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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

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Active Duty U.S. Military Personnel and Families Admitted FREE to San Diego Botanic Garden

Now through Labor Day, September 2nd

The San Diego Botanic Garden is proud to participate in the Blue Star Museum program, offering free admission to all Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve members of the U.S. military and their families (card carrier plus 5 immediate family members) as our way of saying 'thank you' to the brave men and women of the U.S. Military.

Thanks to the generous support of a Garden member, the San Diego Botanic Garden is able to participate in the Blue Star Museum program, a partnership among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and museums across the country.

Simply show one of the following active military I.D. cards at Admissions: • Army • Navy • Air Force • Marines • Coast Guard • National Guard and Reserve.





Message from the President

Ari Novy, PhD President & CEO

Summer is upon us and I feel very thankful for the wet spring we experienced. As a somewhat recent transplant from the East Coast to San Diego County, I couldn't have asked for a better spring. There was enough rain to remind me of the stormy springs of my youth, but when the sun poked through the clouds, I felt so fortunate to be in the best climate in the United States. All the rain has been great for our plants, and helped us water a lot less. While we can't count on these kinds of rains in future years, the last few months reminded me of one of my favorite aspects of gardening: no two seasons are the same. We gardeners must remain ever vigilant, ever adaptable and just a little bit cagey to keep our gardens in shape.

San Diego Botanic Garden is indeed in shape. We are still flying high on being named the 9th Best Botanical Garden in all of North America by the readers of USA Today. We were one of 20 finalists selected by a national panel of botanical

garden experts. In the end, though, it was our public and fans who voted us into such a vaunted position. It's so gratifying to see the Garden get the national recognition it so clearly deserves. And the Garden continues to get better and better.





For those of you peering over the construction fences in the northwest corner of the Garden, you will have seen the Dickinson Family Education Conservatory rise from the ground, a spectacular monument to the promise of botanical education and conservation. I'm so pleased to report that we are at the end stages of our project. The structure is complete and most of the plants are in. We are now waiting to complete our permitting processes and finish up the amazing plant chandeliers. While it's hard to estimate an exact date for the opening, I'm hoping that we'll at least be getting a sneak peek at the inside in the next few months. Stay tuned and thank you for your patience.

We are also pleased to announce a new capital campaign to construct a new Welcome Center and ocean-view Welcome Plaza near the northwest corner of the main parking lot. This project will simplify the process of entering and parking at the Garden, allowing a more welcoming visitor experience and access to the Garden via safer and more accessible paths. Please see page 12 for more information. This project will also be the focus of our Gala Fund-a-Need. If you are interested in donating, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

I'm so excited for this summer in the Garden. We have great programs in store, from the fantastic Insect Festival to Thursday Family Fun Nights and more. I look forward to seeing you in the Garden.



Grow Your Own Superbloom!

With Plant Combinations Found in our California Gardenscapes

By Tony Gurnoe Director of Horticulture

This year's lush winter growth and bountiful flowers has drawn people out to California's deserts and foothills by the thousands. As we settle into our characteristic long, dry summer, the idea of translating California's unique floristic beauty into the home garden may seem daunting.

Native plants provide floral abundance for birds and butterflies, low-water and low-maintenance beauty all year, and even structural utility like slope stabilization, but not all native plants are well behaved in a residential garden. The San Diego Botanic Garden's California Gardenscapes was developed to demonstrate techniques and plant combinations that home gardeners can use to make the most of California's extensive plant palette.

Certain groups of native plants are naturally suited for the garden life, even as raw species. The *Salvia* genus, also known as sage, is a good example. *Salvia mellifera*, black sage, is ubiquitous throughout coastal California, but has a challenging habit of going dormant during the heat of summer, and unfortunately looking dead. This ability to withstand the harshest time of year by dropping leaves to reduce transpiration is an amazing adaptation, and a wonderful tool for educating people about local ecology, but such a twiggy aesthetic is not always appreciated in a front yard.

Amazingly, the same species will stay green, leafy, and in bloom with a small amount of summer water and pruning. Sages are a fantastic choice for gardeners newly introducing native plants to their landscapes. They come in a diverse array of growth habits and flower colors and tend to benefit from regular garden maintenance.

Other species can be trickier to grow in a garden setting. Arctostaphylos and Ceanothus are two iconic California plant genera that often succumb to being overwatered, even in a low-water landscape. Planting these woody specimens during their natural winter growth cycle will help to establish them





San Diego Botanic Garden Named one of Top 10 Botanic Gardens In North America by USA TODAY

Winner of 10Best Reader's Choice Travel Award Contest for Best Botanical Garden in 2019!

Nominated by a panel of experts, including a combination of editors from USA TODAY, expert contributors, editors from 10Best.com, and other Gannett properties (among others), San Diego Botanic Garden was thrilled to be ranked 9th among 20 garden contestants from the U.S., Mexico and Canada.

The Top 10 winners in the USA TODAY 10Best Readers' Choice Travel Awards Contest for 2019 are:

- 1. Minnesota Landscape Arboretum
- 2. Missouri Botanical Garden
- 3. Bok Tower Gardens
- 4. Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
- 5. Vallarta Botanical Gardens
- 6. Cheekwood Estate & Gardens
- 7. Atlanta Botanical Garden
- 8. Chicago Botanic Garden

9. San Diego Botanic Garden

10. Montreal Botanical Garden

A big THANK YOU to all of our Garden family, fans and friends who showed their love for our beautiful 37-acre urban oasis by voting for us online. We couldn't have made the Top 10 without you!



successfully, but many plants still die the first summer. Visitors to our California Gardenscapes will notice an emphasis on cultivated varieties of these charismatic flowering shrubs. Local species are often bred with plants from naturally wetter regions along the northern coast. Not only are these varieties developed to tolerate supplemental water, they are often more spectacular in their flower cycles than their wild counterparts.

Hot rocky exposures, shady spaces wanting of more flowers, or pollinator gardens are all enhanced with the inclusion of native plants but figuring out which ones and how to grow them successfully can seem an insurmountable hurdle. Our visitors will find educational exhibits in California Gardenscapes targeted to the home gardener as part of an overall culmination of this institution's experience in learning what works when it comes to gardening with native plants.

Rather than praying for winter rain and sitting in spring traffic to get a taste of our state's majestic beauty, spend a day at the San Diego Botanic Garden and take practical strategies home to foster amazing local plants in your own garden all year long. Then you can proudly display your very own superbloom!



Garden Events for Youth & Adults



4th of July Parade

Thursday, July 4 10 am

Young children and their families are invited to join us for our annual 4th of July Parade through the Garden. Bring decorated strollers and wagons and wear red, white and blue! (No balloons, please). We will meet at Seeds of Wonder at 10 am for some red-white-and-blue crafts and the parade will start at 10:30 am sharp.

Participation in the 4th of July Parade is included with paid admission or SDBG membership. Please note: On July 4th the Garden will close at 5 pm.



Insect Festival

Saturday & Sunday, July 20 & 21 10 am – 4 pm

Calling all aspiring entomologists! This one-of-a-kind event is just for you, featuring thousands of fascinating creepy-crawlies including live insects, spiders, lizards and snakes. Some of them you can even touch! Taste a spicy fried mealworm (delicious!), make an insect-inspired craft to take home, and try to stump our bug experts by asking them your toughest questions.

Entrance to the Insect Festival is included with paid admission or SDBG membership for adults. Admission is free for this event for all children 12 and under.



Sculpture in the Garden

Now - Early April 2020 9 am - 5 pm Daily

Come see our brand new Sculpture in the Garden exhibit featuring 10 sculptures from 9 regional artists that was just installed last month! All sculptures in the exhibit, set against the beautiful backdrop of the Garden's lush landscape and curated by Naomi Nussbaum Art & Design, are for sale. For more information, visit SDBGarden.sculpture.htm.

Entrance to Sculpture in the Garden is included with paid admission or SDBG membership.



Growing Wild Oceanside Museum of Art Artists Alliance Art Exhibit

Sunday, August 11 – Friday, September 27 9 am – 5 pm Ecke Building

Back by popular demand, the members of Oceanside Museum of Art Artists Alliance have put together another botanically-themed art show just for display at the Garden! Juried by Kathi McCord and Peter Tobias, this diverse exhibit is on view in the Ecke Building on most days unless this multi-purpose space is booked for a private rental. Check online before visiting at sdbgarden.org/artshows.htm.

Entrance to Growing Wild is included with paid admission or SDBG membership.



Thursday Family Fun Night

July 11 & July 18 (Except July 4th) Live Entertainment from 6 – 7 pm

Pack up the kids and head over to the Garden for live, family-friendly entertainment on July 11 and July 18. Our two final entertainers who will round out this season are Twinkle and Friends on July 11, and fan-favorite Hullabaloo on July 18.

Cost: Entrance to Thursday Family Fun Night and Extended Summer Hours is included with paid admission or SDBG membership.

Please note: On July 4th the Garden will close at 5 pm.



Extended Garden Summer Hours!

Now – August 29 (Except July 4th) 5 – 8 pm

Garden lovers of all ages are invited to take advantage of extended evening hours every Thursday during the summer months. It's the perfect time of the year to enjoy being outdoors in our 37-acre urban oasis and experiencing the magical transformation of the Garden as the heat of the day turns to the cool of the dusk.

Cost: Entrance to Thursday Family Fun Night and Extended Summer Hours is included with paid admission or SDBG membership.

Please note: On July 4th the Garden will close at 5 pm.

Basket Making Plants

By Carol Lang and Alison Hiers

Basketry is one of mankind's oldest crafts and is practiced in almost every corner of the world. Plants are the cornerstone of basketry. Their natural fibers, twigs, stems, leaves, roots, vines, bark, needles, shoots and stalks are woven into both ornamental and utilitarian baskets and containers used by ancient and modern day peoples alike.

The oldest baskets found to date, discovered in Egypt, have been carbon dated at 10,000 to 12,000 years old. In the United States, remnants of Native American basketry discovered in caves in the Southwest are more than 8,000 years old.



Basketry and weaving began as a useful craft, providing all kinds of practical items such as food storage and water vessels, as well as netting, rope, infant cradles, bee skeps, fishing creels and boats. Once worn out, they became useful kindling. Baskets were not only used for common, daily needs by ancient peoples, they also served as pieces of art and religious ornamentation, adorning tombs (and bodies) of kings and venerated by the ancient Mesopotamians.

In religious texts, such as the Old Testament, basketry is mentioned in the book of Genesis, where Joseph interprets the dream that a baker has of three baskets on his head; as well as the book of Exodus where the baby Moses is hidden in an ark made of bulrushes and lined with pitch.

Basketry techniques and materials continue to be used for housing, mats, clothing and hats by cultures, even today. Humankind has never been able to develop a machine that can make a basket. So all contemporary baskets are made by hand. Even the inexpensive ones you can pick up at the grocery store!

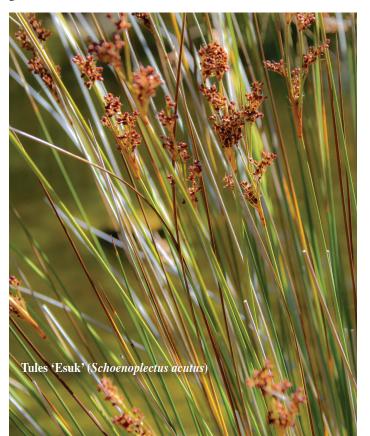


Gardens in Southern California, such as San Diego Botanic Garden, can grow all of the materials needed to make a variety of basketry styles with a wonderful array of colors, textures and embellishments. These plant parts can then be twined, coiled, stitched, plaited and woven into baskets and other works of art found from the Smithsonian Institution to local art galleries and street fairs.

San Diego Botanic Garden has a collection of well over 90 species of plants that were, and are, used for basketry, gourd and fiber art. Following is a partial list of plants used for these art forms, compiled by the Misti Washington Gourd and Basket Guild. For a full listing of plants found at the Garden, as well as their location in the Garden, please visit our website at SDBGarden.org/basket-plants.htm.

Please remember, that no harvesting of materials – for basket weaving or otherwise – is allowed at the Garden.

Rushes (Juncus spp.) and Cattails (Typha spp.) have a wide distribution throughout the world. They are found in the Northern Hemisphere in various wetland areas. In South America, native peoples use these plants to construct rafts and boats. The Japanese use rushes to weave tatami mats. In California, many of the descendants of native peoples still use rushes for basket making, as they have for generations. This includes such local tribes as the Chumash, Cahuilla and Kumeyaay. Rushes come in various colors in Southern California, running from deep red to tan. Their fibers can also be dyed black. In the Garden, rushes grow in and around the pond in our Native Plant/Native People garden.





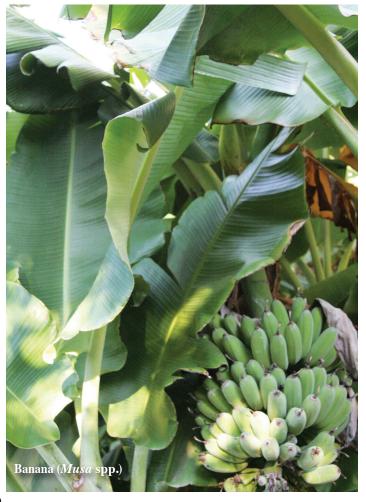
Bamboo (*Poaceae* subfamily *Bambusoideae*) are extremely important grasses native to Southern and Southeast Asia, and fuels the East Asian economy. Various species are used not only for basket making, but also for building materials, as a food source, eating and cooking utensils, fishing poles, weapons, furniture, musical instruments, fabric and even fuel. Master basket makers from Japan, start as apprentices who must learn to clean and strip the material into finer and finer splints in order to begin the weaving process. Bamboo, in fact, has a higher specific compressive strength than wood, brick or concrete. San Diego Botanic Garden has the largest collection of bamboo in a public garden in the United States. Look for this beautiful, tranquil garden at the northwestern end of our Garden.

Banana (Musa spp.), Iris (Iris spp.), Daylilies (Hemericallis spp.) were not typically used as weaving materials by most ancient peoples as they were not strong enough for tough, daily use as a basket. However, many modern basket weavers have found that these plants can be made into cordage, and be used in braiding, coiling and twining when strength is less important. Bananas are native to Southeast Asia and Australia, but cultivated in tropical regions all over the world. When banana skins are stripped and dried they provide a rich, black color for baskets. In the Garden, 'Banana Boulevard' is located near the entrance of our Subtropical Fruit Garden and includes many bananas. Iris and Daylilies can be found in the Garden, right across the service road in the adjacent Herb Garden.

Yucca (Yucca spp.) occur naturally throughout much of the Americas and in an amazing variety of climates - from mountains to grasslands, and coastal areas to deserts. Various yuccas provided food, soap and tinder for Native Americans who also used the fibers to make sandals, cords and rope, as well as belts, mats, cloth and baskets. Look for these majestic plants, found throughout San Diego County, in our New World Desert Garden and California Gardenscapes areas.

- Carol Lang is the former charter president of the Misti Washington Gourd and Basket Guild and a former public school teacher. Her basketry work has been displayed at galleries throughout San Diego and she teaches various basketry techniques. The Guild meets monthly at the Garden. More info on the Guild can be found at: Basket-Gourd.com.
- Alison Hiers has been a basket weaver for six years, is a member of Misti Washington Gourd and Basket Guild, and has been a docent at San Diego Botanic Garden for 10 years.





Youth & Adult Education

Group Visits and Programs

Guided and Self-Guided Group Tours

Guided and self-guided walking group tours are available for visitors ages 6 and up. Guided shuttle tours for walking-impaired visitors are available for small groups of 2 -15 individuals.

All group tours - both guided and self-guided - must be arranged 30 days in advance and paid for 15 days in advance through the Garden's Education Department.

To book a group visit, please contact Caren Clayton at cclayton@ SDBGarden.org, or visit our tour website SDBGarden.org/tours-main.htm, and submit a completed tour request form.

For information on our general tours, self-guided tours and school programs with a focus on plant adaptation, pollination, or our Native Plants/Native People garden, please visit our website at SDBGarden.org/tours-youth.htm.



Ongoing Programs for Young Children

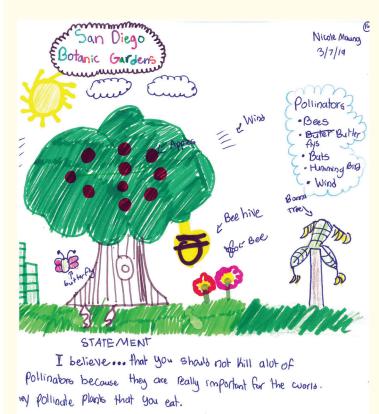
Walk-in activities like easel-painting, play-dough fun, plant potting, and story time for preschool age children are offered on most Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays throughout the year in Seeds of Wonder. For detailed information on our preschool programs in Seeds of Wonder, please visit our website at SDBGarden.org/seeds_wond.htm.

Birthday Parties for Young Children

On select 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.

Educating Environmental Champions!

Thanks to a grant from SDG&E, 24 classes of 2nd – 5th grade students from Title 1 schools from throughout San Diego County were able to visit the Garden and learn more about pollination and climate change. Hands-on activities like a guided pollinator search, botanically-themed games and a special tour of the Garden made for an engaging and educational day for our young environmental champions.





Summer Classes

To see full class descriptions and to register go to SDBGarden.org/classes.htm or call 760/436–3036 x201. (Ages 18+)

Forest / Nature Bathing

Sunday, July 14, 9 – 11 am Sunday, August 18, 9 – 11 am Sunday, September 15, 9 – 11 am

Shinrin-yoku or Forest Bathing is a way of connecting people to nature. This idea, and the positive health effects of simply being and walking in a state of relaxation in the natural world has undergone significant scientific testing and validation in Japan and Korea. This innovative programming is trending in gardens and nature reserves across the country. Register today! This class will sell out fast! Instructor: Rhana Kozak

Cost: Members \$32, non-members \$40. Please register by July 7, August 11 and September 8.

Open Air Yoga Experience

Thursday, July 18, 9:30 - 10:30 am Thursday, August 15, 9:30 - 10:30 am Thursday, September 19, 9:30 -10:30 am

Breath in fresh air while being sheltered by beautiful trees surrounding your mat. Immerse your senses in the sights and smells of nature. Leave restored and rejuvenated after gently moving your body. Please bring your own mat.

Cost: Members \$20, non-members \$24.
Please register by July 11, August 8 and September 12.



Upcycling: Bees, Butterflies and Botanicals

Saturday, July 27, 1 – 4 pm

Learn how to upcycle found paper materials into unique and beautiful cards, gift bags, and gift tags using various collage, simple sewing and stamping techniques. Instructor: Kathryn Hilton.

Cost: Members \$75, non-members, \$90. A class supply list will be emailed after registration is received. Please register by July 20.

Living Wall / Vertical Garden

Saturday, July 27, 9 am -12 pm Sunday, September 15, 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 Today! 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 on the day of class. Please register by July 20 and September 8.

Plein Air Painting in the Garden

Sunday, August 11, 1 pm - 4 pm

Like the French Impressionists, we will set up our easels outdoors in the beautiful Garden and paint directly from life. Ample discussion on art materials, composition, color and light will give even the most beginner painter ample understanding to enjoy what they are doing. Students are required to bring their own supplies. Instructor: Alex Schaefer.

Cost: Members \$45, non-members \$54. A supply list for students to purchase themselves prior to the class will be emailed after registration is received. Please register by August 4.

Mosaic Mini Totems

Sunday, August 11, 9 am – 4 pm

Learn how to build a mini totem for your garden or patio. Using a rock as a base, stack small beads of handmade clay onto a pole and select from a heart, a fish, a butterfly for the top focal point which you will mosaic. Instructor Marsha Rafter.

Cost: Members \$75, \$90 non-members. Plus a \$75 materials fee paid directly to the instructor on the day of the class. Please register by August 4, 2019.

Succulent 10" Wreath Workshop

Tuesday, September 17, 9 am – 3 pm

Design and create your own succulent wreath using over 100 cuttings from the Garden. Use your new succulent wreath as an accent in your home or garden. Please bring small clippers to class. Instructor: SDBG succulent Wreath Team.

Cost: Members \$65, non-members \$78. Fee includes materials. Please register by September 10.

Get on Board with this Year's Gala Fund-A-Need Project!

Pacific Promenade & Visitor Center

We're envisioning a whole new way to 'wow' our visitors when they come to experience our award-winning Garden. And what better way to do that than to spotlight our stunning view of the sparkling blue Pacific Ocean!

Our new Pacific Promenade & Visitor Center will create that seamless entrance experience we've all been dreaming about – where visitors can intuitively (and safely) access the Garden. All while being welcomed by stellar horticulture and a breath-taking ocean vista.

This open and inviting new center, located where the eucalyptus trees currently line the west end of our main parking lot, will be a hub for our guests to purchase tickets, memberships, become oriented to the Garden and more. We envision it as a laid-back SoCal center for visitors to meet and greet staff, docents and other visitors... or a relaxed space to just kick back, hang out and take in the view.

Feel free to reach out to SDBG President and CEO, Ari Novy, at anovy@SDBGarden.org or 760/579-8028 to hear more about the Promenade, inquire about donations, and look for ways to support this exciting project during our Gala in the Garden coming up in September!.



Volunteer and Docent News

April Volunteer of the Month: PAT LINTON

Pat was raised in Illinois and New Jersey. She met her husband, Lance, while attending Boston University's School of Nursing and they have two daughters. Pat was a neonatal nurse in Boston for 30 years and also worked as an Ethics Research Compliance Officer.

Pat was influenced by her mother-in-law's love of wildflower and vegetable gardening. When she retired four years ago, she happened upon our Garden's website and became intrigued! Starting as a volunteer in 2015, Pat enthusiastically completed docent training the following year. Pat has contributed to the Garden of Lights, the Fall Plant Sale and our new Got Green event. She provides Garden tours, is a SDBG history team member and a Larabee Museum guide and coordinator.

Pat says the peace and happiness that she derives from new Garden discoveries and her interactions with the wonderful people here keep her very motivated and involved!



May Volunteer of the Month: MARILYNN CHAMBERS

Born and raised in South Dakota, Marilyn has lived in seven states! She and her husband, Jim, were married for 38 years and she enjoys spending time with her four grandchildren. Marilyn worked as a legal secretary and a buyer and also owned a small health food store.

Gardening is an 'inherited gene' from her grandparents, she claims. Marilyn became a Master Gardener in Colorado where she volunteered at a xeriscape demonstration garden. During a visit to our Garden, Marilyn experienced the Fall Plant Sale and had no doubt she would be joining upon relocation to the San Diego.

A Docent since 2017, Marilyn has volunteered in the Herb Garden, as well as collections and propagation. Our Garden's serenity and natural design are the elements that Marilyn most enjoys!



June Volunteer of the Month: LINDA COOPER

A native Southern Californian and life-long nature lover, Linda grew up in Whittier, CA. It was there she met and married her husband, Rod, and raised their two daughters. During that time, she actively volunteered in service and philanthropic organizations. Linda's business career as a sales consultant and a development manager for a New York-based clothing company spanned 25 years. A 2005 relocation to Solana Beach brought Linda and her husband closer to their family, including four grandchildren

After attending a Water Wise class at the Garden, while planning a home landscaping project, Linda became a Docent in 2017. She serves on the Gala Cuisine Committee, which she is co-chairing for the second year. She enjoys working with other volunteers in the Garden, supporting the Fall Plant Sale and Garden of Lights. Linda is currently Secretary of our Docent Society Board.



Docent Meetings Everyone Welcome! First Wednesday of the Month

9:30 am - 12 pm

Arrive at 11 am for the program

July 3: No meeting

Aug. 7: Andy Cuffel, owner of Cuffel Farms, earned a degree in economics and worked in non-profits until a few years ago when he threw it all away for his love of tillandsias, commonly known as air plants. He'll share with us his passion for these unusual plants and how to care for them.

Sept. 4: John Clements, SDBG Horticulture Manager, gives us some beautiful plants to consider when designing an Australian or South African Garden for ourselves. He'll give us pointers about how to grow these plants in our own gardens as well as maintain them as we volunteer at our big, beautiful Garden.

We Love Our Docents! New Classes Begin on September 5

Our Docents serve in the Gift Shop, as tour guides, provide Garden beautification, greet our guests in the Welcome Center and much more! Our next series of 9 classes begin on Thursday, September 5. Pre-requisites are required in addition to a \$60 registration fee paid in advance of the first meeting. Visit SDBGarden.org/docent.htm or contact Liz Woodward, Docent Training Coordinator, liz@woodwardweb.net or 760/420-1455 for more information.

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 January 30, 2019 and April 28, 2019.

If you see an error, our sincere apologies! Please contact President & CEO Ari Novy at 760/436-3036 x202 or anovy@sdbgarden.org. We will be sure to recognize you properly in the next issue. Thank you!

Gifts of \$25,000 or greater

Frances Hamilton White

Gifts of \$10,000 to \$24,999

Anonymous

Gifts of \$1,000 to \$9,999

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The San Diego Foundation

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New or Renewing Benefactor Society Members

Sapphire Tower \$5,000 or greater

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

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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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