

MARIE SELBY  
BOTANICAL  
GARDENS



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## **Butterfly House at Selby Gardens' Historic Spanish Point campus opens on October 31**

**SARASOTA, FL – October 28, 2020** – A new experience will soon take flight at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens' Historic Spanish Point campus, when the Butterfly House opens to the public on October 31, 2020. The region's only butterfly house will reside beside the outdoor Native Butterfly Garden at the Historic Spanish Point campus. Visitors to Selby Gardens' Butterfly House will be surrounded by colorful Florida butterflies and their favorite flowers.

"Guests who experienced the Butterfly House at our Downtown Sarasota campus as part of our *Salvador Dali: Gardens of the Mind* exhibition asked repeatedly if we could permanently keep it," said Jennifer Rominiecki, president and CEO of Selby Gardens. "We're excited that visitors to the Historic Spanish Point campus will get to experience the magic of standing inside the Butterfly House every day."

More than 160 butterfly species breed in Florida, and about 200 species migrate through the state. Many butterflies in Florida aren't found anywhere else in North America. Species that might be spotted in the Butterfly House and the Sunshine State include the cloudless sulfur, giant swallowtail, Gulf fritillary, monarch, orange-barred sulphur, and the zebra longwing (the Florida state butterfly).

Butterflies play an important role in pollination and the Butterfly House will both educate and delight families throughout our region. The Butterfly House is sponsored by The Charles T. Bauer Foundation.

For more information, contact Lynn Bates at [lbates@selby.org](mailto:lbates@selby.org)

### **About Marie Selby Botanical Gardens**

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens provides 45 acres of bayfront sanctuaries connecting people with air plants of the world, native nature, and our regional history. Established by forward thinking women of their time, Selby Gardens is composed of the 15-acre Downtown Sarasota campus and the 30-acre Historic Spanish Point campus in the Osprey area of Sarasota County, Florida. The Downtown Sarasota Campus on Sarasota Bay is the only botanical garden in the world dedicated to the display and study of epiphytic orchids, bromeliads, gesneriads and ferns, and other tropical plants. There is a significant focus on botany, horticulture, education, historical preservation, and the environment. The Historic Spanish Point (HSP) Campus is located less than 10 miles south along Little Sarasota Bay. The HSP Campus, one of the largest preserves showcasing native Florida plants that is interpreted for and open to the public, celebrates an archaeological record that encompasses approximately 5,000 years of Florida history. Marie Selby

Botanical Gardens is a Smithsonian Affiliate and is also accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. For more information visit [www.selby.org](http://www.selby.org).