



PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL

First Friday walks, full moon hikes, yoga, children's activities and open houses will all be offered at the Botanical Garden this fall.

Fall in the garden

'Always something to do' at SC Botanical Garden

BY CAITLIN HERRINGTON
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CLEMSON — Summer events have all but wrapped up at the South Carolina Botanical Garden, which only means the events calendar has picked up for fall.

Tonight's 7 p.m. concert in the amphitheater is the last Friday Garden Concert of the year, but the public plant sale on Saturday morning serves as a reminder there's almost always something going on in the garden.

Garden business manager Angel Perkins said the schedule fills up fast — in a happy way — during the fall as temperatures drop and more visitors are willing to spend time outside and be engaged in the garden.

"We've worked hard to make sure people know there's always something to see," Perkins said. "And now we want them to know there's always something to do in the garden as well."

The Saturday plant sale is followed by another weekly wind-down series, though it could be considered more of a wine-down, as Tuesday Tunes and Tastings makes its fall debut. Several friends of the garden — Palmetto's Smokehouse and Oyster Bar, Carolina Bauernhaus and The Alumni Restaurant — will be on hand to offer food and drinks during the show, Perkins said.

Several other events are scattered throughout the calendar, she said, including first Friday walks, full moon hikes, yoga, children's activities and open houses. But there are a few fall highlights she's looking forward to as well.

"There are a lot of programs that we have going on this fall," Perkins said. "We have the Harvest Celebration to celebrate the changing to the season, Handmade for the Holidays, we have the open houses once a month throughout the fall and into the winter, and programs like the Melody Garden and stroller strut are awesome."

The second Day of the Dead



TUESDAY TUNES AND TASTINGS

7-8:30 p.m. on the carriage house lawn

Oct. 1: David Donar

Oct. 8: Ticko

Oct. 15: Gypsy Sallies

Oct. 22: Jeff Edwards Band

Oct. 29: Wild Pines

celebration is scheduled for Nov. 1, and the public is invited not only to attend, but to participate in this "vibrant celebration of life," Perkins said.

"It was a wonderful evening of inclusivity and culture

and it was awesome," Perkins said of last year's event. "Any time you have a first-time event, there are some things to learn, and we're certainly learning.

"This event wants to be huge," she added, noting about



WANT TO GO?

June Templeton will perform a free concert from 7-8 p.m. at the South Carolina Botanical Garden amphitheater tonight. The public plant sale runs from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday at the nursery, located at 164 Lacecap Loop in Clemson.

1,500 people attended last year. "We've expanded where we're having it ... down into the parking lot of the Bob Campbell Geology Museum."

Children will have plenty of options for entertainment with face painting and an outdoor showing of "The Book of Life" at 7 p.m. A mariachi band has been scheduled, food trucks are on board and the community is invited to set up altars.

"The public can be involved in this, and I think that's going to add a lot to the night," Perkins said. "Families are encouraged to bring photos or mementos to place on the altars to remember the lives of loved ones."

There are limitations for safety, she said, and the call to altars requires all posted information to be in English and Spanish. More information for the altars is available at rodrigm@clermson.edu, and design proposals must be submitted by Tuesday.

Perkins noted the Botanical Garden is creating partnerships to ensure everyone knows they are welcome at the garden any time it is open. The history and education presented alongside the Latino and Hispanic community proved to be a crucial part of last year's Day of the Dead celebration, she said, and this year will have another educational component.

Tonight's show is also another attempt to remind everyone the garden is for everyone, as it will celebrate the LGBTQ community.

"We pride ourselves in the fact that this garden is open 365 days a year, sunrise to sunset, always free of charge," Perkins said. "Everyone is welcome here."