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# SANCTUARY



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THE ORCHID SHOW  
**2021**

MARIE SELBY  
BOTANICAL  
GARDENS

AERIALISTS FROM THE TREE TOP TO THE BIG TOP!



**“We remain dedicated to attracting new visitors, providing reasons for return visits, developing and sharing cutting-edge botanical research, and protecting the environment.”**



Selby Gardens was honored to receive the Woman-Led Business of the Year award at the 2021 Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce Frank G. Berlin, Sr. Small Business Awards luncheon in June.

I have to smile when I see photographs and videos from our momentous groundbreaking event in June—ushering in the first phase of a Master Plan that will profoundly enrich the Selby Gardens experience and the entire Sarasota community long into the future.

The deep sense of support and love for our organization was palpable at the event on June 3. You could truly feel the bond that links Marie Selby’s descendants, the Gardens’ founders, elected officials, city staff, and donors with our Trustees, staff members, and volunteers. I was overwhelmed by the feeling of common purpose filling the room.

In fact, if you saw any images of me shoveling dirt after the many uplifting speeches, you’ll see an absolutely exuberant expression on my face. I couldn’t wait to put that hard hat on my head, joining other steadfast supporters to symbolically start work on an exciting new chapter in our history.

Launching this effort is possible thanks to a tremendous outpouring of philanthropic support. Spurred by five separate \$1 million gifts from April through July, along with other generous donations, we have now raised \$40.1 million—94 percent of the amount needed to implement Phase One. *Thank you* to our generous donors and to all who have contributed to our success.

As many of you know, this path forward began with creating a transformative five-year strategic plan in 2016—charting a course to making Selby Gardens more sustainable, growing our facilities and our constituencies, and making both our Downtown Sarasota and Historic Spanish Point campuses more accessible to children and families of all backgrounds and means.

As we embark on a new strategic plan for the next three years, our team will be creating the infrastructure needed to assure that Selby Gardens will be part of the community fabric—and be a leader for botanical gardens nationally and worldwide—for generations to come.

We remain dedicated to attracting new visitors, providing reasons for return visits, developing and sharing cutting-edge botanical research, and protecting the environment.

As work begins on making the Master Plan a reality, stay up to date via our website at selby.org. And be sure to tell your friends about the changes unfolding at Selby Gardens—continued support is vital as we move into a bold, new botanical future.

With gratitude,

Jennifer O. Rominiacki  
President & CEO

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**MISSION**

To provide bayfront sanctuaries connecting people with air plants of the world, native nature, and our regional history.

**PROGRAM SPONSORS**

Selby Gardens’ programs are sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs; the Florida Council on Arts and Culture; and are paid for in part by Sarasota County Tourist Development Tax Revenue.



**CONNECT WITH US**



# SELBY GARDENS' NEW TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS

Selby Gardens welcomes two new individuals to the governing Board of Trustees. **Aaron Bellamy** and **Renée James Gilmore** will each serve a three-year term, during which they will help guide the strategic vision for the future of the institution. In addition, **Marianne D. McComb** now serves as Board Chair and **Dr. Joel Morganroth** as Vice Chair.



## AARON BELLAMY

*Trustee*

Bellamy is a Sarasota native who currently serves as the Youth and Family Advocate Manager with the Safe Children Coalition Residential Program. He was a member of the Board of Directors of Gulf Coast Heritage Association, Inc., the governing body for Historic Spanish Point prior to the campus becoming part of Selby Gardens in May 2020. He previously served on Selby Gardens' Advisory Committee, is the past Worshipful Master of Sarasota Masonic Lodge 314, and currently serves on the City of Sarasota Police Advisory Panel.

## RENÉE JAMES GILMORE

*Trustee*

Gilmore is the Executive Producer of Empowering Voices on Sarasota TV station ABC7 and a fourth generation Sarasotan. She owns Saja Group, LLC and makes it her mission to help communities and businesses benefit from inclusion and cultural diversity. She has worked in public and private sectors leading national multibillion-dollar business initiatives and has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Labor for achievements in capacity-building and innovative programming. As the chairwoman of the citizen advisory board at Sarasota National Cemetery, she works with other volunteers to honor the ultimate sacrifice made by U.S. military troops who died for the freedoms Americans enjoy.



## MARIANNE D. MCCOMB

*Chair of the Board of Trustees*

McComb holds a master's degree in Language and Literature from the University of Chicago and had a successful career in children's book publishing before becoming a Master Gardener. She and her husband Bill are leadership donors to the campaign for Selby Gardens' Master Plan.



## DR. JOEL MORGANROTH

*Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees*

Dr. Morganroth is an academic cardiologist who specializes in the field of cardiovascular drug development. He has served on the editorial boards of several journals and published more than two dozen books. He chairs Selby Gardens' Finance Committee and he and his wife, Dr. Gail Morrison Morganroth, are the visionary donors for the campaign for Selby Gardens' Master Plan.

**Also continuing their service as Selby Gardens' trustees:** J. Allison Archbold, Esq., Daniel "Pat" Ball, Ariane Dart, Norbert P. Donnelly, Jean Weidner Goldstein, Teri A Hansen, Marcy Klein, Katherine A. Martucci, Cornelia Matson, Keith Monda, Mike Quillen, Jeannie Russell, Pauline L. Wamsler, Michael J. Wilson, Esq., Margaret Wise, and Jennifer O. Rominiecki, President & CEO of Selby Gardens





## The Autumn Pixie *Guarianthe bowringiana*

You will find *Guarianthe bowringiana* in its native Central America, from southern Mexico to Honduras. One of the plant's signature characteristics is its remarkable adaptability. *Guarianthe bowringiana* typically flourishes in several types of environments—as lithophytes in rocky, sun-splashed ravines; as terrestrials on quartz sand alongside fast-moving streams; and as epiphytes.

*Guarianthe bowringiana*'s name has an interesting history dating back to the late 19th century. Originally, it was known as *Cattleya autumnalis*—dubbed by James Veitch & Sons, who discovered the plant and displayed it in London in 1885. When *Cattleya autumnalis* earned a First Class Certificate by the Royal Horticultural Society, it got a new name: *Cattleya bowringiana*. That moniker paid homage to a loyal customer, John C. Bowring. The Windsor Forest native was a dedicated hobbyist of orchids, and the son of Sir John Bowring, who served Queen Victoria as a diplomat in China. Now fast forward to 2003, when Robert Dressler and Wesley Higgins coined the name *Guarianthe*. And the rest is history.

### ABOUT

- The name *Guarianthe* is based on the Costa Rican name for orchid, *guaria*, and *anthe*, for the Greek term flower.
- *Guarianthe bowringiana* grows at altitudes from several hundred feet above sea level to as high as 3,500 feet and is able to thrive in a wide variety of environments.



# WHAT'S IN BLOOM

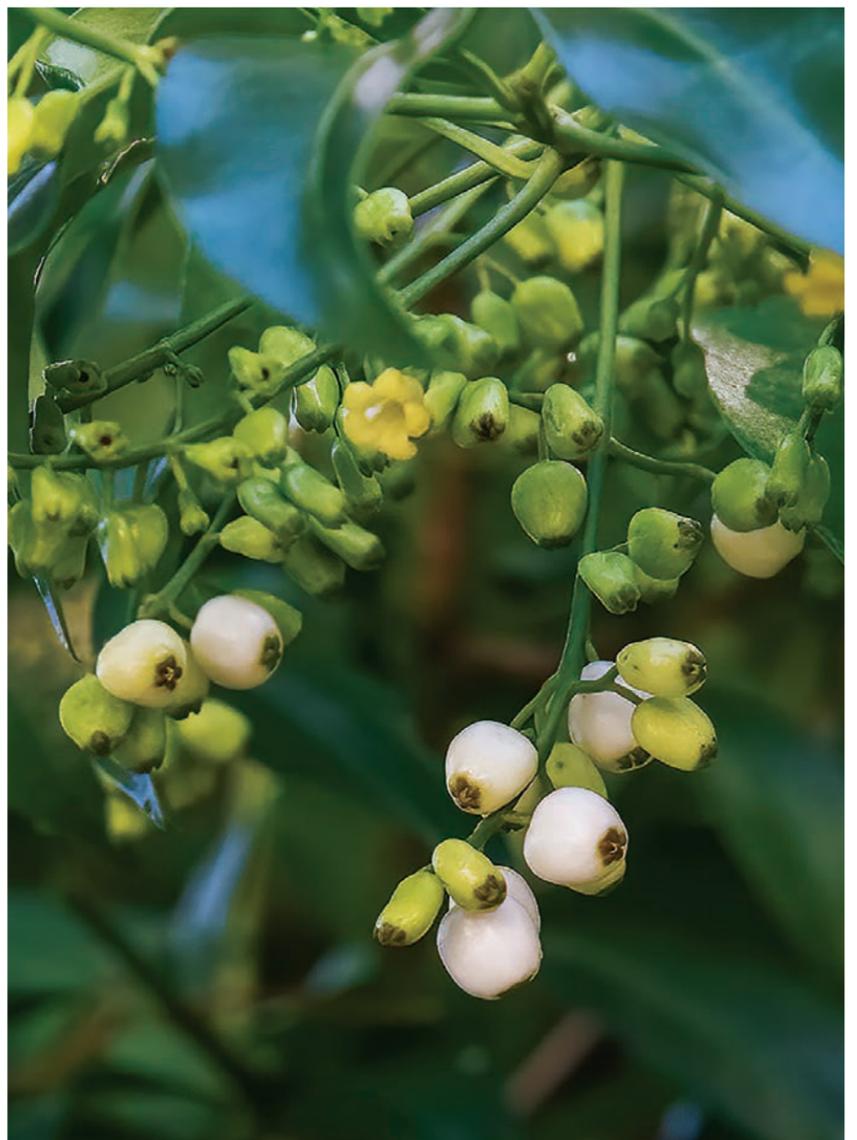
## Snowberry *Chiococca alba*

Snowberry is an evergreen vine-like shrub that occurs naturally in pine rocklands, shell mounds, and coastal strands and hammocks. This plant can grow to 15 feet tall and equally wide as it clambers over other shrubs and trees.

Snowberry is native to Florida and typically blooms spring through fall, though it may flower year-round in appropriate climates. Its fragrant, yellow, bell-shaped flowers attract a variety of insects, and its milky white berries are consumed by birds and small mammals.

### ABOUT

- The *Chiococca alba* can grow to 15 feet tall and equally wide.
- The *Chiococca alba* is also a larval host for the Miami blue butterfly (*Cyclargus thomasi*) and the snowberry clearwing moth (*Hemaris diffinis*).



THE ORCHID SHOW 2021:  
AERIALISTS FROM THE  
TREE TOP  
TO THE



# BIG TOP!

Selby Gardens' annual Orchid Show brings together two of Sarasota, Florida's most renowned legacies—orchids and the circus. Presented in collaboration with the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art (The Ringling), *The Orchid Show 2021: Aerialists from the Tree Top to the Big Top!* celebrates the breathtaking beauty of orchids in tree-top canopies high above the forest floor with the artistry and spectacle of the circus, particularly the aerialists who perform extraordinary feats of human ability high above captivated crowds. Pairing astonishing air plants with amazing aerial acts enables a fascinating exploration of the intersection of nature and entertainment.

*Please turn the page to learn more about this remarkable, high-flying show, and the man responsible for making it happen. ➡*



Presented by:



All circus posters are courtesy of the collection of Howard and Janice Tibbals

# A DAZZLING ODE TO EPIPHYTES AND CIRCUS AERIALISTS

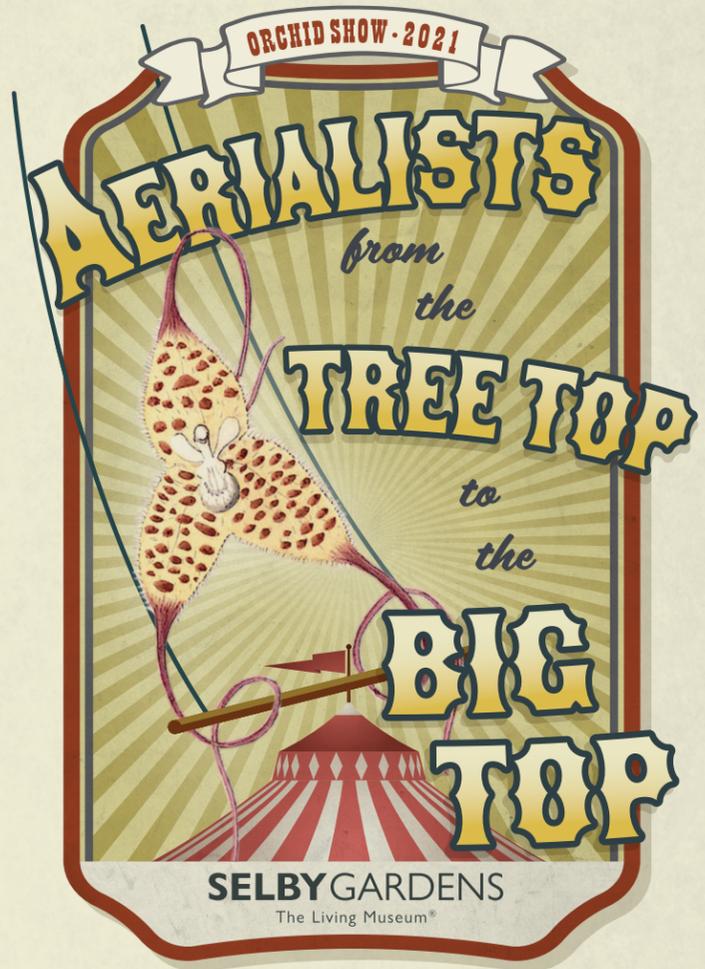
When Dr. David Berry was a boy growing up in his native Chicago, he loved it when the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus would come to town. He marveled at the amazing sights, especially the high-flying trapeze artists who flew with abandon beneath the big top.

“I have very fond recollections of it as a child,” says Berry, who joined Selby Gardens in June in a new position of Vice President for Visitor Engagement and Chief Museum Curator. “The circus was the largest form of popular entertainment in this country for a very long period of time. And it provides a lens through which to view many different aspects of popular cultural history—advertising, the railroad network, politics and more.”

And soon, visitors to Selby Gardens will be able to look at orchids from this same perspective.

This year’s Orchid Show unites the legacies of two iconic Sarasota institutions, Selby Gardens and Ringling’s circus, with the high-flying theme “Aerialists from the Tree Top to the Big Top!”

It seems only fitting that Berry has joined Selby Gardens following a 10-year career at another enduring Ringling entity, the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, a.k.a. The Ringling, where he served as associate director.



The Orchid Show 2021 is, in fact, presented in collaboration with The Ringling. It celebrates two vastly different yet symbolically similar works of art—the stunning beauty of orchids in tree-top canopies, perched high above the ground, and the spectacular artistry of the circus aerialists of old.

This marriage of nature and popular entertainment—combining the most extensive orchid collection in the world with classic posters from “The Greatest Show on Earth” and other circuses—takes place from Oct. 9 through Nov. 28. Berry is no stranger to Selby Gardens or the Orchid Show, having consulted in the role of curator for the event since 2016. The challenge, he says, is to find a way to present the orchid collection differently from year to year.

“That’s also the fun of it—to think of different ways to interpret the subject and communicate some aspect of the strength of Selby Gardens’ collection or the nature of its research to its visitors,” he says. “One of the keys is to convey the role of orchids as epiphytes or ‘air’ plants. In batting around ideas with colleagues earlier in the year, the connection between plant life in the air and circus aerialists under the big top was too great to pass up.

“In five minutes, we were bouncing around all these similarities—it’s about strength, balance, resilience, color, spectacle, and theatricality. And it took off from there.”

The show is deeply rooted in Selby Gardens’ status as holding the world’s best scientifically documented collection of orchids. As always, the Orchid Show highlights the diversity and richness of the Orchidaceae family, one of the largest families of flowering plants on earth.





The synergy with Sarasota's extensive circus history fortifies the theme of this year's show. Once the winter quarters of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, the city remains the home of many circus performers and their families. In addition to The Ringling, housing the finest circus collections in existence, Sarasota is home to the Circus Arts Conservatory and associated Sailor Circus Academy, the oldest youth circus in America.

Here's how the show will be structured: The breathtaking display of living plants in the Tropical Conservatory will relate the beauty and diversity of epiphytic orchids to the drama and theatricality of aerial acts, such as wire walkers and trapeze artists. The display will feature an abundance of orchids of bright colors and bold patterns suspended from various heights and suggestive of certain aerial acts, creating a spectacular show.

The north gallery of the Museum of Botany & the Arts will showcase vintage circus posters featuring high-flying circus performers, on loan from the Tibbals Circus Collection at The Ringling. The posters are some of the finest examples of the art of lithography, which is also well represented among the botanical illustrations housed in Selby Gardens' Research Library. The south gallery will focus on epiphytes, as illustrated through specimens from Selby Gardens' research collections. The gallery will also highlight attributes of orchids, such as color and pattern, which enable these often-showy plants to "perform" for their respective pollinators.

"The real beauty of this show is that this is something unique about Sarasota as a place," Berry says. "Orchids are central to Selby Gardens and its mission and stature as a major and defining cultural institution. Factor in The Ringling and its circus heritage and you have a show that is truly special."



### DR. DAVID BERRY

*Vice President for Visitor Engagement and Chief Museum Curator*

Dr. David Berry couldn't have felt more at home when he joined Selby Gardens this June in the newly created role of Vice President for Visitor Engagement and Chief Museum Curator.

After all, the distinguished museum curator had been playing an integral consulting role in Selby Gardens' annual Orchid Show since 2016—and the drive time to his new job was virtually unchanged. That's because Berry had worked since 2011 as associate director of the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art. His experience at The Ringling, coupled with extensive knowledge of Selby Gardens' mission and an international museum background, made him an ideal addition.

"David's extensive background and knowledge in exhibits, education, and engagement is a perfect fit for this role," said Jennifer Rominecki, President & CEO of Selby Gardens. "We are thrilled to welcome him to the Selby Gardens team."

Prior to working at The Ringling, Berry was project curator at the Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology at the University of Oxford. David holds a Ph.D. in the History of Art from Oxford, a certificate in museum studies from Northwestern University, and a bachelor's degree in English Literature and Art/Art History from Colgate University.

"I've always had an interest in nature and the outdoors," he says. "My connection with Selby started in 2014, when I was invited to give a lecture related to an aspect of my doctoral research about the early history of museums, gardens and libraries. So I've come at much of my work from an historical perspective—understanding the development of different types of collections, including botanical, and the founding of institutions as places that interface with the public."

He never imagined at the time, but it was the first step on a path to Selby Gardens.

# SEEING THE

In a world constantly divided by conflict, a new, cutting-edge exhibit coming to the Historic Spanish Point campus in mid-September offers a symbolic, unifying bridge to continents around the globe.



The innovative show is one part augmented reality, one part United Nations with a horticultural twist. And it adds up to what Jennifer Rominiecki, president & CEO, calls “botanical diplomacy.”

The actual name of the year-long exhibition taking place at Selby Gardens’ Historic Spanish Point campus is *Seeing the Invisible*. This unique exhibition will allow visitors to admire contemporary artworks alongside other garden-goers around the world through the magic of augmented reality (AR) technology.

Co-curated by Hadas Maor and Tal Michael Haring, *Seeing the Invisible* is the most ambitious and expansive exhibition to date of contemporary artworks created with AR. In essence, it will place the same pieces “virtually” in different outdoor locations across the globe to create viewing experiences that offer both parallels and contrasts.

Selby Gardens is one of 12 gardens across six countries taking part in the boundary-pushing experience. *Seeing the Invisible* will also open simultaneously at Denver Botanic Gardens, Eden Project (Cornwall, UK), Jerusalem Botanical Gardens, Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden (Cape Town, South Africa), Massachusetts Horticultural Society (Wellesley, MA), Royal Botanical Gardens (Ontario), Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria (Melbourne, Australia), San Diego Botanic Garden, and Tucson Botanical Gardens.



“This is such an exciting and innovative collaboration,” Rominiecki says. “In a way, it’s like we’re joining hands with all these different countries all over the world. This project transcends any kind of politics and becomes a way to unify and connect the world through botanical gardens.”

Here’s how it will work: Visitors will access the exhibition via an app on their smartphone or tablet activated on-site at the participating gardens. The app, in turn, will showcase new works by more than a dozen international artists. *Seeing the Invisible* will feature AR works by the following artists: Ai Weiwei (b. 1957, Beijing, China; lives and works in Berlin Tempelhof Airport, Germany); Refik Anadol (b. 1985, Istanbul, Turkey; lives and works in Los Angeles, USA); El Anatsui (b. 1944, Anyako, Ghana; lives and works in Nigeria); Ori Gersht (b. 1967, Tel Aviv, Israel; lives and works in London, UK); Isaac Julien CBE (b.1960, London, UK; lives and works in London, UK); Mohammed Kazem (b. 1969, Dubai, UAE; lives and works in Dubai, UAE); Sigalit Landau (b. 1969, Jerusalem, Israel; lives and works in Tel Aviv, Israel); Daito Manabe (b. 1976, Tokyo, Japan; lives and works in Tokyo, Japan);

*Gulf Coast Community Foundation is the lead sponsor and SouthTech is the technology sponsor for Marie Selby Botanical Gardens participation in the exhibition.*

# THE INVISIBLE



Mohammed Kazem, *Directions (Zero)*, 2010, Project for a situated work in public space, Studies ©Mohammed Kazem

Sarah Meyohas (b. 1991, New York City, USA; lives and works in New York City, USA); Mel O’Callaghan (b. 1975, Sydney, Australia; lives and works in Paris, France); Pamela Rosenkranz (b. 1979, Switzerland; lives and works in Zurich, Switzerland); Timur Si-Qin (b. 1984; lives and works in New York City, USA); Jakob Kudsk Steensen (b. 1987, Denmark; lives and works in Berlin, Germany).

Initiated by the Jerusalem Botanical Gardens and Outset Contemporary Art Fund, this is the first exhibition of its kind to be developed in collaboration between botanical gardens and artists from around the world.

“The interplay of these augmented reality works in vibrant natural settings breaks down the binary between what is often considered ‘natural’ versus ‘digital,’ and in this way provides an exhibition experience that is much more connected to the way we live today,” says *Seeing the Invisible* Co-Curator Tal Michael Haring.

The exhibition also brings Selby Gardens’ The Living Museum® operating model to the Historic Spanish Point campus for the first time.

To view this ground-breaking exhibition at the Historic Spanish Point campus starting in mid-September, download the free *Seeing the Invisible* app available for iPhone and Android on [selby.org](http://selby.org).

“I think what’s exciting for our members and visitors is that when they go to the Historic Spanish Point campus and view this exhibition, there will be people viewing the exact same exhibition at the same time all across the world,” says Rominiecki. “It’s really an amazing opportunity for worldwide unity. You’ll be here in the Sarasota area looking at the artwork, while a corresponding person in Australia or South Africa or Israel will be doing the same thing. I think there’s something really powerful about the connections that we are building among all the people who visit the sites for this exhibition.”

**SEEING**  
*The* **INVISIBLE**

# FIRST PHASE OF DREAM UNDERWAY



*An artist's rendition of the Welcome Center*

The ceremonial shovels have turned the Selby Gardens soil and the celebratory remarks have been delivered. And now, after years of planning, determination, and hard work, the first phase of the Master Plan has begun to unfold on the 15-acre Downtown Sarasota campus.

The groundbreaking festivities on June 3 officially ushered in a new, trailblazing era for the gardens—one that will enhance the organization's impact long into the future. A centerpiece of Phase One, the most ambitious stage of a three-phase process, will be a stunning new building—the Living Energy Access Facility (LEAF), which will accommodate parking, a gift shop and a restaurant.

The LEAF will be home to a 50,000-square-foot solar array that will make Selby Gardens the first botanical garden complex in the world to achieve the coveted net-positive rating, meaning that it will generate more power than it uses. Also, a filtration system will treat stormwater runoff from the area and return clean water to Sarasota Bay.

#### Other highlights of Phase One will include:

- A series of **rain gardens** built to mimic natural water management systems.
- An **edible garden** to provide fresh produce for the **garden-level café**.
- A new **Welcome Center** to better accommodate and orient guests.
- A cutting-edge **Plant Research Center** that will include a state-of-the-art **Herbarium and Laboratory** as well as a **Research Library** to appropriately steward rare books and prints dating to the 1700s.



*Board of Trustees and their significant others break ground on the Master Plan for the Downtown Sarasota campus*

The project has been guided by the international landscape architecture studio, OLIN, building firm Overland Partners and civil engineer Kimley-Horn, along with Willis Smith Construction serving as construction manager.

“The Master Plan is innovating a greener future, one where architecture blends into the landscape, creates its own energy and is informed by its ecological context,” said Overland Partners Design Performance Director John Byrd. “It will inspire others and serve as a model of sustainable, resilient design.”

Added Jennifer Rominiecki, Selby Gardens' President & CEO, "We are taking an established civic and cultural asset and allowing room for our collections, research and educational programs to be protected and sustainable for generations to come."

Keep up-to-date on the progress at [selby.org](http://selby.org).

# ART MEETS SCIENCE

Selby Gardens research botanist Dr. Sally Chambers helps Ringling College students creatively explore biodiversity topics

Dr. Sally Chambers has traveled to the Appalachian Mountains and to many tropical locations to conduct research over her career as a research botanist. But in the spring of 2021, the noted fern expert at Selby Gardens undertook a memorable new adventure virtually in her own back yard—teaching a class called “Biodiversity of Earth” at Sarasota’s Ringling College of Art and Design.

“I’m passionate about teaching, so I thought this would be a great opportunity for me and for Selby Gardens,” says Chambers. “It was my first time teaching art students instead of students studying biology, and I enjoyed being able to share my passion with a broader audience.”

Chambers taught students about different kinds of plants and animals and discussed broader concepts such as conservation. “Her teaching style was really fun,” says student Elena May. “She would share little tidbits of information about her own work and experiences, and her love for her work really shone through in every session.”

As a final project, students were asked to create a piece of artwork examining a topic covered in the class. Student Cari Beattie became intrigued by epiphytes during the course, and she made the plants that grow on other plants the subject of a vibrant four-by-two-foot oil painting. “There are so many beautiful native ones in Florida,” says Beattie. “I even ended up getting one for myself to take care of, because I just found them so beautiful.”

Elena May created an illustrated field guide for the plants in her grandmother’s garden in Malaysia. The project allowed her to explore Malaysia’s biodiversity, culture, and connection to nature as well as her own family’s interest in plants.

“This project was an excuse to visit my grandmother and spend time with her learning about the things that she loves,” says Elena. “And then I thought, why not share the information she knows? Her garden is obviously successful. So I thought I’d create a field guide and share her cultural and experiential knowledge with other people. I believe plants bring people together, and many Malaysians have a garden of some kind.”

Chambers plans to teach again at Ringling this fall. She enjoyed observing the students’ artistic processes and appreciates how both art and science require an ability to be innovative and imaginative.



## ABOUT DR. CHAMBERS

Dr. Sally Chambers is a Selby Gardens research botanist whose research focuses on ferns and plants of conservation concern. She became interested in a botany career as an undergraduate at the University of Kentucky, earning her

degree in natural resource and conservation management in 2009. She earned her Ph.D. in plant ecology and evolutionary biology at Purdue University in 2014, and completed a three year postdoc at the University of Florida before starting at Selby Gardens. Dr. Chambers’ research projects have taken her from the Appalachian Mountains, to Hawaii, and even to the small Caribbean island of Dominica.

“I’m always trying to instill in students that science is totally a creative process,” she says. “You start out with a question you don’t know the answer to, and sometimes you have to figure out different ways to address that question. You might have this one plan in mind. Then lo and behold, there’s some aspect to it that isn’t functioning, and you have to bring out the duct tape and figure out how to fix it.”

For Beattie, her time in the class not only sparked a new interest in epiphytes but also inspired her to start volunteering at Selby Gardens’ Downtown Sarasota campus. She has worked in both the Conservatory and the Museum of Botany & the Arts, where she can tap into skills and concepts she’s learning about as a student at Ringling College.

“Sally was very helpful and just inspirational to me,” says Beattie. “It seems like everyone found her to be a very fun, kind person and very knowledgeable. She just knows how to interact with the students in order to get them excited. So I’m glad that I now have more interests and now volunteer somewhere I might not have previously.”



Student Cari Beattie displays her colorful, epiphyte-inspired work.



Elena May poses with her grandmother in Malaysia, the subject of the illustrated field guide she created of her grandmother’s garden.

# MEET OUR ARRAY OF TALENTED



Intern Bren Gonzalez (left) in action at Camp Lookout!

Interns are part of the lifeblood of Selby Gardens, an intrinsic part of the operation and an invaluable source of learning and growth for the participants. Tina Scarpino, Vice President for Administration, views it as a win-win for the organization and the students. “We are also thrilled to invite these young individuals to experience working at a botanical garden,” she says, “and in return we open their eyes to an opportunity they may not have considered or realized existed before.”

**“IT IS OUR GOAL TO CREATE ROLE MODELS FOR OUR INTERNS THAT WILL ENCOURAGE THEM TO CONTINUE ON IN THEIR FIELD OF CHOICE—AND MAYBE EVEN AT A BOTANICAL GARDEN!”**

**– TINA SCARPINO**  
Vice President for Administration

*Here’s a look at the Selby Gardens’ 2021 internship opportunities and the young adults who are filling the roles.*

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

This initiative provides access to cross-cultural career-oriented experiences for those seeking to broaden their exposure to the professional work world. This experience is fully funded by the Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce through the Opportunities For All grant. The summer 2021 intern in this program is:



### **MATTHEW BROWN**

*Florida State University, pursuing a Bachelor’s degree in Management*

This summer, Matthew is working with our Guest Relations team as a Summer Associate, greeting guests, handling admission and membership sales, and learning best practices for visitor engagement. Matthew is also working closely with his supervisor to learn about practical and hands-on supervisory skills, in line with his major.

# INTERNS

## SMITHSONIAN AFFILIATES INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Smithsonian Affiliates invited Selby Gardens to participate in a pilot initiative to test and assess a collaborative internship program. The program matches 75 undergraduates across the country with 25 Smithsonian Affiliates, of which Selby Gardens is an Affiliate.

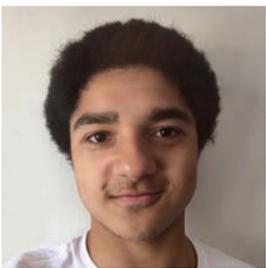
The interns focused on the exhibition *We Dream A World: African-American Landscape Painters of Mid-Century Florida, the Highwaymen*. The information the interns culled from their work with Selby Gardens is also being shared on the Smithsonian's Learning Lab digital platform and accessible by 50,000–70,000 monthly users. It is also being used for educational activities organized by the Smithsonian Affiliates. Finally, the interns shared the body of content that they compiled at Selby Gardens at the virtual National Youth Conversation program.



### ANIA TY

*Oregon State University, pursuing a double major in Political Science and Public Policy with minors in Ethnic Studies and Public Health*

Ania's Learning Lab collection contribution focused on the only female artist in the exhibit—Mary Ann Carroll.



### MILES MIKOFSKY

*University of Chicago, pursuing a B.A. in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations and Creative Writing*

Miles interviewed various Highwaymen artists as part of his contribution to the Learning Lab collection.



### SAMANTHA WETHERELL

*University of Arizona, pursuing dual degrees—a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, Economics and Law, and a Bachelor of Science in Environmental and Water Resource Economics*

Samantha's Learning Lab collection contribution included the identification of flora and fauna in Highwaymen works of art and connecting that to Selby Gardens flora and fauna.

## CROSS COLLEGE ALLIANCE ENVIRONMENTAL DISCOVERY AWARD INTERNSHIP

This program is driven by an alliance of five institutions, dedicated to higher education and community building along the West Coast of Florida. One of the five institutions is New College of Florida (NCF), which has partnered with Selby Gardens in years past providing additional internship opportunities. This summer, we were awarded the Cross College Alliance Environmental Discovery Award, which provides paid, high-quality experiential learning opportunities. Our intern has assisted in the development of curricula for Summer Camp Lookout! It's an environmental field studies camp designed for campers entering 1st–5th grades. The intern in this program is:



### BREN GONZALEZ

*New College of Florida, pursuing a degree in Environmental Studies with some focus in Biology and Music*

Bren has gained hands-on experience teaching young children, has learned about the diverse ecosystems represented by our two coastal campuses, and has practiced tailoring that knowledge to meet the needs of a variety of age groups.

## WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

The amazing plants and exhibits you see at Selby Gardens are made possible with the help of outstanding volunteers and interns. If you are interested in getting involved, email [volunteer@selby.org](mailto:volunteer@selby.org) or call 941.366.5731 ext. 227.

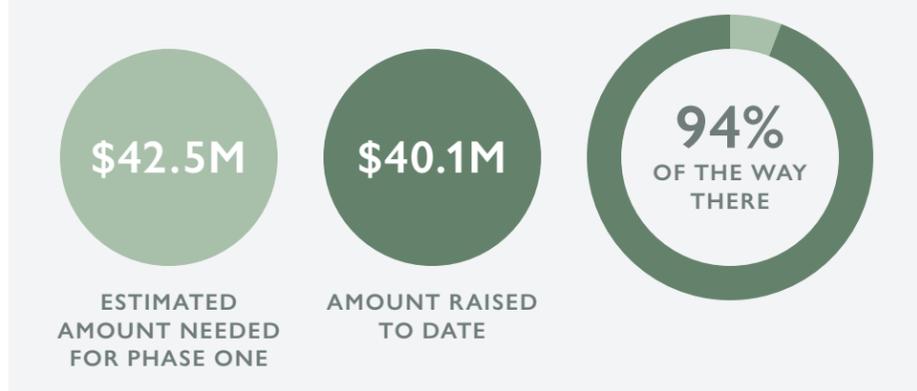
# RECENT GIVING FUELS FUTURE GROWTH

The deeply rooted relationship Selby Gardens has cultivated with the Sarasota community was never more evident in four memorable months from April to July. In an outpouring of generosity, five separate million-dollar gifts, coupled with other contributions, brought Phase One funding for the Downtown Sarasota campus Master Plan to the brink of completion.



Selby Gardens' supporters break ground on the Master Plan at the Downtown Sarasota campus

## PHASE I FUNDING



The outcome is that Selby Gardens has now raised \$40.1 million, representing 94 percent of the \$42.5 million estimated to be needed to implement the initial phase—including a remarkable \$3.5 million raised in May alone. “I can’t say enough about the generosity of our donors—their support has allowed us to begin this exciting new era for Selby Gardens,” says President & CEO Jennifer Rominiecki.

For Hermione Gilpin, Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Planning, the show of support underscored how much Selby Gardens means to the region.

“Selby Gardens has become what Marie Selby always envisioned it to be—a garden for the community,” she says. “Many more people are identifying with it as their garden, and as a real asset to the area. Our relationship and partnership within the arts and cultural communities, and the scientific community, has really made us a linchpin.”

On another level, Gilpin sees the gifts as a mirror of the community’s belief in the vision for Selby Gardens.

“It’s rare that you have a campaign like this where this many people come forward with such large gifts in what was essentially a six-week period,” she says. “Their donations sent a powerful message that said: ‘I believe in this organization and I want you to help share it with the community.’”

## HERE’S A LOOK AT THOSE WHO MADE THE VITAL FIVE \$1 MILLION GIFTS IN THE ORDER RECEIVED:

**Jean Weidner Goldstein:** Jean has long been a devoted supporter of Selby Gardens, is a member of the Board of Trustees and is co-chair of the *Innovating A Greener Future* campaign. “Selby Gardens is an extraordinary garden of international stature, not only for its world-class collections, but for the Master Plan,” says Goldstein. “Becoming the world’s first net positive botanical garden complex will ensure that Selby Gardens is an internationally renowned cornerstone of sustainability for the generations to come.”

**The Floyd C. Johnson and Flo Singer Johnson Foundation:** The foundation is dedicated to enriching the human experience through the arts, education, the environment, and animals and wildlife. “The environmental sustainability aspects of Selby Gardens’ Master Plan are innovative and progressive,” says Diane Barth, board president of The Floyd C. Johnson and Flo Singer Johnson Foundation. “This Master Plan will positively impact our entire region. We are pleased to provide this capital support needed for Selby Gardens’ Master Plan.”

**Susan and Zuheir Sofia:** Susan is a former banker, public school educator, and a member of Selby Gardens’ Advisory Committee. Zuheir is the Chairman and CEO of Business Bank of Florida, Senior Advisor of Elizabeth Park Capital and is the past President, COO, and Director of Huntington Bancshares. “Selby Gardens is a jewel in our community,” Susan says. “It attracts visitors from all over the world and focuses on the environment, horticulture, and education.” Adds her husband: “Selby Gardens’ transformational Master Plan aligns with our passion for advancing Sarasota’s cultural institutions and connects our community with the region and the world.”

**Audrey Robbins and Harry Leopold:** Their gift had special meaning beyond benefiting Selby Gardens; it was made in honor of Audrey’s son, Thomas F. Malone III (Trey), who passed away in 2012. The tribute will feature the phrase “Lead A Good Life,” which Trey wrote in his final letter to his family and friends. Audrey and Harry are pleased that “this project will enhance the lives of many in our community.” Audrey added, “As champions of arts and culture in our community, we are proud to support Selby Gardens’ forward-thinking Master Plan in honor of Trey.”

**Marcia Jean Taub and Peter Swain:** “We are elated to continue the legacy of support for Selby Gardens that started with my parents,” says Marcia Jean. “Selby Gardens is a jewel in our community, and just as my parents did, we believe in Selby Gardens’ vision and are excited to be a part of this next chapter in Selby Gardens’ future.” As a part of their gift, Marcia Jean and Peter provided a matching challenge for Selby Gardens’ Solar Array Campaign, leading to almost 150 solar panels being named and raising more than \$375,000 for the Master Plan.

# MARIE SELBY BOTANICAL GARDENS

CORPORATE, FOUNDATION, AND PUBLIC

# PARTNERSHIPS

Investments made to Selby Gardens by community partners help us accomplish our mission to provide bayfront sanctuaries connecting people with air plants of the world, native nature, and our regional history.

To become involved, or for more information, contact **Hermione Gilpin** at [hgilpin@selby.org](mailto:hgilpin@selby.org).



THE CHARLES T. BAUER  
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION



THE ANDREW AND  
JUDITH ECONOMOS  
FOUNDATION

THE GARDENER  
FOUNDATION



ELAINE NICPON  
MARIEB CHARITABLE  
FOUNDATION



THE STONE  
FOUNDATION

ROBERTA SUDAKOFF  
FOUNDATION



JAMES AND MARYANN  
ARMOUR FOUNDATION



LINNIE E. DALBECK  
MEMORIAL FOUNDATION



THE CHRISMAN FAMILY  
FOUNDATION



SWEETSPARKMAN  
ARCHITECTURE & INTERIORS

LILLIAN FESSENDEN  
FAMILY FOUNDATION

D.R. LONG FOUNDATION



## MEDIA & IN-KIND PARTNERS



SARASOTA  
MAGAZINE



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#### DOWNTOWN SARASOTA

1534 Mound Street, Sarasota, FL 34236

TEL 941.366.5731

#### HOURS AND ADMISSION

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Closed Christmas Day)

Members	FREE
Member Guests	\$10
Adults	\$20
Ages 5–17	\$10
Age 4 and under	FREE

\* Special pricing for Spring exhibition



#### HISTORIC SPANISH POINT

337 N. Tamiami Trail, Osprey, FL 34229

TEL 941.366.5731

#### HOURS AND ADMISSION

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Closed Christmas Day)

Members	FREE
Member Guests	\$7
Adults	\$15
Ages 5–17	\$10
Age 4 and under	FREE

## MARIE SELBY BOTANICAL GARDENS

1534 Mound St., Sarasota, FL 34236

## SPECIAL EVENTS



### The Orchid Show— Lunch in the Gardens

Wednesday, October 13, 2021

11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Chaired by leading community philanthropists, Marie Selby Botanical Gardens' Lunch in the Gardens series features renowned speakers over a delightful lunch. Chairs: Ariane Dart and Pauline L. Wamsler  
Series Chairs: Jean Weidner Goldstein, Teri A Hansen, and Margaret Wise

Sponsorships starting at \$1,000 and individual tickets are \$150



### Spooky Stories and Ghost Tours at The Point

Thursday, October 28–Saturday, October 30, 2021 • 7–8:30 p.m.

Evening tours led by storytellers revealing the spooky side of history at the Historic Spanish Point campus.

\$15 for members/\$20 for non-members. Must be 13 years old to participate.



### Selby Spooktacular

Sunday, October 31, 2021 • 10 a.m.–Noon

Family-friendly celebration including trick-or-treating, pumpkin decorating, and frightening (but not too scary) activities for older children. Costumes encouraged!

FREE for members and with regular admission.



### Lights in Bloom®:

*An Open-Air Holiday Light Show*

Saturday, December 11–Thursday,

December 23, 2021 • Saturday,

December 26–Sunday, January 2, 2022

6–9 p.m. • Early entry 5–6 p.m.

Throughout Selby Gardens' Downtown Sarasota campus, guests will be immersed in the glow of more than two million lights.



For up-to-date information and to purchase tickets, please visit [selby.org](http://selby.org).

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

### VIRTUAL LECTURES



### Botanical Briefing: *Aerialists of the Plant World*

Wednesday, November 10, 2021 • Noon–1 p.m.

Experience the wonders of orchids, bromeliads, and other air plants, or epiphytes, with Selby Gardens' Ringmaster of Botany, Bruce Holst.



### Botanical Briefing: *The Orchid Show 2021—A Strikingly Stupendous Spectacle of Astonishing Aerial Acts!*

Wednesday, November 17, 2021

Noon–1 p.m.

Join Dr. David Berry, Vice President for Visitor Engagement and Chief Museum Curator at Selby Gardens, and Jennifer Lemmer Posey, Tibbals Curator of Circus at The Ringling, for a behind-the-scenes look at the making of this year's Orchid Show.



### Botanical Briefing: *Taking Flight with Beautiful Butterflies*

Friday, November 3, 2021 • Noon–1 p.m.

Join us for a presentation by Antonio Gasparoni, Guest Relations Associate at the Historic Spanish Point campus. Antonio will share his experience caring for the Butterfly House at the Historic Spanish Point campus.

## SAVE THE DATE



### The Orchid Ball

Saturday, February 12, 2022 • 6–11 p.m.

Sarasota's premier annual gala. Inspired by the Jean & Alfred Goldstein Exhibition, *Robert Mapplethorpe and Patti Smith: Flowers, Poetry, and Light*.

Orchid Ball Chairs: Liebe Gamble, Ashley Kozel, and Retta Wagner