



Public can enjoy parts of “Birdiest Festival in America” for reduced Botanical Gardens admission, Thursday-Sunday!

Although birding lectures, workshops and field trip access are limited to \$35 registered Festival participants, there are features of this year’s **Birdiest Festival in America** which regular South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature visitors can enjoy during the event, in addition to the Gardens’ floral exhibits, trails, wetlands, parrots and reptiles, all at a special reduced admission.

Just **\$5 adults, \$3 children ages three through 12**, all four days, April 19-22, also opens the door to nationally popular “Raptor Project” shows with Jonathan Wood; the multi-faceted Festival Trade Show, which includes advanced photography equipment; plus Saturday’s arts and crafts booths and new Family Fun Area.

“Registration numbers are up considerably over last year! So the Festival team wants to include more area residents lucky enough to live in our amazing birding environment in this unique opportunity to explore the birding festival world at exceptionally affordable prices,” said Executive Director Michael Womack.

Trade Show tent is open 2-5 pm Thursday; 11 am-5 pm Friday and Saturday. “**Raptor Project**” shows are: 3 and 5 pm Thursday; 4 pm Friday; 12, 2, 4 pm Saturday; and 1 pm Sunday. **Arts and Crafts booths**, and **Family Fun Area** are 10 am to 5 pm, Saturday only. Botanical Gardens hours are 9 am to 6 pm daily. Parking is free.

Based at the Botanical Gardens, 8545 S. Staples St., the Festival still is accepting on-line registrations at www.birdiestfestival.org, which details all Festival content, field trips, workshops, lectures, speaker bios, schedule, plentiful photos and 2017 Festival video. More information, 361-852-2100.