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**2016 SAN FRANCISCO FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW BRINGS “DISCOVERY”
TO SAN MATEO COUNTY EVENT CENTER MARCH 16-20**

Showcase Gardens, 100+ Seminars, DIY Stations, Urban Homestead, Flowers and Plants For Sale and More

SAN FRANCISCO (February 18, 2016) – The [San Francisco Flower & Garden Show](#) returns to the San Mateo County Event Center Wednesday, March 16 through Sunday, March 20, with this year’s theme “Discovery.” More than five acres of the event center will be in full bloom with spectacular display gardens, more than 125 seminars, hands-on DIY projects, thousands of flowers and plants for sale and more. From plant gurus to horticulture newbies, this is the place for everyone to immerse themselves in the world of gardening.

“There is so much for everyone to see, learn and experience at this year’s San Francisco Flower & Garden Show,” said San Francisco Flower & Garden Show Producer Sherry Larsen. “We have more seminars than ever packing our five stages with the industry’s top designers, authors and bloggers covering everything from bee-friendly gardening to lawn substitutions.”

This year’s world of “discovery” begins in the main hall where showgoers will enter the **Instecta Giganteum**, an oversized world of insects set in a lush landscape of palms, plants and gushing water. The giant creatures will tower over attendees who are invited to snap photos with a giant Grasshopper as it spreads its wings, as well as a Praying Mantis that rears up and extends its limbs. The insects lead the way to the full-size showcase gardens, masterpieces of color and creativity from leading landscape designers and gardening experts.

Following are features that will fill the 31st San Francisco Flower & Garden Show throughout the weekend:

- **2016 Showcase Gardens** – Explore the amazing full-size garden displays created by top West Coast designers utilizing thousands of water-wise and exotic plants. A panel of landscape design and horticulture experts will judge the Showcase Gardens in several categories for the 2016 Garden Awards, while showgoers are invited to pick their favorites for the People’s Choice Award.
- **Flower Pavilion Stage** – Love flowers? This is the place to be. The country’s leading designers will take the stage for floral design demonstrations with an emphasis on California-grown flowers and branches. From Ariella Chezar to Carly Cylinder, more than a dozen experts will share techniques and tips as part of this non-stop seminar series including Living Centerpieces; Flowers for All Ages; Large-scale Branch Arrangements; and more.

- **DIY Stage** – For the first time ever, this DIY stage will offer attendees a “make and take,” hands-on experience at workstations where they will learn seed starting; plant propagation; bonsai trimming, wiring and growing; how to create a bee hotel; and more.
- **Urban Homestead** – Urban gardeners should head to this stage featuring a packed schedule covering an array of topics including bee-keeping, edible gardening, seed saving, sheet mulching, urban chicken keeping and more. Also, stop by to visit the resident goats, rabbits and chickens!
- **Discovery Stage** – From beginner to expert gardeners, there is something for everyone at the Discovery Stage. This stage will host a variety of seminars from the best in the industry. Hot topics include: Creative Succulent Container Gardens with Debra Lee Baldwin; Saving Pollinators One Garden at a Time with David Mizejewski; California Gardens: Glorious Despite the Drought with Sharon Lovejoy; Design Like a Pro with Billy Goodnick; and more.
- **Sequoia Stage** – New this year, the Sequoia Stage will be home to mini-courses featuring a panel of three experts each presenting one aspect of the same topic. Mini-course topics will include Small Space Solutions, The Water-Wise Garden, The Edible Garden, The Lawn Free Garden and the Native Garden.
- **Plant Market** – Shop a variety of hundreds of plants – everything from water-wise natives to bulbs and annuals to perennials.
- **[Association of Professional Landscape Design \(APLD\) Ask A Designer](#)** – Showgoers are encouraged to bring their garden design dilemmas to the San Francisco Flower & Garden Show and receive advice from a professional landscape designer. The APLD display will provide one-on-one 30-minute consultations, offering clients immediate feedback, tips and fresh ideas for their gardens. Sessions are \$30 for 30 minutes.
- **The Marketplace** – More than 200 exhibitors will offer the hottest new tools, gardening gear, art for the garden and more.
- **Fun for the Little Ones** – Families are invited to stop by this fun-filled, kid-friendly area to enjoy hands-on activities and interactive education! Also, children 16 and under are admitted free to the San Francisco Flower & Garden Show when accompanied by a paying adult.

About the 2016 San Francisco Flower & Garden Show

The 2016 San Francisco Flower & Garden Show will be open to the public Wednesday, March 16 through Sunday, March 20, at the San Mateo County Event Center, located at 1346 Saratoga Drive, in San Mateo, Calif. Show hours are Wednesday Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is \$17.50 for a one-day advance ticket purchased online or at select nurseries by February 28; an all show pass good for up to five days is \$40. Tickets purchased after February 28 are \$22 for a one-day adult admission, \$20 for a one-day senior admission and children 16 and under are admitted free. Special workshops tickets are also available. For advance tickets and more information please visit www.sfgardenshow.com or follow @sfflowershow on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#). Official hashtag is #sfflowershow.

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