

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 10, 2019

### **Joseph Parr named Director of Horticulture at Flamingo Gardens**

**Davie, FL-** Flamingo Gardens is excited to announce the hiring of Joseph Parr as the new Director of Horticulture at the botanical garden and wildlife sanctuary. After a rigorous selection process, Parr, a former Director of Horticulture at Busch Gardens in Tampa, was selected over 30 other applicants.

Parr was director of Horticulture at Busch Gardens from 2009 to 2017, where he oversaw the award-winning landscape presentation of the 365-acre theme park and water park, and planned and oversaw implementation of festivals and seasonal special events such as grand topiary living sculptures, seasonal presentations and Christmas displays. Since 2017 Parr has served as an independent Horticultural Manager and Landscape Consultant.

Parr will serve as the head of Flamingo Gardens Horticulture department and manager of botanical collections, nursery operations and all field operations of the 60-acre botanical garden and wildlife sanctuary. He will be a key player in the Board of Trustees' efforts to develop Flamingo Gardens as a public botanical garden in accordance with their conceptual master plan.

"We are very pleased to have Joe join our team," says Keith Clark, Executive Director at Flamingo Gardens.

"We have great plans for the gardens, and we are fortunate to have his creativity and talents to help bring our vision to fruition. Joe's skill will be a great asset to the garden and our future."

The public will have an opportunity to meet Parr at a "Meet and Greet" to be held Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, at 2pm during Flamingo Gardens 38<sup>th</sup> International Orchid and Bromeliad Show.

The Orchid Show and "Meet and Greet" with Parr is included with admission to Flamingo Gardens -- \$19.95 ages 12+, \$12.95 ages 3-11, and free to members and ages 2 and under. Flamingo Gardens is located at 3750 S Flamingo Rd, in Davie, FL 33330. For more information call (954) 473-2955 or visit [www.flamingogardens.org](http://www.flamingogardens.org)

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**About Flamingo Gardens**

Flamingo Gardens is a nonprofit botanical gardens and wildlife sanctuary located in Fort Lauderdale, (Davie) Florida. The botanical gardens features over 3000 species of rare & exotic, tropical, subtropical, and native plants and trees. Flamingo Gardens Everglades Wildlife Sanctuary is home to permanently injured and rescued Florida native wildlife including alligators, bobcats, a black bear, eagles, otters, panthers, peacock, and of course, flamingos!

Media is invited to the meet and greet for interviews and photo opportunity.

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hi-res images available upon request