

New Ticket Pricing for Arbor Eden

An annual fixture on Seattle's social calendar, Arbor Eden: The Preview Gala returns to the Washington State Convention & Trade Center on Tuesday, February 22. Hosted by the Foundation as a benefit for Washington Park Arboretum, the gala offers plant and garden lovers an opportunity to view the beautiful display gardens of the Northwest Flower & Garden Show the evening before it opens to the public. It's also a lavish party, featuring hosted wine receptions, delicious food, live music, and sparkling silent auctions.

To entice more guests to come to this year's gala, we've lowered our general admission prices. Foundation

members will now be able to preview the displays for \$65, while non-members can gain admission for \$100. To accommodate this change, dinner will not be included as part of the general admission ticket benefits. Members and non-members are encouraged to dine before coming to the event. But save some room because we will be serving up some delectable desserts and wines! (See the sidebar for a breakdown of the ticket levels, guest benefits, and event schedule.)

Patron- and Benefactor-level guests will enjoy a buffet dinner and an exclusive preview of the display gardens before the main exhibit hall is opened to all guests. Patron and Benefactors can also take advantage of complimentary parking, while Benefactors receive two tickets to the Northwest Flower & Garden Show (February 23 to 27, at the Convention & Trade Center).

While you're perusing the exhibit hall, don't forget to pay a visit to the Arboretum's display garden. This year's display honors the 50th anniversary of the Seattle Japanese Garden at the Arboretum (see page 4 for details). In keeping with the storytelling theme of the Flower & Garden Show, the display is also the setting for a magical old Japanese fable entitled "The Old Man Who Made Trees Blossom."

Tickets to the gala go on sale December 6. You can purchase them in the Arboretum Shop, online at www.arboretumfoundation.org, or by calling 206-325-4510. They're the perfect gift for any green thumb on your holiday list. We look forward to seeing you at the party! ☺



ARBOR EDEN 2011
NORTHWEST FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW
PREVIEW GALA

Join us Tuesday, February 22, at the Washington State Convention & Trade Center

Ticket Levels and Benefits:

GENERAL ADMISSION
\$65 Foundation Members; \$100 Non-Members
6:00 TO 7:00 PM
Hosted wine reception, live entertainment, silent auctions in the South Lobby
7:00 TO 9:30 PM
Garden preview, delectable desserts, hosted wine & entertainment

PATRONS & BENEFACTORS
\$250 Patrons; \$500 Benefactors
4:30 TO 5:30 PM
Exclusive reception with live entertainment, and silent auctions in the South Lobby
5:30 TO 7:00 PM
Exclusive garden preview and buffet dinner
7:00 TO 9:30 PM
Continued garden viewing, auction bidding, and entertainment

News and Notes



FORMIDABLE FUNGUS: A volunteer at the 2010 Mushroom Bioblitz finds a large specimen in the Crabapple Meadow.

Bioblitz Catalogs Mushroom Diversity of Arboretum

Following on the success of the Arboretum's first general bioblitz back in May, the UW Botanic Gardens, in partnership with the Puget Sound Mycological Society (PSMS)—and with funding from the Arboretum Foundation—hosted a second biological treasure hunt on October 28, this time to inventory the mushroom species growing in our beautiful 230 acres. Teams comprised of about 60 volunteer mushroom hunters of all ages scoured the Arboretum grounds in search of these fascinating and invaluable forest dwellers. By sundown, the volunteers managed to collect close to 500 fungal specimens. The hunt was followed by a presentation from PSMS president, Marian Maxwell, entitled “The Role of Mushrooms in the Ecosystem”. During her talk, Marian outlined the value of these unsung and underappreciated forest recyclers.

Foundation Website Gets a Facelift

The Foundation's website, www.arboretumfoundation.org, is getting a long-overdue makeover. The site is being redesigned to improve

navigation and functionality, enhance content, and provide top-of-the-line security for our users. It'll also have a lot more beautiful pictures of the Arboretum! The new and improved site will launch in early December.

Qwest Pioneers Partner with Arboretum

To mark the 100th anniversary of the Qwest Pioneers—a national volunteer organization—the Washington State chapter of the Pioneers will dedicate 400 volunteer hours over the coming year to the care and upkeep of the Arboretum's holly collection. Volunteers will remove invasive species, weed, prune, mulch, and perform berm maintenance in the three-acre garden, located at the corner of Lake Washington Boulevard and Boyer Avenue East. They'll also help create new berms, as well as install bulbs and plants. In addition, the Washington Pioneers are providing financial assistance—in the form of a \$26,000 grant from its national organization—to help improve the holly collection. For more information on how to get involved, please contact Jane Nishita at 206-345-2316 or by e-mail at jane.nishita@qwest.com.



Gifts & Greens Galore



Saturday, December 11 & Sunday, December 12
10 AM—2PM, Graham Visitors Center

Don't miss the Arboretum Foundation's beloved holiday sale in mid December. The sale offers a wonderful selection of holiday decorations, including wreaths, swags, and fresh-cut greens. It's also a showcase for the Arboretum Shop, which features an excellent selection of gardening and nature books, plant-themed jewelry, natural body products, tools for green thumbs, and much more. At this year's event, you'll also find:

- Live seasonal harp music (11 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day)
 - Free hot drinks
 - Handcrafted hydrangea wreaths
- Michael Michaud Silver Season botanical tableware
 - Handmade holiday cards

On Sunday—Model A's and Fun for Kids: As a special treat at this year's Sunday sale the Evergreen A's will present a vintage car show and offer free Model A rides along Arboretum Drive. Plus, kids can enjoy free holiday-themed activities hosted by the UW Botanic Gardens education staff.

Free admission and parking • All sales benefit Washington Park Arboretum

News and Notes

FUN FOR KIDS! Children enjoying craft activities during the Fall Bulb & Plant Sale in early October. Look for a similar activities table—hosted by UW Botanic Gardens education staff—at the Sunday Gifts & Greens Galore, on December 12. Thanks to our University partners and to all the wonderful volunteers who helped us with this year's Bulb Sale.



Update on the 520 Bridge

Work continues on the refinement of the Governor's preferred alternative for the SR520 bridge design. The Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee, which includes representatives of the Foundation, have been meeting with Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) officials twice a month to discuss mitigation measures, including those for pedestrian safety and reducing traffic in the Arboretum as part of the bridge replacement. At the end of 2010, WSDOT will present a report on its progress to the state legislature listing potential projects in the Arboretum that might be funded as part of mitigation for the unavoidable impacts of the construction of the new bridge.

City Budget Woes Impact the Arboretum

The poor economic climate is continuing to have an adverse effect on the Arboretum. Budget cuts at the City of Seattle and University of Washington are severely impacting the ability of the Arboretum staff to maintain our 230 acres of trails, plants, and wildlife habitat. In January 2011, Seattle Parks and Recreation will be reducing its crew numbers in the Arboretum from five-and-a-half to four! The Arboretum Foundation has stepped up to pay for a new three-quarter-time gardener to maintain the Pacific Connections Garden. We are also looking to create a new volunteer unit that will provide support to Arboretum staff in maintaining the new Pacific Connections forests and gardens. Look for more information about this soon!

Joy Spurr Legacy Grows

The Foundation has received another generous distribution from the estate of Joy Spurr, the Arboretum's long-time photographer who passed away in late 2009. The new gift brings the total amount of Joy's bequest to approximately \$400,000. At its November meeting, the Foundation's Board of Directors voted to allocate \$200,000 of the bequest to the creation of the New Zealand Forest in the Pacific Connections Garden. Board member Elizabeth Moses—a close friend of Joy's—said "Joy would have loved it that we put the money into plants." ☞

What's Happening

Gifts & Greens Galore

Saturday, December 11, 10 AM–2 PM
Sunday, December 12, 10 AM–2 PM

Northwest Flower & Garden Show

Washington State Convention
& Trade Center

Arbor Eden: The Preview Gala

Tuesday, February 22, 4:30–9:30 PM
(start time varies with ticket prices)

Arboretum Display Garden

February 23–27

Display Garden Plant Sale

Saturday, March 5, 10 AM–2 PM

Early Bloomers Plant Sale

Saturday, April 9, 10 AM–2 PM

Florabundance Spring Plant Sale

Warren G. Magnuson Park (Bldg. 30)

Saturday, April 30, 9 AM–5 PM

Sunday, May 1, 10 AM–2 PM

Member Pre-Sale

Friday, April 29, 5:30–8 PM

— ONGOING EVENTS —

ARBORETUM PLANT SALES

Pat Calvert Greenhouse

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10 AM–NOON

Plant Donations Nursery

Closed for the season

Accepting donations again March 9

Reopening for sales April 6

Guided Arboretum Walks

1st and 3rd Sundays, 1 PM, GVC lobby

Call 206-543-8800 to confirm

Master Gardeners Clinic

Saturdays/Sundays, NOON–4 PM,

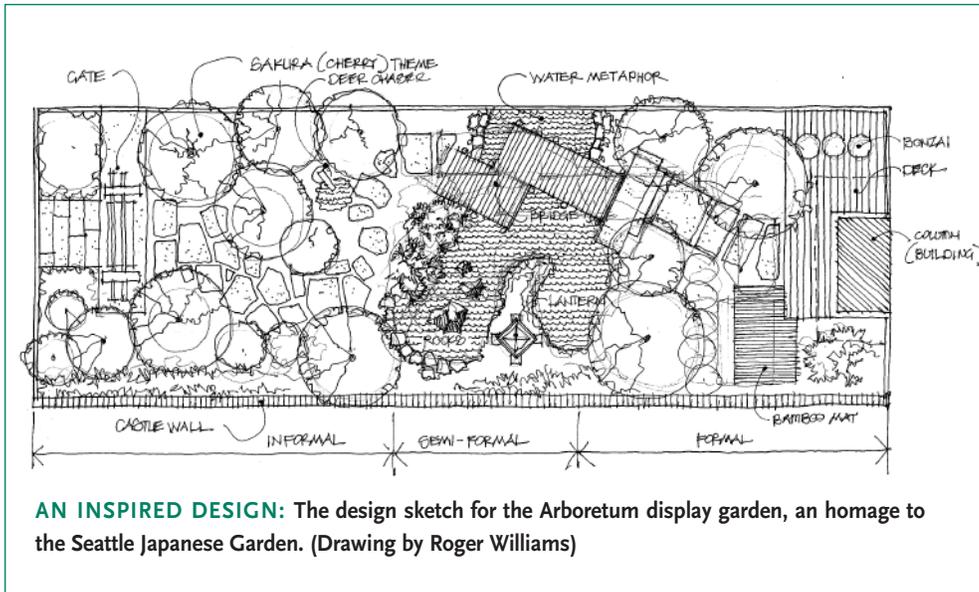
GVC lobby

Native Plants Study Group

4th Mondays, 10 AM–NOON

All events occur at the Graham Visitors Center unless noted. Call 206-543-8800 for information on Arboretum events; 206-543-8801 for family and youth education programs or guided walks; 206-685-8033 for adult learning opportunities.

2011 Arboretum Display Garden



AN INSPIRED DESIGN: The design sketch for the Arboretum display garden, an homage to the Seattle Japanese Garden. (Drawing by Roger Williams)

Celebrating the Japanese Garden

The Arboretum's display at the Northwest Flower & Garden Show will honor the golden anniversary of the Seattle Japanese Garden. One of the most celebrated Japanese gardens outside of Japan, the 3.5-acre garden turned 50 years old in 2010. Entitled "The Japanese Garden: Bridging Folklore and History", the display will not only mark this milestone but also attempt to capture the design and spirit of the influential public garden in a miniature space.

The Seattle Japanese Garden features a formal stroll-through garden at the north end and an informal, naturalistic woodland and mixed forest garden at the south end. These two sections are connected by a semi-formal area featuring a lake and stone peninsula. The Arboretum's display will also exhibit a formal style on one end and an informal style on the other. These will be linked by a semi-formal space featuring a metaphorical lake (created using groundcover plants) and stone peninsula spanned by a zigzag bridge. A torii gate will open into the informal garden at the front of the display, and stone pathways will lead from there over the "lake" to the formal garden at the back. The display will feature many plants found in traditional Japanese gardens, such as flowering cherries, azaleas, and pine.

In keeping with the "Once Upon a Time..." theme of the Flower & Garden Show, the Arboretum's display will also be the setting for a scene from the Japanese fable, "The Old Man Who Made Trees Blossom." In the story, a magical dog named Shiro helps his kind old master find fortune and happiness, even from beyond the grave. The display evokes

a scene near the end of the story when the old man—using Shiro's magical ashes—revives a dead cherry tree in the courtyard garden of a local prince, making the tree bloom in the middle of winter. The prince is delighted to have his favorite tree brought back to life, and rewards the old man with gold and other gifts.

The Arboretum display will have a timeless quality. Being a traditional Japanese garden, it will dramatize the historical period of our fable. At the same time, because Japanese gardens continue to influence our own gardens on the West Coast, it will

also be relevant to the present day. The display will have a number of practical applications, demonstrating to viewers how they can expand a small garden space by employing a variety of Japanese-style techniques (such as the use of shifting focal points and different paving textures) and incorporate many of the elements of a traditional Japanese garden (from stone arrangements to water) into a small home garden

Designed by garden designer and writer Phil Wood, architect and Foundation Board of Directors member Roger Williams, and plantsman and author Bob Lilly, the Arboretum display is produced by the Arboretum Foundation with assistance from Seattle Parks and Recreation and the University of Washington Botanic Gardens. It is also made possible by the hard work of our many volunteers. See it in the Flower & Garden Show at the Washington Convention and Trade Center from February 23 to 27. ☺

Display Garden Plant Sale

Saturday, March 5, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Graham Visitors Center

Looking for flowering cherries, azaleas, or other traditional Japanese garden plants? Then don't miss our Display Garden Plant Sale at the Arboretum the weekend after the Flower & Garden Show closes. We'll be selling all of the stunning plants featured in our display garden at great prices! ☺

Arboretum Celebrates Completion of New Chilean Garden

PHOTOS BY PATRICK O'NEILL AND BILL STAFFORD



Top left: Dignitaries, including Gateway to Chile Campaign Co-Chairs Kathy Fries (left) and Lynn Garvey (third from left), use shears to cut a ceremonial bamboo ribbon.



Top right: Dancers from the Chilean folk group Violeta Parra performing at the opening celebration.



Inset: The sons of Gateway to Chile Campaign Co-Chair Kathy Fries investigate a monkey puzzle tree in the new garden.

Right: Arboretum Foundation Executive Director Paige Miller speaking at the Pacific Connections meadow during the celebration.



More than 200 visitors gathered at Pacific Connections on Sunday, October 17, for the opening of the new Gateway to Chile garden. It was a lovely warm fall day, and the crowd was treated to Chilean folk dancing, live Latin American traditional music, complementary refreshments, and more. Musicians from the group Sin Fronteras led a parade from the Pacific Connections meadow down to the stunning new half-acre garden at the southern intersection of Arboretum Drive and Lake Washington Boulevard, where the

official ribbon-cutting ceremony took place. The day's festivities also included a free lecture for Foundation members on the plants in the Gateway to Chile and were coordinated with the Maple Viewing event taking place across the Boulevard in the Seattle Japanese Garden. A wonderful afternoon was had by all.

Next up in Pacific Connections is the New Zealand Forest garden, which is scheduled to be planted in 2012. The Arboretum Foundation's fundraising campaign for the forest will kick into high gear in the spring of 2011. Our goal is to raise

\$1 million to help finance the creation of the two-acre display, which will feature mountain beech and silver beech forests, and three open areas: the Phormium Fen, the Hebe Heath, and the Griselinia Bush. For more information, visit www.arboretumfoundation.org or contact our Development Director, Andrea Myers, at amyers@arboretumfoundation.org or 206-325-4510.

Thanks to Our Event Sponsors: Pampeana Empanadas, Salvadorean Bakery, Starbucks Coffee Company. ☺

VOLUNTEER VINE

You're Invited: Unit 98's 25th Anniversary Celebration—Arboretum Foundation Unit 98 invites all Foundation volunteers and members to attend their 25th anniversary celebration on Tuesday, January 18, from 1 to 4 p.m. The event features a special lecture by *Seattle Times* garden writer Val Easton. Val's topic will be "Work Less & Love Your Garden More," based on her latest book, *The New Low Maintenance Garden*. There will be a book signing after the talk. Charter member Helen Engle will also give a brief history of Unit 98's early days, and refreshments will be served.

The event will be held at the Pierce County Environmental Services Building, a lovely location with South Sound views and extensive native plantings. The address is 9850 64th Street West, University Place. Tickets for the lecture and party are \$10. Reservations may be made by calling Patti McFerran at 253-853-7979.

Arbor Eden and Display Garden Volunteering—Recruitment of volunteers for our Preview Gala (February 22) and for the Arboretum display garden at the Northwest Flower & Garden Show (February 23 to 27)

will begin in mid-December. Contact Elly Lien at 206-325-4510 or elien@arboretumfoundation.org for more information. ☺



VOLUNTEER POWER! More than 150 volunteers from companies including Microsoft, IBM, AT&T, and Providence Health & Services contributed 12,000 hours of service to the Arboretum during United Way's Day of Caring, on September 24. The volunteers worked at seven different sites in the Arboretum—including the new Gateway to Chile Garden—mulching, weeding, and planting. They removed 3,000 square feet of invasive blackberry, mulched 120 yards of trail on Foster Island, and planted hundreds of bulbs along Azalea Way. Many thanks to all who came out and volunteered their time and energy!

What's In My Garden 🌿

Marty Wingate, *Bulletin* Editorial Board Member

What is in your garden this season? *Mahonia* 'Lionel Fortescue' keeps the hummingbird busy (keeping us entertained). *Viburnum farreri* 'Nanum' puts out its fragrant blooms, and it's planted far enough from the *Sarcococca* so that they don't clash. I love to see the fuzzy buds of *Magnolia wilsonii* right outside the kitchen window.

What is your favorite season to garden? Usually whatever season we are in—but I particularly like late summer when there doesn't seem to be as much to do, but lots to enjoy.

Can you recommend a good gardening or nature book? Russell Link's book *Landscaping for Wildlife in the Pacific Northwest* is still my go-to reference for nature gardening. And, of course, how could I pass up the chance to mention a book about England? It's not a how-to, but my favorite is Jenny Uglow's *A Little History of British Gardening*.

When did you start volunteering at the Arboretum? I think around 1995, when I became the student representative on the *Bulletin* board (an assignment that stretched far past my student days).

What is your favorite thing about volunteering at the Arboretum? Going to meetings or any event at the visitors center, because that means I get to stop at the plant cart right outside. I can't tell you how many small conifers I have from Pat Calvert. I can't go into the actual sales area too often—I do have a small garden, after all. ☺





Arboretum Shop

WASHINGTON PARK ARBORETUM

Hot Items for the Holiday Season

- **Gnomies**—whimsical homemade dolls from Ecuador
 - Elegant silk and pashmina scarves
 - Fanciful wine bottle stoppers
- **Arboretum honey**—fresh batches from the Puget Sound Beekeepers

Ten percent discount for members
Call 206-325-4510 for seasonal hours

~ UWBG Winter Events & Classes ~

From the Ground Up: A QuiltArt Exhibit

December 2 through January 29, Elisabeth C. Miller Library Center for Urban Horticulture (CUH), 3501 NE 41st Street, Seattle

Your garden may be dormant and the skies a little gray at this time of year, but you can add color to the season by visiting “From the Ground Up” at the Miller Library. This spectacular exhibit by members of the Contemporary QuiltArt Association features 30 innovative quilts with themes relating to the world of botany and horticulture. For more information, call 206-543-0415 or visit www.millerlibrary.org.

An Introduction to Botanical Art

Saturday, January 29 & Sunday, January 30
9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Center for Urban Horticulture

In this two-day workshop, Dr. Ann Vorobik introduces participants to drawing skills, as well as pen and ink and watercolor techniques, used to create plant portraits. Fee: \$185 (early bird discount); \$200 after January 14. For more information or to register, call 206-685-8033, email jrobins@uw.edu, or visit www.uwbotanicgardens.org.

New Members

The Foundation welcomes members who joined during the period of August 17 to November 22.

Myrna Aavedal
Jeanette Adkins
Aaron Adsit
Beth Alderman &
Ed Boyko
Erika Barbera
Chris Bennett
Mark D. Blitzer
Barry Brumitt
Katie Busby
Nicole, John, Max
& Roxanne Calian
Lois B. Craig

Don Dijulio & Kathy
Smith-Dijulio
Dean Drugge
Dan Ely
James & Gretchen
Faulstich
Charles Finkelstein
Richard Hartman &
Ken Forster
Josie Hazen
Bonnie Lambert
Edna and Jack Lewis
Mancong Lin

Elise Lufkin
Mindy McGovern
Samuel Mitchell &
Sam Whiting
Michelle Nash
Jeff Neher
Christel O'Brien
Andria Orejuela
Helen Owens
Charles & Rhoda Pitcher
Joann Rademacher
Debbie Royer &
Walt Cissel

Jan Schaefer
Peggy Skow
Carol Slosberg
Jennifer Stanton
Margaret Sobel
Linda Strout
Teresa Van Horn
Dr. Linda Vorobik, Ph.D.
Jean Walkinshaw
Sally Welch
Amy & David Wood
Kathryn Yerke
Allison Young

To renew or enhance your membership, please call 206-325-4510
or visit www.arboretumfoundation.org.

Arboretum Foundation

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Tel: 206-325-4510 Fax: 206-325-8893
info@arboretumfoundation.org
www.arboretumfoundation.org

Office Hours: M-F, 8:30 AM–4:30 PM
Graham Visitors Center/Gift Shop:
10 AM–4 PM, daily
Information Hotline: 206-543-8800

FOUNDATION OFFICERS

President: Della Balick
Vice President: Susan Black
Vice President: Fred Isaac
Vice President: Kathleen Pierce
Treasurer: Craig Trueblood
Secretary: Iris Wagner
Immediate Past President: Barbara Wright

FOUNDATION STAFF

Paige Miller: Executive Director
Gregg Cato: Development Coordinator
Niall Dunne: Communications Manager
Eleanor “Elly” Lien: Volunteer Resources
Manager
Andrea Myers: Director of Development
Suzanne O’Neill: Events Coordinator
DeVere Pollom: Accountant
Cheri Shanahan: Capital Campaign Assistant
Julia White: Operations Coordinator

WASHINGTON PARK ARBORETUM

is managed cooperatively by University of Washington Botanic Gardens and City of Seattle Parks and Recreation, with support from the Arboretum Foundation.

GROUND WORK is a publication of the Arboretum Foundation.

Editor: **Niall Dunne**
Design: **Constance Bollen/cbgraphics**
Photos: **AF staff or as credited**

Useful Phone Numbers

Arboretum Offices/Graham Visitors

Center: 206-543-8800
Japanese Garden: 206-684-4725
Master Gardeners Hotline: 206-296-3440
Miller Library: 206-543-0415
Plant Answer Line: 206-897-5268
UW Botanic Gardens: 206-543-8616
Volunteer Info: 206-616-4890

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*The Arboretum Foundation promotes,
protects and enhances the
Washington Park Arboretum
for current and future generations
by strengthening and building a diverse
and engaged community of donors,
volunteers and advocates.*

Begin or renew a membership at www.arboretumfoundation.org

Arboretum Scene

PHOTO BY JOY SPURR



Rhododendron × *cilpinense* Hybrid Rhododendron

One of my favorite of the small, early-blooming rhododendrons is *Rhododendron* × *cilpinense*, a hybrid produced in 1927 by the famous breeding program at Bodnant Garden, in Conwy, Wales. The name “cilpinense” is actually a compound word containing a clue to the parentage of plant: *R. ciliatum* and *R. moupinense*. Boasting shiny, deep forest-green leaves, this compact and very floriferous rhododendron bears lovely trusses of blush pink flowers in February and March. A very handsome specimen can be found on the Northeast edge of the Witt Winter Garden meadow in the Arboretum. As with all rhododendrons, *R.* × *cilpinense* does best in light to partial shade and moist, well-drained acidic soil. ☞

—Randall Hitchin, UWBG Living Collections Manager & Registrar, Washington Park Arboretum

IN THE ARBORETUM: At grid coordinates 14-6E, 29-1W, and 35-1E, or ask at the Graham Visitors Center.