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TYLER ARBORETUM'S COLLECTION OF TREE HOUSES GROWS
Two new tree houses open this summer

MEDIA, Pa (May 30, 2013) – Construction on one new tree house at Tyler Arboretum is finished and construction on another is almost ready to begin. Fort Tyler opened to the public on May 25, just in time for Memorial Day weekend, and the Tulip Tree House is scheduled to open in mid-June. These new tree houses join the nine existing tree houses that were built as part of Tyler's *Totally Terrific Treehouses* initiative.

A unique collaboration among Linn Architects in Media, students from The Williamson Free School of Mechanical Trades and Toll Brothers, Fort Tyler is situated among a grove of trees with a catwalk bridge leading to a fort-like structure 13-feet high. Tyler members braved the rainy weather and took advantage of a special preview and scavenger hunt on May 24, with a first look at the spectacular new tree house

The Tulip Tree House is scheduled to be completed in June and was designed by Parris Bradley, who also designed the popular Troll Bridge, now a permanent feature at Tyler. Bradley drew inspiration from the leaves of the native tulip poplar tree. He designed it with boys, girls, and even adults in mind by including a small wooden kitchen and dining room inside the structure, making the Tulip Tree House a place for imagination to thrive.

Fort Tyler and the Tulip Tree House join a permanent collection of eight other tree houses at Tyler. The 2008 *Totally Terrific Tree House* initiative invited designers, architects and builders of all sorts to create unique tree house structures for children to enjoy for years to come.

Tyler celebrates its tree houses with its annual Tree House Festival on Sunday, July 21, which features a raptor show with hawks and falcons, interactive woodcarving demonstrations by the William Rush Woodcarvers Club and an opportunity for kids to learn how to climb trees like a real arborist, using ropes and harnesses under the supervision of Oakwood Tree Care Professionals. The Tree House Festival is open to the public for only the cost of admission.

About Tyler Arboretum

Tyler Arboretum, one of the oldest and largest arboreta in the northeastern United States, is an important community resource and cultural destination. Tyler provides a natural sanctuary for visitors interested in horticulture, history and the natural world. Its 650 acres of meadows, wetlands, and unbroken forest can be enjoyed via over 20 miles of hiking trails. Additional information is available at www.tylerarboretum.org.

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