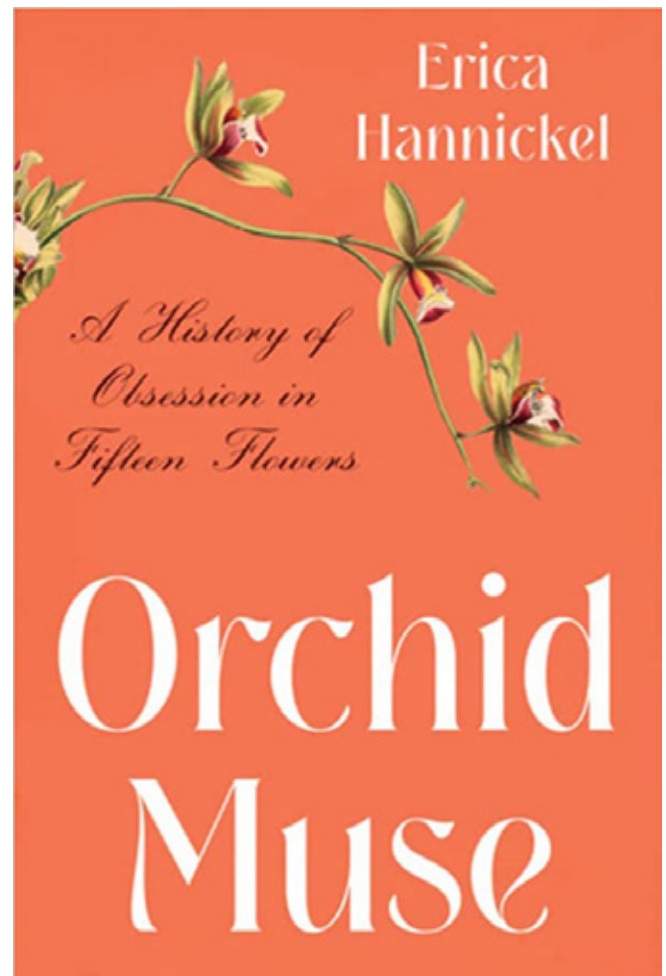


CBHL Announces 2023 Annual Literature Award Winners

Annual Literature Award
*for a work that makes a significant
contribution to the literature of
botany or horticulture*

*Orchid Muse: a history of obsession in fifteen
flowers*
by Erica M. Hannickel

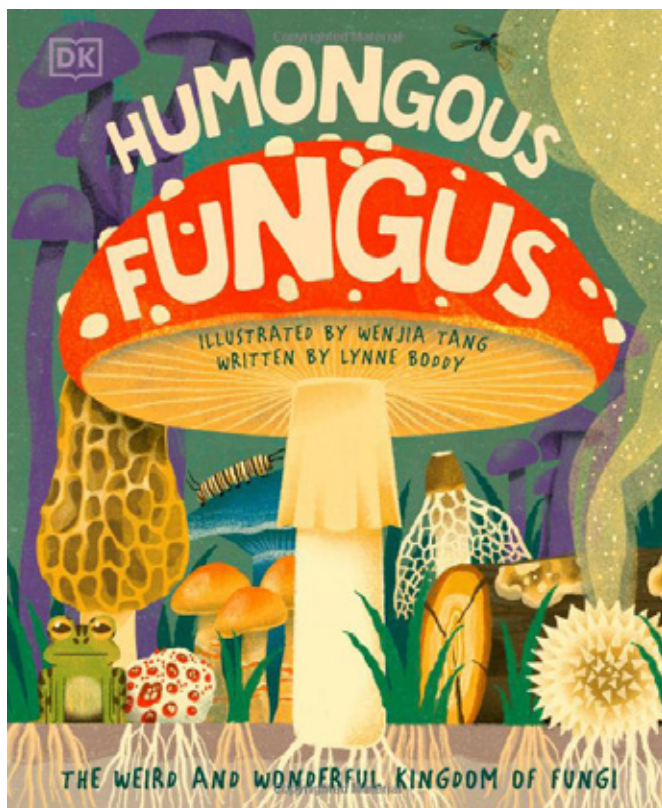
W. W. Norton & Company, 2022. xiv, 306 pages : illus-
trations (some color) ; 25 cm.
ISBN 9780393867282.



Award of Excellence for Literature
for Young Adults

Humongous Fungus
by Lynne Boddy, illustrated by Wenjia Tang

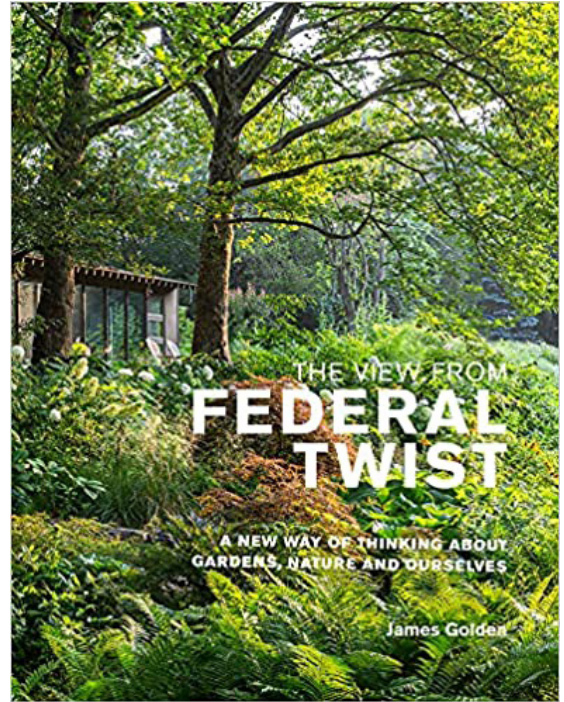
DK Children, 2021. 64 pages (Underground and All
Around) : color illustrations ; 29 cm.
ISBN 9780744033335.



Award of Excellence in Gardening and Gardens

The View from Federal Twist: a new way of thinking about gardens, nature and ourselves
by James Golden

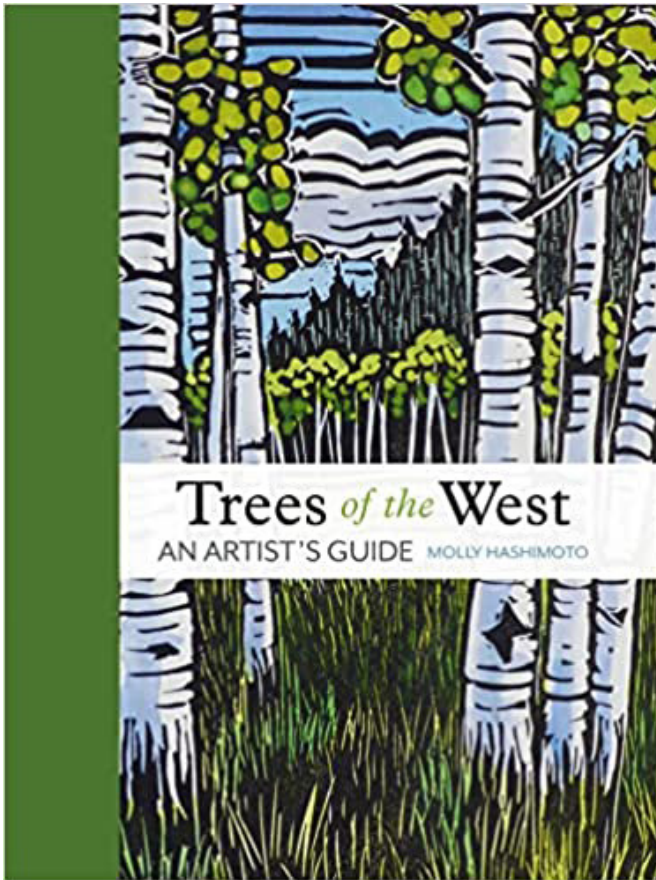
Filbert Press, 2022. 40 pages : color illustrations ; 26 cm.
ISBN 9781999734572.



Award of Excellence for Botanical Art and Illustration

Trees of the West: an artist's guide
by Molly Hashimoto

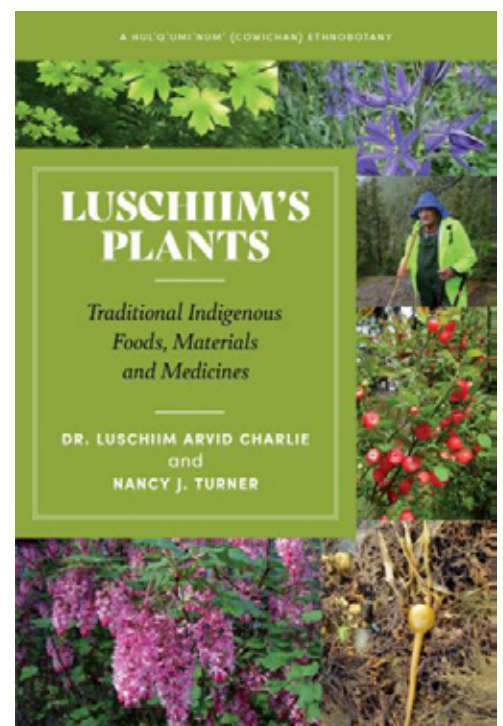
Skipstone, 2022. 190 pages : color illustrations ; 26 cm.
ISBN 9781680513387.



Award of Excellence for Field Guides

Luschiim's Plants: traditional indigenous foods, materials, and medicines
by Luschiim Arvid Charlie and Nancy J. Turner

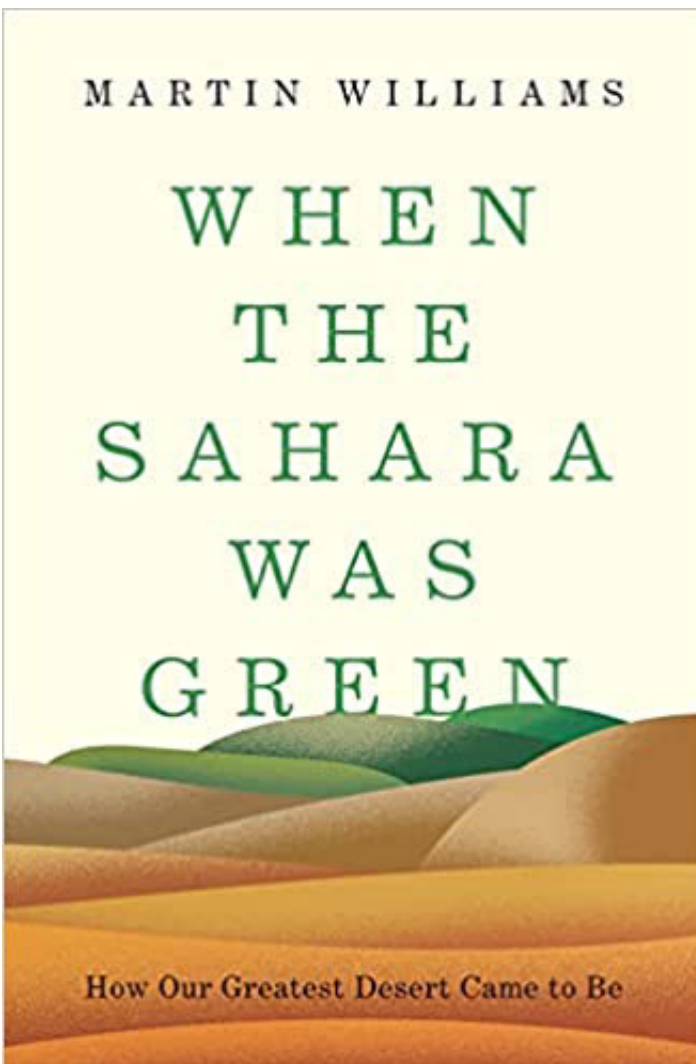
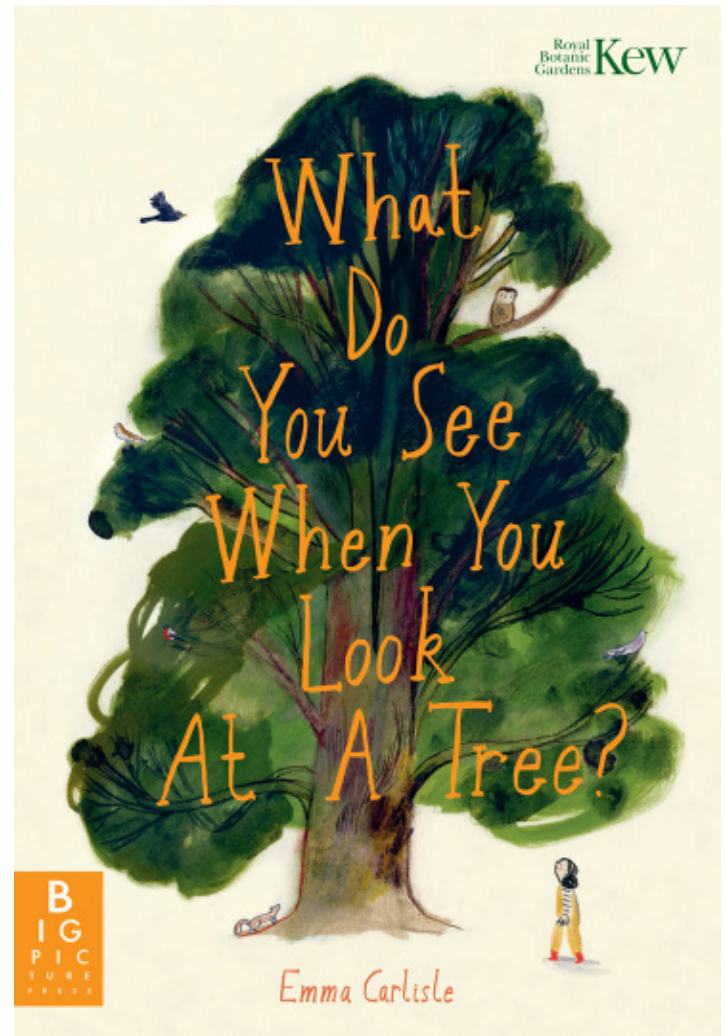
Harbour Publishing, 2021. 288 p. xiii, 274 pages : color illustrations ; 23 cm.
ISBN 9781550179453



Award of Excellence for Literature
for Children

What Do You See When You Look At A Tree?
by Emma Carlisle

Templar Publishing in association with RBG Kew,
2022. 1 vol. : color illustrations ; 30 x 25 cm.
ISBN 9781536226669.



Award of Excellence in Plants and
Environmental Change

*When the Sahara was Green: how our greatest
desert came to be*
by Martin Williams

Princeton University Press, 2021. 272 pages : illus-
trations ; maps ; 24 cm.
ISBN 9780691201627.

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

Edited by Rita M. Hassert
Library Collections Manager
Sterling Morton Library
The Morton Arboretum

July 22-26, 2023

Botany 2023

Boise, Idaho

<https://2023.botanyconference.org/>

July 26-29, 2023

Council of State Archivists and the Society of

American Archivists (SAA)

Joint Annual Meeting

Washington, DC and virtual

<http://www.archivists.org>

August 1-5, 2023

GardenComm Conference

Minneapolis, Minnesota

<https://gardencomm.org/>

September 26-28, 2023

Visual Resources Association

Annual Conference

San Antonio, Texas

http://vraweb.org/conferences_page/upcoming-conferences/

October 11-14, 2023

American Society of Botanical Artists (ASBA)

29th Annual Meeting & Conference

Mobile, Alabama

<https://asba-art.org/>

October 20-21, 2023

American Horticultural Therapy Association

Annual Conference

Virtual

<http://www.ahta.org>

October 27-30, 2023

American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Conference on Landscape Architecture

Minneapolis, Minnesota

<https://www.asla.org/annualmeetingandexpo.aspx>

November 2023

Charleston Conference

Charleston, South Carolina and virtual

<https://www.charleston-hub.com/the-charleston-conference>

Join a CBHL Committee!

Have you ever wanted to be more involved with CBHL, but weren't sure how? Join a CBHL Committee! It's a great way to get to know your CBHL colleagues and give back to the profession. If you're interested in a committee, feel free to reach out to the committee chair listed below for more information.

Annual Literature Award Committee

Co-Chairs: Brian Thompson, bthomp@uw.edu & Susan Eubank, susan.eubank@arboretum.org

Reviews candidates for and awards the CBHL Annual Literature Award. The Annual Literature Award recognizes outstanding publications that make significant contributions to the literature of botany or horticulture.

Charles Robert Long Award Committee

Chair: Kathy Crosby, KathyCrosby@bbg.org

Selects candidates for and awards the Charles Robert Long Award of Merit. The Long Award recognizes outstanding contributions to CBHL, meritorious service to CBHL, outstanding publications, or service in the fields of botanical and horticultural libraries or literature.

Communications Committee

Chair: Judy Stevenson, newsletter@cbhl.net

Oversees all publications, printed or digital, publicity, social media, press releases, member-to-member communication (currently email listserv), intranet, and public website.

Financial Advisory Committee

Chair: Brian Thompson, bthomp@uw.edu

Advises and consults with the CBHL Treasurer regarding CBHL finances or accounting practices, and reviews the annual Treasurer's Report.

Membership Committee

Chair: Robin Everly, everlyr@si.edu

Recruits new members and welcomes new members to CBHL. Also distributes renewal notifications and maintains the member database.

CBHL Board of Directors 2023-2024

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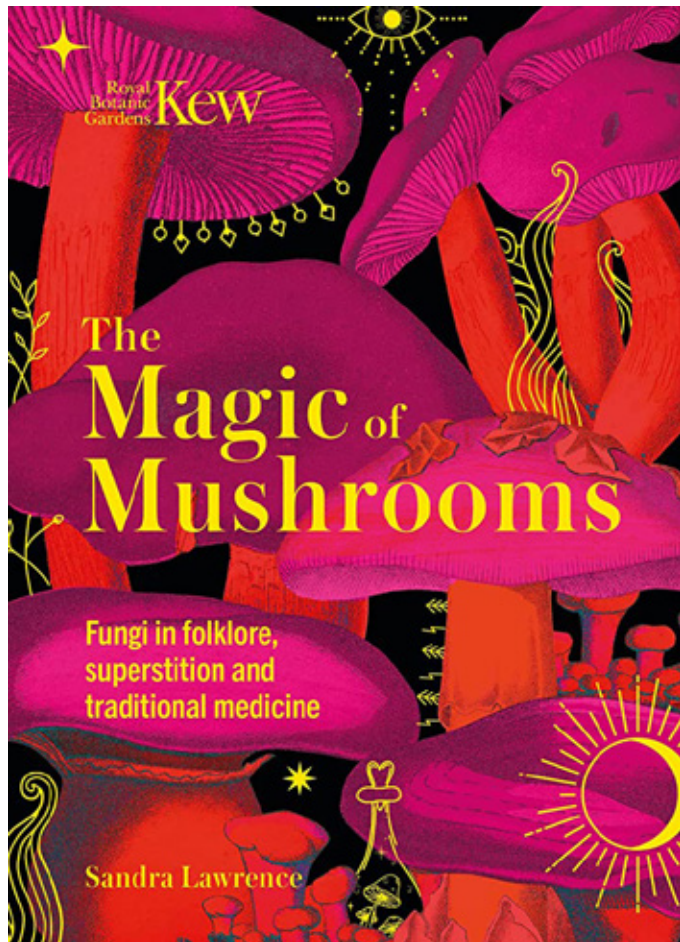
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Brandy Watts
Alaska Resources Library & Information
Services
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Vice President

Position vacant



Book Reviews

Edited by Gillian Hayward
Library Manager
Library and Information Services
Longwood Gardens

The Magic of Mushrooms: Fungi in folklore, superstition and traditional medicine by Sandra Lawrence. United Kingdom: Welbeck Publishing, 2022. 208 pages. £14.99. ISBN: 9781787399068.

Review by Kristine Paulus
Collection Development Librarian
LuEsther T. Mertz Library
The New York Botanical Garden

Mushrooms have captivated our imagination at least since humans began drawing on rocks, as depicted in recently discovered prehistoric cave paintings. Our continuing fascination with fungi is reflected in countless references found in art, literature, music, film, fashion,

and more. While mushroom mania is currently trending hard, based on social media hashtags and scholarly publications alike, English journalist and author Sandra Lawrence explores the history and folklore surrounding fungi in her highly entertaining and enlightening 2022 tome, *The Magic of Mushrooms: Fungi in Folklore, Superstition and Traditional Medicine*. Lawrence categorizes cultures as either mycophilic or mycophobic, which generally reflects their overall attitude toward fungi. Some are simultaneously both, which can make things rather interesting. Such inherent mycophilia or mycophobia guides this very compelling book.

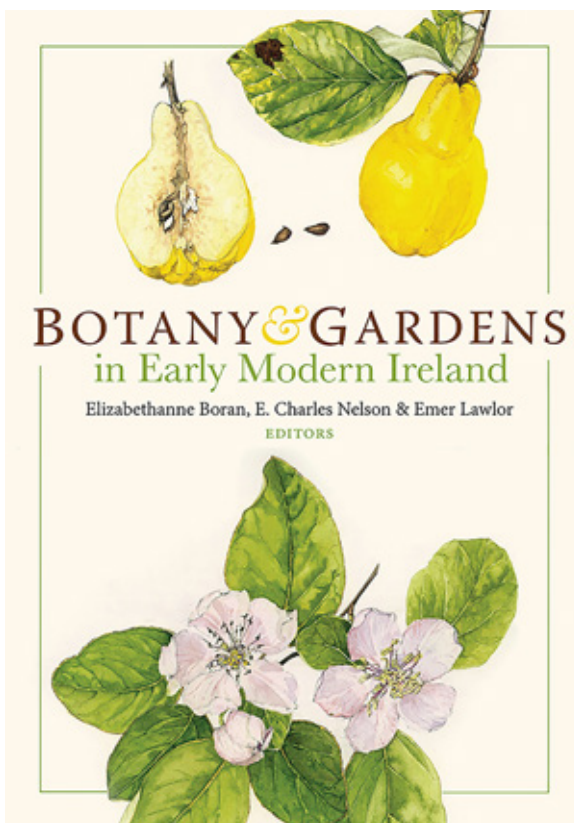
Lawrence overcame her own, self-proclaimed mycophobia to delve into the intriguing and often strange realm of mushrooms and other fungi. This is not, she states from the beginning, a field guide to be used for identification, nor a book of scientific descriptions of different species. While it takes a lighthearted tone, it's also well-researched and full of detailed information (Fun fact: fungi contribute to flamingoes' pink hue!). Note that the title specifies mushrooms but covers fungi in general, which also includes yeasts, smuts, rusts, and many molds. In the taxonomic world, fungi have only fairly recently been granted their own kingdom. Previously, they were classed with plants but they actually have more in common with animals.

A gifted storyteller, Lawrence brings humor, wit, and poetry to her highly digestible (unlike some of the mushrooms she mentions) accounts about how these mysterious and often misunderstood organisms helped shape human history – or at least strongly influenced it. Fantastic images appear on every other page and are as diverse as the species mentioned, from scientific illustrations to movie posters and pictures from children's books. It's densely packed yet compact and entertaining enough to serve as a commuter's companion or a brainy beach read.

Mushrooms endlessly inspire, offering infinite fodder for cultural and scientific productivity. A chapter devoted to mushroom-centric art includes Hieronymus Bosch, Shakespeare, Agatha Christie, and John Cage. *The Magic of Mushrooms* mostly focuses, as its title suggests, on the mythology surrounding mushrooms and other fungi. Although mostly from a Western, Eurocentric perspective, Lawrence also shares folk and fairy tales from around the world. Another perspective is subtly feminist by recounting injustices against women in science when they were not taken seriously. She also emphasizes the many accomplishments of women in the field, such as Kew mycologist Elsie M. Wakefield. The book includes numerous illustrations by Anna Marie Hussy from *Illustrations of British Mycology* (1847-55) and at least one by Beatrix Potter.

Part of the appeal of mushrooms might be due to their potential for danger, allowing thrill seekers and risk-takers to play mycorrhizal roulette. Indeed, Lawrence relishes their dark and sometimes macabre side. This isn't surprising since many mushroom species are quite deadly. The paradox is evident – many species are not only edible, but incredibly delicious and others offer (frequently illicit) euphoria, yet others can kill. There are warnings throughout the book. As noted mycologist and New York Botanical Garden instructor Gay Lincoff used to joke, "You can try any mushroom once." Lawrence explains how mushrooms have been used for evil as much as for good. Their ominous side has contributed to a long history of fear and superstition of them. Not only are they potentially deadly, but as important decomposers (they have a "reputation as nature's undertakers," she says), they are sometimes seen as signs of decay – literally and figuratively.

Amazingly, there is still much more to learn about them. Mycology is a relatively young field (the word was only coined in 1836). The book ends optimistically with a chapter on the future of fungi and briefly touches on their uses currently being explored for medical science. It seems there's nothing fungi can't do: they can nourish, protect, heal, and cure. While mushrooms seem more popular than ever, it's hard to think it's merely a passing fad. Once thought to be actual stars fallen from the heavens (earth stars!), considered magical as mandrakes, sources of sorcery, and predictors of weather, they are endlessly fascinating and will probably be so forever. Lawrence's book is just the accompaniment for the fungi-curious.



Botany & Gardens in Early Modern Ireland. Elizabethanne Boran, E. Charles Nelson, & Emer Lawlor, editors. Dublin: Published for the Trustees of the Edward Worth Library, Dublin, by Four Courts Press, 2022. 335 pages, illustrations. \$70.00, €50.00, £45.00 (hardback). ISBN 978-1-84682-023-3.

Reviewed by Charlotte A. Tancin
Librarian

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
Carnegie Mellon University

The green isle of Ireland has a deep and interesting history of botany and gardens. *Botany & Gardens in Early Modern Ireland* transports us to a time in Ireland when botany was emerging, New Science inspired a new scientific society, a physic garden was created, libraries were being formed that included herbals and floras and books on plant exploration and garden design, Irish people were exploring their flora

and writing about it, and a seed and nursery trade grew and flourished to serve gardeners and farmers and great estates. Most early writers about Ireland's flora were not Irish, and many writings from outside about Ireland and its culture gave dismissive or disparaging perspectives. This book calls out those old, misbegotten views, bringing together 14 essays by 10 writers to present various parts of Ireland's plant-related history, and a rich history it is. Much of the material was previously presented at two conferences in 2017 and 2018, inspired by the botanical book collection of Dr. Edward Worth (1676-1733) and organized by the Edward Worth Library, Dublin, and the Dublin Naturalists' Field Club.

In section one, "Botany in seventeenth-century Ireland," E. Charles Nelson writes about the "Zoilomastix", a manuscript written in Spain by Irish exile Philip O'Sullivan Beare (fl. 1590-1636). In its natural history section is a list of some 88 plants, giving Latin, Greek, Spanish, and Irish/indigenous names when known. The Irish names were as recalled by him and other exiles and were written phonetically because there were no written records available to consult. The manuscript was not published and was purchased in 1690 by a Swedish diplomat who was searching Spanish archives for material relating to Goths and Visigoths; it's now at the University of Uppsala. Two tables are included in Nelson's essay: one on the foliation of the manuscript, and one listing all of its plants with folio/leaf number, Latin name, Irish name and modern scientific name.

Another Nelson essay looks at what was published on Irish flora up to 1690, noting that the few 17th-century published plant lists were published/printed in London. He cites two works by John Parkinson (1567-1650), and *Phytologia Britannica* (London, 1650)—attributed to William How (1620-1656)—which includes some Irish plants. Nelson transcribes descriptions of 10 Irish plants from this work and adds commentary and color photos. A third essay by Patrick Kelly is about the Molyneux brothers, Thomas (1661-1733) and William (1656-1698), and their leading roles in the New Science and the short-lived Dublin Philosophical Society, one of many such societies in Europe then that were dedicated to promotion of useful knowledge through observation and experiment.

In section two, "Caleb Threlkeld and botany in eighteenth-century Ireland," Emer Lawlor writes about Dr. Caleb Threlkeld (1676-1728), dissenting minister, physician, and botanist. Threlkeld came from Cumberland, qualified as a physician in Edinburgh in 1713, and moved to Dublin where his 1726 flora/herbal *Synopsis stirpium Hibernicarum* was published. We learn about his religious orientation, his study of physic, and his plant studies, which included starting a herbarium in 1714. The *Synopsis* owed much to the support of Thomas Molyneux, who gave Threlkeld his own notes on plants and access to his collections. As much of the text was already printed, Molyneux' list was added as an appendix.

Declan Doogue contributes two essays, on Threlkeld's plant records and on his being Dublin's earliest plant ecologist. Threlkeld was a field naturalist and an herbalist. His *Synopsis* listed Dublin region plants, giving polynomial Latin plant names along with English and Irish names, occasional notes on where found, and medicinal and sometimes culinary uses. Often he noted that he himself found or saw the plants, and sometimes that others did (unattributed). Doogue also considers which books Threlkeld consulted. In the ecologist essay, Doogue writes that Threlkeld didn't give plant descriptions but did provide habitat and location information, leaving evidence that's useful now for floristic and ecological research. Doogue presents summaries of and comments on Threlkeld's plants organized by kinds of habitat: coastal; coastal shingle; salt marshes; sand dunes; dry sandy grassland; wet grasslands and marshes; springs; river banks; true aquatics; hedges, woods, and scrub; walls and old buildings; old weeds of cultivation; cornfield weeds; bogs; and cultivated plants. A seven-page table is a concordance of plant names in the *Synopsis* and in Clive Stace's *New flora of the British Isles* (2019).

In section three, "Paper gardens: Collecting books on botany and gardens in early modern Ireland," there are essays on three historically important Dublin libraries. Elizabethanne Boran writes about Dr. Edward

Worth's (1676-1733) library of more than 4,000 mostly medical and scientific books (a substantial number of them botanical), which he left to Dr. Steevens' Hospital, and she discusses its contents and some factors affecting his choice of books. Like Thomas Molyneux he pursued medical education in Leiden, and he had a strong interest in the botanical explorations of the Dutch East India Company. His library includes herbals, works on plants in other parts of the world, botanical texts, and works on garden plants, specific gardens, and garden design.

Susan Hemmens' essay on Marsh's Library, Dublin, traces the creation of the first public library in Ireland, founded by Narcissus Marsh (1638-1713) in 1707 and populated by four core collections. Plant-related works included works of classical antiquity, medical botany and herbals, early modern botany and cabinets of curiosity, classifying and naming plants, and cultivation and garden design. She notes intersections of interest among the four core collectors.

Regina Whelan Richardson writes of the botanical collections of the Dutch Fagel dynasty. War and revolution in Europe led to the collection of over 20,000 volumes and nearly 3,000 maps being moved from The Hague to Dublin, and purchased for Trinity College Dublin in 1802, ensuring the survival of the Fagel library almost intact. The material ranges from 1460 to 1799, international in scope and much of it 18th-century. Richardson focuses here on gardens, horticulture and botany in the late 17th- to early 18th-century Dutch Republic, at a time when European baroque garden style was influential in Britain and Ireland, and Dutch immigration to Ireland also played a role. She describes Dutch pleasure gardens and several Dutch gardens of the Fagel family from that time.

Section four, "Gardens and landscapes in early modern Ireland," contains 5 essays. Charles Nelson writes on the physic garden at Trinity College Dublin in its three incarnations, first in 1687, then relocated and expanded in 1725, and the third garden established in 1806 and among the finest gardens in Ireland in the 19th century, with "an unrivalled international reputation for its significant plant collections." In another essay Nelson explores John K'Eogh's 1735 *Botanologia, or, a general Irish herbal* (note the typesetter's error for *Botanologia*). The work was intended to show purported medicinal uses of plants that would have been cultivated in Irish gardens, the medical information coming from publications of apothecaries and herbalists like Gerard and Culpeper. Although the medicinal information is not uniquely Irish, the book contains numerous vernacular Irish names not previously published, and gives a good indication of what would have been growing in gardens at the time. K'Eogh gave localities for 44 plants found in the wild (of 503 entries), noted almost 140 found in cultivation in and around his home area of Mitchelstown, County Cork, and no locations for the remaining 300 or so. A three-page table lists all of the localities by county for the 44 wild plants.

Vandra Costello offers a change of scene with an essay on gothic features in 18th-century Irish landscapes. She writes of both gothick pastiches and genuine gothic ruins, the former first appearing in England in the late 18th century and soon becoming fashionable. Reasons for their appeal included (a) the "grand tour," shifting focus from classical to medieval; (b) growing desire among academics and antiquarians to establish a "system" of gothic architecture; (c) gothic novels; (d) wanting to make a statement about one's taste and regard for history; and (e) a search for the sublime and the picturesque, the "sublime" evoking a mix of awe and terror and the "picturesque" lending a sense of drama and antiquity.

Terence Reeves-Smyth provides a study of the nursery and seed trade in Dublin before 1800 that includes reproductions of several maps and broadsides. The rapid growth of Dublin in the 18th century led to growth in the seed and nursery trade to meet demand. In 1756 there were around 30 such businesses, and by the 1790s there were around 68 identified; in reality there were surely more. There was also an overlap: seedsmen sold seed to nurserymen and the nursery trade sold plants to seedsmen. A growth in private gardens added to demand, as did a "consumer revolution" in which citizens wanted not only

necessities but also decencies and even luxuries. Market gardeners and farmers supplying the city also needed sufficient amounts of seeds and plants. A rise in more extensive gardens and in skilled gardeners and designers also affected the seed and nursery trade, leading to more specializations and professionalism. Being able to provide desired exotics in Ireland rather than importing them saved considerably in transportation costs. Use of printed catalogs in broadside and later pamphlet form arose, as did newspaper advertisements. In broadsides the categories offered became formulaic: "Seeds of Roots, Sallad-Seeds, Pot-Herb Seeds, Sweet-Herb Seeds, Physical Seeds, Flower Seeds, Seeds of Ever-Green and Flowering-Trees, Sorts of Peas, Beans, &c, Seeds to improve Land, Flower Roots, Sorts of Choice Trees and Plants, Fruit-Trees, Trees for Walls, Flowering Trees and Shrubs, Hardy Greens." Seed traders also offered agricultural seed. Credit issues are also discussed.

Finally, Madeline Hutchins writes about Ellen Hutchins (1785-1815), the first well-known Irish female botanist. Although she lived in an isolated area near the shores of Bantry Bay, she developed into a botanist, gardener, and botanical artist who collaborated and corresponded with a number of other botanists. She specialized in cryptogamic plants and especially seaweeds, roaming the lands around her home to collect specimens, some of which she planted and studied, of others she made dried specimens, and yet others she drew, sometimes also examining them microscopically. She exchanged plants, seeds, and drawings with several correspondents, mainly James Townsend Mackay (1775-1862, in charge of the small botanical garden then at Trinity College Dublin) and English banker, antiquarian, and amateur botanist Dawson Turner (1775-1858). Mackay plant hunted with her at least once and often exchanged plants and seeds with her by post. Turner was her greatest friend and mentor and he included some of her drawings in his four-volume work on seaweeds, *Fuci* (London, 1808-1819). She died just before her 30th birthday, possibly of tuberculosis. It is delightful to find her story here.

What a rich resource this book is. It is well illustrated and includes numerous footnotes (on the pages with the related text), as well as indexes of scientific and vernacular plant names along with a general index. At the beginning of this review I mentioned that many early non-Irish writings about Ireland gave dismissive or disparaging perspectives. Caleb Threlkeld's 1726 *Synopsis* contains this proclamation that one could imagine coming from all those long-ago Irish plant enthusiasts, as well as from their descendants in spirit who wrote and edited *Botany & Gardens in Early Modern Ireland*: "Let the polite World know, that Arts and Sciences flourish here, and are encouraged, as much as in any other Parts of Europe." Thanks to them for this Irish history.



CBHL Members' West News

Edited by Beth Brand
Head Librarian
Schilling Library, Desert Botanical Garden

BRIT Press Publishes Two New Titles

Barney Lipscomb
Leonhardt Chair of Texas Botany
Botanical Research Institute of Texas
Fort Worth Botanic Garden

Putting Down Roots: Foundations of Botany at Carolina by William R. Burk. Published by the Botanical Research Institute of Texas Press. February 2023.

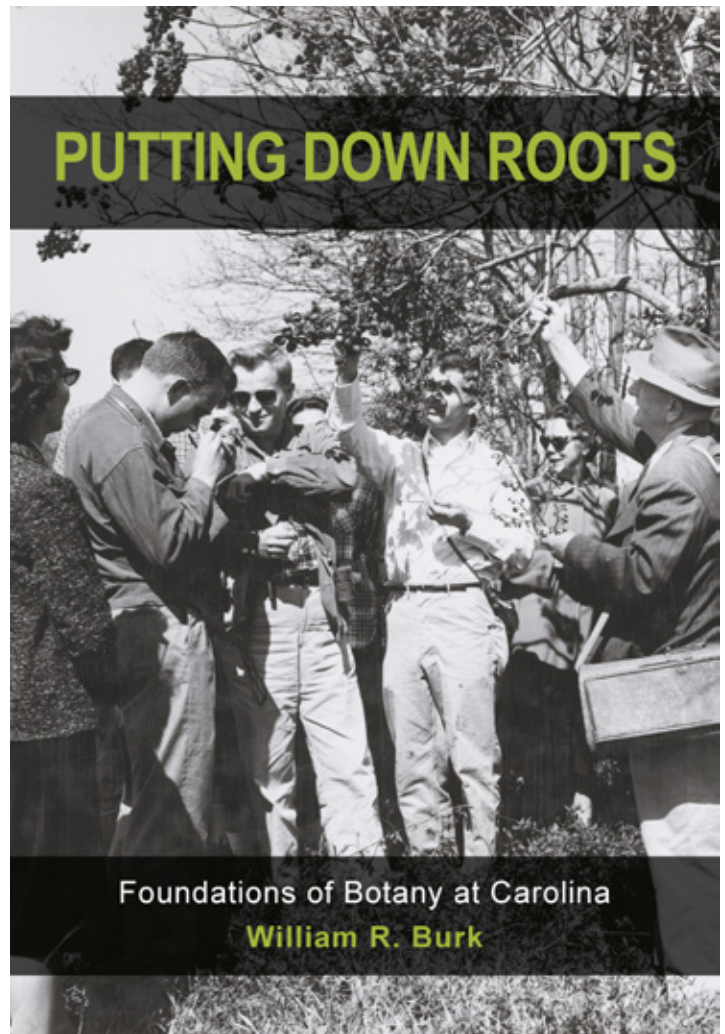
This book traces the development of the academic discipline of botany at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill from 1792 to 1982. Coverage of the professors who taught botany during UNC's first century includes their biographical background, pedagogical style, scientific instruction, and contributions to science. The academic influences that each of these educators had on Carolina are also noted. The concluding chapter, constituting about one-sixth of the volume, describes the UNC Department of Botany, established in 1908. The principal focus of this chapter is the department's accomplishments, its faculty, and its graduate students.

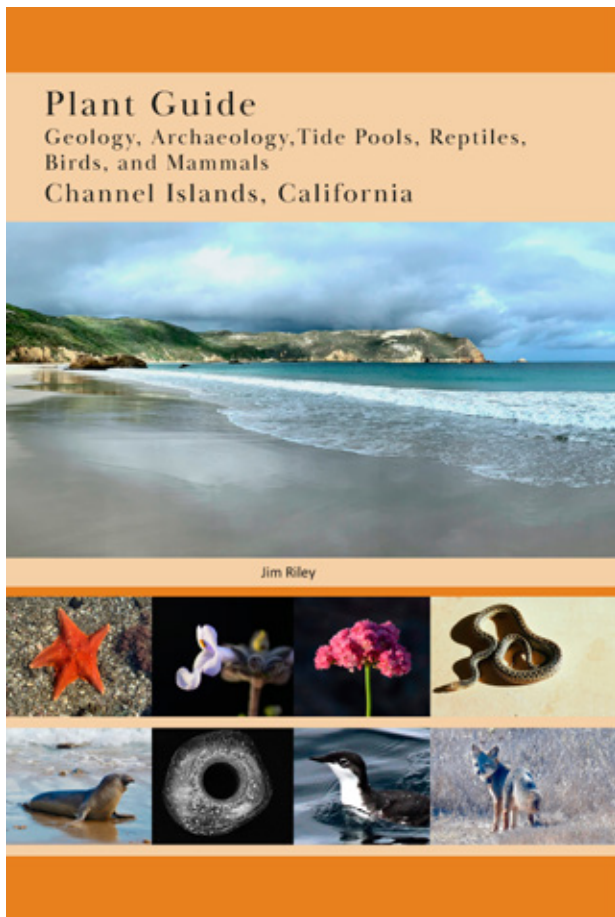
Several significant themes are woven through the text, particularly for the 1800s: the University Museum, the idea of establishing a model farm, the Elisha Mitchell Scientific Society, the emergence of laboratory practice in the curriculum, the University Library and the sciences, and the campus landscape and its beautification. Included among the noteworthy milestones of the university and of Chapel Hill are the first woman to teach botany, the early history of the freedmen's school for Black children, and the establishment of the campus's first chemical teaching laboratory.

The book should be of interest to historians of botany and science. Other potential audiences include individuals interested in the history of UNC, the pioneering role of women in science, the education of the freedmen, and the role of scientific societies in advancing scientific knowledge.

William R. Burk is a retired life science librarian. His early service was at academic libraries of the University of Utah, the University of Guam, and the University of California–Santa Barbara. Subsequently, he was the Botany (later Biology) Librarian at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for thirty years.

To purchase your copy of *Putting Down Roots: Foundations of Botany at Carolina*, visit shopbritpress.org, email orders@brit.org, call 817-332-4441 ext. 264. The price is \$45.00, plus shipping.





Plant Guide: Geology, Archaeology, Tide Pools, Reptiles, Birds, and Mammals, Channel Islands, California by Jim Riley and editors. Published by the Botanical Research Institute of Texas Press. February 2023.

The Channel Islands of California are spectacular in every sense of the word, yet they are our least visited coastlines. The remoteness and difficulty of access make visiting these islands particularly rewarding. They are truly the only coastlines in California where one can explore a pre-Columbian habitat in solitude.

This is a plant guide first and foremost, but it has sketches of the geology, archaeology, tide pools, reptiles, birds, and mammals of the islands. It has been written to showcase and promote the impressive and staggering beauty, diversity, and uniqueness of these islands for all who visit them. Knowledge of the natural history of the Channel Islands and their evolutionary relationships offers not just a delight, but a deeper understanding, connection, and awe of our natural world.

Jim Riley is a co-founder of Jardín Botánico de San Quintín, A.C. (www.jardinbotanicosq.com) which owns and manages the only vernal pool natural reserves in Mexico. He is the author of *Plant Guide: Maritime Succulent Scrub Region, Northwest Baja California, Mexico*; *Vernal Pools and their Plants, Northwest Baja California*; and co-author of *Mammals, Reserva Natural Valle Tranquilo & Reserva Natural Punta Mazo, Baja California*. Jim came to environmental advocacy after retiring from business and has now dedicated himself to conservation of native habitats in northwest Baja California. Jim surfed and hiked extensively on Santa Cruz Island during once-a-year trips during the 1980s and 90s. Enchanted with the landscapes but wholly uninformed on the biology, geology, and history, in 2017 he began to read and study more about the islands. This volume is a product of that study.

To purchase your copy of the *Plant Guide: Geology, Archaeology, Tide Pools, Reptiles, Birds, and Mammals, Channel Islands, California*, visit shopbritpress.org, email orders@brit.org, call 817-332-4441 ext. 264. The price is \$55.00, plus shipping.



CBHL Members' East News

Edited by Shelly Kilroy
Librarian, Peter M. Wege Library
Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park

Pennsylvania Horticultural Society Update

Janet Evans
Associate Director
McLean Library
Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Grant

In 2021, the PHS McLean Library received funding from PHMC (Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission) via a HARC (Historical and Archival Records Care) grant to digitize its early records consisting of 18 volumes of PHS minute books (1827-1935) and early library records consisting of a manuscript catalog, acquisition, and circulations records of members, 1831-1864. We are pleased to announce that these items, consisting of 10,000 pages, are digitized and now accessible to the public.

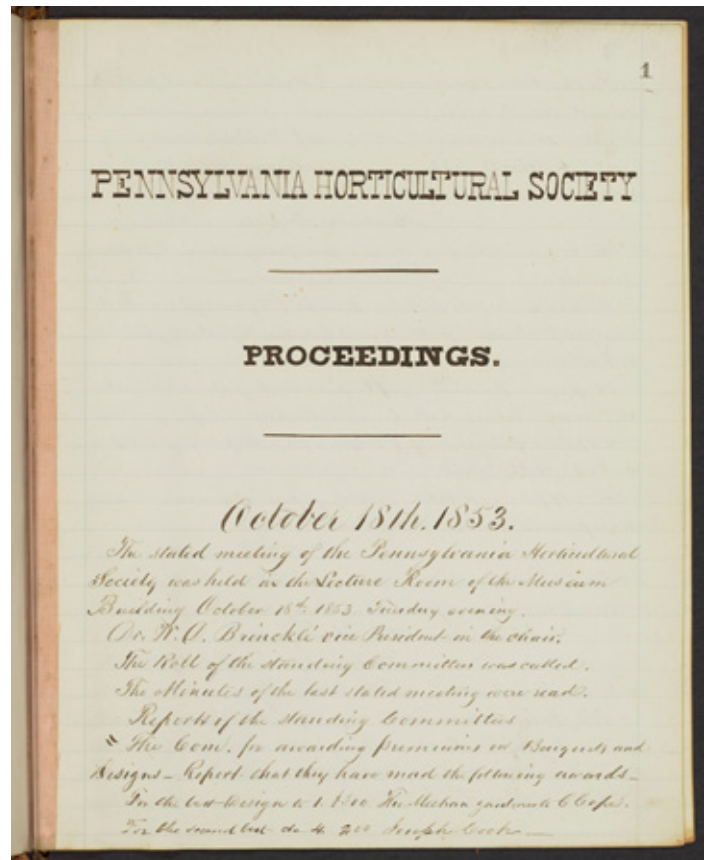
The records provide detailed and unique information on the horticultural and civic activities of the Society and its members during the 19th and early 20th centuries. We have already been able to address research queries by using these resources. For example, a researcher was interested in learning when women became PHS members. Another researcher wanted to track down the activities of a Philadelphia florist active in the first quarter of the 20th century.

The handwritten minute books of the 19th century, while digitized, are not able to be read via optical character recognition at this time. But they can certainly be read by researchers now that the material is online. Some of the 20th century minute books are typewritten and are therefore able to undergo optical character recognition.

The [PHS minute books are available online on the Internet Archives](#) and will be uploaded to the PA statewide digital repository as well as [PHS's Open Community Collection on JSTOR](#).

NEH SHARP Grant

We've recently uploaded the [Ida W. Pritchett Photograph Collection](#) to our statewide digital repository. This collection is comprised of images created sometime between 1928 and 1950 by Philadelphia photographer Ida W. Pritchett. A 1914 graduate of Bryn Mawr College, Pritchett received her doctorate from Johns Hopkins University, and held an appointment at the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research in New York where her work focused on pathology and bacteriology. She left the Rockefeller Institute in 1930 to pursue a professional life in photography. In 1928, Pritchett's photograph titled the "Luminous Globe" was included in the Royal Photographic Society's Annual Exhibition. Following on, she exhibited



PHS Minute book for the year 1853



*Unidentified Garden. Wisteria. Ida W. Pritchett, 1930-1940.
(Philadelphia area).*

her work in the 1930 International Photographic Exhibition, Tokyo, and the Philadelphia International Salon of Photography sponsored by the Philadelphia Museum of Art. As a working photographer, Pritchett provided photographic illustrations for various publications, for example, “A Viking Drinking Cup--Birch Knob” for inclusion in Sir Wilfred Grenfell’s *The Romance of Labrador*. With her friend Marjorie LaMonte Thompson she co-published a book of photographs documenting the buildings, interior spaces, and grounds of Bryn Mawr College. Pritchett retired in the early 1950s and she and Thompson divided their time between their homes in Haverford, Pennsylvania and Sandwich, New Hampshire, until Pritchett’s death in 1965.

Other key additions to the PHS Archives Digital Image Collection were uploaded, including [Anne Wertsner Wood](#) photographs – 445 images of mostly local and regional gardens 1940s –1960s.

To date, the number of digitized photos online is 6,384. Of this number, 5,469 were created with NEH funding during the pandemic (2020 - 2023).

IMLS Grant – Community Garden Memory Project

Members of the Brewerytown Garden, the Glen Foerd Community Garden and the Fitzwater 2000 Community Garden were interviewed for oral histories; most of their recordings are now publicly available on the [project website](#).

Although this project is winding down, to end August 31, 2023 we will continue to accept photos and text from community gardeners who want to document their gardens’ histories, via the [project website portal](#).

Programs

We partnered with the Wagner Free Institute of Science to present a 6-week course, “Wild Things: Toward a More Sustainable Natural Garden,” taught by Professor Karen Snetselaar. This live program, held in the Town Hall, was the first event open to the general public held at PHS headquarters since early 2020.

Our book discussions are still virtual, for now; we held them in January, February and March. [See what](#)



CBHL Newsletter, Issue 169, June 2023

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