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San Diego Botanic Garden Ushers in Summer Season with Concert Series Reprise and Major Exhibition Announcement

Summer Nights Returns to Encinitas 37-Acre Urban Oasis While Savage Gardens Will Have a Four Month Residency in the Garden's Conservatory

Encinitas, Calif. (May 15, 2023) – [San Diego Botanic Garden](#) (SDBG) is beckoning locals and travelers alike with a summer lineup featuring a fresh slate of events. The fan-favorite [Summer Nights](#) (July 13 – August 17, 2023) will be returning on select Thursdays and feature extended hours until 8 p.m., concerts, special events, along with specialty food and drink packages. The traveling exhibition, [Savage Gardens](#), will run from July 1 through October 29 and spotlight carnivorous plants in the Dickinson Family Education Conservatory along with large-scale artistic installations. All of this will be in addition to SDBG's regular calendar of classes and activities across its 15 on-site gardens that represent different regions of the world, 12 demonstration gardens where visitors can learn in a hands-on setting, and the largest public bamboo collection in North America. The season will cap off with [The Garden Party](#), SDBG's annual fundraising event, set for Saturday, September 9, 2023.

“As San Diego's leading botanic garden, we always strive to provide our community the chance to gather, enjoy the outdoors and learn about nature,” said San Diego Botanic Garden President and CEO Ari Novy, Ph.D. “From a sunset concert series and outdoor picnics to a thrilling new plant show, we have a jam-packed lineup of events and programming for locals and visitors to explore throughout the season. We're particularly excited to welcome the traveling Savage Gardens exhibition to San Diego for the first time, which will offer an incredible look into the fascinating world of carnivorous plants – some of the most unusual and often misunderstood plants in the world.”

Summer Nights will feature performances that range from children's group [Hullabaloo](#) to jazz guitarist [Peter Sprague](#). The popular Wine in the Garden event will also return this year with wine tastings and presentations by Certified Sommelier Dane Kuta and SDBG Director of Gardens John Clements to discuss how climate, soil, and terrain play a role in winemaking. Amphitheater concerts and special presentations will require a separate “special event” ticket, which varies in price and includes admission to SDBG. Concerts on the Lawn are free with a general admission ticket but with capacity limited, reservations are strongly recommended.



Tickets can be purchased at www.sdbg.org/exhibitions-public-programs/summer-nights/. Performances and special events include:

- **July 13** – [Hullabaloo](#), Gazebo Lawn Garden Concert
- **July 20** – [Peter Sprague](#), Conservatory Amphitheater Concert
- **July 27** – [Billy Lee and the Gulf Coasters](#), Gazebo Lawn Garden Concert
- **August 3** – [Euphoria Brass Band](#), Conservatory Amphitheater Concert
- **August 10** – [Jessica Fichot: From Paris to Shanghai](#), Conservatory Amphitheater Concert
- **August 17** – [Wine in the Garden: Comparing the Left and Right Banks of Bordeaux](#), Special Series Amphitheater

Guests can [pre-order](#) a selection of sweet and savory treats to enjoy during Summer Nights, including charcuterie platters with an assortment of cheeses, crisps, sopressata salami and fresh fruit, along with dessert samplers from local favorite Elizabethan Desserts including apple pie bites, churro mini cupcakes, and caramel and pecan bar bites. Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages will also be available including various wine, spritzers and craft beers.

On the heels of *World of Orchids*, SDBG is entering “The Real and Imaginary World of Carnivorous Plants” with *Savage Gardens* debuting July 1, 2023 presented in collaboration with [Tork](#), a team of experienced artists specializing in unique sculptural installations. The touring exhibition will explore the bizarre and captivating world of carnivorous plants. In addition to a collection of real carnivorous species on display, visitors will get a bug’s-eye perspective with three larger-than-life installations inside and around SDBG’s 8,000 square foot, glass-enclosed Dickinson Family Education Conservatory:

- A 10-foot-tall Tropical Pitcher Plant (*Nepenthes*) invites visitors to step inside to imagine the fate of an unlucky insect.
- Seven North American Pitcher Plant (*Sarracenia*) sculptures that reach heights of 15 feet.
- A 10-foot-tall Venus flytrap (*Dionaea muscipula*) sculpture replicated the closing of the “trap” through the use of hydraulics.

All installations are constructed with aluminum and resin offering incredible interpretations of these unique plants. Vendors will also be featured on select weekends selling plants, potting materials, and other merchandise. Members of SDBG receive free admission to the exhibition. Non-member admissions range from \$10-\$18. Reservations are required. Entrance to the exhibition includes access to the vendor booths and the rest of the Garden during the same visit. For more information and to reserve an entrance date and time, visit www.sdbg.org/exhibitions-public-programs/savage-gardens/.

The summer season will wrap up on September 9 with The Garden Party, SDBG’s largest annual fundraising event featuring an evening of botanical beauty, fabulous food and



beverages, and live entertainment to support critical science, conservation and education programs at the Garden and beyond.

For more information on the events and programs listed above, or to plan your visit, please visit www.SDBG.org.

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About San Diego Botanic Garden

Established in 1970, San Diego Botanic Garden (SDBG) is a 37-acre urban oasis located in Encinitas, California, just north of San Diego. The Garden's four miles of trails and 8,000 square foot glass conservatory display more than 5,300 plant species and varieties. A premiere institution for botanical science and conservation, SDBG is actively involved in conservation horticulture, botany, and applied plant sciences to address our biggest local and global challenges, from biodiversity loss to climate change, food insecurity to environmental degradation. SDBG has the largest public bamboo collection in North America; gardens representing different regions and flora of the world; and demonstration gardens showcasing fruits and vegetables, water-smart ornamentals, and native plants. Through an array of educational programming, events and activities for both children and adults, the Garden aims to create, share and apply plant wisdom to the world. Learn more at sdbg.org. | FB [@SDBotanicGarden](https://www.facebook.com/SDBotanicGarden) | Instagram [@sandiegobotanicgarden](https://www.instagram.com/sandiegobotanicgarden) | TikTok [@sandiegobotanicgarden](https://www.tiktok.com/@sandiegobotanicgarden) | LinkedIn [@SanDiegoBotanicGarden](https://www.linkedin.com/company/SanDiegoBotanicGarden) | Twitter [@SDBGarden](https://twitter.com/SDBGarden)