n addition to being a place of great beauty, even a casual acquaintance of the Garden will know that we are justifiably proud of our plant collection! The Garden houses one of the most diverse plant collections in North America. A “benchmark” survey revealed that the Garden contains the largest number of wild collected plants of any North American public garden. About 65% of the collection is of known wild origin. This is particularly valuable to researchers and to those working in the field of plant conservation because materials obtained from wild sources represent the natural gene pool of these plants.

A number of countries, including Great Britain and Australia, have programs for the recognition of “national” collections. In North America, recognition by the North American Plant Collection Consortium (NAPCC) comes close to conferring national status on public garden collections. The NAPCC is a joint program of the American Public Gardens Association and the United States Department of Agriculture’s Agricultural Research Service. The goal of this network of public gardens is to “coordinate a continent-wide approach to plant germplasm preservation and to promote high standards of collection management.”

Gardens apply for membership in the NAPCC, and achieving NAPCC status acknowledges the significance of a particular collection. The application process includes a site review by outside experts who confirm aspects of the collection and might make suggestions about strengthening a particular application. Participating gardens commit to making their collections available to support research, and to work with other gardens to ensure the preservation of this specially designated plant material. The NAPCC recognizes several types of collections, including those with broad taxonomic representation as well as conservation-oriented collections focused on genetic diversity. Garden collections are acknowledged for their individual merit, either on their own, or as part of a multi-institution consortium.

NAPCC status has been achieved for three Garden collections to date: oaks (Quercus), magnolias (Magnolia), and cycads (Order Cycadales). Our oaks and magnolias are part of multi-institution collections, each involving the participation of many gardens. Collaboration by multiple gardens is particularly useful for large, woody plants (e.g. trees) with a broad (e.g. worldwide) distribution. No single garden can represent the diversity of oaks, which are distributed widely across the northern hemisphere, with a few ranging south to Malaysia and to northern South America.

Trees can require a lot of room, and each garden has space for only so many. Additionally, with such a broad geographic range, cultural and climatic conditions determine which species can be grown in any given garden. In

Magnolia dealbata flowers in May in the Mexican/Central American Area.

Photo by Holly Forbes
the oak consortium, many eastern U.S. gardens have collections from eastern North America and northeastern Asia. We have oaks in our Californian, Asian, Eastern North American, Mediterranean and Mexican/Central American Areas. The particular strength we bring to this consortium lies in our wild collected material from Mexico and Central America, and also from California.

Similarly, the genus *Magnolia* is widely distributed in Asia, North America, and northern South America. The Garden has a fine collection of magnolias from Asia and Eastern North America. The magnolia consortium is particularly enhanced by the Garden’s strength in wild collected material from Mexico and Central America. Nationally, the NAPCC multi-institution *Magnolia* consortium includes both wild collected material and many of the beautiful cultivars that are important to the horticulture trade, though these are not broadly featured in our garden.

The Garden’s cycads are one of four cycad collections recognized by the NAPCC; the other three being Ganna Walska Lotusland (Montecito, CA) and the Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden and the Montgomery Botanical Center (both in Coral Gables, FL). Each of these institutions applied separately, highlighting the fact that the NAPCC recognizes excellence in plant collections and curatorial practice in multiple gardens growing the same group of plants. The four NAPCC cycad collections are exploring the possibility of forming a single, multi-site collection. Doing so will facilitate conservation and research collaboration among the gardens, and several other gardens with strong cycad collections may join as well.

The Garden’s cycad collection is very broad, containing all recognized genera of cycads worldwide. We have a particular strength in the genus *Encephalartos* from southern Africa, including a number of very endangered species. We are focused on the conservation importance of this collection, and are working to establish a breeding program for our plants in collaboration with fellow NAPCC gardens and collaborators in South Africa.

Garden staff recently submitted our fern collection for recognition by the NAPCC. With about 450 taxa and 500 accessions, we grow ferns in all nine of our biogeographical collections. We also grow ferns in the Aquatic Plant Display, the Xerophytic Fern Display, and in our greenhouse-based tropical collections. The Garden is particularly known for its collection of desert growing, or xerophytic ferns. We plan to expand our holdings of these unique ferns, plus explore the conservation issues related to rare and/or endangered native Californian ferns.

Participation in the NAPCC has given the Garden the opportunity to collaborate with gardens across North America, enhancing our role in plant conservation nationally. Garden staff are directly involved in NAPCC administration. Curator Holly Forbes is both a site reviewer and recruiter, encouraging west coast gardens to become members of the organization. Associate Director Chris Carmichael is the current chair of the NAPCC Committee for the American Public Gardens Association. Working with the NAPCC also provides international recognition, which may lead to further avenues of achieving our conservation mission.

More information on the NAPCC and its member collections is available on the American Public Gardens Association website: http://www.publicgardens.org/content/what-napcc

—Chris Carmichael
The Garden is pleased to be installing new signs in our Crops of World Garden this spring. This is part of a larger project that has been ongoing at the Garden in creating signs for each area that help interpret the collection to visitors. The signs reflect a continuity of design and are presented on durable outdoor-exhibit quality material. The project was funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The rich educational topics embodied in this particular area of garden make it a special resource for tours, classes, programs, and the public. Most of the plants featured are edibles - fruits, grains, vegetables, and herbs. A few are valuable for other purposes, such as mulberry trees as silkworm food and cork oaks as a source for cork. In developing the content for the signs, consideration was given for the many educational ways this area of the garden is used. Some examples include the UC Berkeley Biology 1b classes studying the Brassicaceae family, our school Pollinator tour, and our ethnobotanical Foods of the Americas program.

The organization of the plantings in the Crops of the World Garden reflects the Garden’s theme at large, grouping plants geographically by place of wild origin. Six signs were developed for the six different geographical planting beds by a team of docents and staff, with input from a variety of audiences.

Each sign accomplished two main objectives: to reveal domestication origins of significant crop plants, and to convey a concept linked to either how people grow (e.g. horticultural technique) or use the plant crops (e.g. ethnobotany). Since many crops are annuals, the signs provide a list of crops that the beds usually have growing there so that visitors to the garden at any time of year would still be able to gain an understanding of the history of crop origins even during the crop’s off-season.

These signs also provide a way to share important ideas in crop cultivation. Concepts explained by the new geographic bed signs are:

1) Asia – Trade and Crop Plant Dispersal
2) Europe – Plant Domestication and Families
3) North America – Pollinators and Their Importance
4) South America – Biodiversity and the Preservation of Varieties
5) Mexico/ Central America – Polyculture vs. Monoculture Farming
6) Africa – Sustainable Gardening Practices

An additional seventh sign welcomes and introduces visitors to the Crops of the World Garden and its organization.

Crops are plants that have an intriguing history and are a part of our daily lives. We hope you will visit our Crops of the World Garden and experience first-hand our latest educational addition.

—Christine Manoux
n preparing for this report, I reviewed the status of the Garden that I reported in our newsletter last fall. I was reminded how quickly things can change. For example, ironically, I began my report in the last newsletter with “After one of the wettest and longest rainy seasons in more than a decade…” the Garden flourished. Now I can say that after one of the driest fall and early winter seasons on record, the Garden continues to flourish; many plants display a prolonged growing and flowering season. We hope for sunny weather on the upcoming spring sale April 27-28. Please remember that we are offering a wealth of choice material on our plant sales deck daily; you don’t have to wait.

In the last newsletter, I also proudly reported that our outstanding cycad collection had just received recognition by the North American Plant Collection Consortium. I am now pleased to report that we have since received similar recognition for our special Magnolia collection (44 accessions, 37 kinds, 12 of which are endangered). We are continuing to put together applications to recognize the other in-depth collections we support, such as our ferns. I believe these awards provide additional evidence of the importance of the UC Botanical Garden as a national treasure.

I spoke earlier about our ongoing efforts to transition from inorganic fertilizers and other chemicals to a more complete organic regime of plant care. We had some concern about the implications of the switch; it’s hard to break old habits. We have now been using our compost tea and organic fertilizers for almost a year without major issues, but we continue to monitor and expand the efforts. This ‘green’ program recently benefited by the acquisition of a special electrical work vehicle that will serve to help distribute the necessary sprays, and I want to thank Norman and Janet Pease for their generous support of these needs, another example of how the Garden depends on your support.

Tree adoptions are an exciting new way to support the Garden. Adopted trees will receive an interpretive panel that also recognizes the donor. See more information later in this edition. I am pleased to report that our membership has continued to grow, evidence, I believe, that the public is becoming increasingly aware of the value of the Garden. Membership is key to any cultural institution and we are making efforts to improve member relations. We are particularly proud of the large number of you who have been loyal members for many years, and to recognize this allegiance, we have formed the Magnolia Circle, which will formally recognize members of 10 or more years duration.

Speaking of “getting the word out”, after a year spent lobbying campus and getting four other hill units to share in the expense, we have finally succeeded in getting the first directional sign to guide those coming from east of the Caldecott Tunnel. The fastest route is the Fish Ranch Road exit from Highway 24 to Grizzly Peak and then to the Garden. The route was confusing because most GPS maps did not recognize or recommend this route and there was no signage to guide people. I hope this new sign will make our visitors from ‘over the hills’ (e.g., Orinda, Moraga, Walnut Creek, Lafayette) more welcome. We should be their destination Garden.

Finally, a word about our efforts to expand the appeal of the Garden through new venues like music and art. Our summer concert series was increasingly well attended last summer and we plan another interesting program this year; typically on Thursday evenings in the Mather Redwood Grove amphitheater. Our 3rd annual exhibition of Botanical Illustrations held in January was again a grand success. I am excited to call your attention to a major art installation this summer. Please visit our website to learn about “Natural Discourse”, a coming together of many artists working in a variety of materials.

—Paul Licht
Natural Discourse

Artists, Architects, Scientists & Poets in the Garden
Opening to the public Saturday, July 14, 2012

Natural Discourse is a collaborative project between the Garden and a multi-disciplinary group of artists, writers and researchers. Curated by Mary Anne Friel and Shirley Watts, the exhibition will feature art installations in and about the Garden, poetry and more.

Participating artists include:
Mary Anne Friel
Todd Gilens
Nadia Hironaka
Andrew Kudless
Denise Newman
Deborah O’Grady
Ronald Rael
Virginia San Fratello
Matt Suib
Shirley Alexandra Watts
Hazel White
Gail Wight
Nami Yamamoto

Learn more at NaturalDiscourse.org

Artist Nami Yamamoto writes about her Natural Discourse project saying, “According to a Japanese legend that I learned as a child, the immortal wizard ‘Sennin’ performed miracles in his solitary existence, sustained only by the mountain fog that shrouded his mornings and evenings. A similar tale can be told of the California Redwood tree, also immortally old and no less miraculous in its size and character, which receives a significant portion (30-40%) of its water supply from moisture derived from the fog rolling in from the ocean. While this analogous relationship is purely poetic, it started me thinking about working with this concept of water collecting as the basis for my contribution to Natural Discourse.

“My project consists of creating a site-specific work entitled ‘Fog Catcher’ using netting technology to emulate the Coastal Redwood’s process of collecting water, and providing both a visually striking and functional installation for the duration of the exhibition.”

Read more and watch a movie at Nami’s website:
http://www.usaprojects.org/project/fog_catcher_working_title

Botanical Illustrations

Three images were chosen from the Plants Illustrated exhibition for new greeting cards

Illustrations (from to r) by Marilyn Danny Swanson, Peggy Irvine and Maria Cecelia Freeman

Our Faunal Guide has been receiving excellent press and is now being sold at several locations around the Bay area. To show that the Garden is not only about plants, six illustrations were added to our offerings of greeting cards. We have found that both the guide and cards make excellent gifts.

A sampling of the six plates selected for greeting cards from the 16 total that depict the common fauna of the East Bay Hills in the Garden’s guide.

Illustrations by Dana Gardner

New brochures

A revised English language version and a new Mandarin language tour brochure were completed this winter for the Chinese Medicinal Herb Garden.
UCBG’s Compost Tea Program – Greening the Garden

For about a year now, the Garden has been brewing and applying compost tea to various areas of the plant collection. This project is a key component in our overall Integrated Pest Management (IPM) efforts to use low-impact “green” methods and techniques.

The underlying principle behind compost tea lies in the potential disease suppressing capabilities of the beneficial microbes that it contains, these mostly consisting of fungi, bacteria, nematodes and protozoa. In brief, our compost tea is brewed in the following way: compost is “cooked” down from site-sourced biomass, and this material is then aged and screened for use. We also make, or I should say worms make, rich vermi-compost aka worm castings, from compost and aged horse manure, in a large commercial grade worm bin. These two composts are placed into a fine mesh bag and are soaked and kneaded in a 5 gallon bucket of water. The resulting “tea” is then added to our 100 gallon tea brewer vat. To this we add organic fish and kelp emulsions, and a dash of humic acid. The fish and kelp act as food sources for the microbes in the tank, and the humic acid helps to counteract the negative effects of chloramines in our water. This slurry is then vigorously aerated by means of an electric pump for 24 to 48 hours. Aeration duration can be manipulated to produce brews that may be heavier in one type of microbes and not another, depending on the goal in the field. For example, fungi and bacteria are particularly effective at disease suppression on leaf surfaces, while protozoa and beneficial nematodes are more effective at going after things like destructive nematodes in the soil.

The basic idea is that by providing air, water and nutrients, the beneficial microbes will propagate exponentially in the vat, resulting in a tea that acts as a powerful disease suppressant when applied to leaves and the soil. Additionally, we can add extra organic fertilizers such as more fish and kelp, or even biological additives such as Actinovate (Streptomyces lydicus), a naturally occurring beneficial bacterium that works to suppress antagonistic pathogens like Phytophthora, the agent that can cause Sudden Oak Death and other diseases. Compost tea is beneficial both on leaf surfaces to slow pathogen incursion and as a way to add fertility and microbes to soils – these together working to support overall plant and soil health.

The tea brewing equipment was purchased with a grant from Cal’s Green Initiative Fund, and our current intern, who is brewing and applying the tea, has been funded by a grant from the Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on Sustainability. Our use of compost tea allowed us to reduce or eliminate reliance on synthetic fungicides and fertilizers. This, along with overall plant and soil health, are the main goals of the project and are a key component of our IPM efforts. We are very aware of our role as stewards of the watershed in this part of the canyon, and are encouraged by the prospect of making environmental gains by utilizing this humble yet sophisticated organic technology.

—Anthony Garza
The Garden and broader horticulture community lost a long time friend and supporter in March. Myrtle’s contributions to the Garden are numerous and varied. As a young girl, Myrtle used to ride her horse in the Berkeley hills during the time when a dairy farm preceded the siting of the Garden in Strawberry Canyon. She received her BA in Botany in 1935 and her teaching credential in 1936, followed by a career teaching in the Oakland Schools and as a counselor at Juvenile Hall. She worked with UCB Prof. Herbert L. Mason on an elementary school science project, co-authoring with him “Botany for Beginners” for early elementary levels” in 1966.

Early on, Myrtle was instrumental in developing plant sales to support the Garden. She was a tireless volunteer propagating plants and raising funds for Garden projects. She was indefatigable in securing funding for the renovation of the plant communities display (1992) in the California Area. As a long-time member of the California Native Plant Society, she contributed to support the Garden’s biennial seed exchange and toward interpretation of the California Area.

An oral history of Myrtle was completed by Mary Mead in 1991, “Myrtle R. Wolf, Memories of Early Years and Development of the California Native Plant Society, 1966-1991.” Copies of this work are in the Regional Oral History Office of the Bancroft Library and in the Wolf Library at the Garden. Here Myrtle is quoted from this work: “Ultimately it all boils down to education of the public about our heritage of the wonderful diversified flora of California and its importance to the state.”

The Myrtle R. Wolf Botanical & Horticultural Library was dedicated in 2004 in the Garden’s Administrative Resources Center. Funded by friends and supporters, it now houses over 3,200 books and journals, and was electronically catalogued by a cadre of professional library volunteers led by Barbara Haxo Phillips. The Wolf Library serves the immediate Garden community of staff, volunteers, and members, and is also available to university students and other researchers using the Garden.

Her passion for plants and people was recognized many times over. She mentored many horticulturists, inspiring the naming of several plant cultivars in her honor.

—Holly Forbes

Lapageria rosea ‘Myrtle Wolf’s Pink.’
This is a pale pink, whose color darkens to medium pink with cold temperatures here in the Bay Area hills. The flower is typically 8 cm. long and 5 cm. wide. This cultivar is not difficult to root from cuttings and has a vigorous habit and is floriferous. It originated from Ed Carmen of Los Gatos and thrives in Mrs. Myrtle Wolf’s garden in the Berkeley hills. This cultivar is a relatively fast grower.

Arctostaphylos pajaroensis ‘Myrtle Wolf’
Collected in habitat in 1982 by Garden Horticulturist Roger Raiche in Manzanita Park, near Prunedale, this selection warranted special recognition.

Rhododendron occidentale ‘Myrt’s Blush’
Roger Raiche and I found that plant together on Fiddler Mountain in S. Oregon – not too far from Cave Junction. Fiddler Mountain is a remarkable serpentine mountain inhabited by the likes of Dicentra oregana, Silene hookeri, Iris bracteata, Lilium bolanderi, etc. We found the azaleas along the edge of a meadow where springs came out at the base of the serpentine slopes. The meadow edge was filled with stands of wild azalea, many of which exhibited varying shades of pink. We selected a particularly lovely and heavily flowered form and together shared how much Myrt would have loved the color - she was a fan of pink. It was a logical next step to name the plant in honor of someone who both loved a good pink flowering plant, and also, and more importantly, cultivated the love of native plants in both of us.

—Ron Lutsko, Jr.

Hardenbergia ‘Myrtle Wolf’
The woman for whom we named this selection is one of the patron saints of horticulture. It cropped up as a seedling in her garden and is almost certainly a hybrid between H. comptoniana and H. violacea. Most, not all, of the leaves are divided into three leaflets, but these are broad and angled like the leaves of H. violacea. It is quite floriferous and has flowers colored a rich, deep violet.

—Nevin Smith
Suncrest Nursery
Research projects that have recently benefited from Garden plant materials include:

**Peter Raven, director emeritus of the Missouri Botanical Garden**, continues his research program in the evening-primrose family (Onagraceae). He has been sent seeds of *Fuchsia paniculata*, *F. boliviana* and *Lopelia grandiflora* (a rare species from Oaxaca which only flowers for us in the propagation greenhouse) for DNA studies.

**Libing Zhang, research associate at the Missouri Botanical Garden**, received 54 samples of fern fronds dried in silica for his research on the relationships within the brake fern family (Pteridaceae) and the fern family Dryopteridaceae.

**Prof. Tetsuo Ohi-Tomo, University of Tokyo**, received dried leaves of *Vaccinium gaultherifolium* from the Asian Area for his research into the relationships of the genus *Agapetes* (heath family, Ericaceae).

**UCB Assistant Professor Cindy Looy (Department of Integrative Biology)**, with collaborators Scott Wing (Research Scientist and Curator, Smithsonian Institution), and Andrew Diefendorf (Department of Geology, University of Cincinnati) received 45 samples of small branches from the Garden for their study characterizing the amount and type of leaf waxes and terpenoids found in a variety of conifers. All the samples must be from one location because climate may play an important role in altering the chemical patterns detected. The Garden’s very diverse holdings of conifers are the ideal source for their project. Drs. Wing and Diefendorf collected samples in December when they were here for the annual geophysicist’s union held in San Francisco.

Dr. Looy and post-doc Dr. Renski Kirchholtes continue to receive conifer samples for development of a phytolith reference collection. Phytoliths are silicon structures that grow within and between plant cells and are stable in the fossil record. Dr. Looy is a plant ecologist studying the response of Paleozoic plants to environmental change during periods of mass extinction and deglaciation.

**Associate Professor J. Ryan Stewart, Brigham Young University**, received pups of several *Agave* species for research into biofuel potential.

**Prof. Kjirsten Wayman, Department of Chemistry, Humboldt State University**, received flowers of giant trillium (*Trillium chloropetalum*) and white trillium (*T. albidum*) for her research into the chemistry of their floral fragrance.
Sick Plant Clinic  
*First Saturday of Each Month* 9 am - noon  
*Free; No reservation required.*

**Monthly Butterfly Walks**  
4th Tuesday of each month March through October, 3 - 4 pm  
Join Sally Levinson, Garden volunteer propagator, docent and caterpillar lady, as she guides you through the collection in search of butterflies.  
**Space is limited. Children welcome. Free with Garden admission.**

**Fiber & Dye Exhibition**  
*March 24 – April 8, 10 am - 4 pm*  
The biodiversity of plant-based fibers and dyes is vast. The Botanical Garden invites you to learn more about the world of natural fibers and dyes. From traditional uses to inspired future innovation in eco-fashion and textiles, a walk through our exhibit illuminates the connection of culture with nature.  
*Free with Garden admission.*

**The California Collection**  
Wednesday, April 4, 1 - 2:30 p.m.  
Join Horticulturists Ken Bates and Ben Anderson for a tour through the California Area, the Garden’s largest collection. See native flora from diverse regions of the state. Representing close to one-quarter of the state’s native species, the U.C. Botanical Garden showcases one of the largest species collections of native California plants anywhere.  
*Free; members only; registration required.*

**Members’ Walk: The Herb Garden**  
Thursday, April 19, 1 - 2:30 pm  
An “herb” is a plant with a history of human use, often from ancient times. Join Horticulturist Elaine Sedlack for a tour of the Herb Garden. Encounter a wealth of fragrant and culinary plants on this walk including familiar herbs (rosemary and thyme) commingled with dye plants such as wild indigo. The Herb Garden is a particularly picturesque collection in the Garden arranged around a central knot garden and features an Art Nouveau footbridge. Please join us for this lovely spring horticultural walk!  
*Registration required; members only; free.*
Programs & Events

Cal Day
Saturday, April 21, 9 am - 5 pm
Join Garden docents for free Plants of the World tours throughout the day as a part of this campus-wide event. Visitors will enjoy hands-on activities, demonstrations and special discounts. Stroll through the Garden, visit the Garden Shop, relax with your family and friends, and maybe even pick up a new passion for horticulture! Tours at 11 am, 12 pm, 1 pm, 2 pm. Free Garden admission for everyone!

Spring Plant Sale
Members’ Preview Sale:
Friday, April 27, 5-7:30 pm
Public Sale:
Saturday, April 28, 10 am-2 pm
Shop our Spring Plant Sale! Those who have been to our plant sales know that we offer the cure for plant lust with a huge selection of unique and diverse plants, expert advisors and great service all in the splendid setting of the Bay Area’s most spectacular public garden. Join our membership community in a plant-shopping extravaganza and draw inspiration from the Garden’s living collections. Free!

Unselt Birding Walk and Breakfast
Saturday May 5, 9-11:30 am
Join the flock of bird enthusiasts to enjoy the Garden’s bird life with Phila Rogers, expert birder, and Chris Carmichael, Associate Director of Collections and Horticulture. Event includes light breakfast. Heavy rain cancels walk. Registration required; members only; free.

Firesafe Gardens Symposium
Sunday, May 6, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm
With a diverse collection from areas around the world that share California’s Mediterranean climate, the Garden offers an ideal site to learn about making your garden safe from wildfire. Join Cheryl Miller, from the Diablo Fire Safe Council and local fire agencies to explore how wildfire affects our neighborhoods and wildlands. This workshop will include a tour of the Garden to explore plant characteristics and other features that increase the chance of your home surviving a wildfire. Check-in at 9 am with coffee and pastries, event speakers begin at 9:30 am. $20, $12 members, UCB staff, faculty, students.

National Public Gardens Day
Friday, May 11, 9 am - 5 pm
Come celebrate National Public Gardens Day with UCBG! National Public Gardens Day is a celebration of America’s public gardens and their important role in promoting environmental stewardship and awareness, plant and water conservation and education. Better Homes and Gardens magazine offers BHG readers a free admission coupon for two to visit participating public gardens on National Public Gardens Day (visit their website at bhg.com for coupon). We will be featuring special tours and activities throughout the day. There will be docented tours at 11 am and 1 pm leaving from the Garden shop. Free admission with BHG coupon.

FOR KIDS & FAMILIES!

Naturally Dyed Eggs
Saturday, April 7, 2-2:30 pm
This hands-on workshop will introduce children to the joy of natural dyes while they make their own patterns on eggs with brilliant plant-based colors. Registration required; $12, $8 members. Price includes 4 eggs.

Fabulous Flowers: Walk & Workshop
Saturday, May 12, 10 am - noon
Take a floriferous walk through the Garden, learn about pollinators, and make a one-of-a-kind flower-themed gift - perfect for Mother’s Day! Registration recommended; drop-ins welcome; $12, $8 members.

Tree Tales
Sunday, June 17, 11-12:30 pm
Palm trees, oaks, empress trees, redwoods, maples, monkey-puzzles and more! In one afternoon you can explore the trees of the world at the Garden! Bring the family for a special tree-themed tour of the Garden. Our adventure will also include story-telling and a special take-home Father’s Day keepsake for dad! Registration recommended; drop-ins welcome; $10, $5 kids. Member price: $7, kids free.
Mother’s Day Tea & Succulent Gardens  
**Sunday, May 13, 10 am - noon**
Start a new springtime tradition with mom! This succulent garden workshop is designed to nurture her creative spirit. Enjoy a traditional cream tea in our beautiful Garden setting in celebration of mom’s special day. Following your splendid tea you’ll get your hands dirty! With a few choice plants, a touch of inspiration and a cute container, you can create an elegant and easy-to-care-for garden. Bring a container from home or buy one here! **Registration required; $45, $40 members.**

A Walk through the Garden of Old Roses  
**Saturday, May 19, 10 am - noon**
Join Horticulturist Peter Klement for a lovely morning stroll through the Garden of Old Roses at the peak of its bloom. Discover the rose’s rich historical background and listen to amazing ethnobotanical tales. **Registration required; space is limited; $15, $10 members.**

Members’ Walk: South America  
**Wednesday, May 23, 1 – 2:30 pm**
Walk with Garden Horticulturist Peter Klement to see florals of temperate and mediterranean climate areas of South America, featuring plants from the matorral of coastal Chile. Several *Puya* species are in full bloom, delighting visitors with their vibrant colors and visiting pollinators including the orioles and hummingbirds who take advantage of convenient “bird perches” provided by the plants. **Registration required; members only; free.**

Makin’ Mead  
**Saturday, June 2, 2-4 pm**
Join the Garden and Robert MacKimmie of City Bees as we turn honey into wine! Participants will mix their gallon of mead under Robert’s expert guidance, ensuring delicious results. The class will also present more advanced recipes for cyser (apple and honey wine) and melomel (fruit and honey). There will be plenty of samples to try, and everyone will go home with recipes, as well as a gallon jug of mead to ferment at home. **Registration required; $50, $45 members, $40 students.**

New Members’ Welcome Wagon  
**Sunday, June 3, 9:30 am – 12 pm**
We’re rolling out the Welcome Wagon to greet all our newest members and everyone that has joined the Garden over the past year. As a thank-you for joining the Garden family we are officially celebrating your contribution. New members are invited to join us at 9:30 am for a “meet & greet” and morning treats, followed by an introduction from Garden Director Paul Licht at 10 am. At 11 am we’ll take a special docent-led tour of the Garden. Come learn more about the Garden, its exciting programs, rich history and the many ways you can become involved in our Garden community. **Pre-registration required; free.**

Introduction to Urban Beekeeping with Her Majesty’s Secret Beekeeper  
**Sunday, June 10, 11 am - 1 pm**
Interested in keeping bees but don’t know where to start? Join local urban beekeeper Bryon Waibel of San Francisco’s Her Majesty’s Secret Beekeeper for an informative beekeeping basics workshop. In this introductory beekeeping course topics will include: bees and the law, basic bee biology, choosing and siting a hive, and maintaining a hive. Honey tasting included! **Registration required; $50, $45 members, $40 students.**

Honey Tasting  
**Sunday, June 10, 1 – 2 pm**
Join the Garden and local urban beekeeper Bryon Waibel of San Francisco’s Her Majesty’s Secret Beekeeper for an informal honey-tasting. Don’t miss this sweet opportunity! **Registration required; $8, $5 members.**
Members’ Walk: Crops of the World Garden  
Tuesday, June 26, 1 – 2:30 pm  
Join Horticulturist Colin Baxter on an exploration of the Crops of the World Garden. Colin will discuss the origins of most common “homegrown” vegetables, soil, composting, watering, seed sowing, seed saving and insect management. Registration required; members only; free.

Life After Lawn:  
Toward a New American Front Yard  
Friday, June 21, 10 am - noon  
Learn about exciting and regionally appropriate lawn alternatives. Join Anthony Garza, Supervisor of Horticulture & Grounds, for this presentation and discussion about how to get started, planning for success, using great grasses and grass-like plants in different settings, and tackling maintenance. Registration required; $12, $8 members.

Members’ Walk:  
Chinese Medicinal Herb Garden  
Thursday, June 28, 1 – 2:30 pm  
Celebrate the launch of the Garden's new Chinese Medicinal Herb Garden brochure by taking a tour of this special collection with Horticulturist Elaine Sedlack. This collection features over 100 herbs used in the practice of traditional Chinese medicine. Medicinal herb gardens are common at medical colleges in China, but this collection is the only medicinal garden arranged by function group in the U.S. Registration required; members only; free.

Did you hear?  
Summer Concerts in the Redwood Grove return this June! Please check our website and facebook page for updates on musicians and concert dates.

New Programs are constantly added. For the most current list of programs please visit our website at http://botanicalgarden.berkeley.edu and/or sign up for our monthly bulletin “Garden Clippings”

For all programs: Reservations are required for all programs (unless otherwise specified). Parking is available in the UC lot across from the Garden on Centennial. Lot meter accepts dollars and coins only; no credit cards. Program fees include Garden admission. Register early, class space is limited. Program fees of $10 or less and cancellations received less than two weeks before the program are non-refundable. Full refund if the program is cancelled by the Garden. For more info visit http://botanicalgarden.berkeley.edu

By the Numbers

Your support of the UC Botanical Garden makes a huge difference. Here are some of the things we do - thanks to you.

More than 1,000 Cal students participated in class visits to the Garden in 2011.

2,649 households supported the Garden in 2011 with a membership.

18,500 plant accessions were listed in the Garden’s 2011 collection:

308 families
2,714 genera
9,632 species
Celebrate - Honor - Remember

Tribute gifts are an enduring way to honor cherished friends and family and to commemorate those special occasions that stand as milestones in our lives. Whatever the event, whoever you choose to honor, the UC Botanical Garden can help you establish a lasting remembrance with a gift. Our offerings include books for the Myrtle R. Wolf Botanical & Horticultural Library, engraved bricks on the Tribute Plaza, benches and our newest offering of tree adoptions. Details are available on the Garden’s website or contact the Garden’s Development Director, Vanessa Crews, 510-643-2937, vcrews@berkeley.edu.

Tribute Benches

Virginia and Robert Hudak remembered their son, Bob (Robert Louis Hudak), with a bench in the New World Desert collection now, adding to his continuing story in the Garden.

Dr. David C. Budson was remembered by his life partner of 36 years, Dan Johnson, friends, family and colleagues with a bench in the Southern African collection. The bench offers fine views of the Golden Gate and only recently a hummingbird was found nesting in branches of a tree sheltering the bench. David passed away on June 27, 2011 and was remembered by colleagues and patients as a brilliant, meticulous and dedicated physician. After attending medical school at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, David spent his career in pulmonary medicine with the Permanente Medical Group in Vallejo. David was a well known and accomplished cellist, and his career in music included membership in the Detroit Symphony for 2 years, as a studio musician for Motown Records, and as a member of several chamber ensembles, most recently Quintillion.

Support the Garden through your estate plans

The UC Botanical Garden received two substantial bequest gifts in 2011 from individuals who recognized the value of maintaining and preserving the Garden’s priceless plant collection for future generations. You can leave your own indelible mark on the Garden by including the Garden in your estate planning. If you have already included the Garden in your will or living trust, we encourage you to let us know so that we may properly recognize you and include you in campus and Garden recognition programs. For information contact the Garden’s Development Director, Vanessa Crews, 510-643-2937, vcrews@berkeley.edu.

Tribute Benches

Virginia and Robert Hudak remembered their son, Bob (Robert Louis Hudak), with a bench in the New World Desert in November 2011. The Hudak bench offers wonderful views of the nearby cacti, a favorite plant of Bob Hudak, a dedicated Garden volunteer who passed away March 1, 2010 with a rare form of cancer.

Bob was born on November 14, 1960 in Illinois, went to school in Maryland, and graduated from Delaware Valley College of Science & Agriculture in Pennsylvania with a B.S. in Horticulture in 1984. He received a certificate in Landscape Architecture from UC Berkeley in 2002 and was also a Certified Arborist. When Bob relocated to northern California he first worked at the Filoli Gardens in Woodside, and then worked doing landscaping for the City of San Ramon for the next 19 years. He lived in Concord and was most recently a self-employed landscaper and arborist with many satisfied clients. He entered his exquisitely grown plants in Bay Area plant shows and won many blue ribbons for them. Many plants from Bob’s personal collection of cacti and succulents are part of the Winter / Spring 2012
Five Ways to Make the Most of Your Garden Membership

1. Visit often! Garden members receive free unlimited admission to the Garden.

2. Explore the Ruth Bancroft Garden or the San Francisco Botanical Garden free with your UC Botanical garden membership card. Visit our website to see more than 270 other fine botanical institutions across the nation that honor your UCBG membership card with free admission, parking or shop discounts. Plan your next vacation around botanical garden visits.

3. Shop at one of the many interesting regional nurseries that offer UCBG members a 10% discount on purchases. Our newest partner, Mt. Diablo Nursery in Lafayette, tempts shoppers with choice plants in intimate well-designed displays.

4. Take a Garden walk with a horticulturist. Free walks are offered monthly just for members.

5. Join us at the Spring Plant Sale reception, silent auction and preview sale for members on Friday, April 27, 5 – 7:30 pm. Bancroft Catering will provide a bountiful offering of delicious food. Associate Director Chris Carmichael is scouring the Garden for choice and unusual auction possibilities.
Tree Adoptions

From the exotic monkey puzzle tree (*Araucaria araucana*) to the endangered cloud forest magnolia (*Magnolia sharpii*), the UC Botanical Garden is home to an important and diverse collection of trees. Remember a loved one or commemorate a special event by becoming a guardian of one of these Garden icons for ten years. Your tree adoption will fund a new interpretive panel for your tree, enabling the Garden to share its history and conservation significance with thousands of Garden visitors. You will receive a personal dedication on the panel and the pleasure of making a significant contribution to environmental education and conservation.

Tree adoptions start at $7500, are fully tax deductible and may be applied towards University class gifts and giving societies. Please contact Garden Development Director Vanessa Crews to arrange your gift. vcrews@berkeley.edu or 510-643-2937

Trees Available for Adoption

1. California buckeye (*Aesculus californica*) - California Area
2. Kauri (*Agathis australis*) - Australasian Area
3. Monkey puzzle tree (*Araucaria araucana*) - South American Area
4. Monkey-hand tree (*Chiranthodendron pentadactylon*) - Mexican/Central American Area
5. Rimu, red pine (*Dacrydium cupressinum*) - Australasian Area
6. Tulip-tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) - Eastern North American Area
7. Magnolia (*Magnolia campbellii*) - Asian Area
8. Magnolia (*Magnolia sharpii*) - Mexican/Central American Area
9. Dawn redwood (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*) - Asian Area
10. Canary Island date palm (*Phoenix canariensis*) - Cycad & Palm Garden
11. Oak (*Quercus rugosa*) - Mexican/Central American Area
12. Rhododendron (*Rhododendron arboreum*) - Asian Area

Magnolia *sharpii*

Collected by Dr. Bruce Bartholomew, Garden Curator, and Dr. Dennis Breedlove of the California Academy of Sciences, in 1981, *Magnolia sharpii* was at the time thought to be restricted to one population in a high mountain valley of Chiapas, Mexico.

It flowered for the first time in the Garden in 1989. More recent field work has located only five populations in evergreen cloud forests of the central highlands of Chiapas. Forest fragmentation and habitat changes are limiting conditions for many understory trees such as *M. sharpii*.

Adopt a piece of the Garden.

Help preserve and maintain the Garden’s priceless collection. Become a part of the Garden by adopting a tree.

YOUR NAME HERE
Fiber & Dye Exhibition  
March 24 - April 8, 2012
Visitors enjoyed this annual exhibit, curated by Education Program Coordinator Christine Manoux.

The installation is perched on a plateau above the Garden of Old Roses. Cast concrete stools dripping with "honey" provide inviting seating under an undulating honeycomb structure. This is a must-see for all garden visitors!

Barbara Llewellyn Catering and Event Planning delighted guests with delicious honey-inspired offerings at the opening party for Garden of Mouthings in September. Newton Vineyard provided wonderful wines.

Landscape designer and artist Shirley Alexandra Watts and Ross Craig, builder and sound artist, seek to inform, delight and inspire viewers by celebrating honey bees and native bees with the acclaimed vignette A Garden of Mouthings.

Photos by Paul Licht

Photo by Mitchell Maher
Touring the Garden

Enjoy a guided tour of the Garden!
Did you know that the Garden has a cadre of over 100 trained docents who, throughout the year, lead groups on special tours to introduce the Garden to a new audience? These docents have completed an intensive, 29-session program tailored to the UCBG and its collections. They love to keep busy giving dynamic tours through the Garden. Docents interpret a multitude of plants of economic and ethnobotanical importance and horticultural interest, providing opportunities for the guided discovery of plant evolution and adaptation, conservation and the restoration of endangered populations and habitats.

Free Tours

We offer free docent-led tours year-round on Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays at 1:30 pm (with paid admission or free for members). If you haven’t treated yourself to a new perspective on the Garden, don’t miss out on this great opportunity! Docents customize their tours to suit the group, so don’t be shy about your interests or questions. Free tours are not for organized groups due to limited space.

Private Tours for Groups

Garden docents offer a wide array of both adult and children’s tours suited for different areas of interest and levels of plant/garden knowledge. With advance notice, tours can be developed and tailored to a group’s special interests. Private tours create memorable outings for birthdays, clubs, family gatherings, office outings, and other special events.

Children’s Tours

The Garden’s docent-led tours bring engaging, hands-on learning about plants and the environment to thousands of K-12 students each year. Capture a child’s imagination and attention with our popular tour topics including Extreme Environments: Plants Under Glass, Awaken Your Senses, and California Natives: Plants and People tours. With a total of 16 tour topics to choose from, educators and parents can select content that complements their curricular goals. Tours may also be tailored to fit each group. Our children’s tours match California State Education Standards, and teacher materials are available with most of our tours. If you’d like to touch the lives of young people, consider sponsoring a class tour of the Garden for your local public school! Contact the Tour Scheduler for details.

Self-Guided Tours

For those seeking a self-guided educational exploration of the Garden, the Education staff and docents have created several self-guided tours. Download them from our website or pick one up at the Garden’s entrance to learn more about available options.

How to Schedule a Private Tour

To schedule a tour geared specifically to your group’s interests and age group, it’s important to reserve your date by the 15th of the month prior to when you hope to visit. Contact the Garden’s Tour Coordinator, Perry Hall, 510-643-7265 or perry@berkeley.edu. She will be happy to help you select a tour topic that meets your goals.

The Garden would like to recognize our volunteers of 5 or more years of service for 2011. We sincerely apologize for the accidental omission of the first three volunteers in the last Newsletter! Thank you to all our dedicated volunteers. You make a difference!

Ramona Davis 30 Board Member & Docent
Willy Adam 20 Propagation
Claude Babcock 20 Docent
Jack Dolhinow 20 Propagation
Mansur Nur 20 Docent
Gayle Roberts 20 Docent & Volunteer Liaison
Ellen Rosenau 20 Docent
Sandy Sobey 20 Propagation
Edith Yu 15 Docent
Ronni Brega 10 Docent
Joan Kibbey 10 Docent
Elfi Tarazona 10 Docent
Mary Baxter 5 Propagation
Jill Churchman 5 Propagation
Katho Goin 5 Shop Sales
Connie Hartung 5 Propagation
Linda Lam Nguyen 5 Propagation
Sally Levinson 5 Docent & Propagation
Suzanne Riess 5 Propagation
Patricia Smith 5 Propagation
Membership & Programs
Manager Suzanne Field joined the staff in November 2010. She graduated from the University of California, Santa Cruz, with a degree in Film and Video Theory. She worked for two years at the University of California Berkeley Art Museum & Pacific Film Archive as the Visitor Services Coordinator. In this role she gained broad experience in visitor engagement, audience development and marketing and member services. The desire to support sustainable business practices while creating innovative and relevant cultural experiences and programs led her earn her master’s degree in Business Administration and Museum Studies at John F. Kennedy University. Prior to joining the Garden she was the Membership & External Relations Coordinator for the Museum of Craft & Folk Art in San Francisco.

Gift Shop Coordinator
Eri “Ellie” Ohara joined the Garden in early summer 2011. An East Bay resident, Ellie enjoyed the Garden as a visitor many times before joining the Garden staff. Her job experiences range from theatre set design to customer service to computer programming for international corporations. She has a B.A. in Art History from San Francisco State University. She is endlessly curious, and she continues to take classes in organic chemistry, physics, geology, and biology.

Grounds & Building Maintenance Worker
Alex Torres joined the staff in July 2011. He provides support for all the horticulture staff and for building maintenance. Alex brings a variety of work experience to the Garden.

Curator Holly Forbes and Horticulturist Elaine Sedlack attended a Plant Exploration and Importation Symposium, hosted by the American Public Gardens Association and Quarryhill Botanical Garden in August 2011. Delegates from many countries attended, and many of them toured the Garden as part of the program.

In December 2011 the Garden officially joined the Sentinel Plant Network, a joint program of the American Public Gardens Association and the National Plant Diagnostic Network. The goal of the Network is to enlist public gardens as first detectors, observing and reporting the presence and spread of potentially threatening plant disease and insect pests. Horticulturists Meghan Ray and Christy Matasick attended a Network training at Rancho Santa Anna Botanical Garden in Claremont, CA. They will serve as the Garden’s representatives to the program.

Former horticulturist and current volunteer Judith Finn represented the Garden at the 9th International Conference on Cycad Biology in December 2011, held at Shenzen Fairy Lake Botanical Garden in southern China. The meeting was well attended by over 100 delegates from 15 countries. The Cycad Species Specialist Group of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature met during this meeting. One of its objectives is to develop and promote a network of botanic gardens that will house genebanks for cycad taxa, provide education on cycads, and support in situ conservation efforts. The Garden is a part of that effort.

In early March the Garden hosted a tour of its Magnolia collection for about a hundred members of the Magnolia Society International. The Society meeting was hosted by Quarryhill Botanical Garden, and the group visited the three Bay Area gardens that are part of the North American Plants Collection Consortium (NAPCC) multi-site Magnolia collection: UCBG, San Francisco Botanical Garden and Quarryhill Botanical Garden. Horticulturists Elaine Sedlack and Eric Schulz toured visitors though the Magnolia collections in the Asian and Mexican and Central American Areas, respectively.
Spring Plant Sale Silent Auction
Friday, April 27 | 5 - 7:30 pm
Here are just a couple of the choice plants available only at the Silent Auction:

Flowering Dogwood (Cornus florida var. urbiniana)
This is a highly unusual Mexican variety of the eastern flowering dogwood. The four white petal-like bracts are joined to create a little balloon-like inflorescence. The specimen available is 3 ft. tall in a five gallon container. It may not flower immediately but it will be worth the wait. This variety is rarely available and is highly sought after. Place your bid and check it often during the Silent Auction.

Tropical Pitcher Plant (Nepenthes sanguinea)
This highland species native to the Malay Peninsula produces pitchers that are green to red, with purplish interior spots. Plants redden as they mature, and show their best color in cool weather. They can tolerate cool nights down to 55 degrees, and they benefit from high humidity.
Public Tours are offered at 1:30 pm each Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. Call (510) 643-2755