

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Pixels + Petals, An Orchid Exhibition is coming to New England Botanic Garden

Get ready for a blast from the past as nostalgia and nature unite February 8 – March 23

BOYLSTON, MA, January 21, 2025 – <u>New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill</u> is filling its indoor conservatories with orchids in one of the most highly-anticipated annual exhibitions of the year. From February 8 to March 23, <u>Pixels + Petals, An Orchid Exhibition</u> showcases more than 2,000 living orchids in some of the Garden's most creative and visually striking displays yet.

Get ready for a blast from the past as *Pixels + Petals* combines the vibrant world of retro video games with the delicate beauty of orchids in a one-of-a-kind experience. During daytime hours, or through a lineup of special events, visitors to *Pixels + Petals* can escape the cold and be immersed in bright colors and pixelated charm. Nostalgia and nature unite in a celebration of the bold beauty of orchids.

"Pixels + Petals is a fun and creative tribute to one of the planet's most fascinating plant families. The exhibition draws inspiration from the fact that orchids are natural problem solvers who have puzzled out ways to live on almost every continent on the planet thanks to highly specialized adaptations," says Lea Morgan, exhibitions manager for New England Botanic Garden.

Through its annual orchid exhibition, the Garden aims to provide visitors with opportunities to explore different types of cultivated orchids in shapes, colors, and sizes they may never have experienced before. The exhibition changes from year to year with new plants, as well as different educational, aesthetic, and artistic components. This year's exhibition features large-scale structures created primarily from colorful Plexi-glass and planted with an immense number of blooming orchids.

"The larger-than-life structural elements of *Pixels + Petals* are designed to evoke imagery from the iconic video games of the 80s and 90s that captivated many of us. Imagine pixels falling into place on a screen and the glow of an arcade. It's unlike anything we've ever done before and we're excited for people of all ages to experience it," Morgan says.

How to Enjoy Pixels + Petals, An Orchid Exhibition:

- <u>Pixels + Petals Opening Weekend</u>, Saturday, February 8 and Sunday, February 9,
 10 a.m. 4 p.m.: Be among the first to experience the stunning orchid displays and nostalgia-inspiring works of art of *Pixels + Petals*. Enjoy live music in our subtropical conservatories and a curated artisan vendor market. Included with general admission.
- Orchids After Dark, Select Friday and Saturday evenings
 Experience the retro charm of *Pixels + Petals* in a whole new light during this exclusive, 21+ after-hours event. Each evening features a cash bar, light bites available for purchase, board games and video games, and performances by a band or a DJ.
- Orchid Exhibit Walk & Talk, Wednesday, February 12, 19, and 26, 9 10 a.m.: Learn more about the orchids of *Pixels + Petals* with an early morning tour led by one of New England Botanic Garden's horticulture experts. <u>Tickets must be reserved in advance</u>.
- Exhibition Open Daily, February 8 March 23, 10 a.m. 5 p.m.: *Pixels + Petals* is on display daily and included with general Garden admission.

To learn more about *Pixels + Petals, An Orchid Exhibition* or to reserve tickets visit https://nebg.org/pixels-and-petals/ or contact Public Relations Manager Liz Nye at lnye@nebg.org.



Image Caption: More than 2,000 living orchids take center stage at New England Botanic Garden's annual orchid exhibition, a creative tribute to one of the planet's most remarkable family of plants.

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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, the Garden is operated on 200 acres by the Worcester County Horticultural Society, one of the oldest of its kind in the country, and is open to the public for garden viewing, trail walking, educational programs, private events, weddings, exhibitions, and more. This year New England Botanic Garden was voted "Top Botanic Garden in the U.S." by *TravelAwaits*.

New England Botanic Garden is an <u>AAM-accredited</u> museum that includes an irreplaceable collection of plants and creates opportunities for visitors to experience the wonder of plants, learn about the natural world, and make joyful connections. Learn all about New England Botanic Garden including its history, mission, and its staff at <u>www.nebg.org</u>.

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