



San Diego Botanic Garden Hosts The Garden Party Annual Fundraiser on September 9

Enjoy an intimate evening of botanicals live entertainment and a selection of fabulous food from local vendors

SAN DIEGO (August 2023) – [San Diego Botanic Garden](#) presents The Garden Party, its annual fundraiser on Saturday, September 9 from 4pm-8pm. As SDBG's largest fundraising event, proceeds from the evening will go towards supporting critical science, conservation and education programs that impact the Garden and beyond. This event will also honor Dr. Ruth Kobayashi with the 2023 Paul Ecke Jr. Award of Excellence.

“The Garden Party brings together our community for an intimate evening to celebrate and support our Garden’s programs, research, and outreach, in San Diego County and globally,” said Ari Novy, PhD., president and CEO of San Diego Botanic Garden. “This year, we are proud to honor Dr. Ruth Kobayashi, a local flower breeder who has played a key role in the development of poinsettias from San Diego that have become world famous.”

Dr. Ruth Kobayashi has been breeding flowers for over 27 years, during which she developed more than 90 poinsettia and 80 impatiens cultivars, several of which have been nominated for various horticultural honors.

A celebration of the end of summer, attendees will also enjoy live entertainment from local musicians [Annastézhaz](#) and [Lee Coulter & Friends](#), along with a selection of food from local vendors including [Best Pizza & Brew](#), [Bliss Tea & Treats](#), [Bun & Patti](#), [Elizabethan Desserts](#), [Urban Plates](#), and [Wild Thyme](#), specialty coffees from [Surje Coffee](#), and bubbly beverages from [Bambucha](#) and [Sipwell](#).

The Garden Party will be hosted at San Diego Botanic Garden’s state-of-the-art, 8,000 square foot, glass-enclosed Dickinson Family Education Conservatory. Funds raised from this event will help further the Garden’s growth and impact throughout San Diego and globally. Attendees will have the opportunity to stroll Garden paths and enjoy lively conversations at information booths highlighting the Garden’s various programs, such as conservation and restoration projects SDBG implements across San Diego County, from Anza Borrego through coastal communities and into the Otay Mountain Wilderness.

This event is 21+ only. Tickets are \$300 per person and can be purchased [online](#). For more information about the Garden’s programs and projects, 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)

About Dr. Ruth Kobayashi

Dr. Ruth Kobayashi is a Senior Plant Breeder and Manager at Dümme Orange in Encinitas, California. Dümme Orange is a world leader in the breeding and development of cut flowers, potted plants, succulents, perennials, and annuals. Dr. Kobayashi joined the Paul Ecke Ranch in 1995, which was acquired by Dümme Orange in 2013. Her current focus is on the development of new and novel New Guinea impatiens and poinsettia cultivars. She has been breeding flowers for over 27 years, during which she developed more than 90 poinsettia and 80 impatiens cultivars, several of which have been nominated for various horticultural honors including the award winning golden-colored 'Autumn Leaves' poinsettia. Dr. Kobayashi is also a consultant with Mellano & Company where she has led the program to improve *Ranunculus asiaticus* (Persian buttercup) flower quality for The Flower Fields in Carlsbad since 2017.