

**For Immediate Release**

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**Jump, Splash, Dig, Create, Daydream, and Discover My Big Backyard at the Garden this September at the Back to School Bash**

Memphis, TN – Memphis Botanic Garden (MBG) is pleased to announce they will host ***My Big Backyard Back to School Bash*** to celebrate My Big Backyard’s 15th anniversary and kick off the start of a new school year this September! This family-friendly event will take place on September 7 from 10 am-2 pm and will feature various fun and educational drop-in activities in My Big Backyard.

My Big Backyard, a world-class family garden, opened on August 1, 2009. The opening was a culmination of three years of design, development, and a capital campaign that significantly changed the face of the Garden and provided a wonderful resource for children and families throughout the Mid-South. The new space resulted in hundreds of new family memberships and a significant increase in daily visitors. The 2.5-acre space features sixteen different themed areas that provide opportunities for playing in the great outdoors. From Seedling Circle, designed for toddlers, to water features in Raindrop Stop and Critter Creek and whimsical Playhouse Lane, My Big Backyard offers opportunities abound for kids and kids-at-heart to discover nature.

Attendees can visit various hands-on learning stations featuring crafts, activities, wildlife, and more while enjoying this family space. Plus don’t miss family-friendly musician Andrew Best, storytime with WKNO’s Teacher Teacher, games with Board to Beers, a class with Fit4Mom, face painting, and so much more! Plus Hot-N-Heavy Dogs and Mister Softee will be on-site or bring your own picnic to enjoy during your visit.

“For fifteen years we’ve worked to make My Big Backyard a place for making memories while exploring and enjoying the natural world. We hope that it has been an inspiration for families to continue the fun outside in your own backyard,” said Gina Harris, Director of Education & Events. “Come jump, splash, dance, and play as we celebrate all the fun My Big Backyard has to offer and explore what’s in store for the future!”

It is the perfect family-friendly way to celebrate fifteen years of outdoor play at the Memphis Botanic Garden.

The event is free with Garden admission which is \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors (62+), and \$7 for ages 2-12. Admission to the Garden is free for MBG Members and children under the age of 2. No registration is necessary.

**About Memphis Botanic Garden**

*The Memphis Botanic Garden is a not-for-profit 501(c) (3) organization dedicated to being an exemplary center for horticulture and environmental enrichment. Serving over 40,000 school-aged children annually, and hosting 260,000 visitors each year, Memphis Botanic Garden strives to enhance lives by connecting people with nature, increasing awareness and appreciation of our environment.*

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