MEDIA CONTACT
Laura McPhail
VP of Communications and Guest Experience
Huntsville Botanical Garden
lmcphail@hsvbg.org
256-830-4447, ext. 226

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA RESOURCES

Run through the holiday magic at Galaxy of Lights 5K Race and 3K Fun Run

Registration open through November 25 for two festive nights at the Garden

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (November 3, 2026) – Lace up your running shoes and get ready to dash through a wonderland of holiday lights! Registration is open for Huntsville Botanical Garden's (HBG) annual Galaxy of Lights 5K Race and 3K Fun Run, taking place Monday, November 30, and Tuesday, December 1, respectively. These popular holiday events offer runners and walkers a unique opportunity to experience the Garden's dazzling holiday displays while making memories with family and friends.

The certified, chip-timed 5K Race (3.1 miles) takes place Monday, November 30, with a course winding through the Galaxy of Lights trail and the U.S. Space & Rocket Center property. The primarily paved course includes occasional gravel sections and features two staggered start waves at 6 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Participants must start with their assigned wave to ensure accurate timing. Awards will be presented to top finishers in multiple categories.

The 3K Fun Run/Walk (1.8 miles) begins at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 1. Designed for participants of all ages and abilities, this untimed event offers a more relaxed opportunity to enjoy the festive lights and holiday music along the Garden's illuminated pathways. Strollers are welcome, and children ages three and younger may participate free with a registered adult.

Both events include a commemorative long-sleeved technical T-shirt for registered participants, along with refreshments and a festive atmosphere. Friends and family are encouraged to cheer on participants. Registered participants will receive complimentary refreshments inside the Nichols Arbor following each event.

“The Galaxy of Lights Races offer such a memorable way to experience the holiday season at the Garden,” said HBG Visitor Programs Coordinator Julia Harper. “Whether you're a

competitive runner aiming for a personal best or a family looking to make a new holiday tradition, there's something special about moving through the lights together. It's an experience you won't find anywhere else."

Registration is open through Wednesday, November 25, at 10 p.m. CST. Current registration rates are $45 for the 5K Race, $37 for 3K participants ages 11 and older, and $35 for children ages 4–10. A combination registration for both races is available for $70. Space is limited, and advance registration is required.

Packet pickup will be available at Fleet Feet Sports in Huntsville on November 27 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and at Huntsville Botanical Garden on race days from 12 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

For participant safety, pets, headphones, and unregistered participants are not permitted on either course. Strollers are welcome for the 3K Fun Run but are not permitted in the timed 5K Race. Only registered participants will have access to the Galaxy of Lights displays during the races.

The events will take place rain or shine. All registrations are final, non-transferable, and non-refundable.

Registration and complete race details are available at https://www.runreg.com/galaxy-of-lights-races Proceeds support Huntsville Botanical Garden's nonprofit mission to connect people to plants to improve quality of life in the region.

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About Galaxy of Lights
Galaxy of Lights at Huntsville Botanical Garden features stunning pathways filled with festive cheer. With walking and driving options, this event is perfect for families, couples, and friends of all ages — even dogs can join in the festivities on select dog-walking nights! Designed and engineered 100% in-house, Galaxy's 1.5 miles of sparkling light displays, choreographed music, and interactive elements immerse guests as part of the holiday magic. For more information, visit hsvbg.org/galaxy.