



WELCOMING IN

# Spring



by TYLER MCNULTY

Guests can once again welcome in spring and treat their senses with a wide variety of tastes, smells, sights and sounds at the Epcot International Flower & Garden Festival, blossoming now until June 8.

Throughout the park, more than 70 of Disney's world-famous characters have come to life in topiary form. Beautiful gardens, flower towers, wildlife habitats and playgrounds, including the new Bo Peep's Playtime Training Grounds, bring the park to life in a way that is uniquely Disney.

Outdoor Kitchens have also returned this year, bringing back delicious smells that are sure to flood the World Showcase. Seventeen Outdoor Kitchens scattered around the park offer up delectable small plates for all to enjoy.

Darlyn Aguilar, a Guest Experience Manager for Epcot Festivals, said there are four new Outdoor Kitchen concepts this year including the Flavor Full Outdoor Kitchen that offers up more healthy options for Guests to enjoy.

"There are more health-conscious items, and I think Guests are going to be glad to see more of those items," Darlyn said. "We get a lot of Guests who ask for vegetarian options. Now even more of those items are listed on the menu."



Darlyn added that this year, for the first time, the festival will sell an exclusive Orange Bird sipper filled with a creamsicle drink. A fan-favorite drink, the Violet Lemonade, is also getting the merchandise treatment with Minnie Mouse ear headbands, spirit jerseys and wristlets.

"A lot of people come directly to Pineapple Promenade to get Violet Lemonade. This year Festival merchandise locations will have merchandise themed to the drink," said Darlyn.

And get ready to rock with the now nightly Garden Rocks Concert Series. Performances take place seven days a week at the America Gardens Theatre at 5:30, 6:45 and 8 p.m.

With so much in bloom at the Epcot International Flower & Garden Festival, discover something new with each visit!



For more information about the festival, search "Epcot Cast" on the HUB.

