

The Garden Conservancy News

PRESERVING, SHARING, AND CELEBRATING AMERICA'S GARDENS

Winter 2024

Meet Our First
Artist-in-Residence PAGE 6

How to Photograph
a Garden PAGE 3



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A Note from the President and CEO

Gardens and art share a profound connection. Both are expressions of creativity, born from careful observation of the natural world. As gardeners, we shape our landscapes, selecting plants, sculpting forms, and orchestrating color palettes. In doing so, we become artists, painting with living brushstrokes.

Just as a painter studies light and shadow, a gardener considers the play of sunlight on foliage and the interplay of textures. Both disciplines involve a keen eye for detail; an appreciation for the subtle nuances of form and color. But unlike a painter who captures a fleeting moment of beauty on canvas, a gardener seeks to create a tangible, ever-evolving masterpiece.

As gardeners, we can draw inspiration from the world of art. Whether it is the bold strokes of an abstract expressionist or the delicate lines of a botanical illustrator, art can spark our imaginations and ignite our creativity.

In recent years, we have seen a growing interest in the intersection of art and horticulture. Artists-in-residence programs, such as our new relationship with celebrated *plein air* painter Nancy Friese, offer a unique opportunity to explore this connection. By inviting artists to immerse themselves in our gardens, we encourage new perspectives and inspire fresh interpretations of the natural world. You can read more about Friese and her work on page 6.

We are also happy to announce that New York-based photographer Ngoc Minh Ngo will join us for our 2025 National Speaking Tour. Ngo, whose work gloriously explores the intrinsic beauty of plants and nature, shares with us her tips for photographing gardens on page 3. We hope they will inspire you to look at gardens in a new light.

Whether you are a seasoned gardener or a budding enthusiast, there is always something new to discover. We invite you to join us, through our Open Days visiting program, lectures, and workshops, to connect with nature and nurture your creativity in the new year.



James Brayton Hall
President and Chief Executive Officer

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Garden Conservancy is to preserve, share, and celebrate America's gardens and diverse gardening traditions for the education and inspiration of the public.

OUR VISION

The Garden Conservancy will be the champion and steward of the vital role gardens play in America's history, culture, and quality of life.

On the cover: Oil painting by artist-in-residence Nancy Friese
Image page 3: Wave Hill, photo by Ngoc Minh Ngo



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A photograph of a garden at dusk or dawn. In the foreground, there are various plants including pink flowers, white flowers, and green foliage. A stone path leads through the garden. In the background, there are trees, a pergola, and a large tree with yellow leaves on the left. The sky is filled with clouds, and the sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm glow.

How to Photograph Your Garden

The acclaimed Ngoc Minh Ngo
offers guidance

'It's storytelling' — Ngoc Minh Ngo's Photography Tips

With her stunningly beautiful photos, Ngoc Minh Ngo leads us into gardens throughout the world to witness fleeting moments of flourishing, glimmering landscapes.

During her travels, she often speaks with people who wish they could capture on camera some of the beauty they experience in their own gardens. For most of us, the image we see with our eyes somehow eludes the workings of a basic camera or iPhone. How can we better represent what our gardens look and feel like?

Garden Hosts in the Garden Conservancy's Open Days™ program are especially eager to take photos that properly capture their spaces and entice people to visit. To assist these hosts — and anyone who loves photographing gardens — Ngoc offered some insights on how to create better images.

Go out in early morning and late afternoon. "Photography is all about light, so that's the first thing you have to keep in mind," Ngoc says. "I think for gardens in general, the best time to photograph is early morning and late afternoon. At those times, the sun is not directly above, and the light is a little softer. You're able to see the plants better, in a

way. It's not broken up by hard shadows. That will make your photography already 100 times better, instead of photographing at midday."

Contrasting light is a big challenge. Typically the sky is much brighter than the garden below. "Your eye functions differently than a camera," Ngoc says. Anything we see is processed by our brain, which evens out the differences in the light, for example. A typical camera can't handle both at the same time.

To some degree, the iPhone can even out contrasting light by combining different exposures. But sometimes, you have to choose. If the sky is much brighter than the garden, tap the sky, then slide the yellow sun icon up and down to adjust the exposure. Once you take the photo, you can use the "Edit" function to adjust the image by opening up shadows or pulling back highlights. You can add contrast and a little brightness to make it look more pleasing.

Applying filters? Portrait mode? Choose carefully. Filters add drama to ordinary photos, but they can look exaggerated and obvious, especially if used at full strength. If you're tempted to apply a filter

to your image, it's best not to use them at one hundred percent. Instead, dial them back for a gentler effect, Ngoc advises.

The iPhone's "portrait mode" can also create a dramatic effect. By mimicking what lenses can do, portrait mode blurs the background and allows you to focus on a single flower. But while a camera lens creates a natural drop-off in focus, the iPhone tries to guess what parts of the image should be in focus and what should not. That works well when focusing on people, but the iPhone can't easily distinguish the boundaries of vegetation or other elements. Leaves and flowers can drop off into the blur.

Be intentional about your composition. In real life, of course, there's no frame. A photo is bound in a frame. To compose a photo, Ngoc advises taking time to reflect. "Sometimes it's not necessary to have everything in the frame, but what *works best* in the frame," she says.

"When you're walking around a garden and experiencing it, you have to keep that in mind: What are you actually responding to? You want your photo to represent that. And sometimes it's better to narrow your focus, so things become clearer."

Tell a story. Ngoc is constantly thinking, while photographing: What is this picture going to be about?

It might be a combination of plants, or a sense of space, or both. It might be colors, or textures. Sometimes you can't see a whole garden all at once. Areas open up and narrow in. When photographing, you can notice all those things, and think about what you want to highlight.

"It's storytelling," she says. "You have to create a narrative: What is the story of this garden? What do I want to show people?"



Spilsbury Farm, the property of British garden designer Tania Compton. Photo by Ngoc Minh Ngo



New York Botanical Garden. Photo by Ngoc Minh Ngo

"Your garden could be a very small intimate space, your garden could be a large landscape. So tell that story with your photos. It all depends on what you're trying to say."

Seize the moment. To create the best images, be ready for opportunities to arise. "In a garden you have so many elements that change. You have the light changing, the plants are changing. Some flowers don't open until it's sunny. Some plants drop their leaves in the autumn, and they change colors in the autumn," Ngoc says.

"If the light is right, and everything is right, you just have to grab that moment. You have to be able to think very quickly. You can't just say, oh, I'm going to get it later, or tomorrow. You will not be able to get it tomorrow because everything will have changed."

"I think of my photographs as memories," she adds. "They're memories that are created at a very specific moment in time. And it can't be repeated."

Garden Conservancy National Speaking Tour Spotlights Photographer Ngoc Minh Ngo

Ngoc Minh Ngo, preeminent photographer of gardens, landscapes, botanical arrangements, and interiors, will present a series of talks in 2025 as part of a Garden Conservancy National Speaking Tour, celebrating her upcoming book, *Roses in the Garden: Stories of Treasured Collections*.

The book takes us to eleven gardens around the world, exploring the ways in which roses are used and the meanings they represent.

The first lecture date is the afternoon of **Wednesday, March 5, at the Norton Museum of Art in West Palm Beach, FL**. Further lectures will be announced in the new year.

The Garden Conservancy National Speaking Tour brings leading thinkers and practitioners within the world of gardening to audiences throughout the United States. Since 2018, the tours have featured scholars, authors, and experts in the fields of design, history, research, and preservation.

The Garden Conservancy educational programs are made possible in part by the Coleman and Susan Burke Distinguished Lecture Fund, Courtney and Terrence Daniels, the Lenhardt Education Fund, and Susan and William McKinley.

Additional support is provided by The Celia Hegyi Matching Challenge Grant, Ritchie Battle, the Antonia Breck Fund, Camille Butrus, Michelle and Perry Griffith, Rise S. Johnson, The Krehbiel Family Foundation, Sleepy Cat Farm Foundation, and John S. Troy, FASLA.

To learn more about supporting our national educational programs, contact Bridget Connors at bconnors@gardenconservancy.org.

Introducing Our First Artist in Residence, *Plein Air* Painter Nancy Frieze

On a gloriously sunny October afternoon, landscape artist Nancy Frieze set up at the bottom of the formal garden at Wethersfield, the garden created by Chauncey Stillman in Amenia, NY, where the distant landscape had caught her eye. The colors had changed dramatically since her visit a week earlier, and she merged the new colors into her painting. A preeminent *plein air* painter, she is constantly noticing and responding to the living world around her, channeling that energy into her work.

In selecting a location to set up her easel, she gravitates to the edges of

gardens, where they meet the wilder landscape. She observes gardeners work in much the same way painters do—rotating colors, arranging contrasts, creating shapes, opening passageways.

“We’re all doing the same things, except I’m compressing it on a flat surface,” she says.

Frieze—a painter and printmaker on sabbatical from her role on the faculty of the Rhode Island

School of Design—has joined the Garden Conservancy as its first artist-in-residence. Frieze is currently completing a residency at The Mount, the house and garden of Gilded Age novelist and tastemaker Edith

Wharton. For the next year, she will follow up on her work at The Mount by focusing on two remarkable historic gardens with deep connections to the Garden Conservancy: Blithewood Garden at Bard College in Annandale-on-Hudson, NY, and Wethersfield Estate & Garden in Amenia, NY. The Garden Conservancy is

actively involved in preservation efforts at both locations, and Frieze’s involvement will help draw attention to this work.

“Gardens and art have been closely linked for centuries,” said James Brayton Hall, Garden Conservancy President and Chief Executive Officer. “For our first ever artist-in-residence, I immediately turned to renowned *plein air* painter Nancy Frieze, who I knew would be uniquely suited to capture these two very different and significant historic garden-landscapes.”

Blithewood, a very architectural garden with distant views of the Hudson, was designed by Francis L.V. Hoppin, who was also the principal architect of The Mount. Wethersfield, a 1,000-acre estate, offers distant agricultural views, as well as famous formal and cottage-style gardens. During her residency, Frieze intends to paint at these locations in all four seasons. The hope is to present an exhibition of the completed works, and produce a series of prints capturing the landscapes as well.

With a Master of Fine Arts degree from Yale University, Frieze has traveled the world and exhibited her paintings and prints in 30 solo shows and 170 group shows. Among her honors and experiences around the globe, Frieze received two National Endowment for the Arts Individual Artists Fellowships; a six-month U.S.-Japan





Lost Light, 2022, oil on canvas, 40 x 54 inches, by Nancy Friese. Courtesy of Cade Tompkins Projects

Creative Artist Fellowship residency in Tokyo, and a six-month Lila Acheson Wallace Giverny Fellowship at Claude Monet's home in France. Most recently, she was artist-in-residence at the Andy Warhol Preserve in Montauk, NY, administered by The Nature Conservancy.

Her works are held in more than fifty corporate, government, museum and private collections, including the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Los Angeles County Museum of Art; New York Public Library;

Musée des Beaux-Arts de Brest, France; and Museo Biblioteca La Casa del Libro, Puerto Rico. Her art is part of corporate collections ranging from Memorial Sloan Kettering to Nordstrom.

Friese's work reflects a genuine, personal engagement with nature, says Maureen O'Brien, Curator of Painting and Sculpture at the Museum of Art at Rhode Island School of Design. "She's fearless," O'Brien says. "She just goes out there and she spends her time immersed in nature

while she does this." Her paintings can transport a viewer into the scene, feeling the elements of atmosphere, light, and temperature, O'Brien says, recalling a Friese painting in the RISD collection called "Under Brittany Skies."

When choosing a place to paint, Friese goes beyond the typically picturesque settings, says Amy Kurtz Lansing, curator at the Florence Griswold Museum in Old Lyme, CT. The Flo Gris Museum has always been a place that artists come to paint out of doors, and Friese carries on that tradition—in her own way. One time, to Kurtz Lansing's surprise, Friese discovered a tucked-away spot on the way to the loading dock and set herself up there.

"She can look at a landscape and see it in ways people haven't seen it before," Kurtz Lansing said.

Friese, who resides in Rhode Island and North Dakota, looks for safe, accessible

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— James Brayton Hall
Garden Conservancy President and Chief Executive Officer



Watercolor by Nancy Friese, 11 x 15 inches. Courtesy of Cade Tompkins Projects

locations where she can easily bring her supplies—gardens, preserved places, and parks. One advantage of gardens is that other visitors are observing the landscape alongside her, and they are not surprised to see someone out painting.

Although she is an engaging educator, generous with her time, attention, and knowledge, Friese describes herself as being at home with quiet time—content to sit outdoors and paint throughout the day. That is critical to her *plein air* practice, which might look like serendipity and sheer enjoyment, but relies on careful focus.

“When you’re painting, it’s utter

concentration,” she says. “You surrender to what you’re looking at.” By looking deeply, an artist can receive, translate, and expand the natural world forward for the viewer, she says.

At The Mount, she was noticing the way the upper branches of the trees had been pruned; how the bark had various textures, and how the ground cover changed from purple to blue, with light coming through the trees.

Her paintings often use “equivalent” color, trading gray for green, for example, to interpret the scene. She creates a painting over the course of multiple visits

to a scene, so every work is a composite. Working with “bravura,” as O’Brien puts it, she sweeps across the canvas or paper, touching the entire surface during each visit.

Like a gardener, the artist relies on the viewer to receive it, as a dynamic experience, Friese says. Any of the arts parallel each other in this way.

Friese relishes this role, and her ability to communicate through art.

“Art has to have a viewer. So, it serves others, in a beautiful way,” she says. “It may convey ideas without words, and I really love that.”

**“When you’re painting, it’s utter concentration.
You surrender to what you’re looking at.”**
— Nancy Friese



Sleepy Cat Farm in Greenwich, CT, has opened every year since 1995. Photo: Brian Jones

Three Decades of Garden Magic: Celebrating Open Days

In 2025, the Garden Conservancy Open Days™ program celebrates its thirtieth anniversary. Started by Garden Conservancy Director Emerita Page Dickey and her friend and fellow gardener Pepe Maynard, the program began in 1995 with 110 gardens opening in New York and Connecticut.

Over the years, the program has grown and expanded, both geographically and in its educational scope (see the Open Days

timeline on page 11). In 1997, the program became national, moving beyond the eastern seaboard and across the country. Our educational offerings have diversified to reflect the deep connection among gardeners and the desire to change and evolve. Open Days expanded beyond self-guided visits into the more structured Digging Deeper and Garden Masters Series events for gardeners of every interest and stripe to

learn more about the horticultural world.

The program's success is a testament to the passion and generosity of gardeners. Since 1995, we have showcased more than 4,500 gardens in some forty states (as well as the District of Columbia and British Columbia) and welcomed over 1.5 million visitors—with the 2024 Open Days season seeing over 37,000 visitors alone! The generosity and enthusiasm of thousands

of garden hosts, regional ambassadors, volunteers, nonprofit partners, and public garden partners have made all of this possible. They have helped create a vibrant community of people sharing ideas and expertise, learning from each other, and fostering a shared love of nature, art, design, and horticulture.

Much has changed in the world over thirty years, but what has not changed is the human desire to learn and explore; to discover and create community; and to do our part to make the world a better, more hospitable, and healthier place. Now more than ever before—and especially in the wake of a global pandemic during which gardening became a coping mechanism for many—there is a global understanding that gardening indeed can help change the world.

We are planning a 2025 Open Days season befitting this momentous anniversary and we are excited to share a wonderful and diverse array of gardens across the country with our visitors next season.



In 2024, Dry Falls Garden joined four other Palm Springs, CA, gardens which opened in early March.
Photo: Matt Harbicht



Top: Midway Xeric Garden, Pueblo, CO. Bottom: Rocky Hills, Mount Kisco, NY. Photo: Andre Baranowski

Open Days Timeline

1995

- The first Open Days season, featuring 110 gardens in New York and Connecticut
- First edition of the Open Days Directory is printed
- First meeting of Open Days regional ambassadors held in Cold Spring, NY

1997

- First Open Days in the western U.S. are held in Carmel, CA, and Honolulu, HI

1998

- Janet Meakin Poor becomes first chair of Open Days and leads a national expansion of the program
- Meeting of Open Days regional ambassadors in Birmingham, AL

2000

- The Open Days schedule goes online with the launch of the Garden Conservancy website

2005

- James deGrey David becomes second national chair of Open Days

2006

- Hicks Garden in Austin, TX, attracts 2,452 visitors in just one day

2007

- Meeting of Open Days regional ambassadors in Austin, TX

2008

- Open Days Directory becomes complimentary to Garden Conservancy members

2009

- "Limestone & Water" symposium at Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center held with Open Day in Austin, TX

2013

- First Open Day held in Charleston, SC, in partnership with the Charleston Horticultural Society

2014

- An advisory committee of key Open Days participants from around the country meets in Cold Spring, NY, to explore the future of the program

2015

- The Garden Conservancy is awarded the Wilfred J. Jung Distinguished Service Medal by the Garden Writers Association (now Garden Communications International) for the Open Days program
- The Digging Deeper educational series launches to supplement Open Days self-guided garden visits

2016

- Printed Open Days Directory returns by popular demand after a one-year hiatus

2017

- James Brayton Hall becomes the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Garden Conservancy

2020

- Garden Conservancy board of directors forms an Open Days Committee
- The Garden Conservancy begins offering virtual talks as a way for gardeners to stay connected during the COVID pandemic

2021

- Open Days Directory is not printed due to the pandemic, but available online
- Electronic ticketing for Open Days is rolled out

2022

- The Open Days Directory returns in print

2023

- Open Days attendance returns to pre-pandemic levels

2024

- Five gardens in Palm Springs, CA, open on March 2, our earliest Open Days date ever
- Open Days returns to Alabama, coinciding with the film documentary premiere of *A Garden in Conversation: Louise Agee Wrinkle's Southern Woodland Sanctuary* in Birmingham

Join the Society of Fellows: Exclusive Garden-Study Tours and Events Await

The Society of Fellows Garden-Study Tour of Watch Hill and Weekapaug, RI, and Fishers Island, NY, was a stunning, immersive experience featuring vibrant blooms and breathtaking coastal vistas. Our Fellows engaged with classic and contemporary garden designs that thrive in challenging seaside conditions and met gracious garden hosts and talented industry professionals. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Garden Conservancy Board Members Kate Cordsen and Alease Fisher, Society of Fellows member Christabel Vartanian, and Director Emerita Deborah Royce for their incredible support and making this unforgettable tour possible.

The Society of Fellows is a committed group of garden enthusiasts, supporters, and philanthropists who help advance our work and programs. Fellows are afforded all the benefits of our general membership program plus more, including

invitations to attend exclusive garden-study tours, as well as other special events that showcase gardens and landscapes in distinctive regions in the United States and abroad. Participants learn from renowned horticulturists, designers, and historians, and enjoy gracious hosting in private homes and public institutions.

Visit: gardenconservancy.org/joinfellows



Meet Our New Board Members

The Conservancy added four new directors in September

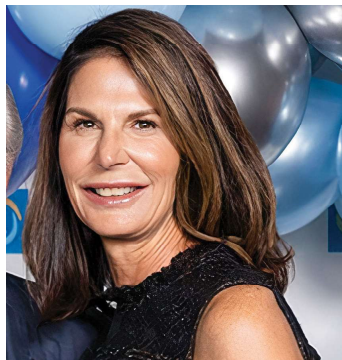


BRUCE ADDISON

Bruce Addison is a Vice Chair of the J.P.Morgan Private Bank in New York where his career has spanned almost forty years.

Bruce is a long-time board member of the Horticultural Society of New York, a social services organization whose mission is to bring horticultural education, therapy, and training to New York's most underserved communities. He also sits on the boards of The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, one of New York's largest and oldest genealogical organizations, as well as The Planting Fields Foundation, a supporting organization for Planting Fields, a 409-acre Olmsted-designed property in Oyster Bay, NY.

Introduced to the pleasures of gardening early on by his father and grandmother, both of whom were keen amateur horticulturalists, Bruce is an enthusiastic gardener at his house in Glen Cove, NY. He is also looking forward to a new gardening chapter in West Palm Beach, FL, where he is taking up residence.



MISSY FISHER

Mary "Missy" Bailey Fisher is a Partner of MJD Ventures, a Florida based real estate holding company. She is a member of the Kennedy Center's National Committee for the Performing Arts, a Sustaining Member of the Junior League of Dallas (formerly she was Underwriting Chair and a member of the Nominating Committee), and she has served on the board of Community Partners of Dallas.

Mrs. Fisher is a graduate of Southern Methodist University and is the mother of two sons, William and Jack. She is married to Richard Fisher, the former President of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. They reside in Dallas and have homes in Vail, CO and Jupiter Island, FL.

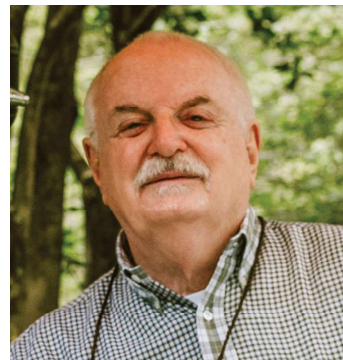
The Fishers are members of the Dallas Country Club, Chevy Chase Club, and Eagle Springs Golf Club.



CHARLOTTE MOSS

Charlotte Moss is a celebrated interior designer renowned for her timeless aesthetic and Southern warmth. Since founding her firm in 1985, she has created stunning interiors for clients worldwide. Moss's designs are inspired by her love of history and travel, and she has collaborated with top brands on licensed collections. Her work is documented in eleven books, including her latest, *Charlotte Moss Flowers*. Her commitment to excellence and her passion for creating beautiful spaces have solidified her status as a leading figure in the design industry.

Beyond her design work, Moss is a dedicated philanthropist supporting various causes. She holds honorary degrees from prestigious institutions, including the New York School of Interior Design and Virginia Commonwealth University. She is Emerita Trustee of the Thomas Jefferson Foundation at Monticello, on the board of The Bone Marrow Foundation, The Madoo Conservancy, and the International Council of Hillwood Estate, Museum and Gardens.



ALAN ZEIGLER

Alan Zeigler recently retired from a distinguished career in public finance and tax-exempt securities law. Zeigler is content being an armchair gardener. He is an avid reader of garden books and how-to-garden books as well as new and antique books on botanical illustrations.

A Birmingham native, Zeigler resides in a charming Cotswold-like stone cottage built in 1930 and designed by the Philadelphia-born architect David Oliver Whilldin. His connection to the well-known Birmingham Botanical Gardens is that the stone of which his home is made was taken from a now-defunct quarry that is the present site of the Gardens' Fern Glade. His small garden includes hellebores, trillium, and native phlox as well as a few hardy herbs and whatever bulbs the squirrels will allow. Active with the Garden Conservancy, he has been a Fellow since 2018, frequently participating in Fellows Tours. In May 2024, Zeigler hosted a brunch during Birmingham Gardens Weekend for board members and VIP guests, demonstrating his commitment to fostering the local gardening community.



OMCA's garden combines native plants in classic and less conventional design, using rhythm and symmetry found in more classic garden spaces

Oakland Museum of California and Garden Conservancy Conclude Successful Partnership

The Oakland Museum of California (OMCA) and the Garden Conservancy have successfully concluded a five-year partnership that has significantly impacted the restoration and enhancement of the museum's iconic modernist landscape.

The \$20,000 annual grant, provided by the Garden Conservancy from 2020 to 2024, has played a crucial role in OMCA's ongoing efforts to revitalize its campus. Kate Rittmann, a former OMCA trustee and member of the Garden Conservancy Society of Fellows, played a pivotal role in initiating the partnership.

"OMCA's landscape is a masterpiece, and it deserves to be celebrated," said Rittmann. "I am grateful to the Garden Conservancy for their commitment to this project."

The museum, a landmark designed by renowned architects Kevin Roche and John Dinkeloo, features a distinctive tiered landscape by landscape architect

Dan Kiley. This innovative design seamlessly integrated indoor and outdoor spaces, creating a unique urban oasis. OMCA tapped landscape architect Walter Hood to lead the renovation of the outdoor portion of its seven-acre campus, a \$15 million project.

"We are grateful for the Garden Conservancy's support in enhancing this extraordinary landscape," said Lori Fogarty, OMCA's Executive Director. "This collaboration helped us preserve the legacy of Kiley's design and ensure that the garden continues to be a vital part of our community."

OMCA completed significant enhancements to its urban gardens. The newly redesigned garden highlights California native plant communities and addresses the critical need for urban residents to have access to a space of beauty and nature, learn more about the biodiversity of California, and enjoy

vibrant cultural activities in the heart of Oakland. The Garden Conservancy's support has enabled OMCA to implement a comprehensive enhancement plan, including:

- Replanting with native California species to create a more sustainable and resilient garden
- Upgrading pathways, terraces, and irrigation systems
- Developing educational programs and events to engage visitors of all ages

The partnership between OMCA and the Garden Conservancy stands as a testament to the power of collaboration to preserve cultural heritage and create vibrant public spaces.

While the formal partnership has concluded, OMCA remains committed to its newly redesigned garden and will continue to seek support from various sources to complete the vision.

Charlotte Moss Honored at the San Francisco Fall Show Benefit Luncheon

Esteemed interior designer and philanthropist Charlotte Moss was celebrated at the Garden Conservancy's San Francisco Fall Show Benefit Luncheon, held in the Marina District at the Fort Mason Center for Arts & Culture.

Luncheon co-chairs and Conservancy Board Members Shelley Belling, Elizabeth Everdell, and Kaye Heafey graciously welcomed the event's attendees (co-chair Suzanne Kayne could not attend). In his remarks, Garden Conservancy President and CEO James Brayton Hall feted Moss, expressed his gratitude to the sponsors for their support and recognized the continued cultural partnership between the Conservancy and the San Francisco Fall Show.

This year's luncheon held a special significance as it marked the 20th anniversary of the partnership between the Garden Conservancy, the National Park Service, and the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy to restore the Gardens of Alcatraz.

A renowned figure in the design world, Moss is also a dedicated advocate for garden preservation who joined the Garden Conservancy board earlier in the month. Her passion for horticulture and commitment to the Garden Conservancy's mission resonated deeply with the audience.

After the luncheon, a discussion featuring Charlotte Moss and renowned interior designer Timothy Corrigan followed. The event was a resounding success, raising funds to support the Garden Conservancy's preservation work and educational programs in California.

Top: Elizabeth Everdell, Kate Rittmann, Shelley Belling, and Gil Schafer. **Middle:** Our luncheon guests at the Fort Mason Center for Arts & Culture. **Bottom left:** Society of Fellows Member Susan Eng and Kaye Heafey. **Bottom right:** James Brayton Hall, Charlotte Moss, and interior designer Timothy Corrigan



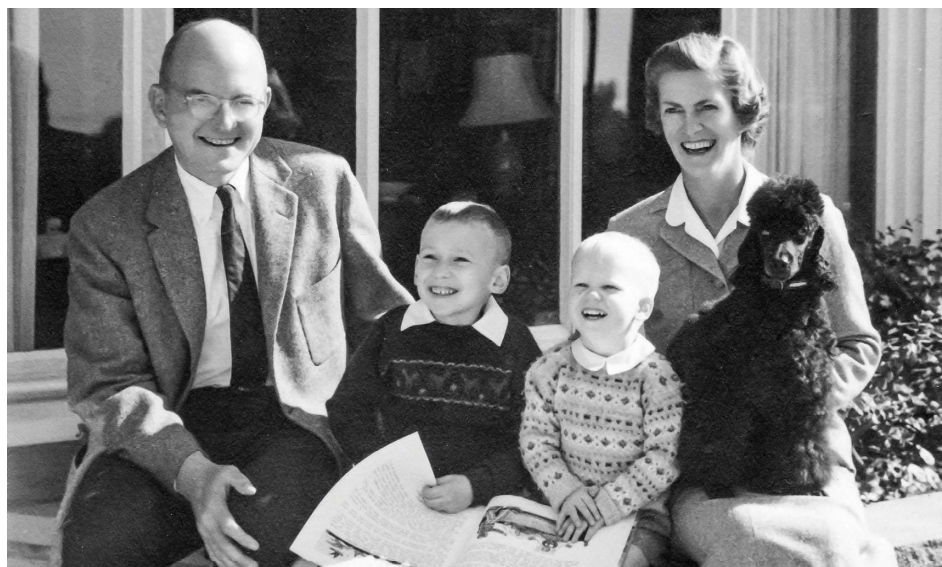
Garden Conservancy Northwest Network Receives Grant Award for Program Development

The Garden Conservancy secured a \$5,000 grant from the Pendleton & Elisabeth Carey Miller Charitable Foundation to bolster its Garden Conservancy Northwest Network (GCNN), a collective uniting public gardens and horticultural organizations in the Pacific Northwest.

The grant will support expanded programming for GCNN members, including enhanced educational opportunities, outreach initiatives, and digital communication tools. Notably, the Miller Foundation's prior support doubled the Conservancy's touchpoints in 2023.

The Conservancy is proud of its history with Elisabeth C. Miller as a founding member of the Garden Conservancy Advisory Committee. The Elisabeth C. Miller Botanical Garden, former home and garden of Pendleton and Elisabeth in Seattle, WA, has been a GCNN member since the Network's 2001 inception and shares a mission to steward rare and unique plant collections for the benefit and education of the public.

Miller's garden design, blending native and exotic plants, prioritized the right plant for the right place. The artful arrangement of native logs and stone provides infrastructure and immersion



Pendleton and Elisabeth Carey Miller with their children Winlock and Carey.
Photo: Miller Charitable Foundation

in nature. The collection includes rare anemones gifted to Elisabeth Miller by lone Chase of Chase Garden in Orting, WA, which is preserved thanks to a conservation easement held by the Garden Conservancy. Miller's collections management philosophy has been critical in preserving design intent, aesthetic,

and significant plant species over time, including several cultivated in North America for the first time.

The Foundation's generous support has allowed GCNN to grow its presence in the Northwest and offer a diversity of programs that provide members with critical tools to preserve their gardens now and in the future.

Congratulations to our 2024 Garden Futures Grants Recipients

This year, the Garden Conservancy has awarded twenty-two Garden Futures Grants for small public gardens, nonprofits making a significant impact in their communities through garden-based programming, and organizations that contribute to the study and preservation of garden history.

The Lotus Garden (Urban Woodlands Community Gardens, Inc.), New York, NY
(Page Dickey Grant for American Gardens)

Andalusia Historic House, Gardens & Arboretum (The Andalusia Foundation), Andalusia, PA

Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens, West Palm Beach, FL

Arlington Garden in Pasadena, Pasadena, CA

Biodiversity Builders, Belmont, MA

Boscobel House and Gardens, Garrison, NY

Charleston Parks Conservancy, Charleston, SC

Delray Beach Children's Garden, Inc., Delray Beach, FL

Dunn Gardens, Seattle, WA

Ecological Citizens Project, Garrison, NY

Environmental Design Archives, Berkeley, CA

Friends of Grandmothers' Garden, Inc. (FOGG), Westfield, MA

Friends of the Rogerson Clematis Collection, Lake Oswego, OR

Historic Oakland Foundation, Atlanta, GA

Hulda Klager Lilac Gardens, Woodland, WA

Landcraft Garden Foundation, Inc., Mattituck, NY

Leach Garden Friends, Portland, OR

Quiet Corner Garden Club, Woodstock, CT

The John Fairey Garden Conservation Foundation, Hempstead, TX

The Montclair Foundation / Van Vleck House & Gardens, Montclair, NJ

Western Hills Garden, Occidental, CA

Yew Dell Botanical Gardens, Crestwood, KY



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Make Your Year-End Donation Today!

The Garden Conservancy preserves, shares, and celebrates America's gardens and diverse gardening traditions for the education and inspiration of the public. If you would like to make an online contribution to ring out the year, please scan the QR code above to visit our donation page.

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'Tis the Season for Celebrating with a Garden Conservancy Membership Gift!

A gift membership to the Garden Conservancy offers someone special in your life the chance to cultivate their connection to gardens while fostering relationships within their community and the environment. It's a wonderful way to honor their interests while supporting the Garden Conservancy's mission to preserve, share, and celebrate America's gardens and diverse gardening traditions.

Members receive invitations and special member pricing on all our educational programs, including Open Days, Digging Deeper, Garden Masters, in-person lectures, and other special programs, including our virtual talks, which can be viewed from the comfort of home.

The gift membership recipient will receive a holiday card announcing your gift, which can be mailed to you or them—whichever you prefer.

Order by Tuesday, December 17, for delivery by December 24.

In February, our beloved Open Days directory will show up at their door just in time to get them excited for our 30th anniversary season!

Membership opportunities start at just \$50, last a full year, and are tax-deductible. Visit gardenconservancy.org/gift-membership to learn more and make someone's holiday!

If you have any questions, contact us at 845.424.6500, Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. ET, or email membership@gardenconservancy.org.

Our 2024 holiday card features the McKee Botanical Garden, in Vero Beach, FL. It is photographed by Ngoc Minh Ngo who headlines our 2025 National Speaking Tour.