

Local 'Brush With Burden' Art Show Attains National Status

Brush With Burden, the juried art show and exhibition has gone national. It is not surprising that the annual competition is drawing artists and photographers from around the nation. The show has consistently been juried by nationally acclaimed artists and photographers. Past jurors have included Billy Solitario, A. J. Schexnayder, Della Storms, Phil Sandusky and Judi Betts.

The juror and judge for the artwork portion of the 2017 show will be Marc Chatov, who is ranked among the very top portrait painters in America. He will travel from Atlanta to Baton Rouge for the judging. Marc's students, collectors and viewers are most impressed with the exquisite colors and brushwork that makes his portraits and easel work so distinctive (www.ChatovStudio.com).

In addition, judges and jurors for the photography portion are C. C. Lockwood, David Humphreys and Linda Medine, all have achieved national recognition.

According to Butch Spielman, committee member, avid and accomplished local photographer, "The judges are chosen based upon their reputations and acknowledged expertise in photographic art. To make this a high-end competition, the theme of the show, Southern Sights, is broad, so artists with different styles and interest can have their work shown and can compete."

Nationally renowned jurors and significant prize money are factors that contribute to an artist's decision to enter a show, according to award-winning watercolorist Kathy Miller Stone, who has entered the show every year.

"Quality judges help professional and nonprofessional artist assess the strength of their work when compared with others. Brush With Burden offers artists the op-

portunity to sell their work, and there is always an art seminar. I'm really looking forward to Marc Chatov's presentation, and, in fact, I have already signed up for the seminar," Stone said.

With the Call for Entry publicized (anyone 17 and older may enter), and the prospectus available online through the system used by many artists, photographers and exhibitions around the country, entries began arriving last year from as far away as New England, California, Florida, the Pacific Northwest and Wisconsin. One of the photography winners from the 2016 show traveled with his work from Georgia and had a wonderful vacation in Louisiana as part of his trip. Event organizers anticipate even more out-of-state entries this year with the announcement of such top-named jurors.

On the morning of the opening reception March 11, Mr. Chatov will conduct a lecture regarding his work and his publication, "100 Years of Painting in My Family Lineage." The seminar is open to the public, and reservations are encouraged to assure space for all of those who will be anxious to attend. Marc regularly conducts classes, workshops and lectures. He cherishes the opportunity to work with fellow artists. Though Marc is the teacher, his pupils also keep him thinking and growing.

Chatov's seminar will be held at the Ione Burden Conference Center from 9 a.m. to noon. The opening reception will be held that afternoon from 4 to 6 p.m. also at the conference center.

The reception will offer an opportunity to meet the artists and photographers as well as many of the jurors and judges. The exhibit and sale will continue the following week through March 19 for leisurely viewing and an extended opportunity to purchase fine art and photography. Award-winning pieces will then go on exhibit in April at the Shaw Center for the Arts.

The show's setting, the Steele Burden Memorial Orangerie designed by the late A. Hays Town, is often described as a perfect gallery-airy, filled with light suited for appreciating art. It is just the right place to honor Steele Burden, an artist himself as well as a landscape designer.

The deadline for the Call for Entry is January 20.



Butch Spielman

Reflections from the Chair

John Hough

As we reflect on the fall activities at the LSU AgCenter Botanic Garden at Burden, we should be so proud of our accomplishments. First of all, our premier formal annual event, Wine and Roses, was very well attended. We had perfect weather, enjoyable cuisine from Heirloom Cuisine, and, most of all, we enjoyed visiting with many friends new and old. We extend a special thanks to our new Wine and Roses event chair, Lorice Say, and her dedicated committee.

Second, the Corn/ Hay Maze Saturdays in October was a huge success. Over 10,000 folks enjoyed the fun over the five Saturdays, including roughly 70 volunteers each day. The event reaches more families each year and is most successful in raising funds for the Botanic Gardens. We especially thank Barbara Quirk and Kerry Hawkins for leading the event again this year. We also hope even more of our Burden friends will come enjoy the volunteer fun next year.

Speaking of friends, we are considering a name change for the Burden Horticulture Society. We feel that a name change will help us better explain our role and mission as we recruit new volunteers and especially new members to support the Botanic Gardens. Too often, we have to explain what the BHS is and its purpose. Many ideas for names have been considered, and I believe that a new name that includes the terms “friends” and “botanic gardens” would be both descriptive and appropriate. If we change our name, we want to assure our members that we will remain focused on enhancing the Botanic Gardens through fund raising and increasing recognition of our “green gem in the city” located in the heart of Baton Rouge. Please contact our board members with suggestions or questions regarding our name change.

We also are pleased to report that the board’s Membership Committee has met numerous times in the past several months and has developed additional membership levels. Previously we had only two membership categories – Individual and Family. After studying other successful botanic gardens across the nation, the Board has approved six additional levels of membership. Each membership category will have additional benefits associated with the level of membership. Although it will be several months before the finishing touches are added to the new benefits, our members will see these presented in future newsletters and membership renewal correspondence. We especially thank Doreen Maxcy for leading the Membership Committee’s effort and agreeing to continue to serve as chair of the Membership Committee in 2017.

Two new developments for the botanic gardens are our new website for the gardens and for the Burden Horticulture Society. Thanks to Mary Tauzin and Penny Miller for making the newly redesigned sites more attractive and showcasing our gardens, events and activities. Please be sure to check these sites: the LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden website address is www.lsu.edu/botanic-gardens, and the Burden Horticulture Society website is burdenhorticulturesociety.com.

Looking ahead to 2017, our first event of the year will be Arbor Day. This annual event takes place in the Burden Woods and coincides with the celebration of Arbor Day in Louisiana, which is January 21. Please view our newly redesigned website for details of this event and other events planned for 2017.

One Person Makes a Difference



John Hough

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THE NEWSLETTER is a quarterly publication of the Burden Horticulture Society and the LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden, which is part of Burden Museum & Gardens.

Newsletter Submissions:
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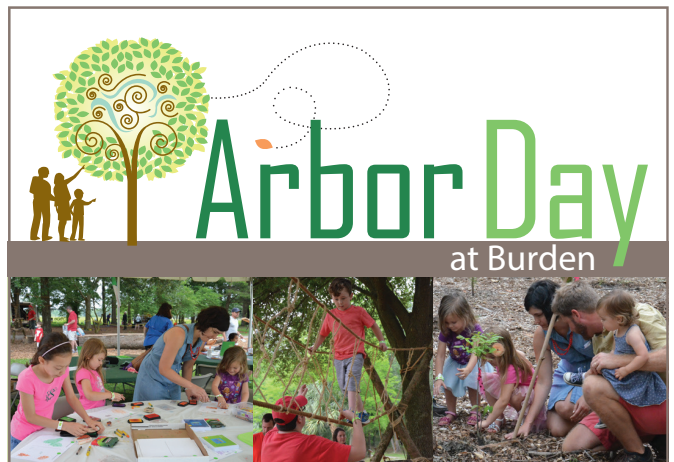


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January 21, 2017

9 a.m.-1 p.m.

LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens

Plant a family tree and make a memory. Celebrate Arbor Day and learn more about trees and their uses at this family-friendly event during the LSU AgCenter's Arbor Day celebration at Burden.

Join the fun...

Family Tree Plantings

A Scavenger Hunt

StoryTime and Activities

Children's Tree Climbing

A Visit with Smokey Bear

A Bonfire

Hayrides

...And More

Visit the James Wandersee Palmetto Walk, Mosaic Black Swamp Boardwalk, Trees and Trails and the Early American Camellia Collection.

Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children (4-10). Free for children age 3 and younger. Refreshments available for sale.



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Reflecting on Reflections

Jeff Kuehny

Approximately 8 years ago, just after the inaugural BHS board meeting, Reflections in the Garden came to life. Borrowing from a previous lunch-and-learn garden series, Ginnie Bolin and Penny Miller established dates, contacted speakers and started what would be one of our most popular educational programs at the Botanic Gardens.

Although this may seem like a simple program to run, Ginnie and Penny quickly realized that we needed someone that was very dedicated and organized to continue to move this program forward. Fortunately, they found that special person, Sherry Eubanks.

During Sherry's tenure as Chair of Reflections in the Garden we have seen attendance grow to over 100

attendees at many of the lectures. Sherry has worked very hard for the last 7 years to get great speakers with diverse backgrounds and interests to share their expertise for the first Monday of each month. She not only lines up speakers but organizes volunteers to prepare a wonderful snack and drink for the attendees.

Reflections in the Garden has also been instrumental in growing our membership by being one of the best benefits we offer. Thanks to her leadership and monthly efforts, Reflections in the Garden is the top gardening series in the area.

Sherry is stepping down from her post as Chair of the committee but I know we will see her guiding hand helping to continue this great educational program.



Sherry Eubanks

Thank you Sherry for your support and dedication.

Iconography Workshop Filled to Capacity

Once again, a very dedicated group of volunteers led by Ginnie Bolin offered a weeklong Byzantine iconography workshop to a class of 20 participants interested in learning the art of writing an icon. The Orangerie was filled each day with students absorbing instruction and practicing patience, obedience and silence as is the recommended state of mind, body and spirit for the undertaking.

Participants were instructed each day by experienced iconographers and given individual guidance as they produced their own icon of the chosen saint, Deborah, from the Old Testament. This latest class marks the fourth such group who has enjoyed this educational, artistic and in some instances spiritual experience. Previous workshops

were offered on the subject of iconography including St. Thomas, St. Francis and Mary Magdalene. The next class will focus on produc-



ing an icon of Holy Silence and is scheduled for January 2017.

The limited size of the workshops and the interest from past participants and those lining up to be on the list for future workshops means that the January program is already full. The committee is currently considering the possibility of holding a second workshop in the summer of 2017. The Burden Horticulture Society and Dr. Jeff Kuehny, the Director of the LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden, wish to thank Ginnie and her committee members Connie Abboud, Donald Blanchard, Ann Davenport, Michele Deshotels, Joyce Hensley and Diana Wells along with all of the participants who have made this event such a continuing success.

Enchanting Evening

Wine and Roses, the original fundraising event for the Burden Horticulture Society, just gets better and better each year. BHS wishes to thank Lorice Say who chaired this year's dinner, her committee members, all of you who attended and the guests you invited to share in this enchanting evening. It began with a crafted cocktail named Rose 75, created by Cynthia Nobles and served in champagne flutes. It continued with an open bar, passed hors d'oeuvres and music by John Gray's jazz trio on the lawn of the Orangerie. It concluded with wine and a seated gourmet dinner catered by Heirloom Cuisine under the tent in the rose garden. Truly a signature event in a signature setting – the rose garden of the LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden.



Glenda Davis, Pat Alford, Mitzi Miller and Penny Miller



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American Garden Rose Selections Names 2017 Winners

Allen Owings

The 2017 winners from the relatively new America Garden Rose Selections (AGRS) program were recently announced.

For many decades, the All-American Rose Selection (AARS) program had been our national rose trial. The AARS brand was proudly displayed on tags and in catalogues next to the roses that earned the right to receive it. But, like so many things over the past few years, the economy took its toll, and as of last year AARS ceased to exist. This left us without a true national trial that tested the same roses in gardens all over the United States. With AARS gone we were without a national rose trial for the first time since the 1930s.

The result was an idea to create a trial that would recognize roses that were easy to care for, disease-resistant and suitable for different regions of the country. The program was named American Garden Rose Selections. Roses can be entered in all the AGRS trial gardens, but if a rose is outstanding in, say the Southeast, that variety will be noted as being a great rose for that region. That criterion takes the pressure off a rose having to succeed in every climate in our vast country. If a rose variety did well in all regions so much the better! The rules and protocols are based on the German ADR Trials.

Fragrance Winner

“Munstead Wood” has over 70 velvety crimson petals. It has a strong, old rose fragrance with a fruity scent. The David Austin English old rose hybrid is a bushy, broad shrub with emerging red foliage transitioning to mid-green. It has disease-tolerant foliage. It averages 3½ to 4 feet tall.



Fragrance Winner and Regional Winner (NE, NW, SE and SW)



The large double flowers of “Lady of Shalott” have salmon-pink on the upper side and golden yellow reverse petals. It has a warm tea fragrance with hints of spiced apple and clove. This David Austin Leander hybrid is large and bushy with slightly arching stems. The foliage is mid-green with bronze tones. It averages about 5 feet tall in Louisiana.

Regional Winner (SE and SC) and Heirloom Hybrid Award

“Faith Whittlesey” is a tea rose that bears bright white, large, double, cupped flowers in small clusters or occasional single blooms. The lightly scented flowers are very recurrent. It responds well to fertilizer and loamy garden soil. It’s a good “stand alone” rose, averaging 3 feet tall.

Regional Winner (NE, NC, NW, SE and SW)

“Icecap” is a shrub rose that produces pure white, cup-like blooms in profusion. Each stem can have 20 blooms and is very recurrent. It has no fragrance but has good resistance to blackspot, mildew and rust. It makes an excellent hedge or an addition to a combination planting. It’s a smaller grower at 2½ to 3½ feet tall.



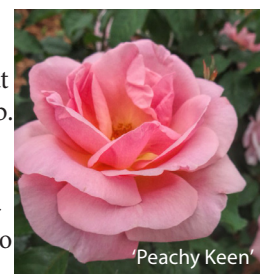
Regional Winner (NE, SE and SC)

Exhibiting excellent disease resistance, “Tahitian Treasure” is a deep salmon pink. The cuplike flowers have a slight fragrance and 18-20 petals on average. Bred by Bill Radler (the Knock Out rose breeder), the plant has dark green, semi-glossy foliage is with an upright in growth habit reaching 4 to 5 feet tall.



Regional Winner (NE, NC, NW, SE, SC, and SW)

A winner in every region, “Peachy Keen” has clusters of five shell-pink blooms with a yellow center per stem that covers this low-growing mounding shrub. The blooms are cupped and appear continually from spring to frost. It has no fragrance, but has excellent disease resistance (yes, even in Louisiana!). It grows to 3 feet tall with a slightly wider spread.



2016 AGRS winners were Phloxy Baby (a Polantha hybrid regional winner with small medium-pink flowers); Thomas Affleck (a Pioneer rose regional winner bred by Mike Shoup at the Antique Rose Emporium) with intense pink, semi-double flowers; and Dee-Lish (the hybrid tea fragrance winner with old-fashioned, deep pink flowers).

The LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden in Baton Rouge is an official trial location for the AGRS evaluations. Garden judges are LSU AgCenter horticulture research associate Wanda Ellis and horticulture professor Allen Owings. Another nearby location is the rose garden trials maintained by Pam Smith in Farmers Branch, Texas. See more information on this program and the winning varieties at www.americangardenroseselections.com.

Amazing Family Fun

Well, the same awful rains that so badly affected south Louisiana also did a number on the attempts to grow a corn field for the maze. But no corn didn't mean no maze. Instead, creative minds, clever hands and lots of hard work went into redesigning the popular corn maze event at Burden. Hay bales were used to fashion a maze of paths leading folks to a zip line, a petting zoo, a climbable hay mountain and the tractors waiting to pull wagons for hayrides to the satsuma orchard. A corral was created to form the center of activities for admissions, concessions, pumpkin decorating, face painting and the giant slingshot. And a corn crib was made with hay bales for sides, and tons of corn kernels for sandbox-style play that kept kids active and amused for hours on end.

When visitors turned the corner on the blacktop leading to the fields, they were greeted by giant hay bale critters – a bull, a pig, a massive chicken and a huge sunflower. Approaching the maze, a spider greeted new arrivals, and a witch marked the entrance. Over 10,000 people followed the path to enjoy a fun-filled family day at the maze. Many enjoyed it so much they came back for another Saturday's worth of outdoor play. School after school took part in field trips offered each Friday, and there were times when the parking lots were as full as on Saturdays, with moms and dads joining their students and teachers.

Ticket-taking, pumpkin-painting, popcorn-popping, corndog-cooking and hamburger-flipping for so many folks for so many Saturdays (five this year) involved the effort of 70 volunteers each and every weekend. A wonderful group of mothers and daughters belonging to the National Charity League were fantastic face painters. LSU students belonging to the Alpha Epsilon Delta honor society were great helping Stacey Ferrier, owner and operator of Bayou Goula Farm, introduce families to her alpacas, pygmy goats, grey turkey and various chickens and ducks. Members of the Junior Beta Club from Our Lady of Mercy School lent a hand pulling drinks out of coolers and passing out bags of popcorn at the concession stand.

Adding to all of the amazing volunteers were lots of BHS members and their families. Husbands and wives helped sell pumpkins and directed volunteers to check in and find their spots. Sisters sat side-by-side taking admission. Grandmothers, sons, daughters-in-laws and granddaughters came again and again, volunteering together. An event as big as the maze counts on the support of many, many volunteers and their families to make all the visiting families welcome and safe enjoying their day of fun for all.

The Burden Family's gift to Baton Rouge continues to be a gift for the families of Baton Rouge and the surrounding community. Where else is there the opportunity to share the beauty and bounty of Louisiana's rural life right in the heart of a major metropolitan city? The LSU AgCenter's Botanic Gardens at Burden is just that spot!





LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens
4560 Essen Lane
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

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Upcoming Events at LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden

January 2017

Jan. 3, 6 p.m. Master Gardeners EBR: monthly meeting
Jan. 9, Noon - 1 p.m. Burden Horticulture Society *Reflections in the Garden*
Jan. 14, 9 a.m. - noon *Making Herbal Perfumes*: hands on class, fee required, register at www.hsabr.org
Jan. 15, 1:30 - 6 p.m. Capital Area Native Plant Society: quarterly meeting (1:30 - 4 p.m.) & native plant propagation (4 - 6 p.m.)
Jan. 18, 7:00 p.m. Orchid Society of Baton Rouge: monthly meeting
Jan. 21, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Arbor Day in the Burden Woods: plant trees in the Burden Woods to celebrate Arbor Day in Louisiana
Jan. 21, 9 - 10:30 a.m. *Storytime at Burden*: storybook readings every 30 minutes, ages 3 - 8
Jan. 23 - 27, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Byzantine Icon Workshop: \$350, limited enrollment of 20
Jan. 26, 6:30 p.m. Herb Society Baton Rouge: *Medicinal Benefits of Herbs*, Dr. Beth Floyd of Pennington Biomedical Research Center
Jan. 28, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Children's Gardening Activity: *Attracting Southern Song Birds*, \$15 fee, register via email - angwall@cox.net

February 2017

Feb. 6, Noon - 1 p.m. Burden Horticulture Society *Reflections in the Garden*
Feb. 7, 6 p.m. Master Gardeners EBR: monthly meeting
Feb. 11, 9 - 10:30 a.m. *Storytime at Burden*: storybook readings every 30 minutes; ages 3 - 8
Feb. 11, 1 - 5 p.m. Camellia Show and Sale at Rural Life Museum
Feb. 12, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Camellia Show and Sale at Rural Life Museum
Feb. 15, 7:00 p.m. Orchid Society of Baton Rouge: monthly meeting
Feb. 18, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Children's Gardening Activity: composting; \$15 fee; register via email - angwall@cox.net
Feb. 19, 4 - 6 p.m. Capital Area Native Plant Society: native plant propagation
Feb. 23, 6:30 p.m. Herb Society Baton Rouge: making decorative pots for herb plants

March 2017

March 4, 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. *Herb Day at Burden*: plant sales, herbal classes, family activities & cooking demonstrations
March 4, 9 - 10:30 a.m. *Storytime at Burden*: storybook readings every 30 minutes; ages 3 - 8
March 6, noon - 1 p.m. Burden Horticulture Society *Reflections in the Garden*
March 7, 6 p.m. Master Gardeners EBR: monthly meeting
Mar. 11, 9 a.m. - noon *Brush with Burden* workshop: Marc Chatov seminar; \$25
Mar. 11, 4 - 6 p.m. *Brush with Burden* opening reception: *Southern Sights*
Mar. 12-19 *Brush with Burden* exhibition: Monday - Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Sundays 1 - 4 p.m.
March 15, 7:00 p.m. Orchid Society of Baton Rouge: monthly meeting
March 19, 4 - 6 p.m. Capital Area Native Plant Society: native plant propagation
March 23, 6:30 p.m. Herb Society Baton Rouge: *Making Herbal Incense*, Kathleen Harrington
March 25, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. *Master Gardener Annual Plant Sale*

April 2017

April 1, 9 - 10:30 a.m. *Storytime at Burden*: storybook readings every 30 minutes; ages 3 - 8
April 3, Noon - 1 p.m. Burden Horticulture Society *Reflections in the Garden*
April 4, 6 p.m. Master Gardeners EBR: monthly meeting
April 15, 4 - 6 p.m. Capital Area Native Plant Society: native plant propagation
April 11, 9 - 10:30 a.m. *Storytime at Burden*: every 30 minutes, ages 3 - 8
April 19, 7:00 p.m. Orchid Society of Baton Rouge: monthly meeting
April 20, 7 - 10 p.m. *Gourmet in the Garden*: fine dining with wine, music, and dancing; \$50 members/\$60 non-members
April 27, 6:30 p.m. Herb Society Baton Rouge: *The Wonderful Lemon Herbs*, Sarah Liberta and Julie Walsh