



MEDIA CONTACT

Laura McPhail
Director of Marketing and Communications
Huntsville Botanical Garden
lmcphail@hsvbg.org
256-830-4447, ext. 226

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Registration open for Galaxy of Lights 5K Race and 3K Fun Run; prices increase Nov. 1

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (Oct. 30, 2025) – Runners of all ages are invited to register for a unique race experience through a wonderland of holiday lights! Registration is open for Huntsville Botanical Garden’s Galaxy of Lights 5k Race and 3K Fun Run, taking place on December 1 and 2, respectively.

The timed and certified 5k Race (3.1 miles) is on Monday, December 1, with the course winding through the Galaxy of Lights trail. Much of this path is paved, with occasional sections of gravel path. Start times are staggered in two waves starting at 6 p.m. Pets, strollers, headphones, and non-registered participants are not allowed on the 5K course. Participants will receive a commemorative T-shirt. Registration for the 5K is \$35 per runner until Nov. 1, when the price increases to \$45.

The 3k Fun Run/Walk (1.8 miles) begins at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 2, with the course winding through the Galaxy of Lights trail. Much of this path is paved, but there are occasional sections of gravel path. The 3k Fun Run is not a timed race, but like the 5K, is full of great light displays, holiday music and prizes. There is a registration fee of \$27 for participants 11 years old and older and \$25 for children ages 4-10, until Nov. 1 when the price increases by \$10 in both categories.

Pets, headphones, and non-registered participants over 3 years of age are not allowed on the 3K course, but strollers are welcome. Unregistered children under 3 years of age are welcome for the 3k Fun Run (if they are accompanied by a registered adult) but they will not receive a commemorative T-shirt.

Participants may choose to register for both races for \$60. Those opting for this combo registration will also receive a holiday ornament.

“The Galaxy of Lights Races are such a special way to kick off the holiday season at the Garden,” said HBG Visitor Programs Coordinator Julia Harper. “Whether you’re a seasoned runner or just out to enjoy a festive

stroll with friends, these races offer a truly magical experience. Don't miss your chance to see the lights in this unique way. Register today and make it a naturally delightful tradition!"

The Galaxy of Lights 5K Race and 3K Fun Run/Walk are sponsored by Damson Automotive, Country Financial, Publix, and Fleet Feet. Sponsors will provide refreshments for participants at 5:30 p.m. on both nights in the staging/warming area for runners in the Nichols Arbor on December 1. Top winners in each category will also receive a race medal.

The races will take place in rain or shine. If there is lightning in the area, races will be delayed for 30 minutes. If there is still lightning in the area after 30 minutes, the run will be canceled. HBG reserves the right to cancel in extreme conditions. In the event of cancellation, there will be no refunds, and entry fees will be donated to Huntsville Botanical Garden.

Registration and details for both races is available at <https://www.runreg.com/galaxyoflightsruns>. Only registered participants will be allowed access to the Galaxy of Lights displays for the 5k Race and 3k Fun Run. All registrations are final, non-transferable, and non-refundable. All proceeds directly support the Garden's nonprofit mission to connect people to plants to improve quality of life in our region.

###

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 hsvbg.org.