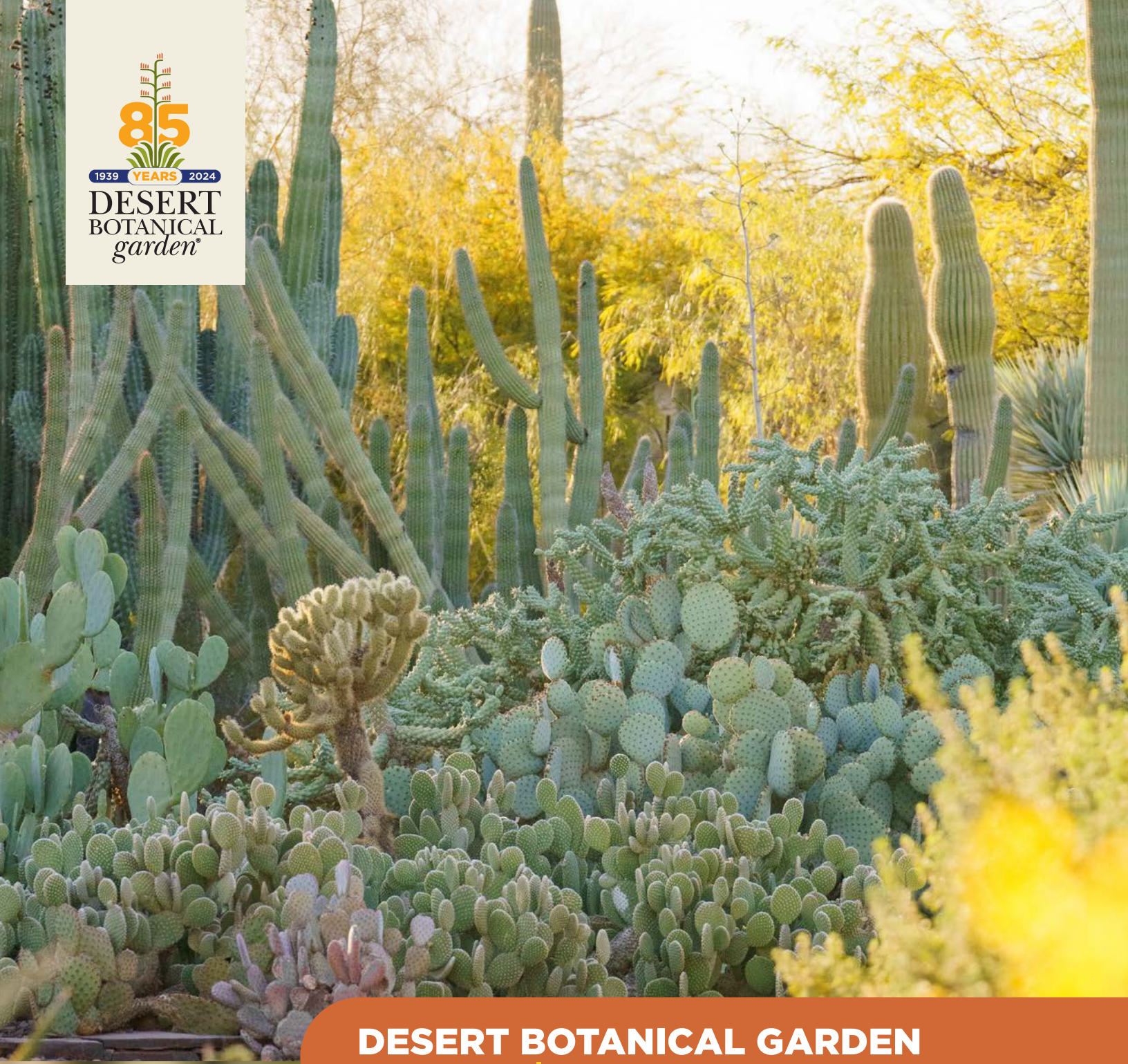


The logo features the number '85' in a large, stylized font with a green plant-like structure growing from the '5'.

85

1939 YEARS 2024

DESERT
BOTANICAL
garden®



DESERT BOTANICAL GARDEN
Press Kit | Summer 2024



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 2023)



550K+
TOTAL ATTENDANCE



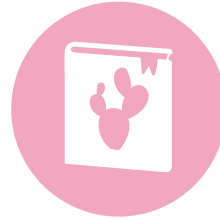
28,876
MEMBERS AND DONORS



768
NEW ACCESSIONS ADDED



50,000
PLANTS IN THE COLLECTION



99,930
TOTAL HERBARIUM SAMPLES

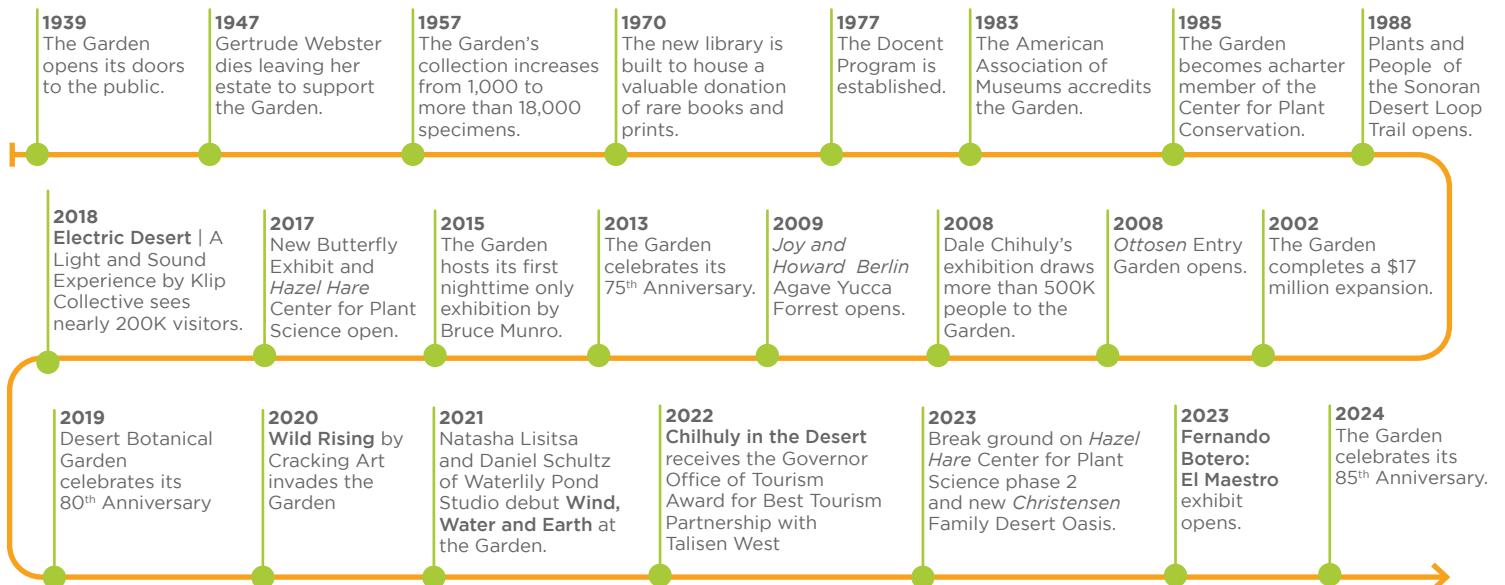


650+
VOLUNTEERS



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 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 core trail takes you on a journey to celebrate the beauty of the desert.



Harriet K. Maxwell DESERT WILDFLOWER 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 lush, water-wise home garden.



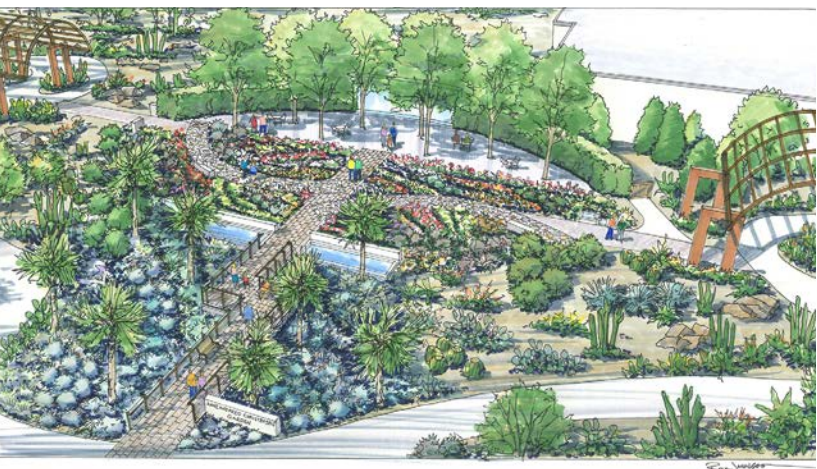
SONORAN DESERT NATURE TRAIL

Take our nature trail to learn how plants and animals survive in the desert with so little water. Watch for wildlife on your way to the top and take in mountain vistas that will change your point of view.



PLANTS AND PEOPLE OF THE SONORAN DESERT TRAIL

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



Christensen Family DESERT OASIS

The Garden revamped the layout of the former Stardust Plaza to offer guests an idyllic visit with a colorful horticultural design. Nestled between the Sybil B. Harrington Cactus and Succulent Galleries, the Christensen Family Desert Oasis includes a new bridge, a calming water feature, shade trees and displays of seasonal plants. The thoughtfully designed Christensen Family Desert Oasis provides an inspirational space to wander and appreciate the beauty of the desert.

Opening celebration May 12

Experiences



MAJESTIC MARIPOSAS

March 2 - May 12

Don't miss this living exhibit that features more than a thousand free-flying Southwestern butterflies. Get an up close and personal experience with these winged beauties, learn about each stage of their life cycle and discover what actions we can take to protect them.

Included with general admission.



SAGUARO & SKATE

April 13

Get ready to lace up your skates and hit the rink for a fun pop-up skate party with Zoni Girls!

Daytime 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.: \$29.95 per adult, \$16.95 per child, \$85.95 Family 4 pack, \$10.95 per additional child
\$14.95 per adult and \$10.95 per child for members

Nighttime 6-10 p.m.: \$34.95 general public, \$16.95 members



MOTHER'S & FATHER'S DAY

May 12 & June 15

Celebrate the moms and dads in your life with a botanical good time! On May 12, the Garden will offer complimentary photo opps, live entertainment, the Spring Butterfly Exhibit and more for Mother's Day. On June 15, 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 (5/12) | Dads are free with paid child (6/15)



STORYTIME

Select Fridays | March 22 - July 26

Join Desert Botanical Garden for Storytime. Introduce your child five and younger to the beauty and wonder of nature through engaging books, songs, activities and play.

Included with general admission.



FLASHLIGHT NIGHTS

Saturdays June 1 - Sept. 7

Escape the heat and explore the Garden after dark with family and friends! Discover the Garden's five thematic trails, encounter desert creatures, and immerse yourself in the captivating nighttime ambiance with cool drinks and treats.

Included with general admission.

Experiences Continued



DESERT DISCOVERY CAMPS

Select Dates | June 10 - July 18

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

- **Desert Adventure Camp** | June 5-8, July 19-22, July 17-20 | 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

\$295 for general public, \$250 for Garden members



SONORAN SIPPIN'

June 21, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 20

Enjoy a complimentary cool drink and soak up the summer sunset at the Garden with pop-up experiences and desert views.

Included with general admission.



Celebrating 85 YEARS

1939 - 2024

What started in 1939 as a dream to save the desert, has blossomed into the living museum you see today. Now, as we celebrate our 85th anniversary, we are excited for what the future holds. Join us for special programming every month.

April 2024 | Celebrate 35 Years of Music in the Garden

May 2024 | Celebrate National Cactus Day

July & August 2024 | Get behind-the-scenes with Research & Conservation.

September 2024 | Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month

October 2024 | Celebrate the Fall Butterfly Exhibit

November 2024 | Plants & People of the Sonoran Desert Celebration

December 2024 | Celebrate Las Noches de las Luminarias with new holiday light experience

January 2025 | New Year, Commitment to Conservation

February 2025 | Looking Ahead 85 Years

Here We Grow Again

Desert Botanical Garden recently broke ground for the Phase 2 *Hazel Hare* Center for Plant Science. This \$17 million project will advance the Garden's vision to become a global leader in desert plant conservation and the most sophisticated center in the Southwest for cactus and agave horticulture, conservation and research. Expected completion date is 2025.

Phase 2 will include:



Ahearn HORTICULTURE CENTER

A unified, energized workspace designed to inspire the passion and dedication of the Garden's horticulture team.



GREENHOUSE EAST

Doubling the amount of climate-controlled areas to propagate and nurture region-specific plants.



EXHIBITION GALLERY

This space is designed to showcase the Garden's living collections and temporary art exhibits, as well as insight to research and conservation practices.



TEACHING GARDEN HOUSE

Premier local resource for Sonoran Desert gardening and landscaping education, and will amplify the impact of the Garden's community educational programs.



SHADE PAVILION

The Shade Pavilion will be a 10,000 square foot state-of-the-art facility that redefines the care of desert plants and other succulents that require shade, humidity and temperature controls.



Expected Impacts

The work made possible by the completion of HHCPs will enable the Garden to not only identify and study threats to our ecosystem, but to also mitigate those threats and improve conditions for desert plant species. The capacity of these new facilities will accelerate the Garden's efforts to cultivate and preserve flora from arid deserts in Arizona, North America, and across the globe. Additionally, greater access to enhanced tools, technology and workspace will advance our comprehensive plant propagation program – the cornerstone of our conservation work.



These state-of-the-art spaces will also be fully equipped with conversartyion features such as:

- The Solar & Shade Canopy will continue our efforts in creating sustainable solutions that allow the Garden to be a part of this community for generations to come.
- Energy-Efficient Site Improvements will include additional micro solar collectors, rain water-harvesting systems and temperature and light management technology.



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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