MSU IN BLOOM

MSU HORTICULTURE GARDEN NEWS



Garden Day

Join Us For Our 25th Anniversary Edition Of Garden Day!

The Garden Noire

Don't Miss This Year's Mysterious Theme Garden

Student Section

Get To Know Our 2018 Trial Garden Intern

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MSU HORTICULTURE GARDEN NEWS

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UPCOMING EVENTS

25th Birthday Bash	Jul 14
Garden Day	Aug 4
Chicago Garden Getaway	Aug 21/22
Houseplant and Succulent	Nov1

JULY 14, 2018

GARDEN 25TH BIRTHDAY BASH

COME AND CELEBRATE THE
GARDENS SILVER BIRTHDAY WITH
ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE MSU
HORTICULTURE GARDENS,
INCLUDING CREATING A CONTAINER
GARDEN, TOURS, AND OF COURSE
CAKE AND ICE CREAM.

LOCAL ARTIST
KELLY BOYLE WILL BE
USING ATTENDEES TO HELP
WITH AN ART INSTALLATION
FOR THE GARDENS

10-NOON
ADMISSION FREE
1066 BOGUE STEET
EAST LANSING



DON'T MISS KEYNOTE PRESENTER, TRACY DISABATO-AUST, AT GARDEN DAY 2018

By Jennifer Sweet Program Coordinator



Tracy Disabato-Aust is an award winning garden designer, international speaker, bestselling author, and world class triathlete with a passion for plants and design as well as a dynamic inspiring message. With over 40 years of experience, Tracy has not only spoken extensively throughout North America, but her speaking and work has also taken her to Australia, New Zealand, Uruguay, Argentina, Portugal, Belgium, Scotland, and England.

She is the author of three best-selling books: The Well-Tended Perennial Garden (over 200,000 copies sold and her publisher's bestselling book ever), The Well-Designed Mixed Garden, and 50 High-Impact, Low-Care Garden Plants.

Tracy is a frequent guest on national garden television and radio shows. She has been featured in numerous national and international magazines such as Fine Gardening, Horticulture, Garden Design, & Gardens Illustrated (London).

Morning Keynote:

THE WELL-DESIGNED MIXED GARDEN: BUILDING BORDERS WITH TREES, SHRUBS, PERENNIALS, ANNUALS & BULBS

This interesting and informative lecture discusses the design fundamentals of border building using a wide palette of plant material. Learn from an artist and keen plantswoman about creating gorgeous and environmentally sound mixed gardens!

Afternoon Keynote:

HIGH IMPACT LOW CARE GARDEN PLANTS: TOUGH BUT BEAUTIFUL PLANTS THAT ANYONE CAN GROW

Are you searching for plants that will be high impact but low care? Who isn't? Finally a look at dynamic, artistic, outstanding plants that may also be long-lived, tolerant of heat and humidity, cold hardy, non-invasive, as well as drought, disease and deer resistant!



GARDEN DAY: REGISTER NOW!

By Jennifer Sweet Program Coordinator Saturday, August 4th, 2018 8:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Plant & Soil Sciences Building- MSU Campus NEW 25th Anniversary pricing!

For price information and to register:

http://www.canr.msu.edu/hrt/our_gardens/garden_day

Join us for a very special 25th Anniversary edition Garden Day and be inspired by 40 year veteran, Tracy Disabato-Aust! Tracy is an award winning garden designer, international speaker, best-selling author, and world class triathlete with a passion for plants and design as well as a dynamic inspiring message.

In addition to two keynote presentations by Tracy, you'll enjoy your choice of two engaging workshops, garden tours, a book-signing with Tracy, morning coffee, lunch, materials and complimentary parking. You will also have the opportunity to peruse our Green Garden Marketplace for plants, books, garden accessories and other great buys!





GARDEN DAY 1.0

BY DAN BULKOWSKI GARDENS AND GREENHOUSE MANAGER

One of the first events here at the gardens to be called Garden Day was held August 2, 1996. It was planned, as the first brochure states, "in appreciation of the donors to and friends of the MSU Horticulture Gardens". Dr. Will Carlson, Garden Director at the time, was instrumental in the planning and direction of Garden Day. Sandy Allen, the education programming coordinator then, worked behind the scenes to organize all of the festivities that year and for many years to follow. Like all of the Garden Days, nationally known keynote speakers presented on their areas of expertise. Speaking that first year was Allan Armitage on garden perennials, and Holly Shimizu on what was new in the world of herbs. In between their presentations were many workshops. Topics like bonsai, roses, water gardening, espalier pruning, wine making, and annuals were just a few of the sixteen workshops that day.

The first Garden Days were held at the Wharton Center in the Pasant Theatre. Six-hundred attendees enjoyed the keynote speakers, and there was a waiting list on top of that! Garden Day was even expanded to two days to accommodate the large numbers of interested attendees. The twoday format lasted only a few years, until it became a Friday-only event. Lunch was served in a large tent in a grassy area for several years where the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams building is now being constructed across Wilson Road. Fast forward to 22 years later, Garden Day is now on a Saturday. The keynote speaker, all of the workshops, lunch, and the marketplace is held in the Plant and Soil Sciences Building. The gardening enthusiasm that Dr. Carlson wished to honor with the first Garden Day has continued on now for many years. He would have liked that.



FOR MORE TASTY COCKTAILS AND HERBAL
REFRESHMENTS JOIN JESSICA WRIGHT AND VAL
ALBRIGHT AT GARDEN DAY FOR GARDEN MIXOLOGY
FROM GARDEN TO TABLE.

Rose Simple Syrup

1 cup granulated sugar
1 cup water
1 cup fresh rose petals
(the cultivar rugosa is my favorite)

Place water and sugar in a small sauce pan bring to a boil remove from heat and let cool for 10 minutes. Add rose petals and let steep for at least an hour up to overnight.

For the Cocktail

2 oz. white rum
1 oz. lime juice
1 oz rose simple syrup
club soda
handful of spearmint leaves

Pour rum, lime and simple syrup in a tall glass. Tear mint leaves and muddle with syrup, lime and rum.

Add ice and top with club soda. Enjoy!

STUDENT SECTION

GET TO KNOW MALERI CHRISTOFFERSON, 2018 ANNUAL TRIAL GARDEN INTERN

By Daedre McGrath Trial Garden Manager



Maleri Christofferson, horticulture undergraduate and 2018 Annual Trial Garden Intern

What is your major and minor (if applicable) and when do you graduate?

I am a horticulture science major at Michigan State University. I have decided not to minor in any subject, but I did study interior design at Central Michigan University for two years. After this, I decided to transfer and change my major. I have found that I can still put my design skills to use with plant design! I will be graduating in May of 2018!

What made you decide to apply for a position at the MSU Gardens?

During the spring I was enrolled in floriculture. Our lab for this class took place in the teaching greenhouses where there were many postings for this position. I fell in love with the gardens during my landscape plant identification course my first semester here. I wanted to be a part of making the gardens a beautiful place for every visitor to enjoy.

What was your favorite part of working at the Gardens?

My favorite part about working in the gardens is watching and participating in the transformation. For the annual gardens, we are starting from scratch each spring. We begin with preparing the beds for planting. This preparation usually includes weeding, edging and spreading compost if needed. After this is planting, the task I enjoy the most. Working with color combinations, plant height and textures is something I could do all summer if that was possible. Lastly, just watching all the plants fill in and seeing the visitors admiring them is gratifying.

What was the weirdest thing that happened while working at the Gardens?

The weirdest thing to happen may have been the mysterious crowds of people that appear during the middle of the day. My coworkers and I have come to the conclusion that these people are playing Pokémon Go. It's great to see people getting outside, but it was very strange at first to see about 20 people gathering all together in the gardens.



Maleri planting begonias in the shade plant trial.

What are three new things you learned while working at the Gardens?

I have increased my plant identification while working at the gardens. I try my best to refer to the plant by its name rather than location or a description. I find that plant identification is important in the field I will be working in, so I have taken this opportunity to learn as many name as possible. I was also lucky enough to learn a few different ways to build bamboo trellises. This is a skill I will absolutely be using in the future and I am thankful to now know an effective way to do so! I have also learned about the trial process and how to evaluate plants for uniformity, color, and more.

What is a new skill you acquired while working at the Gardens?

I have definitely gotten more comfortable with plant maintenance tasks. I would say my pruning technique has improved. I have also been able to identify some pest issues while working here. There is a new level of confidence in making decisions within the garden.

How did your experience at the Gardens influence your professional/personal life?

This has been an opportunity to meet some incredible people. I have gained some wonderful friends and acquaintances while working here. Most of us are horticulture students, so we had something in common from the very beginning. I have had many classes with these students, but this job has brought some of us together.

What piece of advice would you give to next year's crew of student employees?

Work hard, stay hydrated, yet enjoy your time. There is so much to learn and so much to enjoy while working at the gardens. Take advantage of a wonderful opportunity, meet new people, take in the information given and do your best work. This is a place where your work is shown to many visitors.

If you could chose three words that describe you experience working at the gardens, what would they be? Watering, weeding, gardener-tan.

What are your career goals?

I hope to one day have my own greenhouse. Beyond that, I am not entirely sure just yet. I'd like to experience different aspects of the horticulture field before I officially determine what will be the best fit for me. I'd like to have a career that is hands on, rather than in an office most of the day. Another goal is to learn as much as possible about the endless plant varieties.

What is your favorite non-edible plant?

Coleus may be my favorite non-edible plant, but that's a tough decision. There are so many colors and textures within this genus. To me, the variety in appearance allows it to be used in almost every bed. Coleus looks great with most plants.

What is your favorite edible plant?

My favorite edible plant must the nasturtium flowers! I wasn't aware that this plant even existed before working here. We have planted a nasturtium trial this year with many different varieties. Each variety tastes just a little different. The flowers are the perfect addition to a salad!

What was your favorite snack on snack-days?

Popsicles or ice cream, most definitely. The heat takes a lot out of you when you are working outside all day. A nice cool, refreshing snack is perfect for those days.



Maleri helping plant our garden icon, Wilbir the Floral Peacock

THE GARDEN NOIRE

BY BETHANY TROY, PERENNIAL GARDEN MANAGER AND DAEDRE MCGRATH, ANNUAL GARDEN MANAGER

During your next visit, be sure to check out The Garden Noire, located in the VIP (Vegetables and Insect Pollinators) Garden, south of the Rose Garden. This year's dark and stormy theme, The Garden Noire, features plants with dark foliage, flowers, or fruits! Here are a few of our favorites we'd like to share with you.

Alcea rosea nigra 'Jet Black' Common Name: Black Hollyhock

The black hollyhock is an heirloom variety that was grown by Thomas Jefferson at Monticello. A biennial flower, this hollyhock grows as a rosette the first year and blooms in the second year. Unfortunately, this old variety is susceptible to rust, a fungal pathogen of the foliage, but our planting had a spectacular showing this year before the rust took hold.

Solanum lycopersicum 'Indigo Rose' Common Name: Indigo Rose Tomato

This unusual tomato has been on the market for a few years now, but still surprises most people who see it. The extreme pigmentation becomes darker in brighter light and results in a high anthocyanin/anti-oxidant content. We have two other similar-hued tomatoes in this garden, 'Indigo Pear Drops' and 'Midnight Snack'. (continued on next page)













Foeniculum vulgare 'Bronze' Common Name: Bronze Fennel

Bronze fennel can be used in the same ways as the green variety, but its unusual coloration lends itself to many ornamental applications. It is great mixed with annuals as an "edible ornamental". It produces yellow flowers later in the season, from which you can collect fennel pollen (or leave it for the pollinators). This plant is also a great host for the black swallowtail butterfly.

Sambucus nigra 'Black Lace' Common Name: Black Lace Elderberry

This deciduous shrub is known for its finely textured, intense purple-black foliage displaying lemon-scented pink flowers. 'Black Lace' is a particularly tough variety of elderberry, growing in a range of conditions, and is even suitable for a rain garden. It can be cut to the ground every year and treated as a perennial, however, this may disrupt the amount of blooms you get each year.

Hibiscus xhybrida 'Midnight Marvel' Common Name: Midnight Marvel Hibiscus

We all love hibiscus – I shouldn't have to convince you to add a new one to your garden. But, THIS ONE, 'Midnight Marvel', truly is a sight to see. Its dark foliage is what granted its entry into our exclusive Garden Noire, but what is really spectacular about this plant is its saucer-like, scarlet red flowers. We occasionally have this variety for sale at our spring plant sale – who knows, maybe you'll be lucky and get to pick it up from us next year!

Ophiopogon planiscapus 'Nigrescens' Common Name: Black Mondo Grass

Ophiopogon a great addition to the garden as a groundcover or fairy garden, as it gets to a modest size of 1' by 1'. Its dark foliage with light pink blooms makes for a great show-plant for those of us that like the nitty gritty details. I'm not the only one who likes to get on the ground to really look at a plant, right? Best grown in full sun to part shade, this grass-like perennial is marginally hardy here in Michigan, so be sure to protect this from too much winter exposure.





Come join our globetrotting Garden Director, Art Cameron, as we experience a whirlwind Windy City Garden Tour!



2 days / 1 night

Member

Non-member

\$329.00

\$359.00

per person/double occupancy

Presented by:

MSU Horticulture Gardens

Tour date:

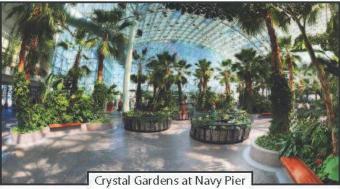
August 21 - 22, 2018

Tuesday - Wednesday

For reservations and information please contact:

Bianco Tours Sales Dept. (734) 946-7021





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Round Trip Transportation:

Via deluxe highway motorcoach. Equipped with reclining seats, overhead storage, & restroom for your comfort and convenience.

Accommodations:

• 1 Night at the Fairfield Inn and Suites in downtown Chicago

Included Meals:

• 1 Breakfast & 1 Dinner

Featuring:

- Chicago Botanic Garden 385 acres with 25 gardens designed by the world's foremost landscape architects.
- Lincoln Park Conservatory This indoor conservatory features greenhouses with tropical displays, divided into four areas.
- Gardens at Ball Horticultural Company Containing nine acres of display beds for annuals, perennials, cut flowers and vegetables.
- Crystal Gardens at Navy Pier A beautiful indoor, one-acre, botanical garden with beautiful views of the lakefront.
- Lurie Garden Five acres of Millennium Park are dedicated to ecofriendly botanical landscaping with city views.

Tour price includes gratuities for above trip inclusions.
BIANCO TOUR DIRECTOR & DRIVER GRATUITIES ARE NOT INCLUDED.

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CHICAGO GARDEN GETAWAY

Day 1

Good morning! We begin our journey to Chicago with a cup of hot coffee and snack served by a professional Bianco Tour Director. Stops are made en route for comfort and convenience. Upon arrival in the "windy city", we visit the Chicago Botanic Garden. We enjoy a narrated tram tour to familiarize us with the grounds before we enjoy free time on our own to explore. The Chicago Botanic Garden offers hundreds of acres of beauty, serenity, awe and wonder. Set on 385 acres with 25 gardens designed by the world's foremost landscape architects, we find waterfalls, English walled and rose gardens, native prairies, water gardens, warm greenhouses and exhibits. This afternoon, we visit the Lincoln Park Conservatory. This indoor conservatory, built in the late 19th century, features greenhouses with tropical displays, divided into four areas; the Palm House, the Fernery, the Orchid House and the Show House. Following our visit, dinner is included at Food Life; an urban dining venue with 14 distinctive kitchens that serve real food made from scratch daily. This evening, we check into the Fairfield Inn and Suites Chicago Downtown located just steps from the Magnificent Mile.

I have read and accept the conditions regarding cancellation refunds and payments

Card number:

Day 2

Breakfast at the hotel is included this morning before we depart for the Gardens at Ball Horticultural Company. The Gardens at Ball have been the evaluation and testing grounds for the world's wealth of horticultural introductions and improvements for over 80 years. The site contains nine acres of display beds for annuals, perennials, cut flowers and vegetables, including the newest plants from the industry's leading breeders and marketers. This afternoon, we have lunch on our own and an opportunity to visit Crystal Gardens at Navy Pier. The Crystal Gardens is a beautiful indoor, one-acre, botanical garden with beautiful views of the lakefront. This six-story glass atrium with a 50-foot arched ceiling holds over 80 live palm trees, lush foliage, hanging twinkle lights and dancing leapfrog fountains. Before we depart for home we stop at one more garden, Lurie Garden. Five acres of Millennium Park are dedicated to eco-friendly botanical landscaping with city views. A dinner stop is made on our own en route home for our convenience.

IT'S EASY TO JOIN A BIANCO TOUR! Reservations for participants. Just complete the form below and include a \$20.00 deposit per person to hold your reservations. Full payment is due 30 days prior to departure. A charge of \$125.00, based on double occupancy, may be levied on all cancellations made within 30 days of departure. No refunds within 24 hours of departure. Please make checks payable to: Bianco Tours • 12555 Universal Dr. · Taylor, MI 48180. Members Non-members Name: \$435,00 ☐ Private room: \$465,00 ☐ Double room: \$329.00 \$359.00 Address: ☐ Triple room: \$294.00 \$324.00 Date: 8/21/18 Code: 8N80863.1.2 Email: Tour: Chicago Garden Getaway Phone #: Group: MSU Horticultural Gardens CREDIT CARD PURCHASE (print clearly) (A 3% convenience charge will be added to the above prices for credit card purchases) Name on card:

Exp. Date:

(month)

Amount being charged: \$_

Security Code:

SAVE-THE-DATE!

THIRD ANNUAL

HOUSEPLANT & SUCCULENT

SALE



WHAT: PLANT SALE FUNDRAISER FEATURING SUCCULENTS.

AIRPLANTS, AND OTHER HOUSEPLANTS

WHEN: THURSDAY NOVEMBER 1st, 9AM - 7DM

WHERE: MSU HORTICULTURE GARDENS

1066 BOGUE STREET

PLANT & SOIL SCIENCES BUILDING

EAST LANSING, MI, 48824

