



MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

4344 Shaw Boulevard • St. Louis, MO • 63110 • (314) 577-9400 • www.mobot.org

Date: June 10, 2011

What's growing on
at the Garden!

CELEBRATE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN FOUNDER'S BIRTHDAY WITH FREE ADMISSION ON JULY 24

WHAT: Garden founder Henry Shaw's 211th birthday celebration

WHEN: Sunday, July 24 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; activities from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

WHERE: Missouri Botanical Garden, 4344 Shaw Blvd., south St. Louis

COST: FREE

INFO: www.mobot.org; (314) 577-5100, 1-800-642-8842 toll free

(ST. LOUIS): The Missouri Botanical Garden is throwing a birthday party! On **Sunday, July 24**, enjoy old-fashioned entertainment and free Garden and Children's Garden admission all day long in honor of Garden's founder Henry Shaw's 211th birthday.

Celebrate the occasion with family-friendly activities from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. "Henry Shaw" himself will greet guests to the birthday bash – look for him strolling the Garden grounds, dressed in his familiar black top hat, alongside other actors dressed in vintage Victorian costumes. Have your silhouette portrait drawn by an artist, witness the agility of a stilt walker and listen to whimsical tunes performed by an organ grinder. Watch a special puppetry performance by Bob Kramer's Marionettes at 10:30 a.m., noon and 1:30 p.m. outdoors on Spoehrer Plaza.

Enjoy the beauty of the Garden grounds and Doris I. Schnuck Children's Garden, offering free July 24th admission from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Take a tour of Tower Grove House, Shaw's original country estate, open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Stroll through the Lichtenstein Victorian District to see the bountiful summer blooms of the Kresko Victorian Garden, wind through the Kaeser Maze and visit Shaw's mausoleum. Stop by the Children's Garden to experience "A Missouri Adventure" in a 19th century prairie village.

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ADD ONE: Shaw Birthday

In celebration of STAGES ST. LOUIS' 25th anniversary season, featuring a month-long run of *The Secret Garden*, the Missouri Botanical Garden will share one of its own secrets – the historic Museum Building will be open for tours on July 24. Opened in 1859, the Museum Building originally housed the Garden's mounted herbarium plant specimens and library, and is normally closed to the public.

Stop by the Henry Shaw Cactus Society show and sale, open July 23 through 31 inside the Orthwein Floral Display Hall. Browse a wide array of cacti and succulents, enjoy expert demonstrations and get plant care advice.

Visit the Spink Pavilion for Café Flora brunch, offered every Sunday in summer from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Choose from an a la carte menu and dine inside or out, overlooking the Garden's central reflecting pools. Call (314) 577-0200 for more information.

Missouri Botanical Garden admission is free for all visitors on Sunday, July 24. Regular admission is normally \$8, with St. Louis City and County residents enjoying discounted admission of \$4 and free admission on Wednesday and Saturday mornings until noon. Children ages 12 and under and Garden members are free. Children's Garden admission is regularly \$5 for ages 3 to 12.

The Missouri Botanical Garden is located at 4344 Shaw Blvd. in south St. Louis, accessible from Interstate 44 at the Vandeventer exit and from Interstate 64 at the Kingshighway North & South exit. Free parking is available on-site and two blocks west at the corner of Shaw and Vandeventer.

For general information, visit www.mobot.org or call (314) 577-5100 (toll-free, 1-800-642-8842).

Members get more! More than 37,000 households in the St. Louis region hold memberships to the Missouri Botanical Garden. Memberships begin at \$65 (\$60 for seniors) and offer 12 months of free admission for two adults and all children, plus exclusive invitations and discounts. Members help support the Garden's operations and world-changing work in plant science and conservation. Learn more at www.mobot.org/membership.

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NOTE: Digital images available by request. Download media materials at www.mobot.org/press.

The Missouri Botanical Garden's mission is "to discover and share knowledge about plants and their environment in order to preserve and enrich life." Today, 152 years after opening, the Missouri Botanical Garden is a National Historic Landmark and a center for science, conservation, education and horticultural display.

The Missouri Botanical Garden is located at 4344 Shaw Blvd. in St. Louis, just south of I-44 at Vandeventer-Kingshighway (exit #287B). Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day except Dec. 25. Grounds open at 7 a.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays (exception: special admission rate events). Admission is \$8; free children ages 12 and under and Garden members. St. Louis City and County residents are \$4 and free Wednesdays and Saturdays until noon (exception: special admission rate events - third weekend of May, Labor Day weekend and first weekend of October). Park for free on site and two blocks west at the Shaw-Vandeventer intersection. The Garden is easily accessible by taking the MetroLink commuter rail line to the Central West End station and picking up a Metro bus (www.metrostlouis.org). For general information, log on to www.mobot.org or call the 24-hour recording at (314) 577-5100 or 1-800-642-8842. For membership information, visit www.mobot.org/membership call (314) 577-5118 during weekday business hours. For volunteer opportunities, visit www.mobot.org/volunteer or call (314) 577-5187. The Missouri Botanical Garden is a tobacco-free environment.