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Contact: Jenna Bodnar | Communications Coordinator
412/622-6915, ext. 3702 | jbodnar@phipps.conservatory.org

Phipps Conservatory's Corpse Flower is Blooming

Rare "little sister" of famed Phipps corpse flower in bloom for 12 – 48 hours

Pittsburgh, Pa. — After much anticipation, Barbara, a rare *Amorphophallus titanum* (corpse flower) from [Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens'](#) collection, is blooming. This very rare show will only last about 12 – 48 hours. Phipps will be open for its regularly scheduled hours, from 9:30 a.m. – 10 p.m. on Fri., May 12, and from 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. on Sat., May 13.

Barbara follows in the footsteps of her big brother, Romero, Phipps' first blooming corpse flower, which is named for the celebrated Pittsburgh filmmaker, George A. Romero. His 1968 cult classic *Night of the Living Dead*, was filmed in Pittsburgh, and features the famous line, "They're coming to get you, Barbara." The plant was 26 inches tall when first placed on public display at Phipps on Wed., April 26, and has grown a full 20 inches since then.

In the jungles of Sumatra where the plant grows wild, the revolting stench of the corpse flower attracts the beetles and flies that pollinate it. This master of mimicry resembles rotting meat in more ways than smell: The insides of the bloom are blood red, and as it opens, it heats up to about 100 degrees in order to increase the reach of its scent. This allows pollinators up to an acre away to detect the scent!

Guests at Phipps can also enjoy our Butterfly Forest and [SUPER. NATURAL. Glass Art by Jason Gamrath](#) while visiting. Conservatory admission is \$17.95 for adults, \$16.95 for seniors and students, and \$11.95 for children (2 – 18). Members and kids under 2 enter free. For more information, please visit phipps.conservatory.org

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About Phipps: Founded in 1893, Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens in Pittsburgh, Pa. is a green leader among public gardens with a mission to inspire and educate all with the beauty and importance of plants; to advance sustainability and promote human and environmental well-being through action and research; and to celebrate its historic glasshouse. Learn more: phipps.conservatory.org.

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