

Authored by Fabian Reyes - Director & Founder Mariposario Jardín Mágico

“The Pollinator Project”

**The Butterfly Museum is now open at
Butterfly Sanctuary Mariposario
Jardín Mágico**



New Butterfly Museum at the Butterfly Sanctuary.

The Butterfly Museum is now open, offering a unique space where history, science, and nature come together.

Discover how ancient cultures honored butterflies and explore their meaning through time, making this the perfect complement to your visit.

Environmental education for future generations

We thank the Community Development Center “La Montaña” for inviting us to share our work on pollinator conservation with their children.

It was an enriching experience that reinforces the importance of environmental education from an early age to build a more sustainable future.



America teaching at the community center.

We look forward to continuing our collaboration to strengthen the connection between people and nature.

Melanism in Male White Butterfly *Ascia monuste monuste* (Linnaeus, 1764) (Pieridae: Pierinae) Under Controlled Rearing Conditions

We reported the first recorded occurrence of melanism in males of *Ascia monuste monuste* raised in captivity. While seasonal melanism in females of this species is well known, this is the first time this phenomenon has been documented in males.



Comparison between a typical white male (left) and a melanistic male (right), showing the contrast in wing coloration.

From January to June 2025, approximately 32% of newly emerged males displayed a sepia-brown coloration with strongly darkened wing veins, rather than the typical white form. No females showed melanism during the same period. This pattern differs from the known female melanic form and is characterized by a distinctive striped appearance due to heavily pigmented veins.

These observations contribute to a better understanding of color variation in captive butterfly populations and provide useful information for breeding and exhibition management.

If you would like to read the full report, please visit: <https://iabes.org/topic/flutterings-volume-24-number-6/>



Male with normal white phenotype (Left). Melanistic male feeding on nectar, exhibiting normal foraging behavior and the ability to locate floral resources.

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Students Supporting Butterfly Education

We give special recognition to the students from Harkness Institute for creating a banner for Mariposario Jardín Mágico, with special thanks to Emiliano and Leonor.

Their contribution supports our educational mission by helping us share more information and provide a better learning experience for our visitors.



Students with the educational banner.

Thank you for adding your talent and enthusiasm to a project that connects education, nature, and community.

New museum pieces will be added soon!

Thanks to your valuable contributions, we can continue expanding our collection and offering a richer, more engaging experience for our visitors. The following paintings are:

Painting of Itzpapalotl, the Aztec goddess and replica Mixtec gold ornament.



Itzpapalotl, the Aztec goddess of death, is also associated with the butterfly. She is linked to the symbol 'Four Mirrors' and to the moth *Rothschildia orizaba* (family Saturniidae).

The 2nd piece is a replica Mixtec gold ornament in the shape of a butterfly.

Would you like to support our work?

Your commitment helps ensure that future generations can continue to learn from and be inspired by the wonders of our garden's pollinators. Thank you for being a key part of this important work!



If you would like to support our work, donations are available via PayPal.

 **Big
News!**

We now offer
Wi-Fi for your
convenience.

A New Scientific Chapter for Our Butterfly Sanctuary

We are proud to share that we are now members of the Entomological Society of America (ESA), one of the world's leading scientific organizations for insect research and conservation. This strengthens our butterfly conservation and breeding programs, enhances our educational tours with science-based knowledge, and connects us with experts worldwide—bringing a better experience for our visitors and stronger protection for native butterflies and local ecosystems.



Founded in 1889, ESA unites experts to advance insect science and conservation.