

# Neiman Marcus Coral Gables Fifth Annual Splendor in the Garden at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

Photography by [Ryan Troy](#) on January 19th, 2016 in [Fashion](#), [Lifestyle](#)

Miami, FL – January 14, 2016 – Fashion and philanthropy were in style at Fairchild’s *Splendor in the Garden* Fashion show and Fundraiser. More than 300 fashion-forward philanthropists attended the 5th Annual Splendor in the Garden fashion show and fundraiser held at [Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden](#). Guests gathered for a fun-filled day of fashion supporting Fairchild’s programs in education, conservation science, and horticulture. The event was presented by [Neiman Marcus Coral Gables](#), [Mercedes-Benz of Cutler Bay](#), and [Mercedes-Benz of Coral Gables](#) with sponsorship from [Ocean Drive magazine](#) and [Marquis Bank](#) and support from [Selecta magazine](#) and [Miami In Style TV](#). This year’s 2016 Fairchild Philanthropy Honorees were Swanee DiMare, Frances Sevilla-Sacasa, Lydia Touzet, Gigi Whitman, Laurie Jennings, Christy Martin, and Marie Ilene Whitehurst.

The day began with an outdoor cocktail reception in front of the Visitor Center. Once in the lakeside marquee, emcee Stephanie Sayfie Aagaard welcomed guests and introduced Co-Chair Swanee DiMare, who thanked the sponsors, partners, and audience for supporting Fairchild. Dr. Carl Lewis, Fairchild’s Director, spoke about the science and education initiatives that fundraisers like Splendor in the Garden help to sustain.

Stephen Brunelle, VP and General Manager of Neiman Marcus Coral Gables, introduced Ken Downing, Senior VP and Fashion Director of Neiman Marcus, lauding his achievements in the fashion industry. Ken Downing took the stage to much applause by an adoring crowd. This was Ken Downing’s 5th year producing the now highly anticipated fashion show. He presented a first look at the Spring 2016 collections. The first Spring trend was lace – models graced the runway with flower crowns wearing lace and light colors accented with floral motifs. The second trend showcased denim; “denim redefined,” an assortment of wide-legged pants, jackets, and coats made from the iconic fabric. The third trend featured was red, reds in everything from solid colors to geometric shapes to intricate patterns. The finale highlighted evening looks including show stoppers, including shiny and metallic looks.









