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SANTA CRUZ MUSEUM
of natural history

SANTA CRUZ MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY LAUNCHES NEW EXHIBIT *SEEDS: NATURE'S ARTFUL ENGINEERING WITH IN-PERSON RECEPTION*

Exhibit dates *October 9 – November 28, 2021*

SANTA CRUZ, CA — October 6, 2021 [*Seeds: Nature's Artful Engineering*](#) is the new exhibit from the Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History, featuring unique and beautiful photographic images that vividly portray intriguing seed structures and dispersal mechanisms of native plants as they enter the final stage of their evolutionary biology: ensuring the survival of plant life. The exhibit opens on October 9, both online and in the Museum's galleries.

"It's fall, the perfect season to explore the science of seeds and connect with the processes that give us all the food and plants we depend upon throughout the year. Our Members have truly supported us through an unprecedented time in the Museum's history and we are so glad we can continue to provide exciting exhibits that will deepen their connections with nature," says Liz Broughton, Visitor Services Manager.

Seeds: Nature's Artful Engineering is a traveling exhibition from Exhibit Envoy developed by Jennifer Jewell and John Whittlesey to increase awareness and appreciation of seeds and their intrinsically valuable role in California's ecological systems. Broughton points out *"Plant enthusiasts of all ages can learn about native seeds, share their seed stories, and can get an up-close look at the beautiful variety of seed forms. Whether you're a native plant novice or botanical expert, this exhibit is an intriguing look at the journey seeds must go through to turn into the plants we all love."*

The Museum will offer several seed-themed special events for the public and its Members throughout the exhibit's run. The first event is a Member exclusive opening reception featuring food, drink, and activities outdoors in Tyrrell Park for **Friday, October 8, 2021, 6-8 p.m.** with the exhibit open indoors for a member-only preview. You are invited to explore [Museum Membership](#) and [upcoming special events](#).

About The Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History

The Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History's mission statement is, *connecting people with nature and science to inspire stewardship of the natural world*. The Museum was first established with the personal collection of local naturalist and lighthouse keeper Laura Hecox. Founded in 1904, becoming an independent nonprofit in 2009, it has a proud history as the first public museum in Santa Cruz. The Museum is bordered by Tyrrell Park, with native plants and grasses adorning the grounds and a life-size gray whale model greeting the public. The historical collection, public programs, and location make this institution a cherished landmark located across from the entrance to Seabright State Beach. Learn more about the Museum at santacruzmuseum.org.

Upcoming Events

Member Opening Reception | Friday, October 8 | 6-8 p.m.

A festive experience for Museum Members outside in the park with opportunities for indoor exploration of the exhibit.

Out and About: Fall Foods | Saturday, October 16 | 10 a.m. to noon

During this family-friendly event at Live Earth Farm, the team at Farm Discovery will lead families through seed saving and pumpkin carving as we visit with farm animals.

Member Meet-Up: Natural Dye From Seeds | Saturday, October 23 | 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

During this hands-on workshop, Museum Members will explore the color potential of seeds by processing acorns, avocado seeds, and California black walnuts into natural dyes.

Learn more at <https://www.santacruzmuseum.org/public-programs/>.