**MEDIA RELEASE**

**15 November 2018**

**What is an Orchid Show?**

The Southern Ontario Orchid Society will be holding their **39th Orchid Show and Sale** on Saturday, **February 9th and Sunday, February 10t**h, 2019 at the Toronto Botanical Garden, 777 Lawrence Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario, M3C 1P2. The cost is $12 for adults and free for supervised children under 12. The show runs from 11 am to 5 pm on both Saturday and Sunday.

The SOOS Annual Orchid Show and Sale is a wonderful opportunity to visit a tropical paradise without leaving home. Orchid lovers from all over Ontario look forward to the February Show.

Over 30 exhibits from professional orchid growers, conservatories, orchid societies, individuals and conservationists are to be found in the Floral Hall. The variety of orchids on display is amazing and the quality, astounding. Prior to the Show opening on Saturday morning, these orchids and exhibits are judged based on the flowers on display at the Show. Exceptional specimens are then temporarily removed for American Orchid Society (AOS) judging where they are evaluated against others grown around the world. Typically, each year, between 10 and 15 are presented with coveted AOS awards.

The Show also celebrates orchids that have been recorded in art. This year, there will be a selection of the wood engravings of **Gerard Bender à Brandis** on display. For two hours on Sunday morning (9 to 11 am), a limited number of photographers will be permitted to bring in their tripods and photograph the orchid exhibits.

Free one-hour seminars conducted by orchid experts are held on both Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Sessions will cover repotting, growing orchids in the home, reblooming and conservation.

Free guided tours are given by Society members who can explain the wonders of the Show. A free coat and plant check is offered to assist the orchid enthusiast in getting the most out of the Show.

Growers from as far away as Taiwan and Ecuador join Canadian vendors to showcase the best of their orchids in both the Sales and Show areas. A list of confirmed vendors can be found at soos.ca, many of whom will take pre-orders and some only take cash. Besides being able to purchase unusual orchids, the visitor has a large selection of growing supplies and orchid memorabilia from which to choose.

Visit soos.ca for more information.

Media Info: <http://soos.ca/Show/media.htm>

Images: <http://soos.ca/Show/Media/images/index.htm>