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**San Diego Botanic Garden Premieres Fall Festival/**

**Festival de Otoño Oct. 23 to Nov. 1**

*SDBG's Fall Festival connects visitors with harvest plants and autumn traditions from*

*Halloween to Diá de los Muertos*

**Encinitas, Calif. - (October 5, 2021) -** [The San Diego Botanic Garden (SDBG)](https://www.sdbgarden.org/), a 37-acre urban oasis that applies plant wisdom with people, today announced its [Fall Festival/Festival de Otoño Event](https://www.sdbgarden.org/fall-festival.htm), open to the public from Saturday, Oct. 23rd through Monday, Nov. 1. The festive seasonal exhibit connects visitors with harvest plants and autumn traditions, from pumpkins and scarecrows to Halloween and Day of the Dead. The inclusive event at the Garden decorates and celebrates the changing colors of nature and cooler temperatures in the air. Patrons can enjoy live music, themed craft stations, fall-themed classes and more. ​​

“Fall is a special time for plant enthusiasts, as it marks an important season of change for plants and foliage,” said Dr. Ari Novy, SDBG President and CEO. “The San Diego Botanic Garden is excited to host a celebration that brings our community together to celebrate the new season and the different autumn traditions representing each individual community.”

For a special Day of the Dead/Día de los Muertos celebration, SDBG has commissioned artist Katie Ruiz to create an ofrenda that will open to the public beginning on October 23. Katie Ruiz is a Xicana figure painting artist and sculptor who resides in San Diego and is best known for her colorful blanket series. The ofrenda will be dedicated to Yolanda López—one of the most important Chicana/o/x artists working in California over the past five decades and an activist and educator celebrated for her role in the Chicano art movement. The Garden will also have a community altar where the public is invited to bring items from home to commemorate loved ones.

The Garden will host special activities on two days during the festival: 10 am - 4 pm on Saturday, Oct. 23, and 10 am - 3 pm on Sunday, Oct. 31. Activities on Oct. 23 include face painting, crafts, a performance by the kids’ band [Hullabaloo](https://hullabalooband.com/), and a performance by the band [Mariachi Real de San Diego](http://mariachireal.com/). Activities on Oct. 31 include crafts and a performance by the Cajun / Zydeco / Texas Swing band [Billy Lee & the Swamp Critters](https://www.theswampcritters.com/).

Tickets can be purchased in advance on the website. Admission for one adult is $18, and this price is discounted for seniors, active military, and students. Youth (age 17 and under) are free during the month of October. To purchase tickets or for additional information, please visit: [www.sdbgarden.org/fall-festival.htm](http://www.sdbgarden.org/fall-festival.htm).

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San Diego Botanic Garden

Established in 1970, San Diego Botanic Garden is a 37-acre urban oasis that creates, shares and applies plant wisdom with people of all backgrounds, ages and interests. The Garden’s four miles of trails display more than 5,000 plant species and varieties, including 300 plants for which SDBG is the only garden maintaining a population. SDBG has 15 gardens that represent different regions of the world, 12 demonstration gardens, and the largest public bamboo collection in North America. SDBG has three children’s gardens, including its flagship, one-acre Hamilton Children’s Garden, the largest kids’ garden on the west coast.