For Immediate Release

FAIRCHILD TROPICAL BOTANIC GARDEN LAUNCHES #MYFAIRCHILD, A DIGITAL PLATFORM OFFERING HOME GARDENING TIPS, DIY EDUCATIONAL VIDEOS, MOMENTS OF MINDFULNESS, AND MUCH MORE



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High Res Images Available

MIAMI, FL. (MARCH 2020) – Tropical plant education and conservation has always been an everyday practice at <u>Fairchild</u> <u>Tropical Botanic Garden</u>, the world-renowned 83-acre garden that's home to more than 6,000 rare and exotic plants. Although the historic botanic garden may be temporarily closed, Fairchild will continue to stay committed to sharing the power of plant education with its community. That is why Fairchild Garden is excited to announce the launch of *#MyFairchild* on March 25, 2020, a multifaceted online resource for those seeking home horticulture knowledge, wellness tips and activities, kids crafts and DIY educational videos. Learn, reconnect and grow with the garden via *#MyFairchild* and follow along on Facebook at <u>@FairchildGarden</u>, Twitter at <u>@FairchildGarden</u> and Instagram at <u>@fairchildgarden</u>, or log onto www.FairchildGarden.org for regular posted updates.

Want to learn how to grow tomatoes at home? Fairchild's educational DIY videos will offer helpful tips on how to become an at-home botanist using everyday items found around your house like egg cartons or leftover toilet paper rolls. Working from home with your kids? Keep your budding gardeners busy with a list of fun and educational activities they can do in their backyard, like leaf rubbing or botanical illustrations. Learn, reconnect and grow with *#MyFairchild* by also enjoying:

DIY Educational Videos

Learn to grow potatoes and sweet potatoes in the comfort of your home How to create a Leftover Garden using pineapples Explore your environment up close with a magnifying glass Make your own rotocopter at home and discover the plant science behind them Get crafty and grow indoor tomatoes by transforming your egg carton into a seed starter

Moments of Mindfulness

For those looking to reconnect with nature or enjoy inspiring content at any time of the day, tune in to Mindful Moments for beautiful footage from around Fairchild Garden

Story Time

Unwind, listen, and learn with a nature-themed storybook told by the Director of Education at Fairchild Garden





Friday Fun Facts

End your week with Fairchild Garden learning fun facts from the garden, such as how Velcro was inspired by burrs, the spiky seed pods that stick to everything, including the inventor's dog!

I Am A Scientist

Meet some of the professional and budding scientists at Fairchild as they give you a glimpse behind the scenes



And for all of the stay at home scientists, <u>Growing Beyond Earth</u> in partnership with NASA, one of Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden's multidisciplinary programs that explores new ways to grow edible plants in space, is launching a <u>Space Chile</u> <u>Pepper Challenge</u> with NASA researcher Jacob Torres. The mission is to grow the hottest chile pepper plant indoors using horticulture methods NASA would use to grow peppers in space. Participants are encouraged to send a request to the contest organizers to have real Chimayo Chile seeds sent to them in the mail. Once the chiles are grown, participants can send a sample to the University of New Mexico for testing of capsaicin, the compound in peppers that give them spiciness. The submission that records the highest capsaicin levels will win the hottest Space Chile Pepper title.

Fairchild Garden is doing everything it can to keep its plant collections thriving. Dedicated plant specialists are working staggered schedules to avoid direct contact with each other and thereby ensuring that the rare and important plants are tended to properly. Fairchild Garden also has a dedicated group of education and outreach specialists working remotely to bring the Garden to you.







Additionally, Fairchild has helped provide solace to its Members and the greater South Florida community during the 82 years since its opening and will continue to do so by extending memberships the length of time the garden is closed to the public. Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden is located at 10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, FL. 33156. For more information, please visit <u>www.FairchildGarden.org</u> or call 305 667 1651.

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Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

Fairchild Garden is currently celebrating its 82nd anniversary in the community. Established in 1938 and comprising of 83 acres, Fairchild is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization committed to exploring, explaining and conserving the world of tropical plants. The Garden is recognized both nationally and internationally as the premier leader in conservation and education-based programs with field operations in over 20 countries including support to protected areas globally from Madagascar to Central America. Fairchild has the largest education program of any metropolitan area, reaching more than 300,000 schoolchildren each year with programs like <u>The Fairchild Challenge</u>, <u>The Million Orchid Project</u>, <u>Growing Beyond Earth</u>, and its BioTECH High School. Special events include Chocolate, Mango and Orchid Festivals in addition to art exhibitions, concerts, plant sales and more. Information at <u>www.fairchildgarden.org</u> and follow at <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u>.



