

ARTISTS' CALL

January 15, 2016



Floral, nature artists sought for Botanical Gardens spring/summer exhibition

CORPUS CHRISTI--The South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center has received a \$13,100 City of Corpus Christi Arts & Cultural Commission grant for a spring/summer NATURE'S BRUSH STROKES art exhibit, scheduled for late March through September at the Botanical Gardens, 8545 S. Staples St.

Thirty pieces of original vertical, full-color art depicting **South Texas wildflowers** or **native plants** will be selected for the juried exhibition. **Photographic art is not eligible!**

Interested artists should submit by e-mail up to three high-resolution photographs of their original works, which the Botanical Gardens can electronically enlarge to high-quality 30 x 60 inch vinyl images, mount on dibond plastic and install on "art pillars" along the quarter-mile Mary Hope Brennecke Nature Trail. Pillars will be constructed of pressure-treated wood for reuse in future exhibits.

Each artist selected for the exhibition will receive \$200 for his or her image, and will be identified on recognition signage near the piece. E-mail submissions are required by **February 19** to: wmwomack@stxbot.org. Mounted exhibition enlargements remain property of the South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center. For more information, e-mail or call Michael Womack, 361.852.2100.

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FLORA, FAUNA and FUN are keywords for the South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, one of the Coastal Bend's major visitor destinations and leading nature tourism facilities! The 182-acre venue showcases 11 uniquely-designed floral exhibits and gardens, including the 2600 square-foot screened Butterfly House, new 1800 square-foot Samuel Jones Orchid Conservatory, Anderson Bromeliad Conservatory, seasonal Plumeria Garden with viewing ramp, plus Rose Garden and massive Rose Pavilion, delightful Hummingbird Garden, desert-like Arid Garden and "artscaped" Sensory Garden. New entertainment features include Resident Reptiles and vibrant Exotic Parrot collection. Tranquil Gator Lake, Mary Hope Brennecke Nature Trail with two Kent Ullberg bronze wildlife sculptures, birding tower, Palapa Grande, wetlands boardwalk and newly enhanced Oso Creek Loop Trail make this a key site on the Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail, and in Corpus Christi, which has been named "Birdiest City" in the United States. Strategically situated along Oso Creek on Corpus Christi's rapidly-growing upscale south side, this unlikely blend of beauty in the wild is part of the city's growing Oso Creek Greenbelt system, nearly touching the northern reaches of the world-famous King Ranch in an intriguing wildlife corridor--and is a Texas Watchable Wildlife Program site. A memorable venue for visitors, family outings, garden enthusiasts, birdwatchers, wildlife trackers, teachers and students--or those just out for an enjoyable recreational, relaxing change of pace. Shop the delightful Joan Batman Nature's Boutique--recently enlarged and remodeled--in Visitors Center. Memberships, docent-guided group tours, and facilities rentals are available.

Located at 8545 S. Staples St. in Corpus Christi, the facility is open daily, 9 am to 6 pm. General Admission-- \$8 adults; \$6 age 60, active Military, college students; \$4 children ages 3 through 12. Under 3 and members, free.

Member: American Public Garden Association,
American Horticultural Society Reciprocal Gardens program,
Texas Travel Industry Association,
Texas Coastal Bend Regional Tourism Council
Greater Corpus Christi Hospitality Association
Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Padre Island Business Association

Not your grandmother's botanical garden . . .
Flora, Fauna & Fun!