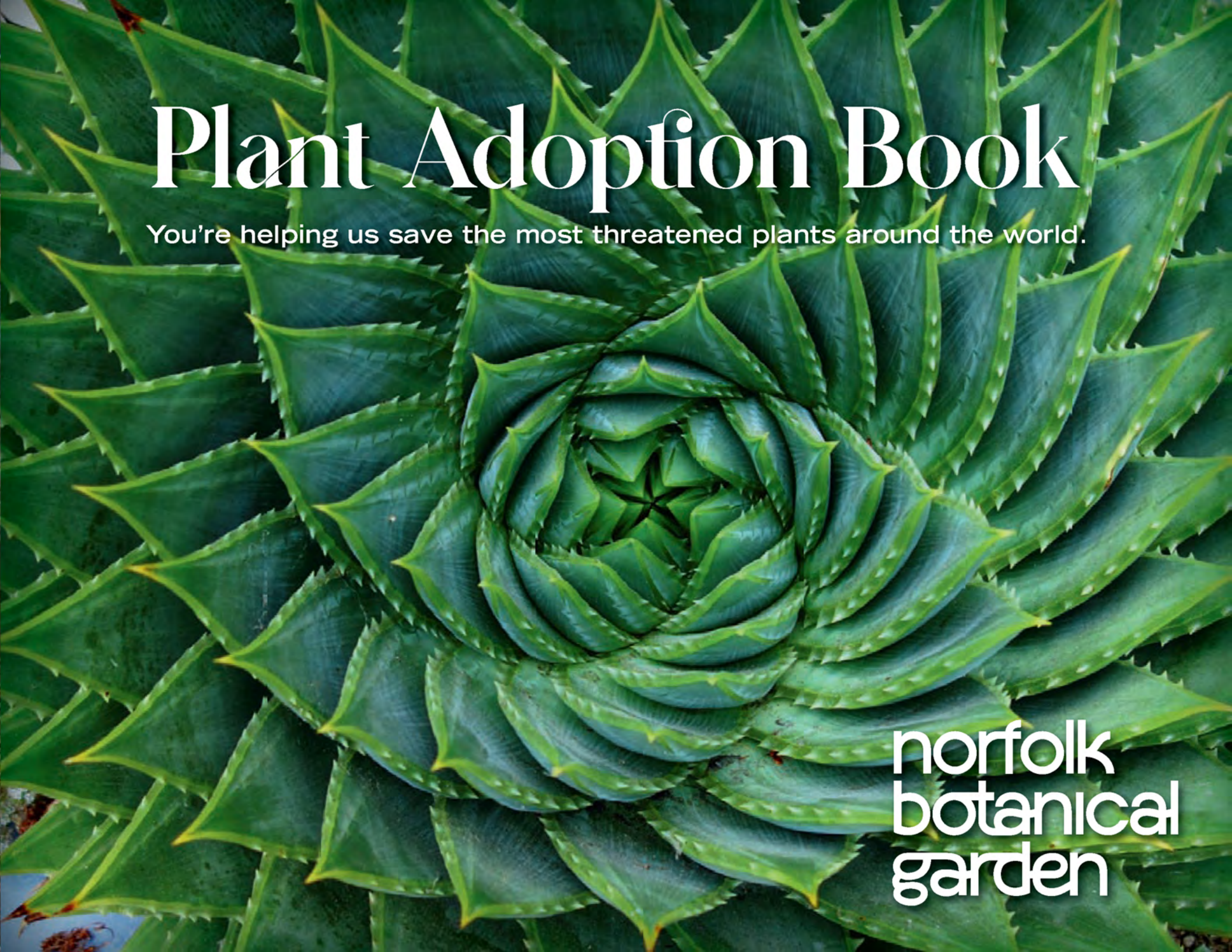
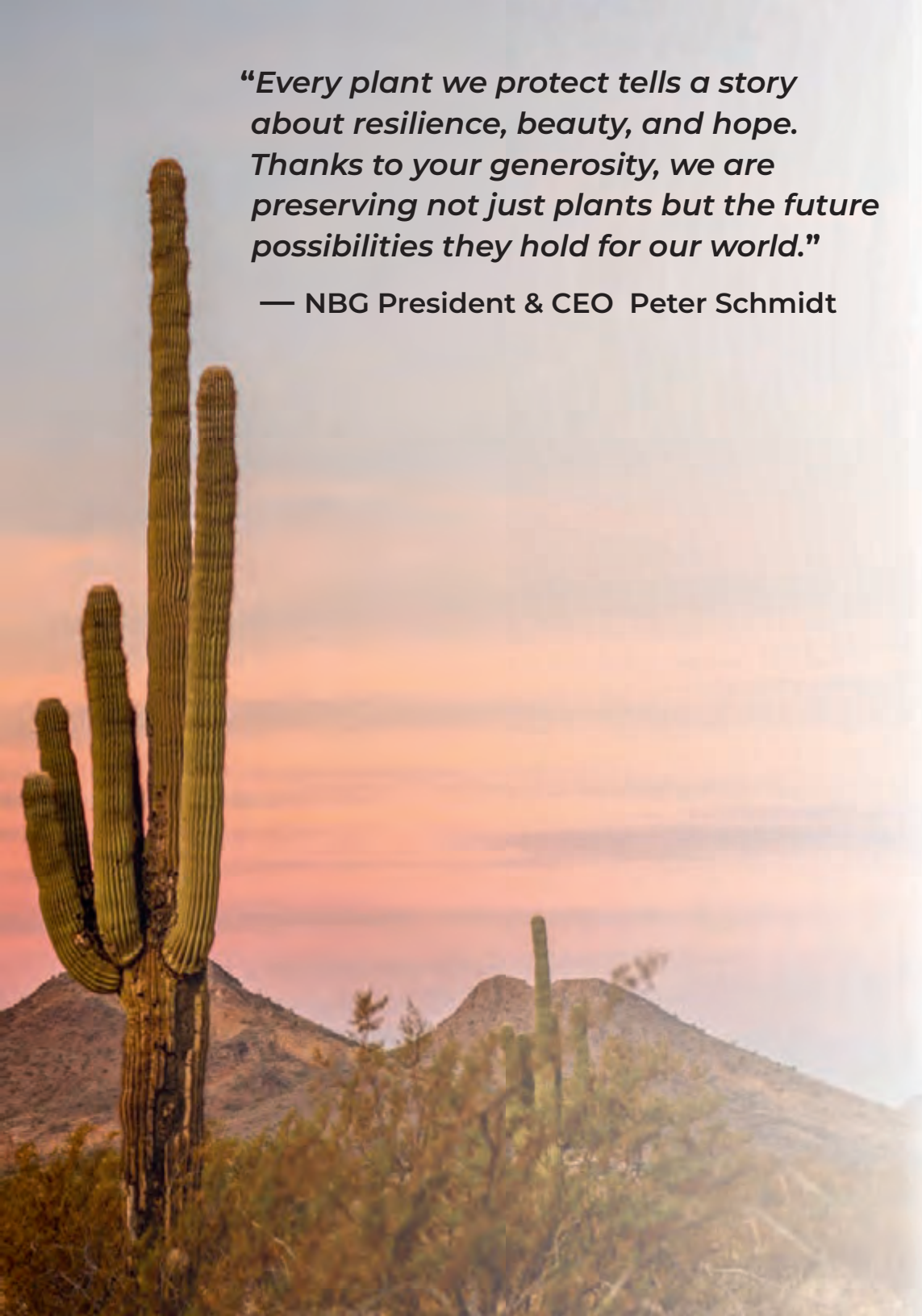


Plant Adoption Book

You're helping us save the most threatened plants around the world.

norfolk botanical garden



"Every plant we protect tells a story about resilience, beauty, and hope. Thanks to your generosity, we are preserving not just plants but the future possibilities they hold for our world."

— NBG President & CEO Peter Schmidt

The Garden *of* Tomorrow

Each rare plant featured in this book represents a vital link in the global effort to preserve the world's biodiversity—and an extraordinary opportunity for you to be part of that mission. Through a sponsorship of $30,000 or more, you help ensure the long-term care of a rare or endangered plant, directly supporting conservation, education and scientific discovery at Norfolk Botanical Garden.

As a sponsor, your generosity will be recognized in multiple ways. Your name will be featured on our striking **Glass Donor Wall** inside the Perry Conservatory, honoring your leadership role in bringing ***The Garden of Tomorrow*** to life. You will also be included on our new **Digital Donor Wall**, where your name will be directly linked to your sponsored plant, allowing guests to explore your impact as they engage with our living collection.

Sponsors will also receive a private behind-the-scenes tour of the Perry Conservatory, including an introduction to their adopted plant, and invitations to exclusive donor recognition events celebrating the ongoing growth of this historic project.

Most importantly, you will help safeguard the future of rare and endangered species, ensuring that their stories—and yours—live on for generations to come.

Due to the rarity and conservation status of some species, rescued plants may arrive in juvenile form. Images depict mature specimens—these younger plants are often the most at risk, making our rescue efforts all the more critical to preserving plant biodiversity for generations to come

Conservation in Action

While we have been eagerly waiting to begin the Garden of Tomorrow expansion, we have also been working diligently behind the scenes. Norfolk Botanical Garden is proud to be a member of the Botanic Gardens Conservation International Network. Membership allows us to participate and facilitate conservation research, request and provide plant material with other institutions around the world, and collaborate with other institutions whose goal is to also save rare and endangered plants.

To support and increase our collection efforts, Perry Conservatory Director Michelle Baudanza successfully secured Norfolk Botanical Garden's designation as a cooperating institution in the Plant Rescue Center (PRC) Program, administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the Department of the Interior. We are certified along with dozens of other prestigious botanical gardens, arboretums, zoos and research institutions throughout the country. This will allow us to obtain confiscated plants illegally imported into the US and use them as an educational opportunity or to propagate for conservation. This certification also allows NBG to work more easily with other botanical gardens to acquire and share rare and endangered plant specimens.

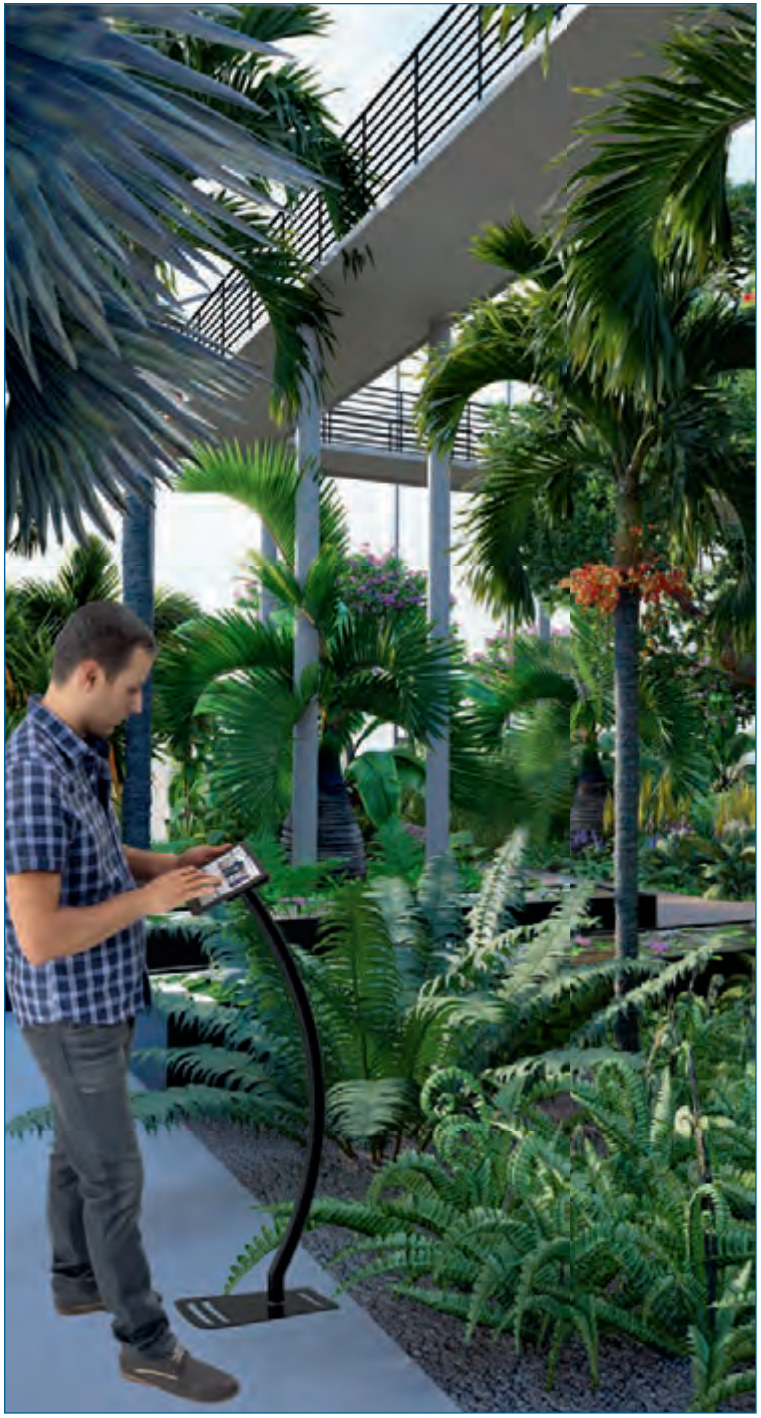
Additionally, in April 2025, we became a member of the Plant Collecting Collaborative (PCC), a global consortium of leading botanical institutions committed to ethical, science-based plant exploration and conservation. We are proud to join this prestigious group, contributing to its mission of responsible plant stewardship worldwide.

BOTANIC GARDENS CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL

NBG President & CEO Peter Schmidt and Conservatory Director Michelle Baudanza touring the greenhouse to inspect the vibrant collection of plants destined for the future Perry Conservatory.

Printed on paper deemed to be responsibly managed by the Forest Stewardship Council and is made with 70% or more Post-Consumer Fiber.

NBG is powered 100% by renewable energy.



A Digital Plant Adventure

At the new Perry Conservatory, we're excited to introduce a dynamic digital interactive experience that brings the world of plants to life for guests of all ages. As you explore, you'll be able to learn about the plants right in front of you by clicking on a designated number, instantly unlocking fascinating information about each species. Discover their unique "superpowers," meet their most important pollinators, explore their native habitats, and learn about the generous donors who have adopted and supported their preservation. The Perry Conservatory is more than just a beautiful space—it's a sanctuary dedicated to housing and protecting some of the most threatened plants from around the globe.

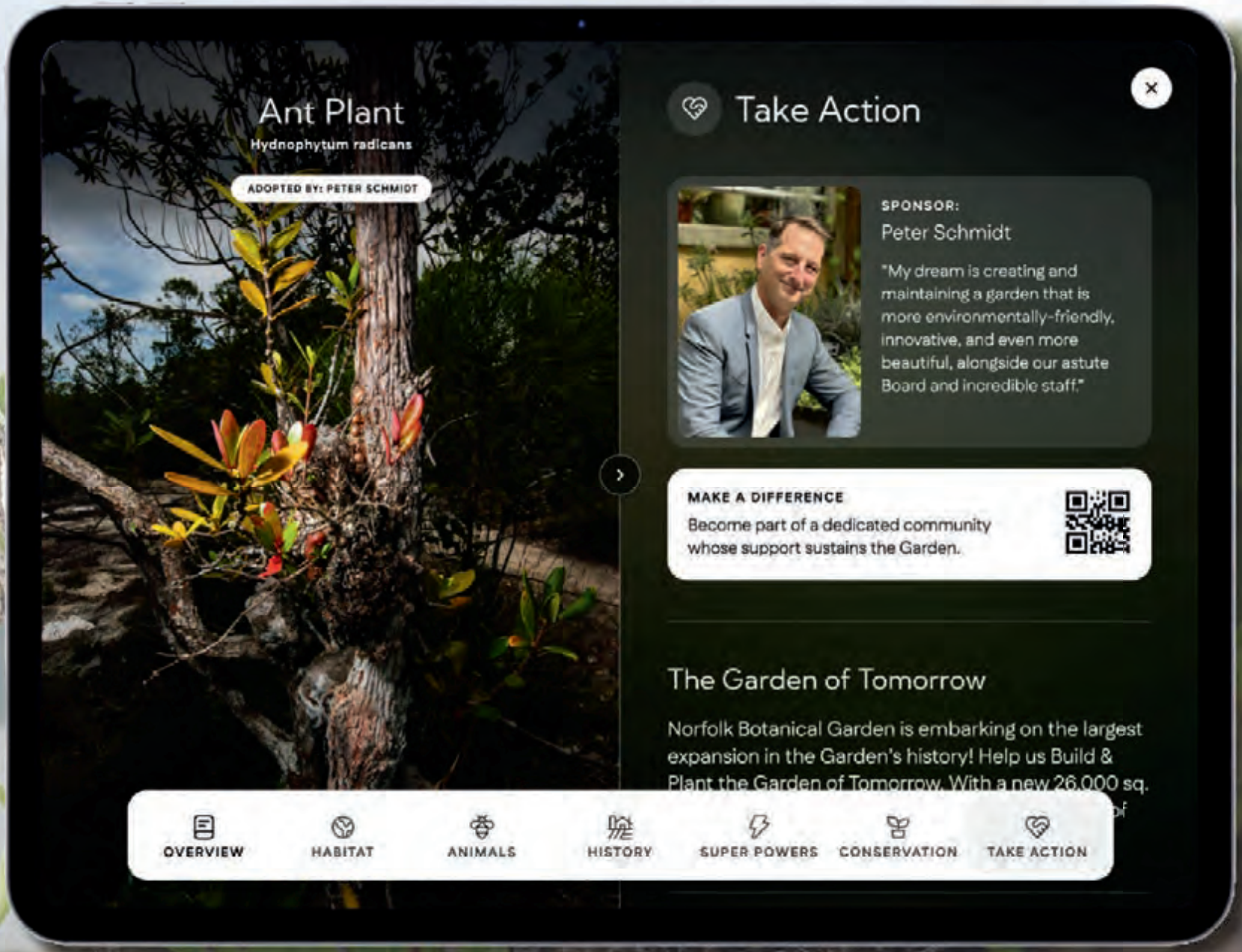
None of this would be possible without the heartfelt support of our donors, whose commitment helps ensure these remarkable species will thrive for generations to come.

All plant sponsors will be honored on both our physical donor wall and new digital donor wall—giving guests the opportunity to recognize and celebrate the individuals and organizations who help make this extraordinary collection possible.

Click, Learn and GROW

Our innovative plant kiosk system is being designed and developed in partnership with Grow, a digital experience agency located right here in Norfolk.

Share Your Sponsorship Story in a Digital Legacy



Upon first glance, this tree appears otherworldly, with its tapered trunk of scaly brown bark, topped with a rounded crown of repeatedly forked white branches, that are punctuated with a terminal rosette of blue-green succulent leaves. Dangerously beautiful, the whitish bark on the branches is a powdery coating that reflects sunlight but the scales on the bark have razor sharp edges. Tall spikes of yellow flowers produce copious amounts of nectar making it an essential food source for birds, insects and mammals.

Indigenous to the rocky savannahs of Namibia and the South African region called Namaqualand, the native San people use the hollowed branches to make a holder or quiver called “choje” for their arrows. While this national symbol of Namibia is protected by law in South Africa, it is listed as Vulnerable by the IUCN as it is under threat from a warming climate.

Photo by Marco Schmidt (CC BY-SA-3.0)

Tree Aloe or Quiver Tree

Aloidendron dichotomum

Little Leaf Palo Verde Tree

Parkinsonia microphylla

$150,000 (3 available)

Photo by Jerry Oldenettel (CC BY-NC-SA)

The little leaf palo verde tree is an indicator species of the Sonoran Desert, meaning it is a fundamental component of this desert ecosystem. Our specimens were rescued from imminent destruction due to urban development in the Apache Valley/Superstition Mountains area adjacent to Phoenix, Arizona.

This tree has high ecological value as a nurse tree for many desert plant species. In particular, it is key to the survival of the saguaro cactus. Unique in appearance, the little leaf palo verde tree features classic adaptations to the harsh desert environment–a multi-stemmed tree with small leaves and thorny branches spreading and twisting upward. It naturally drops its leaves in times of drought stress, but the lime green bark allows the plant to continue photosynthesizing. It produces small, creamy white flowers that are edible raw or cooked.

Its edible seeds have a flavor reminiscent of tender garden peas. While not yet considered threatened or endangered, this tree's greatest ecological threat is habitat destruction from urban development.

For good reason, the African baobab is often referred to as “The Tree of Life.” Rising out of the arid savannah, this keystone species is supremely adapted to the harsh climate. During the dry season, which can last nine months, the tree can tap into stored water resources kept in its swollen spongy trunk. In fact, a mature baobab can store over 30,000 gallons of water. The bark on older trees can also withstand brush fires, and younger trees will often regenerate after a destructive blaze. Another adaptation is its deciduous foliage, which drops when the dry season starts, thus preventing evaporation loss.

The showy large flowers open at night and their abundant nectar attracts nocturnal pollinators including moths, other insects, and fruit bats. Only a few flowers on each tree are open at any one time to encourage pollinators to visit different baobabs, promoting cross fertilization. When the nutritious seeds ripen, elephants and baboons will eat them, and as the seeds pass through the animals’ digestive systems, not only does the germination rate increase, but the seeds are dispersed over a wider area.

Humans also take advantage of this tree as nearly all parts of it are edible and very nutritious. The tree also has a long history of medicinal uses among the indigenous peoples of the savannah, and it figures prominently in traditional folklore. With proper care, the benefits of the baobab can be enjoyed while cultivating the trees sustainably to ensure they thrive alongside both humans and wildlife. However, climate change and a growing human population are placing immense pressure on this iconic and ancient species.

Baobab Tree

Adansonia digitata

$100,000 — (2 available)

Giant Saguaro

Carnegiea gigantea

$100,000 (4 available)

The saguaro (pronounced suh-war-oh) cactus is the largest and most iconic cactus of the U.S. Desert Southwest. Our specimens were rescued from imminent destruction due to urban development in the Apache Valley/Superstition Mountains area of the Sonoran Desert in Arizona. Its immense architectural presence makes it a spectacular standout in any desert collection. In its native habitat, saguaros are considered a keystone species where it strongly influences the plant and animal communities in the ecosystem in which it grows. The decline and removal of a keystone species is detrimental to the survival of that ecosystem.

With the extreme climate conditions found in the Sonoran Desert, saguaros require the critical association of a nurse tree in order for the next generation of seedlings to survive. While not yet considered threatened or endangered, the greatest ecological threat to saguaros is urban development. As with almost all desert plants, they are incredibly slow growing and therefore slow to repopulate. Our specimens range from 8 inches tall to 8 feet tall; 8 feet is the tallest that can be shipped to us from Arizona.

Growth Facts:

- 8 inches tall = 10–15 years old
- 8 feet tall = over 50 years old
- Doesn’t produce arms until 75 years old
- Produces flowers at 30 years old
- Average life span 150–175 years
- Ecological value increases with age

Ironwood Tree

Olneya tesota

$100,000 (2 available)

Ironwood trees are hallmarks of the Sonoran Desert. While a thriving tree is a valuable resource for wildlife and serves as a nurse plant for various desert plant species, the everlasting heartwood of a dead specimen is a remarkable wonder of nature.

Natural mineral deposits in the heartwood make it toxic to decomposers like fungi and termites. The trunks slowly weather away over centuries and can persist for over 1,600 years.

This trunk is easily over 1,000 years old and rescued from imminent destruction due to urban development in the Apache Valley/Superstition Mountains area of the Sonoran Desert in Arizona. Its size, shape, age and life history make it an unusual focal point and an interesting conversation piece in the new Perry Conservatory.

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) provides a Red List of Threatened Species that is a critical indicator of the health of the world's biodiversity. The IUCN Red List classifies the ironwood tree as Near Threatened due to overharvesting for fuel, illegal poaching for the tourist market, and habitat loss due to urban development.

Ocotillo

Fouquieria splendens

$50,000 — 1 Sponsored, (1 available)


Photo by Stan Shebs (CC BY-SA-3.0)

Ocotillo (pronounced Oh-co-TEE-yo) is a small shrub/tree comprising the characteristic plant community of the Sonoran Desert. While it may bear a similar appearance to a cactus with its thorny branches, it is not actually related to them. Its unique appearance is typical of desert plants with its small leaves attached to thorny, coral-like branches forming a slender vase shape - an excellent specimen to highlight the distinctive beauty of the desert.

In Spanish, ocotillo translates to “little torches,” a reference to the cluster of red tubular flowers formed on the end of its stems. These specialized flowers reflect a coevolution with hummingbirds for pollination. Like many desert plants, ocotillos are drought deciduous meaning they drop their leaves in times of extreme drought. Even though they may look dead, the plant is fully alive and photosynthesizing thanks to its green bark. Once the rain returns, leaves start to grow back within 24 hours. This cycle is repeated multiple times a season. Each time the plant goes dormant, a line forms on the stem making it easy to observe the growth spurts in-between the rains. In the wild, it can live upwards of 100 years. Our specimens were rescued from imminent destruction due to urban development in the Apache Valley/Superstition Mountains area of the Sonoran Desert in Arizona. While not yet considered threated or endangered, the greatest ecological threat to ocotillos is human activity.

Vulcan Palm

Brighamia insignis

$75,000 — 1 Sponsored, (2 available)

Also known as Ālulu, Vulcan palm, Hawaiian palm, and cabbage on a-stick, *Brighamia insignis* is neither a palm nor a cabbage. It has a stout trunk, leaves that will indeed remind you of cabbage, and fragrant star-shaped yellow flowers. It is, or more accurately "was," native to just two islands in Hawaii, where it lived on steep, exposed seaside cliffs. This palm is considered a desert plant due to growing in a hot climate with the ability to tolerate long periods of drought conditions.

Unfortunately, it is now listed as critically endangered or possibly extinct in the wild on the IUCN Red List. There were a number of factors that led to its demise including hurricanes, landslides, and human-introduced invasive plants and animals. However, the single biggest factor was the extinction of its sole pollinator, a type of hawkmoth. Without the moth, *Brighamia insignis* cannot reproduce on its own, and must rely on human intervention to carry on.

Looking almost as if a master mathematician designed it, spiral aloe is unique among succulents for its precise, unusual growth habit with rows of spiraling fleshy foliage in tightly packed rosettes. Though it is grown primarily for its foliage, older plants will flower in late spring to early summer with clusters of red to salmon, tubular flowers. With or without flowers it is stunning.

Spiral aloe is native to the Kingdom of Lesotho, a landlocked country surrounded by South Africa. It is the national flower of Lesotho, but unfortunately, it is considered endangered, primarily by habitat loss and over collecting. Fortunately, botanical gardens and reputable nurseries have been able to produce enough seed to greatly increase this species' numbers. Perhaps one day, it can be replanted back into protected portions of its native habitat.

Saving and reintroducing species has become a critical task for botanical gardens, just as it has for zoos. When the animals are cute, or with plants such as spiral aloe, the conservation process is made easier by the species' appeal. It begs the question, who is conserving the ugly ones – their place in this world could be just as critical.

Spiral Aloe

Aloe polyphylla

$60,000 — (3 available)

Hercules Aloe

Aloe x 'Hercules'

$30,000 — 1 Sponsored, (1 available)

Tree aloes are icons of the southern African deserts. As the name implies, they are a close relation to the aloes we know as houseplants. *Aloe* x 'Hercules' is a striking cross between two tree aloes - *Aloidendron barberae* from southern and eastern Africa, and *Aloidendron dichotomum* from Namibia and South Africa. It's a fast growing tree reaching heights of 25–40 feet with a 15 foot crown of thick branches with tidy clusters of triangular grey-green leaves.

As the tree matures, the older, lower leaves fall off exposing a smooth gray, very straight trunk. Their orange tubular flower spikes are a favorite of butterflies and hummingbirds and offer a vibrant pop of color against the backdrop of its grey-green leaves. Having tree aloes in our desert collection expands our ability to illustrate how common adaptations to drought have evolved multiple times in similar biomes across the globe.

Photo by Abu Shawka (CC BY-SA 4.0)

In 2022, one of the parent plants of this hybrid, *Aloidendron dichotomum*, became listed as Vulnerable to Extinction on the IUCN Red List. The primary threat is anthropongenic climate change followed by habitat destruction and poaching for the ornamental plant trade.

The Madagascar palm is not a palm at all, but rather a succulent with a dramatically spiny trunk, crowned by a cluster of foliage that grows in a palm-like manner. When the white flowers bloom, they only add to its exotic appearance. It is native to the spiny forests of Madagascar where it has adapted to a unique, but harsh environment. According to the IUCN Red List, this species is considered Threatened due to habitat loss and poaching for the ornamental plant trade.

Being an island that has been geographically isolated for eons, Madagascar is home to many plant and animal species that occur nowhere else on earth. Unfortunately, it is estimated that only 10% of Madagascar's land remains in its original natural state.

Approximately 17% of the Earth's land environments are protected.

— **World Economic Forum/Protected Planet Report (International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) – 2021**

Madagascar Palm

Pachypodium lamerei

$30,000 — 1 Sponsored, (1 available)

Fishhook Barrel Cactus

Ferocactus wislizeni

$30,000 — 1 Sponsored, (3 available)

Photo by Alice Wondrak Biel, Sonoran Desert National Park Service (CC BY 2.0)

Fishhook barrel cactus is as descriptive as the name implies. It is a stout, barrel-shaped cactus with its entire ribbed outer surface lined with a dense cover of both straight and hooked spines resembling fish hooks. A closer look at the spines reveals large, thick spines which protect against herbivory and small thin spines which help reflect the heat. The ribbed or pleated outer surface swells and shrinks with moisture. It is also known as the compass cactus as it tends to lean toward the southwest. Large, old specimens may even fall over from leaning too far.

Bright and cheery yellow to red-orange flowers appear at the tip of the barrel and are prized by pollinators. The fruits are sought after by wildlife and traditionally used by locals to make jams and candy. Average height is 2–5 feet with flowering beginning after 3 years. Our specimens are both single columns and multiple columns which is rare. All are rescued from imminent destruction due to urban development which has led to this species being listed as Vulnerable to Extinction on the IUCN Red List.

This particular myrtle cactus specimen features a unique crested growth form. Instead of its typical narrow and columnar stems, it displays wide fan-like stems that appear to bubble up and elegantly cluster over each other. A standout among desert plants, this unusual form is naturally occurring throughout its native habitat in northern and central Mexico. In the wild, it tends to form colonies providing critical plant habitat and resources for wildlife.

Its scientific and common names are inspired by the resemblance of their small dark fruit to that of the European blueberry, *Vaccinium myrtillus*. The fruits are edible and taste sweet and plum-like. This highly adaptable species is fast growing and often used as rootstock for rare and slower growing cacti.

The fruits are very popular in its native region of central Mexico (from Tamaulipas to Oaxaca) where it is seasonally offered in markets as garambullos. The fruits also have medicinal qualities while the dried out stems have a variety of uses among the local people.

Blue Myrtle Cactus

Myrtillocactus geometrizans f. *cristatus*

$30,000 — (1 available)

False Agave

Furcraea macdougallii

$30,000 — (3 available)

Rare in cultivation, and unfortunately extinct in the wild, this species of *Furcraea* is native to Mexico and sought by plant collectors for its attractive ornamental attributes. These dramatic succulents are often mistaken for true agaves as they bear a striking resemblance with their rosette bases and razor sharp upright leaves. The main difference between the two boils down to flower morphology. This species of *Furcraea* has distinctly vertical sharp-edged leaves. When it blooms, it sends up a dramatically tall flower spike, but as a monocarpic plant, it will only flower once, followed by the main rosette dying shortly thereafter. The next generation is carried on by seed and stem produced bulbils.

Furcraea are the source of a sisal-like fiber called fique that has been used for centuries to fabricate textiles, packing materials and handicrafts. As this species matures, it develops a tree-like trunk allowing it to reach a height up to 20 feet making it the tallest of the agave relatives. Visually, it resembles a cross between an agave and a palm tree. As of 2019, this species is listed as Extinct in the Wild on the IUCN Red List.

The *Agave guiengola* is often referred to as the “dolphin agave” because its broad and surprisingly soft silvery-blue leaves resemble the skin of a dolphin. This agave is among the most rare as it is endemic to a very specific habitat: limestone cliffs of the Cerro Guiengola Mountain in the Mexican State of Oaxaca. Its 10–20 foot flower spike is also most unusual as it flowers all along the stalk as opposed to the more familiar agave species whose flowers are concentrated at the very top of the spike. These flowers are a vital food source for bats and produce incredible amounts of nectar.

This beautiful ghostly-blue agave is one of the few that prefers a little shade. It can get up to 4 feet tall by 4–6 feet wide, and after many years it will flower. However, like all agave species it is monocarpic, meaning that once the mother plant flowers it will die, but hopefully not before releasing viable seed, or sending up “pups” near the base. This is a rare agave, and unfortunately its populations are fragmented, and it is listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List. Because of where this plant naturally occurs, the main threat to its existence is from marble quarrying, followed by plant poaching for the nursery trade.

Dolphin Agave

Agave guiengola

$30,000 — 1 Sponsored, (1 available)

Totem Pole Cactus

Pachycereus schottii f. *monstrosus*

$30,000 — (1 available)

This is a one-of-a-kind plant in any collection as it exhibits a very unusual and uncharacteristic growth form. Reflected by the use of '*monstrosus*' in the botanical name, this plant exhibits an abnormal growth habit usually caused by a naturally occurring genetic mutation. While the typical growth form features numerous tall columnar stems with a series of evenly spaced ribs and periodic thorns, the mutated form exhibits smaller nearly thornless stems with irregularly spaced ribs and knobby, knuckle-like protrusions.

In the wild, this botanical oddity is only found in two small populations about halfway down the Baja Peninsula in Mexico. Its limited range is due in part to the mutation rendering the plant sterile, or unable to reproduce by seed. The population persists from stem sections that periodically fall off and root into the ground, essentially creating clones of the original mutated plant.

The exquisite and elegant tree-like yucca features a rosette of striking sword-like powder-blue leaves resembling a pom-pom popping out of the top of the trunk. As the plant grows, old leaves bend down toward the trunk creating a long shaggy skirt. Massive clusters of white flowers are produced on towering 3-foot tall yellow-orange stalks. Flowers are exclusively pollinated by the yucca moth which is camouflaged to be as white as the flower. This relationship is crucial as each needs the other to survive.

Fruits bear a resemblance to a bird's beak hence the common name. Nearly all parts of the plant have practical uses from fibers from the leaves to soap from the roots. Highly prized as an ornamental, its native range is limited to the extremely arid regions of Brewster County, Texas and the northern Mexican states of Chihuahua and Coahuila. The population of this yucca is abundant in the wild thanks to effective conservation efforts.

Beaked Yucca
Yucca rostrata

$30,000 — (2 available)

Universally regarded as one of the most spectacular columnar cacti, this baby blue beauty hails from the semiarid ecoregion of northeast Brazil locally known as the Caatinga. Locals refer to it as *facheiro-azul* or blue torch. This stunning blue color is created by a waxy coating on the surface of the stems to help prevent water loss.

As it grows, it can either take on a shrubby appearance or remain a single trunk with numerous upright blue branches lined with uniform ribs that are adorned with yellowish spines and a woolly fuzz. This woolly fuzz is so characteristic that it inspired its genus name, *Pilosocereus*, which loosely translates into woolly candle. As a bat pollinated cactus, its lovely large white flowers open only at night. It is a long-lived species attaining impressive heights of over 30 feet after several decades of growth.

Blue Torch Cactus

Pilosocereus pachycladus

Madagascar is renowned as a biodiversity hotspot with over 90% of its plant life found nowhere else on the planet. One of these treasured endemics is the African ocotillo, a plant of conservation concern included on the ICUN Red List due to deforestation. Visually, African ocotillo, with its deliberately thorny, coral-like branches ornamented with small rounded leaves and red flowers, is a near twin to the ocotillo native to the desert biome in North America. While both plants grow in semiarid regions of their native countries, they are not related. They are prime examples of convergent evolution where unrelated plants exhibit the same physical adaptations and strategies to survive similar environmental conditions found across the globe.

Within the local culture, African ocotillo is highly sought after as medicine, building materials, charcoal, as well as for other practical uses.

African Ocotillo

Alluaudia procera

$30,000 — (5 available)

Cholla Species
Cylindropuntia species

$30,000 — (1 available)

Cholla cacti are defined by highly segmented cylindrical stems densely covered in small bristles and an intense complement of sharp spines. A closer look at the stems reveals raised areas called tubercles creating an attractive diamond-like pattern. Large, shrub/tree-like species are often easily spotted because of their whitish glow in the sun. This is generated by the sun's rays being reflected off the papery sheath covering the spines. Wicked spines, coupled with the easily dislodged stem segments, can attach to a passerby earning them the curious nickname "jumping cholla."

Native and common in the Sonoran Desert, it plays a vital role as a nurse plant protecting various plant seedlings as they develop, thus increasing their chances for survival.

A star attraction of the Sonoran Desert with its tall, thicket-forming columnar stems (up to 15 feet), the senita cactus only grows within a small, narrow band in the U.S, along the southern edge of the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument and in the Mexican states of Sonora and Baja. This exceptionally narrow range makes it one of the rarest of the big three cacti celebrated in Arizona.

A distinguishing characteristic setting it apart from its tall cacti counterparts is the formation of hairy tufts at the ends of mature branches. Night blooming flowers are produced at the end of these stems. The subsequent fruits are protected by a thick arrangement of downward pointing spines. These hairy tips are reminiscent of beard whiskers hence the common name senita which means “old one” in Spanish.

Senita has a highly specialized pollinator relationship with the senita moth. In exchange for pollination, the moth lives out its entire lifecycle solely on this cactus. This is a fine example of mutualism where the survival of each species is dependent upon the other. This is only the third known example of a profoundly strict pollination-related mutualism.

Senita - Old Man Cactus

Lophocereus schottii

$30,000 — (1 available)

Moroccan Mound
Euphorbia resinifera

$30,000 — (1 available)

This slow growing North African species is native to the Atlas Mountains of Morocco. Its spiny columnar appearance superficially resembles a member of the cactus family. However, this succulent is actually a member of the Euphorbiaceae family. This represents a great example of convergent evolution where two unrelated plant species exhibit the same physical adaptation and strategies to similar climatic conditions in separate parts of the world. It has high ornamental value for its tidy, perfectly rounded growth habit.

As a *Euphorbia*, this particular species has a long medicinal history that can be traced back to the 7th century. The milky white sap of this euphorbia naturally contains resiniferatoxin, an ultra-potent compound similar to capsaicin (found in hot peppers), which registers 16 billion Scoville Units (a measure of heat in hot peppers). The hottest pepper currently known measures 16 million units. In its pure form, it can inflict deadly chemical burns. However, it has immense promise in cancer pain management.

Don’t let the scientific name fool you, jojoba (pronounced ho-HO-ba) is native to the Sonoran Desert, where it’s a companion of giant saguaros, ironwood and ocotillos. While this evergreen, silvery-gray shrub is a highly valued member of the desert ecosystem, its ethnobotanical uses take center stage. For centuries, indigenous people used the seeds for food and medicine.

Today, the oil produced from its seeds makes it one of the most economically valuable plants native to the Sonoran Desert. Normally picked by hand, 90% of the seeds harvested are for the cosmetic industry with some industrial application. Jojoba plantations have popped up in many arid regions across the globe allowing the native population to remain stable.

Jojoba

Simmondsia chinensis

$30,000 — (2 available)


Photo by Miwasatoshi (CC BY-SA 4.0)

Strawberry Hedgehog Cactus

Echinocereus engelmannii

$30,000 — (1 available)

This diminutive (about 1 foot tall) desert dweller probably holds the award as one of the spiniest cacti of the US Desert Southwest as its cylindrical stems become nearly obscured by innumerous downward pointing spines. Developing into an appealing dense cluster of stems, its imposing array is quite attractive en masse. Natural color variation of the spines is a reflection of geographic influence.

Gorgeous magenta flowers precede equally gorgeous and spiny red fruits that taste like strawberries. While abundant in its native Sonoran and Mojave Desert range, it is listed by Arizona's Native Plant Law as Salvage Restricted. This designation means protected plants may not be removed from any lands, whether private or public, without the permission of the land owner and a permit from the Arizona Department of Agriculture. The greatest threats to population of this cacti are human activity and urban expansion.

This highly sought after cacti, native to the rocky outcrops of South America, has a very unusual and uncharacteristic growth form making it a botanical wonder. Reflected by the use of ‘monstrosa’ in the Latin name, montrose plants exhibit an abnormal growth form usually caused by a naturally occurring genetic mutation.

This distinctive cactus features a cluster of cylindrical, upright branches with a deep grayish-blue color. Tree-like, up to 15 feet tall and structurally appealing, its irregularly shaped, twisting, ribbed stems – featuring prominent knobby growths – make it a textural scene-stealer. Trumpet-shaped white flowers open only for one night to be pollinated by moths and beetles. The resulting fruit resembles a large apple that is edible. It is becoming an important cash crop in Israel where it is cultivated.

Monstrose Apple Cactus

Cereus repandus f. *monstrosus* ‘Monstrose Apple Cactus’

$30,000 — (5 available)

Creosote/Chapparal Shrub

Larrea tridentata

$30,000 — (1 available)

Creosote bush is a highly specialized shrub that dominates the desert landscapes of North America, specifically the Mojave, Sonoran and Chihuahuan Deserts. Despite its common name, it is not the source of commercial creosote. However, it is a most fascinating plant with a myriad of adaptions, ecological relationships, and ethnobotanical uses. Most notably it is known for the strong perfume that its waxy, resinous leaves release after a rain. This aromatic resin is composed of many volatile oils such as terpene (a compound found in pines), limonene (citrus), camphor (pines and rosemary), methanol (wood alcohol), and 2-undecanone (spices) – all contributing to that signature creosote smell. In its native range, this creosote smell is known as the “smell of rain.” The fragrance is actually a survival strategy to ward off herbivory since the rains bring the return of a food source – fresh green leaves.

In times of extreme drought, the small drab-olive leaves will fold up and alter their angle to minimize direct exposure to the sun’s rays. The branches are alive with a microcosm of fungi, algae and bacteria which harmlessly live on the branches and provide nutrients to the soil as the rains wash over them, giving it a competitive edge in a harsh climate. Remarkably, it can produce small yellow flowers with as little as 12 mm of rain! These strategies make it an ideal nurse plant fostering the growth of other seedlings as well as supporting numerous desert creatures. When used in moderation, chemical compounds found throughout the plant have been used to treat everything from the common cold, ulcers and nausea through teas and tinctures to topical applications to treat muscle pain, skin conditions like acne, fungal infections, bacterial infections, cold sores and wounds. It’s a true champion of overcoming the odds as specimens can survive in the harshness of the desert for thousands of years.

An intriguing and charming little cactus growing no more than a foot tall with precisely arranged spines geometrically radiating out in the Fibonacci spiral. The spiral is most noticeable when viewed from the top of the plant. The Fibonacci spiral occurs quite often in nature. The arrangement of scales on a pine cone or the rays on a sunflower are common examples. In the simplest of terms, the proportions of the spiral follow the mathematical principle that each quarter in the spiral is as big as the last two quarters.

Ecologically speaking, it is one of the largest groups of cacti with over 200 species. All but a few are endemic to Mexico where its population is under threat from habitat loss and illegal poaching. Its cute ball shape and crown of colorful flowers make them a highly desired ornamental escalating conservation concerns.

Pincushion Cactus

Mammillaria species

$30,000 — (1 available)


Desert Biome
Tropical Biome

The traveler's palm (*Ravenala madagascariensis*) is a palm in name only. In fact, it is more closely related to the common bird of paradise (*Strelitzia* species). While the exotic flowers indeed look like those of a white bird of paradise and the seeds are wrapped in an unusually colored bright blue fiber, the architecture of the plant is its main attraction. It has a distinctive, fan-shaped, flat spray of stalks, each topped with a banana-like leaf. This unusual array has enticed gardeners to plant it far from its native Madagascar into tropical landscapes and conservatories around the world.

The species is very important to both the wildlife and people of Madagascar. The flowers are rich in nectar and this attracts several lemur species to the plant. In exchange for the nectar, the lemurs pollinate the plant. The people of the island know that at the base of each leaf they can find water, making this plant a welcome relief to thirsty travelers, hence the common name. The flat spray of foliage also generally aligns east to west, so the tree can also be used as a crude compass.

Traveler's palms are edible, for both humans and livestock, and it is also used in traditional medicine. Although its habitat is decreasing, the traveler's palm is not currently listed as threatened. This is good, because in some communities it is the most popular choice for building materials used in home construction and is harvested for flooring, walls, and roofing. This eases the pressure on other, more threatened, slower growing species.

Traveler's Palm

Ravenala madagascariensis

$100,000 — (1 available)

Corpse Flower
Amorphophallus titanum

$100,000 — Sponsored

Corpse flower is a botanical wonder and one of the most well-known conservatory plants. Unfortunately, it is listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. There are likely less than 1000 individual specimens left in the wild on the island of Sumatra where it is native. Fortunately, there are many growing in botanical gardens around the world, but it would be a shame if these were the only places where this unusual plant grew.

There are two reasons why this plant is a wonder. At up to 12 feet tall, it produces the largest flower in the plant kingdom, like a giant calla lily, to which it is related. The other unusual thing about this flower is its fragrance. In full bloom it smells like rotting meat hence the common name of corpse flower. It does this to lure pollinators that are attracted to decomposing flesh. Its “meaty” color helps with the allusion. Despite the terrible stench, or because of it, this spectacular plant will draw many visitors during its brief time in bloom.

First arising 250 million years ago, cycads are one of the oldest groups of plants on earth. They were once a major plant group and were present across the globe. They have survived ice ages and several mass extinction events, including the one that killed off the dinosaurs. They still persist today, though playing a minor role in the plant world. Unfortunately, 70% of the 300 species that remain today are endangered, with several close to extinction, making cycads one of the most threatened groups on the planet. The major threats are a combination of habitat loss and plant poaching, making it more difficult for the plants to reproduce successfully on their own.

One of these endangered cycads is the Queen Sago (*Cycas circinalis*), a native of southern India and Sri Lanka. Traditionally, this plant has been harvested to use medicinally and as a food source. However, the plant takes careful processing to remove toxins before it can be eaten, and even then, some residuals may be present. The fronds of this plant are also harvested for use by the floral trade where the dramatic palm-like foliage is valued for both its appearance and long shelf life.

Queen Sago
Cycas circinalis

$50,000 — (2 available)

Royal Hawaiian Variegated Banana

Musa 'Ae Ae'

$100,000 — 1 Sponsored, (1 available)

Sometimes also known as "sacred banana," this ultra-rare, beautifully variegated banana was once only allowed to be owned by Hawaiian royalty. Not only are the leaves beautifully variegated, but the fruit is as well! Hawaii has no native bananas, and no one knows where this particular banana originated from, but was likely brought in as a gift from Asia or from a nearby island.

This banana will always remain rare because the variegation cannot be reliably replicated through tissue culture. This is because the 'Ae Ae' is a somatic variegate also known as a chimera. Propagation is done from pups of large specimens.

Strongylodon *macrobotrys*, commonly known as turquoise jade vine, is amongst the most uniquely colored flowers on the planet. It has a rare neon-blue green inflorescence due to a unique combination of two different pigments in the petal's cells: an anthocyanin named Malvin and a flavone called Saponarin. The ratio of each within the alkaline cellular environment turns the Malvin blue and the Saponarin yellow which results in the unique aquamarine hue.

These magnificent inflorescences can be over a foot in length and the vine can reach up to 300 feet tall! The genus name, Stronglodon, means "rounded tooth", and the species name, *macrobotrys*, means "long cluster of grapes" due to the shape of the flowers that are believed to have co-evolved with bats which is its main pollinator. This stunning member of the pea family is endangered due to habit destruction in the Philippines where it is native.

Jade Vine

Strongylodon *macrobotrys*

$50,000 — 1 Sponsored, (2 available)

The Atlantic Forest of Brazil is one of the most biodiverse ecosystems on Earth with over 2,200 species of animals including 200 bird species and 26 different primates. Amazingly, there are 20,000 different plant species that grow there. Many of these plants and animals are endemic, meaning they can only be found in the Atlantic Forest. Unfortunately, this important ecosystem is under severe threat with 85% of its original forest having already been lost to agriculture and urban development. What does remain is highly fragmented, putting additional pressure on the its plants and animals.

One Atlantic Forest native, the white angel trumpet, has already been declared extinct in the wild. This shrub or small tree is graced with large, trumpet-shaped, typically white flowers that open at night attracting moths with their sweet scent. The indigenous peoples of the forest knew that it was a plant of powerful medicine and spirituality. Western gardeners were attracted to its beauty and spread the plant around the globe. Modern medicine has looked beyond its toxic nature and discovered a number of compounds with promise to ease physical pain and suffering.

Whether the angel trumpet's extinction in its native forest was due to habitat loss, over harvesting, loss of its preferred pollinator, or some combination of factors, has yet to be determined. Fortunately, it is a common plant in gardens and conservatories around the world. It has even found new homes on its own in places far from Brazil and is now considered invasive in several places. This sort of thing is not uncommon when humans disturb Mother Nature.

Angel Trumpet

Brugmansia suaveolens

$30,000 — (1 available)

Just like clothing and home décor, houseplants go through phases where some might be passé, others are in-style today, certain choices will always be classics, while some are just downright hot. One plant in that last category is the variegated monstera plant (*Monstera deliciosa* ‘Variegata’).

They easily set the look of any tropical plant collection with striking coloration and distinctive exotic foliage. This look also makes it easy to see why this plant is so coveted, with collectors paying previously unheard-of prices for a houseplant. Variegated monsteras are difficult to reproduce from seed, so cuttings, carefully tended by greenhouse technicians, are the only viable way to get new plants, hence the cost.

Variegated Monstera
Monstera deliciosa ‘Variegata’

$30,000 — (3 available)

Heliconia is a genus of tropical plants that are fairly widespread in Central and South America, as well as in limited locations of the Pacific. Attracted by their beauty, people have spread them around the world. One such species is *Heliconia caribaea*, which as its name implies is native to several islands in the Caribbean. The tall leaf stalks can get over 10 feet and arise dramatically out of the ground, topped by banana-like foliage. The common name of lobster claw comes from the bright red, exotically zig-zagged flower structure, which is valued by florists. Not only are the plants beautiful, but they are also edible.

Heliconia caribaea and *Heliconia bihai*, both island species, have a complex relationship with their pollinator. One species of hummingbird does the job for both plants, but the female hummingbirds, with their smaller bodies only pollinate *H. bihai.* The larger males only pollinate *H. caribaea*. This is not a matter of choice on the hummingbirds' part, the flowers of each of these *Heliconia* are correspondingly sized to fit the specific gender of the hummingbird. Nature is full of these unique relationships, which is why it is so important that ecosystems in their entirety are protected so that plants and animals both thrive.

Lobster Claw, Wild Plantain
Heliconia caribaea

$30,000 — (1 available)

The species name of this Borneo native is derived from the Latin word “cuprum” meaning copper, referring to the metallic orange and red hues of the almost iridescent leaves. Commonly known also as jewel alocasia or mirror plant, it is regarded as one of the most beautiful of its genus. Growing only 12 to 18 inches tall, it makes a stunning groundcover. Due to the unusual color of the leaves it has been highly sought after, and it is the only Bornean species to have been in continuous cultivation since its introduction around 1860.

Jewel Alocasia/Mirror Plant
Alocasia cuprea

$30,000 — (9 available)

This Brazilian endemic bromeliad discovered in the late 1800's is amongst the world's largest, with leaves up to six inches wide and five feet long. A mature specimen can hold almost ten gallons of water between its leaves! It is predominantly a lithophyte, growing in Atlantic Forest on mountain cliffs. The magnificent red inflorescences can reach nearly 10 feet tall, but they can take up to 40 years to flower. However, flowers can last 5 months and are an important food source for various insects, birds, and moths.

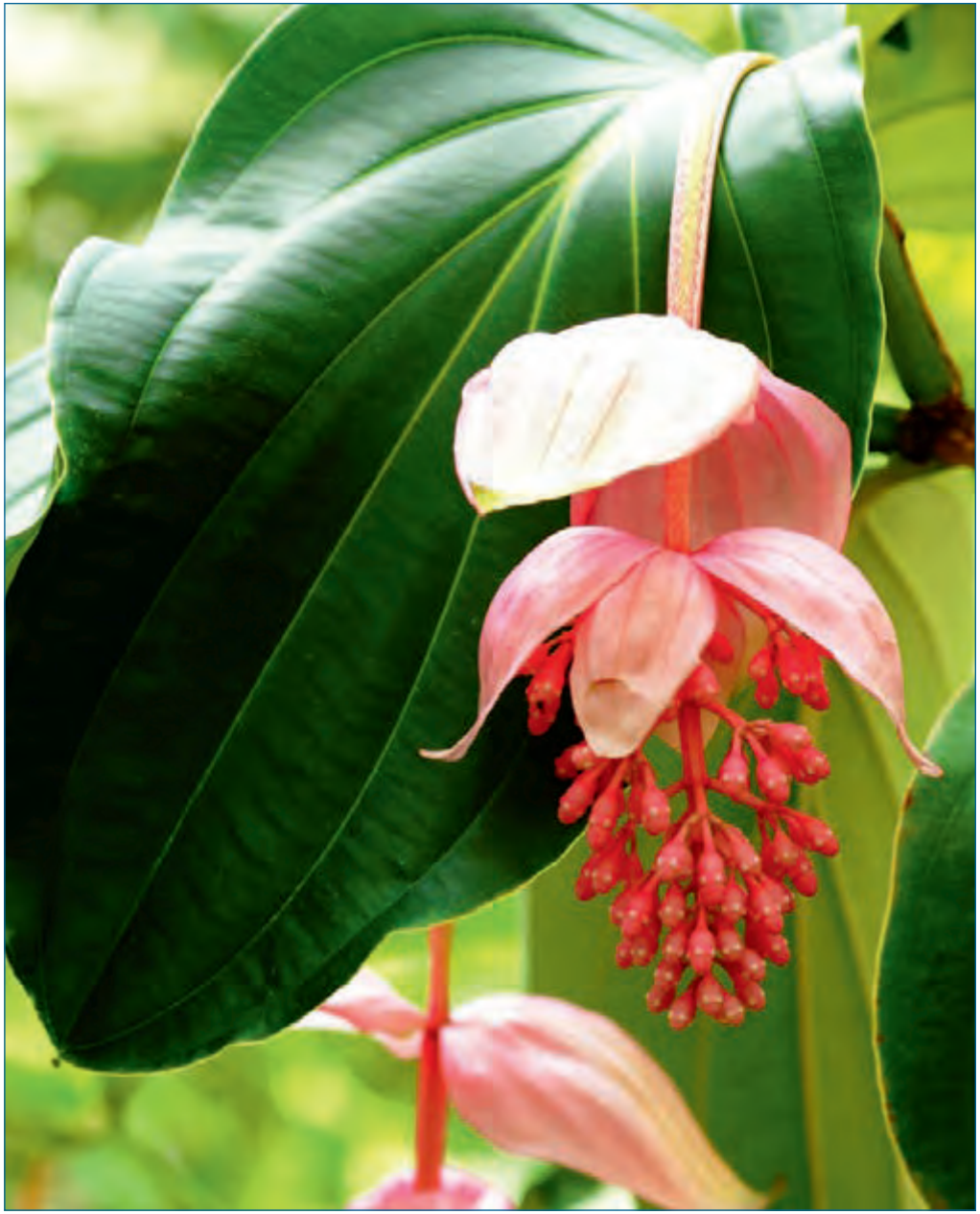
Imperial Bromeliad

Alcantarea imperialis

$30,000 — (3 available)

Arguably one of the most beautiful epiphytes in the world, showy medinilla is also the symbol of Lakapati, the friendly Filipina goddess of fertility. Its native range is within the diminishing rainforests of the Philippines. Famous plant writer, Rob Herwig once described it as “the Rolls-Royce of houseplants,” and it is easy to see why with its large, glossy-green wavy leaves and cascading pink blooms that somewhat resemble clusters of pink grapes. It is prized by serious plant collectors around the world.

While a showpiece of any tropical collection, this stunner is a rather delicate plant that is difficult to propagate and very particular about its growing conditions. Interestingly, the fruit of this beautiful plant is currently being studied for its flavonoids, tannins, saponins and alkaloids, all of which have significant promise in a variety of medical therapies.



Showy Medinilla/Rose Grape

Medinilla magnifica

Sponsored

If tropical plants could win a popularity contest, the 'Pink Princess' would be crowned Prom Queen. This highly sought-after tropical vine is native to Central and South America and features heart-shaped leaves with gorgeous blush-pink variegation. This rare variegation is naturally occurring thanks to a "one-in-a-million" genetic mutation where each leaf has its own unique expression of the variegation. Some are entirely pink with splashes of light and dark green or a perfect blend of both. Technically speaking, an ideal combination features more green than pink as the green is chlorophyll which allows the plant to sustain itself through photosynthesis. While easy to care for, propagation of this variegated beauty takes precise attention to detail contributing to its high popularity and scarcity.

'Pink Princess' Philodendron/Blushing Philodendron

Philodendron erubescens 'Pink Princess'

Tree philodendrons are the epitome of lush tropical foliage. Their natural home is within the tropical regions of South America, and their large, deeply-lobed, glossy green leaves are the real showstoppers as they can grow up to 5 feet long in ideal growing conditions. With an overall height of 15 feet combined with those deeply lobed leaves, tree philodendrons are plants that command attention. Those lobed leaves are not just prized by plant collectors; as a unique adaptation they are thought to help the plant withstand wind damage, deter herbivory, and aid in camouflage. As the plant matures, it produces adventitious or support roots which superficially attach to nearby trees allowing the plant to climb through the canopy. As it climbs upward, strong aerial roots grow downward to keep the plant firmly in place. As a coveted ornamental plant, it has been given the Royal Horticultural Society's Award of Garden Merit.

Tree Philodendron

Thaumatophyllum bipinnatifidum

Sponsored

Although this unusual plant is not actually a pine, or even some other type of conifer, it is easy to see how it got its common name. The palm-like foliage is arranged in a spiraling manner, similar to a screw. The female plants produce a large cluster of fruit (6-12 inches) that hangs below the foliage from a cord, and to some, could look very similar to a pine cone. Although the fruit can be eaten, the leaves of the plant have traditionally been the more valued part of the plant and have been used to make thatch, baskets, sacks, and hats.

Originally native to the Mascarene Islands which are located in the South Indian Ocean, east of Madagascar, screw pines are now widespread in many tropical areas around the globe. They thrive in tropical heat and humidity, plus they have a high degree of salt tolerance. In addition, they have thick arial roots at the base of their trunks that help support the plant, like buttresses, in areas prone to severe storms. All of these characteristics make them perfectly adapted to island life, and make them useful in protecting vulnerable coastal areas.

Ornamentally, their spiraling foliage, prominent leaf scars, dramatic roots, and grenade-like fruit have made them a popular plant in tropical landscapes and conservatories around the world. They are like a piece of living sculpture.

Screw Pine
Pandanus utilis

$30,000 — (1 available)

Synsepalum dulcificum, a.k.a. miracle fruit, is an unusual tropical shrub native to West Africa known for its ability to make sour or bitter foods taste sweet. Even lemons and vinegar! This is due to the non-caloric, natural sweetener glycoprotein in the berry called miraculin (a miracle indeed!). This sweetener binds to your tongue and triggers sweet receptors in response to acids instead of sugars. The effect can last as long as an hour.

In his book The Fruit Hunters, author Adam Leith Gollner travelled to Africa to learn more about the fruit. “There is a deepness to the miraculin flavor that is hard to convey with words,” he wrote. “It’s a basso profundo sensation, like the low frequencies in a symphony.” In the book he describes chewing a miracle fruit, then eating a lemon. The sour lemon becomes “ecstatically sweet, like liquefied filaments of pure joy.”

The fruit offers more than just a divine culinary experience- it has also shown benefits for cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy, who often suffer from taste disturbances and reduced appetite. By improving the taste of foods and making eating enjoyable, the fruit can aid in improving appetite. Although further research is needed, it also is showing promise for its antidiabetic, cholesterol-lowering, and anticancer properties.

Photo by Cây Thần Kỳ (CC BY-SA 2.0)

Miracle Fruit

Synsepalum dulcificum

$30,000 — (3 available)

Lipstick Palm, Red Sealing Wax Palm
Cyrtostachys renda

$30,000 — (8 available)

There are many reasons people are drawn to gardening and horticulture. Obviously growing our own predictable source of food is primary, but today we also gardening for other reasons. We are now gardening to save not only plant species, but also to help save pollinating insects, birds, and other animals. We are growing plants to stabilize shorelines in the fight against sea level rise. We plant trees to provide much needed shade, and to lower the temperature in a warming world. However, we still plant just to enjoy pure beauty.

Once such case of planting for the pure joy of it is the lipstick palm, a.k.a sealing wax palm, or more precisely *Cyrtostachys renda*. One look at is glossy, Christmas-red stems contrasting with the dark green palm foliage, and you will wonder how anything could occur naturally and be so beautiful. The new conservatory will have several of these plants, and our designers are looking forward to paring other plants with the lipstick palm so that both plants will shine even more in the presence of each other.

This rare *Philodendron* is commonly referred to as the “holy grail” among aroid collectors. It is a critically endangered species due to habitat loss and there are currently only six known wild specimens left. In fact, the remaining plants are located on a privately owned farm which is heavily guarded 24 hours a day. Native to the Brazilian state of Espirito Santo, they mostly grow as epiphytes or hemi-epiphytes.

Wild specimens can reach up to 65 feet tall, with individual leaves over 2 feet long. The elongated petiole and long narrow leaf make the leaves of large specimens look like they are floating in midair. Due to its rarity and slow growth rate, specimens are very costly. NBG was fortunate enough to obtain an ethically sourced seed grown variety from Silver Krome Gardens in Florida.

Philodendron Santa Leopoldina

Philodendron spiritus-sancti

$50,000 — (1 available)

Photo by Dick Culbert (CC BY-SA 2.0)

Photo by Octavio Rivera Hernández (CC BY-NC 4.0)

Elfin Tree Fern

Alsophila dryopteroides

$30,000 — Sponsored

One of the most unique ecosystems is the tropical elfin forest (a.k.a. dwarf forest). These occur at high elevations and they are characterized by dwarf or stunted vegetation and a low number of vertebrate animal species, primarily bats and hummingbirds. The smaller plant size is in response to high winds that occur near mountain tops and ridges. Taller plants would be subject to wind damage, so plants in the elfin forest respond by not only growing shorter, but also by producing sturdier trunks and branches, as well as stronger root systems.

The central mountains of Puerto Rico are home to several tropical elfin forests, and during the 20th century some of these areas were put into protected status so that their unique plants and animals would not be lost. One such plant is the elfin tree fern (*Alsophila dryopteroides*, sometimes listed as *Cyathea dryopteroides*). Normal tree ferns are quite large for ferns and develop stout, log-like trunks. The elfin tree fern grows underneath other plants and only gets about 2 feet tall by 3 feet wide. The species has always been rare, but it is possible that there are only about 100 plants left in the wild. The major threats to their continued existence are strong hurricanes, more aggressive plants that thrive in areas disturbed by hurricanes, and human activities such as communication tower and powerline maintenance.

This genus comprises over 50 species native to Southeast Asia, northern Australia, and multiple Pacific islands. They are largely epiphytic, meaning they make their home on other plants, as opposed to parasitic plants which make their living from other plants at the host's expense. *Hydnophytum* are also case studies in symbiosis, which is when two organisms each benefit from a relationship with each other – in this case the plant and ants.

Hydnophytum species typically form a caudex at the base of the plant, which is a swollen stem or root that stores moisture – particularly useful for epiphytes whose roots are more often used to cling to other plants, rather than to gather moisture. The caudex of the plants are also a maze of tunnels and chambers, that make a perfect home for ants. Not only do these natural "ant farms" offer shelter and protection from predators, but the ants can also take sustenance from the plant's sap.

In exchange for room and board, the ants will swarm to protect the plant from any other insect or animal that may threaten it. In addition, there are specialized glands in the caudex's tunnels that absorb the nutrients from the ant's waste. So, the benefits go back and forth between ant and plant, offering a lesson to the human species in the process.

Ant Plant

Hydnophytum

$30,000 — (2 available)

Additional Naming Opportunity

Parking Garden Tree Adoption

At Norfolk Botanical Garden, beauty, science, and innovation are deeply rooted together. In The Garden of Tomorrow, every tree planted in our Brock Parking Garden is part of a living system—a carefully designed landscape that manages stormwater, cools the environment, and welcomes guests with natural beauty from the very first step.

Your gift of $10,000 sponsors a tree in this groundbreaking project, which utilizes the latest in urban landscape technology. Through your adoption, you're investing in the long-term health and growth of a tree planted to thrive for decades. Each tree becomes part of an award-winning model that blends environmental innovation with natural beauty.

At the core of this effort is a specialized soil cell system that creates optimal conditions for healthy root development. This green infrastructure combines sustainable stormwater management with urban tree integration. As part of our broader stormwater plan, this innovation has eliminated the need for a traditional retention pond—allowing us to add green parking spaces and showcase a more sustainable, beautiful solution.

Your sponsorship helps fund this vital infrastructure and supports our ability to share a powerful story: how design, technology, and nature can work together to transform a parking lot into a thriving garden—inspiring future landscapes across our region and beyond.

As a sponsor, your name will be permanently recognized on one of our donor sculptures within the parking garden—creating a visible and lasting legacy of your support. Moreover, you'll know you've helped grow a future where science and beauty live hand in hand.

Other Ways to Give

Biome Sponsor $5,000

Celebrate a Living Landscape

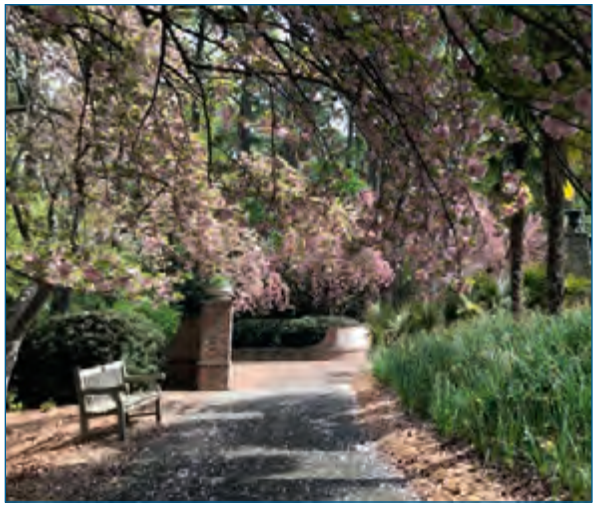
Support the care and interpretation of a unique biome within the Perry Conservatory. As a Biome Sponsor, your name will be recognized on the Donor Wall in the Conservatory foyer and your adopted plants will be featured in our Digital Plant Adventure. Your gift helps us preserve rare species and inspire wonder every day.

Become a Volunteer

Lend Your Hands, Share Your Heart

Volunteers are the heart of Norfolk Botanical Garden. Whether helping our horticulture team in the field, welcoming guests at the Visitor Center, or assisting in the gift shop and education programs, our volunteers bring the Garden to life. Share your time and talents to help educate, inspire and nurture the next generation.

Legacy Giving



Leave a Legacy of Beauty & Purpose

By including Norfolk Botanical Garden in your estate plans, you help protect the natural beauty and biodiversity of our landscapes far into the future. Your legacy gift ensures our conservation, education, and public access efforts continue to thrive for generations.

To explore biome sponsorship and legacy giving options, please contact **Cathy Fitzgerald** at (757) 441-5830 ext. 319 or email cathy.fitzgerald@nbgs.org.

For Volunteer Opportunities, please visit our Volunteer Center within Baker Hall or the Volunteer page of our website at iDigNBG.org

With climate change and habitat loss, it is increasingly important for botanical gardens to act as safe refuges for both plants and people. The 26,000 sq. ft. Perry Conservatory will protect some of the most threatened plants from around the world and demonstrate conservation in action.

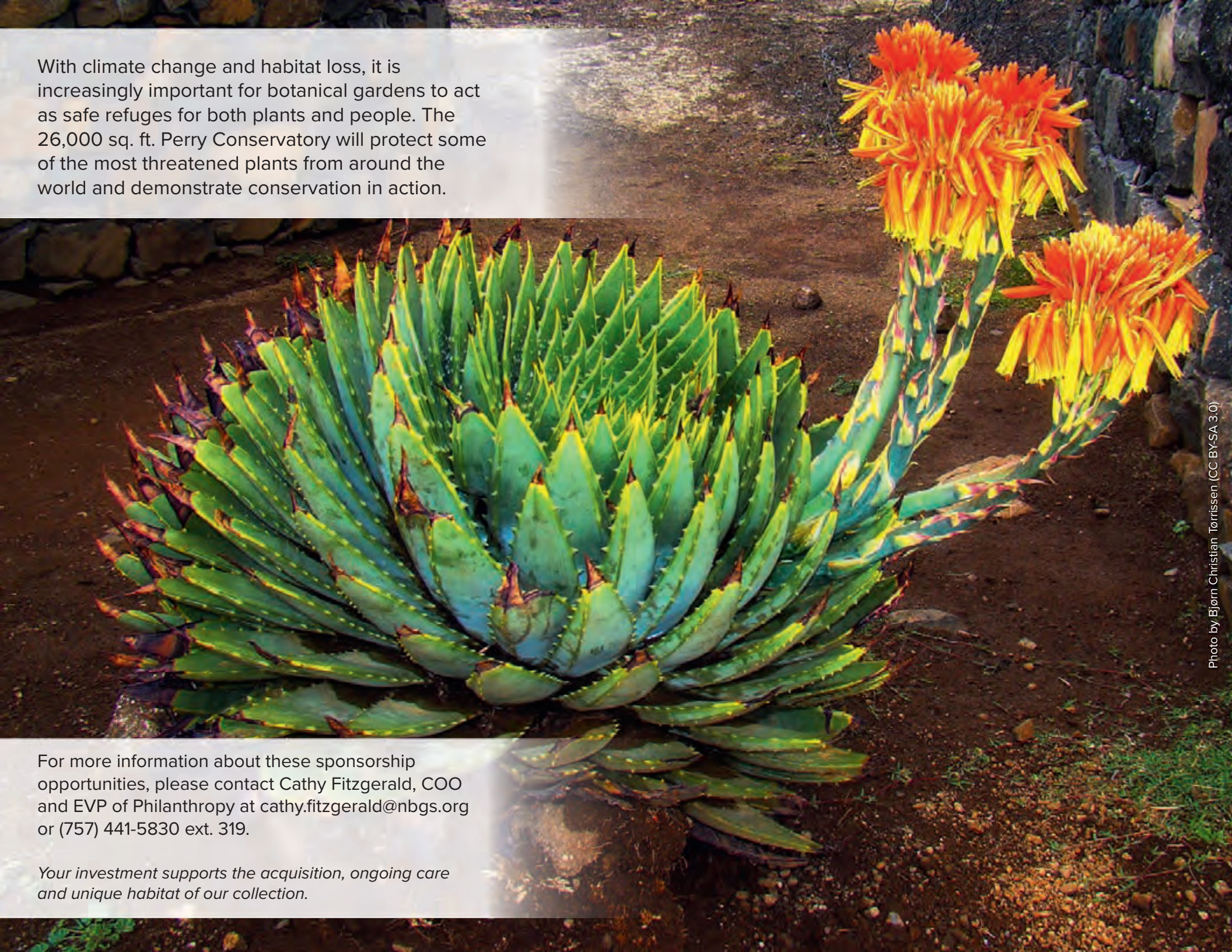


Photo by Bjørn Christian Tørrissen (CC BY-SA 3.0)

For more information about these sponsorship opportunities, please contact Cathy Fitzgerald, COO and EVP of Philanthropy at cathy.fitzgerald@nbgs.org or (757) 441-5830 ext. 319.

Your investment supports the acquisition, ongoing care and unique habitat of our collection.