

Newsletter

July 19, 2021, Vol. 3, No. 3

**The Gardens were a welcome sanctuary in a challenging 2020.
Join us in keeping them a valuable community asset in 2021!**

We've Met Our Match for the Literary Garden!

Thanks to over 100 donors, initial construction of the Literary Garden will begin in August. The full build-out of this major addition to our gardens may not be complete until 2023 but we are well on the way! We believe this exciting project will further position the Durango Botanic Gardens as a popular destination for area residents and visitors alike.

In May a Durango couple offered us \$25,000 if we could raise a corresponding \$25,000 by July 13, 2021. With the help of over 100 individual donors, we actually hit that mark and exceeded it well before that deadline. Another \$15,000 is being added by the city of Durango and we are receiving \$4,000 from the Friends of the Library. We appreciate all of you who donated to this new garden.

We are, however, not finished. The Literary Garden effort will eventually cost closer to \$125,000 and will most likely be a two-year effort as we search for and find the proper plants, which can be limited by availability and pricing. That means we are still in fund-raising mode and still seeking donations. We are so close!

Please consider a new donation or adding to your previous contribution and THANKS! (When donating to the Literary Garden, select that title in the Donation Options)

[LEARN MORE](#)

[DONATE](#)



DBG Takes to the Airwaves to Promote the Literary Garden

On Friday, July 9, a team of people from the Durango Botanic Gardens (DBG) went live on the air with Four Corners Broadcasting.

DBG Annual Bulb Sale Coming Soon

One of our most popular events, our Annual Bulb Sale is coming soon. A preview page at our website will go online July 23 where you can review the over 60 different bulb varieties available this year and begin make your purchase list. Then, beginning August 6 our online store will be live and you may begin making purchases. The online sale concludes end-of-day August 17.

Announcing... the Annual Durango Botanic Gardens

BULB SALE

Online Store opens August 6 Sale concludes end-of-day August 17	Plan your order in advance Bulb listing available online beginning July Online Sales Only
	
Bulbs available for pick-up from October 15-23 at multiple locations	
To order, visit: DurangoBotanicGardens.org	

Gardens on Tour Surpasses 300 Attendees



We suspected, as we emerge from pandemic restrictions, that people would be really wanting to get outdoors but we didn't exactly expect the reaction we had to our 2021 Gardens on Tour (GOT or Tour).

Our Tour, on June 26, registered over 300 people who visited our own gardens as well as seven interesting, unique residential gardens.

It was easily the biggest Tour in our history. The GOT team was led by Kathy Ballew, Carol Wallace, Connie Markert, Barbara Johnson, and Shirlee Krantz and was aided by 30 volunteers. Thanks to all of you for making the tour a huge success and a major fundraiser!

Have a garden you would like considered for the 2022 Gardens on Tour? Tell us a little about your garden, location, etc., photos helpful.

[Submit here to Kathy Ballew](#)

DBG Mural Completed and Dedicated

Our new mural, now gracing what was formerly a muddy brown parking lot retaining wall between the library and the Riverside Professional Building, was formally dedicated at an event on July 15, hosted by the Durango Creative District and the Durango Botanic Gardens.

The botanically-themed mural, painted by Nia Sturr, depicts plants and flowers common to our region's biological life zones. To reflect the amazing diversity, plants common to lower, dryland mesas begin at the left of the mural and ascend to plants, trees, and flowers common to higher, montane and alpine elevations. When next visiting the gardens or library, please take a look! And, if art is your passion, help us add more to the gardens by donating specifically to our art program.



Check Out New Signage for Crevice, Grass, and Wind Gardens



We have installed new interpretive signage for three of our gardens: the Crevice Gardens Along the Trail, the Elevation Grass Collection, and the Wind Garden. “While we have an active docent program for guided tours, most people stroll through our gardens alone and thus can miss out on many fascinating details about these gardens,” says Bill LeMaire, president of DBG. The new signage, he says, will add backstory that is currently missing.

NARGS’ Edge of the Rockies Conference is Coming to Town, August 5-8



Rock gardens bring a natural, rugged beauty to any yard, including those with steep hillsides or difficult growing conditions. They’re also one of the fastest growing garden ideas because they add a unique dimension to any yard or landscape. And at least from August 5-8, Durango will become the epicenter for this fascinating form of gardening as the North American Rock Garden Society (NARGS) holds its annual conference in Durango for nearly 200 rock garden enthusiasts.

The conference venue will be Fort Lewis College although attendees will also be participating in local hikes and other events.

The Durango Botanic Gardens will host a breakfast and offer tours of our own Crevice Garden for attendees on Saturday, August 7.

Garden Path Stones Increasingly Popular Donation Choice

We have seen an uptick in the purchase of Pathway Stones in our Demonstration Garden. Pathway stones enable the purchaser ample space for recognizing a loved one or sharing a favorite poem or other meaningful thought. Some are considering this as way to recognize and celebrate love of children or grandchildren. Click the box below to learn more about this and other donation options.

[DONATE](#)

THANK YOU TO OUR DURANGO COMMUNITY FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT!

NOTE: Our physical location is 1900 E. Third Avenue, at the Durango Public Library. The gardens are located to the north and east of the library, along the Animas River Trail.

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