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## PLAN YOUR VISIT

### HOURS

- **Open Daily**: 9 am - 5 pm
- **Mather Redwood Grove**: 9 am - 4:30 pm
- **Glasshouses**: 9 am - 4 pm
- **Garden Shop & Plant Deck**: 10:30 am - 4:30 pm
- **Closed**: First Tuesday of the month, Thanksgiving Day, December 24, 25, 30, January 1, MLK Day

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# GARDEN STAFF

**Dr. Paul Licht, Interim Director**

### ADMINISTRATION

- Jonathan Goodrich, Associate Director of Visitor Experience
- MaryKaren Mrowka, Visitor Services Coordinator
- Nancy Rosenlund, Retail Coordinator
- Christine Jegan, Rental Coordinator
- Andrew Crews, Rental Assistant
- Jessica Parker, Director of Development
- Sarah Wininger, Development Assistant
- Jenny Moore, Membership Manager
- Delanie Lowe, Marketing & Design Specialist
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- Rafael Magdaleno, Financial Analyst
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- Holly Forbes, Curator
- Clare Loughran, Assistant Curator
- Anthony Garza, Supervisor of Horticulture & Grounds
- Ben Anderson, Horticulturist
- Jason Bonham, Horticulturist
- Gideon Dollarhide, Horticulturist
- James Fong, Assistant Horticulturist
- Noah Gapsis, Horticulturist
- Bryan Gim, Horticulturist & Volunteer Propagation Program Coordinator
- Eric Hupperts, Horticulturist
- Susan Malisch, Propagator
- Mathew McMillan, Horticulturist
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- Carly Mitchell, Horticulturist
- Corina Rieder, Horticulturist
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- Rick Boyer, Building & Grounds Maintenance

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- Perry Hall, Volunteer & Tour Coordinator
- Deepa Natarajan, Program Coordinator
- Erin McCluskey Wheeler, Program Specialist

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- Dr. David Ackerly, Integrative Biology
- Dr. Bruce Baldwin, Integrative Biology
- Dr. Tom Carlson, Integrative Biology
- Dr. Todd Dawson, Integrative Biology
- Dr. John Taylor, Plant and Microbial Biology

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### RESEARCH AFFILIATES

- Dr. Tim Gregory
- Dr. Chris Carmichael

### NEWSLETTER

- Holly Forbes, Editor
- Jessica Parker, Editor
- Delanie Lowe, Designer

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Cover Photo: The spectacular bloom of Brunsvigia in front of a cycad in the Southern African Collection.

**Staff photo credit throughout Newsletter**: Vanessa Handley, Holly Forbes, Delanie Lowe, Christine Manoux, Deepa Natarajan, Erin McCluskey Wheeler
First, allow me to introduce myself, actually a reintroduction. After several years of retirement following 13 years as Director, I have been recalled to serve as Interim Director following Eric Siegel’s move to special projects on campus. I certainly hope for a speedy selection of a new Director. In the meantime, I hope to continue projects focused on maintaining and growing our valuable collection and improving the visitor experience through improved facilities and programs. As I said many times during my earlier tenure, you form the important base of support that keeps the Garden growing as one of the most diverse collections in the country, and I thank you for your continued loyalty and assistance.

A wealth of programs has been offered in the Garden over the past year, further expanding our audience. I was particularly impressed by the continued success of our summer concerts in the Redwood Grove. They were organized by our Associate Director of Education (and in-house musical impresario), Christine Manoux, at the same time as she continued to direct our popular summer camp Greenstuff. The concert series finished its ninth season with more than 15 concerts, all of which were fully sold out in advance. I urge you to take advantage of this program: My wife and I attended almost all of these and can personally attest to how wonderful they are. The Redwood Grove is a magical place for music.

Programs cover a wide variety of themes and activities. To highlight a few new approaches, I call attention to the uses of the Garden for general mental health, such as mindfulness, yoga walks, and forest bathing. In addition to music, we continue to offer arts and programs that highlight the relationship between plants and people.

Speaking of plants and people, this year we have celebrated the Year of Trees. Next year holds an exciting array of programs as we celebrate the Year of Ethnobotany, including a major ethnobotanical symposium in the fall featuring local and international experts.
Our annual plant sales will continue as we offer more wonderful and special choices. I was particularly impressed and pleased to see an increased number of students who purchased plants, presumably to liven up their dorm rooms.

**Collections**

National benchmarking continues to highlight the significance of our plant collection. With nearly 10,000 species from around the world, the Garden continues to comprise one of the most diverse collections in the country. Perhaps even more important than this number is the fact that no garden surpasses us with respect to wild-collected accessions with provenance, making this collection an outstanding resource for scientific studies and conservation.

New collections are being developed through our regular acquisition sources in addition to new staff collecting trips. For example, we have an important new collection from Chiapas, Mexico thanks to the field work of our Director of Collections and Research Dr. Vanessa Handley.

In addition to collecting new materials, we have developed a new collection exhibit based on California deserts. Although it looked like a pile of dirt (actually scree) for much of last year, it is now rapidly filling in with plants collected from this ecosystem.

Another facet of our plant research focuses on conservation. In addition to the work with our collections, our conservation focus on California natives now includes funding to help save the federally- and state-listed endangered Scott’s Valley Polygonum (Polygonum hickmanii).

**Improving Infrastructure**

Several major infrastructure projects that will impact visitors are underway. The project to improve Americans with Disabilities Act compliance made significant progress over the past year. The next phase includes extensive paving of paths in the Redwood Grove and main Garden. We hope this will be an improvement to general visitor experience. Like many other institutions, we face a continued deferred maintenance problem due to the age of our facilities; for example, the Tropical House was closed due to broken glass in the ceiling. Repairs have allowed its reopening and plans are underway to completely rejuvenate this facility.

Our wonderful Julia Morgan Hall continues to be a popular location for many of our public programs, retreats, and weddings. To improve this already special facility, we have installed a modern projection system and a system to aid the hearing impaired. A new paint job has spruced up the appearance and the interior remains a warm and inviting venue.

In summary, the Garden remains an oasis of beauty, peace, and very special plants.

— Paul Licht, Interim Director
The UC Botanical Garden experienced yet another successful year made possible by you, our amazing donors! As you review this newsletter, we hope you will take pride in the Garden’s accomplishments and share in our optimism for the future of this very special collection.

It is your steadfast support that ensures that the UC Botanical Garden at Berkeley remains one of the most well-respected plant collections in the world!

This year the Garden welcomed over 90,500 people. Here are a few statistics that highlight our accomplishments:

- **63,000** general visitors came through our gate, **12%** more than last year.
- **4,580** students came to the Garden for educational tours or had docents visit their class.
- **6,400** people participated in public programs, including **3,400** at our sold out concert series.
- **Over 900** children and chaperones participated in family programs and summer camp.
- **Hosted 152** weddings and other rental events for **12,000** total guests.

**Of significance:**
- **4,800** visitors were Garden Members,
- **7,500** were UC Berkeley students,
- **3,274** came on Free Wednesdays.

**Income**

- **37%** REVENUE
- **27%** GIFTS
- **12%** CAMPUS SUPPORT
- **10%** ADMINISTRATION
- **8%** CURATION
- **16%** VISITOR SERVICES
- **8%** CURATION
- **2%** DEVELOPMENT
- **9%** EDUCATION & OUTREACH
- **9%** FACILITIES

**Expenses**

- **37%** HORTICULTURE
- **16%** VISITOR SERVICES
- **10%** ADMINISTRATION
- **6%** MEMBERSHIP
- **5%** MARKETING
- **3%** JULIA MORGAN PROJECT
- **2%** DEVELOPMENT
- **9%** EDUCATION & OUTREACH
- **9%** FACILITIES

**Endowments**

- **12%**

**Campus Support**

- **24%**

**Gifts**

- **27%**
The large-flowered fiddleneck (*Amsinckia grandiflora*) Recovery Implementation Team (RIT) met in August to discuss the results of the spring 2018 flowering season. Garden staff Holly Forbes and Vanessa Handley serve on the RIT, a federally-appointed group that helps coordinate efforts to recover species from the brink of extinction.

Quite a few Garden volunteers and staff participated in one or more outplanting dates in winter 2016-17 and their help and enthusiasm made all the difference. The sites were steep, wet, and sometimes very cold, even frozen! Together, we introduced a total of 4,000 plants at four locations, and quite a few did pretty well in 2017. Several staff and volunteers also worked in preparation for this by harvesting and cleaning seeds produced in our nursery and then sowing them in thousands of containers.

We refrained from outplanting in December 2017, wishing to see how the sites would fare on their own in 2018. The rainfall patterns and temperatures turned out to be good for large-flowered fiddleneck! The four sites had populations ranging from 1,500 to over 6,000 plants, far exceeding the numbers observed in 2017. Remarkably, some of these plants were hundreds of feet outside of the introduction areas. Natural expansion from the planted areas is what we had hoped for, so this is cause for modest celebration.

It's still much too early to tell if these sites will be successful on their own over the long term, but we are thrilled to see robust numbers and dispersal.

We are happy to report that the US Bureau of Reclamation has funded our partner, Vollmar Natural Lands Consulting, and by extension the Garden, for additional work on this fiddleneck project for 2018-2020. Garden staff and volunteers will once again be producing 4,000 seedlings and outplanting them into habitat in late 2018.

Garden staff, assisted by volunteers, grew hundreds of plants of Vasek's clarkia (*Clarkia tembloriensis* ssp. *calientensis*) for seed production in our nursery in spring/summer 2018. This is one of the six species of farewell-to-spring (*Clarkia* spp.) that the US Fish & Wildlife Service asked us to grow for seed production. These seeds may be used to augment wild populations that have been declining recently. We collected seeds from the only two populations of Merced clarkia (*Clarkia lingulata*) on July 11th, just two days before the massive Ferguson Fire burned the same area and closed Yosemite National Park for many days. The Merced clarkia collection was featured in the September 2018 Center for Plant Conservation Newsletter.

Coast yellow leptosiphon (*Leptosiphon croceus*), a small annual wildflower native to one tiny patch of coastal bluff in Half Moon Bay, was added to the state's list of endangered species by the California Fish and Game Commission this year. Local botanist Toni Corelli gathered the data in support of the petition for listing. Garden staff and volunteers joined Ms. Corelli to make a conservation seed collection in early July.
San Mateo County Parks Department staff Hannah Ormshaw and Ramona Arechiga facilitated their permit process for us, as did Cherilyn Burton of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Contracts with the US Fish & Wildlife Service, supplemented by funds donated to the Garden through the annual Big Give program, support work on several species. These include growing, reintroducing, and monitoring Baker’s larkspur (*Delphinium bakeri*) and yellow larkspur (*Delphinium luteum*) populations, and seed banking several federally-listed San Francisco Bay Area species. In 2018 we made collections of Tiburon mariposa lily (*Calochortus tiburonensis*) and Tiburon jewel flower (*Streptanthus glandulosus* ssp. *niger*).

We continued our contract work with California State Parks to monitor Mt. Diablo buckwheat (*Eriogonum truncatum*) populations. Assistant Curator Clare Loughran and Horticulturist Ben Anderson, accompanied by California State Parks Natural Resource Program Manager Cyndy Shafer, hiked cross-country over difficult terrain this spring to document the numbers of introduced plants on Mt. Diablo. The numbers were not as great as we would like, but annual weather patterns have determining effects on the success of our native plants, especially annual species like this one. We hope the weather will bring better success in 2019.

Garden staff hosted the California Plant Rescue’s (CaPR, caplantrescue.org) annual meeting in November. CaPR is the consortium of Center for Plant Conservation member gardens (like UCBG) and other conservation practitioners working to conserve California plant species. CaPR’s near-term goals include seed banking all native California species with five or fewer remaining populations. All the collections noted above belong in this group of the rarest plant species in California.

— Holly Forbes, Curator

From left: Coast yellow leptosiphon; Large-flowered fiddleneck; Tiburon mariposa lily.

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**UC Botanical Garden and the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation**

The United Nations’ Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is an international treaty that promotes conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Under the umbrella of the CBD, the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) was developed to facilitate systematic conservation of the world’s plants. The GSPC is defined by five broad objectives that encompass documentation and preservation of plant diversity alongside equitable, responsible use of its components. These objectives are broken down into more granular targets and, since adoption in 2002, there have been remarkable international strides on all fronts. While the United States is not an official party to the CBD — in fact, the only nation within the 193-member states of the United Nations that has not ratified it — there are still many domestic stakeholders that have committed to addressing the conservation targets of the Global Strategy. The Garden is proud to be among those committed to this effort. Over the last decade, plant conservation has become an increasingly significant component of the Garden mission and, despite lack of a dedicated conservation department (or full-time conservation personnel), we have developed a sustained and integrated conservation program. While some of the GSPC targets are outside the Garden’s purview (i.e., those associated with agriculture or procurement of conservation lands), we are proud to demonstrate significant regional contributions to all five objectives.

In reflection of this, UCBG was invited to present during the proceedings of the 2018 Global Partnership for Plant Conservation Conference. Conservationists, government officials, policy experts, and researchers convened in Cape Town, South Africa, to assess progress and chart a future for the Global Strategy. UCBG was able to provide an important case study for engagement on a regional scale and we were proud to share our many conservation contributions in such a meaningful international context. To find out more about the GSPC and to read the abstract from our presentation, please visit the Garden website.

— Vanessa Handley, Director of Collections & Research
In our previous Newsletter, we profiled a Garden collecting expedition to a University of California reserve in the Mojave Desert. We also highlighted the generous support of Anne and Lester Packer for this expedition. Thanks to additional support from the Packers, we were able to finish construction of a new California Desert Bed. This lovely display is in a prominent location within the California collection, immediately across from the Baja beds in the Deserts of the Americas. The visual and floristic connection between these spaces is just one of the many exciting features of this addition. The new accessions from the Mojave have joined propagules from the original desert bed and, while still a young planting, it is already thriving. Thanks to clever design — a crescent berm of coarse, well-draining substrate wraps a sandy wash — plants from distinct desert habitats can flourish. Kudos go to Horticulturists Ben Anderson and Clare Al-Witri for design and execution, and to Susan Malisch for expert propagation of the diverse materials on display. The bed is bountifully stocked with plants, but we plan to make additional collections of annual plants to integrate within the wash.

Building on this new collection momentum, I recently had an exciting opportunity to join colleague Héctor Gómez-Domínguez for fieldwork in Chiapas, Mexico. Héctor is not only a gifted botanist but also a dedicated conservationist, so it was an honor to collaborate with him. We were fortunate to be joined by Oscar Moreno, a palm and cycad specialist and skilled horticulturist. Together we covered major ground ranging from lowland jungle on the Guatemalan border to high elevation cloud forest in the Sierra Madre range.

During our travels, we met many of Héctor’s collaborators and community partners and learned about the myriad conservation initiatives they are implementing. Chiapas is extraordinarily rich in biodiversity, but local resources are insufficient to steward this natural wealth. Héctor and his colleagues are striving to remedy this with a diverse platform of fundraising efforts and projects — including education initiatives, floral and faunal inventories, community nursery projects, and pictorial guides to regional reserves.

We experienced these spectacular reserves firsthand, commencing with a trek into Montes Azules Biosphere Reserve. Setting off with pack mules “rented” from a rural community, we worked our way up into tropical forest replete with magnificent buttress trees, clambering lianas, and diverse palms. Camping in this jungle setting was a treat, albeit a rather hot and noisy one. Throughout the night the thrum of insects was punctuated by eerie bellows of feuding howler monkeys. Come morning,
we awoke to wood smoke and mugs of sweet, spicy café de olla, kindly brewed by the matriarch of the small family settlement near our camp. Throughout the day we had an interesting selection of jungle fruits to sample. My favorite, the fleshy pod of thorny bullhorn acacia (*Vachellia cornigera*), yielded seed that was carefully cleaned and saved for propagation at the Garden. This accession will soon find a home in our Tropical House!

Our cloud forest adventure in the El Triunfo Biosphere Preserve was equally extraordinary (though we had to brew our own coffee at this camp). Dawn would break on mist-shrouded forest and, after a steady climb through the trees, we’d crest to breathtaking ridges speckled with *Beschorneria*, thickets of *Gaultheria* and, on one isolated pocket of rock, a mystery species of *Echeveria*. Below the ridge lines, we enjoyed classic cloud forest assemblages with amazing fern diversity and tree limbs dripping with bromeliads, bryophytes, and orchids. The bromeliads were a highlight and we kept our eyes peeled for flowers and seed.

Thanks to Héctor, we had multiple opportunities to collect specimens for the herbarium at Universidad de Ciencias y Artes de Chiapas along with seed for the UCBG living collections. The latter entailed many hours of sorting, cleaning, and entering data back in Tuxtla Gutierrez. However, my hosts Héctor and his partner Ivett not only kept me fortified with wonderful meals but also pitched in. After working almost around the clock, we had everything ready for the flight back home!

Ultimately, over 100 seed accessions were submitted for USDA inspection and these, plus 50 fern spore accessions, were brought to the Nursery for propagation. Clare Loughran (Assistant Curator), Corina Rieder (Glasshouse Horticulturist), and I teamed up with Susan Malisch (Propagator) for this hefty task. The fresh seed has germinated robustly and many species are about to be hardened off for outplanting. I’m particularly excited about the many *Begonia* species that are coming along. The diversity in Chiapas is exceptional and we were lucky to encounter multiple taxa in fruit while in the field. Integration of these and other accessions within the Mexico/Central America Collection will rely on the expert guidance of Horticulturist Eric Schulz. We hope to have new plants on public display by next year and I look forward to offering a tour of the highlights.
animal conservation — of *E. hirsutus* and allied taxa.

Achieving this goal will require significant international collaboration and we recently made major strides in this regard. Thanks to generous support from Dr. Tim Gregory (Garden Advisory Board), Holly Forbes (Curator) and I were able to attend the International Cycad Biology Conference in Mpumalanga, South Africa this past August. The conference draws a distinguished group of cycad researchers and conservationists from around the world, so I was honored to present on the aforementioned *E. hirsutus* project during the scientific proceedings. The reception was very positive and many productive points of collaboration have since evolved.

Dr. Gregory and I serve on the Cycad Specialist Group of the IUCN Species Survival Commission (cycadgroup.org) and participated in a CSG meeting while at the conference. A key outcome — proposed and formulated by Dr. Gregory — was CSG commitment to a more active role in conservation. The conservation genetics work underway at the Garden will contribute to the efforts the group is now spearheading.

On another front, the trip to South Africa also provided an opportunity for Holly and me to connect with botanical garden colleagues throughout the country. We are now actively pursuing opportunities to return and collect on behalf of the Garden. Securing permits for wild collection is far from trivial, so the chance to make in-person connections with South African peers was invaluable. We look forward to augmenting our wonderful Southern African display once official permits and expedition funding can be secured. For now, I’ll include a few tantalizing photos of the extraordinary diversity we enjoyed while there.

If you haven’t been to the Garden lately, we hope you will come up soon to enjoy our diverse cycads, explore the California Desert Bed, and spot new accessions from Chiapas!

— Vanessa Handley, Director of Collections & Research

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**From left:** Unfurling leaves of *Encephalartos hirsutus* are cloaked in distinctive golden tomentum; Terrestrial orchids (*Satyrium erectum*) and paintbrush lillies (*Scadoxus puniceus*) herald spring in South Africa.

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**Encephalartos Genetics**

UCBG is internationally recognized for its substantial cycad collection, consisting of over 700 accessions representing 113 taxa. These charismatic plants form part of the national Plant Collections Network multisite cycad collection and are of considerable value for research and education. Of even greater significance is the fact that our holdings include numerous species of conservation concern such as *Encephalartos hirsutus*, *E. eugene-maraisii*, and *E. middelburgensis*. Many of these critically endangered cycads entered our collection through confiscation (the Garden serves as a Plant Rescue Center for the United States Fish and Wildlife Service). Accordingly, such plants come without attendant provenance or other data — a rare exception to the UCBG mandate that accessions be of permitted wild-origin. For priority taxa, determining the location of origin and characterizing genetic variation are of utmost importance. To this end, we have initiated a project focused on the Venda cycad (*E. hirsutus*). In collaboration with Dr. Nathalie Nagalingum (California Academy of Sciences) and James Clugston (Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh) we have been utilizing next-generation sequencing technology to assess the genetic variation of Garden accessions alongside plants from other public and private collections. This data will be used to inform breeding efforts and reciprocal pollen/seed/offset exchange with partner entities. The ultimate goal is to establish reproducing populations — analogous to assurance colonies in
COLLECTIONS UPDATE

Left clockwise: UCBG’s Ben Anderson works on the new California Desert Bed; A new accession from the Granite Mountains, fragrant evening primrose blooms (Oenothera cespitosa subsp. marginata); UCBG’s Clare Al-Witri lays out plantings along recently shaped berms (Photo Ben Anderson).

RESEARCH

Garden staff responded to over 40 requests for research samples and information in 2017-2018. These were mostly for studies of evolutionary history in specific plant groups.

An exception to this type of use was a request for studies of potential biofuels by Dr. Henrik Scheller of the Joint BioEnergy Institute in Emeryville. He and colleagues Dr. Mi Yeon Lee (UC Berkeley) and graduate student Michael Belcher (Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory) are studying plant cell components of one of our South American trees.

Other uses of the collection included data mining of our “dead” plant records for resolving taxonomic questions in the genus Echeveria, providing seeds of a Mexican milkweed (Asclepias) from our seed bank for ongoing research into plant defense traits, and refining sap flow measurement techniques in preparation for field work on alerce (Fitzroya cupressoides), a rare South American conifer.

Cuttings of several species of South American Escallonia species were provided for the research collection of Dr. Felipe Zapata at UC Los Angeles.

— Holly Forbes, Curator

Recent publications citing the Garden’s collections include:


Knox, Eric, and Chunjiao Li, 2017. The East Asian origin of the giant lobelias.


The Interconnectedness of Plants and People

What meaning do plants have in your life? To what extent are individuals conscious of the interconnectedness of plants and people? In our Education department, we continue to expand our Garden programs to explore the many facets of these vital questions.

Wellness programs were a new area of focus this past year. Research shows that nature can be restorative for both children and adults, transforming negative psychological states into positive ones. The Garden's inherent tranquility invites calm while nourishing the senses. Going beyond the therapeutic effects of the landscape, our public programming has explored movement, mindfulness, and contemplative ways to connect with the self, others, and the space around us.

Rich poetic analogies can be found between what we observe in the natural world and what we experience in the human condition. This year's Contemplative Photography series, created and led by Becky Jaffe, a fine art photographer, educator, naturalist, and Garden docent for over ten years, explored just that. Attendees were guided through the collection, making close botanical and ecological observations using the camera as a tool for meditation and the Garden as a muse. Each workshop reflected on a state of emotional being: Connection, Gratitude, Loss, and Desire. One participant from the workshop series, Toni Littlestone, photographed irises in our Japanese Pool (see page 4). The following words accompanied her images:

... I sank into a state of openness and gratitude, surrounded by beauty and wonder, alongside a lovely group of other grateful participants. It was a magical afternoon...due to our teacher’s thoughtful guidance, I felt equally grateful for its beauty, and the wisdom imparted by reveling in the enchantment of each stage of life.

Beginning in 2017, the Garden began offering Wellness programs, including Yoga Walks (depicted above), Qigong, Sound Bathing, Forest Bathing, Mindful Meditation, and others.

Plant conservation is an imperative part of our Garden mission and in Education we strive to teach everyone about the biological importance of plants. Our hope is that this will lead to a deeper understanding and appreciation of plants and a desire to protect the natural world. Equally valuable is the experience of being present in the Garden, immersing in its sounds, sights and smells — tapping into our inner resolve to take care of this world for the next generation.

— Christine Manoux, Education Director
Summer Concert Series

Our summer music concert series was as popular as ever this year and expanded in some exciting ways. A few Tuesdays shows were added to our regular Thursdays, June through August, and again every show sold out! We featured African folk artists, indie rock up-and-comers, an Oakland-based youth orchestra, a pop duo from Peru, traditional old-time music, inventive rock, a classical octet, the annual Bastille benefit, and really everything in between. The series continues to be an extraordinary way for a broader community to discover the Garden and celebrate the universal language of music and nature.

Many thanks to Daniel W. Johnson and Herman Winkel for making our concert series possible through their ongoing, generous support. We were also pleased to partner with Save the Redwoods League in honor of their Centennial Year for the 2018 series. Our own Mather Redwood Grove is dedicated to Stephen T. Mather, one of the founding members of the League, the founding Director of the National Park Service, an important conservationist in our country’s history, and Cal alumnus.

Apples and Hops: A Festival for Education

On August 25th the Garden held a wonderful Education fundraiser we affectionately called “Apples & Hops.” This festival featuring two favorite plants included many engaging activities: music, beer and cider garden, snacks, apple-tasting, and kids’ crafts on the Lawn; hops vines and food truck at the Crops of the World Garden; spirits-tasting in Julia Morgan Hall; and an after-festival concert in the Redwood Grove. Hundreds of tickets were sold and half of the attendees were newcomers to the Garden!

We would like to thank our donating sponsors: Rogue Wave, Vignette Wine Country Soda, Ocean View Brew Works, Gilman Brewing Co., Fort Point Beer Co., Mission-Trail Cider, AppleGarden Farm Cider, Raff Distillerie, Mosswood Distillers, SF Mead Co., and Urban Remedy Food. Thanks to all who supported this event; we hope to see you next year at this new end-of-summer event at the Garden.
The Garden’s Education team strives to bring to life the importance and wonder of the plant world. Through scientific and cultural plant studies, we offer experiential learning opportunities inspired by the botanical world to people of all ages and backgrounds.

Our diverse programs include lectures, workshops, presentations, guided walks, and more.

The Year of Trees was highlighted by dynamic classes such as Woodblock Printing, Botanical Illustration of Trees, Tree Pruning Skills, Wood Instrument Making, Resins for Incense, and Oak-Barrel Aged Whiskey Tasting. Professor David Ackerly spoke on fire ecology. Forest Bathing, a wellness program, saw regular participation. Docents offered a monthly “Trees of the Garden” tour to highlight our outstanding collection.

Although trees were the focus of the majority of programs this year, there were many notable additions. The Science of Cannabis Series opened new conversations around this popular plant and introduced a new audience to the Garden. We also hosted a Lichen BioBlitz and accompanying lichen dye workshop. The many lectures offered at the Garden included artists exploration of color and sound, talks by acclaimed authors, and a presentation on rare manzanitas.

Over the past year, the Garden offered an astounding 140 public programs on the topics listed above and over 60 were free with admission. Once the Summer Concert Series and Summer Camp are included, participants in public programs reached 7,300!

— Christine Manoux, Education Director

From top: Creations from the Weaving from Nature Family Program; Guests learning about herbaceous spirits in the Herb Garden; Working on a Botanical Illustration in a course led by Catherine Watters.
THE YEAR OF ETHNOBOTANY 2019:
CONNECTING PLANTS AND PEOPLE

The academic discipline of ethnobotany studies the complex relationships between plants and people across space and time. This relationship reveals itself in many aspects of our daily lives — from food to fiber, medicine to music, resins to ritual, scent, timber, fuel, intoxication, and much more. From its origins in economic botany to the current field, which tackles climate change, habitat loss, and globalization, ethnobotany is an interdisciplinary subject that straddles academia and everyday life. Though my undergraduate degree was in Medical Anthropology, I had the good fortune of discovering ethnobotany while coordinating the Garden’s public programs for the past thirteen years, a large portion of which fall under the category of ethnobotany. These consistently sold-out “people and plants” events have proven to be salient educational tools for engaging the public and conveying the critical importance of plants and the Garden’s mission to the public. We’re taking the opportunity to raise the profile of our public programming in this area by making 2019 the “Year of Ethnobotany” at the Garden. We’ll be hosting workshops, tours, classes, lectures, and exhibitions throughout the year, culminating in an international Ethnobotany Symposium in October. The symposium was spearheaded by Garden Advisory Board member Katherine Greenberg, whose work creating and leading international tours for the Garden has served as a wonderful conduit for forming relationships between the Garden and international organizations, artisans and ethnobotanists. She has invited a distinguished group of individuals to present at the symposium. Confirmed speakers include: Gary Nabhan, Alejandro de Avila, Gary Martin, Judith Larner Lowry, Elena Goded and Miguel Cerezales, Tom Carlson, Jennifer Sowerwine, and many others.

I’m thrilled to be back at the Garden after a six-month leave of absence to obtain an MSc in Ethnobotany in England. Sponsored by the University of Kent in partnership with the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, this experience underscored for me the importance of the educational work we do at the Garden and expanded my understanding of the rich field of ethnobotany. I hope you’ll be able to join us at the symposium and at many of our ethnobotanical offerings in the upcoming year.

— Deepa Natarajan, Program Coordinator

From top: Emily Burns from Save the Redwoods League speaking on redwood ecology; Traditional Japanese Hand Tools and Joinery class with Jay Van Arsdale; Deepa Natarajan holding a piece of red madder-dyed silk cloth from a natural dye workshop taught by Angelina DeAntonis.
Behind every Garden achievement stands a team of dedicated volunteers. They are the stewards who plant seeds and engrave plant labels. They are the propagators who encourage the novice gardener to cultivate a new plant. They are the docents who guide school children to that “A-ha!” moment that changes their lives in untold ways. Nearly 300 individuals serve in 11 volunteer programs at the Garden. They support all facets of the Garden, so their impact is substantial.

The Garden’s two Ambassador programs work in tandem to provide continuous support of our visitors’ experience. Roving Ambassadors, a new volunteer program launched in 2017, extends the Entrance Ambassador volunteer program to all of the Garden’s 34 acres. Roving Ambassadors bring friendly faces, wayfinding help, and information to Garden visitors on our busiest days. Entrance Ambassadors, a volunteer program since 2010, greet visitors, answer questions, promote the Garden, and connect visitors with Roving Ambassadors by walkie-talkie.

Volunteer Propagators continue to produce uncommon and high-quality plants for the Spring and Fall Plant Sales, the Garden Shop Plant Deck, and special sales throughout the year. Our enthusiastic and knowledgeable Propagators help gardeners from the amateur to the professional find choice plants for their gardens. In addition to helping to raise much-needed funds for the Garden, the Propagators are a vital part of the Garden’s public education and community-building network.

Docents deliver over ten tour topics to visitors of all ages, interests, and familiarity with plants and the environment. Each docent carefully crafts a unique tour by weaving together seasonal Garden highlights, the group’s interests, and the chosen tour topic for small groups. When teachers cannot bring their students to the classroom, or when teachers want to supplement their classes’ tour experience, our in-school Docents will visit students in their classrooms. In-school Docents engage primary school students with presentations on the botany of vegetables, California native plants and their uses by native people, and the relationships between plants and animals. Two pilot in-school programs are in development: Evolution, which takes a deeper dive into the mechanisms that drive populations of plants to change over time; and First-time Nature Explorers, which prepares students for the often overwhelming and sometimes anxious experience that field trips into nature can elicit.

With 13 horticultural staff spread over 34 acres of plants, the Horticulture Volunteers help staff to maintain the collection of over 10,000 taxa. Because a primary purpose of the Garden is to facilitate scientific research and education, plants are intentionally cultivated to complete their full life cycle from
VOLUNTEERS

flower to seed. Despite the time this may save with dead-heading spent blooms, the Garden is in continual need of diligent and careful weeding and other forms of maintenance unique to a living museum. The work of the Horticulture Volunteers allows the staff more time to fulfill the considerable curatorial responsibilities for their areas.

Curatorial Volunteers collect information on flowering and fruiting dates for plants in the Garden, as well as assist with requests for research materials. The Garden participates in a Seed Exchange Program with like institutions by circulating a biennial list of seeds collected from the field. Seeds are meticulously cleaned, counted, and packaged by the Curatorial Volunteers. In addition, Curatorial Volunteers support the Garden’s conservation program, both in on-site propagation and repopulation into the wild of endangered plant species.

Library Volunteers support the Myrtle R. Wolf Botanical & Horticultural Library, a reference library for staff and volunteers. Library Volunteers also support special projects such as sorting and documenting the Garden’s archival collections.

The Garden Photography Project was launched in 2017 to capture clear images of the accessions that are helpful in plant identification. These photos are added to the Garden’s Plant Database available on the Garden’s website. Volunteer Photographers take photos of accessions opportunistically as they come into flower. The photos are then reviewed by the Horticulture staff to ensure that the identification is correct. The Curation Department and 10 volunteer photographers have uploaded over 2,500 photos, representing 800 accessions, to the public portal.

Garden Shop Volunteers provide visitors with friendly conversation, information about the Garden, recommendations for out-of-town visitors, snacks for the hungry, and a place to shop for nature and plant-themed books and gifts, and of course, plants. The Garden Shop is often a hub during inclement weather.

Garden Advisory Board Volunteers provide strategic advice to the Garden’s management teams, as well as supporting fundraising activities and events.

Floral Arranging Volunteers brighten our public spaces with fresh flowers and make floral arrangements for Garden events and meetings.

Sick Plant Clinic Volunteers help local gardeners find out which pests or diseases ail their plants and provide advice for how to address the problem.

Volunteers are truly the roots of the Garden!

— Perry Hall, Volunteer & Tour Coordinator

Volunteer & Member Spotlight: Nathan Shoehalter

The Garden is honored to have many members of our community who have given back to the Garden. Nate Shoehalter is one such Garden community member, who will receive his 30-year pin for his expansive volunteer work over the years as a propagator, docent, and ambassador.

Nate began his journey at the Garden in 1987 as a volunteer after writing a letter inquiring if he could come in and help. He graduated from the docent training program in 1988. He recalls leading tours as “a great pleasure to go out with adults who had some interest in the beauty of this place.”

During this time, Nate also began working as a propagator where he learned about ferns and rhododendrons. When asked what it was about the Garden that kept him coming back, his answer is simple: “This is a first-class educational institution. Really first class. I like to be associated with something like that. I need to know and learn so much about plants and the staff here are absolutely marvelous. Horticulturists are first-rate and really so cooperative. The plants themselves have stories in and of themselves. That’s what brings me here, really.”

The next time you come and visit the Garden, be on the lookout for Nate, who is currently an Entrance Ambassador. Be sure to say hello and ask him about his favorite tree in the collection (I promise you, his story will not disappoint). Everyone at the Garden knows that Nate is a big reason why this Garden is first class. Thank you, Nate, for everything that you’ve done and continue to do to help this Garden and our community grow.

— Jenny Moore, Membership Manager
VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are the lifeblood of the Garden! Their work is essential to fulfilling the Garden’s mission of research, education, and conservation. Our 280 volunteers work in many different capacities and contribute to an active and vibrant community at the Garden.

**EDUCATIONAL IMPACT**

“Our relationship to the planet need not be zero-sum, and that as long as the sun still shines and people still can plan and plant, think and do, we can, if we bother to try, find ways to provide for ourselves without diminishing the world.”

— Michael Pollan, *The Omnivore’s Dilemma*

**VOLUNTEER STATISTICS 2017 - 18**

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<tr>
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<td>18,384</td>
<td>HOURS WORKED</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Estimated value: $534,790</td>
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Please email the Volunteer & Tour Coordinator at perry@berkeley.edu if you would like more information.

**DOCENT TOURS + SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

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<td>220</td>
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<td>CHILDREN’S TOURS:</td>
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<td>160</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
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**COLLEGE CLASS VISITS**

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<tr>
<td>50 Classes</td>
<td>1,062 Students</td>
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<td>TOTAL COLLEGE STUDENTS SERVED: 3,239</td>
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**K - 12 INSTITUTION VISITS**

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<tr>
<td>8 Groups</td>
<td>229 Students</td>
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<td>UC GROUP VISITS:</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 Groups</td>
<td>116 Students</td>
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<td>TOTAL K - 12 STUDENTS SERVED: 345</td>
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It has been a busy year at the Garden, with many exciting possibilities also looming on the horizon. The Spring and Fall Plant Sales were even more of a delightful festival of plants than ever. This year, perhaps due to the enormous turnout we have experienced for the Redwood Grove concerts in the summer, the Fall Plant Sale saw many more Berkeley students exploring the appealing possibilities and leaving with plants. Also this year, we began planning for the creation of a new incarnation of the Tropical House, and initiated long range planning for an exciting new greenhouse to replace two dilapidated greenhouses now used to house collections.

At the Garden Advisory Board this year, we welcomed Jennifer Bowles as a new member. Jim Landau stepped down as Chair after three years of inspiring leadership and I took over from him in July. We enjoyed a lively party in June to celebrate Tim Gregory’s contributions to the Garden and presented him the Garden’s Distinguished Service Award. Board members will have an opportunity in the coming year to participate in assessing our remarkable progress toward the goals of the Garden’s Master Plan 2020 and begin to use what we learn to identify potential goals for Master Plan 2025.

In the coming year, the Garden will celebrate A Year of Ethnobotany with an exciting series of events and programs which will culminate in a two-day symposium entitled “Connecting Plants and People” on October 11-12, 2019. Don’t miss it.

We are very fortunate at the Garden to have a highly collegial board, a skilled professional staff, and the support of hundreds of wonderful volunteers. We look forward to another year of progress.

— Dr. Beth Burnside, Chair

Bee buzzing to pollinate a Alstroemeria (Photo Tae Hyun Moon).

New Garden Advisory Board Member

Jennifer Bowles received her Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture from UC Davis and during her career has worked on a variety of projects, including urban parks, streetscapes, plazas, and commercial developments. She maintains a studio practice in residential design. Jennifer believes that all gardens, be they city parks, grand estates, window boxes or parking strips, matter. And that as an intersection of nature, culture, and art, gardens enrich our lives in elemental and essential ways.

Jennifer is an avid gardener with a passion for the horticultural sciences and landscape history. She is a past trustee for the San Francisco Botanical Garden Society, for whom she chaired an international design competition for the Garden’s Gondwana Circle. She has served as a judge for the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show, is a founding member of the Friends of Alameda’s Forest, and supports the Library of American Landscape History, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Garden Conservancy.
## THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

### $100,000 and above

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Tribute bench recipient  Tribute brick recipient
The UC Botanical Garden has received a number of priceless bequest gifts in 2017 from individuals who recognized the value of maintaining and preserving the Garden’s collections for future generations. You can leave your own indelible mark 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 Director of Development Jessica L. Parker at 510-643-2937 or jessicalparker@berkeley.edu
The Garden bid farewell to several key staff in 2017 - 18. While we are saddened by their departures, we cannot help but feel excited for their futures. Onward & upward!

**Nadean Lindberg**, Director of Development, left November 2017 to become Assistant Dean of Development for the College of Letters & Science. In this role she is fundraising for Undergraduate Studies at UC Berkeley.

**Melody Settelmayer** departed December 2017 for the Graphic & Website Design Manager position at Save The Bay. While at the Garden, she served many roles: first as a student propagator, next as Programs Assistant, and most notably as Marketing & Design Specialist.

**Meghan Ray**, served 12 years as a Horticulturist for Southern African and Palm & Cycad Collection. She transferred to the Blake Estate Garden, a historic garden in Kensington managed by the UC Berkeley Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning, in June of 2018. There she serves as Garden Manager.

**Dylan Ferreira** left the Garden in July 2018 to work in aesthetic and fruit tree pruning in Placerville. He worked as Horticulturist in the Australasian, Deserts of the Americas, Californian, and Asian Collection. He misses the Garden collections and staff very much.

**Clare Al-Witri**, Horticulturist of the Australasian and Californian Collections, departed in August 2018 to attend the Landscape Architecture Graduate Program at UC Berkeley.

**Delanie Lowe** joined the staff in February 2018 as Marketing & Design Specialist after three years as Marketing Student Assistant. She graduated from UC Berkeley with a BA in Cognitive Science and has marketing and design experience from previous roles at the Experimental Social Science Lab and the 1Oakland campaign with GO Public Schools.

**Eric Hupperts** joined the staff in October 2018 as Horticulturist for the Asian Collection. Eric cared for the tropical rainforest collections at the California Academy of Sciences and at The Green Planet in Dubai, UAE. He joins us most recently from the Conservatory of Flowers in San Francisco. Eric received his B.S. in Conservation Biology from the University of Minnesota.

**James Fong** joined the staff in October 2018 as Assistant Horticulturist for the Australasian and Asian collections. James worked at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory, Conservatory of Flowers, Forage Genetics, and in the California Academy of Sciences rainforest exhibit. He received his B.S. in Plant Biology with a minor in Entomology from UC Davis.

**Jessica L. Parker** joined as the Director of Development in April 2018. She has over ten years of non-profit management experience across a number of departments including marketing, communications, fundraising, and business development. She has an MBA from Mills College in Marketing with an emphasis in Social Philanthropic Enterprise, and a BA in Multi-Media Art and Design from the University of Oregon. Additionally, Jessica serves on the Public Art Advisory Committee for the city of Richmond where she lives with her Aussie husband, toddler son, and elderly cat Wyatt Earp.

**Carly Mitchell** joined the Garden as Horticulturist for the Southern African Collection in September 2018. They started their career in horticulture through New York’s Park and Rec. Department, the Green Apple Corps. The program weaved together urban forestry, ecological restoration, and environmental education. From there Carly worked as a gardener for Central Park Conservancy. They have also been certified as an arborist and tree climber by the International Society of Arboriculture. Carly is thrilled to be putting their passion for the work into the Southern African section of the Garden. Don't hesitate to stop by South Africa and say hello!
CELEBRATE & HONOR
your family and friends
with a tribute bench!

MAKE A LASTING CONTRIBUTION TO ENSURE THE FUTURE OF THE UC BOTANICAL GARDEN.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT BOTANICALGARDEN.BERKELEY.EDU/TRIBUTE-BENCHES OR CONTACT SARAH WININGER AT 510-664-7969.