

### MEDIA CONTACT

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### LINK TO GALAXY OF LIGHTS MEDIA KIT

## GALAXY OF LIGHTS KICKS OFF HOLIDAY SEASON AT HUNTSVILLE BOTANICAL GARDEN

Garden transforms into winter wonderland of twinkling lights, faux snow, music and more

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (Oct. 1, 2024) – Huntsville Botanical Garden's annual holiday light experience, <u>Galaxy of</u> Lights, returns for its 29th season on November 15 and runs through December 31. Recognized as Huntsville's beloved holiday tradition, it was voted the #2 Best Botanical Garden Holiday Lights in 2023 by USA Today's 10Best Travel Awards. Guests will enjoy the rich traditions that Galaxy of Lights is known for, along with exciting new features. With traditional light displays and special effects throughout the experience, there will be surprises for first-time guests and longtime visitors alike.

With both walking and driving experiences available, the award-winning event offers guests of all ages the chance to share in the beloved tradition and make memories together.

- Walking Nights: November 15 December 1 (closed Thanksgiving Day and November 17), December 4-8 and December 18 26 (closed Christmas Day)
- **Dog Walking Nights:** Every Monday and Tuesday during Walking Nights (November 18 & 19, November 25 & 26, and December 23 & 24)
- **Driving Nights:** December 9 17 and December 26 31 (Closed Christmas Day)

The event will be closed on November 15, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Ticket prices for Walking Nights range from \$13 to \$25 for adults and \$7 to \$15 for children. Discounted tickets of \$3 each are available to those who qualify through <u>Museums for All</u> (limit of four tickets). Advanced purchase of tickets for Walking Nights is strongly recommended as gate tickets are not guaranteed to be available.

Tickets for Driving Nights range from \$25 to \$40 per vehicle with 10 or fewer occupants. Driving Nights tickets can be purchased in advance or upon arrival.

"It doesn't matter if you went to Galaxy of Lights last year or 10 years ago—each year brings something new and you will be amazed at how the event continues to evolve," said Sue Wagner, chief executive officer of the Garden. "Every year, we listen to feedback and make improvements to the experience so we can continue to surprise and delight our guests again and again."

Additions to this year's light show include:

- The Mystical Forest, which will give visitors the illusion of walking into an enchanted winter woodland area, complete with over 1100 dancing meadow grass poles that jump and interact with a photo-op
- A new and improved Aquatic Wonder location with a new light canopy and newly engineered walk inside the iconic structure bridging the Damson Aquatic Garden
- A 30-foot-tall castle of lights that will add a touch of magic when entering the concessions area
- Multiple opportunities to purchase food and beverages along the Walking Nights route
- Larger-than-life snow globes and interactive lights in Holiday Lane that make the visitor part of the light show

"The USA Today 10Best Readers' Choice awards are voted on by the public, so it is a genuine show of support from our community to be recognized two years in a row," said Wagner. "We are honored to be such a beloved part of the holiday season in Huntsville!"

Tickets to Galaxy of Lights will go on sale for Garden members on October 1 and for the public on October 7. Tickets can be purchased at the Garden front desk during regular business hours or online at <u>hsvbg.org/galaxy</u>. All proceeds directly support the mission of the Huntsville Botanical Garden, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Refunds are not available for Galaxy of Lights tickets.

Galaxy of Lights 5K and 3K Fun Run registration is also open and details can be found on HBG's website.

Galaxy of Lights is presented by the Damson Automotive Group and Publix.

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# About Huntsville Botanical Garden

Huntsville Botanical Garden is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that exists to connect people to plants to support a healthier quality of life for the region. Open year-round, the Garden contains diverse ecosystems to explore within its 118 acres. From grassy meadows to woodland paths, aquatic habitats to stunning floral collections, the Garden invites guests of all ages to discover the beauty and wonder of the natural environment. For more information, visit <u>hsvbg.org</u>.