

QuailTracks

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**ART
FEST**

**CHOCOLATE
FESTIVAL**

**FAIRY
FESTIVAL**



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SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN PHONE EXTENSIONS

SDBGarden.org

760/ 436-3036 (phone) 760/ 632-0917 (fax)

Monday – Friday, 9 AM – 5 PM

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San Diego
BOTANIC
GARDEN



230 Quail Gardens Drive
Encinitas, CA 92024

MISSION STATEMENT: To inspire people of all ages
to connect with plants and nature.

The Garden Shops

Open 10 am – 4 pm daily (Closed on Christmas Day)

Membership Discounts:

10% to Family, Individual and Steward level members

20% to Patron and higher level members



Who's ready for Spring? It's the season for new beginnings, planning and planting. Let's get started!

New in the Plant Shop is a special section featuring "Garden Grown" plants. These plants are typically found here on the grounds and are propagated by our nursery volunteers and staff.

Look for rare gems like Cabbage on a Stick (*Brighamia insignis*) and our signature plant Dragon Tree (*Dracaena draco*). We also have a good selection of seedling cycads, unusual succulents and Hawaiian native plants.

As featured in the San Diego Union-Tribune, the Gift Shop carries a line of Womanswork products that are designed by women for women. Their popular gardening gloves are not only great looking, but hardworking. And for apres gardening, their skin care products are a treat for the body and soul.

Need some inspiration, a bit of guidance? Whether it's a native landscape you're dreaming of, a unique succulent garden you desire, homegrown vegetables you want, or botanical crafts you want to give a try, the Gift Shop has you covered with books by and for Southern California gardeners. So, get creative. We'll be looking forward to seeing you at the Garden Shops!



Dickinson Foundation Chairman Martin Dickinson and San Diego Botanic Garden (SDBG) Trustee Carol Dickinson presented the San Diego Botanic Garden a check for \$500,000 to complete a \$1 million pledge at SDBG's Annual Meeting on January 23, 2016. The SDBG recently met a \$3 million challenge put forth by the Donald C. and Elizabeth M. Dickinson Foundation, raising funds for the Dickinson Family Education Conservatory, a 7,400 sq. ft. educational and community center to be built adjacent to the SDBG's Hamilton Children's Garden. The SDBG is currently raising the funds to complete the rest of the campaign. For more information or to contribute, please contact Tracie Barham at 760/436-3036 x216.

**The Dickinsons (center) are pictured with
Campaign Chairman Jim Farley (far left),
SDBG President and CEO Julian Duval (second from right)
and SDBG Director of Development Tracie Barham (far right).**



Message from the Chair of the Board

Tom Applegate
Immediate Past Chair of the Board

San Diego Botanic Garden 2015: Year In Review

Over the past 3 years that I have been Chair of the Board, I have seen many terrific opportunities for members of the San Diego community and beyond to connect with this beautiful, 37-acre urban retreat. I believe there is something significant that can be experienced by people of all ages who come to our Garden to connect with the natural world around them, whether it is through one of our events, classes, meetings, tours or by just taking a relaxing stroll.

One of the most exciting moments of 2015 for many of us was receiving the Donald C. and Elizabeth M. Dickinson Foundation's Challenge Grant of \$1 million by securing \$3 million in donations prior to December 31, 2015. What an achievement for all who love and support the Garden! Clearly, without many of you making significant contributions toward the Dickinson Family Education Conservatory, we would not have achieved this goal. So I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank all who have donated (*and will be donating*) to this significant and important project. We look forward to breaking ground in the very near future!

As I turn the baton over to Sharon May Lowe, who takes over as our new Chair of the Board in 2016, it is my great pleasure to share with you some significant highlights from 2015:

In January, it was a great honor to welcome **Dr. Peter Raven** as our guest speaker at the Annual Meeting. Dr. Raven is a world-renowned conservationist and former Director of the Missouri Botanical Garden for over 30 years. His memorable presentation focused on the threats to the world's biodiversity and the important role botanic gardens have in stemming this trend.

In February, more than 600 walkers and their furry friends enjoyed the annual **Paw Walk in the Garden**, jointly presented with Rancho Coastal Humane Society.

In March, **Spring Festival and Tomatomania** welcomed 10% more attendees than in previous years, as well as several new plant vendors. In 2016, a new partnership with our neighbors at Coastal Roots Farm, located on The Leichtag Foundation property, also brought with it a new name, the **Spring Planting Jubilee & Tomato Sale**.

In April, the Garden hosted the **20th Annual Make-A-Wish Easter Egg Hunt** for 90 children and their families, partially underwritten by Jersey Mike's in Encinitas.

Beginning in May, more than 2,600 active duty military and their family members enjoyed free admission to the Garden as a part of the **Blue Star Museums Program**. A generous garden friend was the underwriter once again for the program, as well as

another significant benefit for our men and women in uniform, 2/3 off the price of an annual membership, available year-round. The annual Chocolate Festival and bi-annual Misty Washington Gourd and Basket conference were also held in May.

In June, a **chicken coop and free-range enclosure**, designed and built by students at Mira Costa College and a local Eagle Scout, was added in the Garden's Eucalyptus Grove. **Thursday Family Fun Nights**, a great way for families to connect on summer evenings thanks to the City of Encinitas and Mizel Family Foundation Community Grant Program, also ran June through August.

In July, the Garden produced and hosted its first **Summer Camp** for middle-school students. Thanks to a generous donation from the Wong Family Foundation, 100 children of all income levels were able to learn about plant photography, organic gardening and more. The Garden's ever popular **Insect Festival**, with creepy-crawlies of all kinds, also took place in July and was sponsored by K&M Pest Solutions. The Garden also celebrated the opening of the **Jitter Bean Coffee Cart**, providing refreshments and delicious organic coffee, thanks to a generous grant from the County of San Diego and a collaboration with Employment & Community Options.

In August, the Garden received a significant donation of horticultural books and plants from Elmer Lorenz. Thanks to the Leichtag Foundation for providing space to store these treasures, as well as later donations from the Huntington Botanical Gardens and Ades & Gish Nurseries, for the future Dickinson Family Education Conservatory.

In September, the 16th Annual Gala in the Garden honored Tony and Sue Godfrey of Olive Hill Greenhouses with the Paul Ecke Jr. Award of Excellence. The Gala netted nearly \$134,000, including \$41,000 for the expansion of our recycled water irrigation system, and for the first time, was certified as a Zero Waste Event, thanks to the Solana Center for Environmental Innovation and the Solana Beach Eco Rotary Club.

In October, our fabulous Docents and volunteers led the charge to make our second largest fundraiser, the **Fall Plant Sale**, a major success. Orchid enthusiasts enjoyed our first-ever, education-focused **Orchid Clinic and Show**. And hundreds of families enjoyed the **Family Fall Festival** in Hamilton Children's Garden, a fun and engaging Halloween event.

And finally, it was a record-smashing year for **Garden of Lights** in December, with an increase of more than 14% in attendance and a 25% increase in revenue. More than 25,000 guests, including 700 active duty military and family members who received free admission thanks to the Garden's own Secret Santa, enjoyed 175,000 lights, 23,000 marshmallows, 3,300 candy canes, 60 tons of snow, and more than 900 bottles of mulled wine!

Garden of Lights was presented by the County of San Diego, with additional support from our Gold Sponsors, the Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians and Shea Homes.

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers, donors, members, and visitors for making 2015 a year to remember and setting us up for a remarkable 2016!

Upcoming Events

Art Fest

Including Fine Art, Asian Art, Quick Draw Contest
New – A Classic Woody Car Show! (Saturday Only)

April 9 & 10 • 9 am – 5 pm

ArtFest at the Garden features some of the finest regional artists displaying their talents with the beautiful San Diego Botanic Garden as a back drop. This year, we're pleased to have locally-owned Woody cars on display from the San Diego Woodies Club (Saturday only). These iconic automobiles embody the surf culture that Encinitas – where San Diego Botanic Garden is located – is famous for!

Our fine arts show features more than 20 artists displaying and selling their work at amazing prices just for Garden guests. Many of these fantastic sculptors, painters, glass artists, potters, gourd and fiber artists who participate in ArtFest will also provide interesting demonstrations of their craft.

The quick draw contest features 20 adults and 20 youths who will create an entire work of art in the allotted time right before visitors' eyes. After judging, these pieces will be available for purchase at ArtFest.

Celebrating the art of Asian horticulture is the focus of our Asian art show, featuring outstanding displays of Ikebana and Bonsai, with informative lectures and demonstrations.

Fresh salads, sandwiches, coffee and treats will be available from The Feel Good Coffee Cart, located right next to the Gift Shops, where you can find unique, garden-related gifts for the plant lover in your life. Enjoy live music from Bob Ballentine and friends in the Lawn Garden.

Cost: Free with paid admission or membership.

Chocolate Festival

Saturday May 7 • 10 am – 4 pm

Spend the Saturday before Mother's Day at San Diego Botanic Garden's famous Chocolate Festival!

Enjoy dozens of delectable chocolate tastings, demonstrations, a chocolate fountain, and more. This family-friendly event also features lots of children's activities and a variety of Mother's Day gifts. "Tasting" tickets will be sold on site.

Cost: Free with paid admission or membership, plus tasting tickets as desired.



Free Members Only Plant Clinic: Trees of San Diego Botanic Garden Tour May 21 • 10 – 11:30 am

Join Dave Ehrlinger, San Diego Botanic Garden's former Director of Horticulture, for a walking tour of the Garden's most notable trees. This unique tour will highlight trees that are outstanding for this area and the history of significant trees in the Garden.

Please RSVP to Chelsea Rubino via email at crubino@SDBGarden.org or by calling 760/ 436-3036 x214. Space is limited.

Cost: Free for members only.



Palm, Cycad, Bamboo & Tropical Plant Sale **Saturday, May 28 • 9 am – 3 pm**

This one-of-a-kind event features rare and exotic species of palms, cycads and other tropical plants. These will be provided by exceptional Southern California nurseries. This event is co-hosted by the Palm Society of Southern California and San Diego Botanic Garden. For more information call Phil Bergman at 619/ 291-4605.

Cost: Free with paid admission or membership.

Fairy Festival **Saturday, June 18 • 10 am – 4 pm**

Calling all fairies! Come celebrate summer at San Diego Botanic Garden. Wear your fairy costume or come just as you are. Create a fairy house, make fairy treasures, leave messages on the wishing bush, or shop in the Fairyland market. Be sure to bring your camera for a picture with the Fairy Queen.

Cost: Free with paid admission or membership. Small fee for crafts.

Thursday Family Fun Night **Every Thursday June 2 – August 25** **4:30 – 8 pm**

Pack up the kids and enjoy some outdoor fun at Thursday Family Fun Night, every Thursday evening from June 2 – August 25. The fun begins at 4:30 pm with the entire Garden open for families to enjoy, including our nationally-acclaimed Hamilton Children's Garden.

From 6-7 pm don't miss family-friendly entertainment, like San Diego's own Hullabaloo, designed to amuse both children and adults.

Garden lovers of all ages are also invited to come during Thursday Family Fun Night to take advantage of extended evening hours in the Garden. It's a whole different feel in the Garden during these special summer months, so come and enjoy your Garden!

See who's performing at Thursday Family Fun Night by visiting SDBGarden.org/thursnight.htm

Cost: Free with paid admission or membership.

10th Annual Lung Hsiang Exhibit & Sale **April 18 – July 12 • 9 am – 5 pm** **Ecke Building**



Enjoy original Chinese Brush Paintings on display by members of the Lung Hsiang chapter of the American Artists of Chinese Brush Painting, a group that has been painting together for more than 25 years!

Over 40 hand-made paintings, created in the Chinese manner using ink and watercolor on rice paper, will be on sale the Ecke Building.

The public is invited to an opening reception on Sunday, May 22, from 2 - 4 pm. Your paid admission to the Garden is your admission to the reception.

The painting "Bamboo with bird" is by Lung Hsiang member Edna M. Harper painted from a spot in her garden.



Photo: Rachel Cobb



Like us on Facebook!
Get exclusive information on
your favorite SDBG events!

Spring Classes

Build Your Own Hydroponic Spring Garden

Saturday, April 2 • 9 am – 1 pm

Learn the principles of the hydroponic wick method by building your own sustainable garden to take home. Instructor: Alex Kallas of AgPALS. Fee includes materials.

Cost: Members \$80, non-members \$96. Please register by March 25.

Succulent Wreath Class

Tuesday, April 19 • 9 am – 2 pm

Take home a beautiful succulent wreath that you make yourself. Taught by the SDBG wreath team. Fee includes materials.

Cost: Members \$65, non-members \$78. Please register by April 15.

Living Wall / Vertical Garden

Saturday, April 23 • 9 am -12 pm

Learn the basics of planting a living wall. We will be planting a 10"x20" wall with a variety of succulents. Living walls can be used exterior or interior with multitudes of colors, textures and sizes. The possibilities of striking patterns and unique designs are endless.

Cost: Members \$30, non-members \$36 plus a \$70 per student materials fee paid directly to the instructor at the class. Please register by: April 15.

Introduction to Zentangle

Saturday, April 23 • 1 – 3 pm

The Zentangle method is an easy to learn, relaxing, and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns. No art experience necessary! Zentangle increases participant's focus and sense of well-being. Instructor: Janet Masey, Certified Zentangle Teacher

Cost: Members \$40, non-members \$48 plus a \$10 materials fee paid directly to the instructor at the class. Please register by: April 15.

Cooking Class with the Opera Singing Chef

Saturday, April 30 • 2 – 4 pm

This month's class menu features Lamb Ragout with tomatoes, celery, and rosemary, in a rich red-wine laced broth. A wonderful companion to this dish is my Onion Focaccia from scratch. For a sweet finish, a refreshing Lemon Tequila Granita, flavored with grapefruit, lemon, lime and pineapple juices. Samples of each dish prepared offered as well as copies of the recipes.

Cost: Members \$35, non-members \$42. Please register by March 25.

Succulent Mushroom Class

Tuesday, May 3 • 9 am –1 2 pm

Create your own unique miniature succulent mushroom for your Garden or table. Forms and succulents provided. Please bring small clipper for this easy, clever garden design workshop. Taught by the SDBG wreath team. Fee includes materials.

Cost: Members \$35, non-members \$42. Please register by April 22.

Journaling in the Garden with Pens and Watercolor - All levels

Sunday, May 15 • 9:30 am – 4 pm

Pens and watercolor are a very useful combo for journaling on location and just about anywhere! We'll work with an assortment of water soluble and waterproof pens to create textures, values and compositions in journals. This will be the foundation for color transparencies. Learn how to paint watercolor layers and fused colors with intensity. This is your chance to play with shape making and combine images in an artful way on paper. Paint freely while dropping in color onto the wet paper surface. And no worries if you've never painted or drawn before! This is your chance to enjoy painting and drawing in the many beautiful settings of SD Botanic Garden.

Instructor: Helen Shafer Garcia

Cost: Members \$78, non-members \$92. Register by May 7.



Digital Coloring Black and White

Saturday, May 28 • 9am – 1pm

Join professional flower photographer Bob Bretell as he demonstrates how to convert your color photos into stunning black and white images using a variety of techniques in Photoshop Elements. Then Bob will show you how to take it a step further by using favorite technique of hand coloring and hand tinting using layer masks. All levels are encouraged to attend this fun 3 hour workshop. Students with some understanding of Photoshop Elements helpful but not a requirement.

Cost: Members \$59, non-member \$71 Register by May 20.

Living Wall / Vertical Garden

Saturday, June 4 • 9 am -12 pm

Learn the basics of planting a living wall. We will be planting a 10"x20" wall with a variety of succulents. Living walls can be used exterior or interior with multitudes of colors, textures and sizes. The possibilities of striking patterns and unique designs are endless.

Cost: Members \$30, non-members \$36 plus \$70 per student materials paid directly to the instructor at the class. Please register by: May 27.

Build Your Own Hydroponic Summer Garden

Saturday, June 11 • 9 am – 1 pm

Learn the principles of the hydroponic wick method by building your own sustainable garden to take home. Instructor: Alex Kallas of AgPALS. Fee includes materials.

Cost: Members \$80, non-members \$96. Please register by May 27.

The Minds Eye: How to use Soul Collage to Discover Your Hidden Creativity

Saturday, June 11 • 9:30 am – 4pm

Soul Collage is a fun and easy way to use pleasing pictures to create collaged cards, tapping into the creative mind. Anyone can do it! Discover how the poetry of images can uncover hidden resources and activate key brain areas to find creative solutions you didn't know that you knew. Instructor Mary M. Mulvihill, Ph.D.

Cost: Members \$75, non-members \$90. Please register by June 3.

Food & Wine Pairing with the Opera Singing Chef

Saturday, June 25 • 2 – 4 pm

Come and enjoy the Opera Singing Chef's ever popular annual Food and Wine pairing! This year enjoy Sweet Tomato Bruchetta with capers and pine nuts served with a crisp white chardonnay, and Slow-Cooked Italian Beef seasoned with spicy pepperoncini peppers, basil, oregano, and thyme, served on fresh rolls topped with sweet roasted peppers, onions and smoky provolone cheese – all paired with a robust cabernet. And for a sweet finish, a beautiful egg-rich Panettone Bread studded with dried cranberries, candied orange pieces, and pecans. This sweet bread is baked in small clay flower pots giving it a wonderful rustic presentation for Spring. Enjoy delicious samples of each dish, as well as copies of the recipes for you to take home and prepare yourself!

Cost: Members \$35, non-members \$42. Please register by June 17.

GREAT TIPS FOR BUYING PLANTS

For Weekend Gardeners or Seasoned Veterans

Walking amidst rows of plants in various stages of growth in San Diego Botanic Garden's propagation area, Senior Horticulture Manager Liz Rozycki thinks for a moment before answering the question, "Why purchase plants from a local nursery instead of a big chain store?"

"You really wouldn't want your yard looking like the plant shop at Target or the local dentist's office, would you?" Rozycki quips. "And, more importantly, a local nursery has a knowledgeable staff, with a wider variety of California natives and other species of plants that will grow well in Southern California, making your yard look more interesting and unique."

Locally-owned nurseries can also guide buyers, both novice and more experienced, to plants that will do well in a targeted area of customers' yards. Rozycki recommends that home owners landscape one area of their yards at a time.

"That way you can focus on what you need in a given area," elaborates Rozycki. "What hydro zone is it in? Is this space south facing? Getting full sun? If so, you'll want to purchase tough, water-wise plants."

Plants purchased to be used in smaller zones in yards, can also be put into the ground in a reasonable amount of time, so the back yard gardening project home owners have taken on for the weekend isn't so overwhelming.

Rozycki recommends looking out for the following in plants purchased at any nursery, as a sign of good health, and that they will do well once planted in your garden:

- ✓ **New growth**
- ✓ **Blooms (if in season)**
- ✓ **Healthy foliage**
- ✓ **No insects**
- ✓ **Well established and firmly rooted (not 'bulging' out of the pot)**
- ✓ **Grown under appropriate light conditions**
- ✓ **Not too 'leggy'**

She also says that it's always a boon for at-home gardeners, whether weekend or seasoned veterans, to be informed.

"Grab a 'Western Garden' book, go online, or Google information about a plant you're considering for your garden on your smartphone," says Rozycki. "And don't forget to plant for all seasons. Winter bloomers are sometimes forgotten but you can plant these gems right now for next winter's bloom - smaller aloes like Aloe 'Blue Elf' or Aeonium 'Kiwi' which has a nice variegated look. Or try bulbs such as Veltheimia bracteata (Forest Lily) or Haemanthus albiflos (Paint Brush Plant) in your garden."



Senior Horticulture Manager, Liz Rozycki, checking for insects under the leaves of a cycad.



This flower will be deadheaded when it finishes it's bloom.

Photos: Rachel Cobb

The Bamboo Garden

A place to balance mind, body & soul

By Paul Redeker, Director of Horticulture

Our nation's largest public display of bamboo is one of my favorite places in the garden to make an effort to pass through. I'm usually rushing to the next project but once in a while if I stop and listen to the rustling of the leaves as the wind passes through I remember it is a favorite retreat for many of our visitors as well!

Many of our guests and volunteers enjoy visiting and working under the shaded thickets of culms finding it a place to relax and balance the mind, body and soul. One of the ways we find our Zen in this urban oasis is by spending a special moment beside our pond filled with Red Eared Slider Turtles, Bullfrogs, Mosquito and Platy fish, while listening to the soothing refrains of water as it trickles down the rock fountain. As your eye drifts up from the fountain into the landscape, you might catch a glimpse of a sculpture entitled "Asian Shadows" which was created by world renowned artist James Hubbell. Back down across the water on a special day you might even get the added bonus of watching our resident Green Heron picking out its next meal swimming under our collection of lily pads and Lotus flowers.

Bamboo is well-loved by many for the serene environment it can create, but there's much more to this unique plant group than its beauty. For example, bamboo is one of the fastest growing plants in the world, growing up to a foot a day in some places, and some species even reaching maturity in just 30 days! Bamboo belongs to the grass family, Poaceae, so it is not surprising that most species perform best with plenty of water, a rich loamy soil, warm sunny



weather, and fertilizers rich with nitrogen. It's kind of fun to think about removing the dead culms as if you were de-thatching a lawn, but on a much larger scale. Our climate is also very helpful in supporting a large collection of bamboo since the San Diego Botanic Garden is located in Southern California where summers are warm and winters are mild. We are so close to the beach that we can even see the Pacific Ocean from many parts of the garden including the entrance to our Bamboo Garden!

The life cycle and flowering habits of bamboo is interesting as well. Certain species of bamboo will grow for 30 to 80 years or more, set a large number of seed, and then die. Some species will experience "gregarious flowering", where the same species all over the world will flower simultaneously and complete their lifecycle regardless of their location. It is not known what triggers this flowering phenomenon.

A wonderful opportunity that has evolved out of SDBG having such a diverse bamboo collection is that we're able to contribute to feeding the giant pandas for our neighbors at the San Diego Zoo. It's a pretty cool experience to visit the pandas and see them eating food provided right out of our Garden! The pandas eat several bamboo varieties we grow on our property, including Beechey Bamboo (*Bambusa beecheyana*) and Vivax Bamboo

(*Phyllostachys vivax*). Other species approved for their diet by the Zoo's nutritionist include Golden Bamboo or Buddha's Belly Bamboo (*Bambusa vulgaris*), Alphonse Karr Bamboo (*Bambusa multiplex* 'Alphonse Karr'), and Waya Bamboo (*Dendrocalamus membranaceus*). Adam, a very nice guy from the zoo, periodically comes on a Friday morning to harvest bamboo for the pandas and I'm sure would be happy to answer any questions if you are lucky enough to be here on that day and curious about anything related to feeding the pandas!

The SDBG has almost 200 individual plants in our bamboo collection including over 120 taxa. Our tranquil 2.2 acre Bamboo Garden showcases the largest public collection of bamboo in the nation! The following are several of our favorites:



Giant Timber Bamboo

Giant Timber Bamboo,

Dendrocalamus giganteus: Just a couple of years ago our Giant Timber Bamboo, the largest bamboo in our collection, decided to set seed, ending its lifecycle. To commemorate the large specimen the 6 to 8 inch culms were left as an art piece and are still available for the public to admire today. Also called Dragon Bamboo, this Southeast Asian species can grow over 100 feet tall under favorable tropical/subtropical conditions.

Painted Bamboo,

Bambusa vulgaris 'Vittata': The name fits this bamboo perfectly. If you painted shamrock green streaks onto this bright golden-yellow stemmed bamboo, you would recreate the look of this beautiful bamboo that was created naturally this way! The arching inch culms of this Indochina native can reach 50 feet tall and is now cultivated throughout the world for use as an ornamental. It is an open-clump type of bamboo that is just as stunning to see in person as it is to see in any photo!

Chinese Timber Bamboo,

Phyllostachys vivax: If walking through a forest of bamboo sounds like your way to get-away from it all, our stand of Vivax Bamboo, might just be for you! In the lower portion of our Bamboo Garden, our largest single bamboo specimen is



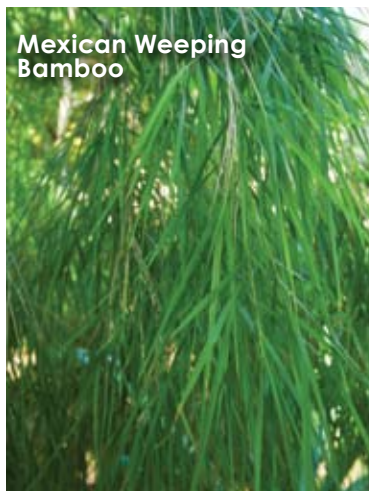
Painted Bamboo



Giant Timber Bamboo



Black Asper Bamboo



Mexican Weeping Bamboo

showcased - the Chinese Timber Bamboo. It reaches to a height of about 45 feet and shades a curving pathway right through the middle of the stand of many culms. This bamboo is a true runner. The underground stems, or rhizomes, can travel underground and emerge inches or yards away from the original stand. Once this bamboo, or any running bamboo, gets away it can be difficult to predict where it will roam. In most cases a 24 inch deep polyethylene barrier will retain both the runners and the good relationship you have with your neighbor.

Mexican Weeping Bamboo,

Otatea acuminata aztecorum: This variety of bamboo develops into a fine-textured clumping specimen that has beautifully arching branches. It almost gives it the appearance of a fountain spray of water, shooting upward from the middle and cascading outward until it freezes in mid-air before it touches the ground. Sometimes the wind catches it just right and moves the thin culms back and forth, giving it life and a very relaxing element to enjoy. It grows to about 12-15 feet tall and wide, but is easily pruned smaller if preferred, making it a great choice as a landscape plant for the home owner or a more residential scaled bamboo. It's also a great container plant for a back patio with some afternoon shade or filtered sunlight.

Black Asper Bamboo,

Dendrocalamus asper 'Betung Hitam': One of our volunteers' favorite bamboo is the Black Asper Bamboo. This clumping species from Southeast Asia is the largest of the black bamboos, reaching to a height of 100 feet. Standing next to the base of this impressive specimen which tops out at about 45 feet here at our garden, it would be a shame not to have a camera to capture the contrasting green-colored base of the 4 inch culms in the background of a photo. Not a bad spot to take a selfie!

The SDBG also hosts several other bamboo species in other parts of our 37-acre property, including our Tropical Rainforest where no other plant can replace the graceful form and texture of these truly amazing plants. Their value to our environment is substantial, releasing more oxygen into the environment and eliminating more carbon dioxide from the air than an equivalent sized stand of trees!

A special note of appreciation and pride goes out to the San Diego Botanic Garden's volunteers and Docents, who put in countless hours of their own time! They are extremely "hands on" as we all work together to improve and enhance each area of the grounds that make our garden beautiful and stand tall as an inspiration for the entire community to visit again and again.

SOW HCG

Seeds of Wonder • Hamilton Children's Garden

For Children

Questions regarding Seeds of Wonder and the Hamilton Children's Garden?
Please contact Susanne at SOW@SDBGarden.org or call 760/ 436-3036 x222

Upcoming Events

Chocolate Festival Saturday, May 7 10 am – 4 pm



The Chocolate Festival is filled with fun activities for kids. For a small fee, children can create Mother's Day keepsakes. See page 4 for details.



Fairy Festival Saturday, June 18 • 10 am – 4 pm



Calling all young fairies! Come to the Garden wearing your favorite costume. Fairy and garden-related flowery and glittery crafts will be offered for a small fee. Enjoy live entertainment on the stage featuring San Diego favorites, Hullabaloo, performing dance and sing-along music. There will also be a Fairyland Market, pizza and ice cream. Don't forget to stop in to have a photo taken with the Fairy Princess!



4th of July Parade 10 am

Join us for our annual 4th of July Parade through the Garden. Bring decorated strollers and wagons (no bikes please) and wear red, white and blue! We will meet at Seeds of Wonder at 10 am and the parade will start at 10:30 am sharp. After the parade, you are welcome to stay and enjoy the garden.

Birthday Parties for Children

On Saturdays and Sundays, we reserve the picnic area in Seeds of Wonder and provide special activities like plant potting, rock painting, easel painting and bubble play for birthday parties. Please visit our website SDBGarden.org/birthday.htm for detailed information or contact Susanne at SOW@SDBGarden.org, if you would like to book a party.



School Group Visits

Detailed information and tour request forms for self-guided and docent guided group visits can be found on our website at SDBGarden.org/hcg_tours.htm





Ongoing programs for children



For a detailed description and schedule of ongoing programs in Seeds of Wonder and the Hamilton Children's Garden, please check our website at SDBGarden.org and click "For Kids" from the menu.

Seeds of Wonder • Hamilton Children's Garden



Summer Youth Program Enrichment Camps 2016 Ages 8 – 10 • 9 am – 12 noon

Join us for five weeks of fun and educational activities at San Diego Botanic Garden's Summer Youth Enrichment Camps. Each week will be focused on a different method of experiencing nature in a safe, exciting and age appropriate way. Camps are led by trained staff members who are experts in their field. Come for one week or all five! Space is limited to 20 campers per week. Go to SDBGarden.org/camps or call 760/ 436-3036 x 201 to reserve your space today!

**Cost: Members \$135/ 5-day week and \$108/4-day week,
Non-Members \$150/5-day week and \$120/ 4-day week**

Week 1: Snap Shot – Nature Photography June 27 – July 1 (5 days)

This camp will focus on appreciating the beauty of plants in the garden around us. Students will tour different areas of the Garden each day and will focus on taking pictures of flowers, trees, insects, and using plants as a backdrop for portraits. Monarch butterflies will be highlighted during one day of camp, with a local specialist sharing butterfly biology and how to take great pictures of these beautiful winged insects. Throughout the week campers will also create their very own photo album to take home. Students need to provide their own digital camera or smart phone.

Week 2: Playful Survival Camp July 5 – 8 (4 days)

Campers will tour the Garden and discover edible plants, learn about Native American hunting techniques, pack a survival kit, and build a shelter from natural material. We will go on a 'survival scavenger hunt', play exciting and goofy games and, most of all, have a lot of fun!

Week 3: Color in the Garden – Art Camp July 11 – 15 (5 days)

Each day, students will go on walks through the Garden to find inspiration for their art projects in nature. We will paint in the rainforest, learn how to draw Chibis in the Bamboo Garden, experiment with sidewalk chalk on the black top, and work with clay. Campers will go on

a Sculpture Scavenger Hunt through the Garden, play games, have fun creating big bubbles, and, if desired, may learn a cool dance routine.

Week 4: Plants, Worms and other Bugs – Gardening Week

July 18 – 22 (5 days)

Campers will explore the beauty and diversity of the Garden while discovering bugs, birds and butterflies. Students will learn about Southern California native plants and water-wise and organic gardening. They will create a drought resistant succulent arrangement, build a small hydroponics unit to take home, and learn about worm composting and Monarch butterflies. There will be time for nature based crafts, outdoor games, and animal presentations.

Week 5: Garden Fun Week July 25 – 29 (5 days)

This week is for campers that like a little bit of everything. We will go on daily discovery walks through the Garden, with each day targeting a different nature or art-related theme like butterflies, edible plants, or reptiles. Campers will also learn some survival skills, do nature-inspired arts and crafts projects, enjoy outdoor games, go on a scavenger hunt, have some bubble fun, learn a cool dance routine, and enjoy a gardening project to take home.

Volunteer and Docent News

January Volunteer of the Month: **TANDY PFOST**

Tandy was born in Chicago, then moved and grew up in Manila. After college in Tucson, she and her husband became involved in a high-tech start up in the 1980s. After living in Los Angeles for 35 years, Tandy retired in Oceanside. In 2010, she founded Mira Costa College's horticulture program and joined the Garden almost immediately thereafter. When she saw all of the people at the volunteer meeting she thought that she wouldn't be needed at the Garden – which couldn't be further from the truth! Tandy has been Docent Treasurer, worked in the Gift Shop (among other places) and has a personal goal of giving 200 hours per year of service to the Garden. She considers SDBG to be a 'jewel of a garden' and enjoys meeting the visitors who come here from around the world.



February Volunteer of the Month: **DIANA GOFORTH**

For the past 30 years, Diana has served as a friend, an employee, a docent and a volunteer at San Diego Botanic Garden. She has worked in a myriad of positions at the Garden including as a plant recorder, office manager, operations manager and educational and events coordinator. Upon retiring, she has continued to help stock the nursery, write the newsletter, assist with special events, and lead Garden tours. Diana feels SDBG is a 'magical garden, not just for her, but for so many.' Her fondest memory at the Garden is seeing the excitement on Richard Haubrich's face as the Giant Timber Bamboo began to grow. Each year he would measure the culms' diameters and he would 'break out in a big grin.'



March Volunteer of the Month: **BEVERLY MARSHALL**

Beverly's first experience at the Garden was during our annual Garden of Lights. She came with a friend and their families to this magical event, and later, after her father (an avid gardener) passed away, she remembered how healing being in the Garden was. "It was just the therapy I needed," she says, and soon thereafter Beverly became a volunteer. Beverly enjoys working the Welcome Center and the Gift Shop, driving the shuttle, taking part in garden beautification, and working during special events. She enjoys working in the Gift Shop, the most, because of the wonderful conversations she gets to have with Garden guests and other volunteers. On an interesting side note: Beverly got married in 1992 on the top of Half Dome.



Volunteer at the Garden

Join us at our next volunteer orientation where you'll meet interesting people, learn about our beautiful Garden, and find out how to get more involved. Pictured are some of our newest volunteers from the January Orientation. Won't you join us? Our next Volunteer Orientation Meeting is Saturday, May 14, 9:30 am – 12 pm. RSVP to Kristina Metzger at kmetzger@sdbgarden.org or by calling 760/ 436-3036 x206.

Docent Meetings – Everyone Welcome

First Wednesday of the Month
9:30 am – 12 pm
Arrive at 11 am for the program

April 6: Spring is herb planting time. San Diego Botanic Garden Docent and Master Gardener Mary Friestedt will discuss the many varieties of herbs available to plant in your garden and enjoy in your kitchen.

May 4: Professional photographer Bill Evarts will share his colorful photos of local deserts. Anza Borrego and Baja California scenes will be featured.

June 1: Annual potluck lunch for our Volunteers and Docents

Toasting the Holiday Season with A Winter Night in the Garden

On December 3, 2015 nearly 100 Benefactor members, Corporate Partners, and other friends of the Garden came together to celebrate at our annual Benefactor Dinner. Set amongst 175,000 twinkling lights, guests enjoyed a sparkling “Winter Night in the Garden,” featuring a fine catered dinner, delightful desserts, and stunning holiday décor provided by the San Dieguito Garden Club.

The evening’s menu was provided by Continental Catering, longtime supporters and the Garden’s newest Corporate Partner. Whimsical snowflakes, unique floral centerpieces and decorations in rich hues of garnet, silver and green set the stage for a memorable evening. Soothing jazz numbers by singer/guitarist Lorraine Castellanos and renowned trumpeter Gilbert Castellanos put the perfect finishing touch on the night’s magical atmosphere.

Thank you once again to the Garden’s Benefactor members and Corporate Partners for helping the Garden to grow and thrive!



(from left) John Kister, Richard Hyatt, former Trustees Pamela Koide Hyatt and Janet Kister



(from left) Sr. Membership Manager Jill Kastrop, Trustee Shaun Henry, Docents Mike Henry, Margaret and Peter Jones



Winter Night in the Garden décor created by the San Dieguito Garden Club

Give a Mother's or Father's Day Gift that will be enjoyed all year long!

San Diego Botanic Garden memberships make wonderful gifts. For a full year, your loved one can walk the garden trails, experience nature, and enjoy many events. The Garden provides a wonderful setting to spend time as a family. For more information on the benefits of membership or to purchase a gift, visit SDBGarden.org or call Chelsea at 760/ 436-3036 x214.



Photos: Rachel Cobb

Thank You Donors

San Diego Botanic Garden wishes to thank the following donors for cash and in-kind gifts, including Benefactor and Larabee Society memberships, received prior to December 21, 2015.

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Arbor Vitae Guild Members

Ruth Larabee believed in the importance of preserving open spaces and gardens for the enjoyment and education of the community. This belief led her to bequeath her 30-acre estate for just that purpose, a gift that became the San Diego Botanic Garden. **Planned giving is the cornerstone of the Garden's history and the key to its future.**

The Arbor Vitae Guild was established to honor the Garden's friends who have indicated that they have included the Garden in their will, trust, or other deferred giving method. Gifts of all sizes are welcome, as they ensure the Garden's natural beauty and vitality for the enjoyment of future generations. We invite you to begin a conversation about how a planned gift can benefit you now and the Garden in the future. Please contact Tracie Barham, Director of Development, at 760/ 436-3036 x216 for more information.

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Meet Our New Board Chair: Sharon May Lowe

The Garden is pleased to announce that Sharon May Lowe has succeeded Thomas Applegate as Chair of San Diego Botanic Garden's Board of Trustees.

Sharon serves as Partner and is Director of Marketing & Education at DeLorenzo International, an award-winning locally-based Landscape Architecture and Land-Planning firm. She has served on the Garden's Board of Trustees for nearly seven years and has extensive experience leading nonprofit boards. Sharon brings three decades of professional experience in the Landscaping and Horticulture industries, including roles at the San Diego County Water Authority, Walter Andersen Nursery and AgriService Inc. She is past-president of the California Landscape Contractors Association, San Diego Chapter.

Sharon first visited the Garden over twenty years ago with close friends and their children. Sharon remembers it as a 'magical Mother's Day' with *Brugmansia* in bloom along the slopes of what was then known as Quail Gardens.

"One of the things I love most about the Garden," says Sharon, "is the mission. The San Diego Botanic Garden is a community, and we have made huge progress here. We continue to take on challenging projects, such as the Dickinson Family Education Conservatory, and succeed. I'm confident, as I take on this new role at the Garden, that we're here today because we are standing on the shoulders of those who have come before us. Many of those same volunteers, Docents and leaders continue to serve, guiding and building this wonderful organization. We have done amazing things, with even more amazing things to come!"

Anticipate a Gala to Remember!

Save the date for our 17th Annual *Gala in the Garden*. On Saturday, September 10th, 2016, you'll enjoy stunning décor, tantalizing tunes, and the world-class cuisine and beverages you have come to know and love, as well as a few surprises!

2016 Paul Ecke Jr. Award of Excellence Honoree: Nan Sterman

Nan Sterman is a gardening expert, author, and host/co-producer/co-writer of the KPBS series *A Growing Passion*. Ms. Sterman is considered one of California's leading voices on creating beautiful, low water and sustainable gardens; removing and replacing lawns with beautiful, low-water plants; and growing organic vegetables and herbs.

2016 Gala Committee Leadership

Jim Ruecker, Gala Chair
René van Rems, Artistic Director
Sabrina Cadini, Logistics & Operations Director

**For additional information please
contact Doreen Prager at
dprager@sdbgarden.org or
by calling 760/ 436-3036 x218.**



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We thank our corporate and foundation partners for their annual support of the Garden's mission *to inspire people of all ages to connect with plants and nature*. These organizations provide unrestricted cash or in-kind contributions, which fund our educational programs and the overall care and maintenance of this 37-acre botanical oasis.

Corporate partners receive recognition on our website and on signage in the Garden, family membership benefits, guest admission tickets, invitations to special events, and other attractive benefits, depending on their level of support. For information on how your organization can support the Garden as a Corporate Partner, please contact Tracie Barham, Director of Development, at 760/ 436-3036 x216.

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San Diego Botanic Garden is committed to preserving resources and protecting our environment. Our printed materials use 100% recycled paper with 100% post-consumer recycled content whenever possible. We also require paper with a minimum of chlorine or bleaching agents. Our inks are soy-based. We print locally with a printer who is Forest Stewardship Council and Rain Forest Alliance certified.