

For Immediate Release
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A New Holiday Tradition Emerges at Powell Gardens

Kansas City, Mo. November 28, 2017—Serene settings, botanically-themed light displays and a mile-long walking path, set the new Festival of Lights at Powell Gardens, opening Friday, December 1, apart from its competitors. With nearly 15-miles of lights installed in six of the seven-themed garden areas and a location set away from the light and noise pollution of the city, this new holiday festival offers a chance to see Powell Gardens in a whole new light. Visitors can experience the gardens from 3-9 p.m., Thursday to Sunday, through January 7, 2018.

“We are thrilled to be able to offer this new event at Powell Gardens during a time when the gardens are normally thought of as dormant,” said Tabitha Schmidt, president and executive director of Powell Gardens. “This activation will allow visitors to take a break from the hustle and bustle of the holiday season and enjoy a beautiful display in a peaceful setting.”



The botanically-themed display takes visitors on a journey through areas such as Butterfly Boulevard, Candy Cane Lane and the Frozen Forest and offers hospitality stations along the way, serving hot beverages and cheer. Festival-goers can enjoy a pit-stop at the Holly Jolly Rest Stop which will offer a fire pit to warm the fingers and toes and refreshments to warm the spirit. A soup buffet will be available in the garden restaurant, Café Thyme offering soups for all tastes and an assortment of dessert items. Guests can also enjoy a model train display installed and maintained by the Mo-Kan Garden Railroaders group.

Additional Holiday Offerings at Powell Gardens:

Wonderland Workshop: Drop-in Gift Making for Families Saturday, December 2

An afternoon of activities including ornament making, Christmas card designing, bird feeder construction, and storytelling in front of a fire! Santa will be on-hand to take

Christmas wishes and families are encouraged to experience the first-ever Festival of lights included with admission.

Natural Holiday Décor Workshop
Saturday, December 9

Participants will create holiday décor using greenery and decorations harvested at Powell Gardens and will enjoy mulled wine to foster good cheer and creativity.

Making Spirits Bright with Tom's Town Distilling Co.
Saturday, December 16

Join Tom's Town Distillery of Kansas City at Powell Gardens to learn about the botanical aspects of liquor and enjoy signature cocktails infused with Powell Gardens herbs. Tickets include a hearty appetizer buffet, live 1920s jazz with A La Mode, and an evening stroll through the Festival of Lights.

Chapel Concert Series in the Marjorie Powell Allen Chapel

Arcana Quartet

Sunday, December 3

The Arcana Quartet is comprised of students attending the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance.

Christmas Trio (featuring violin, viola, and cello)

Sunday, December 10

The Christmas Trio is comprised of students from the University of Missouri, Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance.

Amorosa

Sunday, January 7

Amorosa is a quartet consisting of a flute, violin, viola, and cello, founded in 2012 by members of the Lee's Summit Symphony Orchestra.

The Festival of Lights is proudly illuminated by Kansas City Power & Light.

Powell Gardens

Powell Gardens, Kansas City's botanical garden, resides on 970 acres of lush, rolling hills just east of Kansas City on U.S. Highway 50. Known for its contemporary architecture and stunning display gardens, Powell Gardens offers classes, performances and festivals year-round.

In 2009, it opened the Heartland Harvest Garden; a 12-acre expansion that encompasses one of the nation's largest edible landscapes.

Thirty miles east of Kansas City on 50 Highway, Powell Gardens is open seven days a week year-round (except major holidays). For information, admission and seasonal hours, call 816.697.2600 or visit powellgardens.org.