

Edible Landscaping interns pose with community volunteers in the Good Life Garden on a planting day.



the review

UC DAVIS ARBORETUM AND PUBLIC GARDEN

Spring Plant Sales

Arboretum Teaching Nursery
Garrod Drive, UC Davis
arboretum.ucdavis.edu

MEMBER APPRECIATION SALE

Saturday, March 9

9–11 am
Members only

11 am–1 pm
Open to the Public

Not a member? Join the Friends online, at the door or call ahead.

PUBLIC SALES

9 am–1 pm
**Saturdays, April 6,
April 27, May 11**

UCDAVIS



ARBORETUM AND PUBLIC GARDEN

Healthy Living and Community Engagement on Display in the Good Life Garden

Stacey Parker, GATEways Horticulturist

This fall, our community volunteers and Edible Landscaping Learning by Leading™ students have been busy redesigning and planting the Good Life Garden. Thanks to the support of members like you during our “GATEway to Edible Campus” community campaign in May, we are transforming the garden to a place where we can educate the public about food insecurity, food production, and food safety.

Since 2008, this garden, located in the courtyard of the Robert Mondavi Institute for Wine and Food Science, has been a popular venue for high-profile events thanks to the gorgeous, ever-changing edible landscape. A little over a year ago, many of the edible demonstration planting beds were removed to prepare for an innovative rainwater-harvesting project. This gave us an opportunity to re-envision the garden with campus partners including the Robert Mondavi Institute for Wine and Food Science (encompassing the Honey and Pollination Center and the Olive Center) and the academic departments of Food Science and Technology and Viticulture and Enology.

The overarching vision of the Good Life Garden is to communicate the important connection between good food, good health, and a healthy environment. When approaching the redesign, our primary goals were to ensure that the new garden built in community and volunteer engagement, student leadership and learning opportunities and highlighted the academic work

done by departments that surround the garden. Like our other GATEways Gardens throughout campus, we want this garden to be a showcase of our campus's academic expertise, a resource for student learning, and a place for community engagement.

To define the areas earmarked for student learning, we reserved all of the garden's raised planting beds for Edible Landscaping Learning by Leading™ interns. Since school resumed in September, the student interns have been working on bed prep, turning, composting, and transplanting. Towards the end of the fall quarter, the students filled the beds with a plethora of cool season crops including broccoli, kale, Swiss chard, leeks, parsley, and lettuce, which upon harvest, will be donated to The Pantry or Aggie Compass – student-run services providing basic necessities for students at no cost.

“We learn by doing,” said Edible Landscaping student co-coordinator Aina Smart Truco. “We immerse our interns in the garden and ask them to take on responsibilities including watering, weeding, and tending to these spaces.” “I’ve learned a lot about efficient workday management, and being flexible when things don’t work out,” shared Marjorie Rhodes, the team’s other student co-coordinator.

Down the line, the team plans to collaborate with other Learning by Leading™ students to

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Healthy Living and Community Engagement on Display in the Good Life Garden

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develop educational materials about their work. In the coming months, these student leaders will be taking their expertise to campus, assisting other Edible Campus sites with their garden management.

The remaining in-ground beds in the Good Life Garden will feature lower-maintenance perennial edibles including herbs like thyme, oregano, pineapple guava, stevia, rhubarb, and artichoke, some of which also serve to attract pollinators. By containing the annuals in the raised beds and planting perennials in the ground, we will be able to better regulate water use and maintain the aesthetic appeal of the garden throughout the year. In the

future, we plan to add additional trees to the garden's small but mature orchard including almond, peach, apricot, and even grape vines. All of these plants are quintessentially Californian, and can serve as teaching resources for UC Davis students studying Food Science and Technology and Viticulture and Enology in the surrounding departments.

Our work in the Good Life Garden would not be possible without the support of our campus partners, Seeds of Change, MARI (Mars Advanced Research Institute), Mars, Incorporated, and our generous campaign donors. We look forward to continuing to share our progress with you, and hope you will stop by the garden to see our students and volunteers in action!

DONOR SPOTLIGHT Carol Benedetti

The UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden would not be the beautiful, idyllic, and innovative space we all know and love if it were not for those who help us ensure its prosperity. We are so grateful for the support of our donors like Carol Benedetti, who generously offer us their time, financial support, and so much more.

Carol is a UC Davis alumnus and has seen the Arboretum grow to the hub of ecological diversity we see today. She has thoroughly enjoyed watching it become a place where “anyone can come to learn about plants or just be curious,” and it is one of her favorite places. A longtime volunteer with a passion for gardening, Carol has volunteered on teams that garden in the Mary Watis Brown Garden and East Asian Collection, and is now working on transforming the Good Life Garden. In addition, Carol is helping ensure the future of the Arboretum and Public Garden by including a gift in her estate plans.

From all of us at the Arboretum and Public Garden: Thank you Carol, for your time and generosity!



Top photo: Stacey Parker, GATEways Horticulturist, cross checks her planting plan while Carol Benedetti, one of our amazing community volunteers, plants perennials in the Good Life Garden.

Bottom photo: Staff and community volunteers in the Good Life Garden on a workday.



Oak-Tober Comes to a Close

Emily Griswold, Director of GATEways Horticulture and Teaching Gardens

Over 250 oak experts and enthusiasts from 20 countries and 23 states converged in October at UC Davis for the largest ever International Oak Society Conference.

85 presenters approached the conference theme, “Adapting to Climate Change—Oak Landscapes of the Future,” from their diverse perspectives, looking at urban and wildland settings around the world with viewpoints including practical, theoretical, social and cultural. We introduced conference attendees to our Living Landscape Adaptation Plan, which will be charting the future course of campus tree canopy management with climate change through the end of this century. Our staff also hosted a variety of tours that highlighted the range of oak landscapes on campus and in the region.

Peter J. Shields Oak Grove was a hub for community engagement on Oak Discovery Day, a free public event organized by our Learning by Leading™ students. Several Arboretum and Public Garden staff and volunteers helped prepare Shields Oak Grove for the festivities with 180 cubic yards

of new mulch, 50 new plant labels, extensive tree pruning, hundreds of new understory plants, and a fresh coating of decomposed granite on the trails. The next time you visit Shields Oak Grove, be sure to pick up our new student-created self-guided tour brochure to learn more about this global collection.

Putting on the conference would not have been possible without the contributions of countless staff, students, and volunteers. It was an exciting opportunity to share our expertise and work with oaks and learn from others around the world. We are looking forward to leveraging the new partnerships and connections that will enhance staff development, our oak collection growth, and our support for oak research and conservation for many years to come.



Pre-conference Sierra Nevada tour.



Oak Discovery Day participants explore Shields Oak Grove with the new student-created self-guided tour.

Arboretum and Public Garden Staff Collaborate with State Leaders on California Biodiversity Initiative

Mary Burke, Director of Conservation and Environmental Leadership

California is home to more species of plants and animals than any other state in the country. Just days before the Global Climate Action Summit in mid-September, Governor Jerry Brown signed an executive order directing the Department of Food and Agriculture and the Department of Fish and Wildlife to work together to restore habitats in order to protect the diverse plants, animals and ecosystems in California which are threatened by climate change. The order also establishes September 7 as California Biodiversity Day each year.

In addition, the Governor released the California Biodiversity Initiative, a roadmap to help agencies and communities work together to save California’s unique plants, animals and ecosystems. At the Governor’s request, the 2018-19 state budget also included a new allocation of \$2.5 million to launch this California Bio-

diversity Initiative in partnership with tribal groups, educators and researchers, the private sector, philanthropic groups and landowners. Arboretum and Public Garden staff members Dr. Shannon Still and I were both involved for close to a year in a series of advisory meetings with the Governor’s team. These sessions brought together ecologists and botanists from across the state to draft the original charter documents and recommendations for this important California Biodiversity Initiative.

Much work obviously lies ahead, but we are excited about being part of a much wider collaborative effort across the state to increase public understanding of and support for the incredible beauty and richness of the California flora, and the many unique birds, insects, and wildlife that depend upon it.



Mary Burke (fourth from left) poses with Dr. David Ackerly (UC Berkeley), Dr. Erika Zavaleta (UC Santa Cruz), Governor Jerry Brown, Todd Keeler-Wolf (CA Department of Fish and Wildlife) and Dan Glusencamp (California Native Plant Society).

Scenes from Fall Events

1. Marjorie Rhodes (front right), co-coordinator for the Learning by Leading™ Edible Landscaping program, together with her team, plants cool season crops in the Salad Bowl Garden outside the Plant and Environmental Sciences building. The campus community is invited to partake in harvesting this produce when it's ready to eat.
2. The student-created floating island located towards the west end of the Arboretum Waterway draws a variety of wildlife including turtles, egrets, mallards, wood ducks and geese. Here, a heron takes respite on the flora-covered patch.
3. In October, Sudwerk Brewing Co. held a fundraiser to support the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden. Members of the public were invited to try the Arboretum-and-Public-Garden-inspired pilsner called, "The Accidental Gardener" while participating in oak gall and acorn grinding demonstrations.
4. Attendees at Oak Discovery Day learned about the diversity of oaks found in the Peter J. Shields Oak Grove, discovered more about the variety of acorns growing here, participated in multisensory workshops and more.
5. In collaboration with UC Davis Staff and Faculty Health and Well-being, we offer a series of Nature Rx programs throughout fall during the lunch hour. Here, participants display the watercolor art they created with the help of Chip Sullivan, faculty member in landscape architecture.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT HELPS STUDENTS LEAD

Consider a Gift to the Friends Year-End Appeal

"Empowering others, especially our youth, is integral to a successful and sustainable world," Amber Medina, '19, student co-coordinator of the Arboretum Ambassador team of Learning by Leading™.



Amber Medina, '19

The Arboretum and Public Garden's student internship program, Learning by Leading™, has grown over the last decade from one team of students focused on public programs to nine teams of students – over 100 students total – working with our expert staff to address the challenging environmental issues of our time: climate change, habitat destruction and species extinction, among others.

plant collections and showcase gardens that illustrate sustainable best practices, and organizing free community education events such as Oak Discovery Day. Through these varied activities, students are gaining the practical

You can see the impact of our Learning by Leading™ interns each time you visit the plant sales or gardens. Some of their leadership projects this year include: renovating the Good Life Garden as a sustainable edible demonstration garden (with produce donated to help students in need), creating new self-guided resources to highlight key scientific

knowledge and the leadership skills to tackle environmental challenges today so they can become the environmental leaders, teachers and decision-makers of the future.

Support from Friends members and other community and foundation partners is what keeps the Learning by Leading™ program growing. Consider making a gift during the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden Annual Appeal. Your gift will help us expand the Learning by Leading™ internship to impact more students next year.

Thank you for helping our Learning by Leading™ students, like Amber, improve our community today and become the environmental leaders for tomorrow. Mail your gift in the envelope located in this newsletter or make a gift online at: give.ucdavis.edu/AARB/AA00001

Winter 2019 GATEways Events

plant sales

Member Appreciation Sale

Saturday, March 9

9–11 am Members only,
11 am–1 pm Open to the public



Public Sales

9 am–1 pm

Saturdays – April 6, April 27, May 11

Members always save 10% on every purchase!

Not a member?

Join online, at the door or call ahead!

Arboretum Teaching Nursery
Garrod Drive, UC Davis
arboretum.ucdavis.edu

music & wellness

Folk Music Jam Sessions

Fridays, January 11 & 25;

February 8 & 22;

March 8 & 22, noon–1 pm

Wyatt Deck



Folk musicians are invited to bring their acoustic instruments and play together informally over the lunch hour. All skill levels are welcome, and listeners are invited.

Relax and Unwind with Nature Rx

Saturday, March 2,

11 am–1 pm

Arboretum Gazebo

Find balance with all-ages yoga, watercolor painting, tea sampling and more.

all-ages programs

Birds in Davis

The Inside Scoop (indoors)

January 12, 10–11:30 am

Arboretum Headquarters

Out and About (outdoors)

January 13, 10–11:30 am

Arboretum Headquarters



Docent and birding enthusiast Lois Richter shares her “Winter Birds in Davis” presentation.

Natural Tie-Dye

Saturday, January 19,

1–3 pm

Wyatt Deck

Rain location: 146

Environmental Horticulture



Give your own light-colored fabrics a bright boost by learning the art of eco-friendly tie-dye.

Delights from Down Under

February 2, 10–11 am

Arboretum GATEway Garden

Tour our collection of winter-blooming plants from Australia and New Zealand.

Biodiversity Museum Day

Saturday, February 16,

9 am–4 pm

biodiversitymuseumday.

ucdavis.edu



Join this popular, all-ages open house featuring 12 university museums. Find us at the Good Life Garden from 9 am–1 pm.

Native Californian Elderberry Flute-making Workshop

Sunday, February 24,

1–3 pm

146 Environmental Horticulture



Learn the Native Californian custom of making and playing elderberry flutes.

guided tours

Wednesday Walks with Warren

January 9, February 13,

noon

Arboretum Gazebo

March 13, noon

Arboretum Headquarters



Join Superintendent Emeritus Warren Roberts for an always-engaging, seasonally updated tour.

Amazing Acacias

Saturday, February 23,

2 pm

Putah Creek Lodge



Take in the spectacular winter display of acacias from around the world on this guided tour.

learn & shop classes

February 13

Shape and Texture for Garden Impact

February 26

Spring Plant Sale Sneak Preview

March 12

Herbs and Veggies; Creating Your Edible Garden

March 19

Make Your Garden Pop for Pollinators

10 am–noon

Arboretum Teaching Nursery

Tickets: \$18+ General/\$12+ Friends Members



Join expert staff from the Arboretum and Public Garden's horticulture teams for a 75-90 minute workshop, followed by private shopping time in the Nursery. Class size is limited and pre-registration is required. To purchase tickets, visit our website or call (530) 752-4880.

Thank You Donors! August – October 2018

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Volunteer Positions Now Open, Apply by January 18

Would you like to spend more time outdoors? Would you like to learn more about the environment? Are you looking for a way to fulfill a New Year's resolution to give back to the community? Consider volunteering with the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden! It's a rewarding place to spend your time while learning new skills and meeting new people.

We are seeking new volunteers to join our gardening and land stewardship volunteer teams. Trainings will be offered this winter and include a combination of expert instruction and hands-on projects. There will be a \$20 materials fee due at your team's first scheduled training date.

Gardening Volunteers work in teams on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday mornings to help maintain and beautify Arboretum and Public Garden landscapes. The majority of our gardens are sustainable ornamental gardens but there will also be volunteer work available in our greenhouse nursery facility. Each team focuses on a different area; volunteers work in collaboration with horticultural staff. Training dates: Thursdays, January 31-March 7, 9 am–12 pm.

Land Stewardship Volunteers work on campus naturalized lands with staff on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. Projects include light construction, trail repair, native plant care, weed control, and a variety of equipment and power tool operation. Training dates: January 26, 27 or 28, 9 am–12 pm.

Plant Sale Support Volunteers work as a team to support our big Saturday plant sales 6-8 times a year and our weekday morning Learn & Shop events 1-3 times a month at the Arboretum Teaching Nursery. Duties include overseeing plant counting and cashier teams at our weekend sales and handling all customer service activities for our smaller sales. If you love organizing, have good attention to detail, enjoy interacting with customers and other volunteers and you are comfortable handling sales transactions, this would be a great team for you. Please note that a background check will be required. Training dates: Thursday, January 31, 9 am- 12 pm; Wednesday, February 13 and Tuesday, February 26, 9 am-12:30 pm.

Putah Creek Riparian Reserve Volunteers work with the Reserve Manager and Reserve Steward on Thursday mornings (Tuesdays might be a possibility too). Projects include construction, farming, ranching, trail building and maintenance, weed control, and a variety of equipment and power tools operation including but not limited to tractors, ATV and small excavator, chainsaws and string trimmers. You will learn the nuts and bolts of wild land management. Note that this is a more labor intensive and physically demanding work. Training is on-going for this position and you can sign up to volunteer anytime.

Apply now! Applications are due Friday, January 18. The application form and more information are available on the Arboretum website at arboretum.ucdavis.edu. If you have questions, please contact Roxanne Loe at (530) 752-4880 or rgloe@ucdavis.edu.

UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden Review

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From the Director



Dear Friends,

We have been enjoying a wet start to winter, which allows us to rely less on irrigation and let the rain take over. After the fire and smoke in November, the rain also brings welcome relief. Our hearts go out to all our members and anyone in the campus and surrounding communities who were personally affected by the fires.

Winter is a good time to reflect on the busy fall season, which was full of activity in the Good Life Garden. See our cover article to find out about all the work that has been done in this important garden since our GATEway to the Edible Campus Campaign last spring. We were also busy hosting the International Oak Society Conference in October (see page 3). It was thrilling to welcome hundreds of oak researchers and enthusiasts from around the world in an event that made us even more enthusiastic about oaks, if that's possible!

We are also excited to announce our participation in the writing of the Governor's California Biodiversity Initiative (see page 3). This is a huge step forward in helping to protect our state's environmental resources, including native plants. Congratulations to our staff members, Shannon Still and Mary Burke, for their work on this important initiative.

As always, we want to thank all our members and donors for the support they give us to take care of the collections and carry out our innovative work. This year, the Annual Appeal of the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden will continue to support our Learning by Leading™ student leadership internship program (see page 4). Thank you to everyone who has already sent in a gift. If you would still like to donate, we invite you to send in a gift using the enclosed envelope or give online.

We invite you to take a look at the photos from some of our fall events (see page 4), join a winter event (see page 5) or enjoy a lovely winter walk in the gardens. Be sure to mark your calendar for our spring plant sales (see page 1). Also, we will be starting a new volunteer training class soon, so we hope you will consider applying to join one of our stellar volunteer teams (see page 7).

Kathleen