



## 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!

Visit our website for more info, or to sign up for membership.

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



## Program Guide

Rhododendron 'My Mary' on the PHA grounds

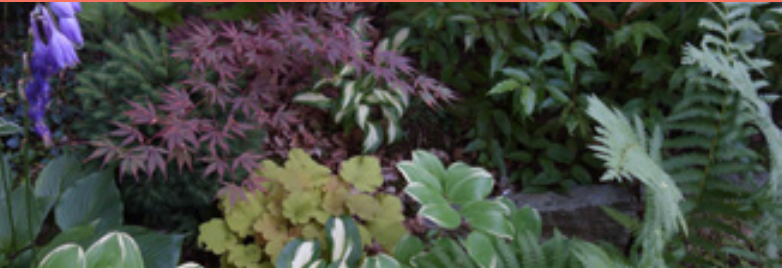
Summer - Fall 2018



# 2018 Lecture Series

*We thank our sponsors Bartlett Tree Experts, Donaroma's Nursery and Landscape Services, The Dukes Soil Conservation District, Heather Gardens, Island Grown Initiative, Middletown Nursery, and SBS: The Grain Store for their generous support.*

All lectures will be held in the Far Barn.



Renee Marsh

## Reinventing Groundcovers

**Saturday, May 26, 1pm. Sponsored by Heather Gardens**

Move beyond pachysandra and ivy, and escape the tyranny of mulch! The featured presentation at our spring plant sale by garden designer **Renee Marsh** will cover a wide range of unique groundcovers that can thrive in shade, in sun, on slopes, or under trees. In addition to providing soil cover and suppressing weeds, groundcovers add texture and color to your garden with minimal maintenance. From evergreen to deciduous, herbaceous to woody, with flowers or striking foliage, this group of plants has something for everyone. Renee will teach the audience how to utilize beautiful and functional groundcovers in their home landscapes, highlighting some unique plants available in the Arboretum's plant sale. **Free.**



Nate Erwin (left)

## Insects: The Ancient Ones

**Wednesday, June 27, 5:30pm. Sponsored by the Dukes Soil Conservation District**

For over 450 million years, insects have been an integral part of terrestrial ecosystems, surviving several mass extinctions that have nearly wiped out life on the planet. The evolution of the diversity of the insects we see today is a fascinating story. Join Entomologist **Nate Erwin**—who for 20 years managed the Smithsonian Institution's "Insect Zoo" and "Butterfly Pavilion"—for a presentation rich in closeup images of familiar (and not-so-familiar) insects of eastern North America. **Free.**

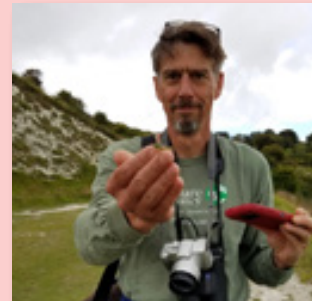
## ANNUAL LISINA & FRANK W. HOCH LECTURE

### Great and Ancient Trees

**Wednesday, July 11, 5:30pm**

**Sponsored by Bartlett Tree Experts**

**Paul Meyer**, Executive Director of the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania, will discuss northern temperate tree species that achieve great size and live for many centuries, focusing on trees that he has become acquainted with during his travels in North America and Europe, and his numerous collecting trips to natural habitats in Asia. The talk, illustrated with artful photos of outstanding specimens both in the wild and in cultivation, will cover the natural history, garden adaptability, and economic uses of these great and ancient trees. Outstanding trees at the Morris Arboretum will also be highlighted. **\$10 / \$5 for PHA members.**



### Jewels on the Wing: The Butterflies of Martha's Vineyard

**Tuesday, July 17, 5:30pm**

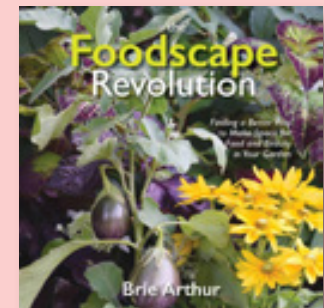
The 70 recorded species of butterflies on Martha's Vineyard are as diverse as they are charismatic. Drawing on his extensive library of photographs and 20 years of study, Island ecologist **Matt Pelikan** will introduce these popular insects and discuss their distribution, behavior, identification, and ecology. **\$10 / \$5 for PHA members.**

### The Foodscape Revolution

**Wednesday, July 25, 5:30pm**

**Sponsored by Island Grown Initiative**

Join **Brie Arthur** for a presentation on her signature design technique, "Foodscaping"—a sustainable landscape practice that combines beauty and utility. Learn to think outside the box by incorporating edibles into traditional ornamental landscapes, increasing biodiversity and food production potential in your garden. The best edible and ornamental plant combinations will be featured, to inspire attendees to create purposeful landscapes that engage the whole family. Brie will also share how she works with public school systems and suburban housing developments, providing sustainable solutions that change the way green spaces are designed and utilized. Copies of Brie's new book, *The Foodscape Revolution* (St. Lynn's Press, 2017) will be available for purchase and signing at her talk. **\$10 / \$5 for PHA members.**



Brie with young foodscaping enthusiasts



## The Evolution of Chanticleer's Gravel Garden

*Wednesday, August 1, 5:30pm*

*Sponsored by Middletown Nursery*

For the past five years, **Lisa Roper** has managed the Gravel Garden at the renowned public garden Chanticleer in Wayne, Pennsylvania. A gently sloping site planted with a mix of fine textured grasses, gray-leaved Mediterranean plants, drought tolerant perennials, annuals grown from seed, and hardy succulents, the gravel garden is a stunning and unique landscape. Lisa will discuss how form, texture, color and rhythm are carefully considered in her design choices. She will also cover planting techniques, the importance of “editing,” and the technique of using photography to inform design decisions. **\$10 / \$5 for PHA members.**

## ANNUAL DAVID H. SMITH MEMORIAL LECTURE

### Conservation Outlook 2020: Looking Back, Looking Ahead

*Wednesday, August 15, 5:30pm*

In our 20th year as a public Arboretum, we celebrate the history of this special landscape, and look ahead to the future. We are pleased to host Vineyard Conservation Society (VCS) Director **Brendan O'Neill**, who will reflect on decades of conservation successes and setbacks on Martha's Vineyard, and speak to conservation prospects in the next half-century. During more than 50 years of conservation work, VCS has helped preserve some of the Island's most beautiful places—including Polly Hill Arboretum. **\$10 / \$5 for PHA members.**



A Northern long-eared bat found roosting in a bird nest box in Edgartown, MA in Sept. 2015. Photo courtesy of BiodiversityWorks.

## Bats in Crisis and How You Can Help

*Tuesday, August 21, 6:30-7:30pm*

BiodiversityWorks biologists **Liz Baldwin** and **Luanne Johnson** will share an update on their work to monitor and protect remnant populations of bats on Martha's Vineyard. Northern long-eared and little brown bats have historically been the most abundant bat species in New England. Since the arrival of white-nose syndrome, however, these bats' numbers have plummeted such that they are threatened with extinction in Massachusetts. Learn about the populations discovered to be overwintering on the Cape and Islands, and what we can do to help them. After the talk, Luanne and Liz will open mist nets across the forest paths in the Arboretum to try and catch some bats. Everyone is welcome to stay and observe. Flashlights, long pants and long sleeves are recommended. **\$10 / \$5 for PHA members. Proceeds benefits BiodiversityWorks and Polly Hill Arboretum.**

## Plant Invaders: In Theory and Practice

*Wednesday, August 29, 5:30pm*

Invasive species disrupt native ecosystems and have cascading negative effects upon indigenous species and human health. Join PHA Curator **Todd Rounsaville** to explore the processes of plant invasions, their harmful effects on the environment, and their role in our gardens. We will look at identification of the Island's most significant invaders and methods for their eradication and prevention in your home landscape. **\$10 / \$5 for PHA members.**



## Making Life Easier with Native Plants

*Saturday, September 8, 1pm*

*Sponsored by the Dukes Soil Conservation District*



Learn to use native plants to make your life easier! The featured presentation at our fall plant sale by **Dan Jaffe** of the New England Wild Flower Society, will cover techniques for growing edible, beautiful, and ecologically beneficial plants that evolved to thrive in the New England landscape. Gardening provides endless challenges, whether you're trying to landscape that area under a grove of pine trees or grow the perfect tomato during a dry summer. What if it could be easy? Discover the New England natives that will thrive under those pine trees without the need for constant attention, and the plants that will flourish in all the difficult areas of your garden. Copies of Dan's new book, *Native Plants for New England Gardens* (Globe Pequot Press, 2018), co-authored by Mark Richardson, will be available for purchase and signing at his talk. **Free.**

## Island Hopping: Landscape Design Lessons from Manhattan to Maine

*Wednesday, September 12, 5:30pm*

*Sponsored by SBS: The Grain Store*

**Patrick Cullina** is an award-winning horticulturist, landscape designer, photographer, lecturer, and planning consultant with nearly twenty-five years of experience in the landscape and green infrastructure fields. We are pleased to host Pat for a lecture at PHA, in which he will discuss design lessons through the lens of his current work. His talk will cover site design and plant and material selection with a particular focus on current projects in New York City, along Boston Harbor, on Long Island, and on a private island off the coast of Maine. Topics will include ecological inspirations from the coastal plain and other maritime environments and the roles they play in design choices. **\$10 / \$5 for PHA members.**





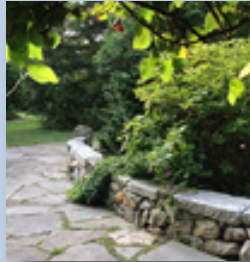
# Tours

The following 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 each month, 2-3pm, May through September*

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 between tours. Tours begin at the Visitor Center. *Free with \$5 admission. Free for PHA members.*



## Twenty Iconic Trees of the Arboretum

*Four Thursdays, 5:30pm: June 7, June 21, July 12, July 26*

In celebration of our 20th year as a public garden, please join PHA staff throughout the season as they share the incredible stories behind some of the most emblematic and special trees found at the PHA. From the ancient Dawn Redwood to the remarkable Julian Hill Magnolia, participants will discover new insights into the collections and walk away inspired. The trees are part of a larger story of the value that botanical gardens and arboreta bring to science and society. Tours will begin at the Education Center and "branch out" from there! Free with \$5 admission. *Free for PHA members.*



Julian Hill Magnolia

## Edgartown Tree Tours

*Wednesday, July 18, 1-2:30pm. Tour repeats August 8*  
*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.*



# Children's Programs



A white sphynx moth larva

## Backyard Bugs Walk

*Saturday, June 30, 10am. Sponsored by The Dukes Soil Conservation District*

Take a walk around Polly Hill Arboretum with entomologist **Nate Erwin** and discover the fascinating world of insects that are right in our own backyards. Learn to become a citizen scientist by spotting the signs of insect life on the plants around us. *Free and open to children ages 6 and up. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration is required.*

## Sowing Salad Bowls

*Thursday, July 26, 10am*

*Sponsored by Island Grown Initiative*

Join **Brie Arthur**, author of *The Foodscape Revolution*, to learn how to sow the seeds that will grow into a bountiful salad. In this participation-driven children's workshop, attendees will get their hands dirty as they learn how soil, water and sunlight allow seeds to germinate. Each participant will get to take their own salad bowl home and experience the joys of growing fresh produce. *Open to children aged 6-12. Children must be accompanied by an adult. \$15/child. Pre-registration is required.*



## Family Book Series

*Wednesdays at 10:30am, June 27 through August 29. (No story time July 4)*

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.*



*Join us in celebrating our  
20th Anniversary...*

## Special Events



20th anniversary graphic designed by Taylor Stone

### *Save the Date!*

#### **20th Anniversary Celebration**

*Saturday, July 28*

In honor of PHA's 20th year as a public arboretum, we would like to invite all of you to join us for an afternoon/evening of music and celebration for the whole family. Guests will enjoy tours, games, and music by the Island's own Pickpocket Bluegrass Band. Dinner will be available to purchase from The Food Truck in conjunction with Offshore Ale. We hope you will join us! *Free.*



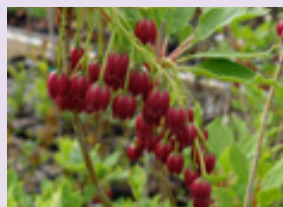
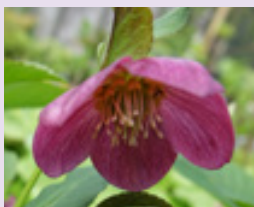
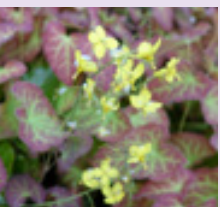


### OFFSITE EVENT • "The Gardener" Film Screening

*Friday, May 25, 4pm*

*At the Martha's Vineyard Film Center, 79 Beach Road, Vineyard Haven*

As part of the Martha's Vineyard Film Society's Environmental Film Festival, The Film Society and Polly Hill Arboretum have teamed up to bring you the 2018 documentary, "The Gardener." This film tells the story of Frank Cabot's Les Quatre Vents, one of the most stunning private gardens in the world, nestled at the top of Mount Murray in the Charlevoix region of Quebec. Interviews given by Frank shortly before his death in 2011 illustrate his artistic philosophy, and striking footage brings the viewer inside a place of enchantment and beauty. Directed by Sébastien Chabot. **\$15 General Admission. \$12 for MVFS Members. Reserve tickets at [myfilmsociety.com/nature-as-inspiration](http://myfilmsociety.com/nature-as-inspiration).**



### Spring Plant Sale Opening Day

*Saturday, May 26, 9:30am-4pm. (Plant Sale Preview: 9am, Lecture: 1pm)*

The Polly Hill Arboretum Visitor Center and Plant Sale Area open for the season on Memorial Day weekend. Join PHA staff at 9am Saturday for an early look at some special plants that will be for sale. Staff will be on hand from 9:30am-4pm to answer questions about the selection of trees, shrubs, and perennials available. These plants are chosen for their superior qualities and adaptability to our Island climate. At 1pm, **Renee Marsh**, owner of A Simpler Place garden design firm in Shelton CT, will give a talk on "Reinventing Groundcovers." She will teach the audience how to utilize beautiful and functional groundcovers in their home landscapes, highlighting some unique plants available in the Arboretum's plant sale. **Free.**

### "Art in the Arboretum" Exhibit Opening

*Tuesday, June 26, 5:30pm*

Join us for an opening reception in honor of our 20th anniversary visitor art show, "Art in the Arboretum." This inaugural exhibit will showcase unique perspectives on PHA's plants and landscapes featuring the artwork of **Brooke Bartletta, Becky Brewer, Annie Colangeli, Jocelyn Filley, Leslie Gray, Genevieve Jacobs, Kathy Kinsman, Kanta Lipsky, Marianne Neill, and John Siffert**. Enjoy a tour of the Arboretum through the eyes of the artists. Artists and staff will discuss the significance of the pieces' subjects to the Arboretum's collections and history. **Free and open to the public.**

### OFFSITE EVENT • Faith in a Seed

*Thursday, July 5, 7:30-9pm*

*At the Martha's Vineyard Camp Meeting Association  
Tabernacle, 80 Trinity Park, Oak Bluffs*



Join PHA Director **Tim Boland** as he outlines the history, programs, and unique collections of the Polly Hill Arboretum on Martha's Vineyard. The legendary horticulturist Polly Hill started the Arboretum by planting a seed in 1958. The internationally recognized collections today include the national collection of stewartia which grow among a dazzling array of rhododendron, magnolias, and other rare plants. Today, PHA staff continue Polly Hill's dedication to growing plants from seed. Tim will talk about recent plant expeditions, the training of a new generation of botanists, and the exciting plants and programs that continue the living legacy of Polly Hill. **Free.**

### Fall Plant Sale

*Saturday, September 8. Lecture: 1pm*

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 Island natives. At 1pm, **Dan Jaffe** of the New England Wild Flower Society, will present techniques for growing edible, beautiful, and ecologically beneficial plants that evolved to thrive in the New England landscape—in short, how to make your life easier with native plants! Copies of Dan's new book, *Native Plants for New England Gardens* (Globe Pequot Press, 2018), co-authored by Mark Richardson, will be available for purchase and signing at his talk. **Free.**





# Workshops & Classes

Pre-registration is required for the following programs.  
Please register at least three days in advance, by calling 508-693-9426.



## Watercolor in Bloom

*Alternating Thursdays May 17 through June 28, 10am-12:30pm*

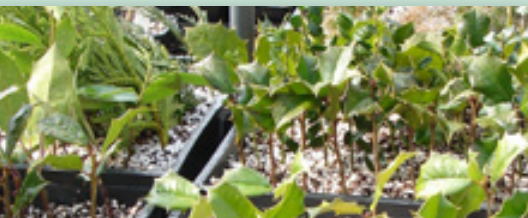
Join artist **Lynn Hoeft** for a series of watercolor classes focusing on the flowers of the Arboretum. Lynn says, “We’ll paint the flowers of spring and early summer, focusing on whatever plants or trees are in full bloom at that moment. Weather permitting, we’ll paint ‘en plein air’ to capture nature’s detail in brilliant color. In case

of rain, we’ll meet in the Education Center, painting from a variety of cut flowers and branches.” No previous watercolor experience is required. Take just one class, or all! Participants will need to provide their own supplies; A materials list is available. **\$50 / \$35 for PHA members. Pre-registration is required.**

## Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop

*Saturday, June 9, 9am-12pm*

Join PHA Horticulturist/Arborist **Ian Jochems** for a class covering 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 at PHA in the Education Center, and move to the Grey Barn orchard for the hands-on portion. Bring work gloves and safety glasses. The Arboretum will provide pruners, saws, loppers and ladders. **\$60 / \$45 for PHA members. Pre-registration is required.**



Plant cuttings in the PHA greenhouse

## Plant Propagation Workshop

*Saturday, June 23, 9am-12pm*

A wealth of woody plants can be propagated effectively and economically by softwood cuttings. Join PHA Plant Propagator **Bridget Reed** 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 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, and wear gardening clothes or bring an apron. **\$55 / \$40 for PHA members. Pre-registration is required.**

# Workshops and Classes

## Drawing from Nature

*Three Wednesdays in July, 9am-12pm:  
July 11, July 18, July 25*

Join artist and tree lover **Lizzy Schule** on PHA’s campus for a series of nature drawing classes. Each class will cover a different theme in landscape drawing and nature journaling. These classes will be accessible to every student, whether enrolled in an individual class or the entire series. Classes will address various concerns and techniques of the landscape artist, such as perspective, simplifying complexity, shading, and how to render light. Lizzy says “Most importantly, we will have fun, be curious, and try to capture some of our experiences and observations of nature.” Students will use a combination of graphite, charcoal, inks, colored pencils, and other drawing materials. **\$55 / \$40 for PHA members. Pre-registration is required.**



Drawing by Lizzy Schule



## Inspiration to Reality: A Garden Design Workshop

*Thursday, August 2, 9am-12pm*

How does one create a garden that expresses a personal vision and imbues a unique sense of place? Join Landscape Architect **Allan Summers**, of Robinson Anderson Summers landscape architecture firm in Wilmington, Delaware, for a workshop in garden design. Using the Arboretum as a template,

Allan will illustrate how a project evolves from the initial concepts to the development of the final design. Participants will explore the process whereby inspiration is transformed from an idea into a garden. **\$55 / \$40 for PHA members. Pre-registration is required.**

## Wild Edibles Walk

*Thursday, September 20, 3-6pm*

Martha’s Vineyard is home to over 100 species of edible wild plants, ranging from native species like bayberry and beach plum, to weeds like chicory and burdock, and even invasives such as Autumn olive and black locust. Many of these species are more nutritious and/or flavorful than their cultivated counterparts. Join **Russ Cohen**, wild foods enthusiast and author of *Wild Plants I have Known...and Eaten*, on a guided walk to learn about edible wild plants of Martha’s Vineyard. Learn plant identification, seasonal availability, preparation methods, and guidelines for safe and environmentally responsible foraging. **\$45 / \$30 for PHA members. Pre-registration is required.**





## Workshops & Classes

### Tree and Shrub Pruning

*Saturday, September 22, 1-4pm*

*Class repeats Wednesday, September 26*

PHA Horticulturist/Arborist **Ian Jochems** will cover tree and shrub pruning techniques such as directional pruning, rejuvenation, and the three-cut method, as well as tool maintenance. Learn some basic plant physiology and how plant genetics and habits inform pruning choices. There will be in-class demonstrations and hands-on practice. Participants will also venture into the collection to observe how plants have responded to past pruning. Bring work gloves and safety glasses if you own them. Tools will be supplied. **\$55 / \$40 for PHA members. Pre-registration is required.**



### Mushroom Cultivation Workshop

*Saturday, October 6, 10am-2pm*

Growing edible mushrooms on oak logs is an easy and environmentally friendly method. Join PHA Horticulturist **Oliver Osness** for a hands-on workshop inoculating locally sourced oak logs with shiitake (*Lentinula edodes*) and reishi (*Ganoderma lucidum*) mushroom spawn. Learn about the biology and process of mushroom cultivation for each of these two species. Bring home your own inoculated log and instructions for caring for your crop. **\$65 / \$50 for PHA members. Pre-registration is required.**



## Grounds Volunteer Open Days

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

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 Kendra Buresch for more details or for general volunteer information: [kendra@pollyhillarboretum.org](mailto:kendra@pollyhillarboretum.org).



## Exhibits

Visit anytime the PHA grounds are open: daily, sunrise to sunset



### A Walk Through Imagination *Memorial Day through Columbus Day*

The Polly Hill Arboretum will host a new version of visitor favorite "A Walk Through Imagination," an outdoor exhibit created by potter **Bill O'Callaghan** and storyteller **Robin Tuck**. This year's story walk features the adventures of a gingerbread boy, who embarks on a journey to find his "ginger roots," meeting many fascinating plants and creatures along the way. Each episode of the story connects to a plant in the PHA landscape, and is accompanied by one of Bill's beautiful and whimsical sculptures. This exhibit will delight adults and children alike! **Free.**

### Art in the Arboretum

*Opens June 26. Opening reception & tour:  
Tuesday, June 26, 5:30pm*

This summer, in celebration of PHA's 20th anniversary, we are hosting an outdoor art exhibit featuring works inspired by sights and scenes at the Arboretum. This exhibit will showcase unique perspectives on the Arboretum's plants and landscapes featuring the artwork of **Brooke Bartletta, Becky Brewer, Annie Colangeli, Jocelyn Filley, Leslie Gray, Genevieve Jacobs, Kathy Kinsman, Kanta Lipsky, Marianne Neill, and John Siffert**. The pieces were selected to represent different seasons, different plants, and varied styles and perspectives. Weatherproof copies of the original art will be displayed on the grounds where the piece was created, accompanied by an artist's statement. **Free.**

Sculpture by Bill O'Callaghan from A Walk Through Imagination (left)