

JUNE 2023



What's Growing On!

at Central Gardens of North Iowa

YOUTH PROGRAMS: ENCOURAGING CONNECTIONS

As a public garden, Central Gardens strives to strengthen and encourage understanding and connection to the earth, nature, community, and ourselves. Central Gardens does so, in part, by offering programs for youth that are always free and open to the public. This summer, two programs that are being offered in the Bee Happy Discovery Garden, an organic, specialty, vegetable, and flower garden, are Garden Explorers and Gardeners of Tomorrow. The Bee Happy Discovery Garden also includes a kitchen garden that is dedicated this year for Latin American cooking.

Garden Explorers is offered each Fresh on Friday now through September 1, 9 AM – 11 AM. This program is designed for youth ages 2 to 12 but all ages are welcome to participate. Volunteers are on hand to assist kids and families as they explore, learn, and taste what's growing in the garden. Magnifying glasses, watering cans, art materials, and books inspire kids to connect with the garden at their own pace. Community partners, such as Lime Creek Nature Center, Clear Lake Arts Center, Healthy Harvest of North Iowa, Clear Lake Public Library, Surf Music Enrichment Center, and others bring ideas and activities each week to further enrich the Explorer's Friday morning experience.

Middle and High school youth who participate in Gardeners of Tomorrow can choose from a variety of garden, cooking, and service activities. You might see these youths on Friday mornings helping with the younger kids, giving out food samples, making bouquets or harvesting and selling garden produce. Behind the scenes they work in the garden, help with events, learn about recipes,

deliver food to the food pantry, and brainstorm how to reduce food insecurity.

No matter what day it is, magnifying glasses are always available to explore in the garden and the "Dig In" box is ready to dig worms and plant flowers. Most days, the happy hens from Mossycup Farms are on site to cluck with and feed a few greens from the garden.

All our youth programs are offered at no cost to families. Garden Explorers is a drop-in program from 9 AM – 11 AM each Friday through September 1. Youth interested in Gardeners of Tomorrow can get more information or register using the QR code or contact Leigh at leight@centralgardensnorthiowa.com. You can also connect via Facebook or on our website.



*O my Luv is like a red, red rose,
That's nearly sprung in June;
O my Luv is like a melody,
That's sweetly played in tune.
-by Robert Burns*



COME TO THE GARDEN PARTY!

Central Gardens' Annual Summer Garden Party is just around the corner on Sunday, June 25, and you won't want to miss it! Come to the Gardens at noon and enjoy live music by Mr. Jeff Music and an auction that's always a lot of fun by auctioneer Gary Heydt.

Auction items this year cover land and sea, featuring everything from sailing lessons to fine furnishing like this gorgeous arts and crafts style, locally crafted, quarter sawn oak mirror. There's also fused glass by Chris White, ISU football tickets, MN Wild tickets, Images Photography photo sessions, Country Landscapes landscaping gift certificates, and so much more.

You'll enjoy a free barbecued pulled pork lunch, delicious desserts, and complimentary wine, beer, and lemonade. And you'll spend the afternoon with other Gardens supporters in the beautiful space you help sustain. If the weather doesn't cooperate, this event will be held at The Legacy Grill at 619 Buddy Holly Place.

Get your tickets today! Tickets purchased in advance are \$40 each, or \$45 at the gate the day of the event. Tables for 8 are just \$250. You can get your tickets at the Gardens during events, on our website, or by contacting Joni Frederick at 515-494-2235. If you're a member of Central Gardens, you may be eligible for a discount.

Please contact Joni for more information.

All proceeds from Summer Garden Party ticket sales and auction will be used for operational

costs that will exceed \$152,000 this year. Funds are needed to maintain the grounds, pay the water bills, make necessary repairs to fountains and sprinklers, and purchase plants and flowers that beautify and refresh the Gardens. We humbly ask for the community to support this event and ensure Central Gardens' successful operation in 2023.

Central Gardens is so grateful to Clear Lake Bank and Trust for their help in funding this mission-critical event. The Summer Garden Party is also sponsored by Country Landscapes, Hearing Associates, Bonnie Hall, ControlPrint Creative, Laurie Cook Photography, Brothers Ace Hardware, and Lake Liquors.

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU ON JUNE 25TH!
THE PARTY STARTS AT NOON!**



Dean Hanson Mirror

THE LANGUAGE OF HERBS

The language of herbs as told by Margret Pickston in *The Language of Flowers* (1968).

Courtesy of Ms. Donna Dull.



Balm *sympathy*

Basil *love, blessings, best wishes*

Calendula *joy, remembrance*

Catnip *intoxification with love*

Chamomile *comfort*

Cilantro *hidden worth*

Cowslip *happiness*

Daisy *innocence, loyalty*

Dill *good spirits*

Elder *zealousness*

Fennel *worthy of praise*

Geranium *comfort, consolation*

Ivy *friendship, matrimony*

Lavender *devotion, loyalty*

Marigold *grief, honesty*

Mint *wisdom, grief*

Nasturtium *optimism*

Oregano *happiness*

Pansy *merriment,*

remembrance

Peppermint *cordiality*

Rosemary *remembrance*

Sage *wisdom*

Sorrel *affection*

Spearmint *warmth of sentiment*

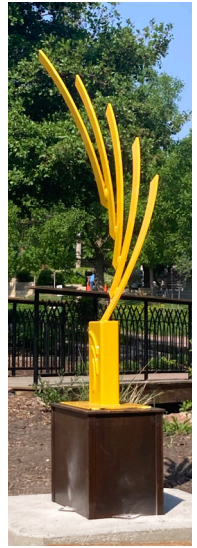
Thyme *happiness, courage*

Introducing CENTRAL GARDENS NEW SCULPTURE GARDEN

It's been well over a year since collaboration began with the Clear Lake Arts Center to commission a piece of art for Central Gardens to display and, at last, it's here. Wind Reeds was created by sculptors James and Ryan Pedersen of North Mankato, MN and is located between the bridges in an area volunteers are now completely refurbishing.

Artist Statement: Sculptors James and Ryan Pedersen are a father/son collaborative team who create welded constructions

in relief and free-standing form. The combinations of steel, brass, and copper are used in most designs. The earthy colors and textures are achieved through welding, cutting, grinding and heat-treating these materials. The finished artwork illustrates their combined passion for the outdoor environment as an artistic selection of these elements with a stylized approach that is related to various interpretations of the modern landscape. You'll find more information about the artists at <https://pedersenmetaldesign.com>.



GRANT SUPPORT FOR CENTRAL GARDENS

Central Gardens is grateful to Bertha Stebens Charitable Foundation for helping to fund Picnics and Performances again this year. Now in its eighth season, Bertha Stebens has been with us since it all began. Picnics and Performances runs July 16 through September 3.

POET of Hanlontown awarded Central Gardens funds for the Garden Fiesta, a celebration of Latinx culture in north Iowa on September 24. The 2022 Fiesta attracted a diverse audience of 625 people and we expect even bigger crowds this year. Thank you, POET – Hanlontown!



2023 Corporate Members

DESIGNER (\$2,500 + UP)



GARDENER (\$1,000 - \$2,499)



CARETAKER (\$500 - \$999)

Bombie (Bonnie Hall)
Clear Lake Bank & Trust
First Gabrielson Agency
Larson's Mercantile
Sail Inn

PLANTER (\$250 - \$499)

Bergland + Cram Architects

Brother's Ace Hardware

ControlPrint Creative

Glen's Tire Service

Jane Fischer & Associates

Lake Auto Service

Laurie Cook Photography

McQuaid Agency

Metalcraft, Inc.

North Iowa Community Credit Union

Steve Wright Outdoor Lighting



Central Gardens of North Iowa
P.O. Box 735
Clear Lake, IA 50428

Address Service Requested

UPCOMING EVENTS AT CENTRAL GARDENS

Follow us on Facebook or visit our website at www.centralgardensnorthiowa.com for details on these and other activities, events, and programs coming up at the Gardens.

FRIDAYS, JUNE 2 – SEPTEMBER 1, 9 AM – 11 AM

Fresh on Friday Bouquet Sales & Refreshments

FRIDAYS, JUNE 2 – SEPTEMBER 1, 9 AM – 11 AM

Fresh on Friday Garden Explorers. Free.

FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 10:30 AM – 11 AM

Yoga Buds Free.

FRIDAYS, JUNE 23 AND 30, 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM

Line Dancing. Free.

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 6 PM – 8 PM

Garden to Glass Mixology Class. Ticketed event.

SUNDAY, JUNE 25, NOON – 3 PM

Summer Garden Party. Ticketed event.

SUNDAYS, JULY 16 – SEPTEMBER 3, 5 PM – 6 PM

Picnics and Performances. Free.

