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MEDIA ALERT

RENOVATION OF KATE SESSIONS' HISTORIC CACTUS GARDEN IN BALBOA PARK Garden Stewards Program Will Ensure Ongoing Maintenance

WHEN: Monday, June 3, 2019, 11:00 AM – 2:30 PM

WHERE: Historic Cactus Garden in Balboa Park

Located behind the Balboa Park Club, above Palm Canyon

WHO: Volunteers from Balboa Park Conservancy and Urban Corps

Available for interviews:

Balboa Park Conservancy CEO Tomás Herrera-Mishler, volunteers

WHAT: The historic Cactus Garden in Balboa Park was personally designed and developed by Kate Sessions for the 1935 California Pacific International Exposition. It contains some of the largest cactus and succulent specimens in the Park as well as exotic African and Australian Protea plants.

Volunteers from the Balboa Park Conservancy and Urban Corps will clean up the cactus beds and improve trails in the Cactus Garden, marking the launch of the Balboa Park Conservancy's Garden Stewards team. Similar to the Tree Stewards, these dedicated garden volunteers will be recruited and trained to tend the Park's 17 gardens year-round, led by a highly knowledgeable horticulturist.

"These volunteers will provide an inestimable service to Balboa Park and its visitors, restoring the Cactus Garden to its original luster and helping attract volunteers and draw much-needed attention to the project," says President and CEO Tomás Herrera-Mishler. "They will not only care for the garden, but will also serve as hosts for park visitors interested in learning about the plants and the history of the garden. This





will be a model for the other garden teams we plan on launching, such as for the Alcazar Garden.”

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