C. Fred Edwards Conservatory
In addition to art, this Museum was founded with the mission to be a proponent for, and an interpreter of, nature. This mission is manifested in the conservatory, which contains warm-growing, non-native plants. It is under the direction of Dr. Mike Beck.

The C. Fred Edwards Conservatory opened in 1996 and is West Virginia’s only plant conservatory. It features tropical and sub-tropical plants. The plants in our collection fall into four general categories: Orchids, Agriculturally Important, Fragrant, and Unusual.

**ACTIVITY**

**Self-Watering Houseplants**

**Materials:**
- Acrylic Yarn or Fabric
- Potting Mix
- Planter Pot with Drainage Hole
- Water Source

1. Submerge your acrylic yarn or fabric in water.
2. Take the pot that you are interested in and insert the yarn or fabric through the drainage holes.
3. Place your houseplant of choice and fill the pot with potting mix that contains 50% Shpagmun Peat Moss, making sure the yarn goes through the soil, across the pot and down.
4. Measure out the height of the water container to the yarn, allowing the yarn to graze the bottom of the container.
5. Fill 3/4 of the container with water.
Orchids are one of the many things Dr. Mike specializes in. Color the orchid and draw one on your own!