This year’s long winter has ramped up our expectations for spring, and as the season unfolds, the transformation of Matthaei-Nichols will be even greater than usual. We will be opening two new gardens: the Great Lakes Gardens and the Bonsai and Penjing Garden. We’ll be presenting over two dozen events, and sharing acres and acres of gardens and trails for your enjoyment.

As Matthaei-Nichols comes to life we give special thanks to Friends members like you. Each annual membership plays a key role in the bigger picture. Your membership dollars make possible the restoration of threatened regional habitat; provide students with enriching, hands-on learning internships; and support community outreach efforts. You make a difference!

Take a moment to look through this 2013 Friends Member Guide. You’ll find a calendar of the year’s events and plenty of reasons to rediscover Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum again and again.

We invite you to celebrate the season with us!

Thanks for your continued support,

Robert E. Grese
Director
Matthaei-Nichols
**GREAT LAKES GARDENS OPENING & DEDICATION**  
Sun., Apr. 14, 2 - 4 pm  
Matthaei Botanical Gardens  
You’re invited to attend the grand opening and dedication of the Great Lakes Gardens at Matthaei. Be the first to walk the newly established pathways and landscape. Return this summer and fall to enjoy seasonal programming and see the ecosystems grow.

**20TH ANNIVERSARY ANN ARBOR ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW & SALE**  
Sat. - Sun., Apr. 20 - 21, 10 am - 4:30 pm  
Matthaei Botanical Gardens  
A large selection of hanging baskets and containers filled with a variety of colors and textures grown and designed by Matthaei-Nichols staff and volunteers.

**MOTHER’S DAY PLANT SALE & FUNDRAISER**  
Sat. - Sun., May 11 - 12, 10 am - 4:30 pm  
Matthaei Botanical Gardens  
A large selection of hanging baskets and containers filled with a variety of colors and textures grown and designed by Matthaei-Nichols staff and volunteers.

**EARLY BIRD MEMBER HOUR**  
Sat., May 11, 9 - 10 am  
*Friends* members invited to shop early, enjoy breakfast, and receive an extra 10% discount on purchases (20% discount total).

**AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY SALE**  
Sat., May 11, 10 am - 2 pm  
Matthaei Botanical Gardens  

**NEW SUMMER HOURS BEGIN**  
Sat., May 18 - Sun., Sept. 1  
Display Gardens, Conservatory, & Garden Store  
Open 10 am - 8 pm, 7 days/week

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**How Does your Garden Grow?**  
**Kids’ Class**  
Sat., May 18, 10 am - 12 pm  
Matthaei Botanical Gardens  
Please see class description online. Registration required online: mbgna.umich.edu; phone: 734-647-7600. A materials fee may apply.  
*Youth & Family Passes eligible

**KITCHEN FAVORITES PLANT SALE & FUNDRAISER**  
Sat. - Sun., May 18 - 19, 10 am - 4:30 pm  
Matthaei Botanical Gardens  
Enjoy a large selection of heirloom vegetables and herbs grown and sold by the U-M Student volunteer gardening group, Cultivating Community. All proceeds benefit The Campus Farm and Cultivating Community. While at the sale, enjoy demos and information from UMBees and Michigan Gourd Society, and learn about herbs and special recipes from The Herb Study Group.

**EARLY BIRD MEMBER HOUR**  
Sat., May 18, 9 - 10 am  
*Friends* members invited to shop early, enjoy breakfast, and receive an extra 10% discount on purchases (20% discount total).  
*Looking for native perennials? Our Native Plant Sale is in October!

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**PEONY FEST**  
Sat. - Sun., Jun. 1 - 2, 10 am - 4:30 pm  
Nichols Arboretum: Washington Heights entrance  
Help us celebrate the 91st anniversary of the largest collection of heirloom peonies in North America. Bring a picnic and enjoy tours, family activities, and music set amid the peonies. Check our website for a full schedule of activities and times.

**PEONIES GALORE SALE**  
Sat. Jun. 1, 10 am – until supplies run out!  
Nichols Arboretum: Washington Heights entrance  
A rare opportunity to purchase some of the same varieties of antique and heirloom peonies that grow in the famous U-M Nichols Arboretum Peony Garden. This is a popular sale; be sure to arrive early! *Friends* members receive 10% off all plant sale purchases.

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**SHAKESPEARE IN THE ARB:**  
“Much Ado About Nothing”  
Thurs., Jun. 6 - Sun., Jun. 23 (Thur. - Sun.)  
Nichols Arboretum: Washington Heights Entrance  
Early box office for *Friends* members 5 - 5:30 pm* Performances start at 6:30 pm  
*Tickets sold day of performance only*  
*Friends* members enjoy early box office hour and $5 off adult admission. Visit our website or call 734-647-7600 for more information.
SUMMER SOLSTICE CONCERT
Fri., Jun. 21, 7:30 pm
Matthaei Botanical Gardens
A musical celebration of the year’s longest day and shortest night with local musician Robert Spalding Newcomb on the sitar. Outdoors weather permitting; bring a blanket. In the auditorium in case of rain. All ages welcome. Free.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION
Sun., Jun. 30, 1 - 2 pm
Matthaei Botanical Gardens
Are you a new Friends member at Matthaei? Would you like to know more about everything Matthaei-Nichols does? Join Membership Coordinator Andy Sell for a presentation and walking tour of the display gardens. Preregistration required. sella@umich.edu / 734-615-9475

THINGS WITH WINGS FAMILY FESTIVAL
Sun., Jul. 21, 1 - 4 pm
Matthaei Botanical Gardens
Celebrate our winged friends! This special event includes Monarch Watch with live butterflies and information on Monarch migration; Washtenaw County Audubon Society with information on Safe Passage; Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers and the student group UMBees with an observation hive, honey tasting, and info on backyard beekeeping. Free.

SUMMER FRIENDS FORAY
TBA: Invitations sent in July!
Matthaei Botanical Gardens
A benefit for members at the Sustaining level. Please look for your invitation in July. Preregistration required; limited space available.

RUN FOR THE ARB: 5K FUN RUN & WALK
Sat., Sept. 28, 9 am
Nichols Arboretum: Washington Heights Entrance
See our website in August to register for this event. Friends members receive a discount on race registration. Have a four-legged running companion? They can register too!

MICH. CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY & SE MIC. BROMELIAD SOCIETY SHOW & SALE
Sat. - Sun., Sept. 14 - 15, 10 am - 4:30 pm
Matthaei Botanical Gardens

GREAT LAKES GARDENS AUTUMN FESTIVAL
Sat. - Sun., Oct. 5 - 6, 10 am - 4:30 pm
Matthaei Botanical Gardens
Enjoy guided tours, outdoor music, and activities related to our Michigan natural heritage. Look online for a schedule of events.

NATIVE PERENNIAL SALE & FUNDRAISER
Sat. - Sun., Oct. 5 - 6, 10 am - 4:30 pm
Matthaei Botanical Gardens
Want to attract more birds and butterflies? Thinking about creating a rain garden? Fall is the perfect time to add unique native plants to your landscape. Join us for a large sale of native plants grown at Matthaei. Friends members receive 10% discount on all plant purchases.

HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR KIDS’ CLASS
Sat., Oct. 26, 10 am - 12 pm
Matthaei Botanical Gardens
Lend a Hand & Learn
Volunteers receive valuable training while helping to keep our landscapes looking great and our programs running smoothly. Choose from many volunteer opportunities. All of the events this season require support of volunteers. Look online or call 734-647-8528 for info.

Ann Arbor Bonsai Society Show & Sale
Sat. - Sun., Aug. 24 - 25, 10 am - 4:30 pm
Matthaei Botanical Gardens
Experience the "Best of the Ann Arbor Bonsai Society" in this annual display in the Matthaei Auditorium ($3 fee at the door). In addition, take the opportunity to revisit the new Matthaei Bonsai & Penjing Garden (free every day) - join us for activities and entertainment.

Music in the Arb
Sun., Sept. 22, 7 pm
Nichols Arboretum: Amphitheater
Join us for a free concert in the middle of the Arb. Weather permitting.

Summer & Fall Events
At Matthaei-Nichols

Holiday Open House & Member Appreciation
Sat., Nov. 30 - Sun., Dec 1, 10 am - 4:30 pm
Matthaei Botanical Gardens
Celebrate the opening of the Winter Conservatory Exhibit with music in the conservatory and other seasonal activities. Shop the Garden Store holiday collection and green your home with fresh-cut wreaths and swags. Friends members receive an additional 10% off Garden Store purchases (20% total) during this special event.

2013 Winter Conservatory Exhibit: 50 Shades of Green, A Dynamic Look at the Color of Nature
Sat., Nov. 30 - Sun., Jan. 5
Green is the color of nature, but there's more to it than meets the eye. Using examples from the conservatory's collection and touching on art, science, psychology, research, environmental issues, and literature, 50 Shades of Green illuminates the many shades and meanings of “green.”

Membership Drive Month
December 2013
2014 is the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Friends membership program at Matthaei. Help us celebrate this anniversary with an additional charitable gift. Don’t forget to make your donation before December 31 to qualify for a 2013 tax deduction!