

SOUTH TEXAS Botanical Gardens & Nature Center

May, 2016 Calendar

(CHECK IN AT VISITORS CENTER FOR CLASS LOCATION)



'Nature's Brush Strokes' juried art exhibition Through September

Features 30 outdoor reproductions of original works by area artists. Colorful wildflower and native plants in 30 x 60" vertical format, displayed along the Mary Hope Brennecke Nature Trail.

Funded by a Corpus Christi Arts & Cultural Commission grant & Joyce Barnette.



Orchidology Thursday, May 5

The *Orchidology Class* meets at 7 p.m., Thursday, May 5, at the South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, 8545 S. Staples. Meeting the first Thursday of each month on a continuing basis, the orchid class series—taught by Orchid Curator Sam Jones—is an on-going Orchid *chat-and-learn*, for novice to experienced growers, in the Education Station classroom. Monthly topics range from different orchid genera, climate and acquisition to specific orchid culture techniques. **FREE class!** Orchids for sale at most meetings. Information: 361-290-7429.

Mothers Day Free Weekend May 6-8

Instead of giving flowers to Mom, bring Mom to the flowers—lots of flowers! The South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center celebrates May 6 **National Public Gardens Day** with **FREE ADMISSION FOR MOMS** all Mothers' Day weekend--Friday, Saturday, Sunday, May 6 through 8—and an **Orchid Show**, Saturday and Sunday, May 7 and 8; "**Nature's 'Brush Strokes'**" art exhibition on the Brennecke Nature Trail; and **Parrot Talk** at 1:30 pm, May 6, 7, 8! National Public Gardens Day is sponsored by the American Public Gardens Association.

Download a coupon at nationalpublicgardensday.org or stxbot.org to admit Mom free. Or, just say "Moms love Flowers" at the Visitors Center front desk Friday, Saturday or Sunday! Sorry, only moms get free admission that weekend—unless they're members, that is. And, a **SPECIAL MOMS DAY DEAL** is to buy her a Single, Couple, Family or Grandparent membership that weekend, at **20% off**--for a year's worth of free admission, the 250-garden reciprocal admission program, free Saturday classes, *Nature's Boutique* gift shop discount, free year of *Better Homes & Gardens* magazine, and 10 percent discount Turner's Gardenland.



South Texas Botanical Gardens Orchid Show Sat/Sun, May 7/8

See beautiful blooming specimen plants from Coastal Bend's orchid aficionados' private collections and locals that just love to grow these fascinating tropicals. Plants and other orchid products will be available from vendors.

Anyone may exhibit plants. No exhibition fees. Entries must be submitted on Friday, May 6, 6-9pm, at Botanical Gardens Education Station. **FREE ADMISSION TO ORCHID SHOW** in Education Station (General Admission applies to visit rest of Botanical Gardens). FMI: Sam Jones, Orchid Curator, 361-290-7429.

Blacklock's Shorebird Identification, Alternate Plumage: 1-Day Course

Class: Saturday, May 14, 9 am-Noon, Education Station. Field Trip: 1-5 pm

For all levels of birders, studying Coastal Bend shorebirds, life histories, migration timelines, summer breeding plumage. Bring binoculars. **\$45 members; \$60 others. Prepaid registration by May 10, 361.852.2100.**

Curriculum questions 361.558.1829.



What's Bugging You? Saturday, May 21, 10-noon.

Learn how to identify summer pest infestations and the pests that cause them, damaging your lawn and garden. Master Gardener Beth Spirko's lecture also will cover both natural alternatives to minimize damage and other non-chemical options for pest control. Class fee included in general admission. **MEMBERS FREE!**



Marvels of Momma Martins Saturday, May 28, 10-noon.

Louise Chambers of the *Purple Martin Conservation Association* shares insights of attracting Purple Martins, their ideal housing, and gives a peek into the nests of STBGNC martin colony as she conducts nest checks. Learn what it takes to be a proud mom to these tiny but ravenous baby birds. Class fee included in general admission. **MEMBERS FREE!**