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Please call for photos



## Winged Wonders Exhibit June 4 – October 30 at the San Antonio Botanical Garden

**San Antonio, TX: May 2016** - Explore the magic of Winged Wonders when the Garden showcases the thousands of blooms and host plants that birds, butterflies, and other pollinators find in abundance this time of year. Opening on Saturday, June 4, and extending until October 30, the Garden will highlight its winged friends, especially monarch butterflies and hummingbirds.

### **Special activities, Opening Day, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

*Garden guests will uncover the wonder of the butterfly life cycle and create their own life cycle model to take home.*

- *Meet a butterfly 'up close and personal'*
- *Take a guided butterfly walk*
- *Learn which garden plants attract pollinators*

*Children will receive a packet of seeds to take home to start their own butterfly gardens. Also featured will be special butterfly guests from the Children's Ballet of San Antonio. Watch them flutter to the beat at 11:00AM, 12:00PM and 1:00PM.*

During the next few months, the Garden is one fabulous place to see butterflies and hummers in action, from the Old-Fashioned Garden to the formal displays and native areas. From caterpillar larvae to fluttering beauty, these winged wonders find sustenance for their life cycle at the Garden, sensitizing all of us to the importance of habitat for those who "cohabit" with us. And the same is true for the birds, especially those hovering, "mini-jet" hummers that visit.

Host plants and nectar flowers throughout the Garden are designated with special markers on the plant labels. Guests will enjoy looking for the hummingbird, butterfly, and caterpillar icons that indicate a plant is a host for that creature. These icons help guests learn about plants that are suitable for use in their home gardens to attract winged wonders to their gardens, such as Milkweed, Autumn Sage, Purple Coneflower, Turk's Cap, and Gregg's Purple Mistflower.

The following Saturdays will feature Family Drop-In Programming, 10am – 12pm: June 25, July 23, August 13, August 27, September 10, September 24, October 8, and October 22. Hear a story about a pollinator, create a simple craft, play a game, and take part in a garden exploration activity. Free with admission to the Garden.

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Visitors will enjoy spinning the giant butterfly wheel to identify common Texas butterflies and their corresponding larvae (aka caterpillars). Our special thanks to Texas A&M AgriLife Extension for allowing us to replicate this interactive feature.

Plus, have your photo made at the larger-than-life monarch wings celebrating the Old-Fashioned Garden as an Official Monarch Waystation. San Antonio is the first city in the U.S. to be designated a Monarch Butterfly Champion City, thanks to Mayor Ivy Taylor taking the National Wildlife Federation Pledge to increase pollinator habitat for this threatened butterfly. San Antonio is an ideal spot for monarch-watching because of it is the point of convergence of migration flyways.

Daily admission to the San Antonio Botanical Garden is \$10 adults; \$8 students, seniors, military; \$7 children age 3-13. San Antonio Botanical Garden is located at 555 Funston Place at North New Braunfels. Parking is free. The Botanical Garden is operated under the auspices of the City of San Antonio Department of Parks & Recreation and is open year-round except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. For more information, like us on Facebook, visit [www.sabot.org](http://www.sabot.org) or call 210-536-1400.

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