

# proclamation

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## Mead Botanical Garden Day | March 29, 2025

**WHEREAS**, January 1940, Mead Botanical Garden was established in honor of horticulturist Theodore Mead, who passionately shared his scientific interest and love for plants, butterflies, birds and nature with the world; and

**WHEREAS**, Theodore Mead became an internationally recognized horticulturist through his extensive work cultivating new and rare plants including orchids, caladiums, and the first all-white amaryllis; and

**WHEREAS**, Mead Botanical Garden showcased Mead's abundant collection of plants, including thousands of orchids, on 50 acres that were donated by five generous landowners for the purpose of creating a botanic garden ideal for education, enrichment, recreation and relaxation; and

**WHEREAS**, for the next 85 years, Mead Garden, with its vast green spaces, vibrant botanic beauty and creekside trails, has been an urban oasis within the Winter Park community, offering visitors a quiet, nearby escape into nature; and

**WHEREAS**, a meaningful partnership has evolved between the nonprofit Mead Botanical Garden Inc. and the City of Winter Park, who jointly steward the Garden, and develop and implement plans and resources to help the Garden continue to thrive; and

**WHEREAS**, Mead gives visitors the opportunity to admire abundant blossoms, see wildlife, walk the wetland trails, participate in programs, attend special community gatherings and events, and enjoy cultural occasions that define Winter Park; and

**WHEREAS**, Mead Botanical Garden is an irreplaceable gem in Winter Park that nurtures both the environment, the community and the spirit of all who visit.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Sheila DeCiccio, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Winter Park, in the state of Florida, do hereby proclaim the day of **Saturday, March 29, 2025**, as **"Mead Botanical Garden Day"** in the City of Winter Park, Florida and encourage all residents to bring their friends and families to Mead Botanical Garden to enjoy The Great Duck Derby.



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Winter Park, Florida, to be affixed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 2025.

**Sheila DeCiccio**  
Mayor