

spring Bulletin

April - June 2016

Patios, Pots and Planters – creative gardening for small spaces

The challenge for garden-loving apartment dwellers is how to indulge one's love of plants in a limited space. Container gardening is the answer, and the choice is limitless. There is keen interest in square-foot veggie gardening, and the Plant Sale features an amazing choice of tomatoes and herbs to add to your salad-bowl planters. On a sun-drenched patio, grow drought-tolerant herbs, Rosemary, Sage, Thyme and Savory. Geranium 'Havana Blues', dazzles all summer, and adds to the kitchen-garden theme, along with miniature roses and scented geraniums.

Rhododendrons that are perfect subjects for planters are the pinkish-purple miniature *camtschaticum*, more difficult to spell than to grow, 'Honey Butter', with yellow-orange flowers, and 'Lori Eichelser', an outstanding hybrid. Also, for shady sites, consider planting charming miniature *Hosta* 'Little Treasure' that teams well with *Astilbe x crispa* 'Lilliput', the smallest of Astilbes, and colourful *Fuchsia* 'Island Sunset'. Add bold *Arisaema*, aka 'Jack-in-the-Pulpit', for emphasis!

Raymond Evison Clematis are compact, consistent summer bloomers. 'Parisienne', with rich violet-blue, star-shaped flowers, is perfect for a pot. Try this in a sunny location surrounded by *Heuchera* 'Black Currant' and contrast of bold chartreuse *Sedum* 'Angelina'.

Tall, elegant Bamboo makes an excellent screen in a container. *Nandina domestica* is also a good choice, with bamboo-like growth, and plum-red, winter colour. Evergreen *Pieris* are attractive shrubs for pots, with scented winter flowers. Many trees can be grown in pots for over five years, and include Magnolias, *Styrax* and *Stewartia*, with colourful fall foliage and summer flowers. Japanese maples, fabulous in fall, are a great choice. Keep well watered in summer. It is necessary to root prune occasionally to keep potted shrubs and trees healthy. An easy way is to use a sharp knife or pruning saw, and slice down at intervals inside the pot, to trim some of the roots – a lazy-man's bonsai treatment.

Our beautiful surroundings are an inspiration, so be creative and let's get planting with selections from thousands of plants at our 2016 Plant Sale.

Upcoming courses for containers and small spaces:

Growing Veggies in Containers - Wed. Apr 20th

Growing Superfoods in Small Spaces - Wed. May 11th

Gorgeous Container Gardening - Wed. May 25th



VanDusen Plant Sale
April 24th, 10 am - 4 pm

Inside:

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Message from the Association Director

What's in a name? Well in today's digital age, it's everything. For decades, here at the VBGA we have called our newsletter "The Bulletin" – a fine name, completely in keeping with the names newspaper and other traditional print publications (e.g. The Expositor, The Telegraph, The Post and so on). But in 2016, "The Bulletin" doesn't quite communicate the same kind of energy or snap that we think it should – think of online information sources like Facebook, VanCity Buzz or the word "Blog".

So now is your chance. Between now and June 30th, we invite you (our members and readers) to send in your suggestions for a new name for "The Bulletin". Staff will pick a winner over the summer and we will launch the newly named publication for our fall/winter edition. Please send in your suggestions to me at smitchell@vandusen.org or by telephone at [604.257.8625](tel:604.257.8625). We look forward to hearing from you!



VBGA Staff News

In November, we said goodbye to Dawn Russell who has been responsible for fundraising at the Garden for almost 20 years. While Dawn will be missed, we are excited to welcome Gordon White as our new Development Director.

Gordon can be reached at gwhite@vandusen.org or [604-257-8190](tel:604-257-8190)

Introducing the VanDusen Monthly Giving Program

VanDusen Botanical Garden Association's new strategic direction will require in the coming months and years that we secure even more support from the community. With this in mind we are proud to launch our new VanDusen Monthly Giving Program, which allows supporters of VBGA to support our education program and Garden collection through the convenience of pre-authorized monthly donations.

By signing up for monthly donations, either by electronic transfer from your bank account or your credit card, you can provide more support to VanDusen Garden and never have to fuss with stamps and envelopes again. And, you have the option of changing or cancelling your support at any time. I am proud to join our growing Monthly Giving program as I have utilized monthly donations for years to support my favorite charities as it is convenient, easy on the cash flow and allows me to provide more support than annual gifts.

Please contact me for more details on how to enroll in the Monthly Giving Program or if you have any questions:
Gordon White, Development Director
gwhite@vandusen.org, [604-257-8190](tel:604-257-8190)



New Art Classes at the Garden

VanDusen is such a beautiful and inspirational place, perfect for exploring your artistic nature. This season, we're very pleased to announce the addition of three new classes in drawing, as well as Chigiri-e Paper Art. Combine a love of plants with drawing with the Introduction to Botanical Illustration class, taught by Katharine Dickinson. This six-session class is ideal for anyone wishing to learn a range of skills relating to botanical drawing, using graphite/pencil, pen and coloured pencils.

For the bird enthusiasts, the Introduction to Drawing Birds will focus on how to make simple sketches to capture a bird's basic form and some essential features so that you can refer back to it for identification (or purely for enjoyment). The Drawing Nature workshop in June will strengthen your personal connection to nature as you explore how to express the beauty and complexity of nature through drawing.

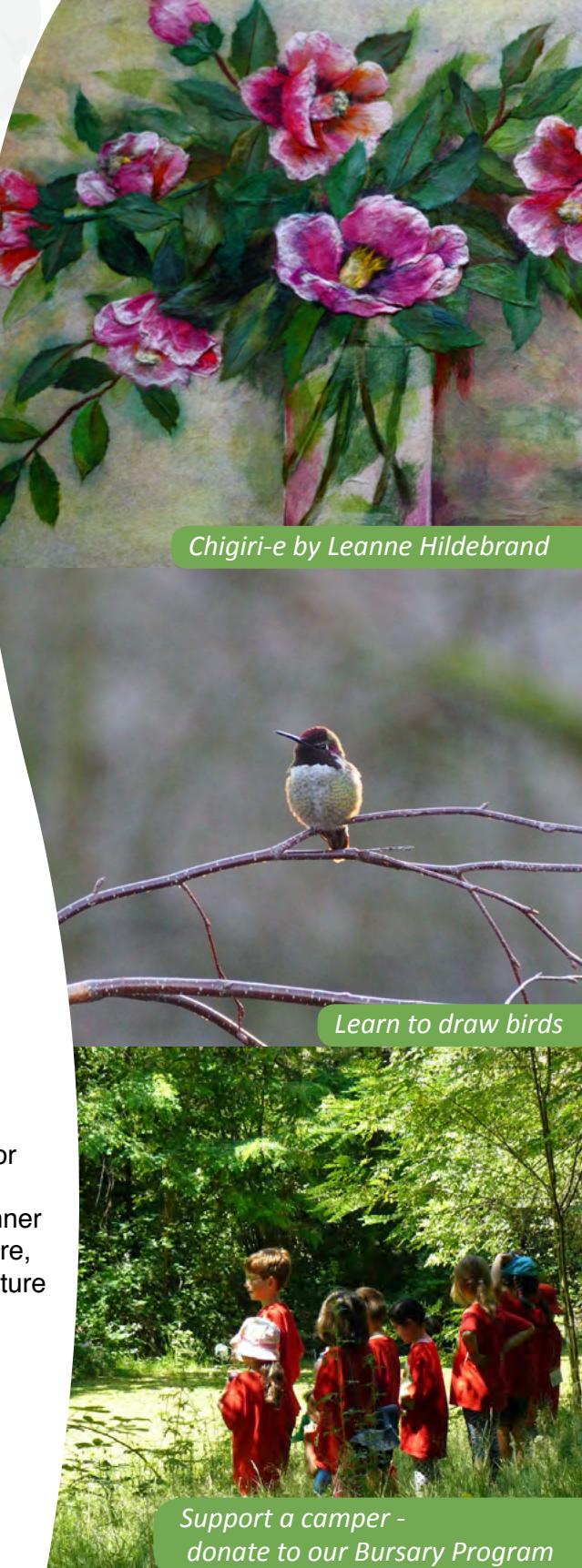
Chigiri-e paper art is a Japanese art form where the primary technique uses pieces of beautifully hand-dyed washi paper to create images. The result can resemble a watercolour painting with a delicate texture. This spring, join instructor Leanne Hildebrand for an introductory class, or a deeper immersion in creating your own seasonally-inspired unique work of art.

Please refer to the VanDusen website at vandusengarden.org for further information on these and all of the other course offerings.

Support Summer Camp Bursaries

VanDusen's summer camps offer a unique ecological experience for children that is unparalleled in the city. The camps are immensely popular, and children thrive given the opportunity to unearth their inner scientist or artist, explore their own meaningful connections to nature, and deepen their understanding of the importance of plants and nature in our lives.

The VanDusen Botanical Garden Association strives to give all children the opportunity to have this meaningful experience, and is pleased to provide bursaries for families in financial need. If you are able to sponsor a camper (one day is \$60; a full week is \$280), please contact the Development team at [604-257-8190](tel:604-257-8190) or gwhite@vandusen.org for more information.



Chigiri-e by Leanne Hildebrand

Learn to draw birds

*Support a camper -
donate to our Bursary Program*

Here's what parents said about the camps:

"My child now has an appreciation for plants, birds, and insects, and their role in the environment."

"He learned a great deal, had fun learning outside while deepening knowledge of the natural world – a perfect combination!"

"The leaders were enthusiastic, professional and caring, and got to know my child really quickly."

Garden Events & More

[View details and all Garden events
at vandusengarden.org](http://vandusengarden.org)

Spring Flower & Penjing Exhibition
March 12th - 13th, 10 am - 4 pm

Bird Walk
Saturday, March 26th, 10 am
Meet in the Visitor Centre Atrium. Free for Members or with Garden admission

Vancouver Orchid Society Annual Show & Sale
March 26th - 27th, 10 am - 4 pm

Alpine Garden Club of BC Spring Show and Sale
Saturday, April 2nd, 12 pm - 4 pm

Tuber Sale
Saturday, April 9th, 10 am - 4:30 pm

BC Fuchsia & Begonia Society Plant, Bake & Craft Sale
Saturday, April 16th, 9 am - 3 pm

Sale of Rooted Chrysanthemum Cuttings
Saturday, April 16th, 9 am - 1 pm

Bird Walk
Saturday, April 23rd, 10 am

VanDusen Plant Sale
Sunday, April 24th, 10 am to 4 pm

Violet Royalty
The Vancouver African Violet & Gesneriad Society
Saturday, May 7th, 1 pm - 4 pm

Chinese Penjing Society of Canada Show & Sale
May 14th - 15th, 10 am - 4:30 pm

Sumi Bonsai Show
May 21st - 22nd, 10 am - 4 pm

Spring Bonsai Show & Sale
May 28th - 29th, 11 am - 4 pm

Bird Walk
Saturday, May 28th, 10 am

Desert Plant Society of Vancouver Show & Sale
June 11th - 12th, 10 am - 3:30 pm

Bird Walk
Saturday, June 25th, 10 am

Vancouver Rose Show
Sunday, June 26th, 1 pm - 4:30 pm

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING VanDusen Botanical Garden Association

MOVED by TONY DUMOULIN and SECONDED by VICKY EARLE that:

1. The annual general meeting of the Association be held in the Visitor Centre at VanDusen Botanical Garden, 5151 Oak Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, on April 25, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of:
 - (a) presenting Volunteer Recognition Awards,
 - (b) considering the financial statements of the Association for the year ended December 31, 2015,
 - (c) considering the report of the Board of Governors to the Association,
 - (d) electing Governors,
 - (e) appointing an auditor,
 - (f) authorizing the Board of Governors to fix the remuneration of the auditor,
 - (g) considering and, if thought fit, passing special resolutions for which proper notice has been given, and
 - (h) transacting such other business as may properly be brought before the meeting; and
2. The Secretary be instructed to give notice of the annual general meeting to the members of the Association.



Plant Sale

Please consider donating plants to the VanDusen Plant Sale. Contact any of the following volunteers for information on where to drop off your plants:

Margie Knox: mwknox@shaw.ca or 604-261-1868

Jean McComb: jmccomb@telus.net or 604-261-4556

