

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Night Lights: Starry Skies Celebrates the Winter Season and Dazzles New England Botanic Garden Visitors

Tickets for this one-of-a-kind light display on sale now!

BOYLSTON, MA, December 4, 2023 – Heralded as one of the best winter light displays in Massachusetts, Night Lights at <u>New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill</u> attracts more than 65,000 annual visitors from around the region. This year, the event has returned with a bright new theme: Starry Skies.

On display daily from November 24 through New Year's Eve, December 31, <u>Night Lights: Starry Skies</u> transforms many of the Boylston-based botanic garden's formal garden spaces and its conservatories into a magical wonderland illuminated by hundreds of thousands of lights. This one-of-a-kind event is the perfect opportunity for guests of all ages and backgrounds to create lasting memories with their loved ones while celebrating the winter season.

"We're thrilled to bring Night Lights to the community once again this year," says Mark Richardson, Director of Horticulture at New England Botanic Garden. Each year, the Garden's horticulture team creates imaginative new features that make Night Lights a unique experience for first-time visitors and returning guests alike. In 2022, displays immersed visitors in different environments on Earth from icy mountaintops, to meadows of pollinators, and even into the sea. This year, the artfully crafted light displays of Night Lights: Starry Skies take guests on a journey through the cosmos and back.

"Night Lights is the Garden's biggest event of the year, and as a nonprofit, it helps support our mission of creating experiences with plants that inspire people and improve the world. We're grateful for this support and work hard to make the event unique and special for our guests each and every year," Richardson says.

Highlights of <u>Night Lights: Starry Skies</u> include an illuminated "twighlight tunnel," a crowd-favorite for photo backdrops, that winds more than 100 feet. New this year, visitors can experience the aurora borealis in <u>The Ramble</u> and a galaxy of choreographed lit orbs in the <u>Secret Garden</u>. A festive model train display, two trees built from living bromeliad plants in the conservatories, and several firepits for warming up or making s'mores make the Night Lights experience that much more magical. Additionally,

guests can enjoy festive snacks and seasonal drinks from the <u>Farmer and the Fork Café</u> and find the perfect holiday gifts among the unique items in the <u>Garden Shop</u>.

Night Lights is on display nightly from 4-10 p.m. now through Saturday, December 31. The display is not open on December 24 or December 25. During Night Lights, New England Botanic Garden closes for general admission at 3 p.m. Night Lights tickets sell out quickly, so be sure to purchase well in advance. Garden members receive a 25 percent discount on Night Lights tickets. For more information about Night Lights or to purchase tickets visit https://nebg.org/nightlights.

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About New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill

New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill is a nonprofit organization located at 11 French Drive in Boylston, Massachusetts. A regional destination, the Garden is operated on 171 acres by the Worcester County Horticultural Society, one of the oldest of its kind in the country, and is open to the public for garden viewing, trail walking, educational programs, private events, weddings, exhibitions, and more. This year New England Botanic Garden was voted "Top Botanic Garden in the U.S." by *TravelAwaits*. New England Botanic Garden is an <u>AAM-accredited</u> museum that includes an irreplaceable collection of plants and creates opportunities for visitors to experience the wonder of plants, learn about the natural world, and make joyful connections. Learn all about New England Botanic Garden including its history, mission, and its staff at www.nebg.org.

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