

# the review

UC DAVIS ARBORETUM AND PUBLIC GARDEN

Mary Watis Brown Garden of California Native Plants

## Spring PLANT SALES

9 AM - 1 PM  
Arboretum Teaching Nursery  
Garrod Drive, UC Davis  
[arboretum.ucdavis.edu](http://arboretum.ucdavis.edu)

### PUBLIC SALES

Saturday, April 11  
Saturday, April 25  
Saturday, May 16

Members always save 10% on every purchase!

Not a member?  
Call ahead or join at the door!

UCDAVIS



ARBORETUM AND PUBLIC GARDEN

## THE NEW FRONT YARD: BRINGING NATURE HOME

Ellen Zagory, Director of Horticulture

**NEWS REPORTS OF THE FOURTH YEAR OF DROUGHT** have eliminated the optimistic feelings I had after our December rains. The driest January in recent history has me thinking about what else I can do to reduce water use and make my garden more sustainable. Whether you have chosen to use low-water plants, or are toughing it out in the hopes of a change in weather, there are important reasons—besides just water—that might sway you in deciding to get rid of that lawn and create an innovative and interesting “New Front Yard.”

I recently watched “Becoming California” on KQED (Google “KQED Becoming California” to find it online). The film highlighted the teaching and philosophy of leaders from California and elsewhere who repeated the importance of bringing nature home, the value of re-establishing habitats for native wildlife in our yards, and that—with the selection of productive plants—we can create ecological havens all around us.

I experienced this change when I traded in my lawn for a low-water landscape with plants to provide nectar and pollen for insects, seeds for birds, and a permeable surface that allows for rainfall absorption. Now, hummingbirds zip around outside, a ruby-crowned kinglet flits over the plants searching for bug snacks, and I await the return of the many butterflies and native bees that dined here last summer.

Just outside your window is a place where you can discover and become a steward of nature. You can create an urban ecosystem from a bare strip of



**CORAL FOUNTAIN**  
*Russelia equisetiformis*



**GOLD TOOTH ALOE**  
*Aloe x spinosissima*



**SAN DIEGO SAGE**  
*Salvia clevelandii*  
'Aromas'

earth or a patch of lawn that will start a conversation with Mother Nature.

Not ready for a full-scale renovation? Just add a new, beneficial plant to your mix to see what new wildlife it brings. We've got a whole new list of 35 low-water plants you've (probably) never heard of, which are compatible with last year's New Front Yard series. More California natives—about 40 percent of the list—lead the way, as well as hummingbird-attracting plants, those known to be visited by important pollinators and beneficial insects, and of course, a few from the desert with the ability to survive with no summer irrigation.

We've got a few pictured here and on page 2 (see the WUCOLS article), but you can see all 35 by downloading the complete list on our website: <http://arboretum.ucdavis.edu/plant-sales.aspx>.

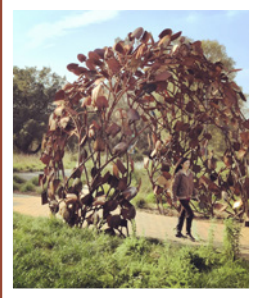


FREE community festival to dedicate our new garden, the Arboretum GATEway Garden!

**Sunday, May 3; 1–3pm**

The beautiful new garden at the east end of the Arboretum is a connection point between the UC Davis campus and the City of Davis, showcasing local native plants.

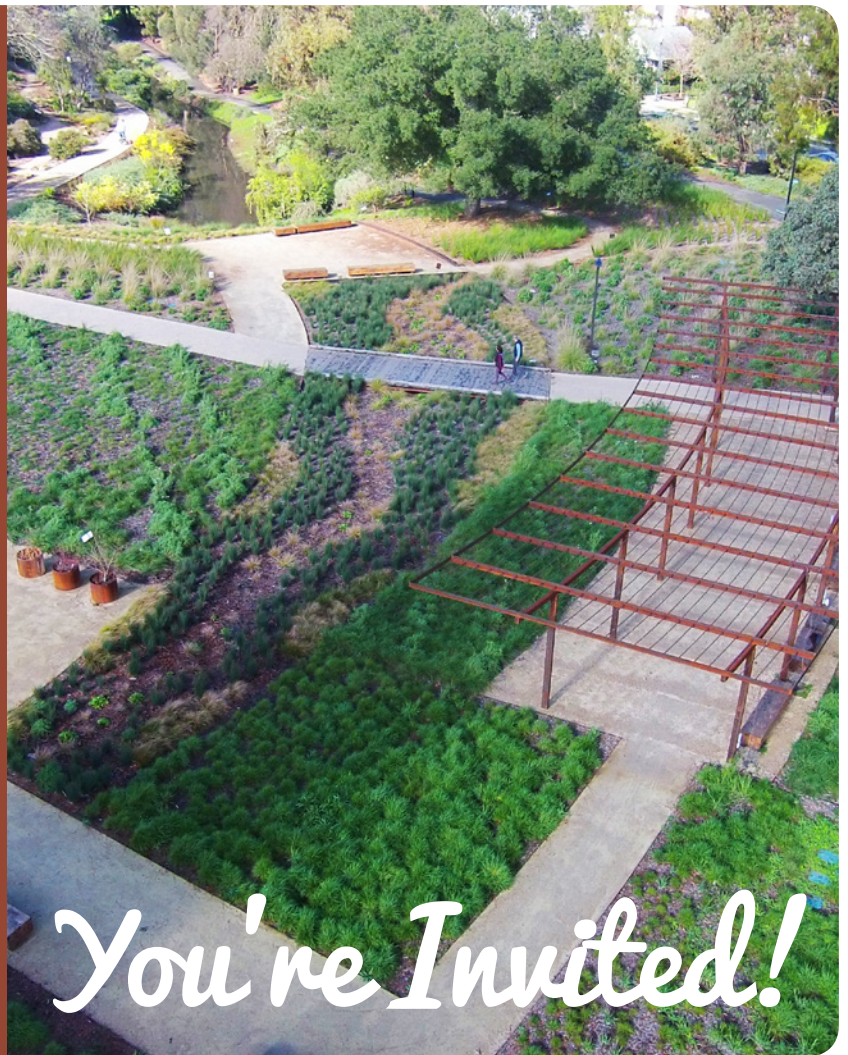
Come explore how the Arboretum GATEway Garden is celebrating our local heritage, strengthening community connections, and building a sustainable future.



- Try hands-on activities
- Take guided tours
- Learn how the garden was designed and constructed
- Experience how students, partners, and volunteers are making the garden a vibrant destination for community engagement
- Enjoy music, refreshments, and a brief ribbon-cutting at 1:30pm

Thank you to the generous funders, community partners, and many volunteers who helped make this project possible.

.....  
The Arboretum GATEway Garden is adjacent to the Davis Commons Shopping Center parking lot. We encourage you to walk or bike. Parking is available downtown or in nearby campus visitor parking lots.



*You're Invited!*



**TEXAS MOUNTAIN LAUREL**  
*Sophora secundiflora*



**BLADDERPOD**  
*Peritoma arborea*



**SPIDER AGAVE**  
*Agave bracteosa*



**FLANNEL BUSH**  
*Fremontodendron californicum*

## UPDATED DATABASE

## LOOK UP LOW-WATER PLANTS WITH WUCOLS!

**THANKS TO THE UC DAVIS CALIFORNIA CENTER FOR URBAN HORTICULTURE (CCUH)**, which secured funding from multiple industry partners as well as the California Department of Water Resources, there's an online resource that is a quick way to learn more about water needs of plants sold by nurseries throughout the state of California. It's called WUCOLS, which stands for Water Use Classification of Landscape Species (<http://ucanr.edu/sites/WUCOLS>).

Because only about 1% of plants have been scientifically researched to determine their exact water needs, the WUCOLS list incorporates the extensive field knowledge of 36 horticulturists from throughout the state whose experience has allowed them to evaluate the water use of over 3,500 plants; this knowledge is now documented within the fourth edition of the WUCOLS online database.

Once you start digging around this list we think you'll find a multitude of low-water plants that you've never heard of, but will want to try. The plants illustrated here are just a few of our favorites that we'll have available at our spring plant sales.





**ANN IS A MEMBER OF THE FRIDAY NATIVE PLANT GARDENER VOLUNTEER TEAM** that cares for the Arboretum GATEway Garden and Putah Creek Parkway. As a native plant enthusiast, she jumped at the chance to join the native gardening training in fall of 2013. She and the other 25 volunteers on the team have played a key role in the planting and developing of the Arboretum GATEway Garden, restoring the Putah Creek Parkway, and creating the community-built mural that connects the two green spaces.

After retiring from careers in Texas in 2010, Ann and her husband Jim chose to relocate to Davis for the mild climate and the college town community. Ann developed her love of native plants as a volunteer at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin, and she has brought that appreciation with her to California. As a former history major, she appreciates how “native plants tell about the history and culture of a place.”

After working in the Arboretum GATEway Garden for over a year, Ann feels a special connection to the garden she helped build. Knowing the history of the site and its transformation, and observing how the garden ties to the community in such a strong way, keep her motivated to stay involved.

## SPRING MEMBERSHIP DRIVE FEATURES ADDITIONAL BENEFITS!

**IT'S A GREAT TIME TO JOIN OR RENEW** as a member of the Friends; our spring membership drive is in full swing!

Everyone who joins or renews between February 16 and May 16 is automatically entered in a drawing for a \$75 gift certificate good at a plant sale.

There's also an exciting new benefit for Manzanita, Valley Oak and Sequoia Circle members—an additional reciprocal admission program. As a Friends member at the \$100+ level, you'll receive free or discounted admission or reduced fees on special programs at 700 participating arts and cultural museums including the Crocker Art Museum, the Sacramento History Museum, the California Railroad Museum, the deYoung in San Francisco and the UC Berkeley Botanic Garden. Consider upgrading your membership to take advantage of this benefit!

Thanks for supporting the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden!



Upgrade your membership to receive free or discounted entry at over 700 arts and cultural museums.

## Eric Hoeschen

Please join us in welcoming Eric in his new role as Gardening Specialist in the Arboretum. After receiving a degree in Environmental Horticulture and Urban Forestry from UC Davis, Eric worked in a variety of private sector positions managing commercial landscape contracts and tree nursery production. Since last August Eric has been working as a Groundskeeper for the Grounds and Landscape Services team of the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden, and he has received nothing but rave reviews from all of his colleagues for his strong work ethic, horticultural expertise, and friendly demeanor. Eric enjoys “engaging co-workers and volunteers in a fun and effective working environment.” He is poised to contribute greatly to the care of the Arboretum as the newest member of our horticulture team.



## Libby McGill

After a 25-year career at UC Davis, Libby retired from her Gardening Specialist position at the Arboretum in December 2014. Libby took expert care of the central area of the Arboretum from Mrak Hall Drive to Putah Creek Lodge. A masterful pruner, she plied her art shaping the plentiful redbuds and other shrubs in her area. Although she won't be missing the long hours hand watering in the summer, she did enjoy observing and identifying the diversity of birds that sought food and shelter in her piece of the Arboretum. What's next for Libby? Lots of reading, sleeping in past 5 am, and an art history research project that will take her back to her original field of study. Congratulations, Libby, and thank you for your many years of dedicated service to the Arboretum!



## Mia Ingolia

After nearly a decade, Mia Ingolia, the Curator and GIS Manager at the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden, has accepted a new position as a biologist/botanist at the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC - Water Enterprise). In her new job, Mia will be guiding Habitat Conservation work on the 63,000 acres of SFPUC lands, and will have a special role developing the SFPUC East Bay Watershed Interpretation Center's three-acre garden and native plant nursery, featuring bioregional plants of the three-county watershed. Meanwhile, here at the Arboretum, we are deeply grateful to the amazing Curatorial Volunteer Teams that Mia recruited and trained, who will continue carrying on the curatorial work of the garden as we search for a new curator.





# SPRING 2015 GATEWAYS EVENTS

## plant sales

9 am–1 pm  
Arboretum Teaching Nursery  
Garrod Drive, UC Davis  
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### PUBLIC SALES

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## guided tours

### WEDNESDAY WALKS WITH WARREN

All walks begin at 12 pm  
**April 8, May 13, June 10**  
*West End Gardens, meet at Gazebo*

Join Warren Roberts, Superintendent Emeritus of the Arboretum, to discover seasonal color in the UC Davis Arboretum's gardens and plant collections.



## all-ages programs

### ANNUAL PICNIC DAY CELEBRATION

**Saturday, April 18**

- Picnic Day Parade float, 10:10 am–noon *campus and downtown*
- Hands-on activities, 10 am–3 pm *Vanderhoef Quad*

Enjoy eco-pot and olive wreath making, and more hands-on activities highlighting the Arboretum and Public Garden's focus on sustainable gardening at our table in the Vanderhoef Quad.



### NATURE DISCOVERY DROP-IN DAYS

**Saturdays, April 4, May 9, May 16;**  
**Sunday, April 26,** noon–2 pm  
*Arboretum GATEway Garden (behind Davis Commons Shopping Center)*

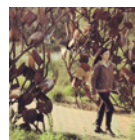
Join us for a couple of hours throughout spring quarter in the Arboretum GATEway Garden. Come explore a variety of topics including ecology, biodiversity, sustainability, and more through hands-on activities and demonstrations.



### ARBORETUM GATEWAY GARDEN PUBLIC DEDICATION

**Sunday, May 3,** 1–3 pm  
*Arboretum GATEway Garden (behind Davis Commons Shopping Center)*

Join us for a free festival to dedicate our newest garden—the Arboretum GATEway Garden. This beautiful garden provides a new entry to the campus and the Arboretum, showcases plants native to our region, sustainable features and community connections. Enjoy hands-on activities for all ages, garden tours, music, refreshments, and more!



### WILD FAMILY DAY

**Sunday, May 31,** 1–3 pm  
*Arboretum GATEway Garden (behind Davis Commons Shopping Center)*

Join Wild Campus—a UC Davis student organization dedicated to the conservation of local flora and fauna—in partnership with the Arboretum and Public Garden for our 4th annual Wild Family Day. Enjoy fun games and activities as well as educational displays and live animals! For more details, email [wildcampus411@gmail.com](mailto:wildcampus411@gmail.com).



### STORYTIME THROUGH THE SEASONS: UNDER THE TUSCAN SUN

**Sunday, May 17,** 1–3 pm  
*Meet at the Arboretum Gazebo*

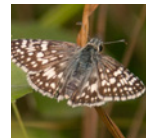
Explore the natural, cultural, and flavorful world of the Mediterranean in this program for children and families. Take part in readings, tastings, and hands-on activities in the Arboretum's spectacular Mediterranean Collection. Sponsored by the Arboretum Ambassadors.



### BUGTOPIA 4.0: DISCOVER EVERYDAY INSECTS

**Saturday May 30,** 1–3 pm  
*Arboretum Gazebo*

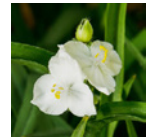
Learn about the hidden insect wonders of the Arboretum from UC Davis Entomology Club members and Arboretum Ambassadors. Tour the collections and learn insect names, trapping methods, and ecology.



### STARGAZING IN THE WHITE FLOWER GARDEN

**Friday, May 15,** 9 pm  
*Meet at the Arboretum Gazebo*

Need to get away from it all? Join us for a relaxed, shared experience appreciating the wondrous night sky. Conditions permitting, we will be in for a slim crescent moon and a lush tapestry of stars. Bring the whole family! This free event is sponsored by the Arboretum Ambassadors.



### “RANG BARSEY” — A CELEBRATION OF HOLI

**Sunday, April 12,** noon–4 pm,  
*Arboretum Gazebo*

The Indian Graduate Student Association in collaboration with the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden present “Rang Barsey”—a celebration of Holi. Have a fun-filled time in this magnificent celebration of joy with colors, water, and lots of Indian food at the Arboretum Gazebo. Stay tuned for updates about ticketing and other details. For pricing and more info, visit <http://tinyurl.com/rangbarsey2014> or email [ucd.igsa@gmail.com](mailto:ucd.igsa@gmail.com).





## ETHNOBOTANY TOUR IN THE ARBORETUM

**Sunday, May 3, 2:15–3:30 pm**  
Wyatt Deck

Learn about the many ways plants can be used in everyday life. Join us for a FREE guided ethnobotany tour followed by a tea tasting. Sponsored by the Arboretum Ambassadors. (CC Photo: Flickr user Gio)

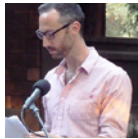


## arts and letters

### 4TH ANNUAL FAREWELL READING OF UC DAVIS CREATIVE WRITING

**Wednesday, June 10, 7 pm**  
Wyatt Deck

The Creative Writing MA program and the Arboretum present the 4th annual student reading on Wyatt Deck. Graduating writers will read selections from their work.



## music & wellness

### FOLK MUSIC JAM SESSIONS

**Fridays, April 10 & 24; May 8 & 22;  
June 5 & 19, Noon–1 pm**  
Wyatt Deck

Folk musicians are invited to bring their acoustic instruments and play together informally over the lunch hour. All skill levels are welcome, and listeners are invited.



### WHAT THE FUNK?

**Saturday May 2, 7 pm**  
Wyatt Deck

Join us for a free evening of music with the jazziest funk band in Davis—Dank Ocean! Appropriate for adults. Sponsored by the Arboretum Ambassadors.



## YOGA IN THE ARBORETUM

**Sunday, May 31, 1–2:30 pm**  
Meet just east of Putah Creek Lodge

(Rain location: Environmental Horticulture 146)

Join us for 90 minutes of yoga appropriate for all skill levels led by certified instructor Loshan Ostrava. Dress comfortably. Please bring a towel or yoga mat and water bottle. Sponsored by the Arboretum Ambassadors.



## camp shakespeare sign ups

**Session 1 (Ages 7-12), July 6–17**  
**Session 2 (Ages 7-12), July 20–21**

Sign up today for the best summer camp in Davis! Join the Davis Shakespeare Ensemble for exciting theater games, acting workshops, and a special camp production. This summer campers will play clowns, villains, and soldiers in one of Shakespeare's best comedies: *Twelfth Night*.



Camps run Monday–Friday, 9 am–3 pm with options for early drop-off and late pick-up. For more details and online enrollment, visit [www.shakespeareandavis.com](http://www.shakespeareandavis.com).

Show your LOVE for the Arboretum during this 24-hour regional celebration of giving:

1. Visit [arboretum.ucdavis.edu](http://arboretum.ucdavis.edu) on May 5
2. Select the BIG Day of Giving button
3. Make a secure online gift starting at \$25.

**BIG DAY OF GIVING** MAY 5

24 HOURS TO GIVE WHERE YOUR HEART IS

Watch our Leaflet e-newsletter or follow us on Facebook for more details and information about prize incentives!

Sponsored by the The Sacramento Region Community Foundation

**MAY 5**







## SNAPSHOTS WINTER GATEWAYS EVENTS AND MORE!

*Your membership in and gifts to the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden help fund these and other educational programs for our community. Thank you!*



1. Arboretum Docent Lois Richter teaches attendees about birds that winter in Davis.

2. Families participate in hands-on activities at Storytime Through the Seasons: Expedition to Africa including making drums from compostable cups.

3. An overhead view of construction progress in the Vet Med/Arboretum Initiative Zone. The area enclosed within the oval-shaped walkway will become a meadow of California native grasses.

4. Antonio Flores, East Bay Regional Parks docent, assists a participant in making her own Native Californian elderberry flute at a recent workshop.

5. Melissa Moreno, Woodland Community College professor, shows attendees at one of our regularly-scheduled Nature Discovery Days (see event calendar) how to create "seed bombs."

6. To mitigate runoff from the Vet Med horse corral, students from the Environmental Club at UC Davis assist Arboretum and Public Garden staff in installing a waterwise landscape along Garrod Drive.

7. Arboretum and Public Garden team members from Grounds and Landscape Services help install the final portion of the new, low-water, low-maintenance landscape in the La Rue Road median.

8. Naturalist Steve Daubert reads from his original stories, *Birds and the Trees: Stories in Natural History*, to an audience at the Arboretum Terrace Garden.

9. Carli Hambley, student intern (fourth from the left), leads a group of volunteers in planting the "Healing Patch"—a new garden outside the Student Health Services Center.

10. Matt Hayes, operations engineer from UC Davis Civil and Industrial Services, works with his team to remove the old boat dock from the Arboretum waterway. A shaky footing, combined with rotting wood, made the feature too unsafe for our visitors.

11. Ellen Zagory, director of public horticulture, instructs one of our many new volunteers in proper pruning methods as part of our in-depth volunteer training program.





# DONATIONS Nov 2014 - Jan 2015

We extend our sincere gratitude to these donors

## TRIBUTES AND DEDICATIONS:

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Nanci & Chuck Cooper  
Clare Hasler  
Marianne Crosby

*In Honor of Maxine and Herb Schmalenberger*  
Karol & Michael Gottfredson

*In Memory of Johanna Trueblood*  
Barbara & Bryn Ostby  
Bette & Daniel Shoreman

*In Memory of Chris White*  
Fredrick White & Pat Haggerty-White

### OAK GROVE TILE DEDICATIONS

*In Memory of Rena Smilkstein*  
Linda Hammons

### UNRESTRICTED TRIBUTE GIFTS

*In Memory of Pat Piper*  
Warren G. Roberts  
Robert Ralston & Ginny Vaughn

*In Honor of Robert L. Ralston*  
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*In Memory of Rena smilkstein*  
Helen Henon  
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Fred & Martha Rehrman  
Sacramento Region Community Foundation

### GIFT IN KIND

Gerald Dickinson

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Sylvia Wright  
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Kayoko Yamamoto-Barajas  
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Haig & Irene Zeronian

## NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS:

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Carol Knight  
Sandy Tsai & G. J. Matthey  
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Eldridge & Judy Moores  
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Lester E. Ehler  
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Steve Dreistadt & Jenny Hing  
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Ernie & Mary Ann Lewis  
Peter & Linda Lindert  
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Alice Lytle  
Susan Mann  
Shirley Maus  
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Terry McDowell  
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Meghan & Matthew Zavod

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June Bauman  
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Ernie Blevins  
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Erin Summ  
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Lorna Thornton  
Robbin Thorp  
Bernabe Trujillo  
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Dirk Van Vuren  
Georgie Waugh  
Zipora Weinbaum  
Jehanne Weinzettl  
Pam Williams  
Roger Wilmarth  
Joyce Wisner  
Jean Witzman  
Linda Tsao Yang  
Gail Yokote  
George D. Yonge

## WE NEED YOU! BOARD MEMBER RECRUITMENT

The Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden Board is accepting nominations for members-at-large for a two-year term beginning July 1, 2015. Consider offering your talents to support this amazing organization! The Board leads work groups that support Arboretum and Public Garden strategic initiatives and fundraising programs.

Any member of the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden is eligible for nomination. Nominees will be considered by a nomination committee appointed by the president. Please submit nominations to the staff liaison to the Board, Suzanne Ullensvang at [sullensvang@ucdavis.edu](mailto:sullensvang@ucdavis.edu) by June 1, 2015.

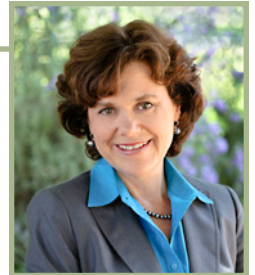
# UC DAVIS ARBORETUM AND PUBLIC GARDEN REVIEW

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Dear Friends,

Spring is here and the gardens are in glorious bloom! I hope you will plan to visit repeatedly over the next several weeks to enjoy the ever-changing peak floral display.

I want to start off by thanking everyone who has supported us through the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden's recent annual appeal (see page 7). It's not too late to send in your much-needed gift, which supports all of the GATEways family programs (see photos from this winter's exciting events on page 6). You can also support the Friends by joining or renewing your membership during our spring membership drive (see page 3). In addition, we are participating, for the second year, in the regional Big Day of Giving event on May 5 (see page 5). If you know someone who is looking for an easy, online way to donate to us, please encourage them to check this out.

I am thrilled to invite everyone to the official dedication of our newest garden, the Arboretum GATEway Garden, celebrating our area's natural and cultural heritage, sustainable landscape techniques, and connections with our local community (see page 2). This garden, on the east end of the Arboretum, realizes a dream of ours to better link the city with the campus. We extend our sincere gratitude to our community partners and the stellar volunteers who have made this garden a reality.

Don't forget to join us for our spring plant sales. You'll find California native plants and other low-water-use plants that will help your garden withstand our continued drought. In addition, your water-wise garden can be planted to attract native wildlife, pollinators, and beneficial insects. Read Director of Horticulture Ellen Zagory's article on sustainable and habitat-creating gardening strategies (see page 1). You'll be introduced to some lesser-known, drought-tolerant, wildlife-friendly plants, as well as a new online database that allows you to look up the water needs of your favorite and soon-to-be-favorite plants (see page 2).

Along with spring plant sales, we have a full and exciting slate of GATEways events this spring (see page 4). I hope to see you at one of our programs or out enjoying the gardens!

*Kathleen*