



September 3, 2018

For immediate distribution

Contact: Danita Gibson Lloyd
Development & Marketing Director
Columbus Botanical Garden
706.327.8400 ext. 3 office/706.593.7614 cell
dlloyd@columbusbotanicalgarden.org

Columbus Botanical Garden Offers Monthly Morning Out Program, “Little Sprouts”

Program Targets Children Ages 0 Months to Five Years of Age

Columbus, Ga., September 4, 2018 – To fulfill its mission to provide educational programs that stimulate the imagination and deepen the understanding and appreciation of nature, the Columbus Botanical Garden (CBG) proudly announces its monthly morning out program, dubbed “Little Sprouts”. To be held the first Tuesday of each month starting in September, the program will last from 10:30-11:30 am.

CBG Interim Director Bruce Howard said, “**Little Sprouts**’ is designed to give our littlest visitors (0-5) and their parents/caregivers a chance to learn, explore and experience the Garden with activities developmentally appropriate. Programs will vary each month and will include books, songs and an age-appropriate craft.” He continued, “The Garden is never more alive than when our children are here.”

Children’s Education Coordinator Ellen Lane said, “Great thought and planning have gone into how the expanded Garden will enhance our commitment to children’s education. Since the Garden is designed to meet a variety of needs in our community and serve all ages, we are so proud to offer “**Little Sprouts**” as a cost-effective option for families. The program costs \$5 per family, and although registration is not required, it is appreciated to ensure we have enough materials for a class size of 15 children.”

In addition to “**Little Sprouts**”, Columbus Botanical Garden regularly offers children’s STEM-related, interactive, age-appropriate programming. Our “**Discover Nature**” program that has been designed specifically to meet the second grade science standards of excellence. This new “**Garden Life**” program explores many important concepts about plants, their parts and life cycle, and the importance of pollination and pollinators like butterflies. In addition, we offer our **Enrichment Programs** that are perfect to way to spend an hour discovering the beauty of the Columbus Botanical Garden with your preschool, daycare, homeschool group, or any elementary age youth group. For more information, please contact the garden at education@columbusbotanicalgarden.org

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, with exciting plans for tremendous development over the next three years as a result of its current \$10 million *Growing Towards Greatness* 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.

###