



San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden

Our Mission is to honor and preserve our connection with nature

Upcoming Events

www.slobg.org/events-classes

Saturday, August 9
WHERE are the Bears?
1 PM to 3 PM

Saturday, August 16
Kids' Lavender Laboratory
1 PM to 3 PM

Saturday, August 23
Tufa Planter Workshop
1 PM to 3 PM

Saturday, September 13
Botanical Illustration
1 PM to 3 PM

Saturday, October 4
Fall Plant Sale!
10 AM to 1 PM

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Photo by Tolosa Winery

WHERE ARE THE BEARS? - SLO and Monterey County Bear Census Results with Senior Wildlife Biologist, Rocky Thompson

Saturday at the Garden - August 9, 1 PM to 3 PM

How is the wild bear population dealing with rapid environmental changes throughout SLO and Monterey County?

Join us at the San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden to learn the status of the native bear population. Learn where these elusive bears reside, how you can avoid interaction and encourage wildlife health.

Rocky Thompson is a Senior Wildlife biologist with the California Department of Fish and Game. A native of SLO, he graduated from Cal Poly in 1983 with a Masters Degree in Wildlife Biology. He has worked for the Department of Fish and Game throughout the state for over 25 years.

Presentation is \$5 for members/\$10 non-members. Followed at 2 PM by a free docent-led tour of the Garden. For more info visit www.slobg.org/bears.

Weekends and holidays April through September County Parks Charges a \$3 parking fee.

Kids' Lavender Laboratory

Hands-on Harvesting and Crafting - August 16, 1 PM to 3 PM

Play, Explore and Investigate the Natural World!
Fragrant and beautiful lavender has been used for centuries as a culinary, medicinal, and ornamental herb. Join us in the Children's Garden as we learn the history of lavender, how to harvest and process lavender into great smelling and delicious treats. We'll make crafts and learn basic herbal preparations. For kids grade 2-6. Limited class size.



Cost: \$5 donation for non-members.
Visit www.slobg.org/kidslab or email education@slobg.org to RSVP or for more info.

Garden Wish List: 1-gallon plastic pots (black), gravel, half wine barrels, laser printer paper & glossy cardstock, plastic terrarium, kids' gardening tools & red bricks!

Special Workshop is BACK!
HyperTufa Planter Workshop
Saturday, August 23, 10 AM - 1 PM
Jennifer Fox, Artist

Create rustic, textured containers that are lightweight, porous, and perfect for your garden.

Photos by Jennifer Fox



Hypertufa is a relatively lightweight concrete mixture that creates a stone-like appearance for your planting trough. These containers are great for sedums, small bulbs, miniature or dwarf plants, herbs, and moss. They are especially appropriate for plants that tend to get overwatered- excess water is absorbed into the pot, keeping the soil from being too wet and making it nearly impossible to overwater these containers!

Artist Jennifer Fox will lead you through the creating, shaping, unmolding, and curing your planting trough. All the materials are supplied and proceeds benefit the Garden. You will need to wear work clothes and shoes, and have a flat area in your car approximately 2' square for carrying your trough home.

\$50 Garden members/\$60 non-members.
Class is limited to 15 participants, call now to reserve your spot! To register or for more info contact education@slobg.org or call 805.541.1400x 304.

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Botanical Illustrations
with Artist Barbara Renshaw

Saturday at the Garden -
September 13, 1 PM to 3 PM

Discover the art of observing and depicting nature structurally and aesthetically while enjoying fresh air and the outdoors. Join artist Barbara Renshaw, at the San Luis Obispo Botanical Gardens as we stroll through the Garden sketching your favorite plants. No experience necessary. Bring a sketch book and watercolors, colored pencils, or pastels. A folding stool or chair will be useful, but the Garden offers some seating. Meet by the Garden's purple entrance bridge.

Barbara, a State Park Docent, has been leading plant walks and sketch walks since 2001. Barb became an amateur botanist as a side effect to her decision to



Illustrations by Barbara Renshaw

paint California native plants. As a gardener and hiker, she decided to focus on botanical illustration and study botany.

Program is \$5 for members/\$10 non-members.
 For more info visit www.slobg.org/art.

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Plant of the Season
Privacy Without Walls

by Ron Kindig, *Volunteer*

The island mallow (*Lavatera assurgentiflora*) provides a soft screen for privacy that avoids abrupt walls. It also serves as a windbreak as it resists both wind and salt spray. It likes hillsides and slopes as well. Unfortunately, deer like it too! Related to the hibiscus, it blooms most of the year, especially spring through fall. Find it in Bed H in our Garden.

Sheer it back to keep it dense, or train it as a small tree. Left alone, it can grow to 6 ft. high or more and 5 ft. wide. It tolerates a variety of soils, including clay, as long as it is well-drained.



Photos by Ron Kindig

Lavatera assurgentiflora are available in Eve's Garden Shop.

Lavatera assurgentiflora was chosen for the Garden's 128 of Our Best 2014, which includes plant photos, descriptions, and uses of 128 of the Garden's best plants for the landscape, available in Eve's Garden Shop. Find out more about our plants at our website at www.slobg.org/what-we-grow.