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UCRBG Newsletter

Texas Mountain Laurel

By Norm Ellstrand



I hadn't been in California for more than a year when I bumped into an old friend from the Texas Hill Country. Not far from the UCRBG entrance, on the right side of the walkway, I was waylaid by the intense smell of grape soda. Sure enough, I saw the large wisteria-like inflorescences on a large leguminous shrub and grinned as I recognized my old friend from graduate school, Texas mountain laurel, *Sophora secundiflora*.

Well, that's the scientific name I had learned. However, scientific names have been going through a lot of flux over the past half century. The current accepted name is *Dermatophyllum secundiflorum* ("the pleasant-flowered plant with the skin-like leaf"). The widely used English common name "Texas mountain laurel" is somewhat unfortunate. This large-ish evergreen shrub has little in common with mountain laurel of the Appalachians other than they are both large-ish evergreen shrubs with showy and fragrant inflorescences. The former is a member of the family Fabaceae; the latter, in a radically distant family Ericaceae. They differ in flower color, aroma, and structure. Texas mountain laurel has clusters of pea-like bright purple flowers with a strong grapey scent. *D. secundiflorum* has compound leaves, and mountain laurel has simple ones. Texas mountain laurel sets fruits that are hard woody pods that contain bright red-orange seeds. Mountain laurel's fruit is a dry capsule that releases numerous tiny, winged seeds. Furthermore, neither of these is a true laurel, *Laurus nobilis* (a.k.a. "bay leaf") which is in the nominate genus of the family Lauraceae.

Texas mountain laurel goes by some other names over its range from New Mexico and Texas to southern Mexico. These include Texas mescalbean, grape Kool-Aid tree, frijolito, and frijolillo. Perhaps "grape Kool-Aid tree" is the most descriptive, given its floral scent.

Interestingly, the chemical basis of the floral scent of *D. secundiflorum* is the same as that of the synthetic "grape" flavor of grape soda and grape bubblegum: methyl anthranilate. The odor from the flowers is so intense that people can't agree on it. Some find it delicious, while others find it cloying.

As delicious as the aroma of Texas mountain laurel flowers might be, the plant is highly toxic and shouldn't come anywhere near your mouth (or that of your pet). The leaves and seeds are particularly nasty. The chemical culprits are a variety of quinolizidine alkaloids, most notably cytisine, which shares some structural similarities with nicotine. Low doses of cytisine act as a stimulant, inducing vomiting, abdominal pain, and an elevated heart rate. High doses have a depressing effect, leading to

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Director Updates -Patricia Springer



The summer heat is thankfully behind us and fall in the UCR Botanic Gardens is glorious! The Gardens are alive with plants and wildlife. On a recent Sunday morning, as I walked from Schneider House to Alder Canyon, I asked my trusty Merlin Bird App to identify the bird sounds I heard. Within five minutes, Merlin identified 15 different bird species. The birds seemed especially boisterous after the recent rains. Multiple families with young children were also visiting the Gardens, and it was lovely to see their energy and excitement.

The Gardens are important for community engagement, teaching, and research. We are excited to be included in Professor Marko Spasojevic's wildlife biodiversity project. Professor Spasojevic and his students monitor wildlife throughout Riverside County (https://wildriverside.ucr.edu/) and have recently installed camera traps in the Gardens. Stay tuned for what they find!

We have been looking forward to the winter rainy season; however, I watch the long-term weather forecasts with some trepidation, as the predicted super El Niño could bring challenging conditions. We will watch the weather closely and may occasionally need to close the Gardens if conditions warrant. Please check our website or Instagram before visiting this winter.

We held our Friends Annual Meeting and State of the Gardens Address on November 10. This meeting, normally held in June, was delayed following Jodie Holt's passing. The evening reminded me how fortunate we are to have such a dedicated membership. I am gradually getting to know our longtime UCRBG Friends and supporters, and their stories inspire me. Many tell of years, sometimes decades, of working with the Gardens, and their generosity is remarkable.

We are thrilled that the Gardens will be open every Sunday starting in January, and we are working to roll out some additional benefits for our Friends. We are making changes to our plant sales, and beginning in January, Friends will receive a plant list a few days before each plant sale, along with exclusive access to the first hour of each sale. And of course, Friends will still receive a 10% discount on all plants. We are also planning some new UCRBG events, including science lectures, so watch our website or eNews for announcements! If you have ideas for events you would like to see the Gardens offer, please contact me. I'd love to hear from you.

To renew, or to join if you are not yet a Friend, go to our website, gardens.ucr.edu, select the "Become a Member" link, and follow the prompts. Please note that the "Giving" link accepts donations to some of our funds, but membership is available only through the Member link.

Thank you for being part of the Gardens community. Your support makes everything we do possible, and I look forward to seeing you in the Gardens soon.

UCR Botanic Gardens Staff
Patricia Springer, Interim Director
Janine Almanzor, Curator/Education Coordinator
Miguel Estrada, Manager
Pam Ferre, Program Coordinator
Nancy Cullen, Visitor Services Coordinator
Jorge Fregoso, Nursery Technician
Laura Navarro, Nursery Technician
Pam Roose, Nursery Technician
Colin Tran, Nursery Technician
Giselle Corral, Kristine M. Scarano Intern
Hannah McAllister, Landscape Architect Intern
Jade Arayata, Student Worker
Sierra Logue, Student Worker
Jeshua Quiroa, Student Worker
Ethan Vargas, Student Worker
Adrian Zamudio, Student Worker

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UCR College of Natural & Agricultural Sciences

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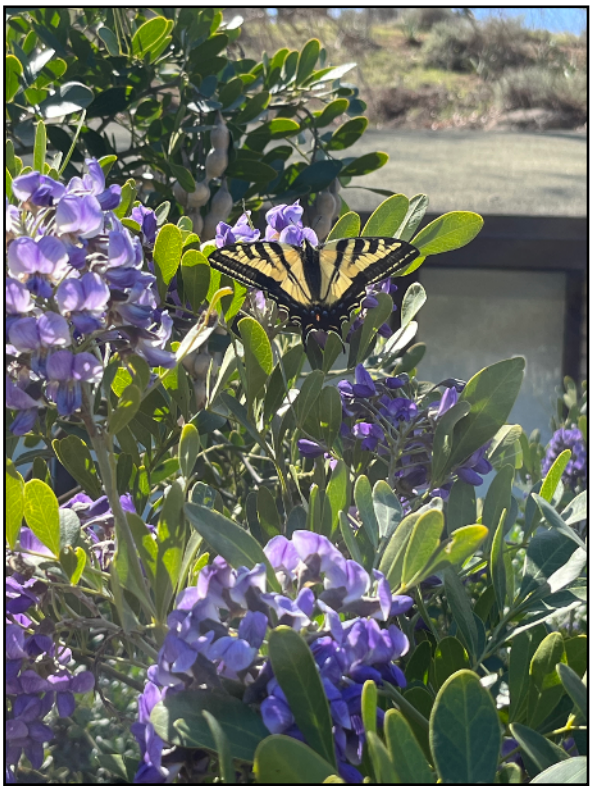
convulsions, difficulty breathing, and possibly death. Despite traditional knowledge to the contrary, there are apparently no modern records of human fatality due to ingesting parts of Texas mountain laurel. The leaves taste terrible. Fortunately, the seeds are extremely hard, and if not broken by mastication, can pass through a human or pet digestive system with no effect.



In fact, the bright red-orange seeds are so hard and durable that they were used as a kind of currency by Native Americans. They were also used in the regalia of certain tribes. And they are still sometimes made into jewelry. In that case, they are known as mescal beans.

The tree itself has horticultural uses. Given that it grows extremely slowly, Texas mountain laurel takes years to top off at 10 to 15 feet. Therefore, it is suitable for residential and commercial purposes. The species requires well-drained soil that is neutral or alkaline. Once a seedling is established, it is highly drought tolerant. Extracting and scarifying seeds for germination in a hot tap water bath requires considerable care to avoid exposure to the alkaloids. I advise buying a young plant from a nursery.

The next time you enter the UCRBG make sure you find this interesting shrub. Sometime in late winter, typically February, Texas mountain laurel begins to bloom. It bears its clusters of showy and fragrant flowers for a few weeks. Give them a sniff and see if you don't agree that grape Kool-Aid tree isn't a better name.

This article benefited from the input of Dr. Tracy Kahn.





Around the Gardens

Art in the Gardens

By Nancy Cullen

On November 7, 2026, the Botanic Gardens held our annual Art in the Gardens from 10 am to 3 pm in our lovely Alder Canyon. Around 700 guests were shuttled up to the Gardens to stroll the booths of 23 local artists. From ceramics, wood carvings, watercolors, screen-print textiles, garden and botanical inspired gifts, leather and quilted goods to fine sterling silver jewelry. Our guests also enjoyed the fabulous, sweet treats from our generous volunteer and master baker Mien van de Ven, who donates the proceeds to the Gardens.

This event has been a Gardens calendar favorite for 13 years now and we couldn't do this event without Karen Fleisher, donor and volunteer extraordinaire! Artists and guests repeatedly commented that this is their favorite art show! "It takes a village..." certainly applies to this event. We had around 28 volunteers participate in this event. They are listed below. With UCR Homecoming on the same weekend, next year's AIG will likely be on a different Saturday to avoid traffic and parking problems.

Adith Radharaman
Antoon Ploeg
April Wilson
Aaron Schroeder
Auggie Martinez
Aurora Cullen
Bella Mucha
Bob Cullen
Claudia Clark
Cristal Sanchez
Donna Giansanti
Emily McAllister
Fahima Islam
Isha Bhakta
Karen Fleisher
Kay Force
Lee Bayer
Linda Carter
Megan Studer
Michelle Lofquist
Mien van de Ven
Nancy Prokopchuk
Norma Larson
Scott Lofquist
Sherri Harris
Steve Horn
Tristan Pohlman
Xander Cullen







Auggie Martinez at the Friend's member table



SAVE THE DATES!

Upcoming Pop-up Shop Plant Sales

January 10, 2027 during the Rose Pruning Demo
April 11, 2027
May 2, 2027
June 13, 2027

Pop-up Shops

By Janine Almanzor

We had two successful back-to-back Pop-up Shops this fall. The October 4th sale took place on an incredibly hot Sunday, but there were still many plant lovers braving the heat to purchase plants. Customers commented that they love our sales because they find unusual plants that are hard to find. This is because all the plants we sell are plants that are part of our collection in the Botanic Gardens that volunteers propagate under the direction of Nursery Technician Laura Navarro.







Our November 7th sale coincided with Art in the Gardens and ran from 10 am to 3 pm. It was quite busy with a constant flow of people and did not slow down until 2 pm. This time the weather was perfect, but we had a glitch with the cash register that slowed down the check-out process. We are so thankful for all the patient customers and for our finance team, BEES, who remained calm and joyful the whole time. At this sale we featured some rare species, like *Copiapoa dealbata* and *Deuteroconia brevifolia*. We plan to use the November sale each year to sell special plants like these. We also had a variety of house and patio plants, California native plants, shrubs, herbaceous plants, succulents, trees, vines, and a broad selection of bromeliads.



We look forward to seeing you at our next Pop-up Shop Plant Sale on Sunday, January 10th, which is also the date of our Rose Pruning Demonstration.

Interested in Volunteering?



Volunteers welcomed!

Visit gardens.ucr.edu/volunteer for more information

Spotlight on Jorge Fregoso

By Botanic Gardens Staff



If you've spent any time at the Botanic Gardens, chances are you've seen, or benefited from, the incredible work of Jorge Fregoso. Jorge is a true gem. No matter what task comes his way, he tackles it with excellence and a great attitude. Being a part of the Gardens for 16 years, he knows it like the back of his hand.

Jorge is now one of our full-time Nursery Technicians, but his story with us started back in 2010. While driving his daughter to classes at UCR, Jorge had time to kill before the commute back home to LA. Not one to sit around, he decided to start volunteering at the Gardens every weekday. It didn't take long for everyone here to realize we had someone special on our hands, so within two months, we hired him as a part-time Nursery Technician! In 2016 he officially joined us full-time. Even though his daughter graduated long ago, Jorge's love for the Gardens keeps him making that long commute to this day.

On any given day, you can find Jorge taking care of the upper portion of the Gardens, weeding, pruning, watering, clearing weed trees, fixing irrigation, and maintaining trails (just to name a few!). On top of his daily maintenance responsibilities, Jorge is our resident handyman. Jorge can fix just about anything and build whatever we need. From constructing concrete drainage channels (including his latest work along the outside of the greenhouse) to assembling sheds, building plant benches, preparing memorial bench sites, and installing tribute plaques, his list of projects is much longer than this newsletter has space for!

Jorge works hard to manage his packed schedule, always fitting in requests from the team with a smile. Even after a hard day of work, he always has a word of encouragement for his coworkers. The student workers especially love working with Jorge and they all know he has their best interest in mind. They learn so much from him because he is a patient teacher and is understanding. The whole crew, including the volunteers, absolutely adore him, with some describing him as a "warm fuzzy blanket on a cold day." Time and again, we've faced a problem we weren't sure how to solve, and time and again, Jorge has figured it out.

While we know retirement is eventually on the horizon, we're trying not to think about it because we honestly don't know what we'd do without him! When that day comes, we expect he'll be caring for his own plant collection, cooking up a storm, and spinning records as a DJ on the side.



Jorge driving volunteer Sheila McMahon to her car.



Pam Roose at the New York Botanical 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 400 gardens and arboreta throughout North America. The AHS member gardens can be viewed at their website: ahsgardening.org/gardening-programs/rap.

AMERICAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
RECIPROCAL
GARDEN NETWORK
member garden

Project Updates

By Miguel Estrada

With cooler days and a full complement of student employees, we are finally able to move forward on longstanding and new projects with renewed momentum. Below is an update on some of our recent endeavors.

Memorial Tree Irrigation



Our new dripline irrigation system is well underway. Ten trees are connected, and five more trees and several shrubs remain to finish the job. Drip irrigation is not normally the first choice for watering trees, but our options are limited by low water flow and pressure. Because we chose dripline, we had to bury every line to protect it from coyote damage, which added considerable time to the process. Even so, at our current pace, we expect to complete this project by the end of November. One of the greatest benefits of this project, beyond reducing the need for staff to hand-water trees, is that it will allow us to expand our collection of trees and shrubs onto a hillside that has long been dominated by grass.

Greenhouse Redwood



Sequoia sempervirens 'Idylwild' behind the greenhouse

A solitary coast redwood stands on the east side of the greenhouse. Despite challenging conditions, the tree has managed to survive and grow. Because it stands alone, it receives little shade from neighboring trees, and most of its water comes from runoff generated while watering nearby pots or from drip irrigation intended for the surrounding rose beds. Neither source provides sufficient water for a tree of this size and in recent years, the tree's crown has shown signs of stress. In response, we are clearing out several tables and potted plants from the understory to make room for a dedicated automatic irrigation system. We also plan to protect the root zone with a layer of mulch, which will help to maintain this majestic tree for years to come.

Hose Bib Conversion



We have set an ambitious goal of automating irrigation throughout the Gardens. This effort will not be quick or easy, but we believe it is worth the investment of time and resources. For too long, we have relied on manually moving sprinkler platforms, worked around water demand limitations caused by narrow water windows, and watering according to schedules rather than the actual needs of the plants. Our aging pipes add to the challenge, sometimes leaving us with no choice but to abandon failing lines. Rather than waiting for connection points to rust and fail or continuing to struggle with an outdated irrigation approach, we are taking steps toward a more efficient future. The first phase involves creating points of connection for in-ground valves that will eventually be integrated into a central controller. The system will be capable of adjusting watering schedules using evapotranspiration data, helping us deliver water when and where it is needed. A key step toward this goal is establishing additional connection points for mainlines. By January 2027, we aim to convert thirty hose bibs. The Gardens contains approximately 146 hose bibs, but our objective is not to replace all of them. What matters most is creating strategically placed connection points that provide greater flexibility and allow us to irrigate larger areas than the existing evenly spaced hose bibs can efficiently serve.

In Memoriam - Steve Morgan

By Janine Almanzor



With great sadness I share that Steve Morgan passed away peacefully on November 13, 2026, after a long struggle with Parkinson's disease. Through many years of decline, he remained strong and never complained. Even toward the end of his life, a nurse remarked on how kind and sweet he was.

Steve earned a degree in Ornamental Horticulture from Cal Poly Pomona. Before joining the Botanic Gardens, he spent seven years at Fred A. Stewart Orchids in San Gabriel and six years as the Horticultural Manager in the Biology Department at Pomona College. In 1984, Steve became Curator of the Botanic Gardens, a role he held until his retirement in 2015. He often worked 60 to 80 hours a week, with especially long hours in the two months prior to plant sales. After retirement, he stayed with us part-time for another year.

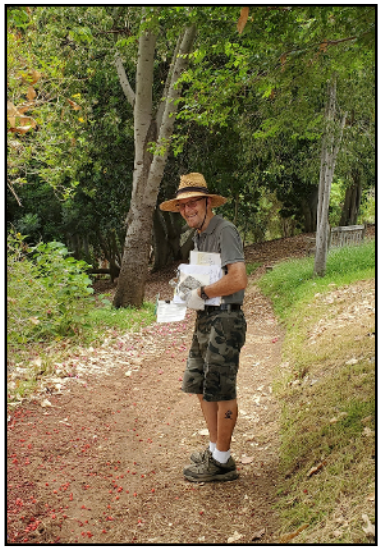
Steve's commitment and love for the Gardens never faded. For the next nine years, he remained connected by volunteering two mornings a week. Although he loved all aspects of his job, Steve said he wanted to continue volunteering because he finally got to do what he had always wanted but never had the time for: working on the plant records. He loved coming into the Gardens and his dedication was unmatched. On his last day in the Gardens, Steve left early because of back pain, only to learn later that his back was fractured. That's commitment!

Steve's deep knowledge of California native plants and local ornamental horticulture was matched by his gift for inspiring Friends and volunteers to help in the Gardens and with events. His contributions shaped the Gardens in many lasting ways. He oversaw expansion of the Spring and Friends' Fall Plant Sales and contributed much to the ever-popular annual Primavera event. He chose plants for the Geodesic Dome, set up the newly built lathhouse, and brought the plant records and library into the computer era. He also contributed to the Gardens' publications, including *Trees of China*, *Outdoor Classroom*, and *Deserts of the Southwest*.



Some of Steve's plants given to the Gardens

Steve was a kind and gentle person who genuinely cared for every volunteer and staff member. He made the volunteers feel appreciated and extra special, and he welcomed conversations with anyone, even if it meant he had to come in at 6 a.m. and leave late to get his work done. He shared his time and knowledge freely and lovingly with all who interacted with him. His knowledge was incredible! He quickly knew the name of almost anything presented to him, more accurate than a plant identification app! If anyone had a right to boast about his knowledge, it was Steve, but he never did. His humility was one of his most remarkable qualities.



Steve's personal plant collection was enormous and expansive, but his favorites were orchids, tillandsias, cacti and succulents, palms, and ferns. In addition to plants, Steve loved square dancing. Steve's love and knowledge of plants, and his gentleness and kindness, will be deeply missed and never forgotten.

For more than four decades, Steve was a beloved part of the Gardens, and his imprint on this place will endure. Together with Steve's square-dancing friends, the Gardens hopes to create a memorial in his honor. If you'd like to help celebrate his legacy with a gift:

By check: Make your check payable to "UC Riverside Foundation", note "UCR Botanic Gardens, In memory of Steve Morgan" in the memo, and send to:

UC Riverside Foundation
Po Box 5068
Riverside, CA 92517-5068

To give online: https://www.givecampus.com/campaigns/48565/donations/new?amt=

Wildlife of the Gardens

Greater Roadrunner

By Michele Felix-Derbarmdiker

This curious bird is both a scared symbol and a conjurer of memories involving Saturday morning cartoons. You are more likely to see them running about the desert or shrubby habitat rather than being chased by a coyote with an apparently endless supply of dynamite. In the Gardens, you may be lucky enough to catch a glimpse of a Greater Roadrunner (*Geococcyx californianus*) across the pathways or darting around shrubs trying to catch a lizard.



Photo credit: Wikimedia Commons

Habitat/Diet

This little speedster has expanded its habitat over the last few decades. It is still primarily a resident of the desert southwest but can be found in a variety of semi-open shrubby habitats, ranging from the riparian forests of Northern California to the very southern areas of Missouri. The Greater Roadrunner will avoid any densely populated or heavily forested areas. These birds are omnivores and use the openness of these habitats to pursue small animals along the well-worn paths within their territory. They are known to consume small birds, lizards, small mammals, insects, bats, frogs, eggs, carrion, and seeds. Interestingly, they also consume dangerous prey, including rattlesnakes, scorpions, and horned lizards. The venom of ingested rattlesnakes and scorpions does not affect roadrunners, due to the ability of their stomach acid to neutralize the venom proteins. Roadrunners are known to work as a team to take down rattlesnakes, with one distracting the snake and the other attacking from behind and repeatedly pecking the head. Roadrunners are also notorious for killing their prey by bashing them against rocks. A tasty meal is also a part of their breeding ritual.

Breeding

Breeding season generally begins in early spring. Pairs bond for life and renew that bond at the beginning of each breeding season. It is common for them to chase and play fight each other. The male will catch the female's attention by showing off his beautiful head crest, bowing, moving tail feathers, and making a variety of low calls. The male and female will also offer each other the gift of sticks. Copulation commences when the female accepts a gift of food from the male. Both of them will hold a piece of the food during copulation. The pair works together to build a nest, with the male providing most of the foundational sticks. The female does not tolerate any slacking, and she will encourage the male with calls to return with more sticks. The nest is placed in a well-hidden low tree branch or cactus. The nest is lined further with feathers, grasses, and even a touch of cow manure. The parents can expand the nest as the chicks grow, which is a plus when they can have up to six eggs per brood and three broods in a season.

Identification

Greater Roadrunners are largely sexually monomorphic and top out at just under two feet from beak to tail tip. They are primarily tan with a streaking pattern of black on their upper half. Their crest is black with a speckling of white. Just behind the eye is a patch of blue skin, which will include an orange red patch during mating season. Their wings also reveal white streaks when extended. These wings can be used to glide or fly short distances but are mostly used to startle prey. Their long grayish legs are powerful, and roadrunners can easily reach speeds of 20 to 26 miles per hour.

Roadrunners have a distinct placement of their toes, which form an x pattern, with two toes in the front and two in the back. This unusual feature makes it difficult to determine the direction of travel from their tracks. In Pueblo traditions, the confusing tracks are understood to keep evil from following the bird, resulting in the roadrunner track pattern being used as a symbol to ward off evil.

Threats

This species is not currently listed at the state or federal level. The population is healthy across its range. However, in Southern California, the population has decreased due to development and habitat fragmentation. There are also car collisions and deaths from domestic dogs and cats. Natural predators include birds of prey, coyotes, bobcats, and raccoons.

In the Works

By Botanic Gardens Staff

Now that the weather has cooled and our students have returned, both BG student workers and Climate Corps interns, we are able to focus on projects and clean up. Here are some of the projects and activities underway in the Gardens.

Gardens and Grounds:

- This fall and winter we plan to plant several new specimens in Australia, Alder Canyon, and the Bee, Butterfly, Desert, Herb, and Rose Gardens.
- A preliminary design for the Iris Garden renovation has been developed. We will now proceed with determining the details and plant selections.
- Taking advantage of the rain softening the soil and our new engraver, more than 60 plant labels have been placed throughout the Gardens.
- A concrete channel drain on the south side of the greenhouse has been installed to prevent flooding in the greenhouse during the upcoming rainy season.
- Irrigation to the pine trees along the fire road, on the SE side of the Gardens, is nearly complete.
- The bee forage ground has been prepped and sowed with native seeds for another year of blooms for the bees.

Activities and Events:

- We hosted our 13th Art in the Gardens on November 7th and welcomed nearly 700 visitors to the event. Our Pop-up Shop Plant Sale was 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, Sept. 21-23, 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.
- Upon graduating from UCR, Colin Tran (former student Assistant Curator) has been hired as a part-time Nursery Technician to assist Manager Miguel with irrigation.
- Friends of the UCRBG Member Meeting was held on Tuesday, November. 10th with Interim Director Patty Springer presenting the State of the Gardens Address.
- Beginning in January 2027 the Botanic Gardens will be open every Sunday, from 8:00 am - 2:00 pm.
- Since students returned to school in September, our volunteer orientations have been fruitful. We are happy to have Cristal Sanchez and Fahima Islam join the Gardens volunteer team in the lath house, as stewards, and event assistance. As a new children's book author, we hope that Fahima will share her plant knowledge with our younger visitors through her fun and colorful book for story time in Alder Canyon.
- We hope to add more retired UCR staff and faculty to our volunteer team following an informational Zoom meeting with Nancy and Cristina Otegui, Retirement Center Director.
- The Rose Pruning Demonstration will take place on January 10th from 12:00 - 3:00 pm.



Preliminary design for the Iris Garden



Concrete drainage channel north of the greenhouse



Colin Tran



Plant give-away during Welcome Week

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



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

Over the past year, we guided thousands of students and adults on tours, educated hundreds of participants at events, supported UCR classes and research, provided a beautiful setting for gatherings, and sold Gardens-grown plants for home and landscape. We also worked to expand our collection, improve our infrastructure, and plan new projects. Your gifts, your memberships, and thousands of volunteer hours made all of this possible.

Our generous donors have done so much, but the need is greater than ever.

A garden is never finished. There is always more to plant, repair, build, and care for, and our future projects are ambitious. In addition to ongoing maintenance, we are working to automate irrigation throughout the Gardens, which will save water and staff time. We also plan to add interpretive signage, expand our plant collection, and replace diseased trees. Every one of these projects is within reach, but only with your help.

If you have already given, thank you. Please consider giving again or inviting a friend to join you. If you have not yet supported the Gardens, now is the perfect time to start. Gifts of every size make a difference, and a membership is a wonderful way to give year-round.

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

Patricia Springer

Patricia Springer, Ph.D.
Interim Director, UCR Botanic Gardens

To donate online:

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, your required minimum distribution, 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:

Katherine (Kate) Beach
Senior Director of Development, CNAS
Cell: 909.754.8806 | Office 951.827.8744
kbeach@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!

UC RIVERSIDE
Botanic Gardens

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Riverside, CA 92521

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UCRBG Calendar of Events

Bimonthly	**Volunteer Orientation,** Entrance, 9:30 am (1st Sundays & Tuesdays)
Monthly	**Walk & Learn at the Rose Garden,** 8:00 - 10:00 am (1st Tuesdays)
Jan. 10	**Rose Pruning Demonstration,** 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Jan. 10	**Pop-up Shop Plant Sale,** (Members only) 9:00 am - 10:00 am
Jan. 10	**Pop-up Shop Plant Sale,** (Public) 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Please note: The UCRBG hours are Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 3:30 pm and Sundays 8:00 am - 2:00 pm beginning Jan. 3 until further notice.
(Please check our website for closure dates)