



# UCRBG Newsletter

## Mysterious Mistletoes

By Norm Ellstrand

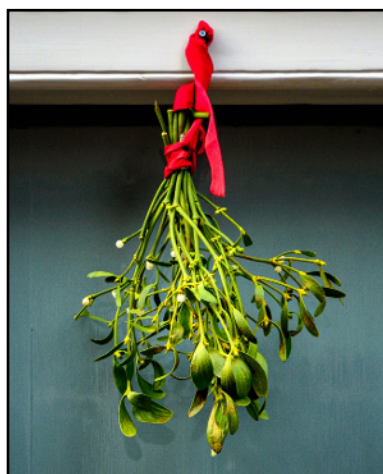


Among the iconic plants of the holiday season, none are more modest than a sprig of mistletoe. Usually strategically attached in a doorway, mistletoe lurks in the shadows compared to the brightly lit decorations of Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa. Nonetheless, it reliably makes its way into millions of homes around the world. Both mistletoe botany and legend explain our festive fascination with this plant.

The fact that all mistletoes are hemi-parasitic plants undoubtedly called them to the attention of the ancients. Hemi-parasitism refers to a condition in which one plant species grows on another and absorbs some but not all its nutrients from the host. In the case of mistletoes, they depend on their host tree or shrub for water and mineral nutrients, obtained through root-like haustoria that tap directly into the

host's vascular system. But they also photosynthesize, thereby creating their own carbon-based nutrition (carbs, lipids, proteins, etc.). Consequently, mistletoes are evergreen and are apparent on deciduous hosts in the middle of the freezing winter.

Various cultures reasoned that such a vigorous plant must have unusual properties. The ancient Druids, Greeks, and Romans respected the plant, using it for medicinal and ceremonial purposes. The Romans connected the plant with peace, love, and understanding, hanging mistletoe over doorways for protection. The current use of mistletoe as a stimulus for romantic activity is often attributed to a story from Norse mythology.



Mistletoe hanging from a doorway

By the early 1800's, obligate kissing under the mistletoe had become a tradition in the English service class. Each kiss was to be accompanied by removing a berry from the motivating sprig. Once the berries were depleted, the sprig lost its power. Variations on the tradition include that a kiss under the mistletoe would result in true love.

The botany of mistletoe is equally compelling. Mistletoes are a heterogeneous group of more than a thousand related species. The European mistletoe of legend is *Viscum album* while the North American mistletoe likely to end up in your home is

## In This Issue

- P. 1      Mysterious Mistletoes
- P. 2      Director's Report
- P. 3      Welcome Week Events
- P. 4      Wildlife of the Gardens- Hooded Oriole
- P. 5      Spotlight on Sheryl Hayes
- P. 6-7    Around the Gardens
- P. 8      Project Updates
- P. 9      Butterfly Corner- Becker's White
- P. 10     In the Works

Continued on page 3

## Director's Report - Dr. Jodie Holt



Thousands of botanic gardens and arboreta grace the planet, including hundreds in North America. Nearly 400 of those, including the UCRBG, are institutional members of the American Horticultural Society (AHS) and thus participate in the Reciprocal Garden Network, which grants reciprocal admission privileges to other members.

Bona fide botanic gardens (vs. parks) are devoted to the culture and exhibition of living plant collections and have trained staff to curate and maintain their collection for education, research, and enjoyment. Beyond that basic definition, however, gardens diverge in size, scope, mission, administration, and more.

Even within public gardens (university, municipal, etc., vs. privates) no two are the same. The University of California gardens are a great example of this diversity. The UC Berkeley Botanical Garden has a strong research focus, while the UC Davis Arboretum was recently merged with campus Grounds & Landscape and the Putah Creek Riparian Reserve to create the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden, which spans the entire campus. The gardens at UCLA and UC Santa Cruz demonstrate even more diversity.

Here at UCR, our Botanic Gardens were established in 1963 for research and teaching, likely with little idea that one day we would be a thriving public garden with tens of thousands of visitors per year (many needing a place to park). The gardens were planted into the open hilly landscape that was covered with grasses, shrubs, and boulders, much like the surrounding hills today. The work was a labor of love by a small Gardens staff, UCR faculty and staff and their spouses, and community members.

In a meeting several years ago of directors of the five UC gardens, each of us described the essence of our gardens and what drew visitors to them. Although I was a new director, it was already evident to me that while covering the basics of a botanic garden, our primary appeal to visitors was the opportunity to go outdoors into nature quickly and easily without driving for hours. Our rustic oasis fulfills a need to experience plants, wildlife, and quiet right in the middle of our busy urban environment.

During my time as director, I have discovered another strong attraction—a shared history with the Gardens. While we now welcome many new visitors, many have memories of our early days, volunteering, Friends membership, or have heard from their parents about enjoying the Gardens when they were UCR students. Their stories reveal a long-time dedication to and love of the UCR Botanic Gardens, and we feel a deep responsibility to honor these stories by ensuring that the Gardens thrive in perpetuity.

We would love to hear your story about the Gardens, especially from UCR alumni and long-time visitors. Please feel free to contact me at [bgdirector@ucr.edu](mailto:bgdirector@ucr.edu) or 951-827-7095, and don't forget to keep up and stay involved through our website and social media.

*Jodie*

### UCR Botanic Gardens Staff

Jodie Holt, Director  
Janine Almanzor, Curator/Education Coordinator  
Miguel Estrada, Manager  
Pam Ferre, Program Coordinator  
Nancy Cullen, Visitor Services Coordinator  
Angela Barron, Nursery Technician  
Jorge Fregoso, Nursery Technician  
Laura Navarro, Nursery Technician  
Pam Roose, Nursery Technician  
Colin Tran, Kristine M. Scarano Intern  
Giselle Corral, Student Worker  
Yasuko Hirata, Student Worker  
Sierra Logue, Student Worker  
Auggie Martinez, Student Steward  
Julia Mathews, Student Steward  
Jeshua Quiroa, Student Worker  
Michelle Sosa, Student Worker  
Adrian Zamudio, Student Worker

### College of Natural & Agricultural Sciences

Peter Atkinson, Dean  
Patricia Springer, Divisional Dean of Agriculture & Natural Resources  
Robyn Martinelli, Assistant Dean for Development  
Katherine Beach, Senior Director of Development  
Jeremy McWells, Associate Director of Development  
Miranda Moore, Development Coordinator  
Sarah Dillon, Director of Human Resources  
Joann D. Young, Director of Communications

### BEES Administrative Unit Support Staff

Deborah Terao, Financial & Administrative Officer  
RC Sutton, Financial Operations Manager  
Timm Hannem, Procurement Supervisor  
April Garcia, Administrative Officer  
Mayra Gandarilla, Events Assistant/Head Cashier  
Lindsay Gomez, Purchasing & Travel Assistant  
Erica Ben, Purchasing & Travel Assistant  
Tracie Ventimiglia, Receiving/Web Assistant

### Editors

Jodie Holt, Director  
Janine Almanzor, Curator/Education Coordinator  
Pam Ferre, Program Coordinator  
The UCR Botanic Gardens Newsletter is a quarterly magazine published by the UCRBG staff, 900 University Avenue, Riverside, CA 92521.

### Contact Information

Mailing Address: UCR Botanic Gardens  
900 University Avenue  
Riverside, CA 92521  
Physical Address: Schneider House  
4391 Picacho Drive  
Riverside, CA 92507  
Phone: 951-827-7090 Email: [ucrbg@ucr.edu](mailto:ucrbg@ucr.edu)  
Website: [gardens.ucr.edu](http://gardens.ucr.edu)



College of Natural & Agricultural Sciences

Continued from page 1



Photo credit for all 3 photos:  
Wikimedia Commons

*Phoradendron leucarpum*. These two species are remarkably similar, frequenting hardwood trees and bearing white berries (technically, one-seeded “drupes”). The two genera were once in their own family, but genomic evidence has revealed them to be in the sandalwood family, the Santalaceae, a family whose entire membership is hemi-parasitic.

In California, *Phoradendron leucarpum* grows in relatively moist portions of the state. For example, I have frequently seen it decorating sycamores in riparian areas. It is not known to occur at the UCR Botanic Gardens. In the California deserts, the leafless desert mistletoe *Phoradendron californicum* grows exclusively on shrubs and trees of the legume family, such as ironwood and mesquite. In some parts of the California and Arizona deserts, entrepreneurs sell this species as a substitute for *P. leucarpum*. At higher elevations in California, conifers are parasitized by species of dwarf mistletoes in the genus *Arceuthobium*. The genus is notable for dispersing its sticky seeds at nearly 50 miles per hour. Interestingly, the final mistletoe occurring in California is *Viscum album* of Europe, introduced to Sebastopol in Sonoma County by Luther Burbank in 1900. Its distribution is slowly spreading, but whether it will become invasive remains to be seen. This European species has not been introduced elsewhere in North America.

The question of toxicity always arises in the discussion of holiday plants. Toxicity for mistletoe is much like that of another holiday icon, poinsettia. Both poinsettia and commercial mistletoe contain toxins and should not be consumed, especially by children and pets. Neither is terribly toxic; fatalities are extremely rare. European mistletoe is considerably more toxic than American mistletoe.

Beyond its celebratory uses, mistletoe species can have their benefits. Both *P. leucarpum* and *V. album* have been employed in traditional and folk medicine. Derivatives of European mistletoe have antitumor properties and have been included in cancer therapies for decades. Likewise, ecologically, mistletoes are considered keystone species. Their foliage and especially fruits are eaten by a wide variety of animals. Many mistletoe species are animal-pollinated.

We often have simple ideas about the natural world, particularly plants, but each species has a lot more going on than we initially suspect. In the case of mistletoe, there’s more than meets the lips.

## Welcome Week Pop-up Shop

By Janine Almanzor

We had an exciting week during UCR’s Welcome Week for students held at the end of September just before the fall quarter started. We kicked off the week with a Pop-up Shop Plant Sale on Sunday the 21<sup>st</sup> when the new students were moving into their dorms. There were many students with their parents who stopped by as well as many shoppers from the community. The move-in traffic and parking were a hindrance, but we still made over \$2,000 at the shop. The plant selection included indoor plants for dorm rooms as well as a variety of California native plants, shrubs, trees, succulents, and herbaceous plants for the homeowner. Monday’s activity was a plant give-away to students. Over 100 students showed up to claim a free plant for their dorm room. They were so excited and eager to learn how to take care of their new plants. On Tuesday we offered free docent-led tours for the students who all enjoyed seeing the Gardens, most for the first time. A scavenger hunt and free Kona Ice brought in many students on Wednesday before their first day of classes on Thursday. This event has become a great way to inform and engage new students in the UCR Botanic Gardens, and we hope many will become regular visitors or even volunteers.



## Wildlife of the Gardens

### Hooded Oriole

By Michele Felix-Derbarmdiker



Male Hooded Oriole  
Photo by Lee Reeder

Every spring over the last several years I have had the honor of serving as a guide for a bird walk through the Botanic Gardens. Each year the group favorite of both new and experienced birders is the Hooded Oriole, *Icterus cucullatus*. At the time of the bird walk, they have just begun to arrive from their winter journey to Mexico. They delight garden visitors of all ages with their bright colors and acrobatic displays. If you know where to find their favorite grove of trees, then you are sure to find them during breeding season.

#### Habitat/Diet

Hooded Orioles can be found in a wide range of habitats in the southwestern United States and Mexico. Locally they are present during the spring breeding season and prefer to take up residence in groves of trees such as sycamores, eucalyptus, willows, cottonwoods, and palm trees. Palm trees are a favorite, particularly in urban settings. They will move from tree to tree meticulously searching for insects such as spiders, ants, beetles, and larvae from the underside of leaves. Males will often sing and chatter under the cover of trees or shrubs. Insects may fill their bellies but they still have a sweet tooth. They utilize their long curved beaks to attain nectar from flowers or a convenient hummingbird or oriole feeder.

Whether the meal is sweet or savory, these birds will pull out the acrobat moves, even hanging upside down, in order to reach a meal.

#### Breeding

Breeding season begins in spring, and the males arrive first to establish their territories. Once a female arrives within a male's territory, he will hop from branch to branch around her as he bows and sings with his bill pointed proudly to the sky. If the female accepts him, she will weave an intricate pouch like nest from plant fibers lined with feathers and plant down. An average of four eggs is laid and the young leave after only two weeks of joint parental care. The pair can have two broods during a breeding season.

#### Identification

Their distinct colors make this an easy bird to spot, particularly the males. They are large songbirds, approximately the same size as a robin. Despite their size, they appear delicate with slender necks, rounded tails, and downward facing bills. The males are a combination of black, yellow or orange, and white. The black adorns their face, throats, tails, and wings. The yellow to orange coloring covers their rumps, belly, and hood. The females are overall an olive yellow with a grayish back and thin white wing bars. The wing bar on the males is larger.

#### Threats

Overall, the species is stable and not listed at the state or federal level. The species has actually expanded its range over the last several decades. This is likely due to the popularity of planting palms in urban spaces. In certain areas of their range, they face pressures from Brown Headed Cowbirds. Cowbirds are nest parasites and do not raise their own young. They lay their eggs in the nests of orioles, and the oriole parents unknowingly raise the cowbird young. Another threat often comes from humans who provide oriole or hummingbird feeders, which can contain sugar water, jellies, or sliced fruit. They should be cleaned regularly, especially in hot weather, to keep harmful bacteria from growing.



Female Hooded Oriole  
Photo credit: Wikimedia Commons

## Spotlight on Sheryl Hayes

By Janine Almanzor



Sheryl Hayes began volunteering at the Botanic Gardens in 2019 with friends from the former Garden Oasis Club. Sheryl has continued to volunteer with her friend Kay Sarring and has worked in almost every area in the Gardens. Sheryl finds that while volunteering at the Botanic Gardens she feels relaxed as she is surrounded by the beauty and calm of nature.

Sheryl has always enjoyed gardening, but her experience was limited to her own garden when she began volunteering at the Gardens, and her profession was unrelated to plants. She graduated from UCR in Sociology and worked several jobs in Student Services, finishing her career as Director of Financial Aid at UCR for 16 years. Her initial project at the Gardens was to maintain and add plants to the Baja California Garden.

When that area looked pretty good, she moved on to other areas. Since then, she has helped with whatever and wherever work was needed. She maintained the Herb Garden for a long time, cleaned up the Mediterranean area, worked in propagation, weeded and pruned the plants for Plant Sales, and even helped with plant inventory for the sales. Every winter she helps with pruning roses, and she also repotted and cleaned up our orchid collection in both the greenhouse and the lath house. Sheryl was the best person for this job because she has a very large orchid collection and even has a greenhouse. One of her current jobs is watering the entire planted garden of our nursery area on the former Oscar and Marcia Clarke property adjacent to the Gardens. She and her husband Roger, also a UCR alum and long-time staff at the UCR Learning Center, both knew Oscar, so she has a strong connection to the property. Sheryl and Kay have also been making the beautiful succulent planters that sell so well at our sales.

Sheryl's dedication to the Gardens stems from the years she and her husband spent working at UCR. She came back to volunteer after the Covid shutdown as soon as volunteers were allowed back. She has grown to be more knowledgeable about plants and their care and contributes that to our Nursery Technicians Lois (retired) and Laura. Sheryl's dedication to the Gardens is also seen in her generosity as a donor, and she has provided substantial support to the Display House that will begin construction early next year.

### NAME THE ANIMAL TRACKS!

Animal tracks are often seen in the Botanic Gardens. Here are some we see every day. Can you guess which animal they're from?



## Volunteers welcomed!

Visit [gardens.ucr.edu/volunteer](https://gardens.ucr.edu/volunteer) for more information



A  
Docent  
Training Class  
is starting  
this winter

## Around the Gardens

### Art in the Gardens

By Karen Fleisher

The 12<sup>th</sup> annual Art in the Gardens was held at the Gardens on Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, offering a wonderful variety of art to the meandering visitor. There was serious art, whimsical art and functional art--watercolor and acrylic paintings, ceramics, hand-crafted wood products, photography, textiles including plant-dyed printed items, jewelry, print making, gourds and garden art. The day included a Pop-up Shop and Plant Sale, described in another article.

Nearly 700 visitors enjoyed the opportunity to meet and talk with artists, shop for something unique, connect with old friends, and to enjoy the wonderful pastries created by Mien van de Ven offered at the outdoor café. Mien has been a supportive partner of Art in the Gardens since it began in 2012, and the café provides visitors with a place to relax and enjoy the beauty of the Gardens and the taste of Mien's exquisitely baked delicacies.

The Friends membership table was busy as visitors stopped by to chat with



staff member Auggie Martinez, enjoy a treat, and learn about the benefits of membership. As a member incentive, artist Nancy Jacobson donated a botanic tile for a free drawing open to current members and new members. Twelve visitors joined the Friends of the Gardens on Saturday!

With the beautiful weather and the number of smiles, packages, small boxes of pastries, and plants seen as visitors were leaving the Gardens, Art in the Gardens lived up to its reputation as a great place to be on the first Saturday of November.

Thank you to the Gardens staff and the many volunteers and artists who contributed to the success of Art in the Gardens once again this year!



### Pop-up Shop at Art in the Gardens

By Nancy Cullen

The Art in the Gardens event was very successful as was our concurrent Pop-up Shop with Plant Sale, giving visitors many retail options. The Gardens entrance welcomed visitors with flowers and colorful ribbons, and along the roadway into the Gardens our Plant Sale offered California natives including salvias and manzanitas along with other unique plants from the Garden's collection. Our Horticulture staff and Master Gardeners provided shoppers with watering and plant care advice. Our Gardens branded merchandise was located a few steps away at our Friends Membership table, nestled in the shade among the artists. Thanks to all those volunteers that assisted with our Plant Sale as well as our BEES administrative team who staffed the gatehouse and handled all cashiering.

**Plant Sale Volunteers:** Kay Force, Scott & Michelle Lofquist, Yvonne Wilczynski, Krissy Parker, Lou Fawley, Norma Larson, Marcille Christian, Parvaneh Byrth, and Myrka Hernandez.

## Friends Member Twilight Tour

By Janine Almanzor



Above: Jodie Holt (center) sharing the Plant Pavilion plans

For the third year in a row, we offered a complimentary Twilight Tour just for our Friends of the Gardens members. The tour took place on a beautiful September evening when the weather was just right for a walk through the Gardens. With about 25 guests present we decided to have everyone in one group led by staff and docents. Director Jodie Holt shared the plans for the new Plant Pavilion, and Curator Janine Almanzor shared the plans for the new Display House in the greenhouse. Manager Miguel Estrada answered many questions regarding plant maintenance and irrigation in the Gardens. Docents April Wilson, George Spiliotis, and Jean Weiss were stationed in the Rose Garden, Butterfly Garden, and Herb Garden, respectively, to share their expertise on those areas. Many questions were asked along the way and Docent Laura Simpson had much to contribute. Following the tour, members enjoyed refreshments and conversation with fellow members and plant lovers. Thank you to our docents and Linda Carter for helping with the food and Carol Farrar for taking pictures.



Right: George Spiliotis talking about the Butterfly Garden



Far right: Participants enjoying hearing from April Wilson about the Rose Garden

## Succulent Pumpkin Workshop

By Pam Ferre

On October 25<sup>th</sup>, a beautiful fall Saturday morning, the Gardens presented a hands-on workshop in the Meeting Room. Each participant created a stunning centerpiece by adding a variety of succulents onto a Cinderella pumpkin and embellished it with twigs, berries and other decorative elements. With guidance from Master Gardener Linda Powell, 12 attendees learned how to design and “plant” these unique living arrangements, which can last several months or more. We are grateful for volunteers Linda Powell and Karen Fleisher for organizing this workshop!



Participants choosing succulents



A beautiful finished pumpkin



Linda Powell instructing the class

# Project Updates

Article and photos by Miguel Estrada



The Bee Forage Ground on the slope

## Bee Forage Ground

Good news! After much work and several articles on this project, I am happy to report that we have checked off all the boxes for the Bee Forage Ground. We installed an irrigation system that runs off battery timers, we solarized the hillside, and we just finished sowing wildflower seeds in late October. An abundance of new seedlings has emerged, but we are sure many are weed seedlings. Solarization is a non-toxic way to control weeds, but it has limitations. The hillside we chose to sow had an extensive weed seed bank and we knew that even with solarization we were going to contend with



Seedlings sprouting!

weeds. The wildflowers will still come up, grow among the weeds, and give a good show. We plan to implement cultural practices that will promote greater weed suppression and result in a wildflower bed that will require less input from the maintenance staff.

## Oak Tree Planting

While the bee forage ground project was winding down, we were working to increase the number of trees we have in the Gardens. Each year we plant new specimens; however, the bulk of the plantings have been shrubs. As of this year, we have shifted our focus to tree species that will reach high and wide, add more structure to undeveloped areas, and fill voids in established gardens. With this in mind, we started by increasing our collection among the stand of memorial trees on the east perimeter trail to the south of the Celebration of Life Memorial. There is about an acre of undeveloped hillside between the memorial trees and the new bee forage area. We are going to expand the tree collection in this part of the Gardens with 16 new specimens of oaks and a pine. As with all our new large-scale plantings, these additions will be accompanied by a new irrigation system.



Irrigation installation

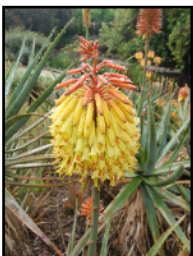
## North American Desert

For a long time we have had an unsightly caged area along the northern fence in the desert section of the Gardens. It was used in the past for CA native potted plants when we were propagating on a larger scale. It has been several years since the cage was used, and it still houses the same tables and pots without much change. We have decided to tear it down to create a new bed and to reroute a dead-end trail to that area of the Gardens. The new bed will be approximately 300 sq. ft. and will feature some exciting new specimens of desert plants.



Removing the cage

To see some of the plants in bloom please visit [gardens.ucr.edu/information/bloom](http://gardens.ucr.edu/information/bloom). South Africa, North Coast, Herb Garden, and Butterfly Garden have many plants blooming.



Various Aloe spp.



*Epilobium* 'Route 66'  
"California fuchsia"



*Tagetes lemmonii*  
"Mexican marigold"



*Clerodendrum ugandense*  
"blue butterfly bush"

## Butterfly Corner - Becker's White

Article and photo by Ann Platzer



The Becker's White (*Pontia beckerii*) is a mostly white butterfly with small black markings; females have more dark markings. This medium-sized butterfly with a wingspan about 1 ¾ to 2 inches is similar to the Checkered White.

The dorsal surface of both the male and female is white, with black spots near the tip of each forewing. Near the front edge of the forewing is a rectangular black bar with a curved white center (Photo). Note that the bar is visible from the ventral view in this photo (and also in dorsal views). The ventral surface of the hindwing of both sexes has wide yellow-green bands outside each vein.

Becker's White butterflies are found in western North America from southern British Columbia and Alberta in Canada south to Baja California, east of the Cascades and Sierra Nevada, and east and south to western Montana and New Mexico. Their habitat is arid lands, sagebrush-steppes, desert canyons, foothills and fields.

This species has many broods and may be seen from February through October. Females lay about 100 eggs singly on host plant flower buds, leaves, stems, and seed pods. The eggs hatch in about three days (depending on the temperature), develop rapidly from the first instar to the fourth instar, and then pupate in about 14 days. The larvae are solitary, build no nest, and sometimes wander off the host plant to pupate and overwinter as pupae. The larval food plants include those in the mustard family.

This is a common butterfly seen in arid foothills and deserts where food plants such as bladderpod, *Cleomella arborea*, and prince's plume, *Stanleya pinnata*, are found. The adults feed on the flower nectar from many plants including mustards and alfalfa.

HAPPY BUTTERFLY GARDENING!

AP

Thanks to Dr. Gordon Pratt for verifying the butterfly identification and Edward Platzer for proofing this article.

YOU  
CAN GET  
IN FREE TO  
NEARLY 400  
GARDENS!



AMERICAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY  
**RECIPROCAL  
GARDEN NETWORK**  
member garden

## Become a Friend!

The UCRBG is an institutional member of the American Horticultural Society. A Friends membership entitles you to the benefits of participating in the AHS Reciprocal Garden Network, which gives you free or discounted admission and other discounts at nearly 400 gardens and arboreta throughout North America. The AHS member gardens can be viewed at their web site: [ahsgardening.org/gardening-programs/rap](http://ahsgardening.org/gardening-programs/rap).



**BOTANIC  
GARDENS**  
EST. 1963

**Swag**

**PURCHASE BRANDED  
MERCHANDISE ONLINE**

**ITEMS:**

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Apron                   | 30.00 |
| T-Shirt, Lng-Slv, Stone | 30.00 |
| T-Shirt, Tan            | 20.00 |
| T-Shirt, Green          | 20.00 |
| T-Shirt, Grey, V-Neck   | 20.00 |
| Baseball Hat            | 20.00 |
| Canvas Tote Bag         | 15.00 |
| Garden Kneeler          | 12.00 |
| Flower Pot Mug          | 12.00 |
| Acrylic Sports Bottle   | 10.00 |
| Journal                 | 8.00  |
| Mouse Pad               | 8.00  |
| Flag                    | 8.00  |
| Round Coaster           | 5.00  |
| Lanyard                 | 5.00  |
| Glasses Cleaning Cloth  | 4.00  |
| Fan, 2-Sided            | 3.00  |



Scan the QR code  
to visit the  
Botanic Gardens  
website  
[gardens.ucr.edu](http://gardens.ucr.edu)  
Click **Pay Online**

In Person Pick Up:  
BG Entrance  
Thursdays 9am-12pm  
Open Sundays 9am-12pm

1 Botanic Gardens Dr.  
Riverside, CA 92507  
[gardens.ucr.edu](http://gardens.ucr.edu)



## In the Works

### By Botanic Gardens Staff

With weather cooling and a new group of students, both BG student workers and Climate Corps interns, the Gardens are looking better than ever, and our staff are pursuing special projects, as well. Here are some of the projects and activities underway in the Gardens.

#### Gardens and Grounds:

- ▶ A new planting area and trail in the North American Desert section have been created by removing an unused fenced area occupying 320 sq. ft.
- ▶ We are installing a collection of 16 oaks in an undeveloped area above the new Bee Forage Ground.
- ▶ The Bee Forage Ground has been sown with California native wildflower seeds. Now we will wait, let nature take its course, and hope for spring bloom.
- ▶ Once again, we are cleaning up the Fruit Orchard. This time we are clearing areas that were not addressed in previous cleanups so we can install pollinator gardens that will benefit our orchard plants.
- ▶ This fall and winter we will be planting several new specimens throughout the Gardens, many of them trees.
- ▶ Some new plants have been added to the Butterfly Garden and the Herb Garden.
- ▶ A major outage on east campus took out all power to the Gardens for a week in September. UCR's Facilities Services came to the rescue, providing generators for our buildings and greenhouse so we could continue operating. The repairs and upgrades should stabilize our power supply well into the future. Thanks, UCR FS!



New planting area in the Desert Garden



Area in the Fruit Orchard for a pollinator plants

#### Activities and Events:

- ▶ We have hired three new UCR student workers, Sierra Logue, Jeshua Quiroa, and Michelle Sosa, to replace our graduating and department students. They bring experience and enthusiasm to their jobs. Please help us welcome them to the Gardens team.
- ▶ We hosted another successful Art in the Gardens and welcomed nearly 700 visitors to the event. Our Pop-up Shop and Plant Sale were busy, and the engaging Friends Membership table brought in nearly a dozen new/renewed members, as well. Thanks to all, especially Volunteer Karen Fleisher, who made this event happen!
- ▶ Once again, we held a series of activities during UCR's Welcome Week, September 22-24, to introduce new students to the Gardens. Hundreds of students visited to receive a free plant, take Docent-guided tours, participate in a scavenger hunt for a UCRBG merchandise prize, and enjoy a free Kona Ice.
- ▶ A Docent Training Class will begin in January. If you are interested in leading tours, please email Janine at [janine.almanzor@ucr.edu](mailto:janine.almanzor@ucr.edu).



Welcome Week plant give-away

#### Campus Update

- ▶ UCR TAPS (Transportation and Parking Services) made a significant change to weekend parking on campus, which will affect our Sunday visitors. Effective immediately all vehicles parked on the campus are required to have a valid parking permit from 7:00 am – 10:00 pm, 7 days a week.



Art in the Gardens

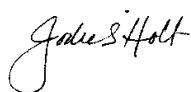
## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

The UCR Botanic Gardens are flourishing due to our supporters—donors, members, volunteers, and of course UCR and our college, CNAS. We simply would not be here without you. Your ongoing support reminds us to stay focused on our mission of creating a thriving nature oasis, source of learning, and place of respite for all to enjoy.

Over the past year we have continued to augment our collection, guide thousands of students and adults on tours, educate hundreds of participants at events, support UCR classes and research, provide a beautiful location for gatherings, and sell Gardens-grown plants for home and landscape. Your gifts, memberships, and donation of thousands of volunteer hours made all this possible.

It is gratifying to meet UCR alumni who return to relive their treasured memories of time spent in the Gardens and new visitors who are thrilled to discover such a special place to visit. Your contribution will keep our Gardens and valuable programs growing strong for many years to come. Please make your gift today!

I look forward to seeing you in the Gardens.



Jodie S. Holt, Ph.D.  
Director UCR Botanic Gardens

### To donate online:

[gardens.ucr.edu/giving](https://gardens.ucr.edu/giving)

### To donate by check:

Make your check payable to "UCR Foundation", note UCR Botanic Gardens in the memo, and send to:

UCR Foundation  
PO Box 5068  
Riverside, CA 92517-5068



## Your Legacy in the Gardens

We are humbled by how many people give to ensure the beauty and vitality of the UCR Botanic Gardens for future generations. There are many ways to accomplish this, including a gift through your will, a charitable gift annuity that pays income back to you, or an endowment. If you would like more information on how to leave a legacy to the Gardens, please contact:

Robyn Martinelli  
Assistant Dean for Development, CNAS  
Cell: 951.288.2708 | Office: 951.827.3067  
[robyn.martinelli@ucr.edu](mailto:robyn.martinelli@ucr.edu)



*If you have already remembered the Gardens in your plans, please let us know as we would appreciate the opportunity to steward your generous gift!*





900 University Ave.  
Riverside, CA 92521

Non-Profit ORG  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
UCR

## UCRBG Calendar of Events

A stylized illustration of an aloe vera plant in shades of green, serving as a background for the event list.

|           |                                                                                         |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Bimonthly | <b>Volunteer Orientation</b> , Entrance, 9:30 am (1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday & Tuesday)     |
| Monthly   | <b>Walk &amp; Learn at the Rose Garden</b> , 8:00 - 10:00 am (1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesdays) |
| Jan. 4    | <b>Rose Pruning Demonstration</b> , 1:00 - 3:00pm                                       |
| Jan. 4    | <b>Pop-up Shop Plant Sale</b> , 1:00 - 3:00 pm                                          |
| Jan. 18   | <b>Learn about Loofahs</b> , Time TBD                                                   |

**Please note: The UCRBG hours are Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 3:30 pm  
and 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays 8:00 am - 2:00 pm until further notice.  
(Please check our website for closure dates)**