

October 18-19, 2024 St. Francisville, Louisiana

"Celebrating its 35th year of preserving and commemorating gardening in the Deep South"



The Southern Garden Symposium seeks to preserve and commemorate gardening in the Deep South through lectures, workshops, and tours of historic Afton Villa Gardens and the gardens at Rosedown State Historic Site.

While the symposium's workshops and lectures provide ideas and inspiration for the gardener, social activities showcase classic southern elegance at its finest. From home-baked breakfast breads served each morning, to sumptuous evening gala fare, not a detail is overlooked.

The Steering Committee of the Southern Garden Symposium aims to continue the rich tradition of bringing the most esteemed horticulturists and floral designers to St. Francisville!

Scan this QR code to learn more about each of our speakers and to download complete program details for the 2024 symposium!

www.thesoutherngardensymposium.org





Program

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Friday, October 18, 2024

Attendees will attend two workshops on Friday and enjoy lunch at Afton Villa Gardens. Nametags and Registration packets will be at your first workshop.

Morning Offerings 9:00am- 11:00am

Heather Cooper Floral Design Demonstration Afton Villa Gardens

Heather joins us between designing events in Palm Springs and Washington, D.C. to share her experiences designing for presidents and celebrities.

Her spectacular designs and beautiful Afton Villa are sure to inspire!

Marianne Willburn

Tropical Fusion: Working and Designing with Tropical Plants Rosedown State Historic Site

If you're searching for plants that will add exciting accents to a tired summer garden, last right up through the first hard freeze, and make you look like a horticultural rock star, look no further than tropicals. Using five memorable categories and a host of strategic design tips from her award-winning book, Marianne will focus on spectacular examples that are easy to grow and much easier than you think to overwinter.

Meredith Bishop Old World Flowers & Soil Block Technique Demonstration Jackson Hall at Grace Church

Meredith has found meaning and purpose in working with the soil, and beyond the practical how-to's of growing heirloom flowers, she is passionate about sharing what she has learned about how the soil and our human souls are interconnected. Attendees will learn about old world flowers and the technique of soil blocking.



Program

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Afternoon Offerings 1:00pm- 3:00pm

Scott Beuerlein Favorite Plants from Favorite Gardens Rosedown State Historic Site

A tour of many great public and private gardens and the breathtaking, grand, unique, rare, or just plain cool plants found within.

Adam & Jenn O'Neal Fundamentals of Floral Design and Demonstration Afton Villa Gardens

With their expert assistance, you'll delve into the seasonal elements and beauty of locally grown flowers, allowing your creativity to bloom alongside vibrant petals.

Bryce Lane

Choosing Eye Popping Perennials for Home Gardens Oakley House at Audubon State Historic Site

An informative talk on choosing the right perennials to use in your garden beds, including color dynamics, combinations, and recommended plants for colorful seasonal gardens.

Meredith Bishop Old World Flowers & Soil Block Technique Demonstration Jackson Hall at Grace Church

(Repeat of the morning session.)

An Evening at Harlow Farms

The Speaker's Gala at the home of Neil and Beverly Buckingham
6:30 pm



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Program Saturday Symposium October 19, 2024 Rosedown State Historic Site

Bryce Lane - 9:15am

The Joy of Gardening: The Power of Plants to Change Your Point of View

Gardening has tremendous power to change our perspective, not just in the garden but also in life. Working with plants changes the way we look at all sorts of things. Come see an entertaining and inspiring talk about how gardening can change your life!

Marianne Willburn- 10:15am Big Dreams, Small Garden

Tiny balcony, lack of privacy, HOA restrictions, tough neighborhood...if you're struggling with a difficult outside space you are not alone. By breaking down the process into manageable sections, shifting our perspective and cultivating a sense of contentment, we can create the garden that lives inside of us. Marianne will go over this process, sharing design tips and real life gardens to help you get excited about your outside space – no matter what it is.

Scott Beuerlein- 11:15am How to Become A Better Gardener Faster!

The title says it all. What more could you want from a garden talk? Takes you past the pitfalls and into the promised-land. Oh, and it will make you laugh!

Lunch Served in the gardens at Rosedown

Heather Cooper- 12:30pm Dessert Talk

Dessert Talk: A delicious floral treat!

Adam & Jenn O'Neal- 1:15pm Heat Loving Annuals to create a Cut Flower Garden

Adam & Jenn will explore the fundamentals of creating a cut flower garden and share successes they have found on their farm near Des Moines, Iowa.