



FREDERIK MEIJER Gardens & Sculpture Park

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CONTACT: John VanderHaagen | Director of Communications | 616-975-3180 | jvanderhaagen@meijergardens.org

MEIJER GARDENS CELEBRATES AUTUMN WITH CHRYSANTHEMUM EXHIBITION

The annual/Chrysanthemums & More! exhibition explores the untamed side of the season, just as nature intended, September 18 to November 1.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., – August 31, 2020 – Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park is pleased to present the annual fall horticulture exhibition, *Chrysanthemums & More!* opening to the public on September 18. This exhibition, the largest of its kind in Michigan, features expansive displays of chrysanthemums, fall foliage and family-friendly activities. The exhibition will be on display through November 1.

Here guests will experience the natural and untamed sophistication of autumn in all its glory. Plant displays throughout Meijer Gardens will intentionally be open and airy, highlighting movement in contrast to a more traditional tight and manicured aesthetic of years past. This exhibition is truly a feast for the eyes, displaying the versatility of the magnificent mum and much more.

"This year's theme for *Chrysanthemums & More!* is 'Naturally,'" explained Steve LaWarre, Director of Horticulture. "Our goal is that guests can experience the more natural and untamed side of the autumn season through the various displays of color, texture and patterns that are carefully designed to play upon the natural beauty of the changing fall landscape."

Visitors will be greeted with vibrant displays of chrysanthemums from the moment they arrive and delighted by abundant floral arrangements of these bold blooms as they walk through the BISSELL Corridor inside the main building. Upon entering the Grace Jarecki Seasonal Display Greenhouse, a floor-to-ceiling chrysanthemum display will unfold as a focal point. Presentations of large disbuds and beds of colorful plantings will complement this feature in the nearby Earl and Donnalee Holton Victorian Garden Parlor. Outdoors, expansive beds of lush chrysanthemums will be arranged in stunning sweeps of color and will be balanced by a variety of ornamental plantings that highlight nature's beauty.

Activities, including the Fall Bonsai Show, Giant Pumpkins and Halloween-Ones, are full of family fun throughout the exhibition. Visit MeijerGardens.org for a full listing of events.

Exhibition Programming

- **Fall Bonsai Show**

West Michigan Bonsai Club

October 3-4, Saturday, 10 am-5 pm; Sunday, 11 am-5 pm

FEE: Free

See a variety of bonsai on display, from trees in early stages of training to lovely older trees. Watch bonsai artists at work and shop for bonsai trees as well as bonsai tools and supplies.

- **Fall Family Day**

Saturday, October 3, 1-4 pm

FEE: Included with admission

Visit the Lena Meijer Children's Garden for fall family fun. Activities include something for all your senses! Listen to fall-inspired tunes and autumn-themed stories, view a fiber arts demonstration and take a naturalists walk that includes highlights of this amazing season.

- **Hallowee-ones**

Friday, October 23, 10 am-12 pm (parades at 10:15 and 11:15 am)

FEE: Included with admission

Get creative at this special event designed for our youngest visitors! Dress your child as a sculpture, mammal, fish, insect, bird, tree, flower, geologist or in any other way that highlights something about the Lena Meijer Children's Garden. Participate in a costume parade and listen to Halloween-themed stories. Celebrate Halloween with your wee-ones. No tricks, no treats, just fun!

The *Chrysanthemums & More!* exhibition is sponsored by:

The Meijer Foundation

Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation

Botanic and Sculpture Societies of Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park

Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts

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[Images available here.](#)

About Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park

One of the world's most significant botanic and sculpture experiences, Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park served 670,000 visitors in 2019 and was recently listed in the top 30 most visited museums in the United States by The Art Newspaper, the leading publication in global art news. The 158-acre main campus features Michigan's largest tropical conservatory; one of the largest interactive children's gardens in the country; arid and Victorian

gardens with bronze sculptures by Edgar Degas and Auguste Rodin; a carnivorous plant house; outdoor gardens; and a 1900-seat outdoor amphitheater, featuring an eclectic mix of world-renowned musicians every summer. The internationally acclaimed Sculpture Park features a permanent collection including works by Claes Oldenburg & Coosje van Bruggen, Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth, Richard Serra, Louise Bourgeois, Ai Weiwei and Jaume Plensa, among others. Indoor galleries host changing sculpture exhibitions with exhibitions by Ai Weiwei, Pablo Picasso, Edgar Degas, Mark di Suvero, Jonathan Borofsky, Alexander Calder, Jim Dine and others. In June 2015, the eight-acre Richard & Helen DeVos Japanese Garden at Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park opened. Created by renowned designer Hoichi Kurisu, the garden features sculpture by Anish Kapoor, Jenny Holzer, David Nash, George Rickey, Masayuki Koorida, Zhang Huan and Giuseppe Penone.

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