



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Visitor & Education Center Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

April 23, 2019 Walnut Creek, CA – The world-renowned drought tolerant Ruth Bancroft Garden in Walnut Creek will hold a public Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to celebrate the opening of its new Coit Family Visitor and Education Center on Wednesday, June 26, 2019.

Created nearly 50 years ago by Walnut Creek pioneer Ruth Bancroft, the Garden was donated to the public in 1992. The Ruth Bancroft Garden now attracts over 15,000 visitors every year to experience its unique design and stunning collection of drought-tolerant plants from all over the globe.

As of April, the Garden has raised \$4.66 million of the \$4.9 million needed to complete construction of this new permanent home to welcome visitors year-round. The new Center will provide ADA accessible restroom and meeting facilities, and access to the Garden with new paved and decomposed granite paths. The Center will also help the Garden offer more workshops and educational programs for children and students of all ages, as well as indoor meeting spaces for the Garden community and for private event rentals. Canyon Design Build of Moraga was the project contractor, and Lutsko Associates of San Francisco was the landscape design firm for the new Center.

The Coit Visitor and Education Center will help fulfill the Garden's mission to preserve Ruth Bancroft's exceptional example of garden design and further develop Ruth's collection of water-conserving plants for the education and enjoyment of the public year-round.

If you wish to attend the Ribbon Cutting Ceremont, please kindly RSVP to Kim@ruthbancroftgarden.org. If you have any questions about the project, or wish to support the completion of the new Center, please contact the Executive Director, Gretchen Bartzan, gretchen@ruthbancroftgarden.org.

The Ruth Bancroft Garden, Inc. is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization that owns and operates the Garden and a full-service retail drought tolerant nursery and raises funds necessary to sustain the Garden. The Garden is located at 1552 Bancroft Road in Walnut Creek, and is open to the public Tuesday through Thursdays from 10 AM-4 PM, and Fridays through Sundays from 10 AM- 5PM, with self-guided tours, docent-led activities, and a unique nursery offering hard-to-find water-wise plants especially adapted to the Bay Area.