



DALLAS ARBORETUM
AND BOTANICAL GARDEN

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Photos available upon request

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Celebrate Independence with Five Days of the Fourth at the Dallas Arboretum

***Active and Retired Members of the Military Receive
Free Admission Friday through Monday***

DALLAS, Texas (Summer 2016) – The Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden will kick-off five days of Independence Day events and activities with a patriotic tribute by Dallas Winds for the final “**Cool Thursdays**” Concert, sponsored by World Ventures, Thursday, June 30 from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. For the rest of the Fourth of July weekend through Monday, active and retired members of the military will receive free admission.

Comprised of 50 woodwind, brass and percussion players, the Dallas Winds are the leading professional civilian wind band in the U.S. Combining the tradition and pomp of the British brass band with the musical heritage of the 20th century wind ensemble, the band’s set will celebrate America on the award-winning Martin Rutchik Concert Stage & Lawn overlooking White Rock Lake after dark. Food trucks including Jack’s Chow Hound, The Guava Tree and The Pie Hole will be on-hand, or attendees can bring their own food and beverages to enjoy in one of the top picnic destinations in North Texas. Tickets are available for [purchase online](#).

Among the weekend’s highlights will be an on-site **Naturalization Ceremony** for 50 new American citizens on Saturday, July 2 at 10 a.m. in Rosine Hall.

Missy Whisler, Senior Vice President of Sales & Development for the Dallas Arboretum said, “Our Fourth of July festivities take on new meaning this year as we host our first-ever Naturalization Ceremony for 50 of our North Texas neighbors who are becoming American citizens over the holiday weekend. We’re thrilled to offer a community of support as they take

this step in their lives, especially as the garden is filled with the traditional patriotic sounds, sights and smells you expect on the Fourth.”

The Arboretum will open its popular weekly **Family Fun Fridays** July 1 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., offering family activities like face painting, a petting zoo, silhouette artist Micki Triggs, music for the little ones in the shady Pecan Grove, and the cooling fun of splashing in Toad Corners.

Friday evening, guests can bask in the magic of live music at twilight with **Garden Gigs**, opening July 1 for its second season with Jenna Clark and Kirk Thurmond and The Hazardous Dukes. Each Friday event features a curated selection of local artists and musicians performing intimate sets in picturesque settings meandering throughout the 66-acre grounds. Open to the general public, Garden Gigs runs from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., offering both fabulous views of Dallas at sunset, and late access to the garden. Tickets are \$10 per person, \$8 for members and parking is complimentary. Food trucks will be available.

With **The Great Contributors** exhibit by Gary Lee Price of eight life-size bronze sculptures throughout the garden continuing through fall, guests can take the weekend to pose with historic Americans like Abraham Lincoln, Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, and Mark Twain. Friday through Monday, guests will also have historic props to help them get in proper patriot character to match their Great Contributor.

Sunday and Monday will feature **Red, White and Bluegrass** from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Café on the Green. Dallas’ The Quibble Brothers and The Salvation Army Summer Conservatory Concert play Sunday, with Phillip Ferguson and Texas True playing Monday.

Little ones will be entertained all weekend in the Rory Meyers Children’s Adventure Garden with a **Patriotic Scavenger Hunt, Stars and Stripes Craft Corner** (daily at 9 a.m.), **Storytime with Eddie the Eagle** (daily at 10 a.m.), and **“Red, White and Fruit” Tastings** in the Incredible Edible Garden (daily at 2:30 p.m.). The Exploration Center will also offer a **“From Sea to Shining Sea” OmniGlobe Presentation** daily at 2:30 p.m.

For a full list of all Fourth of July activities at the Arboretum, visit www.dallasarboretum.org.

About the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden:

The Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden is located on the southeastern shore of White Rock Lake at 8525 Garland Road, Dallas, Texas 75218. The Dallas Arboretum is also the home of the internationally acclaimed Rory Meyers Children’s Adventure Garden. The Arboretum is open daily from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. *The Dallas Morning News* is the principal partner of the Dallas Arboretum. The Arboretum is supported, in part, by funds from the Dallas Park and Recreation Department. WFAA is an official media sponsor for the Dallas Arboretum. More information is available at www.dallasarboretum.org or by calling 214.515.6500.

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