



Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens

The Bodhi Leaf

180 N. Vineyard Blvd • Honolulu, HI • 808-537-1708 • friendsgardens@aol.com

WINTER 2018

Winter/Spring 2018 Educational Tours



Photo by Lana Brodziaak

February 17, Saturday, 8:30 am: Kaena Point Hike with Joyce Spoehr

Come join us on a hike to Kaena Point Natural Area Reserve. The trail (5 miles round trip) follows the old railroad bed and former dirt road around the western part of Oahu. The area is home to native plants and seabirds. It's a great spot to view whales. Be prepared for rain, sun and mud (no flip flops or sneakers). Bring a quart of water and a snack. Starting point: Mokuleia side, at the end of Farrington Highway parking lot, Route 930, one mile past Camp Erdman.



Photo by Dr. Richard Criley

March 10, Saturday, 9:30 am: Lyon Arboretum with Margaret Mortz, Lyon Tour Guide

Join guide Margaret Mortz for a walking tour of our rain forest at Lyon Arboretum. Get up close and personal with native Hawaiian plants, canoe plants, and exotic non-native introduced plants. Plan for rain: bring rain gear, and appropriate footwear for possible muddy conditions; wear a hat, and be prepared for mosquitos. We go, rain or shine!
Note: please try to carpool. Parking at the arboretum is limited.

April 8, Sunday, 8:30 am: University of Hawaii at Manoa with Dr. Richard Criley, Emeritus Professor of Horticulture, Tropical Plant & Soil Sciences

The Manoa campus of the University of Hawaii was accredited as an arboretum by the international ArbNet program and is also recognized as a member of Tree Campus USA.

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President's Message

Emmy's Notes.....

Happy New Year to all our Friends and Visitors

2018 brings a bright and sunny new year to all our beautiful gardens. And we have several events planned for all of you this spring. Joyce Spoehr will lead a hike along the north shore of Kaena Point on February 17th. Our Annual Meeting will be March 24th at Ho'omaluhia and our Spring Plant Sale will be April 21st at Foster Garden. So save the dates and come join the fun!

Emmy Seymour, President

Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens

Donations

The Board of Trustees of the Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens would like to thank the following for their generous donations. Mahalo!

\$1,500+

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In memory of Robert E.R. Andrews, Jr.

Dana Chan
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Joan & Reg Suyat

Friends in Deed

A huge thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who helped bring 'The Beginning of a Garden' to life, including FHBG board members Bonnie Andrew, Jann Boxold, Bill Follmer, Emmy Seymour & Joyce Spoehr, volunteers Steve Hazam, Suzanne Marinelli, Ginny Meade and especially Susan Nakamura who always goes above and beyond. And a big mahalo to HBG staff Iris Fukunaga and Cisco Del Campo, Jr. for their assistance. Thank you all very much!

From the Director's Desk

The New Year is here and I want to say mahalo for supporting the Honolulu Botanical Gardens! Your memberships, contributions and hard work are deeply appreciated and never taken for granted.

Last September, a study on botanical gardens was published in the journal *Nature Plants*. This survey found that gardens conserve an “astonishing array” of plant diversity (30% of plant species and 41% of known threatened plants). In fact, senior author Dr. Samuel Brockington, Cambridge Dept. of Plant Sciences concluded that, “The global network of botanic gardens is our best hope for saving some of the world’s most endangered plants.”

While this study verified the contribution made by gardens, it also noted the dramatic imbalance in temperate and tropical gardens. This imbalance underscores the urgent need for tropical gardens like ours to continue to evolve and collaborate.

In this collaborative spirit, we were thrilled to end 2017 with a visit from Dr. Mark Nesbitt, Research Leader of Economic Botany, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, UK and Dr. Andy Mills, Historical Research Associate, University of Glasgow, UK. Along with the Smithsonian Institute, their quest is to discover the human stories associated with their Pacific barkcloth or “kapa” collections. Our gardens supplied samples of plants traditionally used to dye kapa. Using new technologies like DNA analysis, these researchers are now able to link which plants were used to produce which dye. A perfect example of the way plants connect people and help us learn about our world! See you in the gardens!

Joshlyn D. Sand, Director
Honolulu Botanical Gardens



Left to Right: HBG staff Robin Sunio and Joshlyn Sand, Dr. Mark Nesbitt and Charles Arthur, Foster Garden Docent at Koko Crater Botanical Garden in front of the critically endangered nānū (*Gardenia brighamii*). Nānū fruit produces a vibrant yellow dye which was often used on kapa reserved for Hawaiian ali'i.

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Tours (from page 1)

This beautiful collection of trees and shrubs began a hundred years ago when Dr. Joseph Rock was asked by the College of Hawaii to establish a collection of tropical and subtropical habit for educational value that would be “an asset of great interest to resident and tourist alike.” Since then, many plants have been added by academics, students, staff, and visiting dignitaries. Our tour will visit a few of the more than 5000 plants that grace the campus and touch upon their history, uses, ethnobotany, and role in special collections. Wear comfortable shoes and sunscreen! The tour will begin at the entrance to Sinclair Library and will last about 2 hours.

TO REGISTER: FHBG members \$15, non-members \$20. Please call 537-1708 or email the Friends (friendsgardens@aol.com) with your reservation and payment. Minimum 5 people, maximum 15. Pre-registration is encouraged.

