



30TH ANNUAL LAHR SYMPOSIUM

NATIVE PLANTS: GOOD DESIGN



Good design in today's gardens and landscapes integrates the beautiful with the ecologically beneficial.

Join the nation's top practitioners of landscape design, ecology, and resource management to learn how you can apply their approaches, insights, and techniques.



SATURDAY APRIL 2, 2016

U.S. NATIONAL ARBORETUM
www.usna.usda.gov



Schedule

8:30 Registration and Plant Sale

9:30 Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Richard Olsen, Director, US National Arboretum

Joan Feely, Curator, Fern Valley Native Plant Collection, U.S. National Arboretum

9:40 A Chickadee's Guide to Gardening

Traditionally, it has been acceptable practice to design landscapes strictly for our own pleasure, with little thought as to how they impact the natural world. Using chickadees and other wildlife as guides, **Dr. Douglas Tallamy** will revisit our approach to gardening to see what is required to keep our landscapes truly alive. See how sharing our gardens with other living things will benefit local wildlife and enhance our experience.

10:45 Refreshment Break

11:00 Morning Concurrent Sessions:

Choose one session from A – C from the list at right

12:00 Lunch and Plant Sale

1:15 Afternoon Concurrent Sessions:

Choose one session from D – F from the list at right

2:20 Creating a Dynamic and Resilient Landscape

Plants are the foundation of healthy ecosystems and they bring beauty and joy to our lives. But great plants alone don't automatically create lasting ecological benefits in our gardens. **Claudia West** talks about spectacular perennials and grasses and how to use them in stable, layered, natural combinations that increase the ornamental, functional, and ecological value of your landscape. Enjoy and be inspired!

3:30 Adjourn

Concurrent Sessions

East meets Wild: Native Plants in Ikebana

Morning: A

Afternoon: D

Ikebana is the Japanese art of flower arrangement and is steeped in the philosophy of developing closeness with nature. Each school of ikebana has its own set of rules and techniques: Ichiyo, pronounced 'ee-chee-yo', was founded on the idea of creating ikebana that is suitable for modern lifestyles and all types of settings. See how ikebana artist **Valerie Eccleston** and her students use native plants to create Ichiyo arrangements, which offer the viewer an experience with nature that is unexpected, stimulating, and profound.

Planting the Future of the Anacostia River

Morning: B

Afternoon: E

Since 1989, the Anacostia Watershed Society (AWS) has been working to restore wetlands, forests, and meadows in the Anacostia River watershed. **Jorge Montero** will share stories of how native plants have played a pivotal role in these efforts and how AWS is seeking new ways to use natives to restore the river's natural systems, including using Low Impact Development strategies to manage stormwater. Learn how native plants and public interest will shape the future of this important urban waterway.

Unlocking the Mystery of Wild Orchids

Morning: C

Afternoon: F

Native orchids have long fascinated gardeners, but they often are scarce, threatened, and difficult to cultivate. One of the adaptations that contributes to these issues is their symbiotic relationship with fungi. In order to grow, restore, and conserve the plants, scientists must understand and manage the culture of both the orchids and the mycorrhizal fungi that are essential to their life cycle. Native orchid expert **Dr. Melissa McCormick** will share the new methods she has developed to measure, grow, and support both of these entities to advance orchid cultivation and benefit conservation efforts.

30th Annual Lahr Symposium

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Presentations and Speakers

Dr. Doug Tallamy has been a professor in the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware for 34 years. Chief among his research goals is to better understand the many ways insects interact with plants and how such interactions determine the diversity of wildlife communities. He is the author of the award-winning book, *Bringing Nature Home: How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens* and more recently, *The Living Landscape: Designing with Beauty and Biodiversity in the Home Garden* with co-author Rick Darke.

Claudia West holds a Master's Degree of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning from the Technical University of Munich, Germany. In her current role as ecological sales manager at North Creek Nurseries, she works closely with ecological design and restoration professionals. Her work is focused on the development of stable, layered planting designs and bringing American native plants back into our landscape by making them widely acceptable. Together with co-author Thomas Rainer, she has recently published her first book, *Planting in a Post-Wild World*.

Valerie Eccleston began studying Ichiyo style ikebana in the 1970's while living in Japan with her family. There she qualified as an instructor and continued to study when she returned to her native England and later in the U.S. She went on to receive her Master's Certificate, become President of the Washington DC Chapter of the Ichiyo School of Ikebana, and be appointed Executive Master, which is the school's highest rank outside of Japan. She teaches, demonstrates, and exhibits extensively across the US and Canada.

Melissa McCormick is an Ecologist at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, where she has worked with orchids and other plants since 1999. She uses a combination of fieldwork and DNA-based techniques to conduct research on plant-fungus interactions, plant conservation, and plant invasions. Her current research focus is on mycorrhizal fungi and how they affect the distribution of plants, especially orchids. She is also one of the founding members of the North American Orchid Conservation Center, which works to assure the survival of native orchids.

Jorge Bogantes Montero is a natural resource specialist at the Anacostia Watershed Society (AWS). He has 13 years of experience in the fields of ecotourism, biodiversity conservation, ecological restoration, and environmental education in both Costa Rica and the Washington DC area. He received his B.S. in Natural Resources Management and Protection from Universidad Estatal a Distancia, in San Jose, Costa Rica. At AWS, Montero has been working on reforestation, wetland restoration, meadow creation, and invasive plant management along the banks of the Anacostia.



Symposium Information and Registration

- ◆ Registration: \$95 (\$76 *FONA members)
*Friends of the National Arboretum
- ◆ Registration includes all sessions, morning coffee, and box lunch.
- ◆ Please note that this year we are using an external online registration which will add a small fee to the registration.

To register: Click on [Brown Paper Tickets](#)

You will choose 2 **concurrent sessions**: one for the morning and one for the afternoon. See the [Schedule and Concurrent Sessions](#) page for descriptions.

Two types of lunch are offered; omnivorous and vegetarian.

- ◆ Sorry, no refunds will be given for cancellations received after March 23, 2016.
- ◆ We are not able to accept checks at this time.
- ◆ For more information please call 202-245-4523.



Friends of the National Arboretum

Native Plant Sale

8:30 am – 2:00 pm

Located adjacent to the Administration Building

**Native Plant Sale proceeds support the
Fern Valley Native Plant Collection**

Many vendors accept cash and checks only.

Getting to the National Arboretum
3501 New York Ave. NE
Washington, DC 20002

Driving Directions

The National Arboretum is easily accessible from Routes 295, 495, and 50. For complete driving directions from all surrounding areas, please see www.usna.usda.gov

There are two gates: one on New York Avenue (Route 50 East) and one at 24TH and R Street NE, off of Bladensburg Rd. We strongly recommend using the R Street gate. **For GPS, enter "2400 R Street NE".**

Public Transportation

The closest Metrorail stop is Stadium Armory Station on the Blue and Orange lines. Transfer to the B2 Metrobus; disembark the bus on Bladensburg Road at Rand Street, just past the Arboretum sign on the right. Walk back to the sign at R Street and walk down R Street 3 blocks to the Arboretum entrance.

Parking

Free parking is just inside the R Street gate, adjacent to the Administration Building. If this lot fills, look for signs to direct you to additional parking. The symposium is located in the Administration Building.

The Symposium takes place in the Administration Building.