The Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc. is seeking sponsors for "The 2023 Secret Garden Tour of Fort Lauderdale", Saturday, February 25, 2023. Here's an Introduction to the FLGC

Have you ever driven down Las Olas Boulevard and admired the stately Royal Palms that grace that thoroughfare? The planting of these trees in response to the devastating hurricane of 1926 was the beginning of the Fort Lauderdale Garden Club.

The year was 1927 and 22 women organized the club whose purpose was to encourage beautiful home gardens, to study horticulture and to work with other organizations to restore the natural beauty of Fort Lauderdale. Currently there are 126 members, both women and men. Since that time, among the many projects that the Fort Lauderdale Garden Club (FLGC) has contributed to the city and community are:

- 1933—Beautified Port Everglades Grounds
- 1937—Landscaped the Florida East Coast Railway Station
- 1954—Planted 16,000 plants and shrubs on Federal Highway
- 1964—Donated 100 trees to Hugh Taylor Birch State Park after Hurricane Cleo
- 1965—Developed a Garden Therapy Program at South Florida State Hospital
- 1976—Dedicated the Annie Beck Park of Flowering Trees
- 1980—Distrbuted 100 seedling trees on Arbor Day
- 1986—Planted wildflowers along I-95 and Broward Boulevard
- 1990—Landscaped a home for a Habitat for Humanity Project
- 1997—Donated 13 flowering trees in DDA Park in downtown Fort Lauderdale
- 2005-2009—NBC 6 South Florida Today Show gardening tips by members
- 2007—Planted trees and gardens in George English Park and Sunland Park Elementary School after Hurricane Wilma
- 2011—Received the Broward County Emerald Award for Wildflower Planting
- 2019—Planted 124 trees in Hugh Taylor Birch State Park after Hurricane Irma
- 2010 -2022--Very successful Secret Garden Tours

The FLGC has a strong Youth Gardening Program promoting gardening in public schools, with students from Preschool through High School. The 2022 In-school Youth Flower Shows, had 174 students present 776 entries. Forty students earned scholarships with transportation to Camp Wekiva, an ecological and nature-based camping experience. Three high school students have won scholarships to SEEK, (Saving the Earth's Environment through Knowledge), a summer ecological program. The FLGC provides monthly programs open to the public on a wide variety of gardening and environmental topics and presents Standard Adult Flower Shows and In-School Youth Flower Shows. It maintains the Sensory Garden at the Lighthouse for the Blind of Broward County. It supports Habitat for Humanity, Prison Therapy, and World Gardening.

All of these projects require dedication and commitment on the part of our members and the continued financial support of the community-at-large. A successful garden tour on **Saturday**, **February 25**, **2023** will help us to continue to provide all of these services and to inspire children and adults alike to venture out into their gardens and participate in the beauty of nature

The Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization See our mission and community impact at www.flgc.org
Contact us at FortLauderdaleGardenClub@gmail.com