

MARIE SELBY BOTANICAL GARDENS



Position: Orchid Research Botanist
Reports to: Vice President for Botany
Status: Full-time / Exempt

POSITION SUMMARY

The Orchid Research Botanist will be responsible for developing an integrated research program on the orchid family with emphasis on epiphytic orchids of the American tropics and subtropics in addition to creating a robust orchid research program. The Orchid Research Botanist will be responsible for utilizing modern and traditional methods such as comparative morphology, molecular systematics, pollination biology, floristics, and informatics, with the goal of understanding orchids in evolutionary and ecological perspectives and promoting their conservation in-situ.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to the following:

- Conduct one or more independent research programs on neotropical orchids.
- Participate in national and international botanical fieldwork for purposes of inventory classification, and conservation.
- Serve as editor-in-chief for Selby Gardens' scientific publication, *Selbyana*.
- Regularly publish articles in peer-reviewed scientific and popular journals.
- Identify orchid specimens to species level from the Selby Gardens' collection and those submitted as gifts for determination by herbaria.
- Collaborate with Institutional Advancement to seek funding from private and public sources, particularly federal grants, to support the ORC and build the program.
- Curate the SEL spirit collection and assist with the development and curation of the Herbarium and Living Collection.
- Develop and maintain ORC species files including the improvement and augmentation of literature sources and new species information.
- Lectures to community groups, provides behind-the-scene tours, and assists where appropriate with other education- and exhibition-related activities.
- Serves as an advisor to graduate-level students and interns.
- Manages ORC volunteer staff.
- Participates in garden-wide activities as required.
- Performs other duties that may be assigned by the Vice President for Botany.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

- Ph.D. degree or equivalent from an accredited college or university required as well as post-doctoral experience preferred.
- Significant experience in plant taxonomy, molecular systematics, and herbarium curation.

MARIE SELBY BOTANICAL GARDENS



- Significant practical experience with orchids, extensive knowledge of orchid literature, and the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Strong verbal and written communication skills.
- Ability to identify orchids using relevant literature and technology resources.
- Proficiency in standard productivity software, GIS, statistical analysis, and software for systematics analyses.
- Ability to conduct field work in a variety of outdoor climate conditions is required

EXCELLENT INDICATORS OF A SUCCESSFUL SELBY GARDENS TEAM MEMBER INCLUDE:

- Strong work ethic
- Continuous and eager learner
- Actively lives and communicates the mission of Selby Gardens
- Passion to deliver exceptional service to internal and external customers through attention to detail and innovative methods of saying “thank you”
- Regularly offer innovative approaches to old concepts
- Flexibility and ability to switch gears when needed
- Resourceful, creative, and an initiative taker
- Assumes the best of others
- Approachable, kind, and compassionate
- Genuine authenticity

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT:

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens is committed to fostering, cultivating and preserving a culture of diversity and inclusion. Our human capital is the most valuable asset we have. The collective sum of the individual differences, life experiences, knowledge, inventiveness, innovation, self-expression, unique capabilities and talent that our employees invest in their work represents a significant part of not only Selby Gardens’ culture, but our reputation as well.

We embrace and encourage our employees’ differences in age, color, disability, ethnicity, family or marital status, gender identity or expression, language, national origin, physical and mental ability, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, veteran status, and other characteristics that make our employees unique.