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## LAURITZEN GARDENS NAMES NEW CEO

(OMAHA): Lauritzen Gardens has named Ennis Anderson IV its new CEO, effective May 1, 2024. Anderson currently serves as senior vice president of guest services and operations for Fort Worth Botanic Garden in Texas and holds a leadership position with the Executive Board of the American Public Garden Association (APGA).

Anderson brings more than 20 years of leadership experience in the private and public sectors, including the last eight years at Fort Worth Botanic Garden, one of the oldest major botanic gardens in Texas. He's also served as vice president of operations and chief financial officer during his time in Fort Worth.

Anderson expressed gratitude for his experience in Fort Worth and excitement for what the future holds in Omaha.

"In my time at Fort Worth Botanic Garden, I've witnessed it blossom into a cherished community institution. I take immense pride in having been part of a thriving team that has not only made this transformation happen but continues to make a positive impact," Anderson said. "As I embark on a new journey, I eagerly anticipate nurturing Lauritzen Gardens as we expand alongside the vibrant city of Omaha. Our commitment to excellence and creating meaningful, lasting experiences will be unwavering."

Lauritzen Gardens Board of Directors President Wendy Wiseman added, "We have great expectations for the contributions Ennis will make at Lauritzen Gardens. His depth of experience and lead role in the American Public Gardens Association (APGA) will contribute to our vision for where our incredible public resource will be in the future."

Prior to joining Fort Worth Botanic Garden, Anderson held multiple leadership roles in the hospitality industry, where he managed large teams of employees and oversaw multimillion-dollar budgets. He also currently serves as secretary of the APGA and has served on multiple committees for the organization. Anderson will fill the role at Lauritzen Gardens currently held by John Newman, who is retiring after leading the organization since 2018.

Anderson is available for interviews in Omaha beginning May 1. To schedule, please contact Lauritzen Gardens Director of Marketing Mia Jenkins: <u>m.jenkins@omahabotanicalgardens.org</u> or 402-346-4002.

Lauritzen Gardens is a 100-acre botanical garden, located in Omaha, Nebraska, whose mission is to implement thoughtful, ecologically-minded practices and to curate accessible, educational, and inspirational experiences that enhance lives. For more information, please visit lauritzengardens.org.

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Photo of Ennis Anderson IV