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## SANTA CRUZ MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY LAUNCHES NEW EXHIBIT POLLINATORS: KEEPING COMPANY WITH FLOWERS

Exhibit dates January 15 - March 6, 2022

**SANTA CRUZ**, **CA** — **January 11**, **2022** *Pollinators: Keeping Company with Flowers*, an exhibit that portrays the relationship between insects and the flowers they pollinate, will be at the Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History from January 15 through March 6, 2022. The traveling exhibition explores the diversity of native California pollinators and their flowers through a series of vivid photographs.

"This exhibit invites visitors to take a closer look at California ecology through the lives of these pollinating species and the needs and obstacles of these important insects," says Liz Broughton, the Museum's Visitor Services Manager

*Pollinators: Keeping Company with Flowers* features over 50 photographs of pollinators in wild and garden settings, primarily taken by Northern California plantsman and naturalist, John Whittlesey. These images vividly portray the intriguing lives of bees, butterflies, flies, and beetles. The exhibit aims to increase awareness and appreciation of the incredible beauty and diversity of pollinators in California.

The museum will offer an array of pollinator themed <u>programming</u> for families and adults this winter, from monarch walks to introductions to beekeeping. Marisa Gomez, Public Programs Manager at the Museum, says, "Monarchs are on our minds this winter and we're excited to offer programs alongside this exhibit to help our local community learn more about the critical importance of all pollinators." The Museum will also host an opening on Friday, January 14 for <u>Museum Members</u>.

## **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.