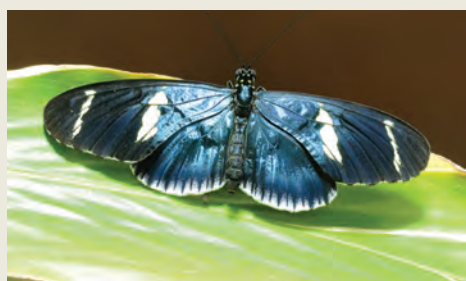


You'll Love the Winter Blues at Hershey Gardens!



Ulysses butterfly



Longwing butterfly



Blue Morpho butterfly

See 1,000 Orchids on Display February 3 - 5

Susquehanna Orchid Society Hosting Juried Show at Hershey Gardens

Hershey Gardens' Conservatory is being transformed into an "orchid oasis" for the Susquehanna Orchid Society's annual orchid show and sale on February 3, 4 and 5.

The show, "For the Love of Orchids," will boast more than 1,000 orchids, including several rare varieties and unique hybrids. The juried show will select the winning orchids before noon on Friday, February 3. Several orchids displayed at previous Susquehanna Orchid Society shows have received national recognition by the American Orchid Society.

Orchid societies from Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware will also participate in the annual display.

"Orchids are one of the most fascinating flowers in the plant world," said Dan Babbitt, associate director. "They are as well known for their exotic beauty as they are for being difficult to grow."

"For the Love of Orchids" Show

Friday, February 3 from noon - 5 p.m.

Saturday, February 4 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday, February 5 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

In the Milton & Catherine Hershey Conservatory

Included in admission. Free for members.



Scientists believe the age of the orchid family is 80 - 100 million years old.

Orchids are the largest family of flowering plants on earth, with more than 30,000 different species growing on every continent except Antarctica.

In their natural tropical habitat, orchids attach themselves to the bark of trees, or the surface of other plants. Their thick, white roots are especially adept at absorbing moisture and dissolving nutrients.

Because orchids usually grow high in the trees, they are accustomed to ample air circulation and plenty of light. They prefer a 12-hour day, year-round, and require a high intensity of light — about the same as midsummer conditions in temperate regions.

The orchid show is included in Hershey Gardens admission.

See the Orchid Mantis: One of Nature's Most Fascinating Insects



One of the most impressive "mimics" in the insect world is the orchid mantis (*Hymenopus coronatus*). Their body, shaped like a flower petal, changes color to imitate a flower and hide from its unsuspecting prey. Orchid mantids are such impressive mimics that new research has shown pollinating insects are more attracted to the mantis than actual flowers!

See an orchid mantis on exhibit in February as part of the "Mimics: Plant or Insect?" display. (See page 3 for more information.)

Winter Walks at Hershey Gardens

Break free from cabin fever! Visit Hershey Gardens this winter to experience its magical transformation during the season's coldest months. You'll be amazed at its quiet tranquility. Free guided and self-guided tours are available.

Guided Winter Walk Tours Fridays and Saturdays at 1 p.m.

Take a one-hour guided tour of the Gardens to experience its winter charm and learn about the natural history of the plants. Included in admission. *(Subject to cancellation due to inclement weather.)*



Self-Guided Winter Walk Tours Daily, beginning January 18, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Discover the beauty of the Gardens in winter at your own pace. Please request a Winter Walk guide at the admissions desk. Included in admission. *(Subject to cancellation due to inclement weather.)*



Kids, Become an Official Hershey Gardens Bugologist

Saturdays and Sundays
from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.



Meet some amazing giant bugs, learn where they come from and what makes them unique. Then touch - or even hold them - and get your official certification as a Hershey Gardens Bugologist! Different bugs will be displayed throughout the year, so be sure

to visit often.



Madagascar Cockroach

HERSHEY GARDENS



IS AN OFFICIAL HERSHEY
GARDENS BUGOLOGIST

Meet Our Bugs!

Blue Death Feigning Beetles

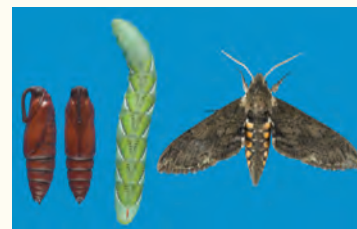
Asbolus verrucosus

These uniquely colored beetles, from the desert southwest, are the possums of the insect world. If bothered, these insects fall over and play dead in hopes of being ignored by their predators.



Tobacco Hornworm/Carolina Sphinx Moth

Manduca sexta



These big moth larva may look familiar; they are related to the caterpillars that feast on your tomato plants. They pupate in the soil and emerge as a fast-flying moth that resembles a hummingbird.

Eastern Lubber Grasshopper

Romalea guttata

These giant Gulf Coast grasshoppers are unusual because they don't jump or fly. Their name, lubber, actually comes from the pirate term "land lubber."



Mimics: Plant or Insect?

Daily during February, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

See a special display of exotic insects that evolved to look identical to leaves, flowers and twigs, as a way to hide from predators. Learn about these unique live insect specimens from around the world and be amazed by their ability to blend in with plants in their environment. Included in admission.



A male and female jungle nymph (*Heteropteryx dilatata*)

The Bug Expert Is In

Saturdays, February 11, 18 and 25 from 11 a.m. – noon



Dan Babbitt

Associate Director (and resident bug geek) Dan Babbitt will be talking about amazing arthropods (insects and their many-legged relatives). Learn what makes a bug a bug, where insects go in the winter and how wings

can be used for a lot more than just flying. Located in the Educational & Horticultural Wing. Included in admission.

OPEN YEAR ROUND



Butterfly Atrium



It may be c-c-c-cold outside, but it's a tropical 80 degrees in the Butterfly Atrium! The year 'round destination offers a truly spectacular experience. Walk among more than 500 butterflies from around the world in a tropical setting that features colorful plants and a soothing water feature. One of only 25 indoor, tropical butterfly atriums in the country, Hershey Gardens' Butterfly Atrium is home to dozens of rare butterflies from South and Central America, Africa and Asia. Included in admission. Open daily.



Flutter by again and again! Butterfly species change frequently, so each visit will bring a new favorite. More than 100 tropical and North American varieties will be featured this winter.



Get a rare glimpse into the pupal stage of the butterfly in the Atrium's chrysalis cabinet. Hundreds of jewel-like chrysalids hang in the cabinet until they emerge and are released into the Atrium.

We're Celebrating Chocolate-Covered February!

Chocolate Butterflies? Sweet!



CHOCOLATE MALACHITE
Siproeta epaphus
Central and South America



CHOCOLATE PANSY
Junonia iphita
Southeast Asia

Sweet Scavenger Hunt

Weekends in February from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Kids, venture on a scavenger hunt throughout the gardens and inside the Milton & Catherine Hershey Conservatory. Your reward? A sweet treat, of course! Included in admission.

Cocoa Cart Conversations

Thursdays & Fridays in February from 11 a.m - 1 p.m.

This fun educational "cart" provides guests of all ages the opportunity to learn more about the cacao tree, a tropical tree whose pods produce the beans used to make chocolate. Get a close-up look at actual pods and beans harvested from the Butterfly Atrium's cacao tree. Located in the Conservatory. Included in admission.

See the Cacao Tree in the Butterfly Atrium

The source of the world's chocolate - the cacao tree - thrives in the warm, misty climate of the rainforest. The Butterfly Atrium is also home to its own cacao tree thanks to controlled conditions that simulate the tree's natural environment.

"Theobroma Cacao" (Latin for "fruit of the gods") bears its fruit in the form of pods. These freshly-harvested pods are cut open by hand to reveal an edible pulp; the seeds beneath the pulp (called cocoa beans) are used to make chocolate.

Unrecognizable as chocolate when first harvested, fresh cocoa beans are dried and fermented, transforming their flavor into that of bitter chocolate. After shipment to chocolate-making facilities worldwide, the cocoa beans are roasted and processed with ingredients such as sugar and milk to make chocolate.



It takes a cacao tree 3 to 5 years to bear its first pods



Cacao trees naturally grow in rainforests within 20 degrees north and south of the Equator

Visit the Butterfly Atrium for an up-close look at chocolate's origin -- the cacao tree.

New! Hershey Gardens Winter Admission Prices (January 1 through March 31)

Regular (age 13 - 61): \$10

Senior (ages 62+): \$9

Juniors (ages 3 - 12): \$8

Members and children age 2 and under are free.



BECOME A MEMBER!



Your unlimited admission privileges will still bring the enjoyment of 23 acres, but also includes the new year-round indoor Butterfly Atrium. The best part? Members receive priority admission!

Join online at HersheyGardens.org.