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**Horticulture Centre
of the Pacific**



August 2023 eNews

Hours: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Everyday



A Message from our General Manager



The 2023 Arts & Music Festival began with a gorgeous sunrise and just got better from there.

2253+ attendees joined us over the 2 days, including 538 members! and while it did get a bit warm on Sunday afternoon, all were welcomed by the always cheerful, smiling HCP staff and 80 amazing volunteers who contributed 268 hours – thank-you!!!

The Eve's of Destruction Roller Derby team did a wonderful job looking after the field parking and this was truly a community event enjoyed by all. Thank-you as well to all the hungry people that supported the Sizzling Tandoor food

truck, the HCP concession and smokies on the BBQ, our food sales surpassed last year by a third!

This was my 9th A&M and I would like to thank all the staff again for making this the most terrific example of what true teamwork is. There was the organizational prowess of Cheri and Barb; John and Carter everywhere, always ready to lend a hand; the College ladies (Laura, Racheal, Diana, and Karen) who ran a superb concession, never running out of the delicious lemonade; Linda working the BBQ one minute and in plant sales the next; Paula keeping the small ones giggling with her Teddy Bear picnics; Ainsley and Tina efficient as always in the front office; Kim making sure our volunteers were looked after and Giles and Tony who swooped in on Sunday to put HCP back to normal! Such an incredible group to work with!

Thanks to everyone that came out and supported this most-worthwhile charity!

See you all next year!

Deborah

WELCOME!



Please join me in welcoming Karen Reburn, who has joined us as our new College Director and Marketing Director.

Karen has a Master's degree in education combined with 10+ years of leadership in the private education sector. She has a strong background with provincial accreditation requirements, effective marketing strategies, basic horticulture principles, and financial management practices.

Karen is looking forward to building upon the successes achieved by Laura Biggs in growing the Pacific Horticulture College with her combined passion for education and horticulture.

SAVE THE DATE!!



FALL PLANT SALE



September 22

*HCP Members &
volunteers only*

**FREE
ENTRY!**

September 23

Open to the public

9:00AM – 4:00PM

All plants are reduced by 25% with additional discounts in our bargain bin. HCP students, volunteers, staff, and **Victoria Master Gardeners** will be on site to answer your gardening questions. All proceeds raised support the development of our non-profit teaching Gardens.



505 Quayle Road, Victoria, BC

250-479-6162 | www.hcp.ca | reception@hcp.ca



A Message from our Head Gardener

HCP Plant Sale Area

Both HCP members and non-members can shop for plants in our sale area, we restock on a daily basis. We take pride in offering gardeners an unparalleled selection of plants to purchase.

This month we are excited to have some new plants available that we have not grown before!



Abutilon vitifolium

- A frost hardy Flowering Maple.
- It needs a well-drained, protected site in full sun.
- Large lavender flowers appear in May, growing to be a multi-branched shrub to 2m. Felted gray green foliage



Verbena 'Bampton'

- This is a wonderful variety of Verbena discovered in the village of Bampton.
- It has dark foliage with clouds of lavender-pink flowers that bloom from June-frost, 1m height, full to part sun



Campanula takesimana

- Known as Korean Bellflower, clump forming perennial to 70cm
- Full sun to part shade, pink drooping bells, spotted inside



Clematis tangutica

- A species Clematis with bright yellow bell shape flowers throughout the summer
- Attractive feathery seed heads
- Climber or groundcover to 4m



Keep The Flowers Blooming



Thank you so much for your generous support!

As a charity, the Horticulture Centre of the Pacific depends on the support and generosity of others to help us make a difference. The maintenance of our gardens is funded through our memberships as well as donations, sponsorships, grants and income from our gardens through admissions, plant sales, events and weddings. Even though much of the creation and maintenance of the gardens is carried out by teams of hardworking and cherished volunteers, there is still a large financial commitment when caring for nine acres of curated gardens and the Conservation Park.

Your donations provide essential support.



The HCP held our annual Keep the Flowers Blooming (KTFB) Donor Appreciation Garden Party Sunday, July 23rd. The weather was great, the socializing even better, and music by two accomplished bandura (National instrument of the Ukraine) players was absolutely outstanding! The KTFB function commemorates existing members for their support through our Perennial Giving Circle and encourages others to join this Circle of support.

Thank-you to everyone that joined us for this wonderful event.

And thank you so much for your continued support -- we couldn't do it without you! Visit our [website](#) or phone (250) 479-6162 to donate today.



Thank You Volunteers!



"The unselfish effort to bring cheer to others will be the beginning of a happier life for ourselves." Helen Keller

I would like to thank all our volunteers who work very hard in the gardens, on the trails, in the library, gift shop and at special events. You have all contributed to making HCP a cheerful place to be!

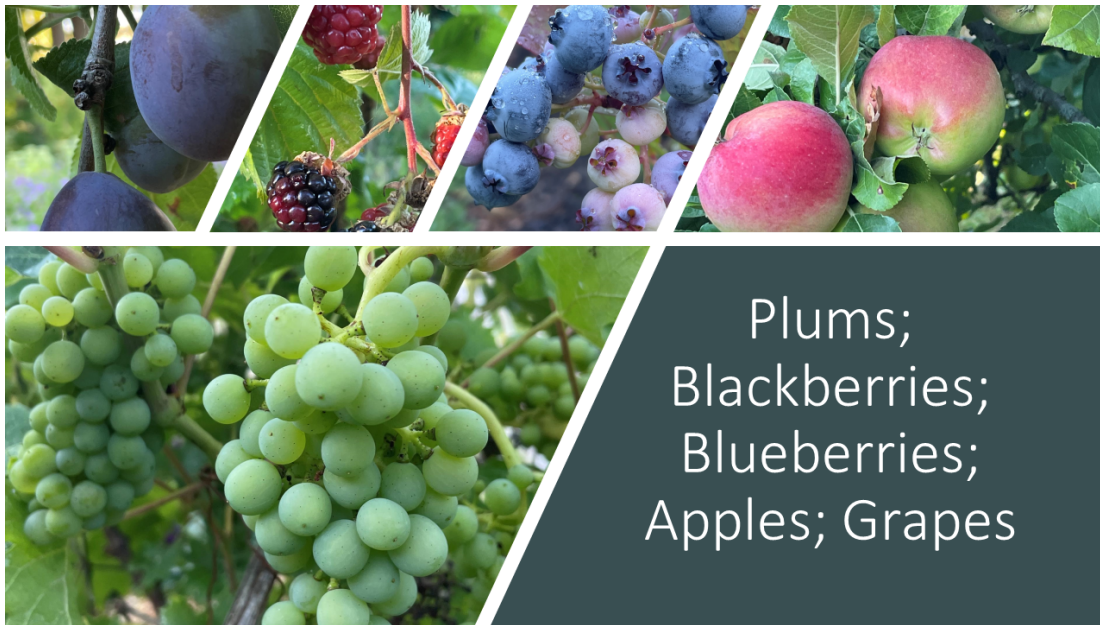
For information about volunteer opportunities please visit our website or contact Kim at volunteers@hcp.ca



Giles' Jottings

If I were obliged to make a choice of which is my favourite moment in the gardening year, I would have to pick that time in May when every plant suddenly starts to grow at full speed as if they felt they were in danger of missing the starting gun. But surely running it a close second is where we are now, the period of late August easing into September, when every fruit and vegetable plant is offering us a bonanza of delicious produce.

And this year in Victoria seems to be a truly bumper year.



I cannot find a single fruit tree that is not loaded down with ripening fruit. Apples and pears, plums and figs, grapes, blueberries, and persimmons; blackberries, Asian pears, and quince.

It is not always as prolific a year as this, and I ask myself what has made it so amazing. I would have thought that our lack of rain would have put a dent in the productivity, but I see no evidence of that. Pollination in the spring is definitely affected by the weather and though I cannot precisely remember the temperatures week by week through March and April we can assume they were ideal with sufficient insects emerging early enough to suck up every last

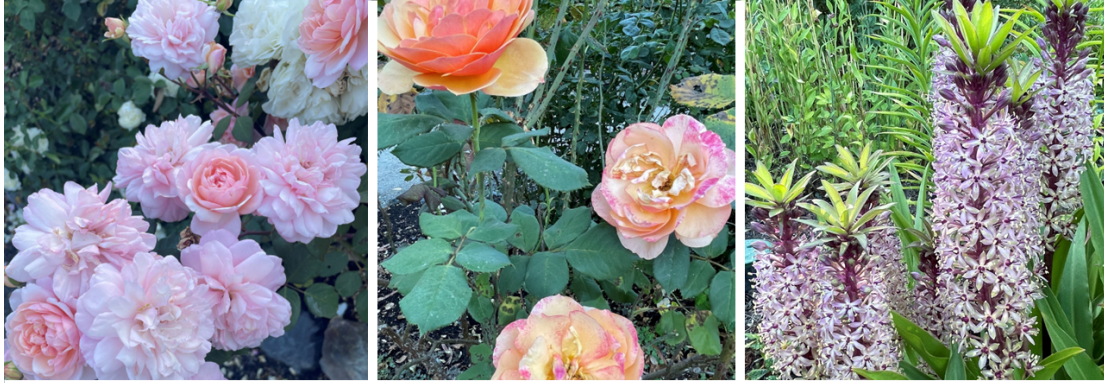
drop of nectar and spread pollen everywhere in abundance. Since then, we have enjoyed almost constant sunshine and that never goes amiss. But I sense that there must be additional factors of which we are hardly aware. This scale of abundance feels unusual. I imagine there are biological rhythms that rise and fall with the passing years and once in a while they all come together in a synchronous tidal wave, creating this extraordinary explosion of fruit, dripping and dropping from every branch and twig.

Now I cannot call it a drawback exactly, but I must confess to sometimes feeling ashamed that we are unable to harvest every last berry. When the cosmos offers you such an awesome abundance of free food it seems somewhat ungrateful not to make use of all of it. But then I think back through planetary history and visualize the hundreds of millions of autumn harvests that must have fallen to the ground uneaten, and I understand that it is all being recycled as it is supposed to.



Tomatoes!

The vegetables also are popping out as fast as we can pick. In the student beds and in Paula's children's garden tomatoes of every size, shape and colour are being picked; large and small, round, and pear-shaped, red, orange, yellow and, yes, black. Beans, squash, and zucchini and in the Veggie Garden there are also leeks and some giant onions.



Rosa 'Irene Watts'; Rosa 'Autumn Sunset'; Eucomis comosa

But we must not forget the flowers completely and I must mention a couple that stand out. In the Rose Allee Rosa 'Irene Watts' is a gorgeous froth of pink and R. 'Autumn Sunset' is displaying several delicious tones of peach. Chives (*Allium schoenoprasum*) in the Herb Garden are looking extremely pretty and in the Lily Garden the Eucomis comosa are absolutely perfect.

I don't think I will quickly forget 2023, the weather, the fruit, the flowers! Always something more to enjoy.



Gift Shop



Many new items! Please stop in when you are in the gardens next and find the perfect gift for someone special!



Guest Article



Last April, our succulent volunteers, Adele and Carole, found a knotted mess of material in a corner of Polyhouse 3, and with gentle teasing, managed to pot up two viable sections and brought the plant back to exquisitely blooming life.

Halfway through July, look what one has produced. One flower and a bud of the uncommon and exotic *Huernia zebrina*.

For more information about this unique small perennial succulent, go to “*The Spruce*” at the link found [here](#). For this and a substantial collection of succulents, be sure to check out the collection at the entrance to HCP.



Pacific Horticulture College



The Certificate students have settled in nicely after their summer break and are learning about permaculture, pest management, and, of course, more plants! The first week of work experience placements is rapidly approaching, and PHC is grateful to those who are hosting students in their workplace. Stay tuned to our social media for photos of student work experience in action!

PHC also wants to extend a warm welcome to our new Level 2 and Level 4 program students, who started their training in early August. These are both part-time programs running until mid-December.

Thank you to the alumni who attended the Alumni Picnic Night on July 27 – it was a beautiful evening and was such a treat to see familiar smiling faces! If you couldn't make it this year, please make sure to stop by and stay in touch. We love to see our graduates back in the gardens!

Programs now open for applications:

[2024 Landscape Horticulture Certificate Program](#)

Program Dates: January 15 to November 12, 2024

Application Deadline: November 1, 2023

[2023 Level 3 Landscape Horticulturist Apprenticeship Program](#)

Program Dates: October 30 to December 8, 2023

Application Deadline: October 2, 2023 (Waitlisted)

[2024 Level 1 Landscape Horticulturist Apprenticeship Program](#)

Program Dates: January 22 to May 22, 2024

Application Deadline: December 11, 2023

[2024 Level 4 Landscape Horticulturist Apprenticeship Full-Time Program](#)

Program Dates: January 8 to February 16, 2024

Application Deadline: December 11, 2023 (Waitlisted)

Are you interested in a career in horticulture?

To learn more, please join us for an Information Session on Monday, September 11th at 6:00pm in the Couvelier Pavilion.

For more information, please visit our [website](#)

Questions? Please email admissions@hcp.ca



Community Education Workshops

[Click to view a list of copy of upcoming adult workshops and classes](#)

Plant Identification & Culture Workshops with Jane Tice

Next date Saturday, September 16 - 1:00pm - 4:00pm



If you are a new gardener, new to Victoria or just want to brush up on your plant knowledge, this is a great place to get started. This is a monthly class where participants will be introduced to 20 new plants which fit with our local climate. Plants are selected for our local growing conditions and the value they bring to the garden. Part of the class will be in the classroom and part will be out in the gardens to view the plants for that month. Dress for the weather and bring something to take notes.

HCP Members \$40 / Non-Members \$50

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

Willow Chair Workshop

Saturday, September 2 - 9:00am - 5:00pm



Join artisan Andrew Kent from The Willow Way for this full day workshop. In one day, with Andrew Kent's expert instruction, you can make and take home your own Bent Willow Rustic Chair. This is a great introduction to rustic building techniques. Learn how to make a square frame from pieces of alder & work with different sizes of willow to create your chair. This is recommended as it is ideal to have a helper for this class. Registration is for up to 2 participants making one chair together.

HCP Members \$285 / Non-Members \$305

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

Edible & Medicinal Herbs for the Home Herbalist - Fall Workshop

Sunday, October 1 - 9:00am - 12:00pm



Join Registered Holistic Nutritionist and Herbalist Racheal Schnarr for the Fall installment of the "Edible and Medicinal Herbs for the Home Herbalist" series. During the first installment of this class we will review and taste the best herbs to use during the upcoming cold and flu season. During the second installment we will get our hands dirty making the traditional folk remedy of fire cider! Gloves optional! You will leave this class with your own batch of fire cider and the confidence to make this revered traditional remedy for yourself, your family, and your friends.

HCP Members \$45/Non-Members \$55

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

Introduction to Backyard Beekeeping

Saturday, October 14 - 9:30am - 12:00pm



introduction to backyard beekeeping class

WITH GORDON MACKAY

Have you ever wanted to start keeping bees but didn't know where to start? Would you like to see improved fruit production in your garden along with the potential of having your own honey? Learn the basics of beekeeping with Gordon Mackay.

In this workshop we will cover the basics of how to start your first colony. We will look at the various parts of the hive and what is involved in setting up and maintaining your colony in your first year. We will talk about some of the potential challenges and ways to mitigate these. The favourite plants that honey bees are attracted to will also be covered.

HCP Members \$45/Non-Members \$55

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

Mason Bee - Fall Cocoon Harvest & Cleaning Session

Saturday, October 29 - 9:00am - 12:00pm



mason bee - fall cocoon cleaning session

AT THE HCP

If you have a mason bee nesting box out this Summer and are not sure what to do next, then this class is for you. Cleaning your nesting box and cocoons is vital for the health of the bees and an essential seasonal task for the mason beekeeper. Fall clean-up can be fun and easy if you do it with a group! Bring your nesting box, cube or tubes to class and we can clean them together. If you don't have a nesting box of your own, we have one for you to clean, plus you get to take some cocoons home for your efforts! During this guided cleaning session, participants will get the opportunity to assess the success of their nesting box, clean their cocoons and prepare them for winter storage. They will also receive guidance on how to identify common pests and diseases.

Participant Fee \$10

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

Finger Painting without the Paint Workshop

Sunday, October 22 - 9:00am - 1:00pm



Have FUN in the Gardens with Artist and Author Wendy Picken. Explore the mixed medium techniques she has developed over the past 30 years. Learn how to create beautiful flowerscapes while exploring the Gardens on paper. This class is suitable for beginners. All supplies are included.

Fees: HCP Members \$70/Non-Members \$80

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

A Gardener's Journal with Exposed Spine Binding with Trisha Klus

Saturday, October 28 - 10:00am - 3:00pm



Exposed bindings are one of the most versatile structures for books. By learning just the basic stitching pattern, a whole world of possibilities opens for the participants to mix and match the different sewing patterns or to create their own. In this workshop the participants will create a blank journal with covers made from handmade papers. Exposed stitching will decorate the spine. This journal is perfect as a garden journal, a trip journal, for collage or sketching. Basic concepts of book binding will be discussed including tool usage, book binding terms and paper grain.

All materials required to complete this project will be provided by the instructor. A supply list will be available upon registration.

HCP Members \$110/Non-Members \$120

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

Unlimited Possibilities in the Garden with Trisha Klus

Saturday, November 25 - 10:00am - 3:00pm



Get ready to make your own Artist's Book with a garden theme. We will create a hard covered book secured with a ribbon tie. Each page will be different and ready for your own special touch with pop-ups, pull outs, mini books, hidden panels and more. Although this workshop will have a garden theme, this book can be adapted in unlimited ways for a truly creative piece of art. All materials required to complete the project will be provided by the instructor, a supply list will be provided upon registration.

HCP Members \$110/Non-Members \$120

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

Basketry Workshops with Joan Carrigan



Joan Carrigan is a full time basketmaker and basketry teacher living on Salt Spring Island, BC. Over the past 25 years, her passion for baskets has led her to study, travel and explore many different techniques and materials within the medium. These classes are popular, so sign up for the Basketry Enthusiast list to receive notices of upcoming classes.

To add your name to the Basketry Enthusiast List, please click [HERE](#).

Save the Date - Registration for the Backyard Farmer Program



community education

the backyard farmer program

URBAN FOOD GARDENS 2024

This course will teach participants everything they need to know to produce food crops in their backyard, front yard, balcony or boulevard. The course is a strong foundation for beginner gardeners and also home gardeners with some experience.

Our local climate allows for a long growing season and we are fortunate in that we can grow edible crops for most of the year. There will be a strong emphasis on selecting varieties for our local growing conditions and how to make the best of small urban spaces. Participants will learn how to plan a food garden, grow from seed and how to grow various food plants including fruits and vegetables. Harvesting, storage and seed collection will also be covered. This program runs once per month January until October 2024.

This popular program will be opening registration to those on the waitlist on **September 13**. If you are not on the waitlist, we recommend that you sign up asap to improve your chances of getting a space. The waitlist will be open for 2024 registration until the end of August.

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to add your name to the waitlist.

Save the Date - Registration for the Master Gardener Program



community education

the master gardener program

2024

Lifelong learning is at the heart of the Victoria Master Gardener Association, the idea that no one can possibly know it all. You have to start somewhere and the Master Gardener Program is the place. You will learn current, reliable home gardening basics – the framework to pin everything else to. You will also learn how to look it up, who to ask and how to share that knowledge of sound, environmentally responsible gardening practices with the community. This course is a requirement to join the Victoria Master Gardener Association. It is also a great course in garden basics for hobbyists and homeowners.

This popular program will be opening registration to those on the waitlist on **September 12**. If you are not on the waitlist, we recommend that you sign up asap to improve your chances of getting a space. The waitlist will be open for 2024 registration until the end of August.

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to add your name to the waitlist.

Now Available! Workshops & Classes for Private Groups



community education
workshops & classes
for groups

RESERVE A PRIVATE CLASS AT THE
GARDENS FOR YOUR GROUP

The list of available classes, pricing and other information to help you plan your activity are available on our website [HERE](#).



Children & Youth Programs



Look what is happening this Fall at HCP Kids!

- **SCHOOLS** - Bookings are now open for **2023-24** [HERE](#)
- **HOME LEARNERS'** - Sign up your child or a group [HERE](#)
- **BIRTHDAYS** - popular themes include Fairy Gardens & Mythical Creatures [HERE](#)
- Up-coming **Pro-D Day Camps: Sept 22, Oct 20, Nov 20, Feb 16 & May 17**. Registration Opens August 22 for [Family Membership](#) holders
- **Harvest Festival Event** - Saturday, October 28 (9am - 3pm)

To see more details about a program please use the link in the title.

Summertime with HCP Kids!

If you have visited the gardens over the summer, you were sure to hear and see the evidence of summer youth programs at HCP! We hosted 7 weeks of

garden and garden arts camps that included cousins, friends, siblings, new participants and many returning ones. Our HCP Kids Gardens have never looked better, with crops including corn, mustard, cabbage, tomatoes, broccoli, peas, beans, squash, peppers, brussel sprouts, kale, broad beans, blueberries, potatoes. These have not only been grown by some of our returning gardeners, but also shared by them and many others. The Tea Garden has some new plants added, and the Pollinator Garden has fed many birds, bees and butterflies this season as we proudly support our ***Bee Friendly Garden*** status. Be sure to check out the many pathways and messages that our campers have made!

In addition to our camps this summer, we also offered workshops, birthday parties, and story time and a fun weekend at Arts & Music where we hosted a Teddy Bear's Picnic Themed activity station. Thank you to all who participated. We hope to see you again this fall in the gardens.

The summer was extra special with help and leadership from our summer staff members Christine and Fiona. Thank you both for a fun summer! Wishing you success with your upcoming studies at UVic and we look forward to keeping in touch and seeing you in the gardens again soon!



Coming this Fall -

- [Garden Friends](#) - 13 September
- [Stories in the Garden](#) - 13 September
- [Herbal Creations](#) - 16 September
- [Fairy Gardens](#) - 7 October
- [Pumpkin People \(Family\)](#) - 14 & 28 October
- [Mythical Creatures](#) - 21 October

Garden Nature Academy - Fall Session

The outdoors offer safe and seasonal opportunities for your preschooler to explore through play, games, songs and activities! We welcome parent participation. (Cost \$23-\$25 per 2.5 hour class) **Ages:** 3 - 6 years

- **Dates:** Tuesdays & Thursdays September 12 - November 30, 2023
- **Times:** 9:00 am - 11:30 am
- **Fees:** \$550/child for [Family Memberships](#) (2 day/week for 12 weeks), \$600/child for HCP members + public

- [Register](#)

HCP Kids Garden Club

Do you know a child or youth who loves the outdoors and thrives in the garden? Our HCP Kids Garden provides many opportunities for land-based engagement activities, including seed starting and propagation, planting, garden maintenance, pollinator habitats, and so much more. **Ages:** 3 - 14 years

- **Date:** Saturday's, September 16 - October 21, 2023
- **Time:** 9:30 am - 11:00 am
- **Fee:** \$80/ 6 weeks
- [Register](#)

Garden Friends

Garden Friends is a half day program for parent and child several consecutive weeks. Children love to explore our gardens while observing and experiencing nature. Together, we will engage in a series of nature activities. Each session includes a garden wander, sharing circle and story time. Bring a snack and picnic blanket for story time and dress for the weather. **Ages:** 3 to 6

- **Date:** Saturday's, September 13 - October 18, 2023
- **Time:** 9:00 am - 10:30 am
- **Fee:** \$110/ 6 weeks
- [Register](#)

Stories in the Garden

Imagine a gentle nature walk with your child to calm and inspire you both! This rain or shine outdoor program on our endless pathways provides us with many social and nature connections. This is followed by a story-time that encourages the development of listening skills and small group interactions. Plan to bring along your favourite story blanket and snack to enjoy during the story with your child. Please share word of this engaging program with your friends and make it a play date! **Ages:** 3 to 6

- **Date:** September 13 - October 18, 2023
- **Time:** 11:00 am - noon
- **Fee:** \$75/ 6 weeks \$60 with [Family Membership](#)
- [Register](#)

Herbal Creations

Many of us grow herbs in our gardens, but what can you do with them? In this fun and hands-on class, children will learn about some of the plants we know as herbs including; some of their uses, how to harvest them. We will practice methods of drying and creating teas, self care items and gifts that are easy and

natural. Participants will make items to take home and share with their family and friends.

- **Date:** Saturday September 16
- **Time:** 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
- **Fee:** \$30 or \$25 with a [Family Membership](#)
- [Register](#)

Fairy Gardens

Join us for some fun and creative time as we enter the world of fairy garden making! Your child will be introduced to garden design as we visit various gardens looking for inspiration, collecting items in nature to create furnishings with. and followed by a hands-on lesson to make their own garden to take home. Ages: 4 and up

- **Date:** October 7
- **Time:** 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
- **Fee:** \$30 / participant, \$25 for second garden
- [Register](#)

Pumpkin People

Bring along your family or friends group and create a seasonal Pumpkin person that will be displayed on our lower field for the month! You bring along the clothing and we provide the straw, binding and pumpkins. **All ages welcome.**

Dates & Times:

- [October 14 - 1:30 pm](#)
- [October 14 - 2:30 pm](#)
- [October 28 - 10 am](#)
- [October 28 - 11 am](#)

Register: Online by selecting the date and time or call 250-479-6162

Everyday Wreath Making for Kids

Children love to create with natural materials and this class is perfect for those who enjoy crafting and using their hands. Using a variety of materials, including invasive plants and grapevines, we will create some interesting projects to take away. **Ages:** 7 to 14

- **Date:** Saturday September 23, 2023
- **Time:** 1:30pm-3:30pm
- **Fee:** \$40 or \$35 with a [Family Membership](#)
- [Register](#)

Lantern Making with Pressed Flowers

Treasure each petal, leaf and flower in your garden as an art form with this lantern making

workshop using pressed flowers. Together we will explore how to collect botanicals, press them, and the steps of making a paper lantern using pressed flowers. Each participant will make their own lantern to take away. **Ages:** 6 to 14

- Date: Saturday November 4, 2023
- Time: 9:30am-11:30am
- **Fee:** \$35 or \$30 with a [Family Membership](#)
- [Register](#)

Pro-D Day Camps Fall & Winter

Registration Opens August 22 for [Family Membership](#) holders. Ages: 5 to 12

- [Sept 22](#)
- [Oct 20](#)
- [Nov 20](#)
- [Feb 16](#)
- [May 17](#)
- **Fee:** \$45

Please contact youthprograms@hcp.ca to discuss the suitability for your child if you like.

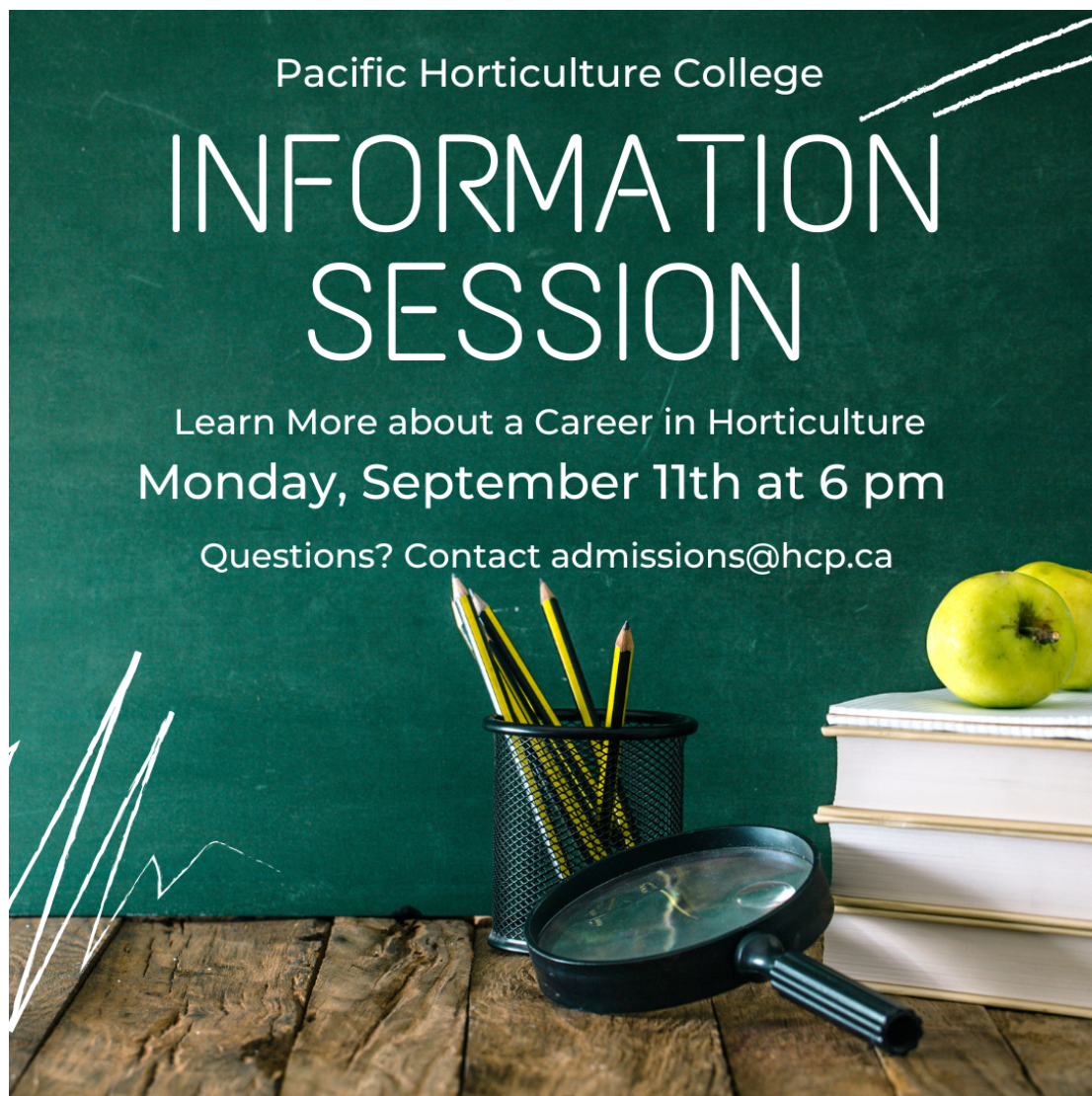


Events at HCP

Our 2024 wedding bookings are open, and we've still got some room in the summer! August 2024 is almost full for the weekends, but we've still got some room for July & September.

Please reach out to me at events@hcp.ca with any questions or inquiries! I'm happy to connect and make sure your special day will be perfect!

We are always booking our pavilion throughout the year for corporate events, meetings, memorials, workshops, birthdays, and more! We are always excited to hear what event you'd like to hold at our beautiful Gardens.



Guest Article

Article written by: Susanne Barker (VP of the Victoria Floral Artists Guild), with input from Linda Petch (President), Sue Weeks, Regina Ternus, and Lynne Thompson.

For many years the **Victoria Floral Artists Guild** (<https://victoriafloralartists.ca/>) has been pleased to participate in the HCP's Arts and Music in the Garden. It is fun and challenging to create large floral art designs. This year nine teams created twelve installations. The process for the selection of the design varied from project to project. For many it was a case of 'here is what we have, what can we do with it?' although one team created a story board and selected the 3 top ideas. In all cases, once the designs were complete and set up at the HCP, a team member was tasked with

maintaining the installation by keeping it hydrated and by replacing wilted flowers. It was especially challenging in this year's hot weather.



“Hearts and Flowers”; “Miss Piggy – Country Gal”;
“Buckets of Blooms and Sunny Sands”

“Hearts and Flowers” – Lynda Bell was inspired by six heart-shaped wreath bases. She wired bases back-to-back to create the floral hearts at the entrance of the HCP.

“Miss Piggy – Country Gal” – Sue Weeks’ Miss Piggy has graced the HCP in many guises over the years. This year she was a Country Gal to match the Country Roads installation.

“Buckets of Blooms and Sunny Sands” – Terry Whitney was inspired by the Children’s Garden to create a charming children’s floral installation of planted and cut flowers.



“Whirlwind”; “Fountain of Flowers”; “Harvest
Moon”; “Setting Flight”

“Whirlwind” – Ann Gargett and Lynne Thompson wove an elaborate construction of dried vines and decorated it with wool and flowers in water tubes.

“Fountain of Flowers” – Caroline Haywood used two very large vases, one balanced within the other, to create her flower fountain. This installation also used many water tubes.

“Harvest Moon” – The Glass Wing team of Regina Ternus, Kim Linzey, Rich Linzey, Darlene Chase, Junko Tada, Kathy Younkers created this complex piece. The background base was painted by Rich Linzey. The ‘mechanics’ used to fix the flowers to the background were a collaborative effort. The water tubes were painted to blend in with the background. Kim Linzey undertook the flower installation on the painted disk.

“Setting Flight” – Another Glass Wing team design. This horizontal design was fastened to a piece of wood with metal rods and was constructed in layers. The flowers were in water tubes.



“COUNTRY ROADS”;
“HANGING
A’ROUND”;
“IKEBANA”

“Country Roads” – Sue Weeks, Caroline Haywood, Lynda Bell, and Lindsay Smith created a charming country design of summer flowers in crates and watering cans.

“Hanging A’Round” – Bonita Elliott, Jennifer Bennett, Teresa Moore, and Elizabeth Erskine built the large bamboo frame. Teresa wove the large circular wire structure which contained a ball of dahlias at its center.

“Ikebana” – Amanda Gaunt created a Sogetsu design of hydrangea flowers and hosta leaves in a juxtaposition box pattern.



“Tam Tam”; “Suspended Butterfly”

“Tam Tam” – The team of Fay Verhagen, Kate Devlin, Carol Bissky, John Verhagen and Susanne Barker created this complex installation using material predominantly provided by Fay and John. The pillars were painted cardboard tubes containing a cement base and two-by-fours. They were topped by a cement block which supported the top post. The Tam Tam or gong was made of Agriwool (an entirely biodegradable floral foam) wrapped in chicken wire. It was decorated with gold, yellow and orange marigolds.

“Suspended Butterfly” – Glass Wing team members Darlene and Steve Chase created this driftwood and woven wire design. The center body was made of Agriwool wrapped in chicken wire.



In addition to our floral installations, the Guild also had a welcome table where a flower-related craft was sold. This year the table was organized by Lynne Thompson and sold floral tubes wrapped with decorative wire designs (doodads). These are a lovely accessory for holding flowers and other decorative material and are ideal for hanging on gift bags and gift bottles.

If you enjoyed our Guild's installations at the HCP, please consider attending our October 10th Art and Poetry Interpretation Show (8pm at the Garth Homer Center). Guild members will display lovely floral interpretations of selected paintings and poems.



Guest Article



The Victoria Lily Society volunteers maintain the Lily Garden at the HCP.

The Society was founded in 1987 by a group wishing to encourage interest and share information about growing lilies. Traditionally these bulbs were thought to be difficult to grow.

The Society has monthly meetings from Nov - March, hosts a large Lily and plant show in July and a Rare Bulb and Plant Auction in October.

Check our website (Victorialilysociety.ca) for further information, and soon you could be growing beauties like this!

Above is a picture of the award-winning stem of 'Easter Morn' at the VLS show in July. 'Easter Morn' was bred and perfected at the Agriculture Canada

Morden Research station in Manitoba, by famed Canadian lily hybridizers Wilbert Ronald and Lynn Collicutt. It won the rosette for best stem in Division A. The judges felt it is as close as you can get to a perfect stem!

And it grew in the HCP Lily Garden in the berm at the south end of the garden.

The transformation of this bed from a 'lily killer' to the bed most likely to produce award winning lilies is a whole long story, but here are the incontrovertible positive results!



Membership Reminder

Revenue from annual memberships supports youth programming, horticulture student development, plants and supplies for garden improvements, and volunteer appreciation.

You can purchase a [new membership](#) or [renew your membership](#) today online or by calling (250) 479-6162.

Memberships are a great value and include:

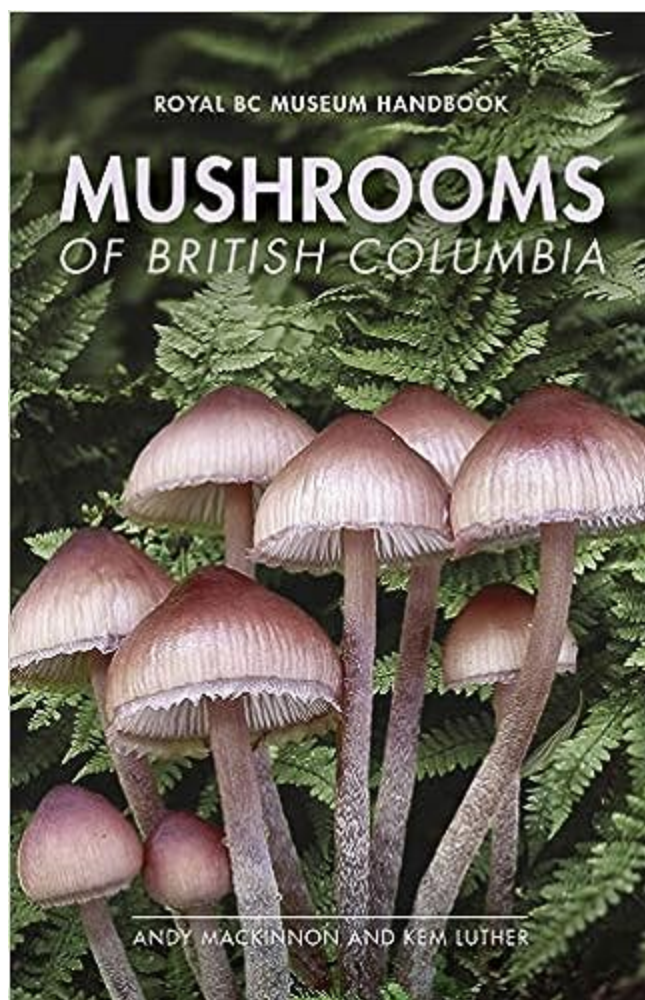
- Free admission to the Gardens
- A free guest pass with each membership
- Discounted rates for additional guests
- 10% off plants and gift shop purchases
- Discounted member rates on Community Education Workshops
- Borrowing privileges at the HCP Library
- Discounts at select garden centers throughout Victoria
- 20% off Admission at Victoria Butterfly Gardens
- Free admission, free parking, or other discounts at participating gardens in the American Horticultural Society's Reciprocal Admissions Program



Reciprocal Admissions Program 2023 member garden



The Bookend



Mushrooms of British Columbia

You may have seen mushrooms in the news this week. The poisonous death cap (*Amanita phalloides*) is believed to have been brought to BC on the roots of imported trees that were planted frequently in parks and along city streets. A sighting has now been made in a garry oak meadow. The BC Centre for Disease Control and several districts, including Oak Bay, have issued alerts about it. This [CBC article](#) goes into further detail.

Should you want to delve deeper into the world of fungi the Royal BC Museum Handbook *Mushrooms of British Columbia* will get you off to a great start. As with other publications from the museum, this handbook is beautiful and practical. Excellent photographs and thorough descriptions assist in identifying over 350 species of fungal fruiting bodies.

Beyond that, there are articles throughout that discuss the world of mushrooms from a broader perspective. Conservation, climate change, medicinal and Indigenous uses, commercial harvesting and of course poisonous varieties are all given attention.

A success story close to home involves Observatory Hill, home to the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory, in Saanich. Starting in 2004 Oluna Ceska led one of the world's longest and largest mushroom studies there. Over 1,400 species were identified. Among other things, her work showed that mushrooms can be found throughout the year yet may not appear from one year to the next.

Common names of mushrooms can be unusual, describing food (fried chicken), animals (bellybutton hedgehog), humans (dead man's foot) the supernatural (witch's butter) or miscellaneous things (train wrecker). To find out more about these and others, consider borrowing *Mushrooms of British Columbia* from the HCP Library.



Library Hours

Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday 10am to 1pm

Contact us at library@hcp.ca

Check out our [online catalogue](#) of more than 2600 books.



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