and their caregivers to enjoy different nature-themed books each week, and partake in songs and playtime while immersed in the Garden.

Included with general admission.



FLASHLIGHT NIGHTS

Saturdays | June 3 - Sept. 2 (excluding July 1)

Make summer shine at Flashlight Nights. Bring a flashlight and enjoy the Garden after dark with performances, cool treats, hands-on activities and creature features.

Included with general admission.



DESERT DISCOVERY CAMPS

Select Dates | June 5 - July 27

Garden Summer Camps are back! Join us for a summer full of desert discovery:

- **Desert Adventure Camp** | June 5-8, July 19-22, July 27-30 | Kids 8-12
- **Four Days, Four Trails Camp** | June 12-15, July 24-27 | Kids 8-12
- **Landscape Photography Camp** | June 26-29 | Teens 13-18

\$250 members, \$295 non-members



SONORAN SIPPIN'

June 9, July 14, Aug. 11, Sept. 8

Heat up a summer full of fun at the Garden. Gather your family and friends on the second Friday of each month for refreshing welcome drinks, live music, pop-up activities, Garden strolls and more! All ages are welcome.

Included with general admission.

Research & Conservation

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) identified cactus as one of the most threatened groups of living organisms, but the Garden is working to protect and conserve these treasured desert plants and many others. The Garden's researchers often collaborate internationally, as well as with federal and state agencies, including the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Parks Service, to protect Arizona flora and habitat.



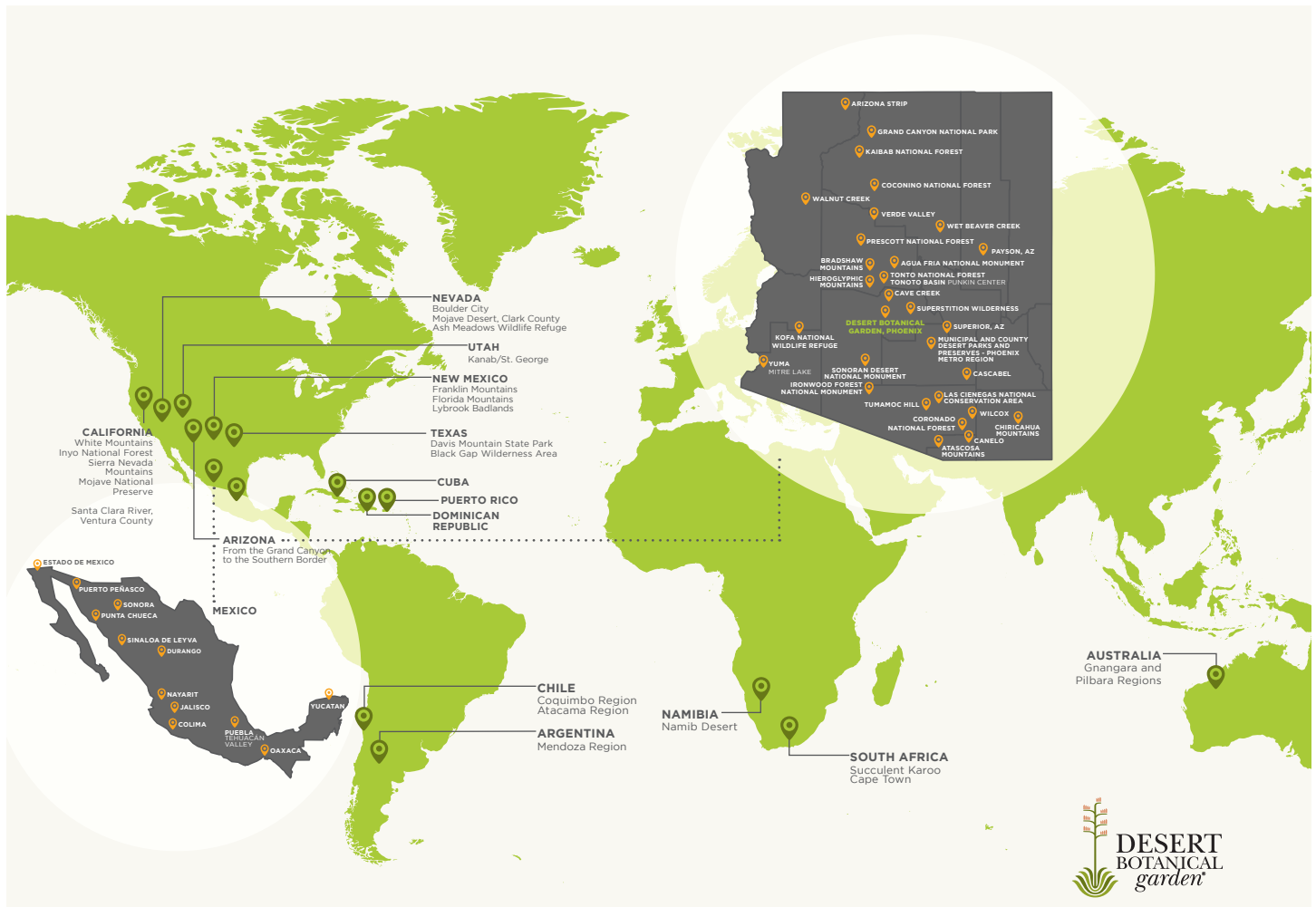
519
Rare and
Endangered
Plants



4,833
Taxa (includes
plant and seed)

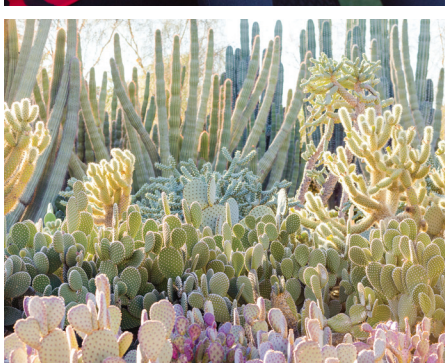
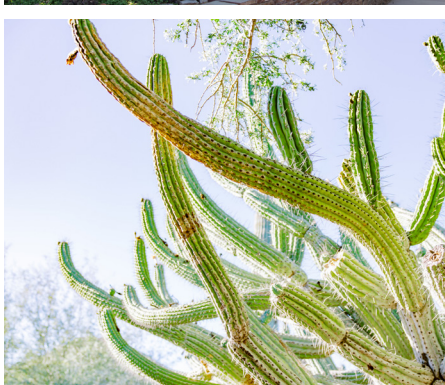


26
Scientists
Doing Work in
4 Countries and
2 Continents



Garden scientists are fulfilling our mission through projects in arid regions around the world.





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.

Contact:

1201 N. Galvin Parkway, Phoenix, AZ 85008
480.941.1225 | dbg.org
#desertbotanicalgarden | @dbgpsh



Media Contact:

Dana Terrazas
*Senior Director of Marketing
Communications*
w: 480.481.8101 | c: 602.295.5177
dterrazas@dbg.org

Marisol Peláez
Digital Marketing Manager
w: 480.481.2067 | c: 602.471.9676
mpelaez@dbg.org

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