

What's Blooming—February 2021



Here's a selection of some of the colorful orchids flowering at the estates this February. The spider orchid (*Arachnis flos-aeris*) on the wooden trellis next to the fountain is an extraordinary specimen!



Beautiful powderpuff plants (*Calliandra spp.*) of several varieties are flowering vigorously throughout the gardens this month.



Chinese hat plants (*Holmskioldia spp.*) in both red and yellow are blooming in the Garden Shoppe near the museum's west porch.

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Sunflower
Helianthus sp.



Seminole Dombeya
Dombeya 'Seminole'



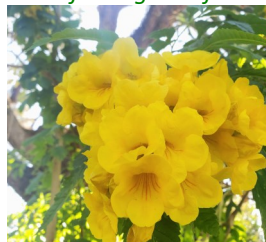
Crown of Thorns
Euphorbia milii



Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow
Brunfelsia grandiflora



Blue Sky Vine
Thunbergia grandiflora



Yellow Elder
Tecoma stans



The giant aloe (*Aloe vaombe x spectabilis*) above is flowering in the succulent garden. The other plants pictured here are on the museum and lab side of the property.

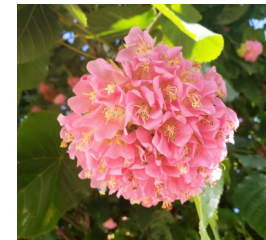
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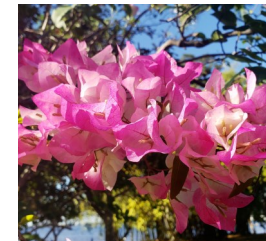
The Bougainvillea Gate north of the museum is really starting to pop in time for Valentine's Day! Pictured below are some of the more "romantic" flowers blooming this month.



Rose
'Cramoisi superieur'



Tropical Hydrangea
Dombeya wallichii



Bougainvillea
Bougainvillea 'Imperial Delight'



Rose Allamanda
Strophanthus gratus

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What's Blooming

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2350 McGregor Boulevard · Fort Myers, FL 33901
(239) 334-7419 · edisonfordwinterestates.org
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Lady of the Night
Brunfelsia plicata



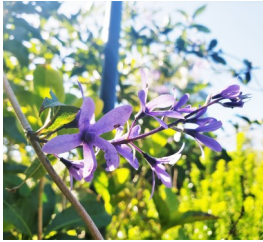
Brazilian Cloak
Megaskepasma erythrochlamys



Snapdragon
Antirrhinum sp.



Sweet Begonia
Begonia odorata



Queen's Wreath
Petrea volubilis



Purple Firespike
Odontonema callistachyum



The strange seed pods of the fountain clerodendrum (*Clerodendrum minahassae*) growing in the Moonlight Garden look like little red starfishes. The plants pictured above can all be found growing nearby.

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The Hong Kong orchid tree (*Bauhinia blakeana*) north of the Security Station flowers along a central stem called a raceme that produces new flowers as it grows. There is also a white orchid tree in bloom in front of the Edison Caretaker's House.



White Orchid Tree
Bauhinia variegata



Light Bulb Plant
Clerodendrum smithianum



Hibiscus
Hibiscus spp.



Chalice Vine
Solandra maxima

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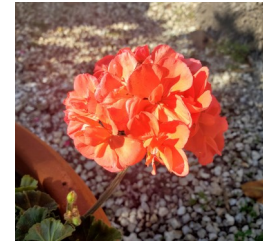
Mango trees (*Mangifera indica*) make a type of compound flower called a panicle. A panicle is a branched raceme in which the branches are themselves racemes. These tiny flowers will become the fruits we enjoy this summer!



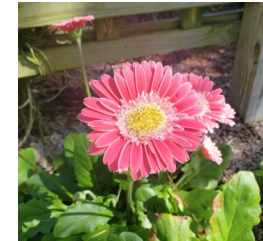
Crinum Lily
Crinum asiaticum



Turk's Cap
Malvaviscus arboreus

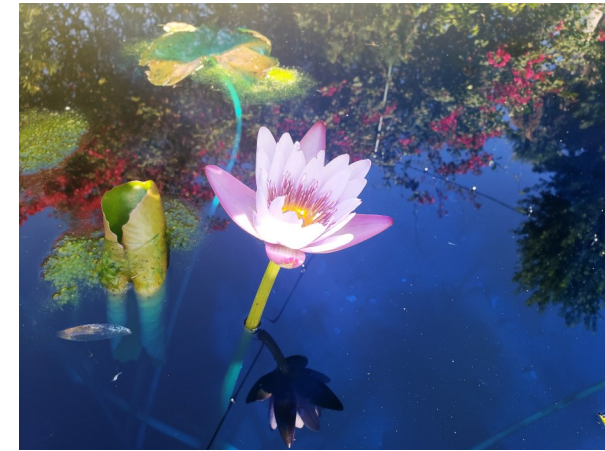


Geranium
Pelargonium sp.

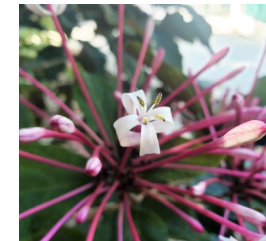


Gerbera Daisy
Gerbera jamesonii

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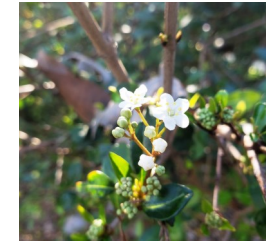
Water lilies (*Nymphaea spp.*) delight in the reflecting pond at the center of Mina Edison's Moonlight Garden. This pond is meant to reflect the light of the moon at night, but its glassy surface also captures a stunning image of the daytime sky. Starburst bush is bursting to life south of the Pool Complex, and the ylang ylang just south of Edison's Study is starting to bloom again as well.



Starburst Bush
Clerodendrum quadriloculare



Sweet Acacia
Vachellia farnesiana



Walter's Viburnum
Viburnum obovatum



Ylang Ylang
Cananga odorata