

## Arboretum Newsletter

### Summer / early Fall 2022

#### Kentucky Plant Conservation Alliance Collaboration



Above, left to right: Snow trillium (*Trillium nivale*) in fruit, Ozark least trillium (*Trillium pusillum* var. *ozarkanum*) in bloom, collecting team in the Kentucky River Palisades.

The Arboretum, State Botanical Garden of Kentucky, recently started a partnership with the Office of Kentucky Nature Preserves and the UK Department of

Horticulture to collect seed and propagate state-rare species for both restoration and ex-situ conservation.

In May, we installed seed-collection bags on two different species of wild trillium plants: snow trillium (*Trillium nivale*) and Ozark least trillium (*Trillium pusillum* var. *ozarkanum*). The snow trillium grows in the Kentucky River Palisades but has been in decline in this area. Our hope is that we can use plants that we grow from the wild-collected seed to help restore the existing population, as well as have these on display at The Arboretum in the future. Ozark least trillium grows in the Pennyriple region of the state and thus plants will be used for restoration in that area and ex-situ conservation in the Pennyriple section of the Walk Across Kentucky. Each of these species is of conservation concern in Kentucky and this variety of Ozark least trillium is rare across its range.

We will be returning to the natural areas where these plants grow in the coming weeks to collect the seed that has ripened and fallen from the plants into our bags! Next, seed will be handed off to Dr. Robert Geneve and Shari Dutton in the Horticulture department for propagation. Trilliums are notoriously difficult to propagate and the plants may take many years to mature – but we are excited to be working with UK's propagation experts to grow these plants.

This project is part of the Kentucky Plant Conservation Alliance, a public-private partnership of members who are committed to conserving rare species, natural communities, and preventing plant extinctions. We plan to target other native and rare species of Kentucky for restoration and ex-situ conservation in the future.

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## New! A Dye Garden in the Home Demonstration Garden



Above, left to right: Angel Varillas plants plugs; Horticulture Intern Spencer Lamb, fiber arts professor Crystal Gregory, volunteer Melanie Landsittel, Horticulturist Shari Dutton, and Arboretum staff collaborate to plan and install the Dye Garden; the Dye Garden planting effort at completion.

What do you get when you combine two horticulturists with a professor in the School of Art and Visual Studies who focuses on fiber art? You get a dye garden with an abundance of plants that can be used to make natural dyes! Before synthetic dyes were invented, plants, lichens, minerals, and even insects were used to change the color of cloth. The UK Department of Horticulture's Shari Dutton has long had a love of the fiber arts. She wanted to create a demonstration dye garden showcasing a variety of dye plants, while also supporting environmental sustainability, and historical and culturally significant plants. We contacted UK colleagues and discovered Crystal Gregory had similar interests and was an enthusiastic collaborator.

With all the necessary ingredients in place--funds for purchasing seed, space in

The Arboretum's Home Demonstration Garden, and passion for the project--Shari, Jesse Dahl and our Horticulture team began growing plants for the garden from seed. Our new Demonstration Dye Garden is located near the goldfish pond and includes more than 20 plants representing perennial, biennial, and annual species. We are growing common garden annuals such as marigold (*Tagetes erecta* and *T. patula*) and coreopsis (*Coreopsis tinctoria*). Native perennials including Joe-Pye weed (*Eutrochium purpureum*) and coreopsis (*Coreopsis lanceolata*) provide a dye resource, as well as valuable ecosystem services. You will also find plants grown and used by native Americans such as the Hopi red dye amaranth (*Amaranthus cruentas x powellii*), the Hopi black dye sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*), and Seneca red stalker corn (*Zea mays*). European cultivated favorites such as weld (*Reseda luteola*), woad (*Isatis tinctoria*), and madder (*Rubia tinctorium*) were historically valuable. Muraski (*Lithospermeum erythrorhizon*) and Japanese Indigo (*Persicaria tinctoria*) served as dye plants in Asia. Signage identifying the plants and dye color has been installed in the garden and additional resources will be coming in the future.

## Plan Your Visit

- **Face coverings are optional** and not required inside the Dorothea Smith Oatts Visitor Center.
- The Visitor Center is operating under **summer hours: Tuesday through Saturday from 9 am to 4 pm.**
- The Kentucky Children's Garden is open **Wednesday through Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm.**

- **Events at Kroger Field** (e.g. football games, concerts, etc.) have the potential to impact your ability to access The Arboretum from Alumni Drive and/or to park here. Check the calendar of events for Kroger Field if you have questions.

**Thanks for Your Support of The Arboretum!**

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MISSED ONE DAY? MAKE YOUR GIFT TO UK BY CLICKING HERE!

**\$2,408,769 RAISED 3,409 DONORS**

The Arboretum, State Botanical Garden of Kentucky has raised **\$9,108** from **60** Donors!

Thanks to you, our generous donors, The Arboretum raised **\$9,108 from 60 Donors** for this year's **One Day for UK for The Arboretum**. Our generous supporters also helped us take **second place** in the Large Programs and Centers

Leaderboard Challenge for a further \$500 to fund educational programming, conserve Kentucky's native ecosystems, and provide a green space focused on plants and landscapes available to all. We are so grateful to everyone who contributed!



**LEADERBOARD**

### Large Programs + Centers Leaderboard

The large program or unit who has the most donors on #OneDayForUK! 1st place wins \$1000, 2nd place wins \$500.

RANK	PRIZE	LARGE PROGRAM AND UNIT LEADERBOARD	DONORS
1	\$1,000	Athletics	182 
2	\$500	The Arboretum, State Botanical Garden of Kentucky	54 
3		UK Libraries	53 
4		WUKY	23 
5		Kentucky Children's Hospital	16 

[Show 3 More](#)

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If you are interested in making a gift to support The Arboretum or about making a Challenge Gift for next year's event, please contact us. We are always happy to talk with anyone who wants to make a difference at The Arboretum!

**Thanks for Your Support of the Kentucky  
Children's Garden!**

The Kentucky Children's Garden was developed as an educational space for environmental programming and nature play for children and their families. Thanks

to the support of **multiple anonymous donors**, we were able to offer three grade level field trips for under-resourced schools this spring! This allowed two schools whose students had never participated in a Kentucky Children's Garden Field Trip to experience the garden and the special activities provided for Field Trips. The total attendance for the three schools was **215 students!**

Our efforts to reach children and families with fewer financial means continued with contacting Council Members Susan Lamb and Hannah LeGris to inquire about Neighborhood Development Funds (NDF). We thank the **Urban County Council** who approved funding for two Lexington organizations, The Nest and the Family Care Center, to provide over 1,000 passes for free admission to the Kentucky Children's Garden this year to the families utilizing their services! This will make it possible for families to visit the Kentucky Children's Garden without the price of admission being a barrier. We hope that exposure to The Arboretum and to the Kentucky Children's Garden will help raise awareness of what we offer to a broader community audience.

We thank the entire **Urban County Council** and our **anonymous donors for their support of the Kentucky Children's Garden!**

## Volunteer Updates

For as long as The Arboretum has existed, volunteers have made a huge difference in what we staff are able to accomplish and provide for visitors, and this year is no different. However, 2022 also marks the first time since 2019 that we've been able to provide meaningful work for volunteers for the whole season and we

hope this continues!

The recent spate of hot weather and the associated high heat index have caused us to be extra careful to ensure our volunteers and our staff stay safe. Our **Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday morning volunteer groups** may meet earlier or be canceled altogether. Sumi McCarty and Jesse Dahl manage the Tuesday and Wednesday groups, and Jessica Slade manages the Thursday group. Every volunteer for whom we have an email address and who is a regular volunteer should receive an email if the session is canceled or meeting earlier than normal. These emails are sent by Sumi, Jesse, Jessica, or by Heather Ortt using the general mailbox address [Arboretum@uky.edu](mailto:Arboretum@uky.edu). If you have a question about whether your group is meeting, please send an email to the general mailbox.

Dawn Bailey manages all volunteers for the Kentucky Children's Garden. Recently, when the heat index was to reach 102 degrees, we closed the Kentucky Children's Garden for the afternoon. We will continue to monitor the weather conditions and Dawn will let you know if we close the garden.

If you still have questions, please contact [Arboretum@uky.edu](mailto:Arboretum@uky.edu).

## Education & Programming



# THE KY CHILDREN'S GARDEN IS OPEN!

**Wednesday - Saturday | 10 am - 5 pm**

Educational Programming: 10 am - 12 noon

Model Trains: 11:30 am-12:30 pm, 1 pm-2 pm, 3 pm-4 pm

**Admission: \$3 per person (adults and children age 2 and above)**

Cash, Check, VISA and MasterCard accepted



We can't wait to see you for fun and educational programming, planting the raised beds, exploring the stream, catching tadpoles in the pond, watering flowers, watching Percy and Thomas, and playing in the log cabin.

***2022 Season Memberships are still available!***

We offer a **Seasonal KCG Membership** for \$100, with a 10% discount for **Arboretum Friends**. We also offer \$5 off the price of \$100 if you were a previous seasonal member and bring your card with you to renew your 2022 KCG membership--you can receive one or both discounts!

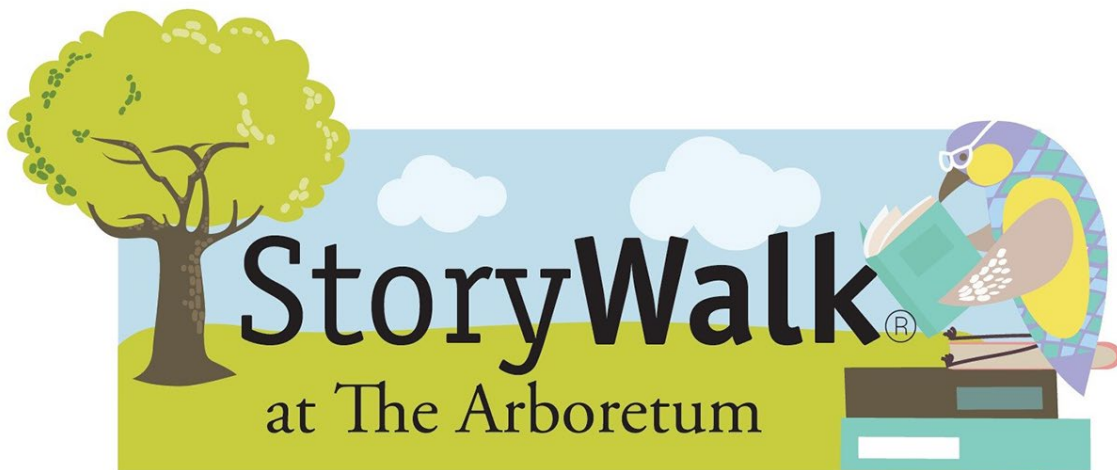
A seasonal membership provides you and your family (up to five people per visit) admission to visit the garden every day we are open in the 2022 season. Your "family" can include grandparents, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, friends of your

children--any five people in your group.

[Click here](#) to access the KCG season membership form. You will need to download the form, fill in the information, and return to us with payment (check, Visa or MasterCard). Alternatively, you can download the form and complete it at home, then bring the form and payment to the Visitor Center. We regret that we cannot take payment information over the phone and we do need the form to be completely filled out.

Interested in supporting The Arboretum and becoming an **Arboretum Friend**? Learn all about it on our website by [clicking here](#).

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Children love reading a story related to plants or weather as they follow the **StoryWalk** through The Arboretum's Horticultural Gardens. These stories, chosen by Dawn Bailey, our Education Coordinator, and our partner, the Lexington Public

Library, not only encourage reading, but help children connect and learn about the environment around them. The StoryWalk is also a great activity if you visit with children when the Kentucky Children's isn't open.

The StoryWalk panels will display:

- July - ***Caterpillar Caterpillar*** by Vivian French
- August - ***Right this Very Minute: A table to farm book about food and farming*** by Lisl H. Detlefsen
- September - ***Senorita Mariposa*** by Ben Gundersheimer (AKA Mister G)



The **Birdhouse Display** is ready for visitors to see throughout the Horticulture Gardens for the month of June. We thank everyone who submitted a birdhouse to display and we hope you come to see your creation!

## Can You Help Us?

Dawn Bailey is collecting items for two projects in the Kentucky Children's Garden (KCG) and we would appreciate any items you don't need!

### Project 1

Dawn is collecting wood (pressure-treated lumber and western cedar) to construct two flower boxes in the KCG. If you have lumber left from a project, we would love to have it. Here's what we need:

- **Western cedar** - 1-inch by 4-inch fence planks (12-inch minimum lengths)
- **Pressure-treated** - 2-inch by 8-inch boards (3-foot minimum lengths)
- **Pressure-treated** - 2-inch by 10-inch boards (3-foot minimum lengths)
- **Pressure-treated** - 4-inch by 4-inch posts (10-inch minimum lengths)

Please contact [dawn.bailey@uky.edu](mailto:dawn.bailey@uky.edu) to arrange a time to drop off your spare lumber.

### Project 2

Dawn is collecting used and clean coffee pods. These small plastic cups are difficult to recycle and often end up in the landfill. Help give them new life by donating them to us! We will use them for crafts and planting seeds.

Please bring your used and clean coffee pods to the Visitor Center during normal

hours of operation (Tuesday through Saturday, 9 am to 4 pm) and give them to Heather Ortt. Please place pods in a bag or other container and label them so that we know to give them to Dawn Bailey.

Thanks in advance for your help!

## Arboretum Staff Updates



Above, left to right: UKLA WAKY intern Kayla Payne; KCG interns and staff Kaylee Payton, Jessica Schroeder, Isaac Jarboe, and Hannah Wells; WAKY staff Wes Hansen.

**Kayla Payne** is a student intern from UK's Landscape Architecture Department working with us at The Arboretum for the summer. She is from southeastern Kentucky and minoring in Appalachian Studies at UK. Her favorite tree is the paperbark maple (*Acer griseum*).

**Kaylee Payton, Isaac Jarboe, and Hannah Wells** are UK student interns participating in hands-on learning in the Kentucky Children's Garden this summer.

**Kaylee** is majoring in Community and Leadership Development with a minor in Communications. Her internship is funded by retired UK Entomology professor Dan Potter. **Isaac** is majoring in Natural Resources and Environmental Science. **Hannah** is double majoring in Natural Resources and Environmental Science and in Environmental Sustainability and her goal is to be an Environmental Educator. Isaac's and Hannah's internships are funded by the UK Student Sustainability Council (SSC).

**Jessica Schroeder** is working as a Lead Educator in the Kentucky Children's Garden for a second summer and we are delighted to welcome her back.

**Wes Hansen** recently joined our team as a Grounds Worker assisting with care and maintenance of the Walk Across Kentucky (WAKY) Native Plants Collection. He graduated from Berea College (Class of 2021) with a B.S. in Agriculture and Natural Resources. His passions include plant taxonomy, conservation, and admiring cool insects.

**Sumi McCarty** has worked with the Horticulture Team as a temporary Grounds Worker since July 2021 and has been an outstanding team member. She will become a full-time permanent member of the team starting next week! Sumi graduated from UK with a degree in Horticulture in May 2021. She and her family operate a greenhouse and nursery in Georgetown where they specialize in native woody plants, annuals, perennials, and strawberries. Sumi recently traveled to Hawaii as part of the postponed (due to COVID) UK Horticulture Club trip with Shari Dutton, Robert Geneve, and others and had a fabulous trip! As is characteristic of her generous nature, she brought back coffee, chocolate, macademia nuts and so much more for the staff. We are so glad Sumi is with us!



If you see these hardworking folks on the grounds or in the children's garden, please say hello and welcome them to The Arboretum team!

## Help us reach others!

We hope you enjoy reading our newsletter. If you know of someone who would like to receive it, please ask them to send an email to [arboretum@uky.edu](mailto:arboretum@uky.edu) to let us know they wish to be added to our listserv.

The Arboretum [website](#) continues to be our primary resource of information and contains a wealth of information.

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November-December 2021 Arboretum Newsletter*

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