

## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

## Fairy Houses at New England Botanic Garden Bring Back Nature's Magic: Enchanted Forest Opens August 17

**BOYLSTON, MA, August 5, 2024** – New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill is excited to announce the return of the magical exhibit, *Enchanted Forest, Nature-Inspired Fairy Houses by Sally J. Smith*, featuring everyone's favorite mythical dwellings. Once again, Sally J. Smith's intricately designed, one-of-a-kind fairy houses will transform The Ramble, a 1.5-acre accessible, whimsical woodland garden for children and families, into a fairyland sure to capture your imagination. Experience the magic as you journey through our *Enchanted Forest* exhibit, featuring over 30 magical fairy houses built with natural and nature-inspired materials. Immerse yourself in a magical miniature world where fantasy meets nature and let your imagination soar.

Experience the exhibit daily from August 17 to October 31, with general admission or enjoy featured events, and participate in fairy-inspired youth- and adult-focused programming.

Smith is no stranger to New England Botanic Garden, curating an exhibit of miniature fairy houses for the first installment of the Enchanted Forest exhibit in 2022. "I am honored to return to the Garden for another exhibition of my fairy houses specially created for The Ramble," Smith says. "This unique garden gives me a lot of inspiration for my sculptures. It is pure joy to make them and to work with such a wonderful team to integrate them into the garden as we strive to create a memorable experience for children and adults alike."

For the past 18 years, artist Sally J. Smith has been crafting environmental sculptures both in natural settings and in her studio, located in the Adirondack mountains of northern NY. All her pieces are created using natural and nature-inspired materials. Smith is most recognized for her elaborate and creative Fairy House sculptures, which have been showcased in numerous books, magazines, and online platforms, such as Harper Collins, *The New York Times*, and *Better Homes and Gardens*. "Of course,

nature is the ultimate source of inspiration for this work – both for my sculptures and the collaboration of creatively installing them in the garden with the staff," says Smith.

"We are thrilled to welcome Sally J. Smith's whimsical fairyland back to the Garden. Nestled amongst the natural landscape of our family garden, The Ramble, Sally's creations blend in seamlessly and complement the garden's themes of play and imagination, captivating visitors of all ages. *Enchanted Forest* remains our visitors' favorite exhibit, inspiring wonder and curiosity and engaging people with the natural world," says Director of Education Marissa Gallant.

Guests can enjoy this mesmerizing display during the Garden's daytime hours or at special <u>ticketed</u> <u>evening events</u> scheduled on select Fridays and Saturdays from September 21 to October 26. Known as *Fairies Aglow*, these special after-hours family-friendly events will include enchanting activities, ethereal music, and real-life fairy friends.

Visitors can also enjoy brews and local fare at our beer garden and café, browse our fairyland market, and discover hidden fairy houses along the way during the magic *Fairy Fest* weekend from October 12 through 14. This weekend is included with general admission.

Visit the <u>Garden's website</u> for information on *Enchanted Forest* and other experiences this fall. Learn more about Sally J. Smith by visiting her <u>website</u>.

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## **About New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill**

New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill is a nonprofit organization located at 11 French Drive in Boylston, Massachusetts. A regional destination, we are operated on 200 acres by the Worcester County Horticultural Society, one of the oldest of its kind in the country, and are open to the public for garden viewing, trail walking, activities, private events, educational classes, weddings, exhibitions, and more. We are an AAM-accredited museum that includes an irreplaceable collection of plants. We hope to engage you in a life-long passion for growing plants for their ornamental, economic, and ecological value. Learn all about New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill including its history, mission, and its staff, please visit www.nebg.org.

Photo: Fairy houses return to The Ramble this August. Photo taken September 2022. https://flickr.com/photos/towerhillbg/52353221510/in/album-72177720319116050/

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