MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

THE SINGAPORE BOTANIC GARDENS BECOMES SINGAPORE’S FIRST UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE

Singapore, 4 July 2015 – The Singapore Botanic Gardens (the Gardens) has been conferred the title of UNESCO World Heritage Site at the 39th session of the World Heritage Committee (WHC) in Germany, Bonn. The WHC announced the Gardens’ successful inscription on 4 July 2015 at approximately 5.40pm (UTC +08:00). The 21-member Committee unanimously adopted the recommendation by the International Council of Monuments and Sites to inscribe the Gardens as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and this was witnessed by representatives of the 191 State Parties to the 1972 World Heritage Convention. The 39th WHC session in Bonn runs from 28 June to 8 July 2015.

Leading the Singapore delegation is Mr Lawrence Wong, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, and Chairman of the Singapore National Commission for UNESCO. Mr Wong said: “Across the entire world, there are just over 1,000 UNESCO World Heritage Sites. These are exceptional treasures for all of humanity to cherish. Now in our little red dot, we have the honour and privilege of being home to one of these world treasures. It’s something quite remarkable that all of us, as Singaporeans, can be proud of. This is a very special Jubilee Gift for Singapore, and I’m very happy to be able to bring back the good news to share with all Singaporeans!”

The delegation included Mr Andrew Toh, Singapore’s Non-Resident Ambassador and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO; Mrs Rosa Daniel, Deputy Secretary (Culture), MCCY, Chief Executive Officer, NHB and Secretary-General of the Singapore National Commission for UNESCO; Mr Kenneth Er, Chief Executive Officer, NParks; Ms Jean Wee, Director, Preservation of Sites and Monuments, NHB and Dr Nigel Taylor, Director, Singapore Botanic Gardens. These agencies have been working closely together on the bid since 2010 with experts, academics and heritage and environment groups from the community.
In order to be inscribed on the renowned UNESCO World Heritage List, the Gardens must first prove that it has outstanding universal value, integrity and authenticity, and is equipped with a Site Management Plan to ensure future preservation of the site. After a presentation by ICOMOS of its evaluation of the Gardens, the floor was opened to the Committee Members for comments. 21 members of the Committee spoke up in unanimous support of the adoption of the recommendation. Following this, Vice Chairperson of the 39th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, H.E. Ms Ruchira Kamboj, proceeded to declare the Singapore Botanic Gardens inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Minister Lawrence Wong was then invited to deliver Singapore’s statement.

Mrs Rosa Daniel, CEO of NHB, and Secretary-General of the Singapore National Commission for UNESCO, says: “The process of putting up Singapore’s inaugural bid to inscribe the Singapore Botanic Gardens as a UNESCO World Heritage Site was a rigorous one, but we are all elated that all the hard work by the many parties involved has paid off. This would not have been possible without the collaboration of government agencies, experts, community groups and the public. Our collective efforts have been recognised by the international community, and the successful inscription acknowledges Singapore’s continued commitment to commemorating and preserving our cultural heritage. The listing of the Singapore Botanic Gardens as a World Heritage Site is especially meaningful as a lasting commemoration of Singapore’s 50th anniversary year.”

The Gardens joins the more than 1,000 sites on UNESCO’s World Heritage List. It is the first in Asia and is the third botanic gardens inscribed in the world following Orto botanico di Padova and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. It is the first and only tropical botanical gardens on the list. The Gardens was amongst other newly inscribed World Heritage Sites such as Jamaica’s Blue and John Crow Mountains, Jordan’s Baptism Site “Bethany Beyond
the Jordan” (Al-Maghtas), Saudi Arabia’s Rock Art in the Hail Region of Saudi Arabia, and Italy’s Arab-Norman Palermo and the Catholic Churches of Cefalú and Monreale.

6 Mr Kenneth Er, CEO of NParks, says: “We are thrilled that the Singapore Botanic Gardens is the first Botanic Gardens in Asia to be recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We are committed to sustaining Singapore’s green legacy through the Gardens’ site management plan. In fact we have already set in place some of the measures such as the expansion of the Gardens’ Nature Area and protection of the Gardens’ centuries-old Heritage Trees. It is also symbolic that our nation’s first World Heritage Site has been instrumental in the greening of Singapore. In the late 1960s, the Gardens’ staff were involved in supplying the plants and trees for our roadsides and parks to create the pervasive greenery that make Singapore a City in a Garden. Today, the Gardens remains a centre for research, conservation and education of regional and international importance, and tranquil oasis for recreation. We hope that Singaporeans will join us in celebrating the successful inscription and continue taking pride in the Singapore Botanic Gardens.”

7 Please refer to:

- Annex A for List of 21 WHC Committee Members
- Annex B for Transcript of Minister Lawrence Wong’s Country Statement
- Annex C for Factsheet on the Inscription Process
- Annex D for Process on Inscribing a World Heritage Site
- Annex E for Criteria for Assessment of Outstanding Universal Value for World Heritage
- Annex G for Information on the Singapore Botanic Gardens
- Annex H for Celebrations at the Singapore Botanic Gardens

- END -
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About the National Heritage Board
The National Heritage Board (NHB) was formed on 1 August 1993. As the custodian of Singapore's heritage, NHB is responsible for telling the Singapore story, sharing the Singaporean experience and imparting our Singapore spirit.

NHB’s mission is to preserve and celebrate the shared heritage of our diverse communities, for the purpose of education, nation-building and cultural understanding. It manages the national museums and heritage institutions, and sets policies relating to heritage sites, monuments and the national collection. Through the national collection, NHB curates heritage programmes and presents exhibitions to connect the past, present and future generations of Singaporeans. NHB is now a statutory board under the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth. Please visit www.nhb.gov.sg for more information.

About National Parks Board
National Parks Board (NParks) is responsible for providing and enhancing the greenery of our City in a Garden. Beyond building green infrastructure, NParks is actively engaging the community to enhance the quality of our living environment.

NParks manages over 350 parks and 4 nature reserves. Adding to this is the extensive streetscape, or roadside greenery, that forms the backbone of our City in a Garden. An island-wide Park Connector Network is also being developed to link major parks, nature areas and residential estates.

As the lead agency on biodiversity conservation, NParks has developed an urban biodiversity conservation model, which aims to conserve representative eco-systems in land-scarce Singapore. NParks also monitors and coordinates measures to enhance the presence of biodiversity in our urban landscape.

NParks is working closely with partners in the landscape and horticulture industry to increase productivity, and provide training for all levels of the workforce. Enhancing competencies of the industry will support Singapore’s vision of being a City in a Garden. For more information, visit www.nparks.gov.sg and www.facebook.com/nparksbuzz

About Singapore Botanic Gardens (SBG)
Established in 1859, the Singapore Botanic Gardens played an important historical role in the introduction and promotion of many plants of economic value to Southeast Asia, including the Para rubber tree. Over the years, the Gardens has continued to introduce and
rejuvenate its horticultural attractions while continuing its mission of connecting plants and people.

Today, the 74-hectare Gardens is a key civic and community space, and an international tourist destination. Attracting an annual visitorship of more than 4.4 million, it is also an important institution for tropical botanical and horticultural research, education and conservation.

The Gardens showcases the best and most spectacular of tropical flora, including more than 10,000 types of plants and the region’s most significant living collection of documented palms, orchids, cycads and gingers. Its historic 19th century garden landscape is well preserved and includes the earliest ornamental designed lake in Singapore. Home to numerous heritage trees and a tract of primary rainforest, the Gardens is less than a 10-minute walk from the shopping belt in Orchard Road. The Gardens was inscribed as Singapore’s first UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2015.

The Gardens was ranked the number one park in Asia in TripAdvisor Travellers’ Choice Awards for attractions in 2014. In 2012, it clinched the inaugural Garden of the Year Award by the Canadian Garden Tourism Council. In 2008, it was awarded the Michelin three-star rating and selected by Time Magazine as Asia’s Best Urban Jungle.

The Singapore Botanic Gardens is managed by the National Parks Board. For more information, visit www.sbg.org.sg and www.facebook.com/singaporebotanicgardens.
Annex A – List of 21 WHC Committee Members

1. Algeria
2. Colombia
3. Croatia
4. Finland
5. Germany
6. India
7. Jamaica
8. Japan
9. Kazakhstan
10. Lebanon
11. Malaysia
12. Peru
13. Philippines
14. Poland
15. Portugal
16. Qatar
17. Republic of Korea
18. Senegal
19. Serbia
20. Turkey
21. Viet Nam
Annex B – Transcript of Minister Lawrence Wong’s Country Statement

STATEMENT BY MR LAWRENCE WONG, MINISTER FOR CULTURE, COMMUNITY AND YOUTH AT 39TH SESSION OF THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE IN BONN, GERMANY, 4 JULY 2015

Madam Chairperson
Excellencies
Distinguished Delegates
Ladies and Gentlemen

1. Singapore is deeply honoured to have the Singapore Botanic Gardens inscribed as our very first World Heritage Site. For a small island state like Singapore, all of 700 square kilometres, I must say this is also a very humbling experience, especially coming right after two great civilisations of the world – China and Iran. I thank the Chairperson and all the members of the World Heritage Committee for the unanimous and wholehearted endorsement of the recommendation. I thank the professional bodies of ICOMOS and IUCN for their hard work in reviewing and supporting the sites. And I also thank and congratulate the Chairperson and the government of the Federal Republic of Germany for all the arrangements and warm hospitality in arranging this meeting.

2. The Gardens has always been well-loved and cherished by all Singaporeans. And now, we are very proud to have it recognised as a site worthy of exceptional value for humanity. This inscription is especially meaningful for us, as we celebrate our 50th year as an independent nation. It is a wonderful Golden Jubilee present for the whole nation. It is also an accolade that will resonate deeply with Singaporeans as we come together this year to reflect on our heritage, our identity and our place in the world.

3. Today's inscription seals our commitment to conserve and to protect the Gardens for posterity - for Singaporeans, and for the whole world. We pledge to do our part to preserve and safeguard world heritage. We pledge to give our continued full support for UNESCO's important mission and work. And finally, let me invite everyone to visit, at your own convenience, the Singapore Botanic Gardens – our first ever World Heritage site. Thank you very much.

- END -
Annex C – Factsheet on the Inscription Process

1 TIMELINE OF SINGAPORE BOTANIC GARDENS’ UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE INSCRIPTION BID PROCESS

<table>
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<th>No.</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| 1   | 2010    | A feasibility study with public consultation commissioned by then-Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts (MICA) identified Singapore Botanic Gardens (Gardens) as a property that would stand the best chance for a successful inscription. It meets the following UNESCO World Heritage Site listing criteria:  
   a. criterion (ii) – exhibiting an exchange of human values on developments in landscape design, and  
   b. criterion (iv) – outstanding example of landscape which illustrates significant stage in human history |
| 2   | June 2012 | Singapore ratified the World Heritage Convention and in December 2012, submitted its World Heritage Tentative List to UNESCO to indicate interest in inscribing the Gardens as a World Heritage Site. |
| 3   | September 2013 | Four-month long public consultation for the Gardens’ draft Nomination Dossier                                                       |
| 4   | January 2014 | Submission of the official Nomination Dossier to UNESCO                                                                                   |
| 5   | September 2014 | Technical assessment visit to the Gardens by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)                                      |
| 6   | 15 May 2015  | ICOMOS recommends that the Gardens be inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.                                                        |
| 7   | 4 July 2015   | The 39th session of the World Heritage Committee (WHC) was held in Germany, Bonn, from 28 June to 8 July 2015.  
   Guided by ICOMOS’ recommendation, the WHC unanimously adopted the recommendation by the International Council of Monuments and Sites to inscribe the Gardens as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. |

2 ICOMOS’ RECOMMENDATION AND THE 39TH SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

ICOMOS’ Recommendation

a. Following its September 2014’s technical assessment of the Gardens, ICOMOS will make a recommendation on the inscription bid of the Gardens. The results will be made available via the ICOMOS’ website in May 2015.
b. ICOMOS’ recommendation will fall under any of the following three categories
   i. properties which are recommended for inscription without reservation;
   ii. nominations which are recommended for referral or deferral;
   iii. properties which are not recommended for inscription

c. Explanation of the various outcomes, and what they mean for the nominated site, are as follow:
   i. **Successful Inscription**
      If the WHC decides to inscribe a property on the World Heritage List, a Statement of Outstanding Universal Value will be adopted for the property. The Statement will include a summary of the Committee’s determination that the property has Outstanding Universal Value, identifying the criteria under which the property was inscribed, assessments of the protection and management currently in force, and the requirements for future protection and management. The Statement of Outstanding Universal Value shall be the basis for the future protection and management of the property.

   ii. **Referral of Nomination**
      The WHC may decide to refer the nomination back to the State Party for additional information. The additional information must be received by the UNESCO Secretariat by 1 February of the year in which examination by the WHC is to be done. The Secretariat will immediately send it to the relevant Advisory Bodies for evaluation. A referred nomination which is not presented to the WHC within three years of the original Committee decision will be considered as a new nomination when it is resubmitted for examination.

   iii. **Deferral of Nomination**
      The WHC may decide to defer a nomination for more in depth assessment or study, or a substantial revision by the State Party. In this case, should the State Party decide to resubmit the deferred nomination, it will be reevaluated again by the relevant Advisory Bodies during the full evaluation cycle of one and a half years.

   iv. **Decision not to inscribe**
      If the WHC decides that a property should not be inscribed on the World Heritage List, the nomination may not be presented to the Committee again except in exceptional circumstances. These may include new discoveries, new scientific information about the property, or different criteria not presented in the original nomination.

3 **SALIENT POINTS OF NOMINATION DOSSIER THAT SUPPORT SINGAPORE’S BID**

a. The Singapore Botanic Gardens has been a prominent centre for plant research in Southeast Asia since the 19th century, and continues to play a leading role in the interchange of ideas, knowledge and expertise in tropical botany, agricultural economy and horticulture. Today, it still serves an important reference centre for botanists all over the world.

b. The Gardens played a pivotal role in the greening of Singapore, which influenced town planning in other cities in Southeast Asia. In the early days, trees were
propagated in the Gardens before they were planted along Singapore’s roads and parks. The Gardens remains a key icon to our City in a Garden, and still serves as a test bed for horticultural experiments.

c. Henry Ridley, the first director of the Singapore Botanic Gardens, perfected rubber cultivation and extraction at the Gardens, thus catalysing the rubber boom in the region and subsequently the world.

d. The Gardens is the best preserved example of a British tropical colonial botanic gardens, laid out in the English landscape style. This, together with historic buildings and conserved lowland primary rainforest, illustrate the British colonial period and history of Singapore.
Annex D – Process on Inscribing a World Heritage Site

a. To nominate a World Heritage Site, a State Party must first submit a Tentative List to UNESCO, which recognises sites in a State Party’s territory that would be further researched on for nomination as a World Heritage Site in the near future.

b. It is an important step since the UNESCO World Heritage Committee cannot consider a nomination for inscription on the World Heritage List unless the property has already been included on the State Party’s Tentative List.

c. A Nomination Dossier, including a Site Management Plan will then have to be submitted to UNESCO to indicate a State Party’s formal World Heritage Site nomination. The World Heritage Committee may then vote on the nomination, to approve the nomination, defer it pending further information requested from the state party, or reject the nomination.

Criteria for Selection

d. To be inscribed as a World Heritage Site, sites must be of outstanding universal value and meet at least one out of ten selection criteria. For the list of ten selection criteria, please refer to Annex B - Criteria for Assessment of Outstanding Universal Value for World Heritage.
Annex E - Criteria for Assessment of Outstanding Universal Value for World Heritage

Sites may be nominated for World Heritage listing under cultural, natural or mixed criteria\(^2\). Nominated sites must demonstrate that they satisfy one or more of the 10 Outstanding Universal Values (OUVs). These OUVs are:

i. To represent a masterpiece of human creative genius

ii. To exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town planning or landscape design

iii. To bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared

iv. To be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape with illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history

v. To be an example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change

vi. To be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance. (The Committee considers that this criterion should be preferably used in conjunction with other criteria)

vii. To contain superlative natural phenomena or areas of exceptional beauty and aesthetic importance

viii. To be outstanding examples representing major stages of earth’s history, including the record of life, significant on-going geological processes in the development of landforms, or significant geomorphic or physiographic features

ix. To be outstanding examples representing significant on-going ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of terrestrial, fresh water, coastal and marine ecosystems and communities of plants and animals

x. To contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in-situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation

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\(^2\) ‘Natural Heritage’ includes natural features consisting of physical and biological formations (aesthetic and scientific point of view) and geological and physiographical formations (habitats from scientific and conservation point of view). ‘Cultural Heritage’ includes monuments (i.e., man-made) and sites which are the result of the combined efforts of men and nature. ‘Mixed’ properties satisfy the definitions of the previous two.

1. Site Selection
   a. In 2010, a study was commissioned by then-Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts (MICA) to identify sites that would potentially fulfil UNESCO’s criteria as a World Heritage Site (WHS). Targeted consultation was also done with members of the Singapore Heritage Society who consist of academia, heritage advocates and heritage experts.
   b. Of the sites identified, the Singapore Botanic Gardens was considered the one that would stand the best chance for successful inscription. It meets the following UNESCO World Heritage Site listing criteria:
      c. criterion (ii) – exhibiting an exchange of human values on developments in landscape design, and
      d. criterion (iv) – outstanding example of landscape which illustrates significant stage in human history

2. Tentative Listing of the Singapore Botanic Gardens

3. Submission of Official Nomination Dossier
   d. To formalise the nomination, Singapore has to submit an official Nomination Dossier, comprising of a Nomination Document and a Site Management Plan, to UNESCO. The former provides supporting evidence on how the Singapore Botanic Gardens fulfils UNESCO's inscription criteria, while the latter proposes how the Gardens will be managed if successfully inscribed.
   e. Prior to the submission of the Garden’s official Nomination Dossier, the National Heritage Board (NHB) and the National Parks Board (NParks) led a four-month public consultation process for the draft Nomination Document, and subsequently, the draft Site Management Plan. By February 2014, more than 200 feedback submissions were received for both documents, with most participants contributing memories or pledging their support for the bid.
   f. In January 2014, the official Nomination Dossier for the Gardens was submitted to UNESCO. The dossier detailed the Gardens’ historical, economic and socio-cultural importance. It also includes a proposed site management plan, which outlines the nation’s long-term commitment towards the Gardens’ protection, if it is successfully awarded World Heritage status.

4. Evaluation of Singapore Botanic Gardens and its Official Nomination Dossier by ICOMOS
   g. In September 2014, a technical assessor from the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) visited the Gardens as part of the bid evaluation process.
Annex G – About the Singapore Botanic Gardens

a. Established in 1859, the Singapore Botanic Gardens played an important historical role in the introduction and promotion of many plants of economic value to Southeast Asia, including the Para rubber tree. In 1877, Kew Gardens gifted the Singapore Botanic Gardens with 22 rubber seedlings which was the catalyst for the rubber industry’s revolution in Southeast Asia and an economic boom across the region. Over the years, the Gardens has continued to introduce and rejuvenate its horticultural attractions while continuing its mission of connecting plants and people.

b. In the 1960s, then Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew envisioned Singapore as a Garden City. The Singapore Botanic Gardens, through actively supplying plants for streetscapes and parks, contributed significantly towards the realisation of this vision. A School of Ornamental Horticulture was set up in 1972 to provide trained personnel for the Garden City cause, and this established the skills base upon which the modern Gardens is founded.

c. The Gardens has also been at the centre of Singaporean culture since its foundation. It was the ‘neutral’ meeting place for families to introduce partners in former arranged marriages; in 1959, it was the venue for a multi-cultural concert where Malay, Chinese and Indian performances shared the stage for the first time. This was followed by a 3-month series of events that shaped the formation of the multi-racial culture as the island prepared for independence.

d. Today, the 74-hectare Gardens is a key civic and community space, and a national tourist destination. Attracting an annual visitorship of more than 4.4 million, it is also an important institution for tropical botanical and horticultural research, education and conservation. Singapore has moved on to its next phase of greening: from Garden City to City in a Garden. The continual development of the Gardens is a key thrust of Singapore’s City in a Garden vision.

e. The Gardens showcases the best and most spectacular of tropical flora, including more than 10,000 types of plants and the region’s most significant living collection of documented palms, orchids, cycads and gingers. Its historic 19th century garden landscape is well preserved and includes the earliest ornamental designed lake in Singapore. Home to a tract of primary rainforest, the Gardens is less than a 10-minute walk from the shopping belt in Orchard Road.

f. The Gardens also houses a number of historic buildings constructed between 1867 and 1930, which include Ridley Hall (1882), Burkill Hall (1867), as well as the Swan Lake Gazebo (1850s) and the Bandstand (1930). There are also 47 heritage trees in SBG, the oldest of which is over 200 years old.

g. The Gardens was ranked the number one park in Asia in TripAdvisor Travellers’ Choice Awards for attractions in 2014. In 2012, the Gardens edged out others in Canada, Europe and the USA to clinch the inaugural International Garden Tourism - Garden of the Year Award by the Canadian Garden Tourism Council. It also joined the ranks of renowned international attractions when it was awarded the Michelin three-star rating in 2008. In the same year, the Gardens was selected by Time Magazine as Asia’s Best Urban Jungle.

h. The Singapore Botanic Gardens is managed by the National Parks Board.
ANNEX H – Celebrations at the Singapore Botanic Gardens

Programmes to celebrate the rich heritage of the Singapore Botanic Gardens
The National Parks Board has lined up a series of activities to celebrate the rich botanical and cultural heritage of the Singapore Botanic Gardens from July 2015. The events are listed in the table below.

More details of the activities can be found at tinyurl.com/sbgeventcalendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time and location</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 Jul – 31 Aug</td>
<td>Botany Centre &amp; Visitor Centre</td>
<td>EXHIBITION: People’s Gallery - Freaky Flowers: Echinopsis in bloom Photography Exhibition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Jul – 10 Aug</td>
<td>9am to 6pm Level 1 Botany Centre</td>
<td>EXHIBITION: Orchids of Singapore Botanic Gardens &amp; its heritage The exhibition celebrates the 20th anniversary of the National Orchid Garden and traces the orchid breeding and hybridisation experiments in the late 1920s under then director Eric Holttum to the ongoing conservation and breeding programme. It showcases the Singapore Botanic Gardens’ role in the world of orchids, featuring our Heritage, VIP and Celebrity orchids.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Jul – 1 Nov</td>
<td>9am to 6pm CDL Green Gallery</td>
<td>EXHIBITION: Tropical Splendour: Plant portraits from the Shirley Sherwood Collection of Contemporary Botanical Art Preceding modern technology, botanical paintings were an important means of keeping scientific records for plant taxonomy. With the introduction of photography, botanical painting has since developed into an art form. This is the Gardens’ first exhibition of botanical art by international artists, curated by Dr Shirley Sherwood, whose family sponsored the Shirley Sherwood Gallery of Botanical Art in Kew Gardens, UK.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Jul – 31 Aug</td>
<td>8.30am to 7pm daily (last entry at 6pm) National Orchid Garden</td>
<td>FREE ADMISSION: National Orchid Garden for Locals* In celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the National Orchid Garden, as well as SG50 Jubilee Celebrations and the inscription of the Singapore Botanic Gardens as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, locals enjoy free entry into the National Orchid Garden from 10 July to</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Time</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Jul</td>
<td>7.30pm to 9.30pm</td>
<td>Lawn E (near Swan Lake)</td>
</tr>
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</table>
| 11 – 12 Jul | 9am to 5pm   | Orchid Plaza, National Orchid Garden | PLANT SALE: Orchid & Plant Bazaar by leading nurseries @ Orchid Plaza  
In celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the National Orchid Garden, five leading nurseries Neo Cheng Soon Farm, Toh Garden, Woon Leng Nursery, Song Orchids & Hua Hng Trading Co will be setting up stalls to offer visitors a one-stop shopping bazaar for orchid and other plant needs! |
| 11 Jul   | 6pm to 7pm    | Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage | CONCERT: Singapore Symphony Orchestra (SSO) Classics in the Park - 1845: The Straits Times 170th Anniversary Concert |
| 7 Aug    | 10am to 5pm   | Bandstand & Orchid Plaza | CARNIVAL: Activities, Games and Food & Beverage  
The carnival celebrates shared memories and the Gardens’ rich heritage with guided walks, game and craft booths, stalls plying childhood snacks and activities for children like balloon sculpting. |
|          | 4pm to 7pm    | Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage | CONCERT: People’s Variety Show  
The first of a series of multicultural concerts or Aneka Ragan Ra’ayat was launched in the Singapore Botanic Gardens in 1959. Bringing back the much-loved nostalgia of the 1950s, the concert will feature performances by popular local artistes and community performing groups. |
|          | 7.30pm to 8.15pm | The Bandstand | PERFORMANCE: T’ang Quartet |
|          | 8.30pm to 10pm | Lawn E (near Swan | MOVIE SCREENING: It’s a Great Great World |
|          |               |                          | 31 August.  
*Singapore citizens, permanent residents and those living in Singapore, including holders of employment passes, work permits or dependent passes. Proof of residency may be required when purchasing tickets or when entering the Orchid Garden.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Location</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 Aug</td>
<td>10am to 5pm</td>
<td>Bandstand &amp; Orchid Plaza</td>
<td>CARNIVAL: Activities, Games and Food &amp; Beverage</td>
<td>The carnival celebrates shared memories and the Gardens’ rich heritage with guided walks, game and craft booths, stalls plying childhood snacks and activities for children like balloon sculpting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5pm to 7pm</td>
<td>Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage</td>
<td>CONCERT: Sam Willows + Singapore Lyric Opera</td>
<td>Visitors can unwind with an evening of classical music by a classical music group accompanied by a touch of contemporary tunes from a popular local band.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7.30pm to 8.15pm</td>
<td>The Bandstand</td>
<td>PERFORMANCE: Brass Nation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8.30pm to 10pm</td>
<td>Lawn E (near Swan Lake)</td>
<td>MOVIE SCREENING: Singapore Dreaming</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 Aug</td>
<td>10am to 5pm</td>
<td>Bandstand &amp; Orchid Plaza</td>
<td>CARNIVAL: Activities, Games and Food &amp; Beverage</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4pm to 9pm</td>
<td>Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage</td>
<td>CONCERT: NDP Telecast with Pre Concert Performances</td>
<td>Live telecast of National Day Parade and pre-telecast performances by local artistes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 2015</td>
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<td>Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage</td>
<td>CONCERT</td>
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<td>Sep 2015</td>
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<td>Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage</td>
<td>CONCERT</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Sep</td>
<td>6pm to 7pm</td>
<td>Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage</td>
<td>CONCERT: Singapore Youth Chinese Orchestra</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Sep</td>
<td>4.30pm to 6.30pm</td>
<td>Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage</td>
<td>CONCERT: NAC-ExxonMobil Concert in the Park</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Sep</td>
<td></td>
<td>Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage</td>
<td>CONCERT: Organised by Germany Embassy Singapore</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Oct</td>
<td>6pm to 8pm</td>
<td>Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage</td>
<td>CONCERT: International Acappella Festival</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Oct</td>
<td>5.30pm to 7pm</td>
<td>Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage</td>
<td>CONCERT: Tropic Green Performance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Oct</td>
<td>6pm to 7pm</td>
<td>Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage</td>
<td>CONCERT: Performance by NUS Symphony Orchestra</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Nov</td>
<td>4.30pm to 6.30pm</td>
<td>Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage</td>
<td>CONCERT: NAC-ExxonMobil Concert in the Park</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Nov</td>
<td>6pm to 7pm</td>
<td>Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage</td>
<td>CONCERT: Performance by Singapore Armed Forces Band</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Nov</td>
<td>5.30pm to 7pm</td>
<td>Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage</td>
<td>CONCERT: National University of Singapore Presents: Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Saturday of Every Month</td>
<td>9am, 10am,</td>
<td>10am</td>
<td>TOUR: Healing Garden Tour (English 9am &amp; 10am)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*Mandarin at 10am only</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Healing Garden showcases over 400 varieties of plants used medicinally. It is laid out thematically relating to component parts of the body such as head, respiratory and reproductive systems.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Saturday of Every Month</td>
<td>10am</td>
<td></td>
<td>TOUR: Rain Forest Tour (Japanese)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Conducted by our very experienced and passionate Japanese volunteers (in Japanese only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Saturday of Every Month</td>
<td>9am, 10am, 11am, 4pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>TOUR: Rain Forest Tour (English)</td>
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<td>Our very first tour since 2001 is still the most popular to date. Find out more about the importance of the ecosystem of the Gardens' Rain Forest.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Saturday of Every Month</td>
<td>10am, 4pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>TOUR: Rain Forest Tour (Mandarin)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>9am, 10am, 11am</td>
<td></td>
<td>TOUR: National Orchid Garden Tour (English)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event Description</td>
<td>Date and Time</td>
<td>Details</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Visit one of the largest collections of orchids in the world today at the National Orchid Garden. With over 1000 species and 2000 hybrids under our collection, you will be treated to a visual spectacle and learn through our guides the distinctive attributes of orchids.</td>
<td>Saturday of Every Month 4pm</td>
<td>*Admission fees apply</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOUR: National Orchid Garden Tour (Mandarin)</td>
<td>3rd Saturday of Every Month 4pm</td>
<td>*Admission fees apply</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOUR: Heritage Tour</td>
<td>4th Saturday of Every Month 9am</td>
<td>Our history dates back to 1859 and there is no better way to find out more about the grand old trees and characters that have shaped the Gardens since then.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>