



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*Images available upon request.*

**Spring starts early with *Orchids* at Newfields**

*Orchids returns for the third year providing vibrant color Feb. 9 – Mar. 4*

**INDIANAPOLIS**, Jan. 16, 2017—This winter, experience bold, beautiful color in the gray of winter with [Orchids](#) in The Garden at Newfields. Returning for the third year, *Orchids* gives guests a tropical escape from the cold and welcomes early signs of spring from Feb. 9 through Mar. 4.

Curated by the Newfields horticulture staff, this year's *Orchids* provides a new and fresh plant display. Explore diverse varieties of elegant orchids from around the world with hundreds of plants blooming inside the toasty Madeline F. Elder Greenhouse, where experts are on hand to tell visitors about the blooming masterpieces. Discover the historic Lilly House filled with colorful décor and intoxicating aromas. Take home your own pop of color by stopping by the Pop-Up Shop located in The Bret Waller Gallery inside Indianapolis Museum of Art, where staff and volunteers will be happy to share advice on orchid care.

For guests looking to expand their knowledge of these incredible plants, Newfields will offer workshops on mounting, repotting and basic care of orchids on Feb. 17, Feb. 22 and Mar. 3. Workshops are \$45 and \$50 for the public, with special discounts for Newfields members.

Keep the celebration of orchids and spring going with a special one-of-a-kind tour created by Newfields docents that explores stories of orchid collectors and orchid lore in The IMA Galleries. Expand your knowledge about these delightful tropical plants and their connections to our art collection with Orchid Stories in the Galleries, a daily tour at 2 p.m. during the run of the exhibition.

Don't miss another sign of spring, the return of animals, with the debut of a giant, 10-foot long, blue snail. On Feb. 9, the snail will welcome guests into the Efroymsen Family Entrance Pavilion, waiting for the rest of its brightly colored friends to invade The Garden on June 1 as part of the [Summer Wonderland: Spectacular Creatures](#) exhibition.

Explore the tasteful side of orchids in The Café and through an expert-guided food tasting. Guests can also enjoy an evening in the Elder Greenhouse sampling wine and desserts inspired by the form, color and history of these fascinating plants at Edible Orchids on Feb. 23. The Café will feature orchid inspired menu items during the exhibition, including a mixed green salad topped with strawberries, candied almonds, orchid blossoms and a vanilla citrus dressing, other options include a mixed berry trifle with white chocolate vanilla mousse, and a blackberry vanilla prosecco cocktail.

*Orchids* is included with general admission and free for members. During the opening weekend, members will receive a special 20 percent discount in the Museum & Garden Shop and in the Pop-Up Shop.

The full list of orchid related programming includes:

**EVENT: *Orchids* opening preview**

*Feb. 8 / 5:30–9 p.m.*

*Free / Members only*

Members get an exclusive first look at the new *Orchids* exhibition in the Madeline F. Elder Greenhouse. Enjoy a pop of color as hundreds of these rare and beautiful flowers fill the Greenhouse.

**ADULT CLASS: Watercolor Painting**

*Feb. 8, 15, 22 & Mar. 1 / 6–8 p.m.*

*Studio 3*

*\$160 Members / \$200 Public*

Join us for a four-session class exploring the art of watercolor painting. Experiment with liquid watercolors, watercolor pencils, watercolor crayons, and watercolor pans. Visit the Elder Greenhouse to do a watercolor study of orchids and visit the IMA Galleries to view examples of watercolor works in the IMA's collection. Artists of all abilities welcome, adults 18 and over, please. Tuition includes cost of all materials, studio tools, and equipment.

**EXHIBITION: *Orchids***

*Opens Feb. 9, 2018*

*Included with general admission and free for members*

Experience bold, beautiful color in the gray of winter with *Orchids* at Newfields. These colorful and exotic plants will welcome guests with the first signs of spring. Escape the cold and discover colorful orchid varieties from around the world blooming inside the Greenhouse. Explore the historic Lilly House as orchids fill the rooms with colorful décor and intoxicating aromas and buy a plant (or two) to take home in the Pop-Up Shop inside the Museum.

**TOUR: Orchid Stories in the Galleries**

*Feb. 9–Mar. 4 / Daily at 2 p.m.*

*Meet at the top of escalators*

Keep the celebration of orchids and spring going with a special one-of-a-kind tour created by Newfields docents that explores stories of orchid collectors and orchid lore in The IMA Galleries. Expand your visit to Newfields by discovering Orchid Stories in the Galleries, a daily tour at 2 p.m. during the run of the exhibition.

**EVENT: Horticulture Symposium**

*Feb. 10 / 8 a.m.–4 p.m.*

*\$99 public / \$89 members / \$49 students*

*The Toby*

Join fellow garden enthusiasts for an inspiring day of presentations on a wide range of horticultural topics from in-depth plant lectures to inspiring design ideas. Get inside the head of Newfields' horticulturist Patty Schneider, who will share tips and inspiration for dynamic, textural, creative and whimsical combinations for your own garden. David Mattern, horticulturist from Chanticleer Garden, will illustrate how he has transformed their vegetable garden from something utilitarian into a beautiful and inspirational display. This year's keynote lecture will be presented by Michael S. Dosmann, Keeper of the Living Collections at the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University.

**TALK: Member Only Talk: Ian Wilhite, Greenhouse plant specialist**

*Feb. 11 / 2 p.m.*

*Free / Members only / Advanced registration required*

Once a month, members get to go behind the scenes to learn more about exhibitions. This month, join Ian Wilhite for a special presentation on the *Orchids* exhibition. Learn more about these exotic, beautiful flowers and what inspires the intricate displays. Wilhite will host a Q&A for attendees in the *Orchids* Pop-Up Shop after his presentation.

**EVENT: Book Club: *Deadly Slipper: a Novel of Death in the Dordogne***

*Feb. 15 / 6:30–8:30 p.m.*

*Lilly House & Madeline F. Elder Greenhouse*

*Wine Tasting / \$6 Members / \$8 Public*

*Book Club discussion / Included with general admission and free for members*

Orchids turn from mysterious to fatal in the fictional world of Michelle Wan's *Deadly Slipper: a Novel of Death in the Dordogne*. Join Ian Wilhite, Newfield's orchid specialist, as we discuss the amazing reality and allure of orchids. Before the discussion, stroll over to the Greenhouse to view the *Orchid* exhibition and sample wines paired with featured orchids, selected by Director of Hospitality and certified sommelier Josh Ratliff.

**ADULT CLASS: [Orchid Epiphyting](#)**

*Feb. 17 / 10 a.m.–noon*

*Madeline F. Elder Greenhouse*

*\$35 Members / \$45 Public*

Many orchids in nature are epiphytes, meaning they grow without soil. In this hands-on workshop, learn to grow orchids in the air with a Newfields orchid expert. Mount your own orchid to take home and learn which varieties are best suited for thriving without soil.

**ADULT CLASS: [Orchid Terrariums](#)**

*Feb. 22 / 6:30–8:30 p.m.*

*Feb. 24 / 10–noon*

*Madeline F. Elder Greenhouse*

*\$40 Members / \$50 Public*

You don't need to travel to tropical jungles to see miniature orchids growing and blooming, but with a little help from Greenhouse Specialist and Orchid Expert Ian Wilhite you can make an orchid terrarium. You will be provided with a fashionable glass container and all the material you will need including a miniature orchid.

**EVENT: [Edible Orchids](#)**

*Feb. 23 / 6:30–9:30 p.m.*

*Madeline F. Elder Greenhouse & Pop-Up Shop*

*\$65 Members / \$75 Public / Recommended for guests 21 & over*

Do you enjoy delicious food and gorgeous flowers? Spend an evening surrounded by orchids while sampling tasty treats inspired by the exhibition. We've commissioned local chefs to develop tasty treats inspired by the geometry and color of these captivating plants. Sample two wines, and then choose a glass of your favorite.

**TALK: [Orchid Discussion](#)**

*Mar. 1 / 7 p.m.*

*Lilly House*

*Free*

Do you have pressing orchid questions you just can't seem to find the answer to? Stop by Newfields for an exclusive talk with resident orchid expert Ian Wilhite. After learning more about the intriguing plants, make your way across campus to experience hundreds of orchids in the toasty Madeline F. Elder Greenhouse.

**ADULT CLASS: [Orchid Basics](#)**

*Mar. 3 / 10 a.m.–noon*

*Madeline F. Elder Greenhouse*

*\$40 Members / \$50 Public*

If you've been reluctant to grow your own orchids at home, this workshop is what you need to get started. Using plants from the Greenhouse, staff will provide insights and insider tricks on watering, fertilization, and re-blooming for next year.

**ADULT CLASS: [Beginner's Bonsai](#)**

*Mar. 17 / 10 a.m.–noon*

*Mar. 22 / 6:30–8 p.m.*

*Madeline F. Elder Greenhouse*

*\$75 Members / \$95 Public / Advanced registration required*

This beginners' workshop is designed to both instruct and inspire. Led by bonsai stylist Paul Weishaar, learn how to find the basic elements of a tree and recognized its potential. Style a tree and repot in a traditional bonsai container. All supplies included.

**ADULT CLASS: Make a Hypertufa Container**

*Mar. 24 / 10 a.m.–noon*

*Madeline F. Elder Greenhouse*

*\$55 Members / \$70 Public / Advanced registration required*

Join instructor Carol Dale for a new spin on the traditional hypertufa, a fabricated porous rock, planter. Carol is a local artisan specializing in handmade hypertufa pots, garden ornaments, and felted items. This class is perfect for beginners and experience gardeners alike.

**About Newfields**

Newfields offers dynamic experiences with art and nature for guests of all ages. The 152-acre cultural campus features art galleries, lush gardens, a historic mansion, performance spaces, a nature preserve and sculpture park. From inspiring exhibitions in the Indianapolis Museum of Art Galleries, to concerts in The Toby, to a stroll through The Garden with a glass of cheer, guests are invited to interact with art and nature in exciting new ways. Newfields is home to the Indianapolis Museum of Art, among the ten largest and oldest general art museums in the nation; the Lilly House, a National Historic Landmark; The Garden, featuring 40 acres of contemporary and historic gardens, a working greenhouse and an orchard; and The Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park: 100 Acres, one of the largest art and nature parks in the country. The Newfields campus extends outside of Indianapolis with Miller House and Garden in Columbus, Ind.—one of the nation's most highly regarded examples of mid-century Modernist architecture. For more information visit [www.discovernewfields.org](http://www.discovernewfields.org).

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