



## Media Advisory

September 17, 2021

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## Flower Piano Opens Today

**Beloved Bay Area event returns with twelve pianos for all to play and amazing scheduled performances at San Francisco Botanical Garden**

After five successful years, and a pause in 2020 due to the pandemic, Sunset Piano and San Francisco Botanical Garden are excited to bring back Flower Piano to transform the Botanical Garden once again into the city's own alfresco concert hall where everyone is invited to play and listen.

Featured performances by renowned pianists, as well as those offered by our community partners, and musical ensembles will take place at select times and will range from classical, punk, beat, world, and improvisational music. Full program details are available at [sfbg.org/flowerpiano](http://sfbg.org/flowerpiano). From 10am to 6pm visitors are encouraged to offer impromptu interludes between the scheduled concerts.

**WHAT:**

Flower Piano

**WHO:**

Founding Artists - Mauro fforttisimo and Dean Mermell of Sunset Piano will be available for interviews  
San Francisco Botanical Garden Executive Director Stephanie Linder will be available for interviews

**WHEN:**

Friday, September 17 – Tuesday, September 21

**TIME:**

10:00 AM – 6:00 PM PDT

**WHERE:**

San Francisco Botanical Garden

**INFO:**

[sfbg.org/flowerpiano](http://sfbg.org/flowerpiano)

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## **About Sunset Piano**

Mauro ffortissimo and Dean Mermell together launched Sunset Piano in 2013 when ffortissimo covertly rolled an old grand piano onto the bluffs over Half Moon Bay. As word spread through social media, the crowds grew way beyond the occasional dog walker. Thousands came to hear the music before the county ordered the piano removed. Since then, Sunset Piano has expanded this impromptu musical and social experiment, temporarily placing pianos in a wide variety of unexpected natural and urban settings around the Bay Area every year, from the top of Montara Mountain to Market Street. *Flower Piano*, a collaboration with San Francisco Botanical Garden, is Sunset Piano's largest and most ambitious undertaking. Mermell's documentary about Sunset Piano is entitled *Twelve Pianos*. For more information visit [TwelvePianos.com](http://TwelvePianos.com) or [SunsetPiano.com](http://SunsetPiano.com).

## **About San Francisco Botanical Garden**

San Francisco Botanical Garden connects people to plants, the planet, and each other. A living museum within Golden Gate Park, San Francisco Botanical Garden offers 55 acres of beautiful gardens displaying nearly 8,000 different kinds of plants from around the world, including many that are rare and endangered. Established in 1940, San Francisco Botanical Garden at Strybing Arboretum in Golden Gate Park is a public/private partnership between San Francisco Botanical Garden Society and the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department.

## **About the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department**

The San Francisco Recreation and Park Department currently manages more than 220 parks, playgrounds and open spaces throughout San Francisco, including two outside city limits—Sharp Park in Pacifica and Camp Mather in the High Sierras. The system includes full-complex recreation centers, swimming pools, golf courses, sports fields and numerous small-to-medium-sized clubhouses that offer a variety of sports- and arts-related recreation programs for people of all ages. Included in the Department's responsibilities are Golden Gate Park, Coit Tower, the Marina Yacht Harbor, the San Francisco Zoo and Lake Merced.

In 2017, San Francisco became the first and only city in the nation where all residents have access to a park within a 10-minute walk, a direct result of the Department's commitment to increasing and improving parkland in the city.

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