



MAYFLOWER

Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts Newsletter



2025 SPEAKERS PROGRAM ISSUE



A Joyful Adventure

- Tales of a Gardener's Journey
 - Victory Gardens: Then and Now
 - Spiny and Spectacular: A Cactus Chronicle
 - Unhidden Gems**
 - Be whisked away to remarkable gardens
 - Discover engaging facts and stories about plant life, their gardens history, and surprising exhibits
 - Delight in the wellness benefits and supporting research of gardens and green spaces
- Savedbythegarden.org

From Museum Galleries to Floral Artistry:
**Floral Arts Workshops,
Demonstrations,
Weddings & Special Occasions**



Artistry Floral

Artistryfloral4@gmail.com

339-927-3929

Mary Lou Ashur and Lorraine Walsh



Todd Breitenstein – The Grateful Gardener
Professional Speaker | Conservationist | Ecological Restorationist

Todd Breitenstein brings over three decades of experience in sustainable gardening, permaculture, and ecological restoration to engage and educate audiences, sharing practical wisdom and transformative insights on topics like:

- Regenerative Gardening & Permaculture Design
- Land Healing & Conservation
- Vegetable Gardening for Abundance & Wellness
- Health, Wellness & the Power of Nature



With a passion for Earth Care, People Care, and Fair Share, Todd blends science, spirituality, and hands-on expertise to inspire action toward a healthier planet and community

Keynote Speaker | Workshop Leader | Garden Mentor
Book Todd for your next event!

[WEBSITE](#)

[EMAIL](#)

[LIST OF PROGRAMS](#)



BOSTON IKEBANA

The Japanese Art of Floral Arrangement
Demonstrations and lectures by
Russell Bowers, Certified Master Instructor
of the Ohara School of Ikebana in Japan



russell.bowers@bostonikebana.com

Joan Butler



Joan Butler is an avid gardener and plant collector, who believes gardens should invite you to linger in the world outside your door. She has presented programs at botanic gardens, horticultural societies, flower shows, and numerous libraries and garden clubs in the northeast.

Joan has long been interested in the natural world. She holds a degree in Geology from UMass Amherst and a Certificate in Landscape Management from UMass Extension Green School. She is a Master Gardener, a retired Horticulturalist and a backyard birder. She is a former Chairman of the Massachusetts Landscape Design Council, a member of the Garden Consultants Council and is an Accredited Flower Show Judge. Joan is a past president of the Holliston Garden Club.

Email: joan.butler331@gmail.com



England's Painswick Rococo Garden
Three Centuries of Revelry
Ruin and Resurrection

A pictorial garden guide, wrapped in the story of a 16th century British aristocrat's *pleasure garden* - and his 20th century heir who spent decades - and his fortune - to resurrect England's last surviving Rococo garden.



For a flyer or more info please contact Roger Bridgeman at Roger@Bridgeman.com 781-223-4895

Naturalistic Gardening

New Perennials: A Love story
Not Your Mother's Garden
Reimagined Gardens


Deborah Chud dfchud@gmail.com



Seeing

HISTORY

Exploring the Past through Landscape and Floral Art



The National Academies Press | National Academy of Sciences | National Academy of Arts | National Academy of Medicine | National Academy of Engineering | National Academy of Public Administration

S Audubon's Birds of America

Martha A. Chiarichiaro
Lecturer of Art History

Sheilagh Cruickshank

Community Herbalist

- Herbal educator, writer, urban gardener
- Lectures & workshops on using common garden plants for health & wellness

Learn the fundamentals of herbalism and how to incorporate healing herbs into your daily life.

Artemisia Botanicals
3 Hawthorne Blvd
Salem, MA

Witchcityherbalist
witchcityherbalist@gmail.com

Story and Music Performances



Oracle-award winning storyteller
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& harper Margot Chamberlain
Entertain with World Myths and Seasonal Songs

www.LivingMyth.com/gardens

Hands-On Fun,
Take home your artwork

PAINT NIGHT

or Nature Sketchbook

Engaging in Art is:

- Fun, interactive
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- Everyone takes their work home



PAINT NIGHT: Choose your own theme, drawing/painting to copy. Landscapes, flowers, gardens, you decide or I share ideas with you for approval. *Individual easels, variety of brushes and paints provided! Session is economical because the infrastructure is of no cost to your club.* Easy set-up and clean-up with recyclable products.

Nature Sketchbook: Each person receives a small sketchbook and drawing pencil and is led through creative exercises to capture animals and/or plants in quick sketching format. Charcoal Pencils and/or Pastels can be added to session with practical lessons on use. Set of pastels to keep may be included with presentation if selected.

Call or text Lisa Doucett at 978-973-3377 or email natureartwithlisa@gmail.com

C.L. FORNARI

THE GARDEN LADY

Informative, humorous talks about plants and gardens.



In person or virtual.
Science-based & fun.
Inspiring images.

See a list of topics, references/raves, and contact info:
www.gardenlady.com

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www.therosejournal.wordpress.com

Authors of *Roses for New England: A Guide to Sustainable Rose Gardening* & *Rose Gardening Season by Season: A Journal for Passionate Gardeners*

Publishers of the e-newsletter
The Northeast Rose Gardener

Christie Dustman

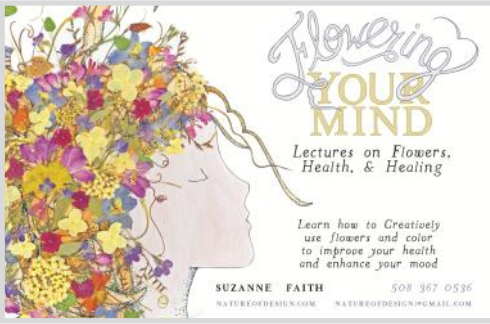
Christie Dustman Garden Designer, Speaker, Pruner
Christie@christiedustman.com



TOPICS OF EXPERTISE

- Japanese Style Gardens
- Containers as Sculptures or a Passion for Containers
- Balance in the garden
- Use of objects in the garden - for function & art
- Design principles for pleasing outdoor spaces
- Planting design
- Landscape solutions for outdoor problems
- Hands-on: Pruning workshops

EMAIL SPEAKER



Flowering YOUR MIND
Lectures on Flowers, Health, & Healing

Learn how to Creatively use flowers and color to improve your health and enhance your mood

SUZANNE FAITH 508 367 0536
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Dynamic presentations customized for your club:

- Gardening for Birds & Wildlife
- Hummingbirds -Rewilding
- Butterflies -Creating a Pocket Forest
- Native Plants of New England
- Invasive Plant Removal
- Creating A Wildlife Sanctuary



Lisey Good

Extensive TV + international public speaking experience
Editor, "The Real Dirt" national magazine
Founder, WildCohasset
contact@WildCohasset.org



Mary B. Hayes
2025 Programs and Workshops



- Ikebana-Style Arrangements
- Tulips Tulips Tulips!
- Create Your Own Cutting Garden
- Green Alternatives to Floral Foam
- Embellished Pumpkins!
- May Day Posies
- Artful Bud Vases

Happy to create a custom program for your club!
Call or text: 978-758-9924

TASTY HARVESTS
NATURAL GARDENS



Safiyat Hamiss

hello@tastyharvests.com
www.tastyharvests.com
508-834-4055

"Just a little note saying that our residents enjoyed your workshops very much! Thank you for 3 awesome workshops!"
Eileen

Food Garden Coach, Educator, TV Chef, Mom of 3, Author

BIO: Safiyat is a passionate Food Garden Coach and TV Chef dedicated to empowering busy moms and families to grow their own food and cook with fresh harvests. Through Tasty Harvests, she provides hands-on workshops, live classes, and digital courses that teach people how to plan, plant, and nurture their food gardens - no matter their space or schedule.




MMGA Speakers Bureau

- Over 20 subject matter experts
- 40+ gardening/horticulture topics: many new this year
- Flexible scheduling
- Affordable pricing

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL
Speakers@MassMasterGardeners.org

OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE
<http://MassMasterGardeners.org>



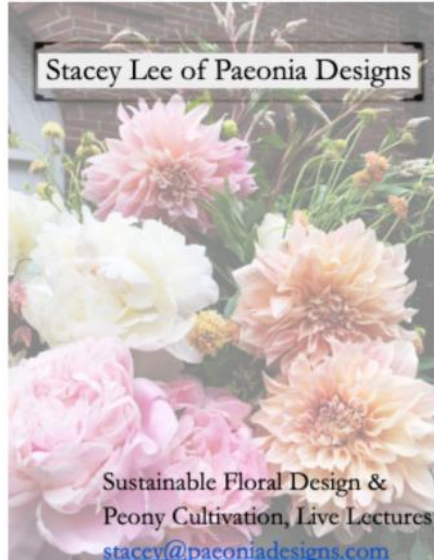
Michele Fronk Schuckel

Natural Selections Gardens

WEBSITE

Program Offerings EMAIL SPEAKER

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Stacey Lee of Paenonia Designs

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stacey@paenoniadesigns.com




Launching a Pollinator Pathway Group in Your Community


Andover Pollinator Pathway shares how-to tips based on their successful experience. In-person and virtual programs available. Increase awareness, connect a community of native plant gardeners, and build a biodiverse ecosystem in your town or city.

Please contact us:
andoverpp@gmail.com

Leisha Johnson
Lectures, Workshops & Tours
Ecologically Sensitive Natural Gardens



The Mini-Meadow
Less Lawn, More Life
The Butterfly Dance
Birds, Bees & Blooms
Planting for Climate Resilience
A Garden's Purpose



GARDENS BY THE YARD

Super Service Award - Fourteen Years in a Row

Kathy Leva presents
Fun With Flowers
A Floral Demonstration

Learn how to make simple and elegant designs to impress guests and beautify your home.

Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judge
Kathryn.Leva@gmail.com
(781)266-8454



Kathy Leva

Fun with Flowers

Custom Seasonal Workshops

EMAIL SPEAKER

Meet The New Garden Society



Presentations on 10 years of prison gardens

Visit: TheNewGardenSociety.org

Learn about therapeutic, educational horticulture-- and how gardens transform our social landscape. Make connections between gardeners from all walks of life

Email: Development@TheNewGardenSociety.org

The Joys of Composting - Turning Garbage to Gold

Virtual or Live Presentations

From this...




... to this!



Ann McGovern MacAdam
Compost Specialist
annmacadam@msri.com



Tovah Martin

Announcing three new info-rich, light-hearted lectures from my gardens & windowills to your homes

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- Presentations on forest bathing, or
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Trevor Smith

MCH, NOFA A&LCP, LEED GA, and IPC

Writer, Educator, Podcast Host and Award-Winning Designer

Topics include:

- Native plants
- Habitat creation
- Climate Change
- Designing with the seasons
- Pollinators
- Water features
- Soil 101
- Stormwater maintenance
- Pruning Basics
- Raised Bed Farming

Container Garden Demonstrations and Lectures


Engaging and informative garden presentations with **Susan Nock**, award-winning professional container gardener, garden designer, and owner of **Thistle Containers**



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- Windowbox 101
- Foliage Favorites
- Holiday Wreaths from Traditional to Wow and MORE....

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The Garden Tourist



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Joanne Pearson
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508.397.6440

Kerry Ann Mendez

Perennially Yours, Gardening Services

Kennebunk, ME
207-502-7228
pyours1@gmail.com
www.pyours.com

Kerry Ann Mendez is an award-winning garden educator, author, design consultant and proprietor of Perennially Yours. As an exceptionally popular educator and communicator, she has presented hundreds of lectures to thousands of gardeners in 23 states. She offers over a dozen inspiring lectures including:

- *Gardening Simplified: Plants and Design Solutions for Time-Pressed and Maturing Gardeners
- *Power Up Garden Beauty: Power Down Garden Maintenance
- *Small Landscapes with BIG Attitudes!
- *Remarkable Natives for Beautiful, Planet-Friendly Gardens
- *Clever Design Tips for Everblooming, Low-Maintenance Gardens
- *The Art of Shade Gardening - Seeing Your Way Out of the Dark
- *Time-Saving, Mighty-Mite Shrubs that Outshine Perennials

Neal Sanders

Who says horticulture and humor are incompatible? Neal offers 'a husband's point of view' of gardening that address burning questions like 'why it takes three holes to plant one shrub; and 'why the internet is a lousy source of gardening advice'. His talks include 'Gardening Is Murder', 'Gardening Is Painless (and other lies we tell ourselves)' and 'How to Build Your Very Own Hometown National Park!'



The Principal Undergardener

A Series of Garden Lectures Begonias, Dahlias & More



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- 2) Color Gardens: Perennials Combinations from Spring to Frost
- 3) Expand Your Bloom with Flowering Shrubs & Trees
- 4) Classic Vertical Gardening: Plants that Flower Up and Around
- 5) Creating Winter Gardens & Beyond using Lay-out Design

To Book Lectures: [email MvonBrinckenLGD@gmail.com](mailto:MvonBrinckenLGD@gmail.com)
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See website for full descriptions & lecture flyer

Jana Harris of Essex Forays presents

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- Tea from your garden
- Plant propagation
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- Composting
- Winter Sowing
- And lots more!

Garden Club Presentations by Kirsten Torkelson

Photographer, KTIImages.net

Presentations (face to face or by Zoom)

- Bridge of Flowers, MA
- Magic Wings (*Butterfly Conservatory*), MA
- Longwood Gardens, PA
- Birmingham Gardens, AL



Photography Demo or Workshop

