



Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc.
Glenn F. Bates Garden Center in Hugh Taylor Birch State Park
3109 East Sunrise Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33304
www.flgc.org

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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THE 2016 SECRET GARDEN TOUR OF FORT LAUDERDALE Presented by Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc.

Fort Lauderdale, Florida—January 19, 2016—A special opportunity to enjoy the splendor of south Florida gardening at its best. This tour showcases six distinctive subtropical gardens and allows a peek inside two gorgeous homes. You will explore a lush tropical oasis and luxuriate in a magnificent formal garden, be awed by a landscape plan that transforms a small yard into an outdoor paradise, and be completely captivated by the ‘old Florida’ charm of an 1928 home with a quaint guest cottage. For added educational value, two Florida-friendly landscapes, one certified by the National Wildlife Federation Garden for Wildlife Program and another certified by the Monarch Waystation Program demonstrate that no matter how urban the setting, a yard can be a haven for native wildlife and a welcome refuge for migratory birds and butterflies.

These gardens and homes are privately owned, not open for public viewing except for this exclusive fundraising event to benefit the aims, goals and special projects sponsored by Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc. Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Date: Saturday, February 20, 2016

Time: Tour anytime at your leisure between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm

Location: Las Olas Isles, Rio Vista, Victoria Park

Tickets: \$25 if purchased in advance; \$30 day of tour, if available. Tickets are limited.

Available online at www.flgc.org or by mailing a check to:

Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc.
PO Box 4114, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33338-4114.

Make check payable to “FLGC”.

Check must be received by February 15, 2016.

TOUR DETAILS: Begin your tour by picking up your Tour Entry Packet and Driving Map at the Church-by-the-Sea, 2700 Mayan Drive, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316 (corner of A1A/Seabreeze Blvd. and Mayan Drive). Bring a copy of your receipt or ticket to be able to pick up your packet. Packets are reserved in the name of the individual purchasing the tickets. Be sure to pick up your packet no later than 12:30 p.m. *(Note: The Church-by-the-Sea is not a principal of this tour and cannot be called for information or tickets. Visit our website at www.flgc.org or call 954-561-8475 for information or to purchase additional tickets.)*

This is a self-guided tour. Persons touring the gardens are responsible for their own transportation. We encourage carpooling. At each of the six gardens featured on this tour, knowledgeable garden club members will be on-hand to greet you and talk about the gardens and plants or answer any questions. Be sure to visit the Flower Shoppe for light refreshments and to purchase exceptional plants, books and garden tools.

For Your Convenience and Comfort:

- Smoking, pets and the use of cell phones and cameras is prohibited in the homes and gardens.
- This tour is not appropriate for children. No strollers.
- Restrooms are not available at any of the homes or gardens.
- Not all areas are handicapped accessible.
- Please wear low-heeled walking shoes, for your own comfort and safety, and to protect the turf in some gardens.
- The tour is held rain or shine – No Refunds.
- Last entry to all tour properties is 2:30 p.m.

ABOUT FORT LAUDERDALE GARDEN CLUB, INC.: Founded in 1927, to help restore the natural beauty of Fort Lauderdale after a devastating hurricane destroyed the city's tree canopy, the history of Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc. is an enduring record of civic achievements and commitment to beautifying the Fort Lauderdale landscape. In 1933, Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc. was instrumental in the planting the royal palms that grace Las Olas Boulevard, and the planting of hundreds of subtropical flowering trees in what is now downtown Fort Lauderdale. Some of these trees have since been listed in the American Forests Champion Trees national register as representing the oldest and biggest tree of its species on record. Other notable early projects include landscaping Port Everglades with salt and wind tolerant trees in 1933, planting 1,600 plants and shrubs along Federal Highway in 1954, donating 100 trees to help restore Hugh Taylor Birch State Park after Hurricane Cleo in 1964, initiating the garden therapy program at South Florida State Hospital in 1965, and in 1976, the club dedicated The Annie Beck Park of Flowering Trees, which is still enjoyed by all who travel along Victoria Park Road. Since the seventies, Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc. has added many milestones to its record of service to the south Florida community.

Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc. continues today to support its mission to stimulate the love of gardening, mentor young gardeners, and promote the beautification of public places with educational programs and workshops, and a commitment to local civic projects. Since 1947, in collaboration with Broward County Schools, Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc. has provided students with hands-on horticultural, floral design and environmental workshops and classes and presented an annual flower show for young exhibitors. Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc. also sponsors camperships each summer, opening the doors for many children to explore nature at Wekiva Youth Camp; and awards an environmental studies scholarship each year to a deserving student. In Broward County, Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc. installed the Sensory Garden at the Lighthouse for the Blind, partnered with Habitat for Humanity to landscape yards for families in need, and renovated the rose garden at the historic Stranahan House, among many other projects.

The public is always welcome to attend Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc. general meetings, held at 10:00 a.m. on the second Friday of the month, October through May, at the Glenn F. Bates Garden Center in Hugh Taylor Birch State Park, 3109 East Sunrise Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33304. Knowledgeable speakers present educational and entertaining programs on topics of horticultural, environmental and cultural interest each month.

For more information about Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc., visit www.flgc.org or call 954-561-8475.

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