

Growing for the Future: *the Luci and Ian Family Garden at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center*

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Wildflower Center Overview

1. Mission: Inspiring the conservation of native plants.
2. How we achieve our mission
3. What is a “native” plant?

Family Garden Overview

4. Grand Opening May 2014
5. Unstructured “nature play”, kids and adults to explore and appreciate nature: future stewards of our natural heritage
6. Kids outside are happier, healthier, smarter
7. SITES (Sustainable Sites Initiative): FG certified as a pilot project
8. Defining “sustainable development”: meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs
9. Ecosystem Services: benefits people obtain from ecosystems
10. Sustainable features in the FG

The Plants in the Family Garden - 180 Texas native species

11. Rain Gardens
 - Gulf muhly
 - Horsetail (*Equisetum hymale*), bushy bluestem (*Andropogon glomeratus*), bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*), giant coneflower (*Rudbeckia maxima*), dwarf palmetto (*Sabal minor*), Halberd-leaf hibiscus (*Hibiscus laevis*)
12. The Stumpery and Bird’s Nests: Human health and wellbeing
 - Ashe juniper (*Juniperus ashei*) from on-site, other wood locally collected
 - Mustang grape (*Vitis mustangensis*)
13. Play Lawn and border beds: open space for physical play
 - Living barrier: big muhly (*Muhlenbergia lindheimeri*), switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*), Gulf muhly (*Muhlenbergia capillaris*)
 - Many species found on natural areas of site with intent of seeding out and blending in over time: mealy blue sage (*Salvia farinacea*), Indian blanket (*Gaillardia pulchella*), brown-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)
14. Xeric N/M/S-living barrier

- American century plant (*Agave americana*)
- Sotol (*Dasyilirion wheeleri*, *D. texanum*)
- Spineless prickly pear (*Opuntia ellisiana*)
- Blue grama (*Bouteloua gracilis*)
- Arizona cypress (*Hesperocyperus arizonicus*)

15. Spiral Gardens

- Malvaceae: Turk's cap (*Malvaviscus arboreus* var. *drummondii*), velvet mallow (*Allowissadula holosericea*), rock rose pavonia (*P. lasiopetala*), halberd-leaf hibiscus (*H. laevis*)
- Blue curls (*Phacelia congesta*), scorpiontail (*Heliotropium angiospermum*)
- River fern/brown-eyed Susan

16. Metamorphosis Maze

- Cenizo (*Leucopyllum frutescens* cvs.)
- Yaupon (*Ilex vomitoria* cvs.)
- Others: Barbados cherry (*Malpighia glabra*), Lindheimer muhly (*Muhlenbergia lindheimeri*), Carolina jessamine (*Gelsemium sempervirens*)

17. Nectar Garden

- Giant coneflower (*Rudbeckia maxima*), purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)
- Gregg's mistflower (*Conoclinium greggii*) and queen, sometimes monarch, butterflies

18. South Facing Terraces

- Rock penstemon (*P. baccharifolius*), yellowbells (*Tecoma stans*)
- Spanish dagger (*Yucca treculeana*)

19. Wildlife Blind

- Chile pequin (*Capsicum annuum*)
- Red buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*)
- Lantana (*Lantana urticoides*)

20. Other Cool Plants

- Jimson weed (*Datura* sp.)-behind other plants as barrier
- Big-foot water clover (*Marsilea macropoda*), sensitive briar (*Mimosa* sp.)
- Buffalogourd (*Cucurbita foetidissima*)-stinky!
- Chocolate daisy (*Berlandiera lyrata*)
- Pearl milkweed vine (*Matelea reticulata*)/obedient plant (*Physostegia intermedia*)/snapdragon vine (*Maurandella antirrhiniflora*)