



For Immediate Release:

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Mayor William Peduto Unveils Phipps Conservatory's Garden Railroad

Miniature train exhibit celebrates 200 years of Pittsburgh history.

Pittsburgh, Pa. — On Fri., Oct. 14 at 2 p.m., join Mayor William Peduto and Executive Director of [Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens](#) Richard Piacentini as they unveil Phipps' Garden Railroad: 200 Years of Pittsburgh. In honor of the city of Pittsburgh's bicentennial anniversary, Phipps' popular miniature train exhibit brings two centuries of our city's greatest moments to life, from the opening of the H.J. Heinz Factory in 1869 to the relaunching of the Point State Park fountain in 2013.

Mayor Peduto will be the first to try out all five interactive stations in the exhibit, including turning a hand crank to elevate the Duquesne Incline and pushing a button to send Three Rivers Stadium into raucous applause and illumination as the Buccos play ball.

With tiny living plants, shrubs, and trees, and exquisitely detailed props built by local artisans and Phipps' staff providing the backdrop of its miniature world, this show will bring wonder and a touch of nostalgia to guests of all ages.

Garden Railroad opens Sat., Oct. 15 in conjunction with the opening of the Fall Flower Show: Bask in Nature's Bounty, one of Phipps' four seasonal flower shows that transform the Conservatory each year. Fall Flower Show will fill the Conservatory with traditional harvest activities, colorful chrysanthemums and a touch of whimsy. Authentic harvest props, such as rustic arbors, a cider press, a grist mill and more will decorate the rooms, along with all 13 classifications of vibrant mums. This exhibit, designed by Phipps Plant Recorder and Display Horticulturist Laura Schoch, runs for only three weeks — through Sun., Nov. 6 — so be sure not to miss it!

Garden Railroad runs through Sun., March 5, 2017, and is designed by exhibit coordinator Jordyn Melino, and controls and animatronics by maintenance technician Paul Widek.

Phipps Conservatory is open from 9:30 a.m. — 5 p.m. daily and until 10 p.m. on Fridays. Admission is \$15 for adults, \$14 for seniors and students, and \$11 for children (2 – 18). Members and kids under 2 enter free. More details can be found at 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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