

Thanks to all who made this day happen!



Friends of Balboa Park is proud to be a recipient of the 2010 Tree Planting Grant Program of California Releaf. California Releaf was founded in 1989 and their mission is to empower grassroots efforts and build strategic partnerships that preserve, protect, and enhance California's urban and community forests. Last year, they funded 33 projects with localized organizations that will result in over 23,000 trees planted, and the creation or retention of nearly 200 jobs and job training for scores of young people over the next two years. Because of our partnership with California ReLeaf, when you celebrate California Arbor Week in San Diego, you'll be celebrating with the rest of the state as well.

In addition to California Releaf, support for this project was provided by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection with funds provided by the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006



Tree Donors

Balboa Park Nursery, City of San Diego
Red Hat Sisters from the QMB,
in memory of Rita Mathieson
Carol and Herman Wong
San Diego Zoo



Tree Planting Urban Corps of San Diego County

Misty Milan, Urban Forest
Coordinator
Volunteer Corps members



Friends of Balboa Park

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Leslie Yu



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Kari Ross-Berry

City of San Diego Park & Recreation



Greg Armstead, Grounds
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Richard Crider, Acting Center Director,
Muni Gym and Morley Field
Kim Duclo, Park Ranger
Kathleen S. Hasenauer, Deputy Director,
Developed Regional Parks Division
Stacey LoMedico, Park & Recreation Director
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Bruce Martinez, District Manager
Bill Overstreet, Grounds Maintenance Supervisor
Mike Rasmusson, Nursery Supervisor
Casey Smith, Senior Park Ranger
John Stevens, Nursery Gardener
Mike Tully, Grounds Maintenance Manager

We thank all the students and
teachers for their participation
today



School in the Park

Linda Feldman, Director

San Diego High School

Joe Austin, Principal, School of Business
Luke Morgan, Garden Club Advisor

ARBOR DAY

IN BALBOA PARK

March 10, 2011



Balboa Park Arbor Day Planting 2010 in Golden Hill

Friends of BALBOA PARK

Thank you for joining us together with students from *School in the Park and San Diego High School* to celebrate and plant trees in Balboa Park for future generations to enjoy.

PROGRAM

- 10:30 Master of Ceremonies
Park Ranger Kim Duclou, City of San Diego
- Welcome & Thank Yous
Chairman Maureen Lamberti, Friends of Balboa Park
- Renee Robertson
Recycling Specialist, City of San Diego
- Seth Menser
Senior Horticulturist, Ficus Collections Specialist
San Diego Zoo
- Stacey LoMedico
Park & Recreation Director, City of San Diego
- Todd Gloria
District Three Councilmember , City of San Diego
- 11:00 Refreshments & Tree work

Thank you!



Help us plant more trees for future generations through a generous gift today. Your tax deductible contribution to the Friends of Balboa Park will be used for future park improvements and to purchase more trees for Balboa Park. For more information about the Friends, please visit our website: www.friendsofbalboapark.org



***Congratulations to our Arbor Day Poster Contest Winner
Victoria Rey from Rosa Parks Elementary!***

Victoria has presented an outstanding representation of the important role that trees play in our cities and town. Through artistic expression, Victoria has communicated a message of hope for the future of our planet.

Let it be known that Friends of Balboa Park, together with California ReLeaf, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, and

the California Community Forests Foundation recognize the unique and creative contribution offered by our state's youth and extends special appreciation for these efforts.

Special Thanks

Marcus Greene, Teacher, Rosa Parks Elementary
School in the Park for promoting the contest to their students
San Diego Zoo for donating a zoo pass to the winner

Help Us Celebrate National Arbor Day Palm Canyon Tree Planting Friday, April 29, 2011

The first Arbor Day in Balboa Park was organized in 1905 by Kate Sessions, San Diego's very first city gardener. (*pictured below*) We're proud to be carrying on this tradition, a century later. This is the fourth year the Friends of Balboa Park have sponsored an Arbor Day celebration in Balboa Park. Together with our community partners, we have planted groves of trees in four locations:

- Along Park Blvd. on lawn in front of the War Memorial Building
- Between 6th Ave. and Balboa Drive, just east of the Lawn Bowling green
- Along Golf Course drive in Golden Hill opposite the Golden Hill Recreation Center
- Morley Field, between Upas St. and Morley Field Drive, just east of Texas St.

This year, we're hosting another all-volunteer event on **National Arbor Day, Friday, April 29, 2011**. Because of our generous donation from California Releaf, we will be planting a grove of trees on the south escarpment of Palm Canyon. The trees will be a combination of Elephant Ear trees—also known as Monkey Ear or Ear Pod Tree, and Brazilian Fern Trees—also known as Guapuravu, Ficheiria, Guanacaxtle, or Tower Trees. **Indian Rock Cycads & Palms** nursery in Escondido donated some plants for the event in April. There is a need in Palm Canyon to shade hiking trails and the collection of over 70 palm species growing throughout the canyon. Please contact our office for information about how you can donate or volunteer to help us make the park more **GREEN!**



FRIENDS OF
BALBOA PARK

2125 Park Blvd.
San Diego, CA. 92101
tel: 619.232.2282 e-mail:
info@friendsofbalboapark.org

Friends of Balboa Park + Park Sustainability

Friends of Balboa Park is proud to be funding and sponsoring events like Arbor Day, together with our community partners, donors, and the City of San Diego Park & Recreation. Over the past few years, we have undertaken many projects to help the park's horticulture and natural resources survive and thrive for future generations of park stakeholders.



Water Conservation and Management: Through the generous contribution and vision of Dick and Dorothea Laub, Park & Recreation now has the tools to more effectively manage park-wide irrigation and water conservation. In 2010, the entire Central Mesa was outfitted with weather stations (*pictured at left*), satellite controllers, and hand held radios to help coordinate watering with real time weather conditions in diverse areas of Balboa Park: lawns, tree groves, flower beds, and canyons.



Botanical Building Floral Displays and Collections Together with the former members of City Beautiful, we're investigating museum accreditation of the Botanical Building in Balboa Park. We continue to help fund and improve the annual displays of Poinsettias, Easter Lilies, and more!



Canyon Reforestation & Volunteer Cleanups: We have joined Friends of Florida Canyon in helping restore native plants to this important habitat. Palm Canyon has also benefitted from the installation of specialized irrigation systems in this unique environment.



Education and Tours: We continue to organize tours led by park experts to educate our members and the public about the park's valuable horticultural assets. Our next tour is in Palm Canyon on Saturday, April 2. Please contact us to sign up!

About the Trees

The ficus trees being planted today will do well here in Balboa Park. The City of **San Diego Park and Recreation Department** and the **San Diego Zoo** have generously donated the trees here today:

Quantity	Botanical Name	Common Name
15-	<i>Ficus nuda</i>	Nepalese weeping Fig or Himilayan Weeping Fig
2-	<i>Ficus natalensis</i>	Natal Fig
1-	<i>Ficus macrophylla</i>	Moreton Bay Fig
2-	<i>Ficus goldmanii</i>	Goldman Fig
2-	<i>Ficus benghalensis</i>	Banyan Fig , also know as Bengal Fig or Indian fig

Of the 800 species of *Ficus* in the world, over 30 different species and varieties are growing in Balboa Park. *Ficus* trees throughout the world may be used for their edible figs and their leaves for animal fodder. Several species are used by indigenous people in Africa, India and Australia for cloth, paper, cords, rope and fishnets. Many religions consider the trees sacred. (from "*Ficus Notes*", Kathy Pupilava and Paul Sirois ,2001, *Trees and Gardens of Balboa Park, City of San Diego Park & Recreation Dept.*)

Ficus (pronounced /'fikʊs/) is a genus of about 850 species of woody trees, shrubs, vines, epiphytes, and hemiepiphyte in the family Moraceae. Collectively known as **fig trees** or **figs**, they are native throughout the tropics with a few species extending into the semi-warm temperate zone. The Common Fig (*F. carica*) is a temperate species native to southwest Asia and the Mediterranean region which has been widely cultivated from ancient times for its fruit, also referred to as **figs**. The fruit of most other species are also edible though they are usually of only local economic importance or eaten as bushfood. However, they are extremely important food resources for wildlife.

Ficus is a pan-tropical genus of trees, shrubs and vines occupying a wide variety of ecological niches; most are evergreen, but some deciduous species are endemic to areas outside of the tropics and to higher elevations. Fig species are characterized by their unique inflorescence and distinctive pollination syndrome, which utilizes wasp species belonging to the Agaonidae family for pollination.

The specific identification of many of the species can be difficult, but figs as a group are relatively easy to recognize. Many have aerial roots and a distinctive shape or habit, and their fruits distinguish them from other

plants. The unique fig pollination system, involving tiny, highly specific wasps, known as fig wasps that enter these closed inflorescences to both pollinate and lay their own eggs, has been a constant source of inspiration



Ficus benghalensis

and wonder to biologists. Finally, there are three vegetative traits that together are unique to figs. All figs possess a white to yellowish sap (latex), some in copious quantities; the twig has paired stipules or a circular stipule scar if the stipules have fallen off; and the lateral veins at the base of the leaf are steep, forming a tighter angle with the midrib than the other lateral veins, a feature referred to as a "tri-veined".

Ficus nuda, the "**Nepalese Weeping Fig**" or the "**Himilayan Weeping Fig**" is actually a variety of *Ficus benjamina* that grow in Nepal, Southern China, Thailand, Vietnam, Philippines and New Guinea. It naturally occurs at an elevation of 1,000 ft. to 4,000 ft. in Nepal in the foothills of the Himalayas.

Ficus natalensis is a tree in the Moraceae family. It is commonly known as the **Natal Fig**. These trees are distributed from KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa to east Africa.

Ficus macrophylla, commonly known as the **Moreton Bay Fig**, is a large evergreen banyan tree of the Moraceae family that is a native of most of the eastern coast of Australia. Its common name is derived from Moreton Bay in Queensland, Australia. It is best known for its beautiful buttress roots. The most popular tree in Balboa Park is the Moreton Bay Fig growing on Village Place near the Natural History Museum. Individuals may reach 60 m (200 ft) in height.



Moreton Bay Fig in Balboa Park

Ficus benghalensis, the **banyan**, is a large and extensive growing tree of the Indian subcontinent. *Ficus benghalensis* produces propagating roots which grow downwards as aerial roots. Once these roots reach the ground, they grow into woody trunks that can become indistinguishable from the main trunk.

Ficus goldmanii is just called the "Goldman Fig." It occurs from Mexico down through northern South America.

*from Wikipedia, the FREE encyclopedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ficus>