



Into the Garden

The Gardeners' Club
Santa Cruz County,
California

AUGUST 2023

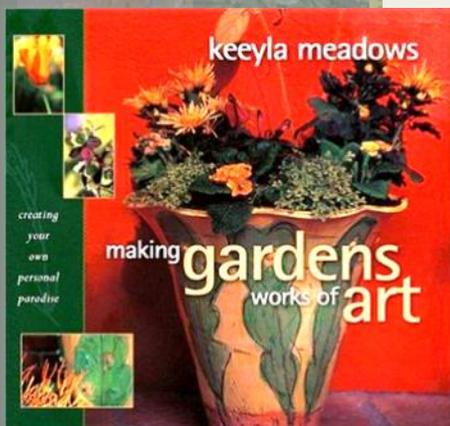
Writer/Editor: Lise
Bixler (lisebixler@sbcglobal.net)

fearless

GARDENING WITH AN ARTIST'S EYE: REVISITING THE IDEAS OF KEYYLA MEADOWS PRESENTATION BY LISE BIXLER

fearless
color
gardens

the creative
gardener's
guide to
jumping off
the color
wheel

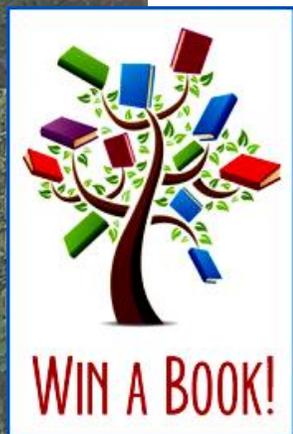


Keeyla Meadows is a garden designer, artist, writer and environmentalist who makes gardens, especially her own in Albany, CA, into giant scale works of art.

Her gardens are living color "paintings". Her vivid imagination leads to unique plant combinations, with supporting casts of sculptures, hardscapes, paint, rich textures, and more. She has inspired me for decades. I recently sat down to reread her books, catch up on her recent activities and assess my own gardens to see how she has influenced them.

In Making Gardens Works of Art: Creating Your Own Personal Paradise Keeyla illustrates key artistic concepts such as working with harmonies and contrasts in color selection, organization of shapes in space, and placement of garden features to transform the average garden into an artistic world. In Fearless Color Gardens: The Creative Gardener's Guide to Jumping Off the Color Wheel she shows how to pick colors that work together; how to coordinate the colors of walls, benches, containers, and garden art; how to organize garden spaces through the use of color; and how to translate personal color preferences into tangible form in the garden. It also features a new way of looking at color with "Keeyla's Color Triangle"; easy-to use tips on growing edibles in color themed gardens; and her favorite plants for specific colors.

Join us in August as I use PowerPoint to illustrate her concepts and ideas in her garden, my garden, and others. All attendees will be entered in a drawing for copies of her books (gently used). There will be handouts, including the recipe for "Keeyla's Secret Soil Recipe". Spread the word, and bring a friend.



THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 7-9 PM

APTOS GRANGE, 2555 MAR VISTA DR.



Monterey Bay Iris Society IRIS SALES

August 5th, 2023 9am-noon
Red Apple Cafe—Patio Area,
Deer Park Shopping Center,
Aptos, CA

August 12th, 2023 9am-noon
August 19th, 2023 9am-noon
Farmer's Market, Cabrillo College



montereybayiris.org



photos by Fred Valentine & Joe Ghio

This is your chance to get beautiful, healthy iris rhizomes. Our annual sale is well-known for its incredible selection of bearded iris. Expert iris growers will be on hand to help you with your selection and answer questions. The rhizomes are \$4.00 each or 20 for \$60.00.



MONTEREY BAY IRIS SOCIETY

<https://montereybayiris.org/growing-bearded-iris/>

Transplanting/Planting Bearded Iris

Joe Ghio reminds us that it is the time of year to dig and divide irises; also to plant new rhizomes you have acquired.

Best results are from July through mid September. Any later transplanting may cut down on the chances for next year bloom, but the plant will probably survive. Bone meal is high in calcium and phosphorus, and a handful per plant really helps to grow strong stems and plentiful flowers. Plant the rhizomes with the top just below the surface of the soil. If you are dividing old clumps, or planting new plants, select rhizomes with a good fan of leaves and evidence of new increase (pointed buds on the sides of the rhizome). Label and map your iris soon after transplanting because irises look bewilderingly similar after blooming.

Space the rhizomes two to three feet apart if you wish to leave the plants undisturbed for several years. For an instant clump effect, space the rhizomes eight inches apart in triangles of three, with the fans ("heel" of the rhizome) facing outward and the back ("toe" end of the rhizome) pointed to the middle of the triangle. After planting, soak the ground and then allow the soil around the top of the rhizome to just become dry before watering again (soil at the bottom of the rhizome may still be slightly damp). Divide every two to four years to avoid overcrowding.

CULTURE TIPS

IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR: dig and replant your irises. In our climate you get much better bloom if you replant irises after the second year of bloom. Quality of bloom declines the longer irises are left in place. For bearded irises best time to replant is the summer months. They don't have to be replanted immediately, in fact, they can stay out of the ground for several weeks. The key is not to trim the leaves back until you are ready to plant. Simply store them upright with leaves on in a box and keep in a cool, shady place such as the garage or a shady tree. 🌸🌿 Joe

August

- Collect and save seed for next year's garden
- Sow self-sowing annuals where you want them to appear next year

- Prune away berry canes that have finished fruiting
- Propagate strawberries or weed them and thin out the runners



Prepare beds for fall garlic planting, and preorder garlic bulbs.

Check out a growing guide and varieties available at Renee's Garden, <https://www.reneesgarden.com/collections/vegetables/garlic->



Pre-Order Fall-Planted Bulbs



Also at Renee's...pre-order Saffron Crocus Bulbs. Unlike other crocuses that bloom in the spring, saffron crocuses are planted late summer and will bloom in the autumn.



Fill empty spots in your garden with cover crops. Cover cropping your bare garden plots helps prevent erosion, and adds nutrients back into your soil. Cover crops are "green manure"!

First Saturday Arboretum Garden Tour

Come check out all the Arboretum has to offer on one of our guided tours! Tours will be held the first Saturday of the month from 11 AM -12 PM and cost the price of regular admission. Learn about the many and varied plants and animals that call the Arboretum home.

Meet your tour guide(s) at the entrance to the visitor parking lot (top of the hill after you enter the Arboretum.)

In case of inclement weather, tours will be canceled.

Please bring you binoculars! We have amazing bird life!

Admission: \$10/adults, \$8/senior, \$5/kids

THE MIDSUMMER GARDEN: VEGETABLES, HERBS, AND FLOWERS

📅 JULY 6, 2023 🌱 SLVPOST.COM

By Marielle Martin

It's not too late to start your Midsummer garden in full swing so ponder selection of your summer vegetables, herbs, and flowers accordingly.

Read Marielle Martin's article in the San Lorenzo Valley Post. She interviewed Mountain Feed's Amanda Cattiver for lots of detailed tips on planting this month.



Purple Sprouting Broccoli

By Kate Cummings, UC Master Gardener Program of Alameda County .

What's the reward? You'll get beauty (think edible ornamentals), delicate flavor (florets, stalks, and leaves), and, compared to single crown broccoli, more manageable harvest quantities over a longer time period (great for smaller households).

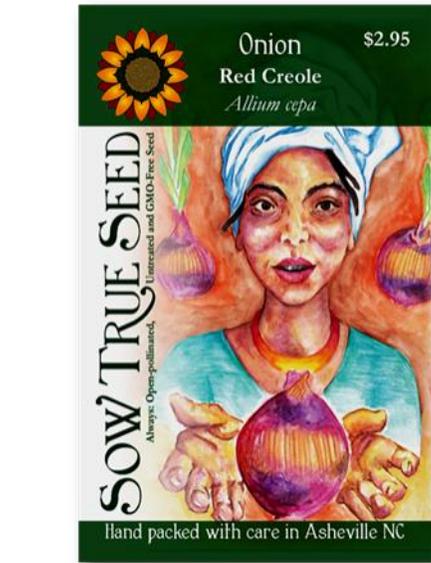
PSBs shown here were planted as 3-4" seedlings in late August, first harvested in early February, and still producing in late February. These heavy feeders did well with a light side-dressing of 4-5-3 fertilizer when seedlings were first planted and again as florets began to form. Mulch kept the soil moist and helped moderate soil temperatures. Mesh cloches helped to keep pests in check (although September was a battle!). For more information on broccoli and other cole crops: <http://ipm.ucanr.edu/home-and-landscape/broccoli/cultural-tips/>

Purple sprouting broccoli (PSB) is a welcome reward for the late winter gardener. Deep purple PSB florets bring much-needed color and contrast to the winter garden. Florets turn green when cooked and bring a delicate almost sweet flavor to the winter dinner plate. And, those rewards keep coming. Cutting the central stalk stimulates side shoots to sprout. Harvesting the mature side shoots stimulates yet more sprouting. Voila - the more you harvest, the more you get.

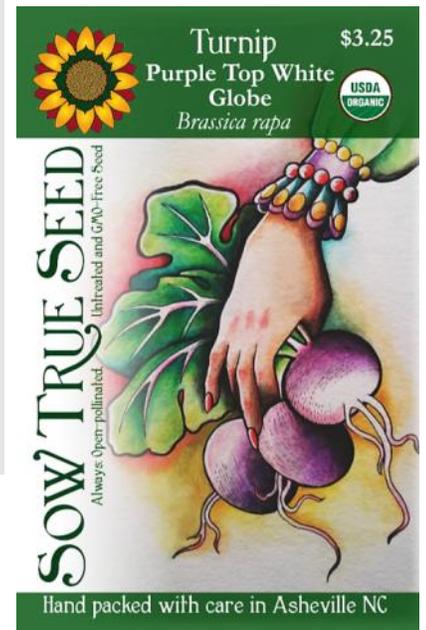
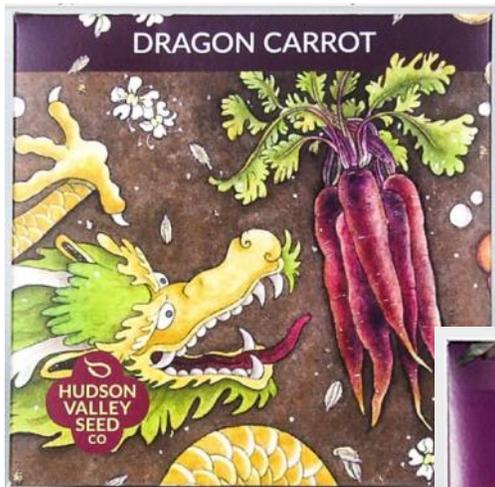
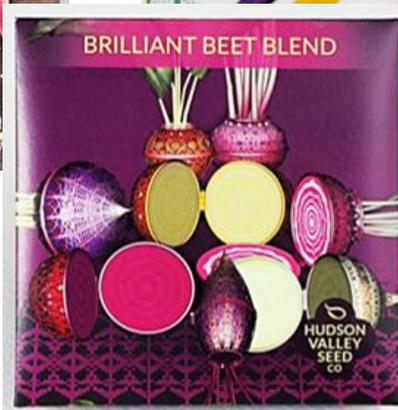
So what's required? You'll need patience (expect 180-200 days to maturity), a good cold snap (chilly nights get florets started), stakes/cages for support (plants grow 3-4 feet tall with shallow roots), vigilant harvesting, and the usual attention to IPM recommendations for cole crops.



BOK CHOY, PURPLE LADY



Crunchy, earthy, sweet, and spicy. Dragon Carrots below are golden yellow inside.



SALADS ALL WINTER!

PLANT AUSTRIAN WINNER PEAS NOW

This is a great edible cover crop—snip off the tendrils and growing tips for salads! You can enjoy fresh pea shoots throughout winter, all the way into asparagus season. Sow Aug. 15–Nov. 1. For benefits as a cover crop, wait until at least 50% of the plants have flowered before mowing crop. Read more about Austrian winter peas as an edible cover crop in this Mother Earth News article! Seed Co. <https://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/austrian-winter-peas-zm0z14onzmat/#axzz3FwCQihVA>



Radish, Chinese Red Meat



FLOWER PETAL SALAD

6 handfuls (10 to 12 ounces) small-leaved lettuce (such as the inner leaves of green and red butter lettuce)

½ cup unsprayed edible flower petals (such as calendulas, nasturtiums, roses, borage, and violets), plus more for garnish if desired

1 bunch radishes, or a mixture of small red radishes and one larger watermelon radish

CREAMY MEYER LEMON DRESSING

1 cup plain yogurt

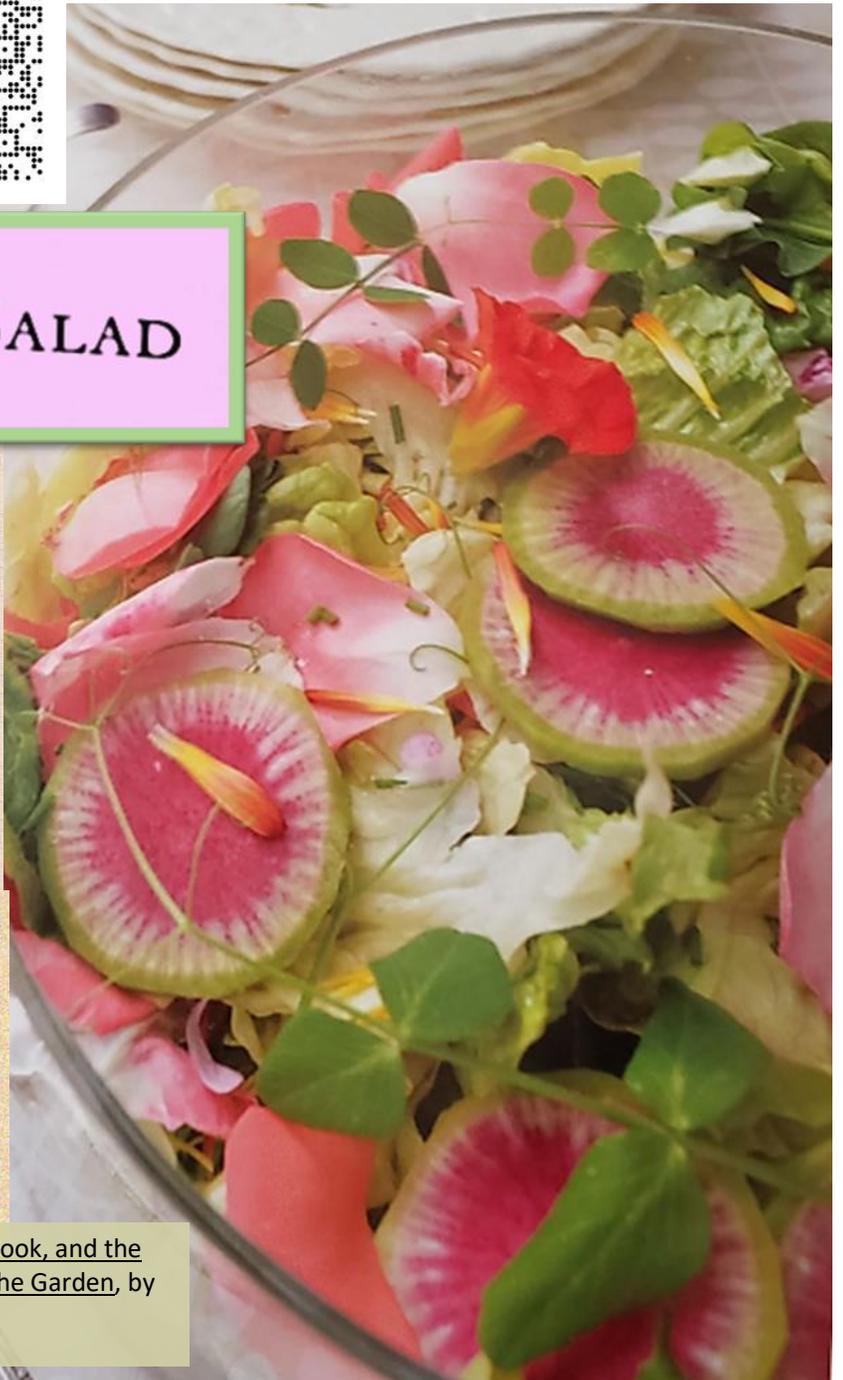
½ cup mayonnaise

Zest and juice of 1 Meyer lemon

4 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil

Fine sea salt

Recipe and photograph from [The Artist, The Cook, and the Gardener: Recipes Inspired by Painting from the Garden](#), by Maryjo Koch.



SUMMER PRUNING FRUIT TREES

Pruning can be thought of as a conversation or dialogue with a tree over time. —*Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems*

Santa Cruz Permaculture has comprehensive information on summer pruning and links to other resources <https://santacruzpermaculture.com/2018/08/summer-pruning-plant-guilds/#:~:text=In%20Santa%20Cruz%2C%20we%20summer,which%20is%20where%20fruit%20grows.>

Summer pruning fruit trees controls undesirable growth on a tree by removing energy-wasting water sprouts. Summer is also a good time to remove leafy upper branches that excessively shade fruit on lower branches. Summer pruning uses thinning cuts (where the branch is cut off at its point of attachment, instead of part way along the branch) and these cuts do not encourage new growth. By removing leaves with the limbs, the tree is also getting less energy. Summer pruning is a technique to train young fruit trees, with thinning cuts to build your ideal tree limb structure. If you want to keep your mature fruit trees at an easy-to-harvest height, summer pruning is essential.

Experts advise pruning apricots and cherries only in the summer. They are susceptible to Eutypa dieback, a branch-killing disease, if pruned during rainy weather. With this in mind, the most cautious gardeners do no dormant pruning on apricot and cherry trees.

August Board Meeting

Our next Board meeting will be a potluck at Lupe Allen's on Monday, August 28th, 103 Danube Dr., Aptos. We will start at 6 p.m. with a tour of her garden, then dine outside, so dress accordingly.

https://youtu.be/3l_qbnsUyx0



To learn more, read this article by Orin Martin, "The How's and Why's of Summer Fruit Tree Pruning."

<https://agroecology.ucsc.edu/documents/for-the-fruit-grower/summer-pruning.pdf>

Grow Organic has a superb video on summer pruning. Watch it on YouTube <https://www.groworganic.com/blogs/videos/summer-pruning-and-thinning>



santa cruz
PERMACULTURE

August 5th Farm Dinner

This Saturday, August 5th:

Every first Saturday through November, our farm dinner will feature an amazing guest chef and our delicious farm produce! The Santa Cruz Permaculture Farm is located on a beautiful 26 acres where fresh ocean breezes blow and the sound of barking seals can be heard in the distance. Please join us for excellent food, music, and community!

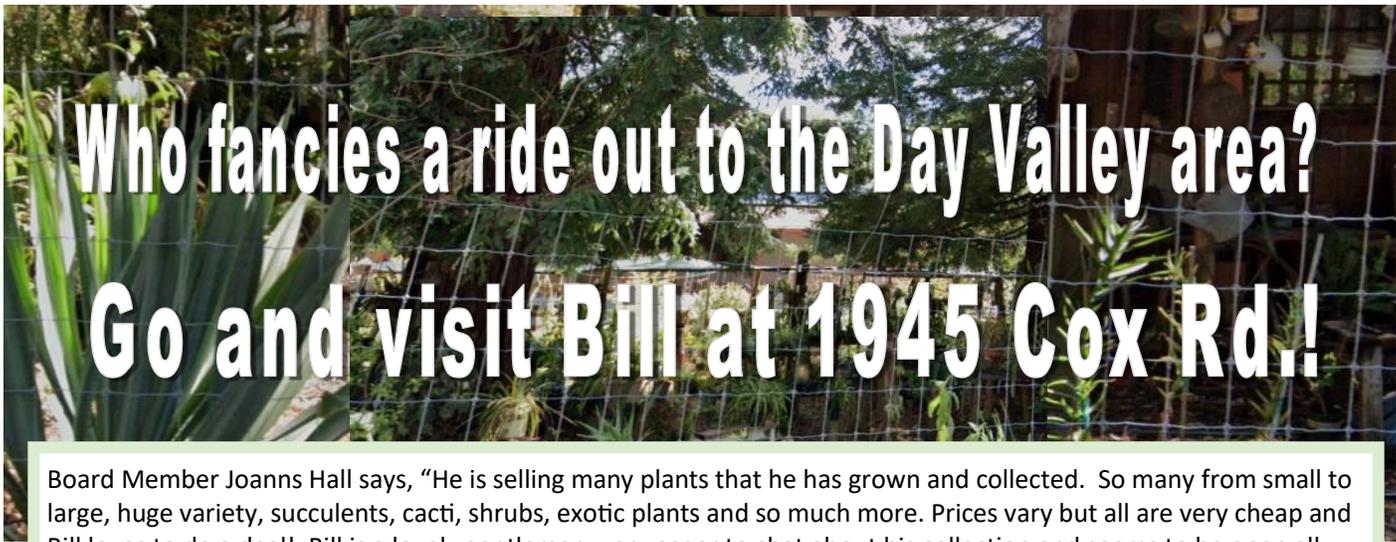
https://santacruzpermaculture.com/farmdinners/?mc_cid=a3169d1aa8&mc_eid=95825c2330

August's Guest Chef

Cassandra Boraiko is the founder of Honey Hearth, the culinary culmination of Cass's endeavors in regenerative agriculture, folk herbalism, wildcrafting, and fine dining. She makes vibrant meals and desserts that are thoughtfully sourced, focusing on sound animal stewardship and farming practices that build healthy soil and community. Her cuisine is holistic, nourishing, inventive and above all, yummy.

Cass holds a passionate belief that the simple acts of preparing and enjoying food ought to be tantalizing to the senses, in reverence to the land, and medicine for the body. Join her dinner table with a hearty appetite and a readiness to go on a culinary journey where ingredients are kin!





Board Member Joanns Hall says, “He is selling many plants that he has grown and collected. So many from small to large, huge variety, succulents, cacti, shrubs, exotic plants and so much more. Prices vary but all are very cheap and Bill loves to do a deal! Bill is a lovely gentleman, very eager to chat about his collection and seems to be open all hours. His world is his yard, he also makes a few rustic plant holders and wooden items.

While you are out that way, buy a bouquet from Flume Road Flowers or get eggs from the vending machine at Glaum Ranch. Enjoy!” Thank you, Joanna—can’t wait to visit his garden sale!

And thanks to Club Member Bill Patterson, who alerted us to the Sentinel article below. We welcome Sarah to her new role, and hope to work closely with her.

Sarah Hulick Announced as New Cabrillo College Horticulture Department Chair



Sarah Hulick contributed photo

Following the retirement of longtime Horticulture Department Chair Peter Shaw at the end of June, Cabrillo College is proud to announce that Sarah Hulick has been selected as its new Horticulture Department Chair. Established in 1975, Cabrillo’s Horticulture Department has had only three Department Chairs, and

Sarah is the first woman to hold the Department Chair position.

With Cabrillo in various capacities since 2017, Sarah was instrumental in creating a new Sustainable Agriculture Technology Associates of Science (A.S.) ‘AgTech’ degree program. She also revised Agriculture Technology coursework to include research and service learning projects and teach two projects per semester. Starting in fall 2018, students who sought the new degree would take classes in six departments—Horticulture, Engineering, Geography, Computer Information Systems (CIS), Computer Science, and Computer Applications/Business Technology (CABT).

She also oversaw a \$5.3 million Title III STEM grant

from the U.S. Department of Education. The five-year grant that started in fall 2016 was aimed at preparing students at designated Hispanic Serving Institutions for careers in high demand. It funded three new positions, construction of a new greenhouse that featured LED lights with collaborator Lumigrow, and managed an indoor growing facility, and new water reclamation and substrate production systems.

“I am honored to do this work serving our Santa Cruz County community, students, and the horticulture and agriculture industries in this new role,” said Sarah. I am thankful my mentors, supporters, and the community.”

In addition, as an Agriculture Curriculum

Specialist at Cabrillo College Sarah also wrote the Introduction to Agriculture Business, Agricultural Economics, and Computer Applications for Agriculture classes, and created four agriculture production classes, Introductory Berry Production, Intermediate Berry Production, Introductory Mushroom Cultivation, and Intermediate Mushroom Cultivation and managed Agriculture Advisory Board Meetings.

Sarah also served as Horticulture and Agriculture Technology (AgTech) Faculty, and taught the following Horticulture classes at Cabrillo College: HORT 70 Organic Agriculture, HORT 71 & 72 Organic Food Production 1 & 2, and HORT 1A Basic Horticulture (intro plant biology)

Since December 2021,

Sarah was the Grant Director on the National Science Foundation (NSF) LSAMP Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation in Sciences Cabrillo College Grant, which included a sub award of Allan Hancock College, and an 8 college consortium with the goal of increasing historically underrepresented STEM student transfer rates to 4 year institutions.

From 2021 to 2023 Sarah was the Grant Manager for Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF II) grant funds, which included project management of the creation of new, re-entry student success program called ‘Ganas’ which in Spanish means ‘to win’ or ‘to earn’ and connects former students with their intrinsic motivation to restart their college

education that they put on pause during the COVID-19 pandemic. Ganas is a wrap-around support service that provides students with financial aid and academic counseling, a reentry success mentor, cash grants, tutoring, and motivation workshops.

Prior to her work at Cabrillo College, Sarah was a Specialty Crop Consultant, a Grower Innovation Manager, a Horticulture and Agronomy Research Scientist for Dole Fresh Vegetables,, and an Extension Specialist for Driscoll’s.

Sarah was also a Student Research Assistant at Cornell University, where she received her Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Agriculture and Plant Sciences, as well as her Master of Science (M.S.) in Horticulture.



THE FARWEST SHOW

I'm not in the nursery business, but years ago I attended the Far West trade show in Portland, learning a lot and coming home with lots of goodies. Wish I had time to attend this year! The three-day trade show and conference is happening Wednesday, August 23 through Friday, August 25 at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, Oregon. It is produced by the Oregon Association of Nurseries, the trade group representing Oregon's nearly \$1.4 billion nursery industry. The Farwest Show, the biggest green industry trade show in the West, will celebrate its

50th anniversary in 2023! The show is produced by the OAN, a nonprofit organization that represents and serves the interests of Oregon's nursery, retail, and greenhouse industry. Any revenue realized by the OAN is reinvested into the industry through education, research, marketing support and government relations. For more information about the 2023 Farwest Show, visit www.FarwestShow.com.



One of the great features of the show is their New Varieties Showcase. You can drool here seeing a few that are promising. To see the full showcase, go to <https://farwestshow.com/new-varieties-showcase/>.



Eclipse® Hydrangea (*Hydrangea macrophylla* 'Eclipse'). First true dark-leaf *Hydrangea macrophylla* on the market. Intense, dark purple foliage holds its color, even in sunny warm climates. Striking foliage, paired with gorgeous dark purple or cranberry colored blooms, offers excellent mildew and resistance.



Rise Up Emberays™ Climbing Rose (*Rosa* x 'Bozfra321'). Big, luscious orange blooms with bright yellow eye, will liven up landscape all summer, whether grown on its own or trained up a trellis, column, or wall. Super-clean, glossy, dark green foliage. Height 3-5' Spread: 2-3'. Introduced by Spring Meadow Nursery – Proven Winners ColorChoice

with no signs of mildew. Look for its remarkable blooms to appear in late spring/early summer and sporadically appear throughout the summer, all the better to enjoy its beautiful fragrance. New and very special North American native hybrid that is as easy to grow as it is beautiful. Height: 5-8' Spread: 4-6'.



Beekeeper
(*Caryopteris* x *clandonensis* 'MINIGOLD').

Beekeeper is a bright, beautiful, low-maintenance pollinator magnet! Striking blue flowers rebloom from summer to fall against chartreuse-green foliage. You'll love it as much as the bees do as you relax and enjoy the view.

Height: 2-3' Spread: 2-3'



Silver Lining White Sagebrush (*Artemisia* 'Silver Lining'). Hybrid of native North American species; spectacular, durable foliage perennial. Broadly dissected silver leaves are showy from spring to fall. The lo Truly perennial; use as a filler in the landscape and spiller in mixed containers. Buff yellow flowers are held on tall scapes. Does not spread by runners Flowering is not significant.



El Nino™ Desert Orchid (*Chitalpa*)
The dark purple flowers look for all the world like orchids, but this interesting shrub or miniature tree is actually an intergeneric hybrid of desert willow (*Chilopsis linearis*) and catalpa (*Catalpa* sp.). *Chilopsis* is well-known for its tolerance to poor soils and the dry heat of the American Southwest, its *Catalpa* percentage imbues it with wonderful performance in Asheville, North Carolina,

Getting Started with Vegetables—A Virtual Support Series

Are you new to vegetable gardening? Have you started some plants this year and have lots of questions? Where to plant? Best soil? How much water? Pests? Fertilizer?

Come join UC Master Gardeners Harry Lee and Bridget Ballatore in a virtual support series for new vegetable growers. Their first session in July will cover the basics and address some of your initial questions. The following two sessions in August and September will focus on any problems and questions you've encountered as your plants have grown.

Each session will be recorded so you can access it anytime but we recommend attending the sessions live so you can get your specific questions answered.

Thursdays, July 20, August 17 and September 14 5:00 - 6:30 PM

Cost: \$5 per class or only \$12 for the 3 session bundle!



Save your space here! <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/addbe9ee-1ea1-40c5-8a2c-18f790c1c23f>

Harvesting Equity with Dolores Huerta

(Homeless Garden Project)

HGP is pleased to be a Supporter of the event **Harvesting Equity**—featuring Civil Rights Activist Dolores Huerta at the Henry J. Mello Center for the Performing Arts on Saturday, August 12 at 4:00pm in Watsonville.

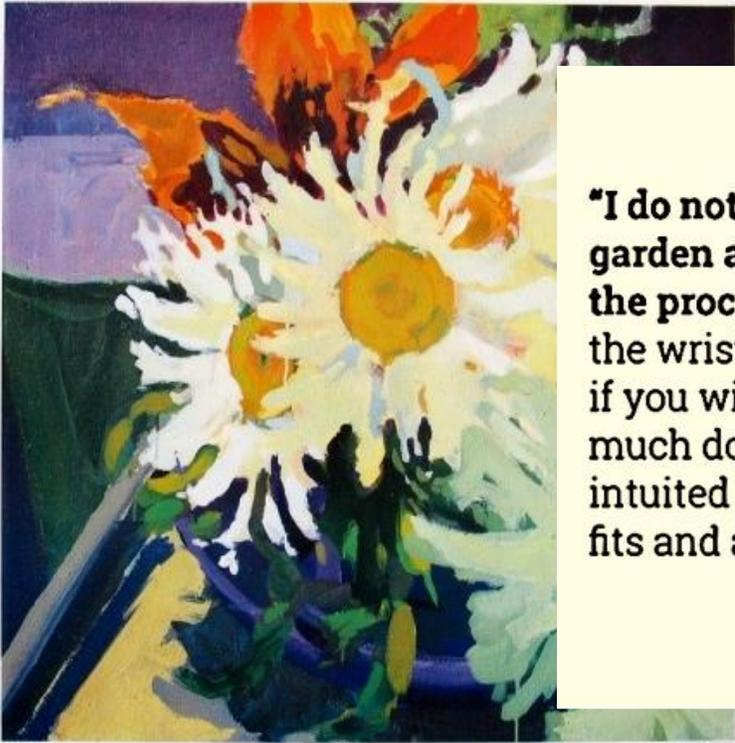
Huerta has spent decades championing the rights of farmworkers, women and the LGBTQ+ community. She'll be joined by local activists Mireya Gómez-Contreras, Co-Leader of Esperanza Community Farms, and Ann López, PhD, Executive Director of the Center for Farmworker Families, as they discuss *cultivating sustainable communities through organic farming and economic justice*.



Tickets are \$20 and all seats are general admission. This event is being sponsored by the Community Foundation Santa Cruz County, Land Trust of Santa Cruz County, and Santa Cruz County Bank. Simultaneous Spanish interpretation will be available upon request. The Mello Center is wheelchair accessible. For more information and tickets, please go to:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/harvesting-equity-with-dolores-huerta-tickets-651309402957?>





"I do not paint in the way that I garden or garden as I would employ the brush, although the process is often the same. Both are arts of the wrist, the broadest, largest sort of signature, if you will, highly idiosyncratic, the result of much doing, much stumbling, and highly intuited turns and twists before everything fits and adheres to the scale of one's intention."

**— Robert Dash,
Notes From Madoo**

www.thegardenersclub.org

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www.etsy.com/shop/curiousprintpattern.

Our front page logo is graciously shared with us by artist Lisa Zador. Order a print or see more of her work at her Etsy shop

each month at the Aptos Grange, 2555 Mar Vista Dr., Aptos

CA 95005. Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Thursday of

to "The Gardeners' Club" and mail to P.O. Box 3025, Ben Lomond,

Dues are \$15 per calendar year. Make check

It's easy-peasy to join our club!

