

DOCENT TRAINING 2023 CLASS SCHEDULE – as of 5-22-23

REGIONAL PARKS BOTANIC GARDEN, Berkeley, CA

www.nativeplants.org.

Unless otherwise indicated, all classes will start in the auditorium at the Regional Park Botanic Garden Visitor Center, located near the main entrance to the garden at the intersection of South Park Drive and Wildcat Canyon Road in Tilden Regional Park. A few classes will be on zoom.

Classes will start promptly at 9 a.m. Please be on time. All classes will have a mid-morning break at various times depending on the activities of the morning.

To complete the course, students will attend most / all of the classes, study make-up materials for any missed classes, shadow at least four school and/or public tours, prepare at least two five-minute plant talks and one 30 minute “final graduation tour”. All students must have a background check including fingerprinting, paid for by the garden.

Class Administrators **David Edelson** (davidedelson@comcast.net), **Susan Wijeyesekera** (suswij@gmail.com) will schedule all student talks and tours. Please contact them with any questions you may have. In addition to David and Susan, **Susie Wallenstein** (berkeleyesusie@gmail.com) will help facilitate the classes and brown bag lunches.

1) January 10: Introductory Class (on zoom due to Garden closure)

9:00-9:30 Bart O'Brien (Garden Director/Manager): **Welcome, Botanic Garden mission**, the Garden and plant conservation, expectations of students. Angie Manno (Garden Administrative Assistant)

9:30-10:15 Student introductions: background and why they want to be docents

10:30-12:00 Glenn Keator “**How Plants are Named**” slideshow

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look Under “Plant Naming Conventions” to view Glenn Keator’s slideshows on “Common vs. Scientific Names” and “Tales and Hints to Remember Scientific Names”. Also see Glenn’s slideshow “California’s Amazing Flora” under “California Native Plants and Plant Communities - Materials by Glenn Keator”.

2) January 17: Website Tour and Tour of Garden

9:00-10:15 David Sherertz and David Edelson: Tour of Friends Website and Special Docent Training Resources

10:30-12:00 Glenn Keator: Layout/Structure of the Garden: the sections & how they correspond to areas of the state; Common vs Scientific Names; Family Names, Plant Labels.

12:00-12:30 Brown Bag Lunch: David Edelson will talk about some essential administrative items

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look under “2023 Docent Training Class Information - “Materials Specific to the 2023 Class” to access the most current version of the class schedule. To access the plant template form, go to “Plant Report Template Forms” and pull down “Templates”

3) January 24: Cryptogams - Spore Bearing Organisms

9:00-10:30 Glenn Keator: Ferns, Bryophytes, and Lichens.. How to recognize them, how they are different from Seed-Bearing Plants, basic types, importance in ecosystems, where to find them in the Garden, use in tours

10:45-12:00 Marcus Tamura: Fungi in the Garden

12:00-12:30 Brown Bag Lunch: Special Guest, Liz Bittner on Phytophthora

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look Under “Spore-Bearing Organisms” to view Glenn Keator’s slideshows on “Cryptogams: Plants of Hidden Marriage” and “A Survey of What Fungi are and Their Importance in the World”

2023 Docent Training Class Schedule as of 5-22-23, continued

4) January 31: Seed-Bearing Plant Structure & Function:

9:00-12:00 Glenn Keator on Roots, Stems & Leaves; intro to Photosynthesis and Respiration

12:00-12:30 Brown Bag Lunch: Special Guest, David Sherertz will introduce the “Friends”

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look Under “Seed-Bearing Plants” for a variety of resources. A good starting place for basic vocabulary would be Glenn’s 4-page class notes entitled “Vegetative Plant Morphology” located under “Materials on Structure and Function of Roots, Stems and Leaves”.

5) February 7: Plant Adaptations

9:00-10:15 Glenn Keator: basic info on how plants adapt to fire, drought, heat, climate, etc

10:30-11:40 John Helms: Plant Adaptation Theme Tour: overview of sample tour tips and techniques

11:40-12:00 Two students will do short plant presentations

12:00-12:30: Brown Bag Lunch: Special Guest John Helms

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look Under “Garden Tours - Plant Adaptation Tour Materials”

6) February 14: Trees in the Garden

9:00-11:40: Glenn Keator will lead us through the “Prominent Trees Tour”

11:40-12:00 Two students will do short plant presentations

12:00-12:30 Brown Bag Lunch

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look Under “Garden Tours - Tour Outlines in Friends Docent Area “ and scroll down to the Prominent Trees Tour link

7) February 21: Parts of the Garden - Flower Structure and Franciscan Section

9:00-10:10 Glenn Keator: Flower Structure and Function

10:15-11:40 Glenn Keator: Tour of Franciscan Section. Featured Plants: Manzanitas, Ceanothus

11:40-12:00 Two students will do short plant presentations.

12:00-12:30 Brown Bag Lunch

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look under “Garden Sections - Franciscan Section”

8) February 28: Introduction to Tour Techniques; Parts of the Garden - Santa Lucia Section

9:00-10:15 James Wilson: Basic Tour Techniques – connecting with the audience

10:30-11:40 Marcus Tamura: Santa Lucia Section. Featured Plants: Santa Lucia Fir; others.

11:40-12:00 Two students will do short plant presentations

12:00-12:30 Brown Bag Lunch: Special Guest Holly Haugh, with the Advocacy Committee

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look under “Tour Techniques - Tour Technique Materials” and under “Garden Sections - Santa Lucia Section Materials”

9) March 7: Parts of the Garden: Channel Islands and Foothill Sections

9:00-10:15 Liz Bittner: Tour of Foothill Section. Featured Plants: Arctostaphylos; Pipevine; Antioch Dunes

10:15-11:40 Liz Bittner: Tour of Channel Island Section. Featured Plants: Ironwood, oaks, madrone, summer holly

11:40-12:00 Two students will do short plant presentations.

12:00-12:30 Brown Bag Lunch. Special Guest, Liz Bittner, Garden Do’s and Don’ts

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look Under “Garden Sections - Channel Islands and Foothills Section Materials” also “Tour Techniques - Tour Technique Materials - Docent Do’s and Don’ts”

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10) **March 14: Horticulture**

9:30-11:40 Bart O'Brien: CA native plants and their uses in horticulture

11:40-12:00 Two students will do short plant presentations

12:00-12:30 Brown Bag Lunch: Special Guest: Bart O'Brien

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look Under "Horticulture - Articles by Bart O'Brien"

11) **March 21: Parts of the Garden: Shasta-Klamath and Pacific Rainforest Sections**

9:00-10:15 Glenn Keator: Tour of Shasta-Klamath Section featuring: Ferns; Berberis; Pt. Orford Cedar; Vine Maple

10:30-11:40 Glenn Keator: Tour of Rainforest Section featuring: Ferns; Calocedrus; Thuja; Salal

11:45-12:00 Two students will do short plant presentations.

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look Under "Garden Sections - Shasta-Klamath and Pacific Rainforest Section Materials"

12) **March 28: California Native American Cultures**

9:00-10:30 Sonja Gomez and Chris Sulots, from the EBRPD, will present on this topic

10:45-11:45 Glenn Keator presents a slideshow on Native American Plant Uses

11:45-12:00 Two students will do short plant presentations

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look Under "California Native American Cultures" for a multitude of Resources. A good starting place would be "Material by Sonja Gomez - Words Matter, Language to use when talking about Ohlone People and Culture".

13) **April 4: Parts of the Garden: Redwood and Sierra Sections**

9:00-10:15 Ben Anderson: Tour of Redwood Section

10:30-11:40 Michael Uhler: Tour of Sierra Section

11:40-12:00 Two students will do short plant presentations.

12:00-12:30 Brown Bag lunch.

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look Under "Garden Sections - Redwood and Sierra Section Materials"

14) **April 11: Parts of the Garden: Sea Bluff and Rainforest Sections**

9:00-9:30: Angie Manno: How to Use Sign Up Genius

9:30 – 10:15 Glenn Keator: Tour of Sea Bluff Section featuring: Pruned redwood; wallflowers, seaside daisy

10:30-11:40 Glenn Keator: Tour of Rainforest Section featuring: Ferns; Calocedrus; Thuja; Salal

11:40-12:00 Two students will do short plant presentations

12:00-12:30 Brown Bag lunch:

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look Under "Garden Sections - Sea Bluff and Canyon Section Materials"

15) **April 18: Parts of the Garden - Southern California Section / Shasta-Klamath Section**

9:00-10:30 Glenn Keator, Tour of S. Cal section. Featured plants: Cacti, Yucca, Agave, Salvia, Fan Palm; Trichostema

10:40-11:40: Glenn Keator, Tour of the Shasta-Klamath Section

11:40-12:00 Two students will do short plant presentations.

12:00-12:30 Brown Bag Lunch.

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look Under "Garden Sections - Southern California Section Materials"

16) **April 25: Birds in the Garden / Canyon Section**

9:00-10:15 Bird Survey Team: A bird walk in the Garden with binoculars

10:30-11:40 Glenn Keator: Tour of Canyon Section featuring CA Buckeye; CA Bay; Coast Live Oak

11:40- 12:00 Two students will do short plant presentations

12:00 - 12:30 Brown Bag Lunch: Special Guests: Allison Kidder and Doris Kretschmer, Manzanita Cmte

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look Under "Garden Animals - Materials on Birds"

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17) **May 2: History of Garden / Animals in the Garden**

9:00-10:15 Joe Dahl: Garden History

10:30-11:40 Joe Dahl: Garden Animals with focus on amphibians, reptiles, mammals and fish

11:40-12:00 Two students will do short plant presentations.

12:00-12:30 Brown Bag lunch: Special Guest Joe Dahl?

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look Under "Garden History and Garden Animals" for a variety of resources

18) **May 9: Pollination**

9:00-10:30 **Bee Pollination:** May Chen will present her slideshow on Bees and Pollination

10:45-12:00 **Pollination:** a walk in the Garden with bug vacs

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look Under "Pollination - Pollination Materials"

19) **May 16: The Sensory Tour**

9:00 – 10:30 Trainee activity: The Sensory Tour Challenge

10:30- 10:40 One student will do a short plant presentations

10:50-12:00 John Helms **The Sensory Theme Tour**

12:00-12:30 Brown Bag lunch, Special Guest: John Helms

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look Under "Garden Tours - Sensory Tour Materials," Also "Tour Techniques - Docent Do's and Don'ts".

20) **May 23 Working with Children and Diverse Cultures; Fingerprinting Day**

9:00-9:30: David introduces the Graduation Tour Assignment

9:30-10:00 Paula Urtecho: working with diverse cultures

10:00-10:30 Rosalie Gonzales: Tips for working with Children

10:45-11:00: Two students will do short plant presentations

11:00-11:40: Two outdoor tour options: Rosalie's Manzanita Tour or Susan's "Ideas for developing children's tours"

11:40-? **Fingerprinting**

12:00-12:30 Brown Bag Lunch. Special Guest Roz Hardy, eNewsletter publisher

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look Under "Tour Techniques - Tips for Children's and School Tours"

21) **May 30 The California Native Peoples and Plants Tour**

9:00-11:50 Overview of outreach classroom presentation and hands-on walk-thru of garden tour, given by: Ingrid Madsen, Rosalie Gonzales, Renee Chaney-Cohen, John Helms, & Roz Westil

12:00-12:30 Brown Bag Lunch: Special Guest Renee Cohen on the CNPP in-school program

2023 Docent Website Resources: Look Under "Tour Techniques - The CA Native Peoples and Plants Tour"

22) **June 6 Cultural Relativity Training**

9:00-12:30 Francis Mendoza will conduct this special workshop. It will be 3 ½ hours with two breaks.

23 & 24) **June 13 and 20 Trainee Graduation Tours**

9:00-12:00 Trainees each give a 30 minute tour, followed by feedback, with class divided into two groups (6 tours/day at

9:15-10:00; 10:15-11:00 and 11:15-12:00)

12:00-12:30 Brown Bag Lunch

25) **June 27 Final Class & Graduation Potluck**

9:00-11:00 Finish Graduation Tours

11:00-11:30 Class Evaluations

11:30- 1:00 Graduation Potluck with the Larger Docent Community