

THE

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SANCTUARY



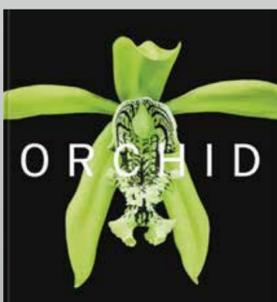
THE ORCHID
SHOW 2023

MARIE SELBY
BOTANICAL
GARDENS





“Many chapters have been written in the story of Selby Gardens, and we are about to turn the page on the next one.”



Fifty years ago, Marie Selby Botanical Gardens was formally established. But the creation of this world-class institution and cultural jewel in Sarasota’s crown didn’t happen overnight. It took many imaginative people, numerous bold decisions, and countless hours of hard work to make Selby Gardens what it is today.

Of course, it all started with Marie Selby’s selfless gift of her property to the community she called home. She intended it to serve as a botanical garden “for the enjoyment of the general public,” a place to appreciate “the splendor of the plant world in one of the most lovely settings in Florida.” To her honor, Marie’s namesake Gardens are indeed that—and so much more.

As you’ll read in the pages that follow, our 2023 Orchid Show highlights the stories that got us from there to here. It also celebrates the plant family for which Selby Gardens has become internationally known, with a profusion of beautiful orchids to admire throughout our Tropical Conservatory. We even have a new book about our peerless orchid collection; it’s a must-have for anyone who loves Selby Gardens or simply loves the plant family Orchidaceae.

Many chapters have been written in the story of Selby Gardens, and we are about to turn the page on the next one. Or maybe we should call it a whole new volume. As we go to print with this issue of *The Sanctuary*, we are finalizing details on precisely when and how we will dedicate Phase One of the Master Plan for our Downtown Sarasota campus, which opens this season. Look for more on these festivities soon!

Phase One will set Selby Gardens even farther apart as a leader among botanical gardens. It also will bring visitors—from Sarasota and around the world—closer than ever to our vital and fascinating work in plant research, conservation, and environmental education. From the outset of our master planning process, we said that we would grow the gardens, reveal our hidden treasures, and safeguard the future of this special place. We also said we’d responsibly preserve and steward our unique history in the process.

Together, we are creating a botanical garden complex unlike any other. It remains a place to enjoy the “the splendor of the plant world” in one of Florida’s “most lovely settings,” just as Marie Selby intended. And, as a Selby Gardens member, I hope you are proud.

Cheers,

Jennifer O. Rominecki
President & CEO

NEW OFFICERS AND TRUSTEE

Selby Gardens’ Board of Trustees elected **Dr. Joel Morganroth** as Chair and **Teri A Hansen** as Vice Chair for the 2023-24 fiscal year. The Board also elected **Bruce E. Sorensen** to an initial three-year term as a trustee and reelected seven trustees to new three-year terms. **Marianne McComb**, who completed two years of vital service as Board Chair at a critical time in Selby Gardens’ evolution, continues in her role as a trustee. All Board terms started July 1.



DR. JOEL MORGANROTH
CHAIR

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 350 articles and over two dozen books. Last year, Morganroth served as Vice Chair of Selby Gardens and chaired the Board’s Finance Committee.



TERI A HANSEN
VICE CHAIR

Hansen is president and CEO of Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation, a private foundation dedicated to making a difference in Sarasota and beyond. She has more than 30 years of experience in philanthropic leadership, including previous roles as president and CEO of Gulf Coast Community Foundation and vice president at The Cleveland Foundation. Hansen previously chaired the Selby Gardens Advisory Committee for several years.



BRUCE E. SORENSEN
TRUSTEE

Sorensen is a managing director of Baird’s public finance group. He has over 30 years of industry experience in many areas of public finance, including expertise in local government, economic development, and charter school finance. Sorensen has served as a senior banker on hundreds of financings nationwide and raised billions of dollars for projects including schools, energy systems, nonprofits, and government buildings. He previously served on Selby Gardens’ Advisory Committee.

Also continuing their service as Selby Gardens Trustees this year are Daniel “Pat” Ball, Aaron Bellamy, Morgan Bentley, Ariane Dart, Norbert P. Donnelly, Renée James Gilmore, Jean Weidner Goldstein, Mary Braxton-Joseph, Marcy Klein, Katherine A. Martucci, Cornelia Matson, Keith Monda, Michael Quillen, Audrey Robbins, Jeannie Russell, Pauline L. Wamsler, Margaret Wise, and President & CEO Jennifer O. Rominecki.

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Dr. Joel Morganroth, <i>Chair</i>	Morgan Bentley	Marcy Klein	Audrey Robbins
Teri A Hansen <i>Vice Chair</i>	Mary Braxton-Joseph	Katherine A. Martucci	Jeannie Russell
Daniel “Pat” Ball	Ariane Dart	Cornelia Matson	Bruce Sorensen
Aaron Bellamy	Norbert P. Donelly	Marianne McComb	Pauline L. Wamsler
	Renée James Gilmore	Keith Monda	Margaret Wise
	Jean Weidner Goldstein	Michael Quillen	Jennifer O. Rominecki, <i>President & CEO</i>

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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 the National Endowment for the Arts; and are paid for in part by Sarasota County Tourist Development Tax revenues.



CONNECT WITH US

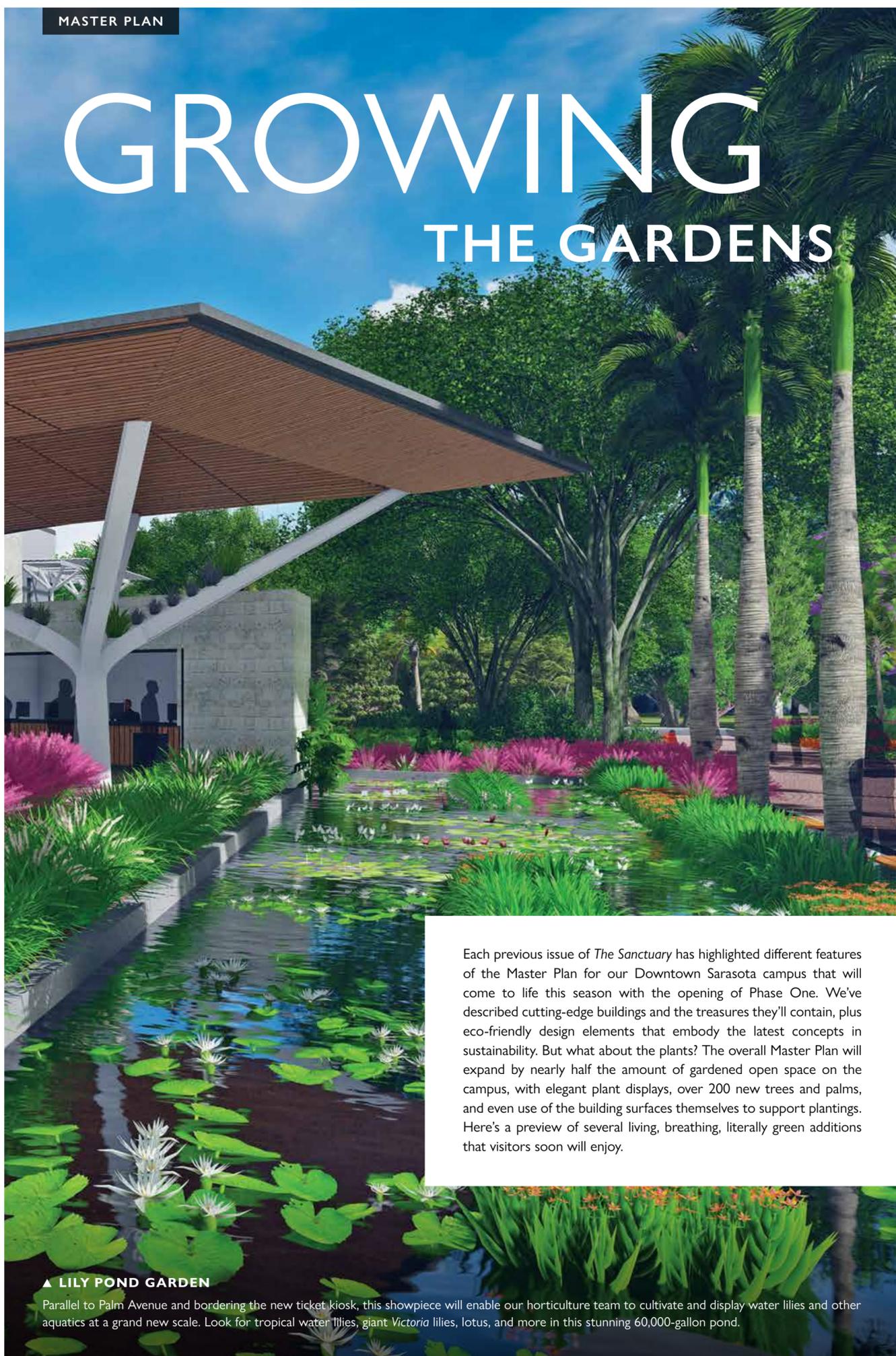


GOVERNANCE

Governing the Gardens

Selby Gardens’ volunteer Board of Trustees is responsible for setting the strategic direction of the organization and adopting sound governance and fiscal-management policies to ensure a sustainable future. Our Trustees’ diverse individual expertise and clear-eyed decision-making as a group have put Selby Gardens on the leading edge of institutions guiding our region forward while preserving what makes it unique. Our Board balances visionary leadership with fiduciary prudence to advance Selby Gardens’ mission.

GROWING THE GARDENS



Each previous issue of *The Sanctuary* has highlighted different features of the Master Plan for our Downtown Sarasota campus that will come to life this season with the opening of Phase One. We've described cutting-edge buildings and the treasures they'll contain, plus eco-friendly design elements that embody the latest concepts in sustainability. But what about the plants? The overall Master Plan will expand by nearly half the amount of gardened open space on the campus, with elegant plant displays, over 200 new trees and palms, and even use of the building surfaces themselves to support plantings. Here's a preview of several living, breathing, literally green additions that visitors soon will enjoy.

▲ LILY POND GARDEN

Parallel to Palm Avenue and bordering the new ticket kiosk, this showpiece will enable our horticulture team to cultivate and display water lilies and other aquatics at a grand new scale. Look for tropical water lilies, giant *Victoria* lilies, lotus, and more in this stunning 60,000-gallon pond.

► LIVING WALLS ON THE LEAF

Three hundred cables extending from the top floor of the Living Energy Access Facility, or LEAF, will support colorful climbing vines like passionflower, sky vine, and coral honeysuckle. In time, this vegetation will cover much of the exterior, cooling the structure while proudly announcing the lush Gardens that await beyond it.

▲ BUNYA BUNYA GARDEN

Selby Gardens' towering bunya bunya tree (*Araucaria bidwillii*) remains the tallest feature on our campus, and now it will enjoy its own surrounding garden. (Watch out for those 10-lb. pine cones!) The entire Phase One project was configured to ensure that this state-champion tree stood unblemished.



▲ EPIPHYTE EPICENTER

This radial garden at the end of the pedestrian-only Palm Avenue Promenade will serve as the new campus hub. Half of this circular nucleus will be completed with Phase One and include a mix of native trees and understory plantings, such as colorful *Neoregelia* bromeliads.



◀ HARDWOOD HAMMOCK

This feature at the heart of the new Arrival Court is anchored by three stately live oaks, two of which were preserved throughout construction. They'll be joined by native palm trees and understory plantings like ferns, coontie, firebush, and saw palmetto.

▲ GLADES GARDEN

Nestled between the LEAF and Welcome Center, this area of natives calling to mind the Everglades will be traversed by every guest who enters the Gardens. Trees here will include longleaf pine and pond cypress, while swamp lily and native grasses are among the understory plantings.

MORE GARDEN FEATURES

Phase One also includes a Rooftop Edible Garden to supply the new restaurant, more "living walls" on the Welcome Gallery and Plant Research Center, hardy plantings along the roofline of the Plant Research Center, and much more. Look for an announcement of our Phase One dedication and grand opening soon!

THE ORCHID SHOW 2023

A 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Since its establishment in 1973, Selby Gardens has formed the best scientifically documented collection of living orchids in the world. The Orchid Show 2023 celebrates our golden anniversary and highlights spectacular orchids from the collection for which we are now known worldwide.

As in past years, The Orchid Show will consist of a horticultural display in the Tropical Conservatory and an exhibition in the Museum of Botany & the Arts. Befitting this annual show's name, the Conservatory will abound with orchids of various shapes, colors, and patterns, illuminating the beauty and diversity of one of the largest families of flowering plants on Earth.

The Museum exhibition will widen the focus to tell the story of our 50 years (so far) as a cultural treasure and scientific leader. A diverse selection of images and artifacts will illustrate that rich history, with emphasis on the remarkable people and plants that make Selby Gardens special.

Here are just a few of the unique pieces of history to see. Be sure to visit the show for much more!



Selby Gardens possesses one of the finest botanical libraries in the southeastern U.S., an important source of epiphyte-related literature for the entire Western Hemisphere. It includes a rare book collection with volumes dating to the mid-1700s. The open book here is English horticulturist James Bateman's monumental work *The Orchidaceae of Mexico and Guatemala*, the largest and one of the rarest books on orchids ever produced (just 125 were printed). The unassuming piece in the foreground is a pamphlet of notes that Charles Darwin prepared for a French translation of his own seminal 1862 orchid book...signed on the cover by Darwin himself!



Scores of plants have been named for Selby Gardens staff and volunteers over the decades. This beautiful orchid with crimson petals and a pink lip is named *Epidendrum holstii*. If the species name sounds familiar... yes, it was named for Bruce Holst, our current vice president for botany. Holst collected this plant and recorded its distribution atop Mount Roraima, a flat-topped mountain floating above the Amazon jungle that inspired Arthur Conan Doyle's "The Lost World" and Paradise Falls in the animated movie "Up."



Selby Gardens' first logo/seal was used from 1974 to 1986. Designed by Dr. Carlyle Luer, an eminent orchidologist who was instrumental in the Gardens' formation, it features representatives of three major epiphytic plant families—orchids (*Rossiglossum grande*), bromeliads (*Tillandsia lindenii*), and gesneriads (*Columnia erythrophaea*)—which continue to be a focus of research, education, and display here.



Selby Gardens' founders—(left to right) Dr. Kiat Tan, Dr. Calaway Dodson, and Dr. Carlyle Luer—ponder plantings in the early days. In 1973, Luer helped recruit Dodson, who was then a botany professor and herbarium curator at the University of Miami, to become our first executive director. He in turn brought his student Tan to serve as the Gardens' first orchid botanist. All three had key roles in transforming an overgrown lot into a world-class botanical garden.



Elizabeth (Libby) Besse volunteered for many years at Selby Gardens as keeper of the herbarium and living plant recorder. She also served as a Trustee and helped organize, fund, and conduct expeditions to remote regions of the Americas and Asia. Although "not an orchid person" by her own admission (she prefers collecting palms and cycads), this intrepid botanical explorer made one of the most fabulous orchid discoveries of the 20th century! On an expedition to Peru in 1981, Besse found a spectacular red "lady slipper" orchid, *Phragmipedium besseae*, which was named in her honor.

Running the length of the Tropical Conservatory is a lava rock wall that was hand-built by Selby Gardens' founders and volunteers. Seen here is the original construction of this signature feature, which today is literally alive with an abundance of plants that have since rooted themselves among its crags. Look for specimens in this year's Orchid Show to be artistically mounted on a variety of materials, including feather rock in a nod to this iconic edifice.

COMING SOON!

THE ORCHID SHOW 2023 A 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Downtown Sarasota Campus
October 7–November 26, 2023
On view 10 a.m.–5 p.m. daily

Presented by

BETTER-GRO.



ORIGIN STORIES



It's often said that everyone has a story. So does every plant.

With more than 20,000 specimens, Selby Gardens' living plant collection holds a lot of stories—more than we could ever tell here. To mark our 50th anniversary, Vice President for Botanical Horticulture Angel Lara selected three of the remarkable specimens that he has tended over the years. Here are their stories in his words.

ORIGIN STORY #1

NAME: *Epidendrum ilense*

FAMILY: Orchidaceae

Epidendrum ilense was initially discovered in 1971 in Ecuador by Selby Gardens' first executive director, Dr. Calaway Dodson. He collected the small plant growing on a fallen tree branch in an area that was already experiencing habitat loss due to agricultural deforestation.

The flowers are white, almost see-through, with a beautiful, fringed lip and arranged in a cluster. Dodson visited the site less than a year later, only to find the area turned into agricultural farmland. With the understanding that this endangered orchid was now close to extinction, *Epidendrum ilense* became the poster child for ex-situ (off-site) conservation. Selby Gardens propagated and shared plants with other botanical and research institutions in an effort to secure its survival.



Dr. Calaway Dodson with *Epidendrum ilense* seedlings in cultivation at Selby Gardens

ORIGIN STORY #2

NAME: *Gasteranthus atratus*

FAMILY: Gesneriaceae

COMMON NAME: Orphan flower

The exact origin of the unfortunate name "orphan flower" is unknown. However, it almost certainly refers to the species' continual preservation despite the overall destruction of the only two documented populations within the western Ecuadorian forest. It was first collected by Selby Gardens' Dr. Mike Madison and Dr. Cal Dodson in 1977. Dr. Hans Wiehler, our first gesneriad botanist, named and described it for science a year later.

Gasteranthus atratus displays bright-yellow, tubular flowers that stand out against its shiny, crinkly, dark mahogany-colored leaves. While designing and creating the gesneriad display in our Tropical Conservatory, I selected this plant as a focal point on the west waterfall. It easily took hold and began to flourish within the rock's nooks and crannies, and it started traveling under a constant drip of water from above. Our backup plants are also thriving in the greenhouse under a timed fine mist emitted periodically throughout the day.

The orphan flower is nearly extirpated from the wild. Selby Gardens has the only known thriving population of *Gasteranthus atratus* worldwide, and we are currently working to repatriate our cultivated material back to Ecuador.



ORIGIN STORY #3

NAME: *Guzmania globosa*

FAMILY: Bromeliaceae

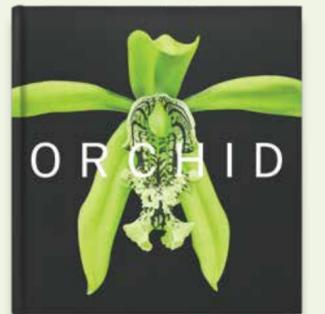
Guzmania globosa is an extremely rare bromeliad that was collected for Selby Gardens by former staff botanist and bromeliad expert Harry Luther. Found growing as an epiphyte in the dense cloud forests of northwestern South America, this odd but beautiful bromeliad covers its inflorescence in a thick, jelly-like substance called mucilage. Over the years, many research botanists have sampled, speculated, and hypothesized as to the reasons for this gooey ooze on its flowers. The jury is still out, but many agree that the most plausible reason has to do with protection from predation.



50TH ANNIVERSARY BOOK

Published to celebrate Selby Gardens' 50th anniversary, *Orchid* is a stunning coffee-table book featuring about 150 photos of vibrant, elegant, sometimes other-worldly orchids in our unmatched collection. The 240-page volume pairs fascinating text by experts on our botany and horticulture staff with stunning, intimate photographs captured by talented Selby Gardens volunteers.

Orchid was produced in partnership with preeminent arts and heritage publishing house Scala Arts Publishers, with generous support from Selby Gardens friends Carol Miller and Virginia Miller. This unique book offers an accessible introduction to orchids for a general audience and an essential resource for aficionados. Set for release in conjunction with our upcoming Orchid Show and 50th anniversary celebration, it will be available in our gift shop and through online and other retail outlets.



CLYDE BUTCHER A NATURAL FIT

He's been called "the Ansel Adams of Florida." In fact, his photographs have hung alongside those of Adams—considered the father of American landscape photography—on museum walls. He's also earned high honors from the Sierra Club, Florida Artists Hall of Fame, and many others. His work has even been commissioned by the United Nations.

Clyde Butcher is revered for his large-format, black-and-white photos of pristine nature—primarily wild Florida and his beloved Everglades. Today, Butcher lives in Venice, not far from some of his other favorite places to photograph, like Myakka River State Park. And this fall, 15 of his famous photos will be displayed amid the native nature of our Historic Spanish Point campus in the next major exhibition there.

Clyde Butcher: Nature Through the Lens will run from November through next August. The show will feature large-scale prints on aluminum of Butcher's beautiful images of plants, animals, and habitats of Florida, exhibited right in the natural landscape. Experiencing his dramatic interpretations of nature outside in this complimentary setting will enable visitors to engage with Butcher's art like never before.

"Clyde Butcher is a living legend—both for his fine-art landscape photography and for his personal mission to use his art for conservation education," says Jennifer O. Rominiecki, president and CEO of Selby Gardens. "His belief in the sanctity of the natural world and his passion for protecting it align so well with Selby Gardens' own conservation work. This show is a natural fit."



**CLYDE BUTCHER:
NATURE THROUGH THE LENS**
November 2023 – August 2024
Historic Spanish Point campus
Learn more about this exhibition at selby.org



MYAKKA OAK 20, 2014
Myakka River State Park, Sarasota

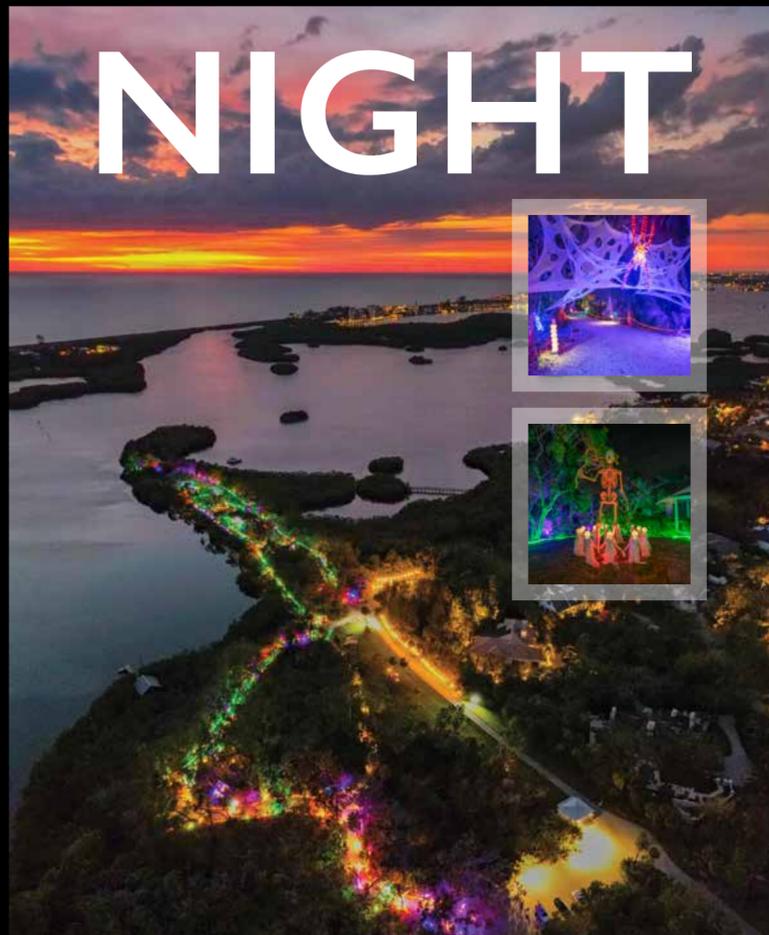
LIGHTS at SPOOKY POINT

OCTOBER 13–31, 2023

Our botanically-themed Halloween light show returns in October!

In its debut last year, "Lights at Spooky Point" was a graveyard smash. This family-friendly experience reanimates on October 13, when thousands of colored lights and other decorations will line the walking paths at our Historic Spanish Point campus, transforming it into "Spooky Point" each evening. Curious creatures like Ghost Orchids, Spider Orchids, and Dracula Orchids—brought to life by our incredible lighting partners at Affairs in the Air—put a Selby Gardens spin on the show.

Spooky Point is fun for all ages, with just a couple of jump-scare opportunities to thrill bigger kids. Groups with young pumpkins or guests with mobility issues might prefer the 6:30 p.m. entry, while those who opt for 7:45 p.m. will see Spooky Point in all its eerily glowing glory.



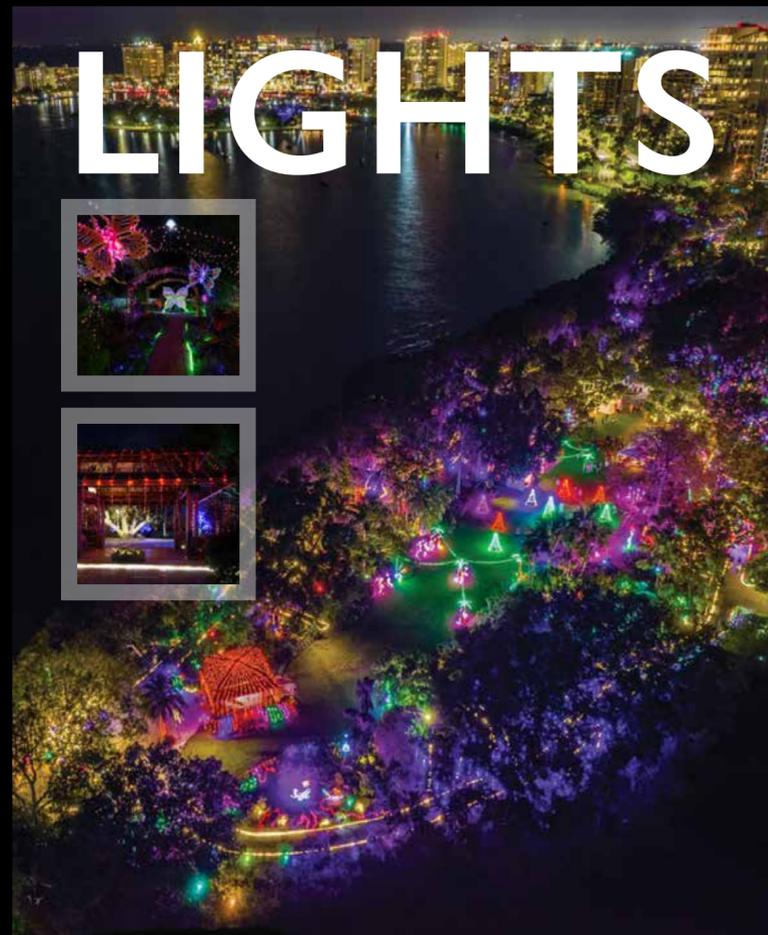
LIGHTS in BLOOM®

DECEMBER 8, 2023 – JANUARY 3, 2024

Our award-winning year-end holiday light show has become a must-do tradition in the Sarasota region. It also has earned accolades nationally, with Lights in Bloom® ranked sixth-best botanical garden holiday lights in the country in USA Today's 10Best Readers' Choice competition.

This year's show will be on view select nights from December 8 through January 3. The light displays will include many annual favorites along with new surprises dreamed up by the team at Affairs in the Air. In addition to millions of twinkling lights throughout the Gardens, guests can enjoy games and activities and a range of food and drinks for purchase. Options include early admission each night and a special "all inclusive" package on December 23.

Tickets go on sale in early November to members first, so start planning now!



WILLIAM CINÉA NAMED RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Selby Gardens has appointed William Cinéa, founder and director of Botanical Garden of Les Cayes in Haiti, as its newest Research Associate. A botanist, conservationist, and eco-entrepreneur, Cinéa established Haiti's first botanical garden with no public funding. His dynamic work includes research, conservation, education, and promoting horticulture in Haiti.

Bruce Holst, vice president for botany at Selby Gardens, praised Cinéa's motivation and energy in promoting botanical gardens. Holst noted that the research and conservation efforts of Cinéa and his team are crucial to safeguarding Haiti's rich biodiversity and endangered plant species.

Research Associates collaborate with Selby Gardens staff scientists on shared research interests and collections-based projects. Cinéa already has a long-standing relationship with Selby Gardens research botanist and gesneriad

expert Dr. John L. Clark. The two led a National Geographic Society-funded research expedition to western Haiti in 2015 that resulted in the discovery of new plant species. Future fieldwork could focus on cultivating several critically endangered species.

According to Cinéa, "This appointment holds great significance for me and for botanical science in Haiti. The support of Selby Gardens will strengthen research, preservation, and enhancement of the unique flora in the Caribbean."



William Cinéa (left) with Selby Gardens' Dr. John L. Clark.



SOLVING A PRICKLY PROBLEM

Just a stone's throw from some of the most popular beach destinations in Sarasota hides a tall, slender succulent plant found behind the dunes and mangroves along our coast. The rare aboriginal prickly apple, a nationally endangered cactus also known as *Harrisia aboriginum*, grows exclusively in four coastal counties of southwest Florida. This species faces imminent extinction due to human development, erosion, and invasive species dominating its habitats. In collaboration with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) and other conservation partners, Selby Gardens has been working to rescue the plant.

To restore the cactus population, we have led efforts to reestablish it in locations where



Collecting spines from *Harrisia aboriginum* for DNA analysis



Our plants are in different stages of growth from 6 years to under a year old. If you never thought a plant could be cute, take a look at this picture of our baby cacti!

natural populations have vanished. Over 500 plants of various ages are being cultivated at both Selby Gardens campuses for potential reintroduction. Thanks to a new five-year grant from USFWS, work is planned to augment existing populations and potentially create new ones on protected lands, starting in Sarasota County. "The future of this charismatic species now rests in the hands of Selby Gardens researchers and our partners," says Shawn McCourt PhD, curator of the living collection. "It's up to us to figure out the best way to protect existing wild populations, increase their numbers both in the wild and in cultivation, and determine what other factors may be contributing to their decline."

ABOUT

- Can reach heights of 20 feet, though 3-5 feet is more common
- Species bears large white flowers likely pollinated by night-flying sphinx moths
- Bears yellow to yellow-orange fruit similar to dragon fruit



Golden Penda *Xanthostemon chrysanthus*

This spectacular flowering tree is endemic to the rainforests of north-eastern Queensland, Australia, where it can be found along the edges of streams. A large tree in its native habitat, it generally grows to a small to medium-sized tree in cultivation and can be pruned to any desired height. Golden penda can be seen on our Downtown Sarasota campus in the Fern Garden and on the west side of the Great Lawn.

Golden penda has a dense crown of dark, glossy leaves, but it stands out in the landscape when it periodically flowers, with its big display in autumn. Tight clusters of showy flowers adorn each branch tip, looking fuzzy due to a profusion of long, yellow stamens.

ABOUT

- Member of the myrtle family (Myrtaceae), along with familiar trees such as eucalyptus, bottlebrush, guava, clove, and allspice
- Nectar-rich flowers attract bees, butterflies, and, in their native habitat, birds like the rainbow lorikeet
- Should be grown in a sunny location with rich, moist, well-drained soil



WHAT'S IN BLOOM

American Beautyberry *Callicarpa americana*

A large understory shrub native to the southeastern U.S., American beautyberry can be found in Florida growing along roadsides, forest edges, and in moist habitats. While it has dense bunches of small white or pink flowers in the summertime, this plant really has visual impact in the autumn when covered in bright-violet to deep-purple berries. An important food source for native birds and mammals, the abundant small fruits that cluster up and down its long, arching stems can be used to make delicious preserves too.

American beautyberry can be found on both Selby Gardens campuses. At the Historic Spanish Point campus, look across the path from the Native Butterfly Garden. You can't miss them when they're in flower or fruit!

ABOUT

- Native Americans used teas from roots and leaves to treat fevers, malaria, and rheumatism
- Crushed leaves rubbed on skin can act as a natural insect repellent
- Easy to grow in partial shade. Keep soils moist and prune back in winter



ALL ABOARD

For the second straight summer, local youth organizations enjoyed educational visits to both Selby Gardens campuses plus fun boat rides in between them as part of the My Garden program.

The youngsters were treated to a customized version of our "Set Sail with Selby Gardens" campus-to-campus boat tour. Throughout July, six organizations took part in the free excursions. Our partners once again fully donated their services for five trips, while a grant from the Longboat Key Garden Club funded a sixth. More than 215 children participated in all.



My Garden provides free annual memberships to Selby Gardens for underserved youth and their families in Sarasota and Manatee counties. In addition to full membership benefits like access to both campuses, My Garden members get invited to special activities throughout the year. Engaging more families with Selby Gardens and providing them

opportunities to connect with nature are objectives of the program. "The exposure to both of our campuses and the opportunity to be on a boat, which is a first-time experience for a lot of the participants, fits the goals of this initiative on so many levels," says Walter Gilbert, vice president for diversity and inclusion. "And to see the faces of the kids is just wonderful."



Activities like the boat tours are coordinated through a network of youth-serving agencies that work directly with the children and their families. This summer's participants included Brotherhood of Men, Girls Inc. of Sarasota County, J5 Experience, Sarasota Housing Authority, Tidewell Hospice's Blue Butterfly family-grief program, and Truly Valued.

The My Garden program is supported by Gulf Coast Community Foundation.



Selby Gardens is proud to be designated an "Autism Friendly" Business by the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) at the University of South Florida (USF). This initiative enables us to receive technical support and other help in catering to neurodiverse members of the community, aligning with our commitment to make the Gardens a welcoming environment for all, including individuals with autism-spectrum disorders.



guests can explore the Gardens without daytime crowds and distractions. Customized sensory maps, noise-canceling earmuffs, and wheelchairs are offered to participants during both Tranquil Tuesdays and regular operating hours. "Individuals with autism

deserve to engage in and contribute to community life in meaningful ways alongside their neurotypical peers," said CARD consultant Liz Burke, with whom Selby Gardens staff worked closely to earn the designation.

CARD-USF's "Autism Friendly" Business Initiative, established in 2008, supports businesses and organizations in optimizing opportunities for people with autism-spectrum disorders. Our participation aligns Selby Gardens with other leaders in creating an inclusive community, fostering a sense of safety and belonging for guests of all abilities. More information, including a directory of "Autism Friendly" businesses, can be found on the CARD-USF website.



To enhance accessibility, we introduced "Tranquil Tuesdays" at our Downtown Sarasota campus last year, providing after-hours admission to neurodiverse and sensory-sensitive individuals and their families. During these occasional events,

MARIE SELBY
BOTANICAL
GARDENS

CORPORATE, FOUNDATION, AND PUBLIC

PARTNERSHIPS

Investments made in 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 Ashley Jimenez at ajimenez@selby.org.

Partners listed include:

- AMICUS FOUNDATION INC.
- CHARLES & MARGERY BARANCIK FOUNDATION
- BETTER-GRO
- COMMUNITY FOUNDATION of Sarasota County
- Dart Foundation
- THE ANDREW AND JUDITH ECONOMOS FOUNDATION
- CULTURE BUILDS FLORIDA
- THE GARDENER FOUNDATION
- GULF COAST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
- FLOYD C. JOHNSON AND FLO SINGER JOHNSON FOUNDATION
- MARCIA S. AND MICHAEL H. KLEIN FOUNDATION
- KRETZMER FAMILY CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
- MCCOMB FAMILY FOUNDATION
- MITCHELL FAMILY FOUNDATION
- ELAINE NICPON MARIEB CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
- Sarasota County Tourist Development Tax
- WILLIAM G. & MARIE SELBY FOUNDATION
- STEINWACHS FAMILY FOUNDATION
- THE STONE FOUNDATION
- ROBERTA LEVENTHAL SUDAKOFF foundation
- Virginia B. Foulmin FOUNDATION
- BMO
- INSTITUTE of Museum and Library SERVICES
- KOSKI FAMILY FOUNDATION
- MICHAEL'S ON EAST
- SWART FAMILY FOUNDATION
- WILLIAMS PARKER
- JAMES AND MARYANN ARMOUR FOUNDATION
- BANK OF AMERICA
- COWLES CHARITABLE TRUST
- DWB
- Flowers by Feudgie
- LIVE FOR A LIVING FOUNDATION
- PNC BANK
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- TRIAD FOUNDATION
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- bc
- THE CHRISMAN FAMILY FOUNDATION
- LONGBOAT KEY GARDEN CLUB
- PUBLIC SUPER MARKETS CHARITIES
- SARASOTA MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM
- SARASOTA MEMORIAL HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION
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THE ORCHID SHOW 2023



A 50th Anniversary Celebration

2 MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

A new chapter for Selby Gardens

3 BOARD ELECTIONS

New officers and trustee

4 MASTER PLAN

Growing the garden

6 THE ORCHID SHOW 2023

Celebrating 50 years

8 ORIGIN STORIES

Meet some of our rarest plants

10 CLYDE BUTCHER

Native nature photo exhibition

10 LIGHT SHOWS

Spooky Point and Lights in Bloom®

12 BOTANY BRIEFS

Research and conservation news

13 WHAT'S IN BLOOM

Golden penda; American beautyberry

14 DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

Youth boat tours; autism-friendly services

15 PARTNERSHIPS

Recognizing our many supporters



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	\$11
Adults	\$26
Ages 5–17	\$11
Age 4 and under	FREE



HISTORIC SPANISH POINT

401 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	\$11
Adults	\$18
Ages 5–17	\$11
Age 4 and under	FREE



1534 Mound St., Sarasota, FL 34236

DOWNTOWN SARASOTA CAMPUS — FEATURED EVENTS



Lunch in the Gardens

Wednesday, October 18 • 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

This series features engaging speakers with interactive elements during a delightful lunch in the bayfront setting of our Downtown Sarasota Campus. Chairs: Ariane Dart and Pauline L. Wamsler. Series Chairs: Jean Weidner Goldstein, Teri A Hansen, and Margaret Wise. Series Sponsor: Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation.

Sponsorships starting at \$1,000, individual tickets \$175



Spooktacular

Sunday, October 29 • 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

There's Halloween-themed fun for all ages and, of course, trick-or-treating at this annual event on our Downtown Sarasota campus. Costumes encouraged!

FREE for members and with regular admission



Lights In Bloom®

December 8, 2023 – January 3, 2024
6–9 p.m. (early entry 5–6 p.m.)

Immerse yourself in the glow of more than two million lights at this award-winning, open-air holiday light show.

Visit selby.org for pricing and tickets



New Year's Eve Gala

Sunday, December 31 • 7 p.m.–1 a.m.

Sarasota's most sophisticated black tie New Year's Eve experience includes private access to Lights in Bloom®, an exquisite dinner, and spectacular view of the fireworks over the Bay.

Visit selby.org for pricing and tickets

HISTORIC SPANISH POINT CAMPUS — FEATURED EVENTS



Lights at Spooky Point

October 13–31 • 6:30–8:45 p.m.

Our Halloween-inspired light show returns with BOOtanical-themed surprises around every bend! Two entry times nightly.

Visit selby.org for pricing and tickets



Clyde Butcher: Nature Through the Lens
Opens November 2023

See iconic black-and-white images by famed landscape photographer Clyde Butcher set amid the native nature of our bayfront preserve.

FREE for members and with regular admission



Wintergreen Weekend

December 2–3 • 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Enjoy timeless holiday fun and entertainment during this two-day event that has become a new tradition at the Historic Spanish Point campus.

FREE for members and with regular admission

EDUCATION & PROGRAMS CALENDAR

Selby Gardens offers education and enrichment programs throughout the year for people of all ages and backgrounds. Visit our website for up-to-date details and join the fun!

For a complete listing of events, go to selby.org/events.

SCAN QR CODE TO LEARN MORE

