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Columbus Botanical Garden Hosts “*Rhapsody in Bloom*” – Jazz in the Garden
Presenting Sponsor Roz Café & Others to Expose Music Lovers to “A Taste of the Garden”

Columbus, Ga., July 3, 2018 – Because music belongs in the garden, Columbus Botanical Garden is hosting its 1st Annual “*Rhapsody in Bloom*” – *Jazz in the Garden & A Taste of the Garden* on Sunday, July 22nd on its grounds at 3603 Weems Road from 5 pm to 9 pm. (*Rain Date: Sunday, July 29, 2018). With an expected audience of 500 attendees, guests will be treated to a festival-like atmosphere of music, food, art exhibits, raffles and activities.

Hosted by local news and TV personality **Dee Armstrong** and Courier Eco Latino publisher and radio personality **Wane Hailes**, “*Rhapsody in Bloom*” brings together spectacular talent. Jazz enthusiasts enjoying the ultimate Date Night will be treated to the sounds of **Columbus State University’s Schwob School of Music’s Jazz Ensemble**, **Jamysa “Hummingbird” Lytes** and **The Tony Parkman Revue**. As music lovers enter the gates of Columbus Botanical Garden, they will be treated to the soothing sounds of jazz saxophonist **Nate Myers IV** who will stroll the Garden and serenade our guests.

“We are extremely excited to offer “*Rhapsody in Bloom*” – **Jazz in the Garden** for the first time ever at Columbus Botanical Garden,” said Bruce M. Howard, Interim Executive Director. “We believe this jazz event is the perfect way to bring more guests to the Garden and expose them to their Garden while it is wrapped in the magnificent colors of summer. We hope those who already know about the Garden, will bring a friend or two with them so they too, will discover the beauty of the Columbus Botanical Garden in bloom.”

He continued, “As an amenity to the entire community, CBG will host many more large-scale events like *Rhapsody* in our upcoming 20th anniversary year. I want to encourage everyone to buy their tickets early and not miss out on this premiere date night event. Tickets are \$25 Single, \$39.99 Couple and may be purchased by visiting www.columbusbotanicalgarden.org/events/rhapsodyinbloom Tickets will not be sold at the door so buy your ticket now before it is too late.”

Each “*Rhapsody in Bloom*” ticket includes two complimentary drink tickets **per person** and free samples from food vendors at CBG’s “**Taste of the Garden.**” Food vendors will also sell full-size portions of some of their most popular edibles. Food vendors are Presenting Sponsor **Roz Cafe and Catering Services**, along with **Sugga's, Country's Barbecue, CJ Wings, The Icy Girl & Co, Baskin Robbins, and Coleman's Ices**. **Bloomwoods, SuiteSoulTV.com, BMW of Columbus, SportsVisions, Courier Eco Latino, Greene Legal Group and FarOut Arts** are some of our non-food vendors. Other spaces are available for food and non-food vendors alike. Anyone interested in vending opportunities should contact Alfreta Gibson, *Rhapsody* Vendor Coordinator, at 706.332.9170.

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Columbus Botanical Garden

PRESS RELEASE

Rhapsody Chair Danita Lloyd said, “*Rhapsody* is possible because of our amazing sponsors who wanted to be a part of helping to expose more of Columbus to the Garden. A special thanks to **Roz Café & Catering Services, WLTZ, Columbus State University, SportsVisions, BMW of Columbus, Greene Legal Group, Courier Eco Latino, The Dee Armstrong Show, Happy Valley Day Facility, Peaceful River Residential Services, Link Media Outdoor, Piedmont Columbus Regional, State Farm** with agents **Corey Lindsey** and **Jimmy Watts, Crocker Landscaping Company, Pete Page Landscaping, The Pines Family, Congressman Sanford & Vivian Bishop** and **Doug McLeod**. We are grateful to them for helping us realize this community event.”

Seating for *Rhapsody* will be available in four areas on a first-come, first-serve basis:

1. **Farmhouse Garden Lawn**
2. **Farmhouse Patio**
3. **Jazz Saloon & Gin House Patio Area**
4. **Blanket Pavilion** (adjacent to Rose Garden on top lawn) - blankets and lawn chairs permitted in this area

About Columbus Botanical Garden

Nestled in North Columbus amid shopping and eateries, Columbus Botanical Garden operates as a 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to develop gardens, protect woodland, and provide educational programs that stimulate the imagination and deepen our understanding and appreciation of nature. This preserved jewel of pine and hardwood forest is a remnant reminder of the native Central Georgia landscape that is becoming more scarce as the region continues to develop. Since its founding in 1999 with a gift of acreage and buildings from the children and families of Lillie Belle Kimbrough Adams and later approved by the Columbus City Council, Columbus Botanical Garden (CBG) has been the steward of a 23-acre rolling property located about 6 miles northeast of downtown Columbus. With its recent expansion to 36 acres, CBG now encompasses four developed acres, and there are additional plans for further development with its \$10 million “Growing Towards Greatness” Capital Campaign.

For more information on how you can participate in programming, volunteer or donate, please visit www.columbusbotanicalgarden.org, follow us on Instagram @Columbus_Botanical_Garden, like us on FaceBook at www.facebook.com/columbusbotanicalgarden, contact our offices at 706.327.8400, email us at contactus@columbusbotanicalgarden.org or visit our offices at 3603 Weems Road, Columbus, Ga. 31909.

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