Horticultural Events from Around the Country

### Regional Happenings

#### Northeast


#### Mid-Atlantic


#### Southeast

- **RAP Feb. 3.** Understanding and Improving Garden Soils. Class. JC Raulston Arboretum at NC State University. Raleigh, NC. (919) 515-3132. [www.jcra.ncsu.edu](http://www.jcra.ncsu.edu).

#### North Central


### Looking Ahead

- **Looking ahead**
Andy Warhol as Naturalist at Selby Gardens

ANDY WARHOL’S artwork is immediately recognizable: false-color images of celebrities and pop culture, and homages to a bygone era. Warhol also drew inspiration from nature, however, and this winter Marie Selby Botanical Gardens in Sarasota, Florida, will display some of his plant-inspired designs. “This exhibition grew from an idea about how to best capture the energy behind Warhol’s commitment to natural beauty and conservation,” says Carol Ockman, the exhibition’s curator.

Beginning February 11, “Warhol: Flowers in the Factory” will include silk screenings of hibiscus and other flowers by the iconic artist. In addition, the garden will have two poinsettia prints on loan for the exhibition. Selby has also acquired old photographs of Warhol in the woods to provide some biographical context.

Some of Selby’s plants will get a Warhol-esque twist: Modular, repetitive arrangements will spread through the garden and conservatory. “We hope visitors leave with an understanding that plants are art in and of themselves,” says Jennifer Rominiecki, Selby’s president and CEO. “The horticultural displays are dynamic, colorful, and striking; they will make people reexamine how they view plants.” The exhibition, which runs through June 30, will also feature Warhol-inspired performance arts programs and offer opportunities for visitors to make their own Warhol-style prints. For more information, visit www.selby.org.

—Aaron Dorman, Editorial Intern

**SOUTH CENTRAL**

AR, KS, LA, MO, MS, OK, TX


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**NATURE CONNECTS**

at

Harry P. Leu Gardens

JANUARY 6 - APRIL 22, 2018

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Sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.
Morpho Mardi Gras in Missouri

FROM FEBRUARY 1 through March 31, the Missouri Botanical Garden is celebrating the Mardi Gras season by setting loose thousands of blue morpho butterflies (Morpho peleides) inside the Butterfly House. The conservatory will be decorated in the fashion of a New Orleans-style Mardi Gras festival, including colorful drapery, lighting, and décor.

Visitors to the conservatory will be in close proximity to the butterflies, observing them in flight and feeding at fruit trays. The butterflies are native to the rainforests of Central America, and are particularly prevalent in Costa Rica. During flight, they confound predators with a stark color contrast: While their upper wing surfaces are a bright azure blue, the undersides are a dull brown for camouflage. Although they are not pollinators themselves, blue morphos and their exotic beauty are viewed as an “ambassador species” for both butterflies at large and rainforest conservation.

“We hope that learning about the blue morphos and Costa Rica inspires visitors to help our native butterflies by creating their own pollinator gardens,” says Laura Chisholm, senior manager of collections at the Butterfly House.

Themed events at the Butterfly House during the celebration will include “Bugs on Parade,” live blues and jazz bands from the National Blues Museum, creole-inspired food, and live animal encounters in partnership with the Endangered Wolf Center.

You can find out more about the butterflies and the exhibit at www.missouri botanicalgarden.org/visit/family-of-attractions/butterfly-house.

—Aaron Dorman, Editorial Intern

A blue morpho in the Butterfly House


Looking ahead


WEST COAST

AZ, CO, NM, UT


Looking ahead


Looking ahead


Looking ahead


NORTHWEST

AK, ID, MT, OR, WA, WY


Looking ahead


Looking ahead


Looking ahead


Looking ahead


