

PUBLISHED BY

VanDusen Botanical
Garden Association
5251 Oak Street
Vancouver, BC V6M 4H1

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GARDEN HOURS

April
9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
May
9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
June
9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

WEBSITE

vandusengarden.org

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Plantmania Strikes Garden



Laura Thomas, Garden Member, Master Gardener and garden blogger, with her purchases at last year's Plant Sale.

photo: Nancy Wong

What do you get when 10,000 gardeners and 40,000 plants invade VanDusen Botanical Garden for one six-hour period? 'Plantmania' is the answer. For those of you who have not experienced it, 'Plantmania' is a 'condition' that takes over the hearts and minds of gardeners - experienced and novice alike.

It manifests itself in the uncontrollable urge to buy more plants. It doesn't matter how small a space they may have, or how many plants are already crammed into it, there is always room for one, two, or maybe ten, more.

Sunday, April 28th is *Plant Sale Day* at VanDusen Botanical Garden - the day when the gates are thrown open and thousands of 'Plantmaniacs' (gardeners) storm the Garden to indulge

their addiction. Four hundred volunteers work year-round to produce the *Sale* - the largest plant sale in Metro Vancouver featuring more than 40,000 individual plants arranged into various categories such as Herbs and Vegetables, Roses, Pot Luck, Grasses, Vines, Trees and Shrubs, Perennials, and Native Plants.

While the *Plant Sale* does not open until 10 a.m., keeners have been known to start lining up as early as 6 a.m. to ensure they snag their 'special garden goodies.' Some early birds bring lawn chairs and hampers to make a party out of the

occasion. "It's our annual tradition," said a group of four enthusiasts last year as they sipped orange juice and nibbled pastries and fruit while they waited for the gates to open.

When the gates do open at 10 a.m., more than a thousand people rush through in the space of 15 minutes. From then on, it's every 'plantmaniac' for themselves. Six hours later, there are hardly any plants left. What does remain are donated to seniors' residences and long-term care facilities.

Warning: 'Plantmania' is highly contagious. Unfortunately while there is no known cure, symptoms can be alleviated by visiting our annual *Plant Sale* and buying at least two plants - you'll feel much better the next day.

(Continued on page 2)



photo: Michael Le Geyt



Harry Jongerden, Garden Director

Gardeners are rarely content to maintain the same plants and unchanging landscape year after year. Nature produces seasonal changes in the garden for us to enjoy, but we love to get in there and tinker – new plants, new beds, new ornaments perhaps, and more. As any gardener knows, it takes a lot of weeding, pruning and dividing just to maintain what we have. When the budget allows, I have often found it less work (and more interesting) to start over.

VanDusen's mature landscape gives us opportunities from time to time to start afresh. Four years ago we ripped out most of the woody and overgrown plants from the Heather Garden and started over – with new heather. This spring you will see a similar transformation in the Stanley Smith Rock Garden.

No, we're not growing rocks there. This area contains our alpine plant collection. Over the years the collection's diversity and interest diminished as horsetail took over. Gardeners sometimes need to know when to give in and start over. This is one of those times. We have received a \$20,000 grant from the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust (the original source of funds years ago) to completely renovate this collection.

Fortunately, we have a committee of alpine plant experts from amongst our volunteers who are acting as volunteer curators. Also assisting us with plants and expertise is Brent Hine, alpine curator at UBC Botanical Garden. The Stanley Smith Garden is within the garden area maintained by Jim Thirkell, our newest staff gardener and the son of a long-time volunteer in our *Plant Sale's* alpine section. The kid at the *Plant Sale* grew up!

It's not often that all the ingredients for a garden makeover come together so nicely. We're hoping you'll like the changes.

(*Plantmania Strikes Garden...from page 1*)



photo: Nancy Wong

Happy 'plantmaniacs' at check out

Plant Sale Essentials:

- Date: Sunday, Apr. 28 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Bring something in which to carry purchases - wheelbarrow, wagon and remember, whatever it is can get heavy when it's filled with plants, so something on wheels is advisable
- Dress for the weather
- Wear appropriate footwear, the ground is uneven and can be muddy
- Plant Hold and Plant Pick-Up available
- Visa, MasterCard, debit, cash and cheque accepted
- Don't be afraid to ask questions, Master Gardeners and Volunteers are here to help you
- Parking is at a premium, be prepared to walk
- Admission to VanDusen is free on *Plant Sale Day*

Plant Donations

*Gratefully accepted
by the Plant Sale*

Call - Jean McComb 604-261-4556
Margie Knox 604-261-1868

Plant Sale Compound Entrance
Laneway south of 33rd Ave,
between Selkirk & Osler
NOT Gate 6/ Service Yard



photo: Nancy Wong



photo: Nancy Wong



TREE TALK

Hybrid goldenchain tree - *Laburnum × watereri 'Vossii'*

by Samatha Sivertz, VanDusen Plant
Documentation Technician

The Laburnum Walk, one of the most beautiful and most photographed features at the Garden, begins blooming around mid to late May and lasts only about three weeks. Planted in 1975, before the Garden opened, Laburnum Walk consists of a curving pathway with *Laburnum × watereri 'Vossii'* planted on either side. These trees are hybrids of two European *Laburnum* species, and their bark, leaves, seed pods and flowers are poisonous. When in bloom the branches dangle yellow chain-like clusters of flowers over the heads of visitors with contrasting purple alliums planted beneath.

The Walk was designed by former Garden Director Roy Forster, O.C. who was inspired after a visit to Bodnant Garden in Wales. It has a 4.5 m wide, 55 m long Laburnum Arch. Bodnant's Arch, constructed of

Laburnum × watereri 'Vossii' mixed with *Wisteria*, and planted in 1882, is perhaps the oldest known Laburnum Arch. The trees in this Arch are grown along a curved metal frame with their branches trained to meet in the middle. For VanDusen's Laburnum Walk, Mr. Forster let the trees grow naturally with only a little pruning to keep them neat.

Originally, thyme and lavender were planted beneath VanDusen's laburnums, but they didn't survive the winters well. Steve McNamara, VanDusen's Kew-trained Foreman and Head Gardener in the early 1990s, suggested planting alliums instead. It is believed he got this idea from Rosemary Verey, an English garden designer and writer who, in 1964, created her own laburnum walk on the grounds of Barnsley House, her home in Gloucestershire. In turn, Ms. Verey was inspired by famed English landscape gardener Russell Page and his book *The Education of a Gardener*. In it, Mr. Page mentions the Laburnum Arch at Bodnant Garden, and also discusses the beauty of pairing yellow and blue flowering plants. In her own book, *The Art of Planting*, Ms. Verey discusses the eye-pleasing effect of this particular colour combination in her laburnum walk:

"My most striking early June effect is created by the mass of round-headed *Allium aflatanense* ... under our laburnum walk. This is a strong clear yellow and pale mauve picture, interspersed with plenty of green; the magic is that they are both at their best for the same two or three weeks. I can claim credit for choosing the alliums, but not for the fact that, being darker than the laburnum, they act almost as shadows, with the laburnum as the lighting overhead."

Every year hundreds of visitors, many from as far away as China and Japan, visit the Garden in May just to see our Laburnum Walk. In 2009, it was featured on the cover of Canadian Tourism's *Canada Book*. Laburnum Walk is also featured in a painting by local artist Dante Baies on VanDusen tote bags (available in the Garden Shop).



Sally Miller, *Volunteer*

VOLUNTEER PROFILE **Sally Miller**

The VBGA is grateful for the volunteers who regularly assist the Membership Department. Their duties include database entry, responding to telephone messages and mailing new and renewal packages. In addition, some volunteers also support the Education Department's course registration data base - Sally Miller is one of these.

Sally joined our volunteer ranks in May 2012 after moving to Vancouver from Delta. Having worked as a technical writer, before retiring in 2009, the Membership volunteer position seemed to be a good fit. "Volunteering behind the scenes in the Membership Department complements my other volunteer job at the Bill Reid Gallery where my tasks revolve around customer and visitor service." Sally is very happy that she utilized her love of computers and her technical writing skills to create badly-needed 'how to' manuals for Membership's and Education's databases. "The combination of quiet independent work combined with teamwork is wonderful," says Sally. She particularly enjoys that she works with both staff and volunteers. This has given her a feeling of belonging. Being part of

the Garden has helped her establish a sense of community as she continues to grow her new life in Vancouver.

JOIN THE TEAM – BECOME A VOLUNTEER

Volunteer Orientation Day

Saturday May 4, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Bring lunch, we'll provide refreshments. Dress for the weather. Learn about the many volunteer opportunities at VanDusen. Tour the Garden with knowledgeable Guides. Orientation is a prerequisite to becoming a VanDusen volunteer. To register, contact Judy Aird.

FEATURED VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Visitor Services

Are you a 'people person' enthusiastic about this Garden and this city? How about becoming an in-house concierge at the Visitor Centre's Information Desk? Join the Visitor Services volunteers who greet and welcome visitors, promote Garden activities and membership as well as answer questions related to the Garden and our city.

Cutting Garden and Dried Flower Arrangers

This activity starts by preparing soil, planting, watering, weeding and nurturing the plants until the flowers are ready for cutting and drying. The plants are then made into attractive arrangements and wreaths that are sold at special sales in the Fall. This group meets on Wednesday mornings.

Seed Collectors

Seed collecting is a very important and rewarding activity that involves collecting, cleaning, and packaging seeds from the Garden's plants. VanDusen seeds are sold in the Garden Shop and through the Seed Collectors' on-line store. There are two groups - Sunday or Tuesday mornings.

PlantSale

More than 40,000 plants

Free Admission

Sunday April 28 | 10 am to 4 pm



Plants for every garden, from Perennials, Trees and Shrubs to Natives, Vines, Roses, Vegetables and Herbs.

Bring a friend and enjoy the day!



Plant Sale 2012



Brian Clark
VBGA President, 2011-13

The Annual General Meeting on April 15th brings my 2-year term as President of the VanDusen Botanical Garden Association (VBGA) to an end. This busy period in the history of the Garden has seen not only completion of Visitor Centre construction but also increasing enjoyment by visitors as they pass through the Centre's gorgeous entry. After eight years of a Capital Campaign that focused successfully on infrastructure; VBGA funding development has recently been able to shift emphasis to botanical interpretation, education programs and projects of importance to our Garden's visitors, members and volunteers.

Following an extended period of negotiation, the operation of Bloedel Conservatory transferred from Vancouver Parks Board alone to become jointly operated by both Vancouver Parks Board and the VBGA. The addition of Bloedel, as a second site, is intended to secure

the Conservatory's future. As of this past January, VBGA members gained an additional benefit - entry without charge into both VanDusen Botanical Garden and Bloedel Conservatory during all regular opening hours with a few restrictions due to special events.

My final *Bulletin* column presents an opportunity to thank the VBGA staff. It has been a pleasure for me to know and to work with them while serving as your President. The AGM once again brings some changes to the Board of Governors. Thank you to both departing and continuing Governors for their contributions to the Board. Thank you also for the support the Association receives from its Members and the further contributions provided by the immense number who are also volunteers.

In closing, it is important to remind everyone that VanDusen Botanical Garden and its newest addition, Bloedel Conservatory, are gems of importance to residents of Metro Vancouver and to all who visit these gardens regardless of where their residence may lie. Being 'green' is good, when thinking about how we travel from one place to another, or, how we build and service our homes and places of employment and enjoyment. The City of Vancouver is NOT being 'green', if it fails to support the Garden's excellence in horticulture, its landscapes, and the importance of its botanical collections to which both the City of Vancouver (via its Parks Board) and VanDusen Botanical Garden Association, have operating responsibilities.

SOCIETY ACT

VanDusen Botanical Garden Association

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that an Annual General Meeting of the Members of VanDusen Botanical Garden Association ('the Association') will be held in the Visitor Centre at VanDusen Botanical Garden, 5151 Oak Street, Vancouver, British Columbia on Monday, April 15, 2013 at 7 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, 2012,
- 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.

By Order of the Board
Tony DuMoulin, Secretary



EVERYTHING
YOU NEED FOR
Spring
AT THE GARDEN SHOP

The Garden Shop offers a wide selection of seeds, plants, books and gardening tools.

THE BOTANICAL INTEGRITY of The Horticulture / Collections Department

By Vivien Clarke, VanDusen Volunteer and Master Gardener

photo: Vivien Clarke



Samantha Sivertz and Cynthia Sayre at Cypress Pond – one of their favourite VanDusen spots

photo: Nancy Wong



Today in the Garden display

photo: Cynthia Sayre



Native to Western China, Sargent's magnolia (*Magnolia sargentiana*) is one of several endangered magnolias in VanDusen's collections.

The outstanding features of VanDusen Botanical Garden are without a doubt the design of the Garden itself and the wondrous plants that it contains. Regardless of the season, visitors marvel at the Garden's feast for the senses. While some may encounter gardeners at work or meet the Garden Director on his rounds, few have only an inkling of what is involved behind-the-scenes in maintaining VanDusen's integrity as a botanical garden. This article will introduce you to two staff whose job it is to do exactly that.

Cynthia Sayre and Samantha Sivertz make up the Garden's Horticulture/Collections Department. Their individual responsibilities complement one another and are integral to the botanical preservation and documentation of the Garden. In some places, their activities overlap. Both are respected and appreciated by their industry peers and by those who have had the pleasure of benefiting from their expertise.

Cynthia has been on staff here for fifteen years. Many of you will remember her as a summer gardener, Christmas lights installer and Garden Shop cashier. Later she became plant labelling assistant and an instructor for the Education Department. For the past six years, Cynthia has been VanDusen's Curator of Collections. In her own words, this entails being "responsible for the documentation, development and interpretation of the Garden's plant collections while also overseeing the use of the collections for scientific research, conservation, education and outreach."

Her studies and career path were undoubtedly influenced by a childhood spent in northern BC with summers camping in remote regions. After graduating from UBC with a B.Sc. in Ecology and a Botany MA in Plant Systematics, she spent three years at the UBC Herbarium as Collections Manager of its Vascular Plant and Algae Collections.

Many VanDusen volunteers will recall assisting with Cynthia's Ivy Busters program. This is an example of the wide range of projects that keep her job challenging and exciting. She works closely with other staff in making decisions that involve budgets, staffing and Garden program needs. She collaborates with outside organizations on special projects - such as working with the Musqueam First Nation to develop interpretation for VanDusen's BC Native Plant Collection. She furthers the ex situ preservation of magnolias through VanDusen's participation in the North American Plant Collections Consortium Magnolia Collection and is involved in planning educational exhibits for the new Visitor Centre. Keep your eyes open for these and for new exciting interpretive panels appearing this year. A plant inventory of Bloedel Conservatory's garden beds will also begin soon with its data being integrated into VanDusen's database. This will be followed by the development of interpretation themes for the Conservatory related to botany in the tropics.



photo: Vivien Clarke

Interpretation Panel



photo: Vivien Clarke

According to Cynthia, her 'main job' is "to protect the scientific and botanical integrity of our living collections by preserving valuable plants and ensuring that collections reflect their cultural themes, whether taxonomic, geographic, ecological or ornamental." She draws inspiration for her work from the sharing of ideas with colleagues at botanical gardens around the globe.



photo: Vivien Clarke

Samantha Sivertz has been the Garden's Plant Documentation Technician for the past three and a half years. Her background includes an Honours Degree in Evolutionary Biology from UBC. Her honours project involved working with DNA from single-celled organisms called ciliates that live in the sand bars at Spanish Banks.

Sam enjoys the wide variety of tasks affiliated with her position – each day brings something new. She is responsible for the maintenance of plant records, creating ID tags for plants and display labels for the public. Most days she needs to be prepared for working outdoors and indoors. She conducts plant research and identifies plants. She keeps up with the scientific literature on plants and taxonomy, all essential in her role as 'keeper of the plant records.' Samantha shares her knowledge by writing the *Tree of the Month* section of the web site, giving tours, editing self-guided tours, helping out with kids' summer camps, contributing to Guide education, and writing articles. Her talents also extend to designing signs and building exhibits. As a result, she is getting very good at repairing machinery, working with difficult software, and cutting plastic with the laser engraver.



photo: Vivien Clarke

Interpretation Panel

Samantha was involved in the back-breaking set-up of the first interpretive display, *Forest Journey*, in the Visitor Centre's Discovery Room. She also helped to design the *Today in the Garden* display. Sam continues to make labels for this display and provides support to the volunteers responsible for it. After the construction of the Visitor Centre, Samantha helped to update the Garden map - assigning numbers to the new beds created by the landscape architects and inventorying these new beds with the help of the labelling volunteers.

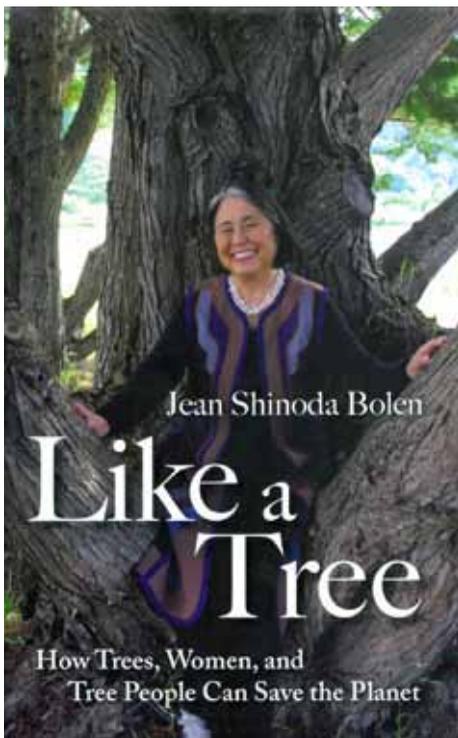


photo: Cynthia Sayre

Plant Documentation Technician, Samantha Sivertz and Botanist Beryl Zhuang prepare herbarium specimens to permanently document VanDusen's magnolia collections.

Without the work of The Horticulture/Collections Department, VanDusen could not be a botanical garden. In Samantha's words, "To be able to use the Garden effectively for education, we need to know what we have, where it's located and we need to be able to identify it. If we stop recording what we plant and where we plant it, we would be just another pretty park."

A very special thank you to Cynthia and Samantha for everything they do to ensure that VanDusen remains an important botanical treasure.



Like a Tree: How Trees, Women and Tree People Can Save the Planet (2011) is Jean Shinoda Bolen's eleventh book. Among her many other credentials, Ms. Bolen is a psychiatrist, Jungian analyst, professor and an internationally-known lecturer living in San Francisco. Her spiritually-motivated, politically-oriented and highly personal call to action is a soulful, timely, provocative and memorable read.

In the opening paragraph, Ms. Bolen calls herself a 'tree person' and suggests that 'tree people' can recognize themselves through their early profound connections to trees. The overall aim of this book is to expand and deepen the readers' consciousness regarding all aspects of trees - from their basic anatomy and physiology to their role as sacred and archetypal symbols. Ms. Bolen's

underlying hope is that once we understand the importance of trees to the health of our planet, and to our own survival as a species, we will take action to ensure their survival.

As a feminist thinker and writer, Ms. Bolen draws comparisons between the harm done to women globally, and the harm done to trees. She links the global harm perpetrated through the disempowerment and vulnerability of women, and their status as property in many parts of the world, to the widespread cutting of trees for profit or other selfish /thoughtless reasons.

Finally, Ms. Bolen encourages readers to recognize their particular 'assignment' or 'gift' back to the planet by answering the 3 following questions affirmatively:

- Is this meaningful?
- Will it be fun?
- Is it motivated by love?

MEMBER NEWS

Membership Office 604-257-8675 / membership@vandusen.org

YOUR BENEFITS KEEP GROWING

As a Garden member, you can now visit Bloedel Conservatory for free, as often as you like (some special events excluded). Simply show your VBGA membership card with current renewal date decal at the door and enjoy a world of more than 500 tropical plants and flowers.

RENEW AND WIN

Renew your membership before it expires this spring for your chance to win lunch at either Shaughnessy Restaurant or Truffles Cafe. Our early renewal promotion concludes this June.

FREE ENTRY FOR VANDUSEN MEMBERS AT MOA THIS MAY

To celebrate John Brookes' highly anticipated lectures, VanDusen Members will enjoy complimentary admission throughout the month of May at UBC's Museum of Anthropology (MOA). Present your VBGA membership card, with current renewal date sticker, when you visit

MOA to receive free entry in addition to a 15 per cent discount on regular-priced items in MOA's gift shop.

MAY IS FOR MOTHERS

We're planning a special gift membership promotion for May. Keep an eye on our Member E-newsletter or visit the Garden in mid-April to learn more about how we can help you create a Mother's Day moment she'll remember.

DO YOU HAVE A SPECIAL MEMORY OR EXPERIENCE AT THE GARDEN THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE?

Send your Garden story to membercoord@vandusen.org, or by mail to VanDusen Membership Office (5251 Oak Street, Vancouver BC V6M 4H1), and an excerpt from your story might appear in the next edition of our Member E-newsletter. A collection of submitted stories will be made available in the Yosef Wosk Library & Resource Centre, located in the Visitor Centre.



photo: Raymond Chan



Confidence by Michael Dennis

CHRISTOPHER FOUNDATION FUNDS SMART, GREEN AND GROWING

We are very pleased to announce a five-year pledged donation from the Christopher Foundation that will be used to develop the new *Smart, Green and Growing* field trip program that we will be offering to elementary schools, community centres, and other groups. *Smart, Green and Growing* utilizes modern educational technology in tandem with the most beautiful outdoor classroom in the city.

The Christopher Foundation funds will be used to:

- contract a Smart Board expert to conduct training for VanDusen staff and volunteers, building capacity to use the new interactive whiteboard as a learning tool.
- develop new curriculum for students in Grades 4 - 7, including lessons and activities for the Smart Board, hands-on outside in the Garden, and in the classroom

"I was very pleased to demonstrate the Smart Board to the Christopher Foundation and share with them how this technology will enhance our nature-based programs. By confirming their commitment to the program, the Christopher Foundation has given the Garden a solid foundation on which to build, and seek the additional funding needed to offer this amazing technology to the community."

Gillian Drake, *Education Director*.

THE GARDEN ACQUIRES CONFIDENCE

No doubt you have noticed the stunning wood sculpture adjacent to Livingston Lake. Entitled *Confidence*, it was

created by Denman Island artist Michael Dennis and appeared as part of last summer's *Earth Art* exhibit. Thanks to generous donations from two VanDusen Members/volunteers, *Confidence* has now joined our permanent sculpture collection.

Michael Dennis, a prolific artist and scientist, moved to Denman Island in 1980. Large striking trees sparked his creativity and he began to sculpt with materials left behind on Vancouver Island logging sites. Choosing wood with character, he gives life again to what is seen as waste to the logging industry.

The result? Hauntingly beautiful sculptures which represent ancestors of both humans and trees. "I try to capture the essence of human gesture from a tree, using only the minimum definition required so that in one piece the viewer may see both human form and the form of a tree." For more information about

Michael Dennis: www.mdennissculpture.com

WE NEED NEW WHEELS

Despite regular servicing, our tour carts have reached the end of their viability and need replacing. In 2012, one or both carts were out of commission one day out of every four during guiding season. Your donation towards our \$30,000 goal will help purchase two six-person electric carts that will ensure our visitors with limited mobility can also enjoy a Garden tour.

photo: Nancy Wong



Adopt-a-Tree

at VanDusen Garden to commemorate a significant event or remember a loved one.

For further information:
vandusengarden.org (under Giving) or
Development Office 604-257-8190

The VanDusen Botanical Garden Association does not sell or lend its member or donor information. If you would like to change the way you receive information from VanDusen Garden, please contact VanDusen's Privacy Officer by e-mail at or telephone 604-257-8190.

photo: Birgit Freyboe Bateman



Robert Bateman

VANDUSEN BOTANICAL GARDEN LECTURES

Exceptional Speakers coming to VanDusen this Spring

The VanDusen Botanical Garden Lecture Series (formerly the Cedar Lecture Series) is very pleased to present Robert Bateman and John Brookes in April and May this year. These two accomplished artists, each a leader in his field, differ considerably in their artistic expression. However, they share a love of plants, and an incredible ability to inspire others with their passion. We hope you will join us for one or all three of the lectures in the Visitor Centre.

ROBERT BATEMAN

Making Pleasing Places

Wednesday, April 24, 7:30 p.m.

VanDusen Visitor Centre

Tickets: Members - \$20, Non-Members - \$25

Available from VanDusen Admission Desk or under Adult Education pages www.vandusengarden.org

Come on a rambling trip through the history and geography of places that have been organized with pleasing aesthetic considerations. These places range from African and New Guinea villages to the sophisticated royal palaces at Versailles. Also included will be images of personal attempts by Robert Bateman to make his own 'pleasing places.'

Robert Bateman has been a keen artist and naturalist from his early days. His exquisite art clearly reflects his commitment to ecology and preservation, and Bateman has become a spokesman for many environmental and preservation issues. His artwork and limited edition prints in fund-raising efforts have provided millions of dollars for these worthy causes.

JOHN BROOKES

Persian Gardens: Thursday, May 2

The Gardens of John Brookes: Tuesday, May 7

VanDusen Visitor Centre, 7:30 p.m.

Tickets: Members - \$45 /both lectures or \$25 /single lecture. Non-Members: \$55/both or \$30/one. In person at VanDusen Admission Desk or through MOA web site <http://moa.ubc.ca/eventtickets>

John Brookes, one of the world's most influential garden designers, is widely regarded within the garden design world as an innovative and inspirational designer and plantsman. He is best known for his ability to create gardens that relate to their environment, designing gardens that fit into the wider landscape; that best suit the style and period of the house and the functional and stylistic aspirations of his clients. His extensive portfolio includes traditional English gardens, formal and informal, modern, minimalist, Islamic and wild gardens.

Persian Gardens

As the author of the authoritative book, *Gardens of Paradise: The History and Design of the Great Islamic Gardens*, he will speak about his relationship with Persian gardens and how he interprets their aesthetic qualities in his work.

The Gardens of John Brookes

John Brookes has more than 1,200 gardens around the world to his credit. He will take us on tour of some of his favourite and most influential landscape designs, explaining his practice and process.

John Brookes Lectures are presented in collaboration with the Museum of Anthropology (MOA).

photo: Distant Horizons, UK



John Brookes

Summer Camp AT VANDUSEN BOTANICAL GARDEN



"She learned a lot of new things through hands-on activities and told me excitedly about all of it every afternoon."
– parent of camper

"They are learning through exploration and playing and not even realizing all they have learned."
– parent of camper

"This camp offers great learning for curious minds and nature, animal and plant lovers."
– parent of camper

Dates

A Garden of Art

July 2-5, Ages 5-7
July 8-12, Ages 7-9

Eco CityKids Play in Nature

July 29-August 2, Ages 5-7
August 6-9, Ages 7-9

Science in the Garden

July 15-19, Ages 5-7
July 22-26, Ages 7-9

Bugs in the Big Picture

August 12-16, Ages 5-7
August 19-23, Ages 7-9

There's no doubt about it – summer camp at VanDusen is fun, educational, and totally eco-friendly. These campers get to know the Garden inside out, exploring little paths, planting in the greenhouse, and having their own connections with nature. Through science lessons, games, activities, crafts and more, each day at camp leaves campers with great memories and a deeper understanding of our natural world. This year, summer camp will be run from the classroom in the Visitor Centre where campers will have the opportunity to use the new Smart Board to enhance the indoor activities.

Each camp is limited to 20 campers and sessions often sell out far in advance. Please do not wait too long to register. Camp information is available on VanDusen's website, or at summercamps@vandusen.org

Price:

Before June 1st:

Members \$180, Non-members \$205

After June 1st:

Members \$205, Non-members \$230

MASTER GARDENERS SUPPORT FREE COURSES FOR TEACHERS

Education has always been at the core of the relationship between VanDusen Botanical Garden and the Master Gardeners, and the newest collaboration is another example of this. The Vancouver Master Gardener membership recently voted to donate \$5,000 towards educating visitors to VanDusen, and the teachers in our community, about gardening and the intricacies of the plant kingdom. Through this donation, elementary and secondary school teachers will be able to attend VanDusen's adult education courses free of charge. For every teacher that gains knowledge in a gardening or ecology course, there are potentially hundreds of students that will benefit in their classrooms and out in their school gardens. Possibilities for visitor education include interpretive signs in the Heirloom Vegetable Garden, and a self-guided activity for children visiting with their families.

CALENDAR

MORE INFORMATION:

24-hour Info Line: 604-257-8335 or
web site: www.vandusengarden.org

TOURS

Guided Walking Tours:

Daily at 2 p.m. plus Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. Free for Members or with Garden admission. Meet on the Plaza just inside the Garden entrance.

Group Tours:

Available every day. Must be booked in advance by calling 604-257-8666.

Cart Tours:

For the disabled or seniors with limited walking ability, every day at 1, 2 and 3 p.m. Advance booking suggested for weekdays by calling 604-257-8666. Weekends and holidays are on a first come, first served basis.

MARCH

30 Saturday – *The Great A-Mazing Egg Hunt* for families with children ages 2 – 10.

Four time slots available: 10 - 11 a.m., 11 – noon, noon – 1 p.m., and 1 - 2 pm.

Pre-purchased tickets required. Tickets are **NOT available at the Gate** on the day of the event. On sale now, in person only, at the Visitor Centre Admissions Desk.

APRIL

6 Saturday – *Alpine Garden Club of B.C. Spring Show and Sale.* Floral Hall, Admin Bldg., noon - 4 p.m. Admission free. Information: Chris Byra 604-793-9247 / cbyra@shaw.ca

6 & 7 Saturday & Sunday – *Sakura Days and Japan Fair.* 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. both days. Presented by the Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival: www.vcbf.ca and Japan Fair Committee: www.japanfairvancouver.com

13 & 14 Saturday & Sunday – *Vancouver Dahlia Society Annual Tuber Sale.* Floral Hall, Admin Bldg., 1 – 4 p.m. both days. Admission free. Information: Evelyn Crawford, 604-437-8395 / evelyn.crawford@shaw.ca / www.vancouverdahliasociety.com

14 Sunday – *HSBC Family Program, Go Play Outside – A celebration of Robert Bateman:* Details on Children and Families Page on the web site. Pre-registration required.

15 Monday – *VBGA Annual General Meeting & Volunteer Recognition:* Details pg. 5

20 Saturday – *BC Fuchsia & Begonia Society Annual Plant, Bake & Craft Sale.* Floral Hall, Admin Bldg., 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Admission free. Information: Fran Carter 604-591-3262 / fccarter@hotmail.com

20 Saturday – *Pt. Grey Chrysanthemum Association Rooted Cutting Sale.* Cedar Room, Admin. Bldg., 9 a.m. - noon. Admission by donation. Information: Gerald Pinton 604-943-0996 / sgpinton@dccnet.com

24 Wednesday – *Making Pleasing Places,* a presentation by Robert Bateman. Details pg. 9

28 Sunday – *VanDusen Plant Sale,* 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Details front page.

MAY

2 Thursday – *Persian Gardens, a special lecture by John Brookes,* one of the world's most influential garden designers. Details pg. 10

4 Saturday – *Volunteer Orientation,* 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Details pg. 4

4 Saturday – *Vancouver African Violet & Gesneriad Society Annual Show & Sale.* Floral Hall, Admin Bldg., 1-4 p.m. Admission free. Information: vavgs@telus.net

7 Tuesday – *The Gardens of John Brookes,* a special lecture by John Brookes. Details pg. 10

11 Saturday – *Bird Walk,* 10 a.m. meet in the Visitor Centre Atrium. Rain or shine. Free for Members or with Garden admission.

18 Saturday – *All British Field Meet* on the Great Lawn from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Information: Patrick Stewart 604-736-6754 or www.westerndriver.com

18 & 19 Saturday & Sunday – *Vancouver Japanese-Canadian Sumi Bonsai Club Annual Show,* Floral Hall, Admin. Bldg., 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. both days. Admission free. Information: Tony Nasu 604-432-6160

26 Sunday – *HSBC Family Program, Eat Your (Micro) Greens!* Details on Children and Families Page on the web site. Pre-registration required.

JUNE

1 & 2 Saturday & Sunday – *Taguchi Bonsai Club Annual Spring Show & Sale,* Floral Hall, Admin. Bldg., 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. both days. Admission: \$2 per family. Information: Sandy Knoll 604-224-1343 / sknoll@shaw.ca

9 Sunday – *HSBC Family Program, Pond Dipping and the Magic of Mechanics:* Details on the Children and Families Page on the web site. Pre-registration required.

15 Saturday – *Bird Walk,* 10 a.m. meet in the Visitor Centre Atrium. Rain or shine. Free for Members or with Garden admission.

15 & 16 Saturday & Sunday – *Desert Plant Society of Vancouver Show & Sale.* Floral Hall, Admin. Bldg. Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sunday: 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Admission free. Information: Dirk Himschoot 604-789-0507 / dhimscho@shaw.ca

16 Sunday – *Medicine Wheel Ceremony.* Noon - 3 p.m. at the First Nations' Medicine Wheel in the Canadian Heritage Garden. Wear clothing appropriate for the weather, bring a small stone to bless and leave at the wheel. Information: VanDusen's Librarian Marina Princz 604-257-8668 / library@vandusen.org

Upcoming Highlights:

Summer Art Exhibit, Touch Wood: check our web site closer to mid June for details

July: 6 & 7 Saturday & Sunday – *EPIC Sustainable Living Expo:* 10 a.m. – 9 p.m., both days. Details TBA or visit www.epicfest.ca

September: 19 – Thursday – *Bloom Gala,* 6 – 9 p.m. in the Visitor Centre. A fundraiser in support of VanDusen Education. Details, prices and tickets. www.bloomgala.com



photo: Peggy Heath

CONTACT US

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604-257-8660 Garden Director
604-257-8665 Garden Shop
604-257-8190 Gifts to the Garden
604-257-8668 Library
604-257-8670 Media/Public Relations
604-257-8675 Membership
604-257-8667 Plant Documentation Technician
604-257-8662 Plant Information Line
604-261-0011 Shaughnessy Restaurant
604-257-8663 Special Events Coordinator
604-267-4966 Truffles Cafe
604-257-8162 Visitor Services & Info, Visitor Centre
604-257-8674 Volunteer Director
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Full list under **Contact Us** on vandusengarden.org