

# Your Park Newsletter Sessions



## Spooktacular Rides

### Balboa Park Carousel Celebrates Halloween All Month Long

Just in time for spooky season, the Dorothea Laub Balboa Park Carousel has been transformed into a happily haunted destination for the month of October. Carousel animals have donned their Halloween costumes, with some dressed as witches and wizards, a ghoulish giraffe or two, and more. Celebrate Halloween all month long at the Carousel on Saturdays and Sundays from 11am to 5:30pm. On Saturday, October 28, at the Carousel, trick-or-treaters (children 12 and under) in costume will enjoy tasty treats and a free ride during normal open hours. Across the park at Balboa Park's new annual event, the Halloween Spooktacular, various park organizations are offering more fun activities for all ages in the Palisades Plaza from 11am to 2pm.

Make your October extra special with a private birthday party or Halloween celebration at the Carousel. You can have the Carousel all to yourself, and in October, decorations are included! For information and to schedule a private event, email [carousel@balboapark.org](mailto:carousel@balboapark.org).

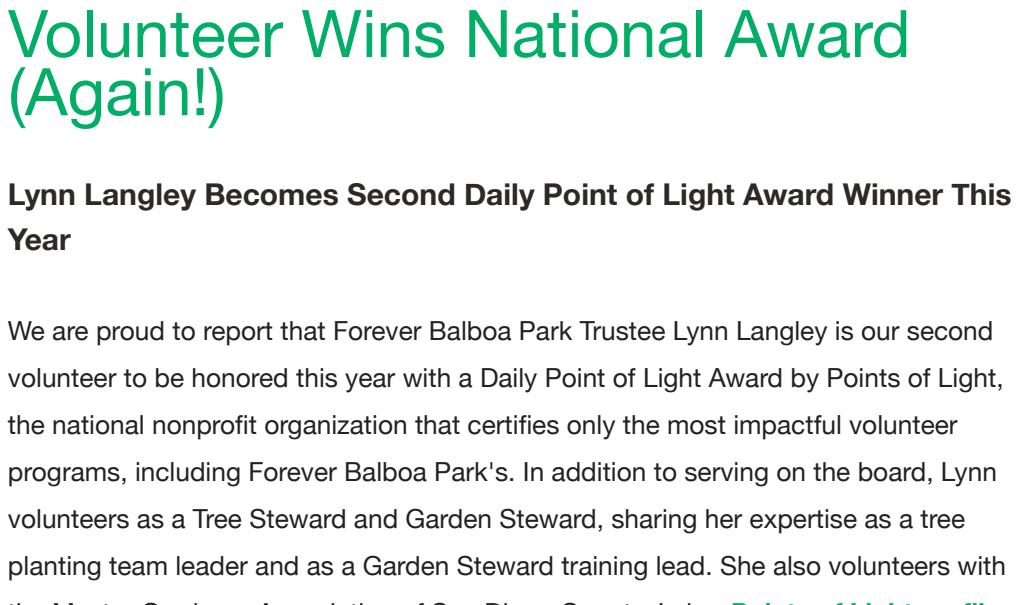
[Book a Birthday Party Today](#)



## Loading ... New Balboa Park Map

### Signage and Wayfinding Project Progresses with New Parkwide Map

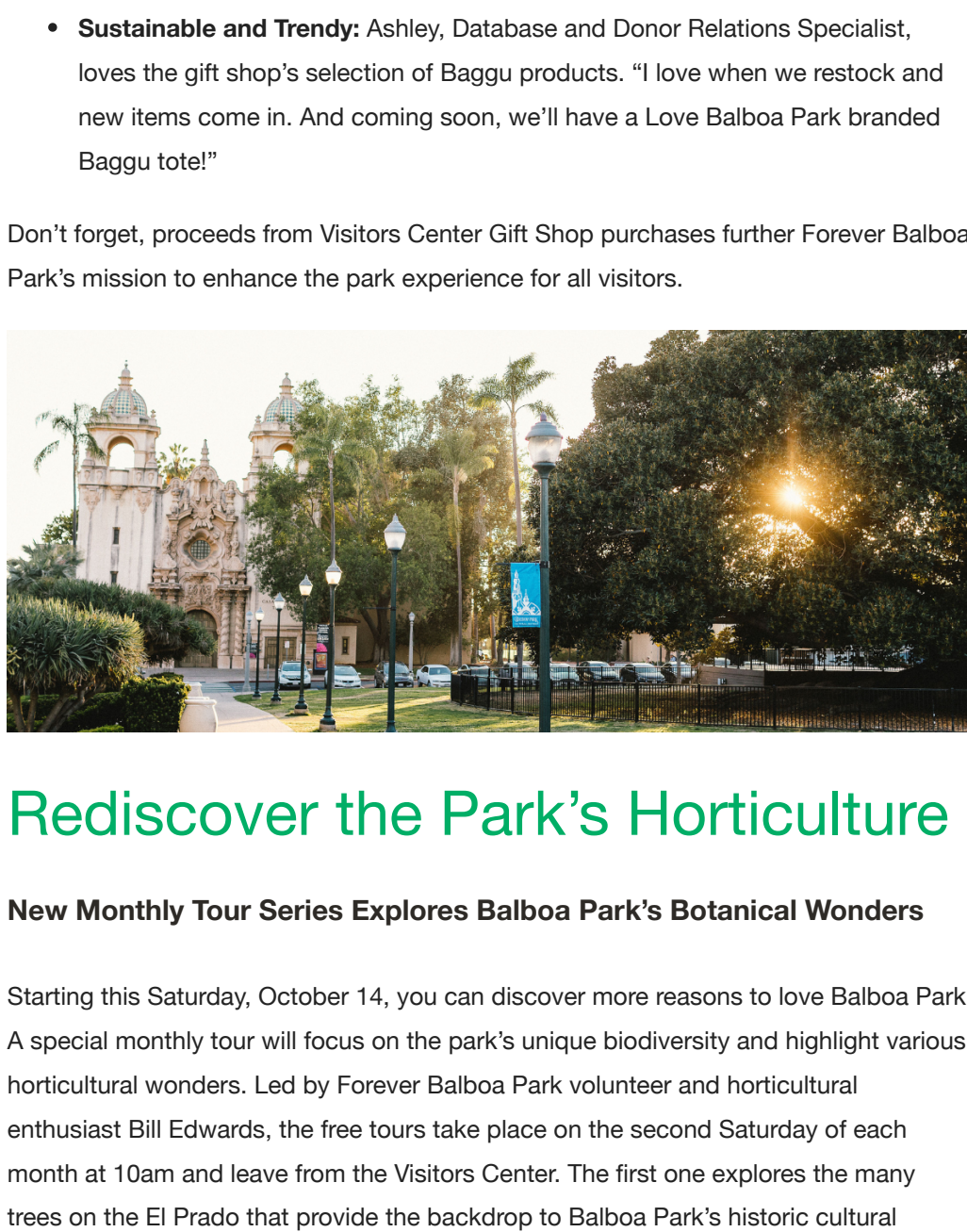
Balboa Park is one of the largest urban parks in the world. With 1,200 acres of designated parkland, Balboa Park is even larger than New York's Central Park. In order to help visitors navigate the breadth of the park and its diverse offerings, Forever Balboa Park, in partnership with other park organizations, is designing a new parkwide map as part of the signage and wayfinding project. We know sometimes even locals forget about Balboa Park's many hidden gems, and we want to facilitate easier access beyond the beloved cultural district. Once completed later this fall, the new parkwide map will be available online, in printed Balboa Park visitors guides, and on wayfinding signage around the park.



## Close Encounters of the Prickly Kind

### Interactive Map for Kate O. Sessions Cactus Garden Coming Soon

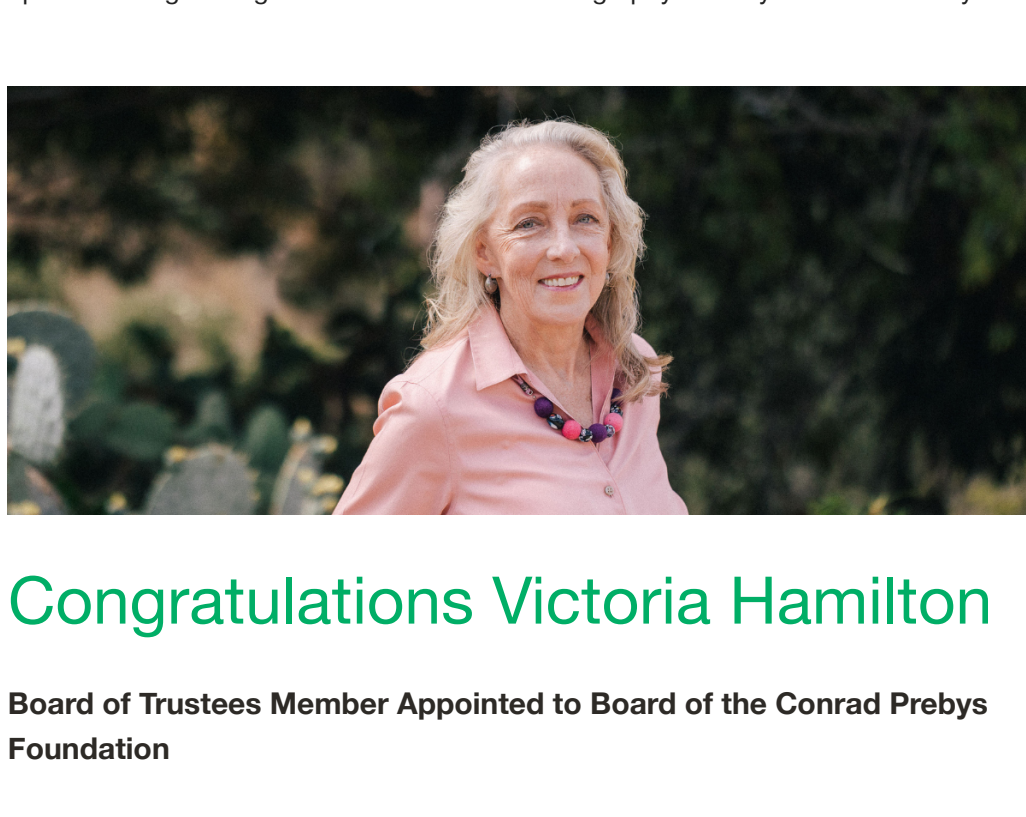
Cacti and succulents often look otherworldly. Balboa Park is lucky to have two gardens dedicated to the unique plants of the desert region, one of which is the Kate O. Sessions Cactus Garden. Thanks to careful work by the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society and one of Forever Balboa Park's summer college interns, Alexis, the plant species growing in the Cactus Garden were carefully identified and cataloged. That information will soon be available for all garden visitors in an interactive online map. After scanning a QR code, you'll be able to click on any section of the Cactus Garden and learn more about each species present. San Diego's mild climate creates an optimal environment for biodiversity. Now, as you enjoy the scenery of the garden, you can learn about it too.



## Volunteer Wins National Award (Again!)

### Lynn Langley Becomes Second Daily Point of Light Award Winner This Year

We are proud to report that Forever Balboa Park Trustee Lynn Langley is our second volunteer to be honored this year with a Daily Point of Light Award by Points of Light, the national nonprofit organization that certifies only the most impactful volunteer programs, including Forever Balboa Park's. In addition to serving on the board, Lynn volunteers as a Tree Steward and Garden Steward, sharing her expertise as a tree planting team leader and as a Garden Steward training lead. She also volunteers with the Master Gardener Association of San Diego County. In her [Points of Light profile article](#), Lynn remarked how Forever Balboa Park volunteers are making the gardens look gorgeous, adding, "A little bit of effort that you can give greatly contributes to others."



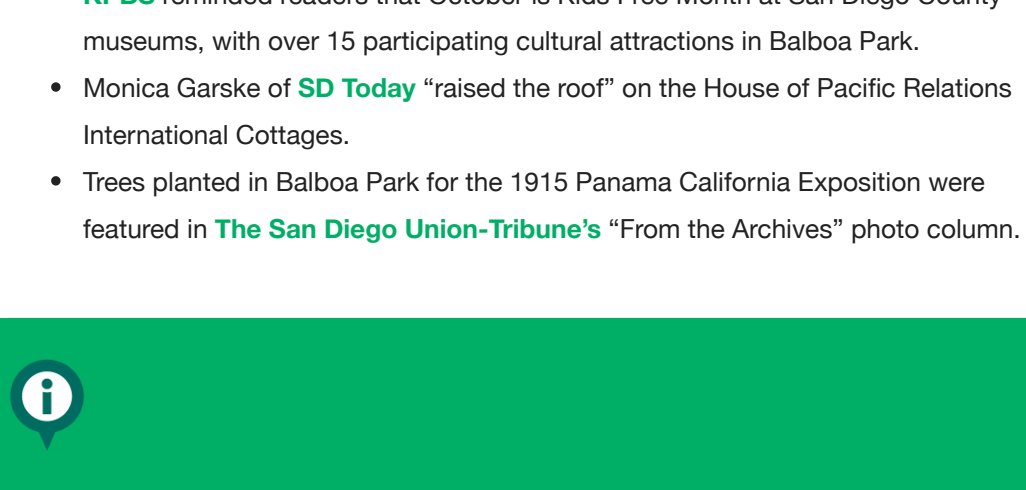
## Fall Favorites at the Visitors Center Gift Shop

### Forever Balboa Park Staff Picks and Gift Recommendations

The Balboa Park Visitors Center and Gift Shop remains a great place for local and sustainably made gifts, but who knows that better than Forever Balboa Park staff who frequently shop there? Here are a few staff picks to check out in preparation for the gift-giving season:

- **New In Stock:** The locally made Mission Heights Chocolate is a favorite of Craig, VP of Facilities. "It's delicious! I recommended we stock it in the Visitors Center myself."
- **Cuddly Cute:** New stuffed animals in unique varieties, like snails, baby opossums, and dinosaurs are a big hit. "I could hardly choose just one!" – Erin, Communications Specialist
- **Sustainable and Trendy:** Ashley, Database and Donor Relations Specialist, loves the gift shop's selection of Baggu products. "I love when we restock and new items come in. And coming soon, we'll have a Love Balboa Park branded Baggu tote!"

Don't forget, proceeds from Visitors Center Gift Shop purchases further Forever Balboa Park's mission to enhance the park experience for all visitors.

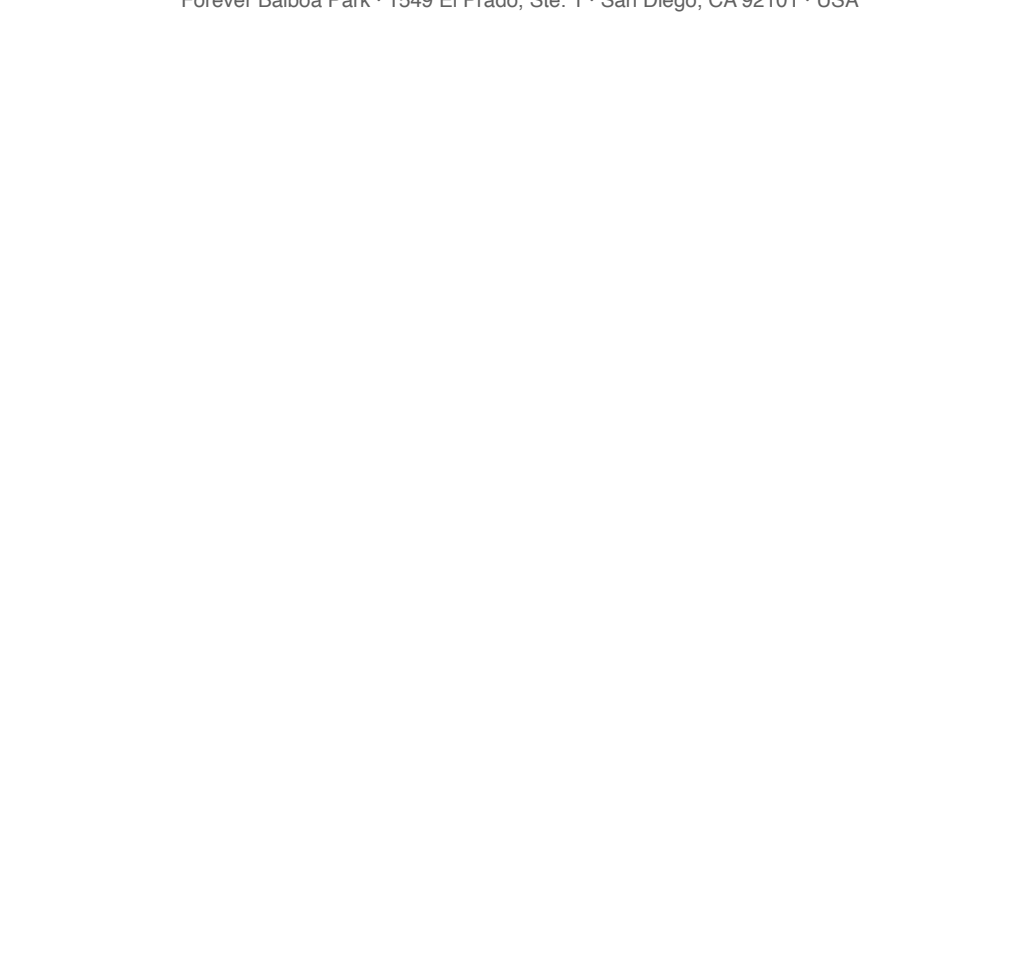


## Rediscover the Park's Horticulture

### New Monthly Tour Series Explores Balboa Park's Botanical Wonders

Starting this Saturday, October 14, you can discover more reasons to love Balboa Park. A special monthly tour will focus on the park's unique biodiversity and highlight various horticultural wonders. Led by Forever Balboa Park volunteer and horticultural enthusiast Bill Edwards, the free tours take place on the second Saturday of each month at 10am and leave from the Visitors Center. The first one explores the many trees on the El Prado that provide the backdrop to Balboa Park's historic cultural district. Click the button below for the upcoming schedule.

[Learn More](#)



## Volunteer Program Welcomes New Fellow

### Caroline Hill Joins Forever Balboa Park Team as AmeriCorps VIP Fellow

Join us in welcoming our fifth AmeriCorps VIP Fellow, Caroline Hill. Like our previous AmeriCorps Fellows, Caroline is working to help grow our volunteer programs, particularly the Tree Stewards maintenance team, by recruiting volunteers, creating a training and orientation program, and working alongside Tree Stewards in the field. Caroline previously worked with the National Civilian Community Corps AmeriCorps, assisting with planting trees, disaster relief, and removing invasive species. She grew up in San Diego and graduated with a B.A. in Geography from Syracuse University.



## Congratulations Victoria Hamilton

### Board of Trustees Member Appointed to Board of the Conrad Prebys Foundation

Victoria Hamilton, Chair Elect of the Forever Balboa Park Board of Trustees, was recently appointed to the board of the Conrad Prebys Foundation, which provided major support for the recent structural renovation of the Balboa Park Carousel. In this prestigious role, Victoria will help guide the foundation's philanthropic vision, bettering San Diego beyond Balboa Park. A longtime advocate for the park and local arts scene, Victoria is also the founding Executive Director for the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture.



## In the News

### In Case You Missed It . . .

- Balboa Park Carousel Manager Bill Brown was featured in an article by [SD Today](#), timed to the one-year anniversary of the City of San Diego proclaiming October 3, 2022, as Mr. Brown Day.
- Balboa Park made the top of [Newsweek's](#) list of "Global Parks That Offer Unique Vistas, Calm Refuges for Green Explorers."
- [The San Diego Union-Tribune](#) highlighted the Morley Field and Florida Canyon trail as its hike of the week, with ample scenic photos by the article's author, Maura Fox.
- [KPBS](#) reminded readers that October is Kids Free Month at San Diego County museums, with over 15 participating cultural attractions in Balboa Park.
- Monica Garske of [SD Today](#) "raised the roof" on the House of Pacific Relations International Cottages.
- Trees planted in Balboa Park for the 1915 Panama California Exposition were featured in [The San Diego Union-Tribune's](#) "From the Archives" photo column.

Forever Balboa Park is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, Tax ID #33-0849518. Forever Balboa Park's programs and initiatives to enhance Balboa Park and the visitor experience are generously supported by members of the Conservator's Circle, donors and members, San Diego Foundation, The Legler Benbough Foundation, The Parker Foundation, The Conrad Prebys Foundation, Walter J. & Betty C. Zable Foundation, J. W. Sefton Foundation, San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture, the County of San Diego, SDGE, and the Favrot Fund. We work in partnership with organizations like the Committee of 100, the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership, and the Balboa Park Online Collaborative.

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