



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**“WILD WONDERS” ANIMAL TOPIARIES ARRIVE AT FRANKLIN PARK  
CONSERVATORY**

Columbus, Ohio – Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens welcomes a new exhibition this summer featuring life-size animals portrayed in floral forms. The exhibition, *Topiaries at the Conservatory: Wild Wonders*, will be on display from 10am-5pm daily from May 20 to Oct. 29.

The exhibition features 14 topiaries representing endangered and exotic animals, from a mighty lion with sprays of live grass representing its mane, to a larger-than-life peacock dressed in a seasonal collection of blooming flowers. The collection includes:

- **Elephant trio:** Hedera helix ‘Glacier’ (English ivy)
- **Flamingo trio:** Begonia semperflorens ‘Cocktail® Mix’
- **Gazelle:** Sedum rupestre ‘Lemon Ball’ and reindeer moss
- **Giraffe:** Lysimachia nummularia ‘Goldilocks’ and Ajuga reptans ‘Golden Glow’
- **Gorilla:** ‘Metallica’ and ‘Chocolate Chip’ cultivars of Ajuga reptans (of the mint family)
- **Lion:** Carex flagellifera (for the mane) and Lysimachia congestiflora ‘Variegated Lemon’
- **Peacock:** Ficus pumila with Ficus pumila ‘Variegata’ for the body, plus a seasonal bedding plants for the tail.
- **Birdwing Butterfly:** Alternanthera dentata ‘Purple Knight’, Pilea glauca ‘Red Stem Tears’, Alternanthera ficoidea ‘True Yellow’, Solenostemon ‘Party Time® Lime’, and Solenostemon ‘Party Time® Sangria’
- **Red Panda:** ‘Red Ice’ and ‘Coral Carpet’ cultivars of Sedum album, and reindeer moss
- **Sea Turtle:** Three varieties of Alternanthera dentata: ‘Little Ruby’, ‘Burgundy Threadleaf’, and ‘Snowball’

Complementing this exhibition, the Cardinal Health Gallery at the Conservatory will host a photography collection presented by Columbus College of Art and Design (CCAD), *GlassHouse: Photo Flora Form*. Just as the topiary sculptures create surrealistic forms inspired by real figures, this collection depicts actual foliage represented at the Conservatory in ephemerally altered ways. This showcase will be available from May 20 to Sept. 17.

*Topiaries at the Conservatory: Wild Wonders* is sponsored by The Columbus Foundation, Giant Eagle, Greater Columbus Arts Council and Ohio Arts Council.

For more information, visit [fpconservatory.org](http://fpconservatory.org), and follow #WildWondersTopiaries on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.



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*Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens offers botanical collections, art and nature-based exhibitions, plant shows, and educational programs for all ages. Situated in an 88-acre urban park, the Conservatory features the historic 1895 John F. Wolfe Palm House and 83,000 square feet of glasshouses, classrooms, and meeting and event spaces. The Conservatory owns a signature collection of glass artwork by Dale Chihuly. Light Raiment II, a permanent installation by internationally recognized light artist James Turrell, illuminates the John F. Wolfe Palm House every evening from dusk until dawn.*