

# Artful Garden raises creativity

BY MARTY FIGLEY  
STAFF WRITER

"The Artful Garden," a garden exposition and marketplace emphasizing artistic design in outdoor living, is again being presented by the Association for Retinopathy of Prematurity and Related Diseases (ROPARD) and the Beaumont Foundation.

This organization is "dedicated to eliminating problems of low vision and blindness in children caused by premature birth and retinal disease."

Dr. Michael Trese, Beaumont Hospital medical director, was the originator of the ROPARD program and was a pioneer in the research of retinal diseases in children.

This show is taking place at the Shotwell Gustafson Pavilion, Meadow Brook, Oakland University, Rochester (University Exit from I-75). The pavilion is an indoor, heated arena, so cold winds and weather won't interfere with this unusual show.

General chairman Kay White Meyer of Birmingham quoted a visitor from last year: "This is the nearest thing to garden shows in the East."

"Last year's profits from this event funded three separate research grants," Meyer said. "Proceeds from this event will be used in the same manner."

The show is open to the public 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 15-16, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, April 17. Admission at the door is \$5 for adults, and \$3 for children under 10. Tickets may be bought in advance by calling (810) 851-1392, or (810) 644-5619.

A Gala Preview Party will take place 7-10 p.m. Thursday, April 14. General admission to the gala is \$50; patron tickets are \$100, which includes unlimited garden visits. Black tie is optional. The Simone Vatalle Band will provide music during the evening. The cuisine is being prepared by 15 area restaurants. Reservations are required; call (810) 644-5736.

**High hopes**

"America's Master Gardener," is honorary chairman. He was "flattered to be given this honor," he said.

"My wife, Ellen, and I believe anything to do to help children is our own salvation. Accomplishments in science and medicine are enabling these children to have a better chance of survival."

"Funds are necessary to continue the research. When kids see that adults help, they then will grow up to help somebody else."

Meyer and her committee have been working for many months to make this show a success.

"We're trying to emphasize gardens as a whole with good design and plant material, incorporating good art," she said.

**Artistry**

Seventeen Michigan artists will be exhibiting in the gardens and selling

their original garden works. They are Bill Allen, Scott Brazeau, Kyoung Ae Cho, Anita Fiory, Robert Hansen, Craig Hinshaw, Jordan School/Hazel Park High School, Sally Kaplan, Ray Katz, Gary Kulak, Suzanne Linburg, Eric Maske, Stefanie Samuels, M. Pamela Stump, Lois Teacher, Hugh Timlin and Joseph Weaner.

Their sculptures will be featured in beautiful garden settings, demonstrating how to enhance outdoor living and entertaining areas. The settings are being built by landscape architects and designers. Robert Brand's Environments Inc. of Walled Lake is one of the designers, along with 10 other participants. Robert Brand is the show designer.

The garden of Golden-Walsh Nursery Inc. of Pontiac will have an angelic theme. Its main focus will be a 1938 PTD Rose Bowl float statue of Mercury that stands 8 feet tall.

"This is an excellent show, well worth attending," owner Tim Travis said.

"The location and the size of the show are good."

Registered designer Roy Allen Hankis, owner of Roy Allen Hankis Interiors of Troy, is creating a casual vignette.

"A new look for a garden," he said. "I'm using iron, leather and wicker."

Other exhibitors include the Black Forest Building Co. and Alexander Nursery Inc., Mount Clemens; Mueller's Sunrise Nursery Inc., Shelby Township; Northwind Farms Landscaping Inc., Utica; Momany's Maintenance Inc., Auburn Hills; City Visions, Lansing; Lowrie's Landscape Inc., Clarkston; and the Scribner-Jean Floral Co., Grosse Pointe.

A wide range of garden art and accents will be offered in the Garden Marketplace, Firma from Rochester, Ann Arbor, Lambertville, Grosse Pointe and as far away as Florida will participate.

Decent-guided tours of the garden art will be conducted 3 p.m. daily and 6:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday.

Speakers

Special events chairwoman Barbara Halley of Franklin has lined up an eclectic array of speakers. Two lectures will be presented each day, and are open to all with their entrance tickets.

No reservations will be taken; places will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Each lecture will be an hour in length.

Friday, April 15, the schedule of speakers is: 11 a.m., Carol Czechowski of The Herb Wreath, "Herb Gardens: Culinary, Cottage, Knot and Shade"; 1:30 p.m., Marlene Uhliruk of Coon Creek Flowers and Herbs, "Topiaries" (demonstrating three forms: herb standard, animal form and ivy ring).

Saturday, April 16, the schedule is: 11 a.m., Dale Morgan of Blossoms Flower Market, "Simple, Sophisticated Flowers" (elegant arrangements for the table using simple flowers); 1 p.m., Jerry Baker, "Get Growing" (Baker will sign his books after the lecture).

Classes

The Creative Arts Center of North Oakland County is offering spring classes beginning the week of April 11 for children in kindergarten through eighth grade and adults.

The center is at 47 Williams, between Orchard Lake Road and M-59 in Pontiac.

For more information and class schedules, call the center at (810) 333-7849.

Many different media will be explored, from sculpture and drawing to weaving, photography and ballroom dancing.

## Event aids 'grass-roots' organizing

BY MARTY FIGLEY  
STAFF WRITER

Perennial gardening and new design ideas and the use of ferns and ornamental grasses in this

Midwestern region will be the focus of the program "Variations on a Perennial Garden," 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, April 10.

Proceeds benefit The Community House, 380 S. Bates in Birmingham, the sponsoring organization. Registration is being taken now. Contact the program department by phone, (810) 644-5832, or fax, (810) 644-2476. Credit cards are accepted. The \$65 fee includes lunch.

Three speakers, experts in their fields, will provide a stimulating day.

"There are a lot of knowledgeable gardeners in this area," said Birmingham horticulturist Diane Hilborn. "The program last year was most informative; I enjoyed it very much and look forward to the

to have nationally known speakers come here to share their knowledge."

Last year while the speakers were here they took time to appreciate the efforts of gardeners in this area, said Leslie Drole, director of public relations at The Community House. This year's speakers will also have an opportunity to visit local gardens.

The first topic, "Landscapes in This Latitude: The Challenge of the Northern Garden," will be presented by Patrick Chase, Landscape Designs Associates, Bar Harbor, Maine.

He will show examples of gardens in the Northeast, England and Japan and share ways that their designs can be translated in our own gardens. Participants will learn about structure and interest for all the seasons, plants with cold and drought hardiness, using space, color theory and the use of many native plants from

After a refreshment break, "Gorgeous Grasses: Incorporating Grasses Into the Perennial Garden" will be presented by Kurt Bluemel, owner of Kurt Bluemel Inc. Perennial Nursery, Baldwin, Md.

Bluemel will demonstrate how to incorporate grasses into a perennial design for long-lasting beauty. He will show many recommended varieties of grasses and explain how the use of appropriate ones can add fun and excitement in the garden.

After lunch, the afternoon session will focus on "Fancy Ferns: Texture and Style Through the Addition of Ferns." Judith Jones, owner of Fancy Ferns, Seattle, Wash., will present this program.

The many varieties of ferns and their large range in size, texture and appearance include a number

that are suitable for this climate. Examples of English and Victorian varieties as well as Asian ferns will be shown along with new introductions.

Your questions will be answered by the speakers at 3 p.m.

Bluemel, who was born in Sudetenland, today a part of Czechoslovakia, served an apprenticeship in horticulture and landscape design in West Germany and Switzerland before immigrating to this country. Kurt Bluemel Inc. has both a landscape design-construction division as well as a nursery division, which specializes in ornamental grasses and bamboos.

Chase is a graduate of the University of Maine and the Harvard University Graduate School for Design (landscape architecture).

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