

Million Orchid Project Press Release



Coral Gables Woman's Club Celebrates Centennial by Installing Over One Hundred Orchids

Coral Gables Woman's Club Centennial Chairman, Robin Burr, is working with Dr. Jason Dowling, Director of the Fairchild Tropical Botanical Gardens Million Orchid Project, to install rare native orchids on the woman's club property, re-establishing species that grew there more than a century ago.

On Saturday, June 24, 2023 at 7:30am, a team of volunteers will be installing over one hundred select orchids at their historic clubhouse location. During the entire year of 2023, the Coral Gables Woman's Club has planned a myriad of such events of interest in order to celebrate their 100 years of community service in the City Beautiful.

The focus of The Million Orchid Project has been to reintroduce native orchids to South Florida. The project is unique, both in its large scale and its focus on urban landscapes in the local community.

Dr. Dowling made a site visit to the Coral Gables Woman's Club in February in order to do an assessment of the landscape and determine which species will do well. One-hundred and forty (140) orchids were recommended to be installed. (continues)

June was chosen for installation. Since it is the beginning of the rainy season, the club will not have to worry about irrigation for the orchids as they become established. The work is scheduled to begin early in the morning to avoid the heat later in the day. With the club's many volunteers, the orchids should be installed within a few hours.

On Saturday, June 24, club members, garden enthusiasts and anyone who would like to volunteer and be involved in the installation are invited to gather at the club -- 1001 and 1009 East Ponce De Leon Boulevard -- in Coral Gables. The installation will begin with a training at 7:30am, followed by the placement of the orchids in the appropriate areas.

Established in 1923, and the original location of the Coral Gables Library, the Coral Gables Woman's Club is a 501(c)3 organization supporting a free children's dental clinic on premise. The mission of the club is to provide the opportunity to volunteer services in various charitable projects within the community and the world. Nearly one hundred active members participate in numerous club activities, as a part of the General Federation of Woman's Clubs.

For more information about the orchid event, or to volunteer, please contact: Robin Burr, 305-794-1541 by text or email: robin.burr@gmail.com or visit GFWCCoralGablesWomansClub.org