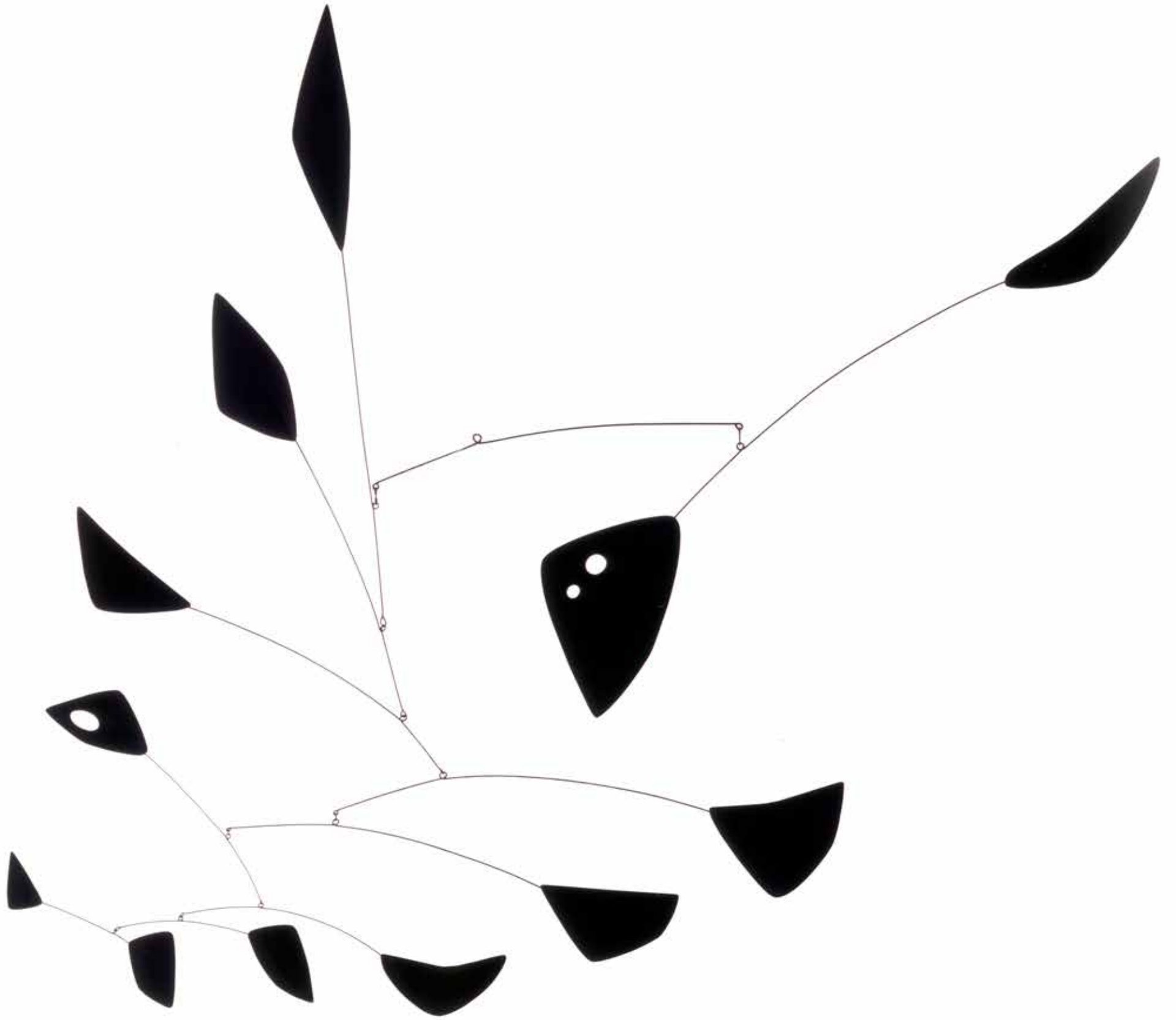


VOLUME 6, ISSUE 2 · JANUARY-APRIL 2026

THE SANCTUARY



THE 10TH JEAN & ALFRED GOLDSTEIN EXHIBITION

ALEXANDER



The Nature of Movement

MARIE SELBY
BOTANICAL
GARDENS





“I am filled with gratitude and excitement for all that we have achieved together and for what the future brings.”

Dear Friends,

As we present the first issue of *The Sanctuary* for the new year, I am filled with gratitude and excitement for all that we have achieved together and for what the future brings.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we are thrilled to have ended a successful year by celebrating a truly milestone moment on December 2, 2025, with the groundbreaking of Phase Two of our three-phase Master Plan. You'll read more about how this exciting step forward marks a historic day for Marie Selby Botanical Gardens and brings us closer to realizing our bold vision for the future.

Speaking of milestones, this year we commemorate a decade of the Jean & Alfred Goldstein Exhibition Series, a visionary endeavor that has reshaped our botanical garden experience. From the beginning, this innovative series has explored the inspiring relationship between major artists and the natural world, bringing their work to life in the Richard and Ellen Sandor Museum of Botany and the Arts and through immersive exhibitions created expressly for our extraordinary garden setting.

Throughout the years, these exhibitions have transformed Selby Gardens into The Living Museum®, where art and nature converge in innovative and unforgettable ways. From Marc Chagall to Andy Warhol, to Georgia O'Keeffe, Yayoi Kusuma, George Harrison, and many others, each exhibition has offered new perspectives on how creativity blossoms when rooted in nature.

We are thrilled to present *Alexander Calder: The Nature of Movement* as the tenth iteration of the Goldstein Exhibition Series, which will be on view February 8 through May 31, and we would especially like to thank our Season Sponsors and the Jean & Alfred Goldstein Exhibition Sponsors who make Selby Gardens' experiences as The Living Museum® possible.

So much is happening at Selby Gardens, and this issue of *The Sanctuary* brings it all to life. Explore the immersive exhibition *Robert Louis Stevenson: A Child's Garden of Verses* at our Historic Spanish Point campus, follow our Botany team's work in Belize, discover the launch of Selby Gardens' new e-commerce gift store, and more. With new experiences always in bloom, there's always a reason to visit.

On behalf of Selby Gardens, thank you for your support that makes this issue and our mission possible.

Cheers,

Jennifer O. Rominiacki
President & CEO

Cover image:

Alexander Calder (American, 1898-1976)
Black Cascade: 12 Verticals, 1959
Painted black metal and wire
SNS483
Collection of The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, the State Art Museum of Florida, Florida State University, Sarasota, Florida

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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



CONNECT WITH US



Photo by Phil Nelson

Flamingo Flower, Tailflower, Painter's Palette
Anthurium andreaeanum

We are all familiar with the colorful flower clusters of anthuriums. These highly ornamental plants are grown extensively in the commercial plant industry as a staple in floral bouquets and arrangements, second only to orchids. *Anthurium andreaeanum* is a species native to Ecuador and southwestern Colombia. Its claim to fame is that it has been widely used to develop over 2,000 colorful varieties. A major note on *Anthurium* flowering is its unique floral composition. As a member of the Araceae or "aroid" family, anthuriums and other aroids have a distinctive flowering structure called an inflorescence. This inflorescence is made up of microscopic or very tiny flowers clustered on a fleshy tail-like flower spike called a spadix. The spadix is surrounded by a modified leaf called a spathe which, when brightly colored, can act as a colorful attractant to lure pollinators. *Anthurium andreaeanum* and its many colorful varieties will be seen adorning the Display Conservatory in our Spring exhibition.

ABOUT

- Selby Gardens' research collection *Anthurium andreaeanum* was collected in 1985 in Ecuador by Selby Gardens botanists.
- The genus name is derived from the Greek words *anthos*, meaning flower; and *oura*, meaning tail.



Photo by Wade Collier

WHAT'S IN BLOOM

Bougainvillea
Bougainvillea species

Bougainvillea is an example of a plant whose common name and scientific name are the same. This flowering vine is known for its profusion of blooms, ranging in color over 16 species. Most of the color is displayed in the bracts, which are modified leaves, in this case displaying the dramatic blooms that *Bougainvillea* are famous for. This colorful display attracts pollinators to the small flowers found within the bracts. *Bougainvillea* is native to southern South America. In cultivation it thrives in warm climates all over the world. *Bougainvillea* can be grown as a vine or a bush. It is quite thorny which makes pruning a careful chore. The best examples at the Historic Spanish Point campus are found thriving at the Sunken Garden and Pergola, where they have provided a colorful backdrop to countless weddings and other special events.

Bougainvillea was named in honor of the first French explorer to circumnavigate the globe, Louis Antoine de Bougainville. On his expedition were naturalists including botanist Philibert Commerson, who first identified the plant. It was recorded 20 years later in *Genera Plantarum* by A.L. de Jussieu, published in 1789. *Bougainvillea* entered popular culture in 1977 in a song of that name co-written by musician Dicky Betts and actor Don Johnson.

ABOUT

- One of the most colorful landscape plants in Florida.
- A popular house plant in cold climates.
- The sap can cause skin irritation.



HISTORIC SPANISH POINT CAMPUS



Photos by John McCarthy

THE 10TH JEAN & ALFRED GOLDSTEIN EXHIBITION

ALEXANDER

CALDER

The Nature of Movement

FEBRUARY 8-MAY 31, 2026

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens is excited to mark the 10th anniversary of the annual Jean & Alfred Goldstein Exhibition Series with *Alexander Calder: The Nature of Movement*, which will be on view February 8 through May 31, 2026, at the Downtown Sarasota campus.

The exhibitions in the Goldstein Series present the work of major artists and their connection to nature in the context of a botanical garden. The exhibitions combine original artworks in the galleries of the Richard and Ellen Sandor Museum of Botany & the Arts with horticultural vignettes, inspired by the featured artists and their work, in the Display Conservatory and throughout the outdoor gardens of the 15-acre Downtown Sarasota campus. The vignettes make use of Selby Gardens' outstanding living plant collections, as well as its spectacular bayfront setting.

Calder's work is a great source of interest to the team at Selby Gardens. His fascination with energy and motion, coupled with his exploration of suspension and equilibrium, provides creative inspiration for the dynamic display of epiphytes, or air plants. Selby Gardens is a leading center for the study of air plants and is home to the best scientifically documented collections of living epiphytic orchids and bromeliads in the world.

"Alexander Calder is one of the most innovative artists of the 20th century," said Dr. David Berry, Selby Gardens' Vice President for Visitor Engagement and Chief Museum Curator. "The generosity of local collectors of Calder's work has made it possible for us to celebrate this extraordinary artist and highlight the influence of nature on his artistic practice."

The Calder exhibition at Selby Gardens highlights the artist's use of abstract forms rooted in nature and emphasizes his interest in science and engineering. The exhibition also explores Calder's enchantment with the circus, stemming from his studies of performers and animals at the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus in 1925. The circus is a subject of great local interest in Sarasota, which became the winter quarters of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus in 1927.

"It is a privilege to present our 2026 Jean & Alfred Goldstein Exhibition, which celebrates the pioneering artistry of Alexander Calder," said Jennifer Rominiecki, President and CEO of Marie Selby Botanical Gardens. "This exhibition offers a compelling exploration of Calder's deep engagement with the natural sciences and the performing arts—most notably his enduring fascination with the circus, a theme that resonates strongly within Sarasota's cultural story. We are proud to further our interdisciplinary mission through this meaningful presentation as The Living Museum®."

Alexander Calder at the opening of an exhibition of his mobiles in Rome, Italy, in 1956. Photo by Keystone/Hulton Archive/Getty Images.



Members of Selby Gardens' Board of Trustees

GROUNDBREAKING

FOR PHASE TWO OF SELBY GARDENS' MASTER PLAN KICKS OFF WITH 95% OF FUNDS RAISED



Groundbreaking Ceremony

A pinnacle moment arrived at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens with the Groundbreaking Ceremony for Phase Two of its transformative three-phase Master Plan for the Downtown Sarasota campus on December 2, 2025.

With hundreds of supporters in attendance, the ceremony welcomed the organization's trustees, advisory committee members, donors, government officials, and members of the press and media. The program opened with a performance of "America the Beautiful" by Key Chorale, followed by remarks from Katherine Martucci (Chair, Board of Trustees); Jennifer O. Rominiecki (President & CEO of Selby Gardens); Commissioner Kyle Battie (Sarasota City Commission); Phase Two Campaign Chairs, Advisory Committee member Dr. Gail Morrison Morganroth and Trustee Audrey Robbins; Richard Roark (OLIN); Jerry Sparkman (Sweet Sparkman); and John LaCivita (Willis Smith Construction).

To date, Phase Two has reached 95% of the necessary funding, with a grand total of over \$122 million raised for the entire project.

Building on the success of Phase One, Phase Two will further enhance Selby Gardens' Downtown Sarasota campus, securing its resiliency and expanding its beauty, research facilities, and educational offerings for the community and visitors from around the world. The capital goal for Phase Two stands at \$60.9 million. \$57.7 million has now been raised, which is 95% of the goal. The cumulative total of funds raised for both Phases One and Two has reached over \$122 million, including nearly \$10 million for endowment with 99% percent of all funds coming from private philanthropy. Phase Two is expected to open in 2028.

Several new seven figure gifts have been received. The current Leadership Donors for Phase Two range from \$500,000 up to \$15,000,000 and include the following individuals:

LEADERSHIP DONORS:

Anonymous; Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation; Dr. Andrew Economos; The Gardener Foundation; Gutenstein Legacy Foundation; Deb Kabinoff; Marcy and Michael Klein; Sherry and Thomas Koski; Maryl and Bill Levine; Katherine and Frank Martucci; Cornelia and Richard Matson; William and Marianne McComb of the McComb Family Foundation; Mary Ann and John Meyer; Keith Monda and Veronica Brady; Elizabeth Moore; Drs. Joel Morganroth and Gail Morrison Morganroth; Laura and Kevin O'Donohue; Audrey Robbins; Jean M. Russell; Richard and Ellen Sandor; Sea Grape Foundation; Lucinda Spaney; Steinwachs Family Foundation; The Stone Foundation; Hobart and Janis Swan; Martin and Zelia Trueb; Jean Weidner Goldstein; David Welle and Rosemary Reinhardt; Judy Zuckerberg and family in memory of our beloved George



Conservatory Complex

Phase Two consists of a new Conservatory Complex, a Learning Pavilion, and key landscape features. The new Conservatory Complex will be the crown jewel of the Downtown Sarasota campus – a state-of-the-art structure filled with more than 20,000 plants from Selby Gardens' living research collections (including the best scientifically documented collections of orchids and bromeliads in the world). Building on the innovative sustainability leadership established in Phase One, Selby Gardens is committed to advancing this legacy with 100% renewable energy, sustainable water harvesting, and resilient design to inspire future generations and protect its collections. These initiatives ensure a resilient infrastructure that supports the Gardens' environmental stewardship, designed not only to serve generations of visitors but also to safeguard the organization's invaluable botanical collections. This commitment positions Selby Gardens as a model for cultural and botanical institutions, embracing a forward-thinking approach to resilience and resource efficiency.

Today, the public can see less than 5% of Selby Gardens' living research collections; the new Conservatory Complex will make nearly 100% of Selby Gardens' world-renowned wild collected

To make a gift to this effort or request naming opportunities, please contact Ashley Jimenez
 ajimenez@selby.org
 941.248.3583

plants visible to the public. In addition, a new Learning Pavilion will feature enhanced facilities for all of Selby Gardens' education programs, as well as enhanced gardens and landscape features that will expand the beauty and resilience of our bayfront sanctuary.

Selby Gardens President and CEO, Jennifer O. Rominiecki, stated, "On behalf of our Board Chair, Katherine Martucci, and our entire Board of Trustees, we were honored to celebrate the groundbreaking of this transformational project. As we begin Phase Two of our Master Plan, we do so with deep gratitude for all who champion the mission and vision of Selby Gardens and for the extraordinary generosity of our community. Our living research collection lies at the core of our work in conservation, education, and scientific discovery. Safeguarding it from the growing impacts of hurricanes is both urgent and essential to ensure this irreplaceable resource continues to thrive and advance critical research."



Learning Pavilion



Rebecca Louise Law in her installation at Selby Gardens

REBECCA LOUISE LAW SURVIVAL

A recent *Garden & Gun* Magazine Arts & Culture article “Step Inside a New Floral Wonderland at a Florida Botanical Garden” shines a spotlight on Selby Gardens’ celebrated installation *Rebecca Louise Law: Survival*. The immersive display captivated audiences, prompting an extended run in response to the exceptional attendance. While the exhibition has since ended, the lasting influence of Rebecca Louise Law’s work and imagery continues to resonate.

“Thousands of carefully preserved flowers stage a fantastical world of color, texture, and light in an immersive installation at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens in Sarasota, Florida.

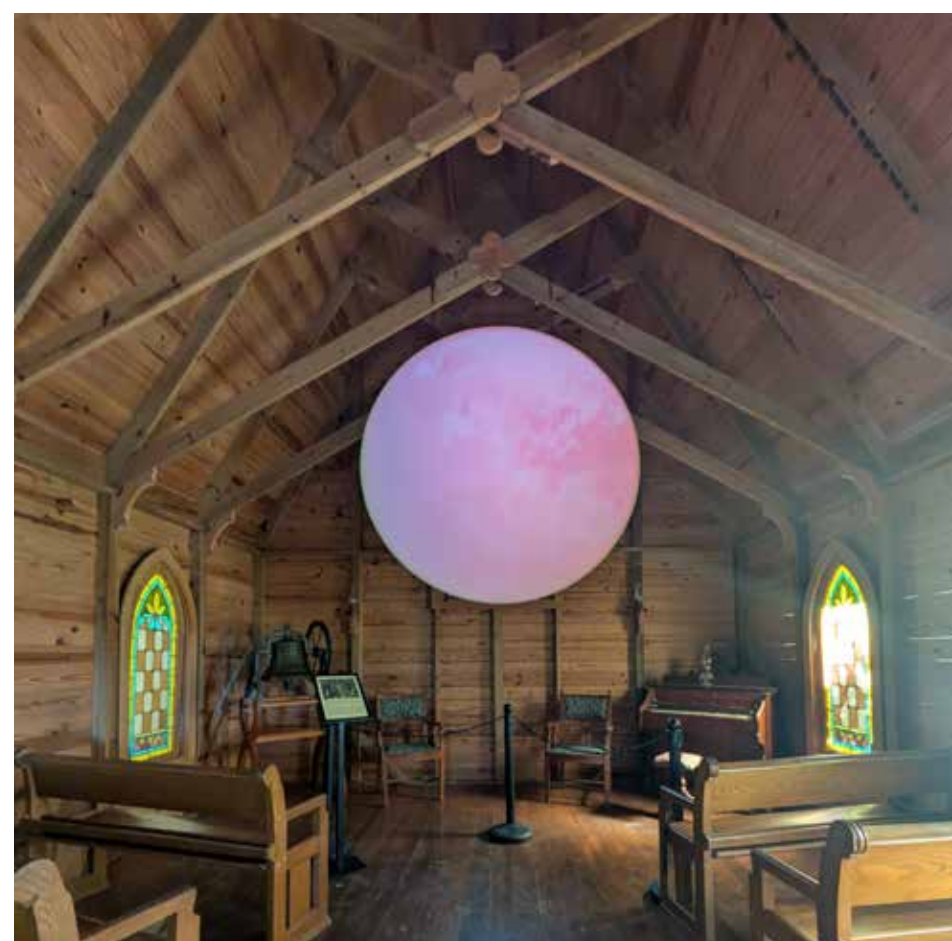
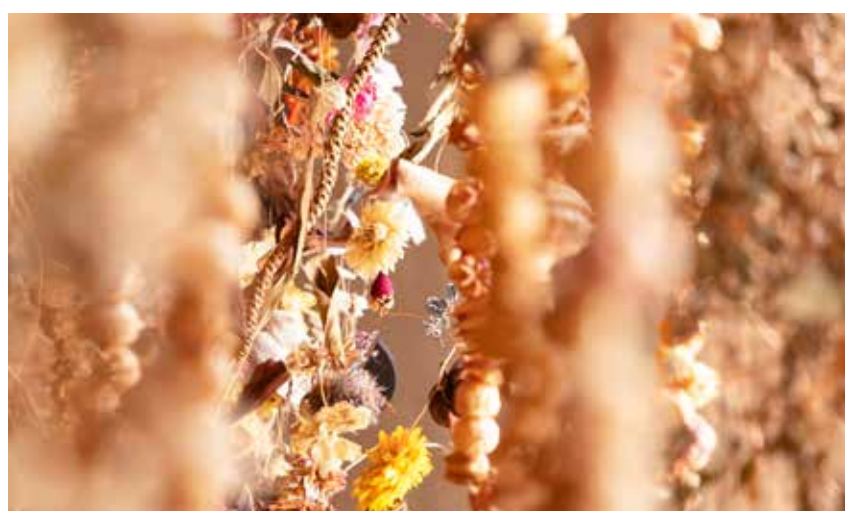
Guests can walk through the gigantic columns of color, made up of individual dried fronds, petals, and seeds harvested over the last twenty years, including Law’s own garden in Snowdonia, a mountainous environment in Northern Wales, and sources local to each exhibition, whether grown, donated, or foraged. With each installation, Law recycles and repurposes her material and adds to her archive. Purple perennial sea lavender drip beside bending stems and the pale pink faces of daisies, and fluffy marigolds seem to cast a warm, golden light. The spiky, flat seed pods of honey locust trees and dried globes of allium heads become moving sculptures as they dangle in the air. These small botanics—some of which you might more naturally see on the ground, like the gaping, hard mouths of buddha coconut trees—become magical dangling confetti, fit for the pages of a storybook. But the whimsy of the installation is rooted in Law’s love for natural science and the earth.”

- Gabriela Gomez-Misserian for *Garden & Gun* Magazine



To read the full article, visit

<https://gardenandgun.com/feature/step-inside-a-new-floral-wonderland-at-a-florida-botanical-garden/>



ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON A CHILD'S GARDEN OF VERSES

This exhibition at Selby Gardens’ Historic Spanish Point campus celebrates childhood and the imagination of youth through the words and images of *A Child’s Garden of Verses*, the beloved book of poetry for children by the celebrated Scottish writer, Robert Louis Stevenson. Audio recordings enable visitors to hear the poems read by Selby Gardens’ Artist in Residence, Patti Smith, who returned on January 14, 2026, for a special performance in celebration of the exhibition.



ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON:
A CHILD'S GARDEN OF VERSES
On view through August 30, 2026
Historic Spanish Point campus
Learn more about this exhibition at selby.org
Audio narration by Selby Gardens'
Artist in Residence Patti Smith

Presenting Sponsor of the
Patti Smith Residency
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Presenting Sponsor for the exhibition
**GULF COAST
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**
A. Hamilton and Edith T. Gardner Fund

Illustrations by Alexander Dobkin from an edition of Robert Louis Stevenson’s *A Child’s Garden of Verses*, published by The World Publishing Company in 1946.

SAVING BOTANICAL HERITAGE: A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT TO RESCUE THE BELIZE NATIONAL HERBARIUM

In the summer of 2025, a dedicated team of botanists and volunteers embarked on two critical missions to Belize to help rescue the country's most valuable scientific plant resource, the Belize National Herbarium.

The staff team from Selby Gardens included Vice President for Botany, Bruce Holst, Herbarium Curator, Yuley Encarnación Piñeyro, and Katrina Herrera from the Education Department. They were joined by eight volunteers from Selby Gardens' Botany Department and seven from Ian Anderson's Caves Branch Botanical Garden. Additional partners were from the Belize Forestry Department, the Missouri Botanical Garden, and citizen volunteers from the community, including high school students and senior citizens.

The situation was dire. *Lasioderma serricornis*, a tiny but destructive beetle also known as the herbarium beetle, had begun infesting the herbarium's collections. These insects are notorious for feeding on dried organic materials and, in this case, they were attacking decades-old irreplaceable botanical specimens. Without swift action, much of Belize's scientifically significant and historically valuable preserved plant collection could have been lost forever.

WHY THIS WORK MATTERS

The Belize National Herbarium is not just a storage room for preserved plants—it's a scientific archive that supports conservation, research, education, and national biodiversity planning. Each specimen, including thousands made by Selby Gardens staff, tells a story of Belize's rich ecological history and contributes to a global understanding of plant life in the Neotropics. As plant habitats face increasing pressure from climate change, agriculture, and development, preserving these collections becomes even more critical.

MISSION GOALS:

- Mount specimens that were pressed between temporary sheets of paper.
- File mounted specimens properly in herbarium cabinets.
- Digitize and map each specimen for integration into a national database.
- Clean and restore spaces impacted by beetle infestation and set up prevention strategies to avoid future outbreaks.

This was meticulous, hands-on work performed under hot and humid conditions, but it was also deeply rewarding. The collaboration between Belizean staff and the international volunteers created a spirit of camaraderie that fueled the efforts. Together, the group was able to slow the possible destruction of thousands of preserved plant specimens.

To end with some good news, Dr. Denver Cayetano, a Belizean botanist who recently graduated from the University of Florida, was hired with the support of Caves Branch to serve as the permanent herbarium curator of the Belize National Herbarium. Having him carefully monitoring the herbarium in person is a huge step forward in securing the future of botanical collections in Belize.



The herbarium beetle, *Lasioderma serricornis*, caught using pheromone traps. These traps were useful in reducing the infestation along with freezing the specimens.



Methodically checking for herbarium beetle damage in the Belize National Herbarium located at the Forestry Department in Belmopan.



A severely damaged herbarium specimen with only twigs remaining.



The herbarium improvement team working in the open-air Welcome Center at Ian Anderson's Caves Branch Lodge. Thirty-two individuals participated in the work over a period of seven days.



A stack of freshly mounted herbarium specimens.



The international team preparing to depart Caves Branch Lodge.

Thanks to the Belize Forestry Department and Ian Anderson's Caves Branch Botanical Garden for their support.

Plant science made possible by the Steinwachs Family Foundation

A SEASON TO CELEBRATE

Community Foundation of Sarasota County and Selby Gardens Unite to Share the Magic of Lights in Bloom®

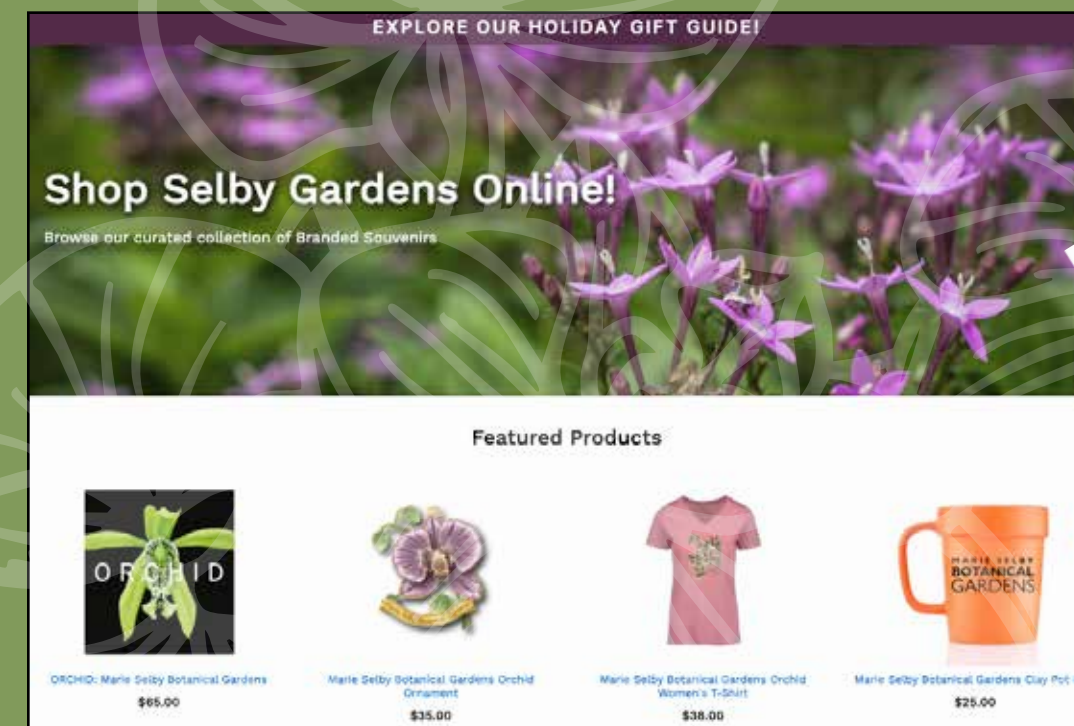


More than 1,000 local children, families, teachers, and school staff enjoyed complimentary access to Marie Selby Botanical Gardens' Lights in Bloom® holiday light show this season thanks to a partnership between Selby Gardens and the Community Foundation of Sarasota County.

Through the Family Togetherness program, which is funded by the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, Selby Gardens offered a complimentary evening for children and families from Title 1 schools and local youth-serving organizations who otherwise might not have been able to see the award-winning light show. This marked the seventh year that families experienced this exclusive opportunity to attend Lights in Bloom® through support from the Community Foundation of Sarasota County.



GIFT STORE



SHOP & SUPPORT

We're excited to share our new Online Garden Shop! Browse a curated selection of favorites from The Garden Shop at our Downtown Sarasota campus, including Selby Gardens-branded apparel and accessories, unique home and garden gifts, and specialty items inspired by our rotating exhibitions.

When you shop online, you're directly supporting Marie Selby Botanical Gardens' mission of conservation, research, and education. Every order helps advance the study of rare and epiphytic plants, preserve native Florida habitats, protect cultural history, and maintain the world's first net positive energy botanical garden complex. Your contribution makes it possible for Selby Gardens to continue inspiring visitors, protecting the environment, and honoring those who established our extraordinary bayfront sanctuaries.

Explore the Online Garden Shop at selby.org

TOTALLY FAB

The Suncoast Science Center/Faulhaber Fab Lab makes its way to Selby Gardens



Butterfly House at Historic Spanish Point campus



Selby Gardens recently collaborated with the Suncoast Science Center/Faulhaber Fab Lab on a series of exciting projects employing the creativity and skill of local high school students. Produced as part of the Fab Lab's Student Community Innovation Program (SCIP), the projects helped to further the organization's mission to inspire and support tomorrow's innovators through experiential learning in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM). The students who contributed to these projects gained valuable, hands-on experience that was both educational and fun.

The first project involved the production of wheeled carts to assist in the careful movement of preserved plant specimens in Selby Gardens' Marieb Herbarium and Laboratory, housed in the Steinwachs Family Plant Research Center at the Downtown Sarasota campus. The second project resulted in the creation of clear acrylic boxes to safely store archaeological objects from the Historic Spanish Point campus, which is home to 5,000 years of Florida history. The boxes help protect the objects when they are used as educational resources to enhance school tours and other public programs. Visitors to the Butterfly House at the Historic Spanish Point campus can engage with the third and final project, consisting of a flower-shaped interactive highlighting a selection of native Florida butterfly species.

To complete all three projects, the students progressed through the various stages of design, from concept development and prototyping to fabrication and finishing. Through this process, the students gained insight into how design decisions affect usability and functionality. The results of their efforts benefit the work of Selby Gardens' staff and the experience of our visitors.



Pineview School students

“Working on this project has taught me to appreciate the little things. It inspired me to volunteer as a docent at the Butterfly House at Spanish Point, where I love being around the butterflies and getting to share their stories with visitors.”

—DINA ALTSHUL
Sophomore at Pineview School

ABOVE IT ALL

WHERE A ROOFTOP GROWS FOOD, COMMUNITY, AND PURPOSE

Restaurant rooftop gardens continue to emerge as powerful expressions of the hyper-local food sourcing movement, an approach to food production and sourcing that emphasize growing, harvesting, and consuming food as close as possible to where it is eaten.

At Selby Gardens, this movement comes to life through a meaningful partnership with Operation Eco-Vets. Together, we champion innovative urban growing practices that not only support local food production, but also provide therapeutic, purpose-driven experiences for veterans.

Located atop Selby Gardens' solar-powered garden-to-plate restaurant, The Green Orchid by Michael's On East, the Drs. Judith and Andrew Economos Rooftop Garden supplies fresh, sustainably grown produce that inspires the restaurant's seasonal menu. Beyond its culinary impact, the rooftop garden serves as a vital living laboratory for urban agriculture education, research, and demonstration. Managed by Operation Eco-Vets, a local nonprofit dedicated to providing personal, educational, and professional growth opportunities for veterans, the garden reflects Selby Gardens' broader commitment to environmental stewardship, innovation, and community resilience.

Operation Eco-Vets' team oversees every aspect of the garden's day-to-day operations, from planning and planting to cultivation and harvest. Through thoughtful design and attentive management, the compact rooftop space has been transformed into a reliable source of fresh, seasonal produce for The Green Orchid. At the same time, the garden offers a restorative, community-centered environment for participating veterans, many of whom benefit from the therapeutic effects of working with plants in a calm, purposeful setting. The project also advances ongoing plant research, functioning as a data-rich urban agriculture laboratory.

The harvest yields a steady abundance of herbs, leafy greens, edible flowers, fruits, and vegetables—ingredients that directly shape The Green Orchid's seasonal menus and illustrate the power of hyper-local, sustainably grown food. Over the past season alone, tens of thousands of edible flowers were harvested, while herbs, greens, and warm-season crops such as tomatoes and peppers exceeded expectations for a small but mighty 1,000-square-foot rooftop footprint. The result is the freshest possible expression of local food sourcing, grown just steps above the kitchen and served directly to your plate.

Composting made possible by Laura and Kevin O'Donohue



The Green
ORCHID

BY MICHAEL'S ON EAST



Judah DeForrest of Operation Eco-Vets

“Working with Operation Eco-Vets and tending the rooftop edible garden at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens has been deeply therapeutic for me. Gardening gives me a sense of purpose, calm, and focus that's hard to find elsewhere. As a veteran, I'm incredibly grateful for the opportunity to earn a living doing meaningful work that supports my family while allowing me to create, grow, and see real results. Watching the garden produce food and slowly become the vision I imagined is rewarding in a way that goes beyond words.”

— JUDAH DeFORREST
Operation Eco-Vets

LILY POND NIGHTS

THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY 5-8PM
FOR RESERVATIONS, CALL 941.265.8194

ENJOY THE MARCY AND MICHAEL KLEIN & STONE FOUNDATIONS LILY POND GARDEN UNDER THE EVENING LIGHTS WHILE DINING AT THE GREEN ORCHID



MARIE SELBY BOTANICAL GARDENS
AWARDED THE 2025 AMERICAN
ARCHITECTURE AWARD® BY THE
CHICAGO ATHENAEUM

Phase One of Three-Phase Master Plan Recognized with Nation's Highest and Most Distinguished Building Award

The Chicago Athenaeum Museum of Architecture and Design, together with The European Centre for Architecture, Art, Design, and Urban Studies, has awarded Marie Selby Botanical Gardens with the **2025 American Architecture Award®** for Phase One of its transformational three-phase Master Plan.

Now celebrating its 31st year, The American Architectural Awards® are the nation's highest and most prestigious building awards program that honor new and cutting-edge design in the United States.

This annual program also promotes American architecture and design to public audiences abroad.

This year, the Athenaeum received a record number of projects for new buildings, landscape architecture, and urban planning from the most important firms practicing in the U.S. and globally. From a short list of over 1,500 submissions, the 2025 Jury for Awards selected over 200 projects by the best and foremost American design firms in the United States.

Selby Gardens President & CEO, Jennifer Rominiecki, stated, "We are grateful to receive this distinguished award, which we proudly share with our partners at OLIN, the visionary team at Overland Architects with support by Sweet Sparkman Architecture Interiors, and our dedicated collaborators at Kimley-Horn and Willis Smith. Selby Gardens' Master Plan is redefining what a modern botanical garden can be, and each innovation reflects our commitment to building a more resilient, sustainable, and inspiring Selby Gardens for generations to come."

Richard Roark, OLIN CPO and Partner, commented, "We're deeply honored to see Marie Selby Botanical Gardens recognized. The project was envisioned as a living connection between community, resilience, and the natural world. Having successfully endured two hurricanes, it now stands as a model for a renewable and regenerative future."



MARIE SELBY BOTANICAL GARDENS PRESIDENT
AND CEO JENNIFER ROMINIECKI NAMED TO
FLORIDA TREND MAGAZINE'S FLORIDA 500 LIST
FOR THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR

Jennifer Rominiecki Amongst Florida's Most Influential Business Leaders

For a third consecutive year, *Florida Trend* Magazine has named president and CEO Jennifer Rominiecki to the Florida 500, a list of Florida's most influential business leaders representing 500 candidates across major industries. The editors of Florida Trend selected the executives after conducting hundreds of interviews and months of research, culminating in a highly selective biographical guide to the leaders of Florida.

Rominiecki stated, "I am honored to be recognized among *Florida Trend* magazine's Florida 500 list of business leaders. This distinction reflects the remarkable work and vision of the entire Selby Gardens team—our board, staff, and volunteers—whose dedication continues to advance our mission of connecting people to air plants, native nature, and the environment. Together, we are setting a standard for how cultural institutions can lead with innovation, sustainability, and purpose, inspiring both our community and the broader world."

The complete Florida 500 list can be found at <https://floridatrend500.com>.

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.

MEDIA & IN-KIND PARTNERS



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Gratitude and excitement

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Blooming this spring

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10 BOTANY BRIEF

Saving Belize's botanical heritage

11 COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Sharing the holiday joy of Lights in Bloom®

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Browse a curated selection of favorites

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A fab collaboration

13 THE GREEN ORCHID

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2025 American Architecture Award®



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	\$12
Adults	\$28
Ages 5–17	\$12
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	\$12
Adults	\$20
Ages 5–17	\$12
Age 4 and under	FREE

**MARIE SELBY
BOTANICAL
GARDENS**

1534 Mound St., Sarasota, FL 34236

DOWNTOWN SARASOTA CAMPUS — FEATURED EVENTS



The Orchid Ball: The Nature of Abstraction
Saturday, February 7, 2026 • 6–11 p.m.

Sarasota's premier annual gala celebrates the 2026 Jean & Alfred Goldstein Exhibition, *Alexander Calder: The Nature of Movement*, throughout the grounds of our Downtown Sarasota campus. Chairs: Liebe Gamble & Ashley Kozel

Sponsorships start at \$2,500 and individual tickets are \$750
Visit selby.org for pricing and tickets



Garden Music Series
Sundays, February 22, March 15
& April 26 • 1–3 p.m.

Enjoy a variety of local and international music in the bayfront setting of our Downtown Sarasota campus.

FREE for members and with regular admission

HISTORIC SPANISH POINT CAMPUS — FEATURED EVENTS



Performances at the Point
Wednesdays, March 11 & May 20
6:30-7:30 p.m.

Music by local artists after-hours at our Historic Spanish Point campus. Food and beverages available for purchase.

\$25 for members/\$35 for non-members
Visit selby.org for tickets



Enchanted Garden Family Festival
Saturday, March 28 & Sunday, March 29
10 a.m.–4 p.m.

A magical weekend of unicorn rides, storytelling, secret gardens, and more at this two-day family-friendly event at our Historic Spanish Point campus.

FREE for members and with regular admission



Set Sail with Selby Gardens
Select Saturdays through April 25

Tribute to the coastal heritage of our region and our two bayfront campuses.

Visit selby.org for pricing and tickets

PRESENTING SEASON SPONSORS

Marianne and Bill McComb • Keith Monda and Veronica Brady • Jeannie Russell • Martin and Zelia Trueb • The Judith Zuckerberg Family



LEAD SEASON SPONSORS

Ali and Gloria Bahaj • Betsy and Ed Cohen / Areté Foundation • Jean Weidner Goldstein • Marcy and Michael Klein • Katherine and Frank Martucci
Cornelia and J. Richard Matson • Drs. Joel Morganroth and Gail Morrison Morganroth • Audrey Robbins and Harry Leopold • Steinwachs Family Foundation
Hobart and Janis Swan • Marcia Jean Taub & Peter Swain in loving memory of Ethel & Ron Taub • Pauline L. Wamsler and David J. Sales