

Santa Fe Botanical Garden

STROLLING TROUBADOURS, mariachi music, and sangria will add to the festivities at the gala opening night reception on July 19 for the Santa Fe Botanical Garden (SFBG) at Museum Hill. A



The hard-to-miss Kearny's Gap Bridge over the Arroyo de los Pinos connects the various gardens to one another.

members-only day will follow on July 20, with the garden opening to the public on July 21. The Botanical Garden at Museum Hill, which is being completed in stages, supplements the garden's existing facilities, including the Leonora Curtin Wetland Preserve, a 35-acre marsh south of Santa Fe, and the Ortiz Mountains Educational Preserve, a 1,350-acre site 30 miles southwest of Santa Fe.

Designed by Toronto-based landscape architect W. Gary Smith, the 12-acre site at Museum Hill will feature four separate but integrated garden experiences: The Orchard Gardens will be the first to open on July 21, followed later this year by the Arroyo Trails system, designed for bikers and hikers. Construction of the Naturalistic and Courtyard Gardens is slated for 2014.

A planned outdoor classroom that is part of the Naturalistic Gardens will support SFBG's goal of educating children and adults about the world of plants, biodiversity, and water conservation. "Although our USDA Zone 6 climate allows a wide choice of plants, we also have very low humidity, high wind, and alkaline soil," says Linda S. Milbourn, the Garden's managing director. "Many people move here from other areas of the country, and we want to teach them how to have a beautiful garden."

For more information, visit www.santafebotanicalgarden.org.

Living Museum in Los Angeles

IN JUNE, the Nature Gardens exhibit opens at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles (NHM). The new three-and-a-half-acre living laboratory, the last phase of a \$135 million makeover at the NHM, is designed to be both a nature destination in and of itself, as well as the public's "front yard" approach to the museum. The Nature Gardens are also intended to complement and support the indoor Nature Lab, which opened in 2012. The Lab encourages citizen scientists of all ages to build their observation skills through multi-media experiences using live animals, plants, specimens, and hands-on activities.

"The Nature Gardens are all about building habitats for the diverse wildlife that already exists in this urban environment," says Carol Bornstein, director of the NHM's North Campus



The waterfall spills into a pond at the Nature Gardens.

Gardens. A constructed creek with a waterfall and pond makes up one garden section, while an adjacent woodland planting featuring native California trees provides a different habitat. A living wall is planted with a mixture of exotic and native species, providing yet another habitat with its nooks and spaces between the stones. "We're excited to be able to provide this living landscape for local residents and school children to get up close and personal with plants, to explore, and to learn about the relationships between plants, animals, and people," says Bornstein.

As each section of the Nature Gardens is planted, the progress can be followed on the NHM website's blog at <http://naturegardensnhm.blogspot.com/p/what-is-north-campus.html>.

—Lynne Hoffman, Editorial Intern

Shoreline, Washington. (206) 546-1281.
www.kruckeberg.org.

RAP JUNE 23. **Garden Tour and Garden Gala 2013.** Idaho Botanical Garden. Boise, Idaho. (208) 343-8649.
www.idahobotanicalgarden.org.

Looking ahead
JULY 21. **19th Annual West Seattle Garden Tour.** Seattle, Washington. www.westseattlegardentour.org.

CANADA

RAP JUNE 1. **Propagation from Cuttings.** Class and hands-on workshop. Gardens at Horticulture Centre of the Pacific. Victoria, British Columbia. (250) 479-6162.
www.hcp.ca.

RAP JUNE 8 & 9. **Through the Garden Gate: Forest Hill.** Self-guided tour of private gardens in Toronto. Toronto Botanical Garden. Toronto, Ontario. (416) 397-1341. www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca.

JUNE 17–19. **International Symposium on Medicinal Plants and Natural Products.** International Society for Horticultural Science. Montreal Botanical Gardens. Montreal, Quebec. (339) 368-3868.
www.ishs.org.

Looking ahead
JULY 21–27. **Perennial Plants & Design: A Perfect Combination.** Symposium. Perennial Plant Association. Vancouver, British Columbia. www.perennialplant.org.