



**Environmental  
Nature Center**

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# Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **ENVIRONMENTAL NATURE CENTER PRESENTS 12TH ANNUAL SPRING FAIRE AND BUTTERFLY HOUSE OPENING**

**Newport Beach, Calif., April 4, 2017 - The Environmental Nature Center (ENC)** will present its 12th annual Spring Faire and Butterfly House Opening on Sunday May 7th, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Faire will feature a Youth Art Show, native plant sale, crafts, face painting, sing alongs with local performers, nature games, live native animals and delicious food and beverages from local restaurants. Over 3,000 people are expected to attend. More info at [encenter.org](http://encenter.org). The ENC is located at 1601 E. 16th Street, Newport Beach.

Orange County's only butterfly house will re-open at the Spring Faire. Visitors can observe Orange County native butterflies interacting with locally native host and nectar plants. Native plants will be available for sale. Native plants draw butterflies and birds, save water, reduce pesticide use, and showcase color throughout the year.

Visitors can experience the best dishes and beverages local restaurants have to offer at the ENC's "Savor OC". Confirmed restaurants include Damasq Cafe, Rita's Ice Custard Happiness, Kean Coffee, Sensitive Sweets, White House Catering, Pie-Not, Three Seventy Common, and Al's New York Cafe. Local restaurants and catering companies are encouraged and invited to participate.

Guests can also purchase of a reusable ENC bag for \$5, their ticket to the Craft Crawl presented by Girl Scout Troop 2917. This year's crafts feature endangered wildlife from California, such as Salt Marsh Bird's Beak, San Mateo Thorn Mint, the Green Sea Turtle, Northern Spotted Owl, the Wolverine and the El Segundo Blue Butterfly.

Children ages 4 to 18 will exhibit their art at the Youth Art Showcase. This year's theme is "Creativity and Climate Change." Prizes provided by Art Supply Warehouse, Saddleback College Fashion Program and the ENC's Nature's Gifts store will be awarded to first, second, and third place winners in four age categories.

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At 10:45 a.m. the Young Singers of Orange County will perform on the Fire Circle Stage. At 12:45 p.m. guests can enjoy a live Bird of Prey presentation. At 11:15 a.m. and 1:45 p.m. children can sing along with Save the Queen Green. The Metropolitan Water District will also conduct a presentation on California's drought.

Face painters will paint butterflies and caterpillars on participants' faces; henna artists will create beautiful designs on hands and feet. Fees from these attractions will benefit the ENC's environmental education programs.

Live hawks and owls from the OC Bird of Prey Center and a variety of arthropods courtesy of Francisco the Bug Guy will also be on display.

### **About the ENC**

Founded in 1972, the ENC is a fascinating combination of 15 California native plant communities, wildlife habitat, walking trails, and sustainably designed, LEED Platinum certified learning center. For 40 years, the ENC has been shaped and caressed into a 3.5 acre landscape for learning, a sanctuary from life's pressures and a place of preservation and instruction. Serving over 21,000 students and thousands of visitors annually, the ENC is recognized as a leader in science and social science education providing opportunities for increasing our community's knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the natural world.

The ENC recently purchased property to develop a nature play area, and construct our community's first nature based preschool. With a mission of providing quality education through hands-on experience with nature, the ENC inspires all generations to protect the natural world by serving as our community's foremost authority on ecological responsibility, sustainable practices and environmental education. The ENC is a non-profit 501(c)-3 public benefit corporation. For more information call 949-645-8489, or visit [www.ENCcenter.org](http://www.ENCcenter.org). The ENC is located at 1601 16th Street in Newport Beach.

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