

A photograph of a winter garden scene. The foreground is dominated by a large, snow-laden pine branch. A path of snow leads into the distance, flanked by more snow-covered trees and shrubs. On the right side of the path, there is a wooden bench. The overall atmosphere is serene and quiet.

INSIDE

THE GARDENS

WINTER 2025 A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE FOR
MEMBERS OF DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS



It always starts out as such a good idea. A redesigned home is the fulfillment of dreams. That new raised bed vegetable garden is perfection. A few decades ago, the channelization of creeks and rivers seemed so smart to manage flood-prone areas.

Time marches along, and in no time at all we realize that something just isn't quite right anymore. Old wisdom gives way to new ideas, different elements break down, and some decisions leave us wondering what on earth we were thinking.

Such is the way of the ongoing dance of best intentions and the irresistible force of nature. At the Gardens, we learn new lessons every year and are now increasingly focused on restoration – working with what still exists from days past to replenish a collection of life that truly belongs here. At Chatfield Farms, our teams have been restoring the riparian zone along Deer Creek and prairie areas on the south and central parts of the site.

After years of manipulation for either agricultural or aesthetic reasons, it is amazing to watch the transformation take place when invasive species are replaced with native and native-adapted plants. There are many small miracles. The new/old landscape is immediately beautiful, with life suddenly back in concert with the environment that nurtures it. With appropriate plants flourishing, there is little need for heavy maintenance and no irrigation required. Metallically adorned native bees reappear, birds make a big comeback. Everything from butterflies to white-tailed deer frolic in spaces that are once again familiar to their origins.

The greatest miracle of all with such work is how quickly things shift. Within a year, the difference can be dramatic. My favorite realization about the process of restoration is that the symphony of air and water changes to something that grabs hold of your DNA and connects directly to those rare moments we have spent in truly wild spaces.

So, we march bravely into the future. As is mostly the case, our motivations are economic and societal. We must make better use of resources to protect quality of life and long-term sustainability. The good news is that we can do the work of restoration with the realization of abundance rather than scarcity.

It is happening right now. Visit any of our four sites to get a glimpse. Or learn about our [Sustainable Landscape Services](#) to see how we are partnering with communities and organizations all around Colorado.

Better yet, become part of the movement in your own backyard. Onward.

Brian Vogt
Denver Botanic Gardens CEO

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INSIDE THE GARDENS

ISSUE 1, 2025

Denver Botanic Gardens
1007 York St., Denver, CO 80206
Holiday Hours through January 12: 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., last admission 2:30 p.m.
Winter Hours, January 13 through March 31: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., last admission 4 p.m.

Denver Botanic Gardens Chatfield Farms
8500 West Deer Creek Canyon Rd., Littleton, CO 80128
Pre-purchased tickets and advance member passes only.
Holiday Hours through January 5: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., last admission 3 p.m.
Hours starting January 6: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., last admission 4 p.m.

[Check the website for early closures](#)

General Information: 720-865-3500
Class Registration: 720-865-3580
Donations: 720-865-3528
Gift Shop: 720-865-3595
Membership Services: 720-865-3525
Private Events: 720-865-3551
Volunteering: 720-865-3609
Helen Fowler Library: 720-865-3570
Tours: 720-865-3539

Visit Our Website for More Information:
[Gardening Help from Colorado Master Gardeners](#)
[Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium](#)
[Sam Mitchel Herbarium of Fungi](#)

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Photographer: Scott Dressel-Martin

The mission of Denver Botanic Gardens is to connect people with plants, especially plants from the Rocky Mountain region and similar regions around the world, providing delight and enlightenment to everyone.

DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS

botanicgardens.org



The Gardens is grateful for funds from the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD), which enable us to expand services and enhance the quality of our programs and exhibits.



GATES MONTANE GARDEN REVISITED

By Dan Johnson, Associate Director & Curator of Native Plant Collection

The Gates Montane Garden was the first themed area of Denver Botanic Gardens to be planted. The Gates family sought to create a quiet space reminiscent of their foothills property, hoping to extend their mountain experience to the residents of Denver who might not have such easy access to Colorado’s wildlands.

Original plantings included plenty of Colorado natives, especially evergreen trees and some common native shrubs, but the aesthetics of “native” gardens were a bit different in the early 1960s when this garden was planted. Several species were used to create an effect rather than to be true to a particular habitat or regional plant palette. Plants from the eastern U.S. and even Europe filled the background, including downy hawthorn and alpine currant. The hawthorn was viciously spiny and ill-suited, continually breaking under snow loads. The currant spread aggressively, rooting easily as it expanded.

Over the last 20 years much has changed. Non-native plants have been gradually replaced by a wide array of western shrubs, trees and wildflowers. With a focus on testing underused western natives, samples of unusual species have also been planted, including

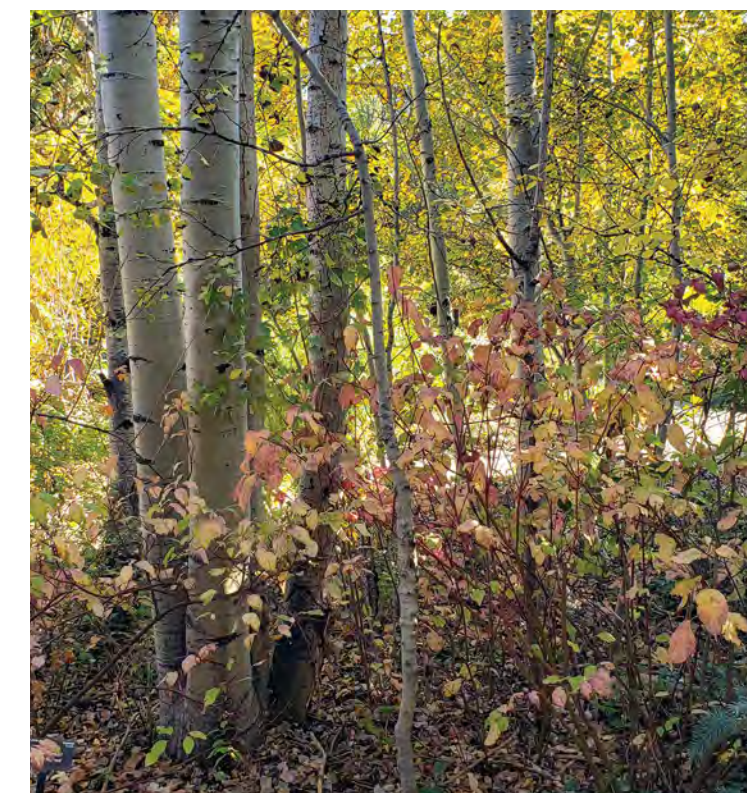
Engelmann pine (*Pinus engelmannii*), selections of western manzanitas (*Arctostaphylos* spp.) and several oak species (*Quercus* spp.) from other mountain ranges of the West. Expeditions in 2017 and 2018 in the eastern Sierra Nevada mountains searched for Jeffrey pines (*Pinus jeffreyi*) with especially long needles. As these are extremely ornamental, scions were collected and grafted, and several young trees are now thriving in the garden.

Historically, the lower understory layer was also sparse, limited primarily to creeping Oregon grape (*Berberis repens*). Renewed focus on diversity now includes dozens of native grasses, sedges, ferns and wildflowers that thrive in the dappled shade of aspens and pines. Columbines (*Aquilegia* spp.) can be found each summer, alongside unusual plants like an uncommon form of yarrow (*Achillea*) with large fern-like leaves from high atop the Catalina Mountains in Arizona.

After more than 60 years of growth and care, the Gates Montane Garden now comes closer than ever to its intended purpose, providing a peaceful stroll and a refreshing “mountain” experience among western native plants.



Photos by Dan Johnson



REHABILITATION OF HILDEBRAND RANCH PHASE ONE: OUTBUILDINGS

By Larry Vickerman, Director of Chatfield Farms, and
Claire Shepherd Lanier, Ph.D., Associate Director of Development

If you've visited Chatfield Farms, you've likely come across **Hildebrand Ranch**, a 19th-century homestead that tells the story of settlers who established a thriving farm and ranch along the banks of Deer Creek. The site's outbuildings, which date back to the 1870s and 1880s, were initially constructed using repurposed materials from the ranch itself and rough-sawn lumber from local forests, probably in Deer Creek Canyon. However, time has taken its toll on these structures. A rehabilitation project has been completed to preserve these historical buildings.

Three buildings were addressed in Phase One of the project: the milking barn, stables and granary. While 11 original buildings are still standing on the homestead site, these three were at the highest risk of deterioration. Thanks to a grant from History Colorado's State Historical Fund, Denver Botanic Gardens has rehabilitated these dilapidated structures to approximate their original state and purpose.

These outbuildings will now serve as a historical and cultural resource, providing educational

opportunities for children and adults alike. Visitors will be able to learn about the lives of Colorado farmers and ranchers in the late 19th century and compare old and new agricultural technologies. In the next several years, the Education Center will be built to the north of Hildebrand Ranch. Students and visitors will be able to explore the past, present and future of agriculture on a trail from the ranch through the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) fields and into a new education display featuring the latest techniques for crop production.

The preservation of Hildebrand Ranch's outbuildings marks a vital step in connecting Chatfield Farms' agricultural past with its innovative future. As these structures are renewed, they offer a new learning experience for all ages that bridges generations through the enduring legacy of the land.

Photo by Form + Works Design Group, LLC



AECHMEA FASCIATA

By Nicholas Giaquinto, Horticulture Coordinator (Conservatory)

Photo by Nicholas Giaquinto

One of my favorite houseplants to grow is the urn plant (*Aechmea fasciata*). This striking epiphyte, named for its distinctive urn-shaped form, is native to the Brazilian rainforest, where it thrives on tree branches and absorbs nutrients and water from the air, rain and debris around it rather than rooting in soil.

Resilient and low-maintenance, *Aechmea fasciata* is an ideal choice for growing indoors. While *Aechmea fasciata* prefers bright light, it easily adapts to lower light conditions and isn't particular about humidity, unlike many other houseplants. It retains its silvery foliage for extended periods of time and its vivid pink flowers are also long-lasting, adding a beautiful touch of color to your home for weeks.

After its dramatic bloom, the main "mother plant" will eventually die, but not before producing offshoots

called "pups." These pups are easy to repot, requiring only well-drained soil and a small pot to support them. As an epiphyte, the urn plant doesn't develop an extensive root system; instead, its roots are just big enough to anchor it. When watering, keep a small amount of water in the rosette at the plant's center and ensure the soil remains moist to keep it thriving.

You may have seen *Aechmea fasciata* in the Boettcher Memorial Center's fall display, which had a black and white theme. While many other plants in this garden can struggle with low light conditions, *Aechmea fasciata* flourish, making them a strong choice. Amid the limited color palette, the urn plant's pink flowers brought a vibrant pop of color to the space.

With so many versatile attributes, *Aechmea fasciata* proves to be an invaluable addition to both botanical gardens and the home.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Basics of Floral Design – Part 1

Friday, January 17, 6-9 p.m.,
Saturday, January 18, 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.,
Sunday, January 19, 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

\$675, \$625 member

This three-day course, taught by an AIFD and PFCI-certified instructor, offers foundational skills and insights into floral design. While additional practice or continuing education may be needed, it could serve as a stepping stone toward an entry-level role in a flower shop.

Sweater Weather Yoga and Winter Tunes

Tuesday, January 21, Thursday, February 13 or
Wednesday, March 26, 6-7:30 p.m.

\$27, \$24 member

Warm up with cozy yoga. Find balance with a candlelight vinyasa flow and live music in the Atrium of the Freyer – Newman Center, then enjoy a hot chocolate bar. Bliss!

Welcome to the Kitchen: A Seasonal Cooking Series

Saturday, January 25, Wednesday, February 26
or Saturday, March 15, various times

\$68, \$60 member

This new monthly series focuses on in-season dishes easy enough to put together for a weeknight meal but also fit for a family dinner.

Plant Parenting 101

Saturday, February 1, 10 a.m. – noon

\$48, \$40 member

Hone your houseplant skills! Get key tips and learn about selection, care and cultivation. Make your home green and cheery while outside is gray and dreary.

The Kitchen Garden – From Plan to Plate

ONSITE and **ONLINE**

Wednesday, February 5, 12, 19, 26,
March 5 & 12, 4-5:30 p.m.

\$170, \$135 member

Design and create a thriving kitchen garden in six weeks that meets your needs.

SCHOOL OF BOTANICAL ART & ILLUSTRATION

EXPLORE YOUR CREATIVE SIDE IN 2025

The School of Botanical Art & Illustration offers a diverse selection of classes and programs designed for seasoned artists and aspiring creatives. Beautiful onsite classrooms, convenient online options and botanical illustration classes taught by world-class artists provide opportunities to explore and develop artistic skills. Check out the [course catalog](#) and register today!

UPCOMING LECTURES AND ARTIST TALKS

\$15, \$12 member

These talks by artists, scientists, community members and activists explore a wide range of topics highlighting the junctions of art and science.

Parker McMullen Bushman: Why Equity and Justice Are Vital to Conservation Goals

Wednesday, February 12, 6:30 p.m.

Learn from eco-inclusion specialist Parker McMullen Bushman about the importance of creating welcoming spaces where everyone can become environmental stewards.

Joan Hall: Control and Surrender

Wednesday, March 12, 6 p.m.

Discover artmaking in response to climate change and plastic pollution with Rhode Island-based artist Joan Hall, who creates evocative installations using handmade paper, glass and recycled materials.

Carol Woodin: From Orchids to Corn, the Unlikely Journey of a Botanical Artist

Wednesday, April 2, 6:30 p.m.

Botanical artist Carol Woodin recounts her unlikely path as an artist, including unexpected opportunities and fascinating travels, all because she decided to paint orchids.





Ash Eliza Williams, *Nerve*, oil on panel, foam, gouache, mirror and clay, 2020.



Elliot Ross, *Portal*, digital pigment print, 2022.



Anna Kaye, *Whirlwind*, charcoal, 2023.



Kay Sekimachi, *Asian Willow*, skeleton leaves, paper, watercolor, spray paint and wallpaper paste, 1998. Photo by M. Lee Fatherree. Collection of Forrest L. Merrill.

CURRENT EXHIBITIONS

[Language Without Words: Works by Ash Eliza Williams](#)

Through May 4

Encounter a world inhabited by the intricate living tapestries of organisms both big and small. Rediscover the world around you through Williams' paintings and sculpture and consider the natural world through the eyes of its non-human inhabitants.

Join us for an [artist talk](#) with Ash Eliza Williams on Thursday, January 23.

[Elliot Ross: Geography of Hope](#)

Through February 2

Discover the resilience and beauty of Glen Canyon's ecosystem through the large-scale photographs of Elliot Ross.

OPENING SOON

[Anna Kaye: Finding Light](#)

February 15 – May 20

Engross yourself in detailed charcoal drawings of fire and scorched forests. Anna Kaye explores the duality of loss and regrowth in nature through the lens of wildfire.

Related Program – Lecture

[Anna Kaye and Christina Alba: Exploring the Science of Fire Cycles through Art](#)

Wednesday, April 16, 6:30 p.m.

Artist Anna Kaye and Christina Alba, associate research scientist at Denver Botanic Gardens, join forces to discuss wildfire ecology in the West, historical fire cycles and how they affect present-day Colorado forests.

[Contemporary Fiber: Botanicals](#)

May 17 – September 28

Inspired by the world around us, this exhibition features artworks made with fiber materials and innovative textile techniques. An international juried exhibition created in partnership with Fiber Art Now magazine, *Contemporary Fiber* presents a broad array of contemporary artists working in fiber and textiles with nature as their muse.

COMING SOON!

[Blue Grass, Green Skies](#)

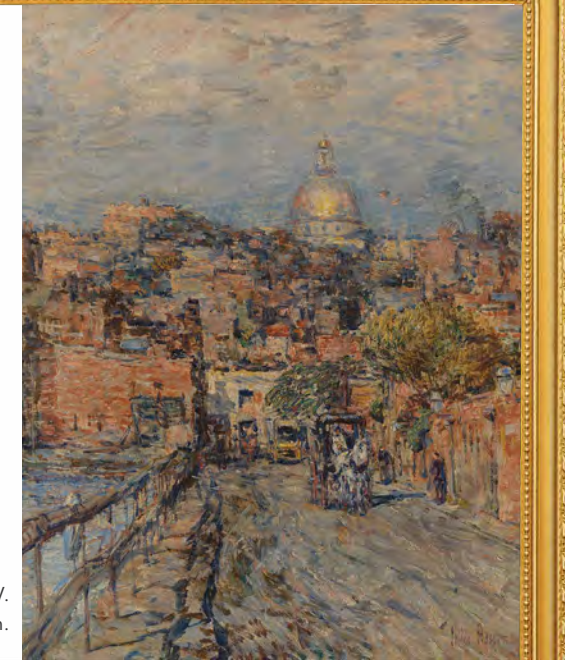
American Impressionism and Realism from the Los Angeles County Museum of Art

June 7 – September 14

Immerse yourself in an indoor-outdoor celebration of American Impressionism. Explore the gallery exhibition, enjoy stunning garden views and visit the exclusive pop-up shop.

Visit the webpage for related programs, including lectures, tours and classes.

F. Childe Hassam, *Boston Street Scene*, oil on canvas, 1900. 16 ¾" H x 13 ¾" W.
Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Gift of Barbara Foreman.



SUPPORT RESTORATIVE PRACTICES WITH HERBALISM

By Blake Burger, Associate Director of Horticulture and Curator

Wintertime is an ideal season to focus on self-care routines, which can promote mental, emotional and physical well-being. After the hustle and bustle of the warmer months, now is the time to unwind and restore. Routines may include an attentive focus on sleep and rest, beginning a new hobby, exploring mindfulness activities like yoga and meditation, or eating seasonally.

Brewing and drinking herbal tea is a perfect ritual to include in your winter self-care routine. The act of brewing a cup of herbal tea is a mindfulness activity on its own. The process can drop us into the present moment and offer respite during a busy day. Almost any herb you choose to brew—and there are many—offers a wide range of medicinal benefits.

Most herbs are rich in antioxidant activity, which may help reduce inflammation or prevent serious illness or disease. Some herbs offer benefits to specific body systems. Dandelion has long been considered a liver tonic, skullcap can help reduce anxiety and promote mental clarity, while ginger can increase circulation and boost immunity. Consider incorporating adaptogenic herbs into your diet. An adaptogenic herb helps modulate the body's stress response by balancing stress hormones, increasing energy and reducing the effects of inflammation caused by elevated levels of cortisol.

Nourish both body and mind this winter with herbal teas rich in vital nutrients, promoting balance and a sense of peace.



RESTORATION

By Patty Wright, Public Services Librarian

The word “restoration” can be applied in so many ways. An individual can be restored, as well as a garden or natural environment. [The Helen Fowler Library](#) has a variety of materials related to restoration – from the personal to the planet.

“The Well-Gardened Mind: The Restorative Power of Nature” by Sue Stuart-Smith reveals the power of gardening to help individuals dealing with stress and trauma. Written by a British psychiatrist and psychotherapist, it explores the power of gardens past and present.

“Lessons From Plants” by Beronda L. Montgomery is a small but powerful book that shares the critical lessons we can learn from plants, such as helping each other, taking risks and building resilience.

Regenerative farming is the focus of “Healing Grounds: Climate, Justice and the Deep Roots of Regenerative Farming” by Liz Carlisle. This work focuses on the farming practices of contemporary Indigenous, Black, Latinx and Asian American farmers who are transforming and restoring use of the land.

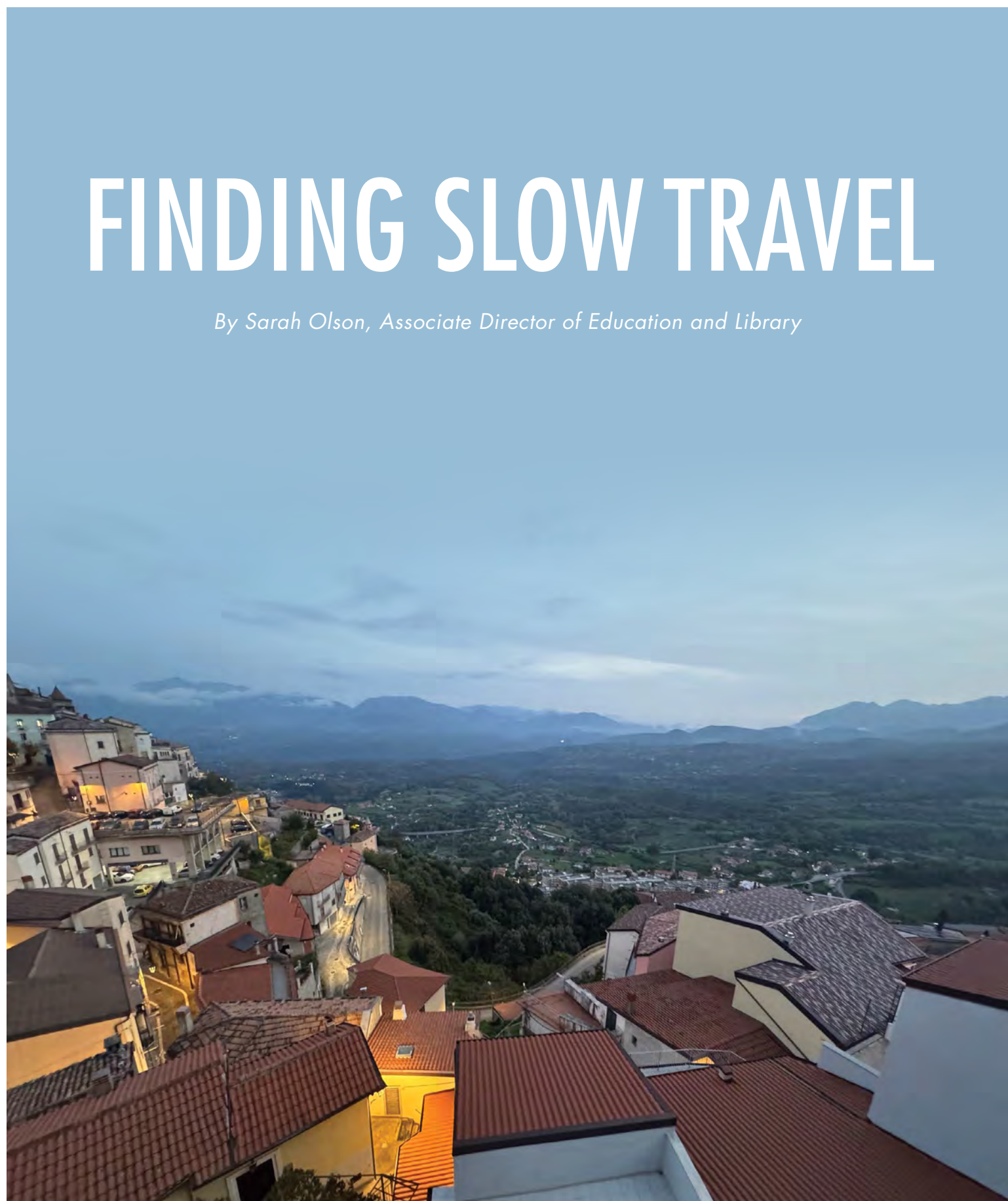
If graphic novels and comics are your favorite way to read, “Drawn to Change the World” by Emma Reynolds will introduce you to 16 youth climate activists from around the world. Each person is featured in a short comic and each story is drawn by a different artist.

For a practical, hands-on manual, “The Regenerative Garden: 80 Practical Projects for Creating a Self-Sustaining Garden Ecosystem” by Stephanie Rose will appeal to you. Learn about soil building, reducing water waste and encouraging biodiversity.



FINDING SLOW TRAVEL

By Sarah Olson, Associate Director of Education and Library



Photos by Sarah Olson



I find myself in a clock tower, watching the sun set over the Mediterranean while savoring gelato. Beside me, a friend explains the remarkable story of the governor—a young leader who rose to power quickly. We're in his office, perched atop the hill in the clock tower. In the small town of Castelluccio Superiore, located in southern Italy, I feel time slow down.

A few hours later in a cozy kitchen warmed by a wood-fired oven, I make my first authentic pizza. A man named Pietro guides me in stretching the dough. Beside the pizza ingredients, there's a large punch bowl with a live goldfish swimming inside; clearly, there's a story behind this charming oddity. The crackling of the fire and the laughter of other guests fill the room, and suddenly, it clicks—I think I finally understand the beauty of slow travel.

Slow travel is about resisting the rush to simply “check off” new places. It's a commitment to mindfulness, truly taking in the sights and sounds, and immersing oneself in the culture. This approach allows us to relax, rejuvenate and recalibrate while fostering a more sustainable way of traveling. Often referred to as “slow tourism,” it invites us to reimagine how travel can be a meaningful learning experience. By creating

a smaller footprint, we pack more thoughtfully, walk more often to destinations and build deeper connections with communities. We find joy through experiences that reveal the richness of culture—culture that can only be absorbed slowly and intentionally.

With this approach, you might see fewer famous landmarks and miss some celebrations or performances. But you might also meet a lifelong friend, change your understanding of local food systems exchanging heirloom seeds or gain insights from a café conversation that leave a lasting impact. You might even shift someone's perspective on what it means to be an American traveler.

I returned home with a few souvenirs for my daughters, but more importantly, I brought back a newfound appreciation for simple, locally and seasonally sourced meals, a deeper understanding of Mediterranean plants and their healing properties, and a rekindled love for a small cappuccino served in a glass mug. I've learned to slow down, to sit outside no matter the weather and to watch the sun set from my back patio—there may not be a goldfish, but this is the same beautiful sun I watched from that clock tower.

TRIPS & TRAVEL

Explore the world with Denver Botanic Gardens. Get [full details and register](#) on our website.

Botanical Wonders of Eastern Turkey

May 8-21

Explore the steppes of Turkey with Curator of Steppe Collections Mike Bone and renowned plantsman Christopher Gardener. Turkey is at a convergence of two different floristic regions, the Mediterranean and the steppes of Asia. The result is an incredibly diverse plant palette. Begin in Cappadocia with its ancient cultural and geological wonders and floral treasures. Then explore the montane steppe in eastern Turkey, where many transition zones give rise to wildflower displays. Travel through Turkic villages and explore mountains and fertile valleys in search of natural wonders.

Magical Mexico: Oaxaca

July 18-23

Experience La Guelaguetza, the colorful celebration that brings together Oaxaca's 16 ethnolinguistic groups, who share their unique dances and traditions in a dazzling display of cultural pride. Then explore Oaxaca's rich artistic and culinary heritage. From meeting skilled artisans in nearby villages to participating in a traditional cooking class, this curated tour immerses you in the heart of Oaxaca's culture. Join Reefs to Rockies and Associate Director of Community Relations Yvonne Garcia Bardwell for this opportunity to experience the true spirit of La Guelaguetza and the vibrant traditions that make Oaxaca unforgettable.

Cape Floral Region Botanical Safari with Optional Game Reserve Extension

Main tour: September 15-25 | Extension: September 25-29

The Cape Floral Region of South Africa is celebrated worldwide for its fascinating and diverse plant life—more than 9,000 species in all, over two-thirds of which are only found there. South Africa is renowned for its dynamic and evocative contemporary art scene, world-class galleries and museums. Associate Director of Learning Engagement and Interpretation Hannah Craft leads a botanical safari to the Cape's sculpture gardens, picturesque estates in the Cape Winelands, the incomparable Kirstenbosch Botanical Garden and the five-star eco-paradise Grootbos Private Nature Reserve. An optional extension explores Phinda Private Reserve, a stunning landscape with lions, leopards, elephants, Cape buffaloes and rhinos.

FAMILY CORNER

DIY COMPOST BIN

By Helena Nitz, Family and Children's Program Coordinator

Did you know that healthy food starts with healthy soil? Just like us, plants need nutrients to grow, and they get these nutrients from the soil. We can help improve and restore soil health by composting! Here's how to make your own compost bin:



Gather Materials

Find a small container with a lid, some soil and food scraps like fruit and vegetable peels.



Layer it Up

Composting works best with layers. First spread the soil, then the food scraps in even layers inside the container.



Add Water

Sprinkle a little water on top and seal your container.



Store Your Container

A great spot to store your container is under the sink in your kitchen.



Make Magic Happen

Turn your mixture every few days and watch the magic of composting.



Grow a Garden

Once your food scraps have broken down into compost, mix it with soil to start growing your own garden.

HAPPY COMPOSTING!

SEED-SOURCING RESEARCH FOR ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION

By April Goebel, Ph.D., Assistant Research Scientist

Three years ago, the Research & Conservation Department started a set of experiments to test how seed source impacts ecological restoration success. In this context, a successful restoration project is one where ecological function is returned to degraded ecosystems. Working with federal partners, such as the Bureau of Land Management, we are focused on research questions to improve ecological restoration on large acreages of impacted natural areas on public lands.

A primary approach for these large-scale restorations includes actively planting native species, often from seed. A major challenge, however, is identifying seed sources that are suited to current environmental conditions and that harbor sufficient genetic diversity to adapt to changing factors, such as shifts in climate. Seed collected from wild populations (rather than obtained through cultivation) may have advantages in addressing this challenge due to the presence of ecologically relevant genetic diversity. Therefore, our experiments are aimed at understanding how variation within a species relates to the environment where a particular seed collection was made.

We selected four common grassland species for the experiments. These included one grass, blue gramma (*Bouteloua gracilis*); one shrub, rubber rabbitbrush

(*Ericameria nauseosa*); one sub-shrub, fringed sage (*Artemisia frigida*); and one forb, Front Range beardtongue (*Penstemon virens*). Each of these species is important for ecological function and ecosystem services as they serve one or more of the following roles: rapid establishment and competition against invasive species, soil stabilization to reduce erosion, and resource and habitat creation for insects and wildlife.

By the end of fall 2024, we had collected more than 130,000 data points from the experimental plots of these four species. Data collection involved weekly surveys of marked plants from May through October over three years. These data points consist of information on individual plant survival, time to first flower, size and seed production. We are finding some interesting preliminary results so far. For example, we see considerable variation in performance between seed collections. This variation can be explained in part by source climate, suggesting that seed source does matter for restoration. Now that data collection is mostly complete, our focus will turn to further analysis of this large dataset and communication of results to land managers, fellow scientists and other interested community members.



TRANSFORMATION HUB: CULTIVATING CHANGE, ONE GATHERING AT A TIME

By Melissa Schaap, M.Ed., Corporate Partnerships Manager



Photo by Michelle Sugerman

In 2024, Denver Botanic Gardens launched Transformation Hub, a new corporate partnership program that brings together leaders of socially and environmentally responsible businesses and organizations. With support from our founding partner, [United Airlines](#), this initiative is designed to provide restoration and refreshment to leaders while showcasing the impactful work the Gardens is doing in collaboration with our corporate and community partners.

As we pursue a more sustainable future for people and our planet, Transformation Hub brings together diverse voices across sectors—from business to nonprofit, academia to government—to foster engagement and inspire fresh perspectives. Through hands-on experiences, dynamic conversations and behind-the-scenes access, participants are invited to challenge traditional ways of thinking and find innovative solutions.

This program embodies Denver Botanic Gardens' mission to connect people with—and through—the restorative power of nature. Experiences in 2024 featured insights gleaned by exploring pollinators with artist [Rolinda Stotts'](#) Creative Cycle at our York Street location, the power of unexpected synergies through [agrovoltatics at Chatfield Farms](#), and harvesting with Manager of Urban Food Programs Julia Zoltowsky and the team at [Sun Valley Farm](#).

With consultative leadership from [Michelle Sugerman](#) at Leading Synergies, we've curated a gathering space for changemakers to foster resilience, form lasting partnerships and share knowledge across fields to address critical environmental and social issues.

Contact Melissa.Schaap@botanicgardens.org to learn more and step into a journey of restoration, innovation and community-driven transformation.



GROW WITH US

Spring is on the horizon, and so is your chance to make a difference at Denver Botanic Gardens! Become part of our vibrant community as an ongoing volunteer and help bring the Gardens to life. Volunteers play an essential role in supporting everything from horticulture and educational programs to enhancing the visitor experience.

Whether you're drawn to York Street's lush landscapes, Chatfield Farms' rustic beauty or the natural wonders of Plains Conservation Center, there's a place for you here. Ready to dig in? Find more details and explore both ongoing and special event volunteer opportunities at [Denver Botanic Gardens Volunteer Program](#), or email us at vol@botanicgardens.org.

New volunteer onboarding kicks off in February – let's grow together!

Donors of Distinction

Gifts Received August 1, 2024 - October 31, 2024

Citizens of the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District	Gordon Clark and Kathryn Bowman	Geoff Hauer	NitaHome	Amy Skinner and Richard Brandon
Abel Brokers	Mr. and Mrs. Richard K. Clark	Brian Hedlund	Nothing Bundt Cakes – Denver – Cherry Creek	Julia E. Smith
Kristen Abell	Marilyn R. Cleland	Katy Hedlund	Elizabeth Ohm and Brodie Cobb	Shelley Smith
Rebecca Adams	Barbara and Ralph Cohn	John Herpers	Open Water	Barbara and James Sobhani
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Darryl and Cheryl Annett	DBC Irrigation Supply	Institute of Museum and Library Services	Ean Tafoya	David and Mary Carol Ferrera
Anonymous	Kathy and Dave Dean	Teresa Ish	Teammates Commercial Interiors	Vincent and Mona Ferrera
Danielle Antley and Britt Antley	Monica and John Denler	Rick Jacobs	Joey Terriquez	Jim and Khileen Flynn
Charlie Antrim	Marguerite and Tom Detmer	Rachel Johnson	The French Fleur	Larry and Brenda Gillum
Applewood Seed Company	Katherine Dines and David Miller	Kauai Integrative Therapies	The Peter Eaddo	Joann Hafner
Axis Integrated Mental Health	Mr. Peter D. Durst, C.H. and Ms. Ellen Seale	Kaitlyn Kerr	Kiernan Foundation	Jacqueline Kurtz
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