



DALLAS ARBORETUM
AND BOTANICAL GARDEN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Photos available upon request

Media contacts:

Terry Lendecker | VP of Advertising & Promotions | 214.515.6523 | tlendecker@dallasarboretum.org

Juliette Coulter | The Coulter Group | 214.394.5532 | juliette@coultergroup.com

Krista Gabbert | Communications Specialist | 214.515.6525 | kgabbert@dallasarboretum.org

**The Dallas Arboretum Announces Holiday at the Arboretum
Presented by Reliant
Featuring New Events: “Elf” Movie Night, Karaoke and a Toy Soldier Stilt
Walker**

***New display of 800 nutcrackers complements
The 12 Days of Christmas exhibition***

DALLAS – Winter 2017 – It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas! From November 4 to January 7, the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden welcomes the community to enjoy Holiday at the Arboretum presented by Reliant, with several new nighttime events to get everyone in the holiday spirit from watching the movie “Elf” outdoors while sipping hot chocolate, to singing favorite holiday songs during karaoke night, to taking photos in a photo bus or with a toy soldier on stilts.

The new exhibition in the historic DeGolyer House is “The Nutcracker Suite,” a collection of more than 800 nutcrackers on display in various rooms lavishly decorated to resemble scenes from the ballet. The figurines are from two private collections: Rosemary Thornton Brinegar and the Heimart Family Collection. The exhibition, sponsored by Amegy Bank of Texas, will run from November 24 through January 7. Rounding out the festivities is the return of the magnificent outdoor exhibition, The 12 Days of Christmas, which includes more than half a million lights at night in the garden. According to *Southern Living*, Holiday at the Arboretum presented by Reliant, is “one of the South’s best holiday experiences.”

“The holidays are one of our favorite times of year at Reliant, and that’s why we’re excited to help make Holiday at the Arboretum come to life with everything from a 12 Days of Christmas exhibit to 500,000 twinkling lights,” said Elizabeth Killinger, president of Reliant. “Enjoying the beautiful holiday lights is one of my favorite family traditions, and we hope the community enjoys making new memories with the Dallas Arboretum.”

Holiday tea, Santa sightings and special activities complete a visit to the Dallas Arboretum. Visit the website and the Arboretum's social media channels for information on all the activities and dates.

Click [here](#) for Holiday at the Arboretum Press Kit.

Daily:

The 12 Days of Christmas

Daily

November 4-January 7, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (excludes Nov. 23, Dec. 25, Jan. 1)

Presented by Reliant

Elaborately decorated Victorian-style gazebos on display every day throughout the garden. Guests are invited to experience Dallas' delightful holiday tradition with a festive stroll through the gardens and revel in The 12 Days of Christmas exhibition with a dozen breathtaking gazebos depicting each day in the beloved Christmas carol. Each gazebo is encased in glass and extravagantly decorated on all sides to provide a dramatic, three-dimensional experience that adds to its "music box" quality, depicting the old English carol from the Victorian era. Each gazebo comes to life, from a partridge in a pear tree, hidden animals in the eight maids-a-milking and the elegant seven swans a-swimming.

The 12 Days of Christmas at Night Featuring 500,000 lights

Wednesday-Sunday, November 9-December 30 (excludes Nov. 23, Dec. 24-25, Dec. 31)

**Also Monday-Tuesday, November 20 & 21; December 18 & 19
6-9 p.m.**

Presented by Reliant

The garden re-opens for evening hours at The 12 Days at Night exhibition with 500,000 lights throughout the garden, trimming the architecture of the historic homes, illuminating the gazebos and lighting the canopies overhead, including a 30-foot-tall tree at the center of property, this display is sure to warm the hearts of guests this season. Nighttime tickets must be purchased for a specific date and are valid only for the evening:

<https://reservations.dallasarboretum.org/Info.aspx?EventID=13>

DeGolyer House

"The Nutcracker Suite"

Daily, November 24-January 7, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Wednesday Nights, November 29-December 27, 6-9 p.m.

Sponsored by Amegy Bank of Texas

In the historic DeGolyer House lavishly decorated for the holidays, "The Nutcracker Suite" collection features more than 800 nutcrackers on display. Each room is decorated as a scene from the Nutcracker Ballet. The figurines are from two private collections: Rosemary Thornton Brinegar and the Heimart Family Collection. The DeGolyer House is open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Wednesday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m. with guided tours.

In special celebration, Restaurant DeGolyer will be open for reservation-only dinners on **December 13, 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30 at 7 p.m.**

Holiday Tea

Daily, November 6–January 7, 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.

Restaurant DeGolyer

Bring family and friends together and create an annual tradition with holiday tea at the lavishly decorated Restaurant DeGolyer. Call 214-515-6511 for reservations.

Elves Workshop

Wednesday-Sunday Nights, November 8-December 30, 6-9 p.m.

Ann Stuart Courtyard

Meet Santa's elves at the workshop, while they take a break from making toys. Play "Toss the Snowball," "Pin the Nose on the Snowman," or make a special holiday craft to give to someone.

Visits with Santa Claus

Wednesday Nights, November 15-December 20, 6-9 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday, November 25-December 24, 12-4 p.m.

Crape Myrtle Allee

Santa is back in the garden this year in Crape Myrtle Allee, the perfect holiday setting resplendent with twinkling lights.

NEW! Toy Soldier Stilt Walker

Wednesday Evenings, November 15-December 20, 6-9 p.m.

Along the Paseo

Stand at attention and snap a pic with a larger-than-life toy soldier as he marches through the garden.

NEW! Holiday Karaoke

Sundays, November 26, December 3, 10 & 17, 6-9 p.m.

Martin Rutchik Concert Stage and Lawn

Ever dream of singing holiday songs to an audience? Now is the chance to make that dream come true. Sing along to all the holiday favorites with friends, both old and new.

NEW! Outdoor Movie, "Elf"

Thursday, November 30, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Martin Rutchik Concert Stage and Lawn

Nothing spreads joy like an elf. Join the Arboretum for the first-ever outdoor movie experience. Bring a friend, bundle up, and enjoy one of the holiday season's most beloved movies.

Elegant Holiday Night Dinner in Restaurant DeGolyer

November 29, December 13, 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30 at 7 p.m.

Enjoy an elegant three course dinner. Reservations required at 214-515-6511. Limited seating available.

NEW! The Photo Bus DFW

Thursday Evenings, November 30, December 7, 14, 21, 6-9 p.m.

DeGoyler House Drive

The Photo Bus DFW is here with a vintage Volkswagen photo booth to take photos of guests and groups. Photos will be free to guests to take home and add to the fridge.

The Holiday Market

Saturday and Sunday, December 2 & 3

10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Crape Myrtle Allee

The Holiday Market is the ultimate gift-shopping experience! Find specialty foods, jewelry, accessories, fashion and more to suit any taste, style or size.

Holiday Hooping

Saturday, December 2

11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m.

Martin Rutchik Concert Stage and Lawn

ChulaHoop USA, an internationally renowned hula hoop group, showcases a holiday themed hula hoop performance, followed by a Hoop Jam on the concert lawn. The Jam is where each guest is custom-fitted with a hoop, along with instruction from a seasoned professional for guaranteed successful hooping. Event is free with garden admission.

Saturday Evenings, December 9 & 16, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Martin Rutchik Concert Stage and Lawn

Holiday Hooping will continue on these evenings with lighted hula hoop performances and a hoop jam as well. Free with admission to The 12 Days at Night Christmas festival.

Pride of Texas Christmas Music Festival

Thursday-Friday, December 7 & 8, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Jonsson Color Garden & Café on the Green

Hear all the holiday classics as Metroplex students perform songs of the season. Ensembles perform at Jonsson Color Garden; choirs perform at Café on the Green.

Wine and Movies: A Perfect Pairing With Gary & Hayley Cogill

Monday, December 11, 6:30-8:30 p.m., \$75

Rosine Hall

Join Emmy-award winning journalist and producer, Gary Cogill, and Sommelier and founder of Dallas Uncorked, Hayley Hamilton Cogill, for wine and movies as they lead guests through a tasteful and interactive experience while discussing this year's top movie hits. Gary discusses five films that hit the top of his "Best of 2017" list this year, pairing each film with a specific wine.

The Rory Meyers Children's Adventure Garden

Special holiday activities for kids and their families enhance Holiday at the Arboretum. Visit the Children's Garden section of the website for a complete list of activities:

Thanksgiving Weekend (*All ages can participate!*)

Friday-Saturday, November 24 – 27, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Throughout the Children's Adventure Garden

All are welcome for the Thanksgiving-themed activities, crafts, labs and more.

Craft Corner: Thanksgiving Edition Exploration Center, throughout the day

OmniGlobe: Thanksgiving Traditions, 11:30 a.m. & 2:30 p.m., Exploration Center

Making the Mayflower: The Physics of Floating, Noon, Pure Energy

Thanksgiving Twister: 4 p.m., Incredible Edible

Holiday Hunt for Santa's Helpers (*All ages welcome*)

November 24– December 24

Throughout the Children's Adventure Garden

Explore the Children's Adventure Garden to look for Santa's helpers, like a frog on a log, a deer right here, a fox in the rocks, a squirrel on a whirl, an owl on a towel or a bobcat in a hat. Take a picture with four of Santa's helpers, and then bring pictures to the Exploration Center to redeem a prize.

Letter-Writing to Santa (*Appropriate for Ages 5 and up*)

Mondays-Fridays Only

November 27-December 24, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Exploration Center

Guests and kids are welcome to attend a letter-writing workshop to write a letter to Santa. Special paper, pens, stickers; everything needed to catch Santa's attention will be provided.

NEW! Happy "Noon" Year's Eve! (*All ages welcome!*)

Sunday, December 31

Ball Drop at Noon

This child-friendly event celebrates the New Year with science, crafts and music. A celebratory "ball drop" takes place at NOON.

The Rory Meyers Children's Adventure Garden will be closed for preventive maintenance Jan. 1 to Feb. 23. **Mark Your Calendars**** for the Children's Adventure Garden Reopening Kick-Off Event, Saturday, February 24!**

Don't Miss a Single Adventure

Visit www.dallasarboretum.org to sign up for the Children's Adventure Garden email list with weekly updates, including exciting programs and activities. **A SPECIAL PERK: During the close (January and February), subscribers receive a science/nature activity to do at home each week.**

Discounts:

Special Nighttime Pricing:

Purchase discounted tickets to The 12 Days at Night exhibit early to see the 12 elaborate 25-foot Victorian style gazebos throughout the garden at night and 500,000 lights throughout the garden.

October 1-31: \$12 per ticket for children, adults and seniors for evening entrance on any day of the 12 Days at Night festival. *(This offer excludes the following dates: November 17 - 26 & December 15 - 23).*

Buy One, Get One Free (BOGO) Wednesdays:

November 9 - December 28, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Buy one, get one free admission. Valid for general garden admission only. Limit one per customer. Tickets can only be purchased onsite and are valid for daytime only.

C.C. Young Senior Thursdays:

November 10 - December 29

Tickets on these Thursdays are \$11 for day or evening admission for those 65 and older along with a 20 percent discount that day at the Hoffman Family Gift Store. Daytime tickets cannot be used again at night. Tickets can only be purchased onsite.

Group Sales:

For inquiries regarding discounted tickets for groups 15 or larger, contact groupsales@dallasarboretum.org or 214-515-6520.

12 Days of Christmas Sponsors:

November 4, 2017-January 7, 2018

Reliant

Dave Perry-Miller

Amegy Bank of Texas

MoveStar

Jaguar Land Rover Dallas

Century Glass

Atlantis Services

HKS

Grapevine Golf Cars

Day 1: Partridge in a Pear Tree

Sponsored by Jeanne R. Johnson

Day 2: Two Turtle Doves

Sponsored by a Friend of the Dallas Arboretum

Day 3: Three French Hens

Sponsored by Faye C. Briggs

Day 4: Four Calling Birds

Sponsored by a Friend of the Dallas Arboretum

Day 5: Five Golden Rings

In honor of Great Grandparents Dolph and Evelyn Bosley and their 5 Gold Rings

Day 6: Six Geese A-Laying
Sponsored by Marilyn R. Corrigan

Day 7: Seven Swans A-Swimming
Sponsored by Tom and Phyllis McCasland

Day 8: Eight Maids-A-Milking
Sponsored by Kathy and Gene Bishop

Day 9: Nine Ladies Dancing
In Honor of Chloe Simone Shea. Given by Holly & Tom Mayer, Maile and Charles Shea

Day 10: Ten Lords A-Leaping
Sponsored by The Margot A. and Carl J. Johnson Foundation

Day 11: Eleven Pipers Piping
Sponsored by a Friend of the Dallas Arboretum

Day 12: Twelve Drummers Drumming
Sponsored by Myron K. Martin

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. It 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.

About Reliant

Reliant powers, protects and simplifies life by bringing electricity, smart energy solutions, residential services and security to homes and businesses across Texas. Serving customers and the community is at the core of what we do. Reliant is part of NRG Energy, Inc. (NYSE: NRG), a Fortune 500 company that creates value through best-in-class operations and reliable and efficient electric generation. Backed by a diverse portfolio of power generating facilities, NRG's retail companies, including Reliant, power almost 3 million customers in 10 states and the District of Columbia. NRG retail brands collectively are the largest providers of electricity in Texas. For more information about Reliant, please visit reliant.com and connect with Reliant on Facebook at [facebook.com/reliantenergy](https://www.facebook.com/reliantenergy) and Twitter @reliantenergy. PUCT Certificate #10007.

###