



GREEN BAY

SPRING 2018

BOTANICAL GARDEN

Green Bay Botanical Garden is a 100% community supported non-profit that connects people with plants in an environment that engages, inspires and refreshes.

Engage. Inspire. Refresh.



**Start your Spring Adventure
at the Garden!**

Discover New Ways to Grow

Get Inspired by Events & Programs

Refresh with Thousands of Spring Blooms ...

and More!

Spring Brings New Beginnings

Thanks to you, spring welcomes thousands of blooming buds and sensational experiences.

From our Board Chair



Being more grateful is my personal goal for 2018. Here at the Garden, we have so much to be grateful for, starting with you.

Because of your support, visitors from all over the Midwest will have the opportunity to explore the internationally touring exhibit Nature Connects®: Art with LEGO® Bricks as it debuts at the Garden this summer.

We are so grateful to the many of you that helped us raise the money to build the new Schneider Family Grand Garden and also the dozens of you that helped install the 11,500 perennials and over 65,000 bulbs for our showstopping spring display.

You helped create our new outdoor amphitheater in the Schneider Family Grand Garden which will house our existing Sanimax Concert series as well as our new Schneider Family Grand Concert series. The Sanimax Concert series on Thursdays remains free to members, from 6-7:30 pm for 8 weeks, June – August.

We open the new Schneider Family Grand Concert series with Vic Ferrari “Symphony on the Rocks” on June 2.

- In partnership with Brown County Civic Music, the Florentine Opera Company from Milwaukee will feature some of their favorites on June 10
- Brown County Civic Symphony will perform a rousing pops concert to prepare for the nation’s birthday on July 1
- Brews, Bistros & Bonfires will close the season on Friday, September 21

We are hopeful we will be adding one or more additional events as the season arrives.

Finally, I’m pleased to tell you the Garden has been selected as a participant and recipient of Give BIG Green Bay, a 24-hour giving event, to be held from noon February 27 to noon February 28. This event will rally the community to support 31 local non-profits, including the Garden. A grant from the Green Bay Packers Foundation launched this program and creates a matching pool of funds to incentivize donors and maximize their investment. Please refer to the accompanying article in this newsletter for more information.

Your time, your talent, your treasure continues to help grow and expand Green Bay Botanical Garden, and for that, on behalf of the board and staff, I am most grateful.

- Jonie Paye, Green Bay Botanical Garden Board Chair



Nature Connects®: Art with LEGO® Bricks by artist Sean Kenney debuts at the Garden.

May 25 – August 19 | 9 am–8 pm

Visitors of all ages will stimulate their imaginations and delight in the union of art, nature, play and design with this larger than life exhibit. Nature-inspired sculptures crafted entirely of LEGO bricks will challenge the way you think of traditional botanical gardens and connect families with nature, creativity and STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) in a whole new way.

Green Bay Botanical Garden is the first and only venue in Wisconsin to host Nature Connects!

Beyond visiting the sculptures, get connected through special events and educational activities celebrating nature’s wonders. Our regular summer family programming, including Tuesday Story Times, Wednesday Discovery Stations and monthly Family Nature Nights will highlight the plants and animals displayed by the sculptures, in addition to these featured events:

- Build-tanical Challenge: Create a new sculpture that is nature-themed or related to the Garden! The challenge will open May 1, with the finalists displaying their original creations at the Garden on June 24.
- Barnes & Noble LEGO Build Event: July 10
- Monthly LEGO Robotics workshops
- Creative Construction Weeklong Summer Camps: July 23–27, July 30–August 3
- Nature Connects Block Party featuring The LEGO Movie: August 17

About the Artist

Nature Connects displays the work of renowned, award-winning artist, Sean Kenney. As an artist, author and self-proclaimed “professional kid,” Kenney uses LEGO pieces to design and create contemporary sculptures for high-profile clients, major corporations and venues around the globe. The New York Times calls Sean’s work the “artistic elite” of building with LEGO bricks.

SUMMER

BLOCK PARTY

Exhibit Inspires Summer Annuals

Our horticulture team has been busy planning the surrounding plantings of the sculptures and the other annual beds throughout the gardens. Their goal: create a design that will complement the sculptures while not stealing the show from them. While this has been an interesting process, our team is up to the challenge! Here's your sneak peek at one of them: the Peacock, featured in the fountain bed, will be planted with low growing annuals: EnduraScape™ White Blush verbena, Live Wire fiber optic grass, and the All-America Selections winning petunia Evening Scentsation. These plants will not obscure the sculpture, and have colors that will echo and enhance those of the sculpture.

Grow Your Business through Sponsorship

Be part of this unforgettable and unique experience that will inspire creativity and provide wholesome entertainment for the entire family. Connect with people throughout the region, and associate your brand with a love of nature, the amazing beauty of the Garden and unforgettable memories made with loved ones.



▶ Contact Cindy Berton, Director of Development, at 920.491.3691 ext. 104 or cberton@gbbg.org



Art by Sean Kenney



▶ Visit www.GBBG.org/NatureConnects for exhibit details

boisterous blooms abound!

Spring will knock your socks off with over 65,000 new bulb blooms!

This spring, the newly installed Schneider Family Grand Garden and revitalized Magnolia Grove feature 33,000 grape hyacinth and miniature white daffodils with the Matthew Schmidt Garden showcasing 5,000 bulbs of the cherry red, purple and mauve Wellspring™ tulip blend.

The parking lot introduces the sunny yellow, white, orange and soft pink tulip blends Chardonnay™ and Prosecco™ planted with the Top 40™ daffodil blend.

The spritely purple, pink and white Trident™ tulip blend will pop around the Kaftan Lusthaus and a combination of red and pink tulips – Kingsblood, Queen of the Night, Aveyron, Rosy Diamond and Angeliq – will smolder around the Stumpf Belvedere.

These new additions bring the yearly spring floral display to over 300,000 blooms! With all the perennials, magnolias, crabapples and other blossoms, this display is off the charts!

Mother Nature permitting, the opening act starts in mid-April, with the main event going onstage in May. Peak bloom is anticipated for National Public Gardens Day (May 11), Mother's Day (May 13), and TasteBud (May 17) with the encore of ornamental onions lasting into Memorial Day (May 28). Do not miss this show-stopping act!

- Mark Konlock, Director of Horticulture

Tulip Tidbits

2018 has been declared **YEAR OF THE TULIP** by the National Garden Bureau

Native to Central America, the tulip was later introduced to Turkey, where the word "tulip" means turban and is thought to symbolize the flower's turban-like shape.

A 17th century Dutch Golden Age Tulip Mania caused the tulip market to soar. At the height of the crisis bulbs were said to be valued more than most homes. The Netherlands remains the world's top tulip producer, providing more than 3 billion bulbs annually.

Tulips wilt when arranged with daffodils, which release a sap that clogs the stems of the other cut flowers.

Tulips are part of the lily family and include **75 species** and more than **3,000 varieties**.

Bloom colors symbolize different emotions:

- Red for love
- Purple for loyalty
- White for "I'm sorry"

Tulips are edible, but the taste of their petals is considered unpleasant, often compared to that of an onion.



© Caylor Photography

SPRING HAPPENINGS special events

TASTE BUD Savor. Sip. Support. Lead Sponsor: I love my Les STUMPF Ford



© Cody L33 Photography

Thursday, May 17

Savor, sip and support at TasteBud! This culinary event offers you the opportunity to indulge in a sampling of delights from Green Bay's area restaurants and caterers.

Stroll through the lush landscape, sipping signature cocktails, wines and brews while mingling among the 300,000 spring blooms. Enjoy live music throughout the Garden and a silent auction featuring breathtaking planters, garden art, restaurant packages and more.

▶ Make your reservation April 2 - May 11 at www.GBBG.org/TasteBud

CONCERTS in the Grand Garden



© John Oates Photography

Save the Dates: Concerts in the Grand Garden

Sanimax Concerts Series Reclaim · Renew · Return

Thursdays: June 21 & 28, July 12, 19 & 26, August 2, 9 & 16
Surrounded by the spectacular views of the new Schneider Family Grand Garden, music lovers across all genres and generations will enjoy live music from local musicians on the Billie Kress Amphitheater Stage. Concert-goers can stroll through the Garden, enjoy live music, wine, beer and dining.

NEW! Schneider Family Grand Concerts Series

An eclectic variety of talented regional and national musicians will grace the Billie Kress Amphitheater stage surrounded by stunning views of the new Schneider Family Grand Garden. Guests are invited to stroll through the breathtaking summer Garden and enjoy a picnic on the lawn – making it the perfect evening for music lovers across all genres and generations.

Vic Ferrari "Symphony on the Rocks" Saturday, June 2

This high-powered 26-piece rock symphony will feature the biggest hits of classic rock and pop. Tickets on sale March 1.

Opera in the Garden Sunday, June 10

Enjoy a variety of popular and Broadway opera performances by the Florentine Opera Company presented in partnership with the Brown County Civic Music Association.

Pops Concert featuring Civic Symphony of Green Bay Sunday, July 1

Celebrate the 4th of July with the Green Bay Civic Symphony.

Brews, Bistros & Bonfires | Friday, September 21

Listen to live music and sip samplings from local breweries before devouring delicious food from area restaurants.

▶ For details on Concerts in the Grand Garden, visit www.GBBG.org/Concerts

Education

Adult Programs

Lectures, tours and workshops related to gardening, cooking, crafting and more.

Family Programs

Hands-on family workshops, nature hikes, Garden Sprouts Preschool Program and more.

Members

GBBG Corporate Partner Employee Day

Sunday, May 6
Employees of our Corporate Partner Members are invited to bring their immediate family to enjoy the Garden for free. Present your Corporate ID or business card at our Visitor Services Desk upon arrival.

Members Only Tours

Step behind the scenes to get an exclusive look at garden areas with our team!

Member Swap Day

Sunday, May 20
Experience other local attractions! Members of the Garden, The Neville Public Museum, National Railroad Museum and The Children's Museum invite you to visit all attractions for free on Member Swap Day.



© Amenson Studio

Spring Calendar

Don't delay! Register right away as classes may fill quickly. We also value our instructors'

March _____

**Wednesday, March 7
Travelogue:**

Colonial Williamsburg

(L) | 12-1 pm

*Kyle Gigot, GBBG Member &
N.E.W. Master Gardener Volunteer*
Free Admission



**Thursday, March 8
Shade Gardening
with Hostas**

(L/R) | 6-7:30 pm

*Kyle Gigot, GBBG Member &
N.E.W. Master Gardener Volunteer*
Pre-registration: \$7/Person
At the Door: \$10/Person
Presented in partnership with
UW-Extension and N.E.W.
Master Gardeners' Association

**Tuesday, March 13
Landscape Design:
Bringing It Home**

(L/R) | 6-7:30 pm

Steve Schultz, Steve's Leaves
\$12/GBBG Member;
\$15/Non-Member

**Friday, March 16
Garden Sprouts:
Marvelous Mud**

(YF/R) | 10-11:30 am

*Amy Kopp, GBBG
Education Docent*
Price per one adult and one child,
age 3-5. Additional children half
price. \$8/GBBG Member;
\$13/Non-Member

Monday, March 19

**St. Patrick's Tea,
on the Wilde Side**

(W/R) | 6-8 pm

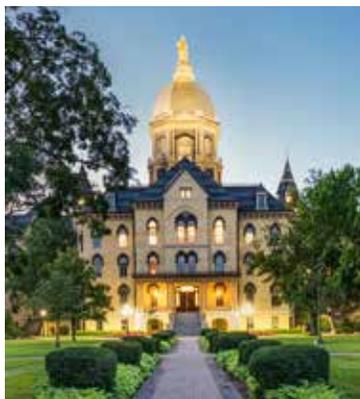
*Northeast Wisconsin Unit
of the Herb Society of America*
\$18/GBBG Member;
\$22/Non-Member

Wednesday, March 21

**Travelogue: Gardens of
Lower MI: GBBG's 2017 Trip**

(L) | 12-1 pm

Jerry Clish, Trip Attendee
Free Admission



**Tuesday, March 27
Seed Starting 101**

(L/R) | 6-7:30 pm

*Lynn Clark, GBBG Member &
N.E.W. Master Gardener Volunteer*
Pre-registration: \$7/Person
At the Door: \$10/Person
Presented in partnership with
UW-Extension and N.E.W.
Master Gardeners' Association

April _____

**Wednesday, April 4
Vegetable Gardening
for Beginners**

(L/R) | 6-7:30 pm

*Vijai Pandian, UW-Extension
Horticulture Educator*
Pre-registration: \$7/Person
At the Door: \$10/Person
Presented in partnership with
UW-Extension and N.E.W.
Master Gardeners' Association



Tuesday, April 10

Entertaining with Cheese

(W/R) | 6-8 pm

*Cindy Schmidt, Senior Fresh Foods
Specialist, Festival Foods*
\$16/GBBG Member;
\$20/Non-Member

**Thursdays,
April 12, 19, 26 & May 3
Writing & Preserving
Garden Memories**

(W/R) | 1-2:30 pm

*Betty Pearson & Linda Patton,
Former GBBG Staff*
\$60/GBBG Member;
\$70/Non-Member

**Thursday, April 12
Pruning Trees**

(W/R) | 6-7:30 pm

*Doug Hartman, N.E.W. Master
Gardener Volunteer, & Vijai
Pandian, UW-Extension
Horticulture Educator*
Pre-registration: \$7/Person
At the Door: \$10/Person
Presented in partnership with
UW-Extension and N.E.W.
Master Gardeners' Association

**Saturdays, April 14 & 28
Bonsai Beginners Workshop**

(W/R) | 9:30 am-12:30 pm

Bay Area Bonsai Society
\$95/GBBG Member;
\$110/Non-Member

**Thursday, April 19
Session 2 of 4: Writing
& Preserving Garden
Memories**

1-2:30 pm

Pruning Shrubs

(W/R) | 6-7:30 pm

*Dan Mitchell, N.E.W. Master
Gardener Volunteer, & Vijai
Pandian, UW-Extension
Horticulture Educator*
Pre-registration: \$7/Person
At the Door: \$10/Person
Presented in partnership with
UW-Extension and N.E.W.
Master Gardeners' Association

**Friday, April 20
Garden Sprouts:**

April Showers

(YF/R) | 10-11:30 am

*Amy Kopp,
GBBG Education Docent*
Price per one adult and one child,
age 3-5. Additional children half
price. \$8/GBBG Member;
\$13/Non-Member



**Monday, April 23
Chemical Free Cleaning**

(W/R) | 6-8 pm

*Northeast Wisconsin Unit of the
Herb Society of America*
\$12/GBBG Member;
\$15/Non-Member

**Thursday, April 26
Session 3 of 4: Writing
& Preserving Garden
Memories**

1-2:30 pm

Composting 101

(L/R) | 6-7:30 pm

*Shirley Triest-Robertson,
Dan Mitchell N.E.W. Master
Gardener Volunteers*
Pre-registration: \$7/Person
At the Door: \$10/Person
Presented in partnership with
UW-Extension and N.E.W.
Master Gardeners' Association

▶ Descriptions and details can be found at www.GBBG.org

Pull Out this Calendar Insert

time, so classes may risk being cancelled due to low early enrollment. Thank you!

Saturday, April 28
Session 2 of 2: Bonsai Beginners Workshop
9:30 am–12:30 pm

May

Tuesday, May 1
Advanced Vegetable Gardening
(L/R) | 6–7:30 pm
Lynn Clark and Jim Fameree, N.E.W. Master Gardener Volunteers
Pre-registration: \$7/Person
At the Door: \$10/Person
Presented in partnership with UW-Extension and N.E.W. Master Gardeners' Association

Thursday, May 3
Session 4 of 4: Writing & Preserving Garden Memories
1–2:30 pm

Sunday, May 6
GBBG Corporate Partner Employee Day
9 am–8 pm



Tuesday, May 8
Native Plants to Attract Pollinators
(L/R) | 6–7:30 pm
Claudia Schultz, Al Nass & Annette Weissbach, N.E.W. Master Gardener Volunteers
Pre-registration: \$7/Person
At the Door: \$10/Person
Presented in partnership with UW-Extension and N.E.W. Master Gardeners' Association

Friday, May 11
National Public Gardens Day
9 am–8 pm
Free admission.

Garden Sprouts: Are You My Mother?
(YF/R) | 10–11:30 am
Amy Kopp, GBBG Education Docent
Price per one adult and one child, age 3–5. Additional children half price. \$8/GBBG Member; \$13/Non-Member

Sunday, May 13
Mother's Day
9 am–8 pm
Free admission for moms.

Monday, May 14
Intro to Smartphone Photography
(W/R) | 5:30–7:30 pm
Marc Amenson, Amenson Studio
\$16/GBBG Member; \$20/Non-Member

Tuesday, May 15
Members Only Tour: Spring Blossoms
(R) | 5–6:30 pm

Thursday, May 17
TasteBud
(R) | 5–8 pm
\$40/GBBG Member; \$55/Non-Member
Registration begins April 2

Sunday, May 20
Member Swap Day
9 am–8 pm

L = Lecture
W = Workshop
YF = Youth & Family
R = Registration Required



Monday, May 21 & Tuesday, May 22
Capture Spring in Watercolor
(W/R) | 9:30 am–3:30 pm
Bridget Austin, Professional Watercolor Artist
2-Day Workshop: \$110/GBBG Member; \$128/Non-Member

Open Daily, May 25–August 19
Nature Connects®: Art with LEGO® Bricks Exhibit
9 am–8 pm
Free/GBBG Member
\$10/Adult (18+)
\$8/Seniors (62+), AAA Members, AARP, Military
\$8/Students (w/school ID)
\$5/Children (3–17)
Free/Children 2 & under
Free/NWTC Students & Faculty (w/school ID)



Monday, May 28
Memorial Day
9 am–8 pm
Free admission for military personnel and veterans.

Wednesday, May 30
Repotting Orchids
(W/R) | 6–8 pm
Mary Stewart, Goin' To Pot Orchids
\$10/GBBG Member; \$12/Non-Member

How to Register

Pre-registration required for all classes and programs except where noted. Register online at www.GBBG.org or by phone at 920.490.9457. Please register early; class sizes are limited or classes may be cancelled due to low enrollment. To hold your space in class, payment is due with registration.

After You Register

We will contact you the week of the program to confirm your enrollment. Please dress according to the weather for all outdoor programs. No rain or snow dates are planned. Classes open one half-hour before starting time.

Cancellations & Refunds

Classes cancelled due to low enrollment or hazardous weather conditions are refunded automatically. You will be notified by phone if a program is cancelled. In cases of inclement weather, call 920.491.3691 ext. 122 to check the status of the program. If you must cancel your registration for a program, your registration fees will be refunded if notice is received at least five days prior to the program. Green Bay Botanical Garden cannot refund fees requested on or after the start date of a program or for sessions missed due to student illness or other personal situations.



Make the Difference

650 volunteers donated over 2,400 hours to give joy this holiday season.

Volunteers with over 30

WPS Garden of Lights hours:

- Bruce Kilmer 129.5 (*official light stringer!*)
- Dave Sorenson 106 (*set up crew!*)
- Don Giese 79 (*34 shifts – all outside!*)
- Betty Arendt.. 79.5 (*gave the dragon new skin!*)
- Tom Mertens 67.5 (*30 shifts – all outside!*)
- Shirley Garthwaite..... 63.75 (*15 shifts*)
- Marcia Ward.....63 (*14 shifts*)
- Mike Duncan 62 (*27 shifts – all outside!*)
- Dale Bartel59.5 (*14 shifts*)
- Linda Jolly 49.5 (*22 shifts – all outside!*)
- Don Jenson..... 47.25 (*set up crew!*)
- Lee Zaddack 46 (*set up crew!*)
- Julie Arneth..... 44.75 (*10 shifts*)
- Mary Van Dyck..... 38.5 (*16 shifts – all outside!*)
- Dan Brunmeier.....36 (*8 shifts*)
- Robert Stark 36 (*set up crew!*)
- Darlene Charneski32.5 (*7 shifts*)
- Maureen Ackerman.....31.5 (*7 shifts*)
- Linda Schulze.....31.5 (*7 shifts*)
- Diane Aubry.....30.75 (*6 shifts*)
- Randy Maesch 30.5 (*set up crew!*)

Volunteer Group: NWTC Horticulture Club
9 volunteers, 23 hours

We are grateful for another incredible year at WPS Garden of Lights! Thanks to many dedicated volunteers, we welcomed over 64,000 visitors. A sincere and heartfelt thank you to each of the volunteers who make this event possible each year. More than 650 volunteers generously gave over 2,400 hours of their time to give guests an unforgettable experience. Many volunteers went the extra mile and put in multiple shifts or stayed longer to help make this the second best in the 21-year history of this event.

Because of you, we can continue to connect people with plants in an environment that engages, inspires and refreshes.

▶ Volunteering is easy to get started! Just complete an application on our website at www.GBBG.org/Volunteer

More Opportunities to Give Back

We need you! Volunteers are the heart and soul of the Garden. Without volunteers, we wouldn't have the success with our special events or the beautiful landscape we enjoy daily.

- Areas of opportunity:
- | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Special Events | Office Assistance | Facility Maintenance |
| Gardening | Guest Services | Educational Programs |

Share Your Love of All Things Green

Share your passion for the Garden with others – become a Garden Docent! The Garden is looking for fun and responsible volunteers to connect with visitors in both guided and self-guided settings. Learn more about the opportunities and training process that help you represent the Garden as an Outdoor Garden Ambassador or tour guide for children and adults. Recruitment is ongoing.

▶ Contact Kelle Hartman, Children & Family Educator, at 920.491.3691 ext. 107 or khartman@gbbg.org

A Summer of Discovery & Adventure

Unforgettable adventures await kids ages 6-16 during stimulating camps this summer.

Weeklong Camps

Creative Construction

Calling all architects, designers and builders! Discover some of nature's master builders, then use your creativity on new projects and build challenges each day. We'll work with a variety of materials and tools while learning to think like engineers.

Session 1: Ages 6-8 | July 23–27 | 9:30 am–12 pm
Session 2: Ages 9-12 | July 30–August 3 | 9:30 am–12 pm
\$65/GBBG Member; \$85/Non-Member
Register by July 16

Day Camps

Critter Safari

A garden is not complete without the animals that live in it! Discover the flying, slithering, creeping and crawling animals that can be found at the Garden. Observe caterpillars, follow worms, catch dragonflies and search for the other creepy crawlies who live in our fields, ponds and compost piles.

Ages 6-8 | Tuesday, June 26 | 9:30 am–3:30 pm. Register by June 19
\$35/GBBG Member; \$45/Non-Member

Garden Passport

Have you ever wondered about some of the strange looking fruits and vegetables at the grocery store? Prepare to travel the world as we discover more about these oddballs and cook up some tasty dishes along the way.

Session 1: Ages 9-12 | Monday, July 9 | 9:30 am–3:30 pm. Register by July 2
Session 2: Ages 6-8 | Monday, August 13 | 9:30 am–3:30 pm. Register by August 6
\$35/GBBG Member; \$45/Non-Member

Mini-Movie Makers

Become writer, actor and director of your own movie! Campers will work in teams to research, write, record and edit a 3-minute video on an i-Pad mini. Teach others about nature and the Garden, then watch it online!

Session 1: Ages 13-16 | Tuesday, July 10 | 9:30 am–3:30 pm. Register by July 3
Session 2: Ages 9-12 | Tuesday, August 14 | 9:30 am–3:30 pm. Register by August 7
\$35/GBBG Member; \$45/Non-Member



When You Invest
in Plants & People **You**

Save
the date!

February 27 & 28, 2018
12 noon - 12 noon

Change Lives

Green Bay Packers

**Foundation to match donations made to the Garden
February 27 & 28 during Give BIG Green Bay event.**



Give BIG Green Bay is a 24-hour online fundraising event presented by the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation and the Green Bay Packers Foundation to celebrate and support local non-profits. We are excited to announce the Garden is one of 31 nonprofits in Brown County that has been selected to participate!

Our goal is to raise \$10,000 and welcome 50 new donors during this 24-hour giving event starting at noon on February 27 and ending at noon on February 28. **The Green Bay Packers Foundation is matching every donation to make a bigger impact.**

Your donation makes a difference in the lives of:

- **A veteran suffering from PTSD** who experienced the healing power of plants through the Garden's horticultural internship program. He overcame homelessness and adversity, improved his physical and mental health, found his passion for helping others, and gained the tools he needs for a successful career.

- **A busy mom looking for ways to get her kids out in nature and away from screens.** At the Garden, she can show the importance of taking care of our environment as we nurture their young minds through dynamic, hands-on children and family nature programming.
- **A retiree who discovered vitality and strength** she never knew she had, and ignited her passion for plants and people by volunteering at the Garden.
- **A family looking to create lifelong memories** as they engage with nature and the arts. This summer they'll have the opportunity to stimulate their imaginations and delight in the union of art, nature, play and design while exploring the internationally touring exhibit, Nature Connects®: Art with LEGO® Bricks.

Whether you love the Garden for its educational programs and events, its natural beauty and peacefulness, or its positive impact on the environment, we are grateful for every contribution. Your strong belief in our mission and your support ensures plants never stop growing our community through educational and recreational experiences at the Garden.

*Donations must be made on the Give BIG Green Bay website to be matched by the Green Bay Packers Foundation.

▶ Visit www.givebiggreenbay.org/designee/green-bay-botanical-garden to donate on February 27 and 28 and make a bigger impact with a generous match from the Green Bay Packers Foundation!

Vegetables Taste Better When Grown Together

Get kids excited about eating their veggies by growing a Container Garden together.

Lindsay Hendricks, Assistant Director of Horticulture

Looking for a way to get your kids or grandkids excited about gardening? Show them how much fun it is to grow your own food! Making snacks and meals with your homegrown produce will help encourage your little ones to make healthy choices and may entice the pickiest of eaters to eat their veggies. And thanks to recent plant breeding efforts, you no longer need to dedicate your entire backyard to growing veggies, as many now come 'container-sized'.

What are some good Container Veggie Plants?

Try some of the All-America Selections (AAS) winners listed below, selected for their compact growth habit. Winning year is in parenthesis.

- Tomatoes (*Solanum lycopersicum*)
 - Red Racer (2018), cocktail tomato
 - Patio Choice Yellow (2017), cherry tomato
- Peppers (*Capsicum annuum*)
 - Sweetie Pie (2017), sweet pepper
 - Emerald Fire (2015), jalapeno pepper
- Beans (*Phaseolus vulgaris*)
 - Seychelles (2017), pole bean
 - Mascotte (2014), bush bean
- Peas (*Pisum sativum*)
 - Patio Pride (2017), pea
- Cucumbers (*Cucumis sativus*)
 - Parisian Gherkin (2015), pickling cucumber
 - Pick a Bushel (2014), pickling cucumber

How do I grow my Container Veggie Plants?

If you choose to start your veggies from seed (tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers), start indoors beginning in late March. Follow the instructions on the seed packets, as each type of plant may have different growing requirements. Most prefer full sun and regular watering. If you don't have the space to start seeds indoors, you can simply buy your plants from your local nursery or greenhouse, just make sure to look for container-sized varieties. Remember some seeds, such as beans and peas, grow best when sown directly into the soil. Whether you are starting seeds indoors or purchasing plants, make sure to plant outside after all danger of frost has passed, usually by the end of May in Wisconsin.

What makes a good Container Veggie Garden?

Choose a location for your veggies that receives at least 6 hours of sunlight per day. When choosing your containers, make sure they are big enough to accommodate the mature size of the plant and will provide adequate drainage. It may be helpful to add wheels to some of your larger containers so they can be easily moved into more or less sun, if needed. It is also important to use a high-quality potting mix (not heavy garden soil) to fill your containers. Container grown plants will dry out much faster than those planted in the ground, so check for water daily, especially in hot, dry weather. To get the most productivity out of your garden, remember to weed, water, fertilize and harvest on a weekly basis throughout the season.

Where can I buy Container Veggie Plants?

Visit the All-America Selections website (<http://all-americanselections.org/buy-winners>) for a list of retailers that carry AAS seed. Make sure to visit the Garden this summer and check out the Partnership Gardens and Children's Gardening Patch, where we will be highlighting many of the AAS vegetable winners. While you are there, check out the AAS Trials and get a sneak peak of the up and coming AAS winners!

Featured Container Veggie Plant

Red Racer Cocktail Tomato (pictured left)

Botanical Name: *Solanum lycopersicum* 'Red Racer'
Common Name: Red Racer Cocktail Tomato
Habit: Annual
Size: 36" tall, 24" wide
Light: Full Sun
Days to Harvest (from Transplant): 57
2018 All-America Selection winner

What makes it a good Container Veggie Plant?

Who doesn't love a juicy tomato on a hot summer day? While most tomato varieties would outgrow a container in a day, Red Racer is a compact determinate plant with high yields, 7-10 days earlier than comparisons, making it ideal for container gardens. These cocktail-sized tomatoes have a great balance of sweet and acid, are uniform in size, and mature as a cluster of fruits.





Shop Spring



Add charm to your landscape with these unique bird feeders! There will be continual additions of new items, both outdoor and indoor, as we move from spring into summer: wall art, garden stakes, statues, mobiles, pillows and so much more! Stop in often to see the new selections.



Fan Photos

Social media followers share photos of their incredible adventures at the Garden year-round. Here are some of our favorites from Winter 2017. Post your photos of the Garden on social media with the hashtag #GBBGAdventure and they may end up in our next newsletter!



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grcsteele16



saramireau



blankbreanna



gbcastro82



awesome_world2021



kingmb722



allisonvdb



amy.bosin



kfristad17



smob



nastygurly2

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WHAT'S INSIDE

Boisterous Blooms Abound
When You Invest in Plants and People, You Change Lives
Vegetables Taste Better When Grown Together
and More!

Upcoming Events:
National Public Gardens Day
Mother's Day
TasteBud
Nature Connects® Exhibit
Memorial Day
Concerts in the Grand Garden

