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Hours: M, 2-4 pm, Tu - Su, 10am-4pm

# Oak Park Conservatory



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## Visit the Conservatory Today !

The Conservatory is open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Mondays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Groups of 10 or more can arrange for a guided tour of the conservatory by calling (708) 725-2450 at least two weeks in advance.

## Discover the Exploration Station - FREE PROGRAM

Every Saturday starting September 6th through May 30th from 10 a.m. until noon, docents will offer the Exploration Station! There will be a new program every month highlighting special aspects of the conservatory for both adults and children. Programs will include leaf shapes, ferns, bananas, the chocolate tree, plant movement, birds and fruits from foreign countries. Come explore!

## Plant Clinic

Call our plant clinic on Mondays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at 725-2450. We can help with your gardening questions, plant identification or disease diagnostics. We also offer a potting service. Please call ahead.

## Party and Meeting Venue

Make your next celebration the envy of all. The Oak Park Conservatory is the ideal location for small weddings, parties, meetings and family celebrations. We can accommodate 60 to 80 people in the Conservatory Center and your guests will enjoy the unique ambience of our tropical, fern and desert rooms. Call Henrietta Yardley at (708) 725-2450 for more details.

## Conservatory Floral Shows

Every month, come experience a new breathtaking floral display at the Conservatory - an exhilarating respite from the everyday world!

Shows planned include:

- March: Spring Flowering Bulbs
- April: Snapdragons
- May: Hydrangea

## Special Events

### KidsFest: "Happy BirdDay!" A Family Event

Sunday, March 8 from 1-4pm

Join us in celebrating George's Birthday at the Conservatory! George is our 25 year old double yellow headed Amazon parrot who lives in the Conservatory's Tropical Garden House. Get a jump on springtime at a free and fun family event sponsored by FOPCON at the Oak Park Conservatory on Sunday, March 8 from 1-4pm. Educational kids' activities will include hands-on activities that relate to the wonderful natural world of plants, featuring the exploration of the tropical rain forest, the desert and other natural wonders. The entire family may also enjoy the Conservatory's lovely spring displays!

### 20th Annual Herb & Scented Plant Sale

Saturday, May 2 from 8am-3pm

The 20th Annual Herb and Scented Plant Sale will feature "Platinum Performers" from previous sales. This two-day sale will be held on Friday, May 1, from 10am to 8pm for FOPCON members and on Saturday, May 2 from 8am to 3pm for the general public. This event is FOPCON's premier fund raising event. In addition to pre-sale privileges, FOPCON members receive a subscription to our quarterly newsletter, Conservatory Conversations, discounts on workshops and more! For information on becoming a member of FOPCON call 708-725-2460 or go to www.fopcon.org to see other member benefits.

### Spring Perennial & Seedling Exchange

Saturday, May 9 - see description for times

Join other gardeners to share favorite plants at the Friends of the Oak Park Conservatory sponsored annual plant exchange. Drop off material from 10am to noon at the Conservatory. Pick up plants from 12:30 to 2pm.

## Show Us Your Green Thumb !

### Conservatory Gardeners Needed

The Conservatory welcomes volunteers who will assist staff in growing and nurturing our wonderful collection of tropical and ornamental plants. Interested gardeners and plant enthusiasts will learn many skills and grow a wide range of plants and you can enjoy this wonderful tropical paradise during the long, cold winter months. For more information, call Jacquelyn Paine at (708)725-2460.

### Conservatory Docents/Guides Needed

Escape the winter blahs and learn to interpret the unique habitats of the Desert, Tropical and Fern rooms at the Conservatory - become a Docent/Guide for children & adults! Weekday and weekend docents needed. We welcome retired educators, Master Gardeners and those interested in learning about plants.

### Edible and Ornamental Small Space Gardens: Special Event Sponsored by the Friends of the Oak Park Conservatory

Attend a free class by Bill Shores, Garden Consultant and Organic Gardener, on urban gardening. Bill will discuss his work on Rick Bayless' garden, an urban garden demonstrating that small space food gardens can be both productive and stunning. Bill will outline the tools and techniques for success including identifying and enhancing existing microclimates and soils, incorporating container plantings, utilizing vertical space, combining edible ornamentals and perennials and attractive, space-efficient compost systems.

Sa, Apr 18, from 10am-Noon

For Friends of the Oak Park Conservatory (FOPCON)  
call Jacquelyn Paine at 725-2460.