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Local Carpinterian appointed to Ganna Walksa's Lotusland Board of Trustees

SANTA BARBARA, CA –

Local landscape architect Leland Walmsley of *everGREEN landscape architects, inc.* has been appointed to the Board of Trustees @ Ganna Walska's Lotusland in Montecito. He will bring his expertise for creating beautiful, healthy, environmentally friendly, energy efficient landscapes to the historically significant garden. He will sit on several committees, working toward preserving its community programs and its gardens. Previously, Leland served on the Board of Directors of the U.S. Green Building Council local chapter and taught other green professionals seeking their green credentials.

Lotusland's roots as a garden are some 130 years old. It is 37 acres and includes a valuable and greatly diverse variety of plant species, such as Palms, Cycads, ferns, succulents and Begonias from all around the world in a picturesque display and setting. The 26 acres that are open to the public includes over 3,000 different species of plants from around the world, focusing primarily on plants from the Mediterranean regions with well over 27,000 plants in total. 10% of the plant collection represents species that are rare or endangered in their native habitat. 43% of the cycad collections represents species that are rare, endangered, or extinct in the wild – making this collection one of the most important in the world.

Lotusland has a 4th Grade Outreach Program open to all public 4th grade classes in Santa Barbara County that ties into the State of California's fourth grade curriculum for Life Science.

Ganna Walska's Lotusland is open to the public February through November for garden tours and hosts a variety of special lectures and popular events throughout the year.

This amazing place depends heavily on the generosity of the public in the form of donations and memberships to continue to exist as a plant preserve and operate as an educational setting for generations to come.

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