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

#### SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN

SDBGarden.org

230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024 760/436–3036 (phone) 760/632–0917 (fax)

Monday - Friday, 9 AM - 5 PM



Monday – Friday, 9 AM – 5 PM	回 <b>回</b>
Senior Leadership	
President/CEO • Julian Duval	202
Director of Operations • Sam Beukema	203
Director of Development • Carolyn Zollars	216
Director of Horticulture • Tony Gurnoe	211
Director of Education • Susanne Brueckner	222
Admissions	
Cheryl Mergenthaler, Mary Lou Morgan, Beth Moss,	
Judy Sanderson	207
Development / Membership /	
Corporate Partnerships & Sponsorships	
Director of Development • Carolyn Zollars	216
Manager of Development Events • Doreen Prager	218
Development Assistant • Susan Parker	217
Membership Assistant • Josh Pinpin	214
Membership Assistant • Bella Trillizio	215
Education	
Director of Education • Susanne Brueckner	222
Facilities	
Facilities Supervisor • Sergio Bautista	212
Gift Shop	208
Office	209
Horticulture	
Horticulture Manager • Dylan Connolly	220
Marketing/PR	
Marketing/PR Manager • Lisa Reynolds	224
Operations	
President & CEO • Julian Duval	202
Director of Operations • Sam Beukema	203

### Accounting Assistant • Greta Ott 223 Bookkeeper • Lisa Weaver 221 Operations Administrative Assistant • Michael Fisher 206 Volunteer Manager • Jill Gardner 213 **Reception Desk** 201 **Venue Rental** Operations Administrative Assistant • Michael Fisher 206 Wedding Site Manager • Lita Dantes 205 **Volunteers** Volunteer Manager • Jill Gardner

### 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

### Spring Has Sprung at the **Garden Shops**

Spring is here and we have some lovely new additions to our Gift Shop! Stop by and see our seasonal items, fresh off the press and ready to brighten up anyone's garden this season.

"ParA Sol Garden" has a new exciting line of hand-painted Hummingbird feeders. These feeders, with Red Tubers, are whimsical one-of-a-kind art pieces - bringing light and fancy to any garden or patio.

Other sweet additions to the Shop include beautiful watercolor

spring trays. They offer a beautiful way to serve Lemonade on your San Diego patio this Spring!

Of course, we also continue to offer our popular cork accessories, unique home goods and garden-themed flights of fancy - come celebrate Spring with us!





## **NEW ON OUR WEBSITE!**

From the comfort of your own home and computer, you can learn the steps to take to set up your will or determine possible changes to make to your current one. You can receive a free Estate Planning Guide and learn strategies to lower your taxes, using our planned gift "calculator." Simply go to our website, SDBGarden.org, click on the **Support** header and then click on Planned Giving.

> For help, contact Carolyn Zollars at 760/436-3036 x216 or czollars@SDBGarden.org.

213



### 2017 Year in Review

Message from the outgoing Board Chair Sharon Lowe

## am pleased to share this brief overview of 2017 Garden accomplishments!

The San Diego Botanic Garden was named one of the "Top 10

North American Gardens Worth Traveling For" by members of the Canadian Garden Council and American Public Gardens Association. In addition, long time President and CEO, Julian Duval, received the American Horticulture Society's annual "Professional Award".

Thanks to California State University Fullerton, we had two separate Corpse Flower plants on loan. The excitement of watching these rare blooms open brought a great influx of guests, more than tripling our memberships sold and income received during the same period last year.

We were pleased to exhibit a collection of Ramses Wissa Wassef Tapestries from Egypt. It was our honor to be the first botanical garden in North America to display these amazing pieces prompted by an architect's "experiment in creativity." This international exhibit brought much public attention and guests from far and near, including Egyptian Ambassador, Lamia Mekhemar.

Our Gala in the Garden fundraiser hosted 600 guests, our largest turnout yet. The event raised three times the amount raised last year (nearly \$600K) at a cost of just 10 cents per dollar raised. The 35th Annual Fall Plant Sale, led and manned by our amazing volunteer corps also broke records by raising more than \$70K to support the Garden. Our annual Garden of Lights grossed \$252K in revenue, \$54K more than last year.



Construction continues on the Dickinson Family Education Conservatory with the installation of glass panels in early 2018.

At this writing, the new Dickinson Family Education Conservatory construction is moving forward quickly in anticipation of a grand opening in summer 2018. Horticultural staff is busy cultivating rainforest wonders to create the "floating island" baskets and festoon the 18-foot long catalpa branches, known as living "plant chandeliers."

Lastly, as my term comes to a close, I will be stepping down in 2018 as board chair. It has been my honor to serve in this role! Board member, John DeWald, will be the new chair, bringing great experience to this role.

Julian Duval will be retiring as President and CEO at the end of 2018, after 24 years leading the Garden.

Thank you for your volunteer hours, membership, contributions and grants and the many ways your support allowed the Garden to thrive this past year!



## A Sonnet for Peter Jones



You left the earth a far more precious place.

The garden you adored with all your heart flowers from your care, and from your grace.

We see you here, though we are stars apart.

We feel your calming presence--the steady wind that warmed us while we worked. You believed that patience and support would draw us in, and family was the gift that we received.

We hear your soothing voice amidst the trees.

The silky golden culms of tall bamboo creaking, swaying in the ocean breeze whisper your name, reminding us of you.

The gifts you sowed will grow forever here, rooted in the garden you held dear.

By Sally Sandler, SDBG Docent/Historian



## **Upcoming Events**

### **ArtFest**

Including Fine Art, Asian Art & a Quick Draw Contest Saturday & Sunday, April 7 & 8 . 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.

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 throughout the weekend.

The quick draw contest features 20 artists 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.

Come celebrate the art of Asian horticulture at ArtFest with outstanding displays and demonstrations by the Keiri Study Group of Sogetsu School of Ikebana and Bonsai and Beyond.

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 12 . 9 am – 4:30 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.

Food will be available from Isaac's Catering serving their award-winning chocolate chili and BBQ.

Cost: Free with paid admission or membership. Tasting tickets are available at an additional charge.

## Palm, Cycad, Bamboo and Tropical Plant Sale

Saturday, May 26 . 9 am – 3 pm

This one-of-a-kind event features rare and exotic species of palms, cycads and other tropical plants, all 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 17 . 9:30 am – 4 pm

Calling all fairies! Come celebrate summer in the Eucalyptus Grove. 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 May 31- August 30 . 4:30 pm – 8 pm

Pack up the kids and enjoy some outdoor fun at Thursday Family Fun Night, every Thursday evening from May 31- August 30. The fun begins at 4:30 pm with the entire Garden open for families to enjoy.

Thursday Family Fun Night will be held at The Heritage Ranch (formerly called the San Dieguito Heritage Museum) located at 450 Quail Gardens Dr., right across the street from the Hamilton Children's Garden entrance..

Don't miss family-friendly entertainment playing from 6 pm-7 pm, like San Diego's own Hullabaloo, designed to entertain both children and adults. This year, Thursday Family Fun Night will be staged at the The Heritage Ranch on Ecke Ranch Road. Wrist bands will be made available for those wishing to enter the Garden before and after the concert.

May 31	Hullabaloo	July 19	Hullaballo
June 7	Little Catbird and Friends	July 26	Kathryn the Grape
June 14	Kathryn the Grape	August 2	Lianna's Music Adventures
June 21	Twinkle and Friends	August 9	Patty Hall
June 28	Little Catbird and Friends	August 16	Kristen Cook
July 5	YMCA	August 23	Buck Howdy
July 12	Twinkle and Friends	Augusi 25	bock Howdy
		August 30	Hullabaloo

Cost: Free with paid admission or membership.

### 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Lung Hsiang Exhibit & Sale April 24 - July 10 . 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!

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

The public is invited to an opening reception on Sunday, May 20, from 2 pm - 4 pm. Your paid admission to the Garden is your admission to the reception.

Cost: Free with paid admission or membership.



### Living Wall / Vertical Garden Saturday, April 14, 9 am -12 pm Saturday, May 26, 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. REGISTER EARLY! These classes will sell out! Instructor: Mary Lou Morgan.

Cost: Members \$30, non-members \$36. Plus an \$80 per student materials fee paid directly to the instructor at the class. Please register by April 6 and May 18.

### Planting for Pollinators and All Things Gardening Saturday, April 14, 9 am – 12 pm

This fun and informative class covers many gardening topics including how to attract and support the various pollinators that visit your garden. Other topics include creating good soils for your garden, tips on planning and planting a healthy garden and more. Instructor: Marianne Brettell-Vaugh.

Cost: Members \$30, non-members \$36. Please register by April 6.

### Succulent Mushroom Saturday, April 14, 9 am - 12:30 pm

Take home a charming succulent mushroom that you make yourself in this class taught by the SDBG Succulent Wreath Team. Students should bring small clippers or scissors to class.

Cost: Members \$45, non-members \$54. Fee includes materials. Please register by April 6

## Succulent Turtle Class Tuesday, April 17, 9 am –12 pm

Create your own unique miniature succulent Turtle 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.

Cost: Members \$45, non-members \$54. Fee includes materials. Please register by April 13.

### Spring Herb Walk Saturday, April 28, 10 am – 12 pm

Lavender, basil and mint, Oh Boy! Take a walk into the fragrant SDBG Herb Garden to learn about growing and utilizing herbs in your kitchen.

We will explore the medicinal and aromatic use of herbs and create herbal products for home and body. Learn how to plant and care for herbs in your garden and create a kitchen herb container garden. Instructor: Jano Nightingale

Cost: Member \$45, non-members \$54. Plus a \$10 supply fee that is paid directly to the instructor. Please register by April 20.

### Pour it On Sunday, April 29, 9:30 am – 4 pm

Putting paint on paper can be a mixed bag of unexpected surprises with unknown endings. Pouring paint onto paper will certainly give you combos of astonishing intense and luminesce colors. This process allows you to discover ways to define the space around shapes with contrast and glazed colors. In this class, you'll find that painting is about discovery and expression of your own personal creativity. This art class is for all levels.

Instructor: Helen Shafer Garcia.

Cost: Members \$105, non-members \$124. Fee includes \$10 for materials. Separate supply list will be e-mailed once registration is received. Please register by April 20.

### Permaculture and Sustainable Gardening: Part 1 Saturday, May 5, 9am – 12 pm

Permaculture and sustainable concepts, strategies and applications, as well as themes and methods in design and pattern, to implement in your own urban garden are key points covered in this class. Knowing what to plant in your garden in order to reduce resource use, energy consumption, and your carbon footprint will also be discussed. This class includes a walk around the Garden demonstrating some of these ideas. Instructor: Dennis Pilien.

Cost: Members \$45, non-members \$54.
Please register by April 27.

### Succulent Wreath Class Tuesday, May 8, 9 am – 2 pm

Take home a beautiful succulent wreath that you make yourself. Taught by the SDBG Succulent Wreath Team. Students should bring small clippers or scissors to class.

Cost: Members \$65, Non-Members \$78. Fee includes materials. Please register by May 4.

### Zentangle – Native American Dreamcatcher Class (Ages 12 +) Saturday, May 19, 10 am – 12 pm

This class brings together the world of Native American dreamcatchers with Zentangle. Create your own dreamcatcher using the Zentangle Method. No art experience necessary. Instructor: Janet Massey.

Cost: Members \$40, non-members \$48. Plus a \$10 materials fee paid directly to the instructor at the class. Please register by May 11.

## Mosaic Birds (Ages 16+) Saturday, June 2, 9 am – 4 pm

Learn glass cutting techniques for creating feathers for your mosaic bird. Using a rainbow of stained glass, you will learn how to cut pieces for your bird, as well as various techniques for creating borders and backgrounds. A pattern will be available for you to use, or you can choose your own with instructor's permission. I nstructor: Marsha Rafter.

Cost: Members \$75, non-members \$90. Plus a \$60 materials fee paid directly to the instructor. Please register by May 25.

## Mosaic Flower Pots Thursday, June 7, 10 am – 2 pm and Friday, June 8, 10 am – 12 pm

Create a mosaic a terra cottage flower pot for your garden. Learn how to use a variety of irregular shaped glazed tiles, square tiles in various sizes, circles, glass gems and pottery to make your own unique pot. Instructor: Candy Sharda

Cost: \$35 members, \$42 non-members. Plus a \$25 per student materials fee paid directly to the instructor. Please register by June 1.

## Lavender Wreath Making Class

Saturday, June 16, 10 am – 2 pm

Using fragrant, fresh Provence lavender, we will make a lovely, scented 10 - 12" wreath. These wreaths dry beautifully and last many years. Herbs and other flowers will be available to add to your wreath as well as ribbons. Instructor: Diana Burke.

Cost: Member \$30, non-member \$36. Plus a \$50 materials fee paid directly to the instructor. Please register by June 8.

### Photography Fundamentals and Creative Control Saturday, June 30, 9 am – 12 pm

Ready to get more from your camera? Join Sandy Zelasko as she reviews basic camera controls and how to apply them in everyday situations. Improve your photography with techniques we share in class then practice what you've learned in the gardens using your newfound photographer's eye. Be sure to bring your digital camera (DSLR or point & shoot) and camera manual to class. Instructor: Sandy Zelasko.

Cost: Member \$55, non-member \$66. Please register by June 22.

## The Other Corpse Flowers

### By Ari Novy PhD Chief Scientist at the Leichtag Foundation

In the last decade, botanic gardens have increasingly become more adept at presenting blooming corpse flowers (*Amorphophallus* titanum) to the public. This exotic plant from Sumatra is one of the wonders of the plant kingdom. It is strangely beautiful, putridly stinky, and has the largest unbranched inflorescence in the world. However, there are several other plants known colloquially as corpse flowers. The strategy of attracting flies, carrion beetles and other insects that like the smell of decaying flesh is relatively common in the plant kingdom. Flowers employing this pollination strategy have a few things in common. Typically, they smell bad, are reddish or reddish brown, and have a unique floral shape that allows access to the right kinds of insects. In addition to Amorphophallus titanum botanic gardens regularly display such other stinky flowers as Stapelia gigantea, an amazing succulent from southern Africa that smells terrible and looks alien. There are even orchids that are corpse flowers such as Satyrium pumilum and many species in the orchid genus Bulbophyllum. But perhaps the most mysterious and sought after corpse flowers are of the parasitic genus Rafflesia.

Rafflesia is a genus of parasitic flowering plants with around 30 species found only in southeast Asia. The most famous is Rafflesia arnoldii, which is considered to be the largest single flower in the world. It grows only in the tropical forests of Sumatra in Indonesia. All *Rafflesia* plants are obligate parasites, which means they cannot survive on their own. They can only exist as a parasite of the tropical vine genus Tetrastigma, which is a grape relative. Amazingly, recent genetic analysis of Rafflesia has shown that these plants have completely lost their ability to photosynthesize. They are fully dependent on other plants for their nutrition during their entire lifecycle. When Rafflesia infects its host, it does so with just a microscopic filament of cells. That means it is exceedingly difficult for botanists to determine if Rafflesia is in a given host vine. Since it produces no leaves or root, the parasite is only visible to the naked eye when it flowers, which is somewhat rare. Rafflesia flowers begin as an almost tumor-like growth on the host vine, but slowly the flowers begin to develop and an amazing red landing pad forms, wafting a lurid stench to attract flies and carrion insects. The largest of these flowers can grow to over three feet! No botanic garden, or any other plant institution, has succeeded in growing any Rafflesia outside of its native range. However, an exciting international collaboration is currently working to uncover the horticultural mysteries of Rafflesia species from the Philippines.

A group of scientists from the US, including institutions such as the Leichtag Foundation, U.S. Botanic Garden and Long





**A.** Open flower of Rafflesia speciosa from Antique, Illoilo, Philippines. Diameter about 45 cm. **B.**Open flower of Rafflesia lagascae from San Lorenzo Ruiz, Camarines Norte, Philippines. Diameter about 20 cm.

Island University, has teamed up with botanists in the Philippines to track flowering locations of several species of Rafflesia in forests of the Philippine island of Luzon and learn how to grow the plant. Together, we have begun to disentangle exactly which species can serve as the host for different Rafflesia. It turns out that there are many species of Tetrastigma, the host, and not all support the same species of Rafflesia. We are learning how to graft infected Tetrastigma vines onto healthy plants that are well established as a way of propagating the plants for conservation and display. In addition, we are working to directly germinate the tiny seeds of Rafflesia on Tetrastigma, which is how we think initial infection takes place. The truth is we know so little about the basic biology of this unusual plant. It is challenging to learn how to grow and propagate plants for the first time, especially complex species such as obligate parasites, in captivity. But we hope that by developing the ability to grow and eventually display these strange botanical wonders, we can further help the public recognize the beauty and value of the natural world, thus spurring action to conserve unique species and ecosystems. So stay tuned...With a little luck you may be seeing yet another kind of corpse flower in botanic gardens soon.

## The Fascinating and Awe-Inspiring Amorphophallus Titanum

By Lisa Reynolds Quail Tracks Editor

# It's big. It's stinky. It's rare. It's name is risque.

And it only blooms (if it decides to) once every decade or so.

That's what most people know about the *Amorphophallus titanum*, outside of the horticulture world. But the fascinating facts on this striking plant, particularly the two blooms that were on display at San Diego Botanic Garden late last year, makes it worthy not only of a special visit to any garden lucky enough to have one in their collection, but also of conservation and study.

"Of all the close to 4,000 plants we have in the Garden, none has the sensational appeal of when we have a Titan Arum on display in bloom," says Julian Duval, SDBG President & CEO. "We can never predict when it will happen, but when it does, people are amazed and actually, it is a great teaching experience as guests who see this incredible botanical wonder are caused to take note of other plants in the garden with much greater interest."

Characterized by a scent Morticia Addams might use as an intoxicating perfume, the deathly-smelling *Amorphophallus titanum*, also known as Titan Arum or the Corpse Flower, is a flowering plant with the largest unbranched inflorescence in the world. An inflorescence is the complete flower head of a plant including stems, stalks, bracts (or spathes) and flowers. When flowering, the Titan Arum's blooming stalk can reach up to 10 feet in height and open up into a striking dark magenta or purple spathe, which looks like a large, frilly ruffle. The spathe (or petal) can open up to a stunning diameter of 3-4 feet.

In full bloom, it's easy to see where this unearthly-looking plant got it's very graphic and descriptive name from – *Amorphophallus titanum*. If you're a student of Ancient Greek, you'll know that the root of the name comes from  $\acute{\alpha}\mu\rho\rho\phi\sigma\varsigma$  or *amorphous* meaning "without form or misshapen," that is added to  $\phi\alpha\lambda\lambda\acute{\alpha}\varsigma$  or *phallos* meaning "phallus," with titan or "giant" rounding out this very unusual plant's accurate and highly suggestive moniker – giant shapeless penis!

The Amorphophallus titanum became widely known as the Titan Arum, according to the BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation), when Sir David Frederick Attenborough, an English broadcaster and naturalist, coined it because he



thought the translation of the scientific name was 'too rude' for television audiences.

Whatever name you prefer, the Titan Arum's biology-, it's ability to heat up to disperse its scent and attract pollinators-, is as awe-inspiring as witnessing it blooming for yourself.

The Titan Arum grows from a large corm - a rounded underground storage organ of the plant - that can weigh up to 200 pounds. For most of its life, the plant routinely produces a single leaf that looks like a giant umbrella. In the wild, this leaf can reach up to 20 feet tall and 15 feet across. The leaf acts like a solar panel, gathering energy that helps the corm grow and store energy to produce the big, stinky flower that attracts not only pollinators – including carrion beetles and blowflies – but visitors to Botanic Gardens around the world that display them.

The Corpse Flower's distinctive odor, which smells like a rotting corpse or a dead animal's carcass along with its infrequent bloom cycle – once every 3 – 10 years – make it a rare and unusual event to witness. Prior to being discovered











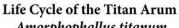
by Italian Botanist Odoardo Beccari in 1878, the Titan Arum was only found in its native habitat – the rainforests of Sumatra, Indonesia.

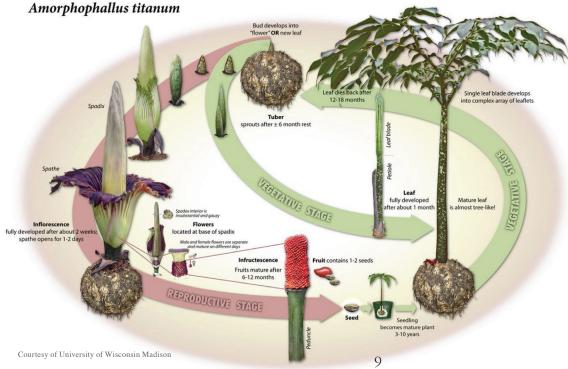
The stinky odor the Titan Arum is known for, lasts only a short time, usually 2-3 days, after the plant blooms. Pulsating bursts of scent emit from the plant from mid-afternoon until the middle of the night when its carrion-loving pollinators are most active, so the plant can continue its reproductive cycle. The chemical compound of the Corpse Flower's stench consists of include dimethyl trisulfide (like limburger cheese), dimethyl disulfide, trimethylamine (rotting fish), isolvaleric acid (sweaty socks), benzyl alcohol (sweet floral scent), phenol (like Chloraseptic) and indole (like human feces), according to the American Chemical Society and Cornell University.

Male and female flowers, found in the bottom of the spathe when in bloom, are separate, with the female flowers being receptive first and then the male flowers releasing pollen shortly thereafter. The plant can cross-pollinate with the natural assistance of insect pollinators, or with the help of people. In the case of the two plants the Garden displayed last year – graciously loaned to the Garden by California State University Fullerton (CSUF) – they grew from human pollinated seed.

In 2006, James Booman lent his flowering Titan Arum to Julian Duval, President and CEO at San Diego Botanic Garden for display. According to Edward Read, Greenhouse Manager and Instructional Support Technician II at the Department of Biological Science at CSUF, Greg Dyment, the Director of the Fullerton Arboretum, and Chris Barnhill, Curator of the Fullerton Arboretum and Read, came down to San Diego and along with Julian Duval, pollinated it with pollen from "Tiffy" CSUF's Titan Arum.

A year later, Booman sent a package of over 100 seeds to his friends at CSU Fullerton and Fullerton Arboretum, who split them and germinated them, Read continued. The seeds under Read's care showed 100% germination, and now over 10 years later, are blooming. So far, 13 of the plants have bloomed, including two that were on display in 2017 at San Diego Botanic Garden, and Read says he expects to see even more bloom this year. "No other plant that I grow has generated so much enthusiasm and interest from the public as does *Amorphophallus titanum*," says Read. "Julian Duval and the SDBG staff did a wonderful job displaying and teaching the public about this wonderful organism. I look forward to sending another Titan Arum down to the gardens for the good people of San Diego to enjoy."





## Information and references used in this article on the Titan Arum include:

http://botit.botany.wisc.edu/Titan\_ Arum Archive/

https://www.chicagobotanic.org/titan/alice\_titan\_arum

https://www.usbg.gov/three-corpse-flowers-bloomed-usbg-2017

http://www.bbc.com/ news/uk-england-

cambridgeshire-40382316 www.chicagobotanic.org/titan/

American Chemical Society. The Chemistry of the Corpse Flower's Stench, YouTube Video: www. youtube.com/watch?v=uDMI\_ZIt1go

http://blogs.cornell.edu/ arum/2012/03/25/what-made-weestinky-stink-and-when/

http://huntington.org/ uploadedFiles/Files/PDFs/stink\_ lifecycle.pdf

Interview with Edward Read, Greenhouse Manager, Department of Biological Science, California State University Fullerton, 1/16/18.

## Youth Education

## Seeds of Wonder • Hamilton Children's Garden

## For Children

For questions regarding Youth Education and our Children's Gardens, please contact Susanne at SOW@SDBGarden.org.

## **Upcoming events:**

### Chocolate Festival Saturday, May 12, 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 23, 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. There will also be a Fairyland Market and live entertainment. Don't forget to stop in to have a photo taken with the Fairy Princess!

Cost: Free with admissions or membership. Small fee for crafts if desired.





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 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/tours-youth.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/kids. htm

## SAVE THE DATE Saturday, May 5

Are you one of the 64 percent of Americans who does not have a will? Some common reasons people say they do not have a will are:

- The belief that only wealthy people need a will
- Too overwhelming a task
- Do not know who to trust with helping do this
- · Misunderstanding why one is needed
- · I'm too young to need one, and
- It is hard to find the time.

SDBG is pleased to host a seminar that will take you through the process, step-by- step, in order to get your plan in order. You will leave this training armed with knowledge about how to set up or change your will, designate beneficiaries, learn about tax saving strategies, create or update your health directive and more. You will take home a workbook. Having a plan will give you and your loved ones great peace of mind. This is a key step in creating or updating your own estate plan.



This engaging seminar will be led by professionals on Saturday, May 5, 10 am – 2 pm at the Garden.

This event is free and includes an optional Garden tour for attendees. Lunch is included. Seating is limited so advance registration is required. To register or learn more, contact Carolyn Zollars, director of development at czollars@sdbgarden.org.

Register Today! Almost Sold Out!

## Travel with The San Diego Botanic Garden Led by Julian and Leslie Duval

## Ensenada And Its Surroundings: A Wine And Culinary Experience

**Trip Dates:** April 27 - 30, 2018 (Friday to Monday) **Price:** Includes transportation, accommodations and meals. \$1,225.00 per person in double occupancy \$250.00 Single supplement (Subject to availability) Price based on a minimum of 15 passengers



Bestowed with prime climate and soil conditions, Mexico's magical wine country produces 90% of the country's wines. Attracted by the peculiarities of the Northern Baja region, enologists, chefs, and artists alike established an exuberant, world-class wine and culinary industry.

Discover Mexico's wine country, savor its exquisite wines, compare flavors and production processes, delight on the region's

unique gastronomy and get to know local art.

Contact Rosa at Andiamo Travel for more information and reservations via email at Rosa@andiamo-travel.com or by telephone at 619/632-4571 andiamo-travel.com

## Equador: Amazon Rainforest, Cloud Forest, and the Galapagos Islands

**Trip Dates:** September 25-October 7, 2018 **Price:** \$7,465. Does not include airfare. Single supplement (subject to availability) is \$1,740. Price is based on 14 participants.

Get a glimpse of the land and sea of Ecuador during this 13-day program, highlighting three very different ecosystems: the rainforest, cloud forest, and Galápagos Islands.

Begin your exploration in the bustling capital of Quito, where you'll have a chance to visit the botanical garden and sample local culture. Then take an exciting four night cruise of the Galápagos Islands. You'll explore the high elevation cloud forests of Mindo and conclude your journey in the Amazon rainforest, where you'll get treetop views from canopy walkways and see iconic flora and fauna. This trip offers experiences you won't forget.

Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to visit the rainforests, cloud forests & the island where Giant Galapagos Tortoises roam (like Sam, the Garden's Gentle Giant!)

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ENROLL Visit holbrooktravel.com/sdbg-ec18 or contact Sandy Schmidt at 800-451-7111 or Schmidt@holbrooktravel.com



### THANK YOU TO OUR BENEFACTOR MEMBERS

Close to 170 upper-level Benefactor Members and Corporate Sponsors were honored at our 2017 Benefactor Dinner. The San Dieguito Garden Club, once again, decorated areas inside and outside of the tent beautifully! The Garden was a sparkling show of twinkling lights that kicked off the holiday season for everyone.

Guests enjoyed sumptuous hors d'oeuvres and a delicious three-course dinner created and served by SDBG corporate sponsor, Brothers Catering, with entertainment provided by Encore Entertainment. At the end of the evening, guests took home their 2017 Benefactor Tiles crafted by a local artist.

To learn more about Benefactor Memberships or to join today, contact Josh or Bella from our Membership Team at 760/436-3036 (Josh x214 and Bella x215).

Thanks to our Benefactor Members and Corporate Sponsors for all your support! It was a lovely evening!





## Perfect Gifts for Mother's & Father's Days... and Birthdays too!

### **SDBG Annual Membership**

Give the gift of nature your loved one(s) can use all year long!

A gift of membership to the Garden starts as low as \$55 for an individual and \$85 for a family (extra \$10 off for ages 60+) for an entire year of enjoyment!

You can purchase your gift 24 hours a day, by going online at SDBGarden.org/membership\_form.htm. If you need help, call Bella or Josh from our membership team at 760/436-3036 at x 215 or x 214.

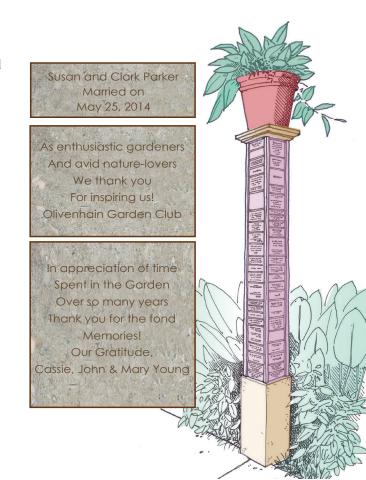
### **Commemorative Tiles**

Honoring an individual or a family with a personalized engraved stone tile makes a special gift. These beautiful tiles will be installed in front of our new Dickinson Family Education Conservatory, currently under construction, and set to open in summer 2018.

There are four size options to choose from ranging from \$250 to \$5,000. This is a lovely way to honor your loved one and receive a tax deduction as well! You can purchase your tile online by going to SDBGarden.org.

To learn more or to place your order by phone, contact Susan Parker at 760/436-3036 x217 or Carolyn Zollars at x216. Time is running out to have your commemorative tile displayed at our grand opening celebration! Order yours TODAY!

As a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization, your donation also helps advance our mission to inspire people of all ages to connect with plants and nature. Thank you for your support!



## **Volunteer and Docent News**

## January Volunteer of the Month: MARY MAY

Born in the UK, Mary had three passions while growing up: dancing, gardening and horses!

"Growing up in England, gardening was taken very seriously – almost a part of our genetic makeup," explained Mary who spent many hours in her father's gardens and greenhouse. As a teenager, she worked in a nursery that specialized in hybridization, seed production and propagation.

After relocating to Philadelphia, Mary worked in clinical chemistry and later joined the National Institutes of Heath/National Cancer Institute in Maryland.

While visiting San Diego, Mary found her new home! One of Mary's fondest memories was meeting Margaret Jones during a tour of the Garden. She inquired about volunteering and was quickly caught up in Margaret's infectious joy. Mary became a docent in 2016.

Responsible for the plants sold at our Gift Shop, Mary savors the Garden's tranquility, fragrances, colors and textures and admires the remarkable volunteers that make it possible!



## February Volunteer of the Month: MAXINE HESSE

Maxine moved to San Diego from Wisconsin as a child and returned to Milwaukee in her teens. She received a Sociology Degree from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and relocated to LA to as a Social Worker.

Maxine set off on a European adventure and lived in Austria before meeting her future husband, Hans, in Zurich where they settled for the next seven years. Drawn back to Los Angeles to establish their own business, they eventually moved to Oceanside, then Encinitas. Travel remains a strong interest which Maxine combines with her love of photography.

A member of the 2012 Docent Class, Maxine can often be seen at the Garden providing tours, driving a cart at events and welcoming our many guests. Maxine views the Garden as symbolic of life due to its ever-changing nature!



## March Volunteer of the Month: ELAINE LAWLESS

Born and raised in Vancouver, British Columbia, Elaine moved to Santa Monica to continue her career as an administrative assistant. She has a son and granddaughter in Pomona and has fond memories of spending time with her son at the Arcadia Botanic Garden where children loved chasing the peacocks. Elaine volunteered in propagation at the Los Angeles Country Arboretum before relocating to Solana Beach. It was not long before she discovered our Garden and started volunteering in 2009.

As a member of the Docent Class of 2015, Elaine loves working with others in the Herb Garden which she describes as 'a family atmosphere.' Elaine also contributes to many special events and feels very appreciated by our volunteers and staff.



## Docent Meetings Everyone Welcome!

First Wednesday of the Month

9:30 am - 12 pm Arrive at 11 am for the program

**April 4:** SDBG Docent Mike Blanco will speak on plant biodiversity of domesticated food crops, as well as the biodiversity of plants in San Diego Botanic Garden. Mike has a PhD in Agronomy and worked in plant research for 36 years.

May 2: Jim Bishop, former President of the San Diego Horticultural Society, spent several weeks exploring Western Australia's National Parks, scenery and plants. He will share the colorful, vibrant photos taken while on his road trip.

June 6: Potluck lunch. Bring a dish to share.

Thank You, Donors! San Diego Botanic Garden wishes to thank the following donors for cash and in-kind gifts, including our Benefactor and Larabee Society memberships made between November 1, 2017 and January 31, 2018.

If you see an error, our sincere apologies! Please reach out to Carolyn at 760/ 436-3036 x216 or email her at czollars@sdbgarden.org. We will be sure to recognize you properly in the next issue. Thank you!

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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 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.

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\* Donors whose bequest gifts have been or are in the process of being realized.

Please remember to include Quail Botanical Gardens Foundation, Inc., dba San Diego Botanic Garden, tax ID 95-6120581, in your will, trust, or estate plan. For more information, please contact Carolyn Zollars, Director of Development, at 760/436–3036 x216 or czollars@sdbgarden.org.

## Save the Date for our EXTRA SPECIAL 19th Annual Gala in the Garden Saturday, September 8, 2018

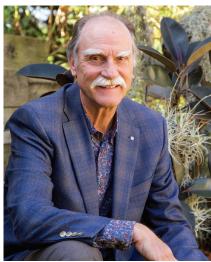
### HONORING JULIAN DUVAL, PRESIDENT & CEO

We are busy preparing for what will be the best Gala in the Garden EVER including:

- Food, wine and spirits served throughout the meandering pathways of the Garden
- Musical groups and strolling entertainers performing along the way
- Special floral creations and a lovely sunset sky adding to the magic of the evening
- Long-time President & CEO Julian Duval, will be honored with the Paul Ecke, Jr. Award for his nearly 24 years of service at the Garden and contribution to the San Diego horticulture community

Don't miss out on what our guests call 'the best gala in town' and your opportunity to honor Julian, who retires in January 2019.

Contact Doreen Prager at dprager@sdbgarden.org to learn more about volunteering, donating items/services for the silent/live auctions or how to become a sponsor during this special Gala to honor Julian!





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## **Become a Corporate Partner TODAY!**

As a Corporate Partner, you will receive recognition on our website and on signage in the Garden, invitations to special events, and other attractive benefits for each level of support. For information on how your organization can support the Garden as a Corporate Partner, please contact Doreen Prager at 760.436.3036 x 218 or by email at dprager@sdbgarden.org.

## **Our Appreciation to our Corporate Partners**

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 our 37-acre beautiful botanical oasis. Be sure to patronize our Corporate Partners!

PLATINUM LEVEL \$10,000 or more

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Climate Science Alliance Community Resource Center E3 Cluster

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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.