



PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate use

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Garden to host various bird photography events this fall

Chapel Hill – The North Carolina Botanical Garden (NCBG) is offering a variety of photography events this fall in conjunction with its ongoing *Saving Our Birds* exhibition.

CLAWS, Inc., a local nonprofit organization dedicated to helping animals through education, rescue and rehabilitation, will offer a raptor photography session on Saturday, October 1. CLAWS, Inc. will provide beautiful bird species, including owls and hawks, along with knowledgeable staff and volunteers at each station. For more information, go to <http://tinyurl.com/gardenclaws>.

There is still time to enter the Garden's Bird Photo Contest. Images must include a bird native to North Carolina, and any plants within the photo must be native plants. Online registration for this contest will close on October 14, and submissions must be turned in to the Garden by October 16, when judging will begin. Selected photos will be exhibited in the NCBG's DeBerry Gallery from November 1 through January 2. Cash prizes will be awarded in both adult and youth categories. For more information regarding the rules of this contest, go to <http://ncbg.unc.edu/photocontest>.

On December 10, local photographers and bird enthusiasts Mary Sonis and Mike Dunn will lead a Basics of Bird Photography program. This class includes a classroom lesson followed by time in the Garden to practice techniques. To find out more, go to <http://tinyurl.com/birdphotography>.

Saving Our Birds inspires awareness and understanding of North Carolina's native birds and encourages citizens to help conserve the habitats they need to thrive. The exhibition runs through December 16, and includes an informational exhibit and numerous programs for both novice and veteran birders, children and adults. Find out more at <http://ncbg.unc.edu/birds>.

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The NCBG, part of the University of North Carolina, is a 1,000-acre assemblage of display gardens and natural areas. Celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2016, the Garden is nationally known as a center for the study, display, interpretation and conservation of plants. Through its educational, recreational, therapeutic horticulture and research programs, it extends opportunities for connection with nature to