



U.S. Botanic Garden “Windows to Wonderland” Exhibit Opens November 27; Runs through January 4

November 14, 2008 - Washington, D.C. – Remember that “nose-pressed against the store window” feeling of excitement around holiday time? This year, the U.S. Botanic Garden’s annual exhibit has been arranged to entertain visitors while it’s open *and* closed.

“Windows to Wonderland” celebrates human imagination and our fascination with all things miniature. Here is a world where all good things are possible and time stands still. Best of all, you can stay as long as you like! Magical by both day and night, the Wonderland can be visited in the gallery and enjoyed outside through the gallery windows until 11 p.m.

The hamlets in Wonderland — Fairy Tale Trails, Santa's Village, Secret Mountain, Castle Mountain, Caterpillar Garden, and Gremlin Corner — are all connected by trains. Trains are overhead, in tunnels, going, coming, and chugging everywhere you look. From the castle high atop a mountain to the cave dwellings underground, the buildings and landscapes are constructed of natural plant materials.

In the Conservatory’s Garden Court, a grand indoor holiday tree invites you to linger amidst the splendor of blooming poinsettias. Here, you can discover our National Mall Landmarks in replica. Handcrafted from natural plant parts, this unique collection, which is on display only during the holidays, is so fanciful you have to see them to believe them.

Just for the holidays, on Tuesday and Thursday evenings (December 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, and 30), the Conservatory is open until 8 p.m. and offers free live performances of seasonal music. See our Web site for the schedule of performances.

The United States Botanic Garden Conservatory is open to the public, free of charge, every day of the year from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Conservatory is located at 100 Maryland Avenue, SW, on the west side of the U.S. Capitol. Visitors are encouraged to take Metrobus and Metrorail. Further information is available by calling 202-225-8333 or visiting our Web site at www.usbg.gov .

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