BRIT Celebrates Emerging Artists with Green Oaks Education and Support

BRIT is thrilled to be working with the artists of Green Oaks Education and Support, Inc. on the second annual Emerging Artists show in the Madeline R. Samples exhibit hall. The emerging artists series is designed to showcase artists whose work may one day help to shape the ever-evolving landscape of the field, but who currently exist outside the defined boundaries of the "art world." It is fitting that these exhibits should be held in a gallery named after Madeline R. Samples who was an accomplished and active member of the Fort Worth art community. Ms. Samples believed not only in the power of art to create community but also in the value of art education.

Green Oaks focuses on “preparing individuals for fully included lives” by offering students with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to learn at their own level of ability and interest. In addition to classes in core academic subjects, students receive instruction in fine arts, computer skills, and physical education.

Please join us for this very special show from November 2–December 13. For more information, please visit us online or contact Laura Venhaus at 817.546.1844.

Opening November 8 from 5:30 - 8 p.m.
Get your holiday shopping done at BRIT’s new retail space, Shop at BRIT! Shop includes locally made goods from our artisan friends. Light food and beverage available.
Upcoming Research Lectures

Join us in the BRIT Commons for an hour of lunch and learning! The lecture series takes place between 12-1 p.m. and is open to the public. No registration necessary. Find more information about the Research Lecture Series on our website. For inquiries, please contact Alyssa B. Young at 817.546.1959.

Tuesday, November 13: Soil Health Evaluation in Three Texas Rangelands

Jennifer Moore-Kucera, Soil Health Division, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services; Kristie A. Maczko, Sustainable Rangelands Roundtable, University of Wyoming; and Jeff Goodwin, Noble Research Institute

How do different grazing management systems affect soil health? To address this question, this project evaluated a suite of soil health indicators and interrelationships with vegetation, under three different grazing management systems in North Central Texas. Soil samples were collected from ranches with three different grazing management systems: high stocking rate and rotation frequency, medium stocking rate and rotation frequency, and low stocking rate with continuous grazing.

Wednesday, November 14: Valles Caldera National Preserve, New Mexico: Spectacular scenic landscape vistas, beautiful spore-producing life forms, and gorgeous dragon/damselflies. Reff L. Price, Los Alamos National Laboratory

An orientation of this extinct volcano caldera located in northern New Mexico will include presentations of the fungi, snowline slime molds, lichens, bryophytes, algae, and cyanobacteria. Also included will be representatives of popular dragonflies and damselflies of the area.

Adult Education: Wrapping up One Year, Starting Another!

There is always something interesting going on with GROW Adult Education, but fall is a particularly exciting time as we are busy finishing up one year of classes while we are knee-deep in planning for the next. Join us as 2018 winds down and enjoy classes that focus on garden design, botanical watercolors, and holiday plants and keep your eyes peeled for our 2019 calendar which will be released next month. GROW Adult Education will be bringing you a series of classes focused on the Japanese Garden, more botanical art classes, and more hands-on gardening classes. For more information on GROW Adult Education, please contact Laura Venhaus at 817.546.1844.

Are You Someone Who Likes to Chat, Smile, and Engage?

We need you to grow our volunteer public engagement team. In the past year we separated into categories driven by motivation: Cultivate, Conserve, Explore, and Engage. If you are motivated by supporting events and engaging the public then Engage is your area. Would you like to share the mission and programs of The Fort Worth Botanic Garden and BRIT with interested gardeners, students, or the public? We need your smiling face to connect our missions to the community in one of these fun ways: greeting, helping our vendors, serving at our teas, assisting with crafts, and more. There are so many new special events and some long-treasured ones just waiting for new volunteers.

For the latest opportunities, please refer to our online calendar, and for more information about volunteering contact Julie Donovan at 817.546.1846 or Montana Williams at 817.817.546.8694.
2019 BRIT Reads Book Club Reading List

The BRIT Reads Book Club is pleased to announce their reading list for 2019. Join us the third Monday of each month and join the conversation. For more information, please visit our website or contact Laura Venhaus at 817.546.1844.

2/18/2019 – The Hidden Life of Trees by Peter Wohlleben
3/18/2019 – When Women Were Birds by Terry Williams
4/22/2019 – Reading the Landscape of America by May Theilgaard Watts
5/20/2019 – The Brother Gardeners: Botany, Empire, and the Birth of an Obsession by Andrea Wulf
6/17/2019 – Becoming Native to This Place by Wes Jackson
7/22/2019 – Orchid Fever by Eric Hansen
9/16/2019 – The World of Laura Ingalls Wilder by Marta McDowell
10/21/2019 – The Forest Unseen by David George Haskell
11/18/2019 – The Overstory by Richard Powers

BRIT Hosts 2018 Texas Plant Conservation Conference

BRIT hosted the 2018 biennial meeting of the Texas Plant Conservation Conference (TPCC) from September 19-21, 2018. The goal of this year’s conference was to foster communication among conservation organizations, agencies, academics, educators, and the public. Sessions focused on increased participation and discussion, with opportunities for conservation practitioners to network with fellow conservationists. The conference brought together over 70 conservationists from around the state. Participants represented 31 organizations including non-profits, universities, and governmental agencies. Forty-nine presentations were given discussing work being done around Texas to further conservation of native plants. Attendees also participated in workshops and strategic planning working groups. The conference recognized Dr. Karen H. Clary, former Director of Plant Conservation for the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, with the TPCC Lifetime Achievement Award for her long career in plant conservation.
Two Botanists and An Artist Walk into the Desert...

The Amon Carter Museum of American Art (ACMAA) sponsored Barney Lipscomb and Tiana Rehman to serve as botanical guides to West Texas for artist Mark Dion. Commissioned by the ACMAA, Mark—a contemporary artist who is part explorer, part historian, part naturalist, and part collector—is making a series of exploratory journeys through Texas that are inspired by four early naturalists/artists in Texas. Tiana and Barney helped Mark retrace the footsteps of Charles Wright (1811–1885) as he journeyed on foot through West Texas to document plant diversity. Read more about their adventure at Phytophilia, the BRIT Blog.

Calendar of Events

**NOVEMBER**

3rd—Bella’s Saturday Story Time; Permaculture; Terrariums;
5th—Ikebana
6th—Bella’s Book & Nature Club
8th—Sip & Shop at BRIT
10th—Thanksgiving Floral Arrangements
12th—Poinsettias
13th—Visiting Researcher Lecture
14th—Seedlings; Visiting Researcher Lecture
12th—Volunteer University
19th—BRIT Reads Book Club
20th—Little Sprouts
22 & 23—Closed
27th—Teacher Tuesday

**DECEMBER**

1st—Holiday Floral Arrangements
10th—Volunteer University
13th—Brown Bag
24 & 25—Closed

Every Saturday (Mar–Nov): Family Exploration Saturday in the Garden from 9:30 to noon.

BRIT Tours: Each Thursday at 1:30 p.m. and 1st Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.

As the close of the year approaches, we ask you to please consider making a tax-deductible donation.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**