



Unwrap The Magic

THE 9TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF TREES

'Tis the season for tinsel, ornaments, garland and lights and all will take center stage as the **Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens** pulls out all the stops to deck the Gardens for the 9th annual Festival of Trees. Scheduled for December 4th-16th, more than 25 professionally decorated trees will transform the 1.7 acres of Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens into a winter wonderland. Each tree will be uniquely decorated by an array of interior designers, artists and floral designers, reflecting the 2015 Festival of Trees theme, *The Joy of Holiday Traditions: Celebrating Family Heritage*. Last year over 5,000 jolly visitors enjoyed what has become one of the holiday season's premier events for adults and children.

Kicking off the 13-day event, the *Gala Evening in the Gardens* is set for Friday, December 4th, and offers an elegant evening with music, dance and theatrical performances including **Palm Beach Atlantic University Stringendo School of Strings** and **Ebony Chorale**. Guests are invited to stroll the garden grounds while enjoying cocktails and delicious holiday fare from the area's finest restaurants.

The *Children's Gala*, taking place on Sunday, December 13th, has become a holiday family tradition for many. It's a night of mini-merriment with surprises around every turn, music and special performances including **Florida Dance Conservatory**. Child-friendly refreshments and tasty treats will be on hand for children and their parents.

Community Days will take place Saturday, December 5th through Saturday, December 12th and then again on Monday, December 14th through Wednesday, December 16th. Visitors will delight in the magic of the trees each evening while exploring the tropical winter wonderland. Delicious fare from **EmKo** restaurant will be available for purchase, and an array of entertainment will surround the artistically decorated trees. A dazzling light and music show will illuminate two of Ann Norton's nine monumental sculptures doubling the pleasure as they reflect into one of the Gardens' ponds.

If shoppers are looking for that perfect gift, they should plan to stop by the popular **Holiday House**. Open from Saturday, November 28th through Sunday, December 20th, the Ann Norton home will be filled with unique finds and treasures for sale, including beautiful **Valerie Louthan** cashmere sweaters, life-sized stuffed animals from **Hansa Creation Inc.**, antiques, decorative items and more.

■ November 6-12, 2015 PALM BEACH SOCIETY



Sarah Benitz and
Regan Rupp

This year's Festival of Trees Co-Chairs are Sarah Benitz and Regan Rupp. Design Chair is Jennifer Garrigues and the Holiday House Chair is David Miller.

The following designers will be trimming the Festival trees this year: Kimberly Armstrong, Sarah Benitz, Rodger G. Chew, Kevin Clark, Margaret Costello, Susan Cummings, Mona DeSayve, Jenny Garrigues, Jennifer Guffey, Patty Gerardi-Hughes, Maisie Grace, Natalie Kartalainen, Kathleen Kastenholz, Rhonda Klein, Isolde Koester, Debora Maale, McCann Design Group and Hive Palm Beach, National Art Honor Society Students from The Benjamin School, Hernando Pizarro, Maggie Poetz, Joseph Pubillonnes, Allan Reyes, Angela Reynolds, Regan Rupp, Juan Salgueiro, Katherine Shenaman, Julie Silk-Beaumont, Melody Smith, Catherine Stewart, Bruce Sutka, Veronica Volani-Inza and Angela Wood.

Sponsors to date include Benitz Building, Boynton Botanicals, Café Saponi, Christina's Catering, Cultural Council of Palm Beach County, Whole Foods Market - West Palm Beach, Elite Stor, EmKo Palm Beach, E.R. Bradley's Saloon, Johnson's Custom Cakes & More, Krystal Zaskey Photography, Mariner III, Orange Blossoms Florals & Event Styling, Palm Beach Grill, R&R Orchids, Serenity Garden Tea House and Restaurant, Table 26, The Gardens Conservancy, The Gentlemen of the Garden and Vineyard Vault.

For more information please visit www.ansg.org, call 561.832.5328 or e-mail Festivaloftrees@ansg.org. PHOTOS: KRISTAL ZASKEY PHOTOGRAPHY / CAPEHART