



Flowers, Food & FREE entertainment, could an evening get much better? Missouri Botanical Gardens doesn't think so, that's why they've orchestrated the Whitaker Music Festival through out July & August. Depending on which specified date on their calendar (*see their website for more details), you could get in free between 9am-5pm or your entry may be free after 5pm. Want to try some local brisket sandwiches? Bring some cash, as food is available for purchase on site. Strapped for cash or looking for a cheap, but still romantic, date? Pack a picnic and bring a cooler – you're allowed to bring in food after certain times. The entertainment varies depending on the date, for example, on July 29th the entertainment is provided by Ralph Butler, but the quality is sure to never lack.

If music festivals aren't your cup of tea, treat yourself to the Botanical Garden's "Garden Nights." While it may not be free like the Whitaker Music Festival, it is just as entertaining, if not more. For \$7 (or \$5 if you happen to be a Garden Member), you will get to enjoy the beautiful sight of the Garden after-hours, with some family oriented entertainment and wine tasting. If this appeals to you, take advantage of this as it is only scheduled on Thursday nights from 5pm-9pm until Labor Day– in celebration of the Garden's 150th anniversary.

If you happen to be a GO GREEN person, check out Missouri Botanical Garden's website for further details on their Plastic Pot Recycling program going through September 30th. This is a program that has been going since April 22 that allows gardeners to recycle their empty plastic soil pots, cell packs and trays.

Check out the Missouri Botanical Garden's for yourself: <http://www.mobot.gov>