



Visitor Information

The Polly Hill Arboretum grounds are open sunrise to sunset every day of the year.

The Visitor Center is open 9:30am-4pm Memorial Day weekend to Columbus Day

The Visitor Center is wheelchair accessible.

Admission is \$5 for non-members, and free for members and children under 12.

Members

Members receive free admission, Visitor Center merchandise discounts, discounts on classes and lectures, free admission to selected programs, our *Meristems* newsletter, reciprocal admission to other gardens, (via the American Horticulture Society), access to our library by appointment, discounts at local garden centers, and more!

For more info, or to sign up for membership, visit pollyhillarboretum.org/get-involved/membership.

809 State Road, West Tisbury, MA
508.693.9426
pollyhillarboretum.org
Instagram & Facebook:
[@pollyhillarboretum](https://www.instagram.com/pollyhillarboretum)

Lilium superbum on the PHA grounds. Photo by Erin Hepfner



Program Guide

2017 Lecture Series

We thank our friends and sponsors Bartlett Tree Experts, Donaroma's Nursery and Landscape Services, Heather Gardens, Middletown Nursery, and SBS: The Grain Store for their generous support of our 2017 lectures.

All lectures will be held in the Far Barn unless otherwise noted.

NEW THIS SEASON: Evening lectures will be held at 5:30pm, unless specified otherwise. We hope this new time frame will work well for all! Feedback is welcomed.



Center: Karen Perkins in an epimedium garden

Epimediums: Jewels of the Shade

Saturday, June 24, 10am. Sponsored by Heather Gardens

Karen Perkins, owner of Garden Vision Epimediums, will give a talk on the “perfect shade perennial,” a plant that possesses a delicate beauty that belies its surprisingly tough, long-lasting nature. Karen will illustrate the many and varied types now commercially available, including some of the exciting new evergreen species from China. She will also discuss characteristics, growth habit, growing and propagation, pests and diseases, and combining epimediums with other shade perennials in the garden. We will even get a glimpse into the collecting trips to China made by Darrell Probst. Following her talk, Karen will have for sale a variety of epimediums brought from her nursery. **\$10 / \$5 for PHA members.**

Wild and Neat: Bridging the Gap Between Great Garden Design and Ecology

Wednesday, June 28, 5:30pm

Claudia West is the ecological sales manager at North Creek Nurseries, a wholesale perennial grower in Landenberg, PA. In her current role Claudia works closely with ecological design and restoration professionals, offering consultation services from initial project planning to adaptive management strategies after completion. Her work is centered on the development of layered planting designs and the desire to bring American native plants back into our landscape by making them widely acceptable. Claudia is a sought after speaker on topics such as plant-community-based design and the application of natural color theories to



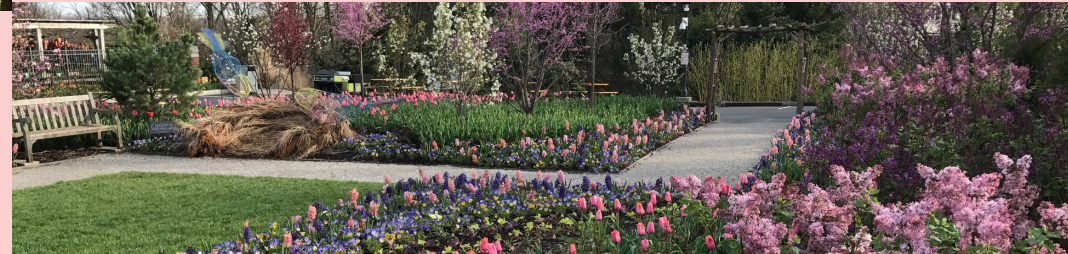
planting design. Together with co-author Thomas Rainer she published a new approach to ecological planting design in her award-winning book *Planting in a Post-Wild World*. **\$10 / \$5 for PHA members.**

ANNUAL LISINA & FRANK W. HOCH LECTURE

Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow: The Gardens of the Indianapolis Museum of Art

Wednesday, July 12, 5:30pm. Sponsored by Middletown Nursery

A garden is never “done,” it must be constantly worked to be kept vibrant and exciting. A little over a year into his role as head of the gardens at the Indianapolis Museum of Art, **Jonathan Wright** will share his thoughts and ideas on the future direction of one of America’s great gardens. The garden, originally designed by Percival Gallagher of the Olmstead firm in the early 1900s, is largely intact. Previous garden directors had beautifully restored many of the garden’s iconic features, but how does one honor the history while keeping the garden exciting for guests? Jonathan will share images and stories from the past as well as from his first year on the job to illustrate his philosophy. **\$10 / \$5 for PHA members.**



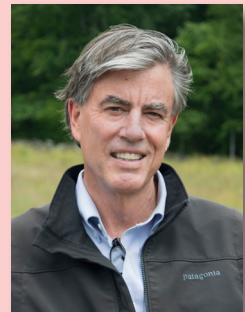
The gardens at the Indianapolis Museum of Art

SPECIAL TICKETED EVENT

In Defense of Forests

Tuesday, July 18, 7:30pm. (Pre-lecture reception at 6pm)

You are invited to a wine-and-cheese reception followed by a special lecture with director of Harvard Forest and PHA research associate **Dr. David Foster**. This talk will examine the history, ecology, and conservation of forests, broadly across New England and in detail on Martha’s Vineyard. It will advance the notion that as we call on populations across the globe to stop the deforestation and degradation of forests to aid humanity in combatting climate change, those of us in one of the most heavily forested and densely populated parts of the richest country in the world should do the same. The talk will draw from the author’s recent book, *A Meeting of Land and Sea: Nature and Future of Martha’s Vineyard*, a forthcoming *Wildlands and Woodlands* report, and the botanical and ecological studies by the staff and members of the Polly Hill Arboretum. **Tickets are \$100, and include entry to the wine-and-cheese reception with Dr. Foster, admission to the lecture, and one copy of his book, A Meeting of Land and Sea. Advanced ticket sales only. No tickets will be sold at the door.**



Unraveling the Mysteries Behind Plant Names

Thursday, July 20, 5:30pm

Botanical names hold great power for gardeners; they offer insight for plant identification, cultural growing requirements, and botanical trivia, and allow a means for communicating with gardeners around the world. Still, Latin names can be intimidating to learn, understand, and pronounce. This talk by new PHA Curator **Todd Rounsaville** will help to simplify the challenging subject of plant names: where do they come from? What do they mean? Why do they change? **\$10 / \$5 for PHA members.**

Global Environmental Threats: How Medical Models Can Help Us Understand Them

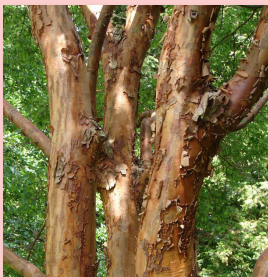
Wednesday, July 26, 5:30pm. Co-sponsored by Vineyard Conservation Society and Polly Hill Arboretum

Dr. Eric Chivian, founder and former director of the Center for Health and the Global Environment at Harvard Medical School, will present a talk on recognizing and addressing global environmental threats. His lecture will also touch on Lyme and other tick-borne diseases, a topic of great importance to the Island community. In 1980, Dr. Chivian co-founded the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, recipient of the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize. During the past 26 years, he has worked to involve physicians in the United States and abroad in efforts to increase public understanding of the potential human health consequences of global environmental change, and in 2008 was named by *Time* magazine as one of the 100 Most Influential People in the World. Dr. Chivian is the senior editor and author of *Sustaining Life: How Human Health Depends on Biodiversity*, named "Best Biology Book of 2008" by *Library Journal*. He currently directs a new nonprofit, the Program for Preserving the Natural World. **\$10 / \$5 for PHA and VCS members.**



Dr. Chivian with a Colombian tree frog in Bogota, Columbia

ANNUAL DAVID H. SMITH MEMORIAL LECTURE



Acer griseum

Protecting Rare Trees: The Paperbark Maple

Wednesday, August 9, 5:30pm. Sponsored by Bartlett Tree Experts

A beloved and well-known garden plant, paperbark maple (*Acer griseum*) is endangered in its native habitat in China. **Kris Bachtell**, vice president of collections and facilities at the Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Illinois, will speak about the Paperbark Maple Conservation Project that is helping to secure its future. Kris has traveled worldwide collecting

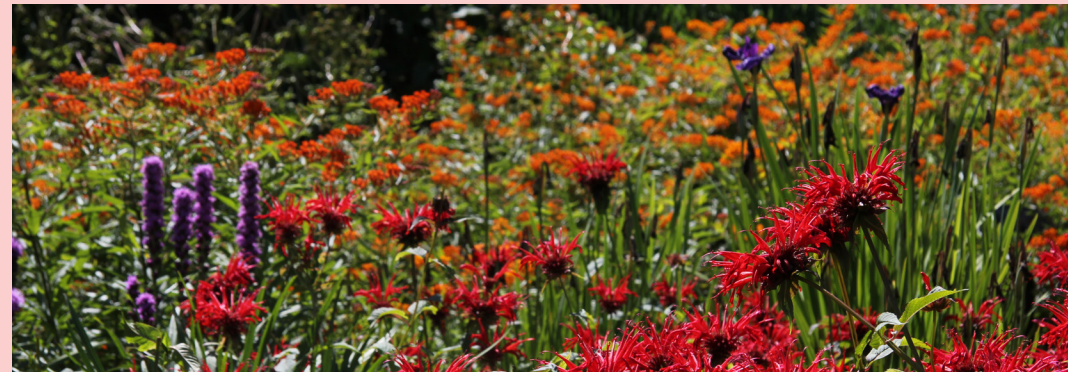
samples of the species, from public gardens in the United States and United Kingdom to the wilds of the People's Republic of China. These expeditions are helping scientists understand the plant's genetic diversity to help guide its conservation. Get a botanist's perspective on the history of paperbark maple in the wild and in cultivation, and learn how this project can serve as a model to help conserve other threatened species.

\$10 / \$5 for PHA members.

Landscaping in Tune with Nature

Wednesday, August 16, 5:30pm. Sponsored by SBS: The Grain Store

Many of us wish to create a garden that works with nature—not one that fights against it! In this presentation, **Dr. Art Cameron**, director of the Michigan State University Horticulture Gardens, will share strategies for creating a natural aesthetic in your landscape. Learn which native and exotic plants are tough, but not weedy; beautiful, but not fussy. Art will discuss some of his favorite plants, including a wide assortment of native and non-native herbaceous perennials and ornamental grasses suitable for diverse locations. He will also give ideas on how to blend these plants together to design landscapes that are in tune with nature. Learn to create a new look in your garden using some of these great plants. **\$10 / \$5 for PHA members.**



Above: Landscaping in tune with nature

Snakes of Martha's Vineyard

Tuesday, August 22, 5:30 pm

Join us for a presentation by BiodiversityWorks biologists, **Liz Baldwin and Luanne Johnson**, on snakes of Martha's Vineyard. They will share identification tips and life history information about the seven species of snakes that live on the Island. They will also share what they have been learning through their ongoing study of black racer snake habitat use and movement. **\$10 / \$5 for PHA members. Proceeds benefit Island nonprofit BiodiversityWorks.**





Creating Pollinator Gardens & Habitat Hedgerows

Saturday, September 9, 1pm. Sponsored by Middletown Nursery

Rebecca Lindenmeyr is one of the Northeast's leading designers exploring the intersection between nature and human living spaces. Her presentation will provide hands on, technical direction for creating beautiful yet functional

habitat gardens using two sample projects that were designed, installed, and maintained by Rebecca's firm, Linden L.A.N.D. Group. Specifically these projects were planned with regionally adapted native species for continuous bloom, nectar, and pollen forage, as well as nesting sites. The location of the sites was selected to improve connectivity, and the structure of the designs was diverse, multi-layered, and densely planted to reduce maintenance and pressure from invasive species. Participants will leave with sample plant lists and suggested arrangements that can be adapted to their own gardens. *Free.*

Exploring Vines and Lianas

Wednesday, September 13, 5:30pm

Vines and lianas (woody vines) are a life form all their own with very little in common with other types of plants. Their unique physiology fulfills an important niche in ecosystems around the world, which may translate as either delight or frustration for gardeners seeking their cultivation. This talk by new PHA Curator **Todd Rounsaville** will explore the evolution and ecological importance of climbing plants and share ways to use these plants successfully in our home landscapes. *\$10 / \$5 for PHA members.*

Grounds Volunteer Open Days

The first Thursday of each month, May through October, 9am-12pm

Curious about becoming a PHA grounds volunteer? This opportunity allows you to try out working on the grounds without a commitment. You'll work with Arboretum staff and other volunteers on activities that may include planting, pruning, weeding, and mulching. It's an easy-going, fun environment and staff is always available to answer questions. We provide tools, but please bring gloves and wear outdoor work attire. Contact volunteer coordinator Erin Hepfner for more details or for general volunteer information: erin@pollyhillarboretum.org.



Workshops & Classes

Pre-registration is required for the following programs.
Please call 508-693-9426 to sign up.



Photo by Jocelyn Filley

Photography Basics

The third Thursday of each month, May through September, 9:30am-12:30pm

Hone your photography skills while capturing the beauty of the Arboretum! Professional photographer **Jocelyn Filley** will teach the fundamentals of composition, manual camera settings, and using natural light. Students should come with 5 to 10 prints (or a device to view them digitally) of their own work for critique. Following the instruction, there will be time to photograph independently on the PHA grounds. Participants are encouraged to take the course multiple times and bring back prints from the previous class. Each meeting will focus on a different area of the Arboretum. *\$55 / \$45 for PHA members. Get \$10 off each class if you sign up for 3 or more in advance. Pre-registration required.*



Plant cuttings in the PHA greenhouse

Plant Propagation

Saturday, June 17, 9am-12pm

A wealth of woody plants from abelia to zenobia can be propagated effectively and economically by softwood cuttings. Join PHA Plant Propagator **Brian McGowan** to learn the basic science and techniques behind this seemingly magical way of producing woody plants. Following a brief lecture, participants will collect cuttings on the Arboretum grounds, and then return to the greenhouse to begin propagating. Each person will leave with a plastic propagation box filled with cuttings and the knowledge to propagate plants aplenty! Please bring a pair of sharp hand pruners; an apron would be a welcome accessory. Class meets at the Arboretum's Far Barn. *\$45 for non-members, \$40 for PHA members. Pre-registration required.*

Fruit Tree Pruning

Thursday, June 22, 10am-2pm. (Rain date: Friday, June 30)

This class will cover fruit tree management and growth control techniques focusing on apples, cherries, peaches, and pears. Participants will learn how trees set bud and what type of wood produces fruit. The program will begin with a lecture by PHA Horticulturist/Arborist **Ian Jochems** in our Education Center, and move to the Grey Barn orchard for the hands-on portion, where the group will revisit trees from an earlier class and observe how previous pruning influenced growth, as well as discuss next steps for proper management. Bring a lunch, work gloves, and safety glasses, and dress for the weather. The Arboretum will provide pruners, saws, loppers and ladders. **All are welcome, whether or not you attended part one of the class, which took place in March. \$40 for non-members, \$30 for members. Pre-registration required.**



Drawing by Genevieve Jacobs

Drawing from Nature

Alternating Thursdays June 29 through September 7, 9:30am-12:30pm

Join artist and nature enthusiast **Genevieve Jacobs** in a series of drawing classes focusing on the special landscape and plants of PHA. Genevieve says: "Drawing is a skill that anyone can learn, so join me and together we will explore fun new exercises and projects while building skill level." For those who have taken the class in past years, new topics will be covered in 2017 including cropping to form more pleasing compositions, greeting card ideas, bookmarks, nature journal pages, and limited use of color. Each class will have a different theme, the content of which will be accessible to everyone, whether taken individually or as a series. **\$45 / \$35 for PHA members. Get \$10 off each class if you sign up for 3 or more in advance. Materials will be provided by the instructor; a small fee may apply. Pre-registration required.**

Introduction to Sedges

Saturday, July 15, 9am-3pm

Environmental consultant and plant taxonomist **Lisa Standley** will teach a workshop focusing on understanding the diversity of the genus *Carex*, which has 189 species in New England, and on building skills for identification and keying. These grasslike perennial plants are often difficult to identify without close examination. Join us for a basic review of their identification features to build confidence in your own abilities to recognize species in the field. The workshop will include a lecture and discussion, keying practice, and field identification. Bring a lunch. **\$60 / \$50 for PHA Members. \$40 for professionals associated with Island land management or conservation organizations. Pre-registration required.**



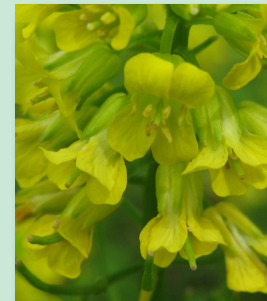
Watercolor in Bloom

Alternating Tuesdays August 1 through September 12, 3-5pm

Join artist **Lynn Hoeft** for a series of watercolor classes focusing on the flowers of the Arboretum. Lynn says, "We'll paint the flowers of summer, focusing on whatever plants or trees are in full bloom at that moment. Weather permitting, we'll paint 'en plein air' to capture nature's detail in brilliant color. In case of rain, we'll meet in the new Education Center, painting from a variety of cut flowers and branches." No previous watercolor experience is required. **\$45 / \$35 for PHA members. Get \$10 off each class if you sign up for 3 or more in advance. Participants will need to provide their own supplies; A materials list is available. Pre-registration required.**



Painting by Lynn Hoeft



Island Ecology: Weeds and Invasives

Thursday, August 3, 9am-3pm

Kristen Fauteux, director of stewardship at Sheriff's Meadow Foundation, and **Julie Russell**, Martha's Vineyard Land Bank's ecologist, will take you through a one-day course on identification of common yard weeds and invasive plants and how to best manage them. **\$60 / \$50 for PHA Members. \$40 for professionals associated with Island land management or conservation organizations. Pre-registration required.**

Introduction to Papermaking

Thursday, August 17, 2-4pm

Join illustrator and textile artist **Marlene Cameron** to create and take home your own unique handmade paper. Marlene will show you how to form sheets of paper with pulp made from junk mail and scrap paper. You are invited to bring pressed flowers, leaves, or other flat objects from home to use in embellishing and embossing your paper. Examples of ways to use your finished paper, such as cards, small books, and gifts, will be displayed and explained. Printed information will be provided on low-cost options for making paper at home. Dress for creative fun and the possibility of splashing water. **\$40 / \$30 for PHA members. Pre-registration required.**



Tours & Special Events

The following programs are in addition to our regular tours, which take place daily at 10am during July and August.

“Looking Together” Tours

Tours run the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month, May through September, 2-3pm

Learn more about the Arboretum and its plant collections on guided walks led by knowledgeable staff and docents. These specialized tours are designed to offer an in-depth Arboretum experience. The theme will change weekly. Tours begin at the Visitor Center. *Free with \$5 admission for non-members, free for members and children 12 and under.*



Sculpture by Bill O'Callaghan

A Walk Through Imagination

Sunday, June 25, 1-2pm. Call for rain date.

Potter Bill O'Callaghan and his wife, Robin Tuck, will lead a special tour on the opening day of their annual art installation, A Walk Through Imagination. This Arboretum-wide exhibit features whimsical sculptures, each accompanied by a poem (written by Robin) that tells the story of the piece, connecting it to a plant in the PHA landscape. This exhibit will delight adults and children alike. Kids are invited to attend the tour dressed as their favorite magical creature. **The sculptures will be on display through September. This program is free with \$5 admission, and open to the public.**

Edgartown Tree Tours

Wednesday, July 19, 10am-12pm. Tour repeats August 2
Sponsored by Donaroma's Nursery and Landscape Services

Polly Hill Arboretum will again be offering the ever-popular Edgartown Tree Tours this season. Join PHA Horticulturist/Arborist Ian Jochems for an informative and fun walking tour of the many glorious mature trees of Edgartown. In the midst of the mantle of green that envelops downtown Edgartown, among the hydrangeas and picket fences, many unique and fine specimen trees await discovery. As one past participant noted, “I will forever after see the town’s trees with new eyes and greater appreciation.” **\$20 / \$15 for PHA members. Pre-registration is required. Call to sign up and for carpool and meeting location.**



Fall Plant Sale

Saturday, September 9, 10am-2pm. (Special lecture at 1pm with Rebecca Lindenmeyr)

Late summer and early fall is a perfect time to plant. Join us for our end-of-the-season plant sale. Arboretum staff will be on hand to answer questions and offer advice on our selection of choice trees, shrubs, perennials, and native Island plants.

In addition, at 1pm, landscape designer Rebecca Lindenmeyr of Linden L.A.N.D. Group in Shelburne, Vermont, will give a talk on creating beautiful yet functional pollinator gardens and habitat hedgerows.



Family Book Series

Tuesdays at 10:30am, July 11 through August 29

Relax under the shade of a tree and enjoy summer with your family while listening to a nature-based children’s book read by one of our volunteers. A simple walk or activity related to the book will follow. Books will be selected for children 3 to 8 years old, although all ages are welcome! Rain location is the Far Barn. Want to extend your Arboretum adventure? Pack a picnic lunch to enjoy in the picnic grove near the Visitor Center. **Free.**

