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## Get Cooking this Summer at the Dallas Arboretum's Newest Garden

#### A Tasteful Place offers cooking classes, tastings & demonstrations for everyone

**DALLAS, Texas, Summer 2018**- The Dallas Arboretum invites foodies and foodies-to-be to its newest garden, A Tasteful Place, featuring 3.5 acres of vegetables, herbs and fruits along with spectacular views of White Rock Lake and the downtown Dallas skyline. Guests learn how to grow, harvest and prepare produce in a healthy way through demonstrations, classes, special events and personal interactions with experts.

Dave Forehand, Dallas Arboretum's vice president of gardens, said, "A Tasteful Place provides many opportunities for family and friends to learn about how to harvest, prepare and share fresh food together. Vegetables and herbs in season include tomatoes, peppers, squash, rosemary, lavender and thyme."

Summer at the Arboretum is also in full swing with plenty to experience. One of the most beautiful seasons in the garden, summer showcases plants full of blooms like red yucca, echinacea, Asiatic lilies, monarda, cannas, ageratum, salvia, marigolds and zinnias.

Forehand added, "We have plenty of shade in the garden. Relax in the cooling mist of the Palmer Fern Dell, where the misters make it at least 10 degrees cooler, or take a stroll in the shade of the Lay Family Garden or many of the trees and shade structures in the garden."

While experiencing the ever-changing explosions of colorful summer blooms, guests can enjoy Wind Sculptures in Motion: The Kinetic Art of Lyman Whitaker, presented by Reliant, which is the largest collection of copper wind sculptures in an outdoor public space. The exhibition is on display throughout the gardens through July 31.

## Summer Activities for A Tasteful Place Include:

#### **Seasonal Tastings**

## Daily, Sunday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Ruthie Pack's Tasting Plaza, A Tasteful Place

Try three different samples featuring seasonal items from the garden. Free with paid garden admission.

### **El Centro College Cooks**

## Every Monday, 11 a.m.-noon, Donald and Charlotte Test Pavilion, ATP

Participate in this popular demonstration using seasonal vegetables growing in the garden, taught by chef instructors with assistance from students from the college's nationally recognized culinary school. A special thanks to the generosity of El Centro College, a part of Dallas County Community College District. Free with paid garden admission.

### **Harvesting Time**

## Every Tuesday & Thursday, 10:30 a.m., Donald and Charlotte Test Pavilion

Horticulture Manager Preston Willms demonstrates how to harvest produce in the gardens, and guests are welcome to watch and ask questions.

## Just A Taste - Free on select dates throughout the summer 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Donald and Charlotte Test Pavilion

Enjoy a sampling of local products from baked goods to honey and chocolate, all available for purchase. Check the website weekly as new vendors are added frequently.

#### Learn to Grow Series- Presented by the North Texas Master Gardeners and Dallas Arboretum Horticultural Staff, June 22, July 6, July 20, 11 a.m.-noon Donald and Charlotte Test Pavilion

Enjoy special tips and presentations on summer gardening and water conservation in the Texas garden. Free with paid garden admission.

### **Tasting Demonstrations with Chef Isabel**

#### June 27, July 18, July 25, 11 a.m.-noon, July 11, 1-2 p.m. Charlotte and Donald Test Cooking Pavilion

## Charlotte and Donald Test Cooking Pavilion

Chef Isabel will demonstrate how to make the delicious daily tastings served every week at Ruthie Pack's Tasting Plaza. Demonstrations are free for paid garden guests and no registration is required.

# Empanada Cookhouse Cooking Demonstration and Sale June 30, July 1 & July 4, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Watch Empanada Cookhouse demonstrate how to make salsa verde from scratch using a fresh combination of flavorful ingredients, avocado ice-candy, a trendy frozen summer treat with a Latin twist, and a brisket empanada using smoked brisket with pickled red onions and melted pepper jack cheese in A Tasteful Place's Test Pavilion. Demonstrations are free with paid garden admission. Empanadas available for purchase from **12-2 p.m.** 

### Summer Garden Picnic

### Emily Weeks, Owner, Zen and Spice Nutrition and Dixya Bhattaral, Owner, Food, Pleasure and Health

## July 8, 1-3 p.m., \$65, Donald and Charlotte Test Pavilion

Create and learn cooking techniques of garden-inspired small plates like antipasto skewers, assorted tartine, Sicilian potato salad, and make homemade blackberry curd cheesecake. Small bite tasting following the class. More information,

visit http://www.dallasarboretum.org/named-gardens-features/a-tasteful-place.

## Chef Blythe Beck, Pink Magnolia

## July 11, 11 a.m.-12 p.m., Donald and Charlotte Test Pavilion

Watch Chef Blythe demonstrate how to create smoked salmon, dill deviled eggs, tequila marinated skirt steak, avocado purée, and Texas tomato pico. Small bite tasting following the demonstration. Free for paid garden guests. Registration is encouraged. Visit <u>http://www.dallasarboretum.org/named-gardens-features/a-tasteful-place/tasting-events-in-a-tasteful-place</u> for more information.

#### Savor the Flavor Series presented by Texas Woman's University Interns 11 a.m., free with garden admission, Donald and Charlotte Test Pavilion On the Go: Healthy Snacks and Packs, July 14

When traveling on road trips, summer camps or family picnics, healthy and fun foods can travel with friends and family.

## Beat the heat with Summer Treats, July 28

Enjoy learning easy family-friendly seasonal recipes to keep cool through the hot Texas summer.

## Simply Tasty Nutrition Program: Cindy Kleckner, RDN, LD, FAND

## Burgers, Potatoes & Duct Tape: Survival Cooking for Men (& those who love them) June 23, 1-3 p.m., \$65, Donald and Charlotte Test Pavilion

Learn how to transform basic ingredients into the best flipping burger. "Catsup" on some nutrition information, and put a new twist on an old-fashioned cookout.

## Herb-alicious Ideas for Quick Summer Meals

## July 21, 1-3 p.m., \$65, Donald and Charlotte Test Pavilion

Muddle up to a refreshing mocktail in this hands-on cooking class. Mix some tender greens into a salad, dress up meat, smother veggies in a pungent pesto....fresh herbs are more than

a garnish! More information, visit <u>http://www.dallasarboretum.org/named-gardens-features/a-tasteful-place</u>.

### **Frozen Fridays with Steel City Pops**

## June 29, July 27 & August 24, 11 a.m., Donald and Charlotte Test Pavilion

The Texas heat can be brutal, but it's easy to keep things cool at the Arboretum. Join Steel City Pops in the demonstration kitchen at A Tasteful Place for fun tips and tricks on how to make pops at home and available for purchase onsite.

## You don't need a Grill to Grill: Couples Interactive Cooking Class July 22, 2-5 p.m., \$150/per couple, Donald and Charlotte Test Pavilion

This cooking class is a hands-on instructional adventure that shows how to develop char and bold flavors commonly associated with outside charcoal grilling. Two top chefs from Gil's Elegant Catering, including Chef Jayson Jones, will lead the class. The menu includes chili and lime shrimp watermelon cubes, flank steak with goat cheese on toast, strawberry spinach salad, pan seared pork tenderloin, roasted summer vegetables, and bourbon peach and raspberry crisps. More information, visit <u>http://www.dallasarboretum.org/namedgardens-features/a-tasteful-place</u>.

# The Founders Garden Club Presents: Everything You Wanted to Know about Vegetable Gardening, July 28, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Rosine Hall

The Founders Garden Club, a Garden Club of America member, is sponsoring a day to teach the essentials of composting, planning, preparation, planting, growing and harvesting fresh vegetables in a garden plot or containers. This panel session is free with paid garden admission. Please contact Linda Herrington at 214-515-6640 or via email at <a href="https://www.lherrington@dallasarboretum.org">https://www.lherrington@dallasarboretum.org</a> to register.

#### Stirring the Pot Before Tying the Knot August 4, 1-3 p.m., \$65, Donald and Charlotte Test Pavilion

Calling all brides-to-be. Consider taking this innovative cooking class that unravels the mysteries of the kitchen. Guests and soon-to-be brides learn to cook recipes that get everyone interacting, laughing and sipping on some bubbly! This hands-on, small group learning and eating experience is the perfect activity to transform a kitchen coward to a real gourmand. More information and registration, visit

http://www.dallasarboretum.org/named-gardens-features/a-tasteful-place/cookingevents-a-tasteful-place

**Hearty Seasonal Salads** 

Emily Weeks, Owner, Zen and Spice Nutrition and Dixya Bhattaral, Owner, Food, Pleasure and Health August 5, 1-3 p.m., \$65, Donald and Charlotte Test Pavilion Nothing tastes better than a refreshing salad in the middle of the blazing heat of summer. Guests learn the art of how to create a well-composed salad inspired from seasonal and local ingredients and play around with thoughtful pops of color and bursts of flavors and textures. After this class, guests will feel confident in making a punchy vinaigrette or a creamy herb buttermilk dressing. Small bite tasting following the class. More information, visit http://www.dallasarboretum.org/named-gardens-features/a-tasteful-place.

### Cooking For Two- or Just You!: Cindy Kleckner, RDN, LD, FAND August 10, 11 a.m.-noon, Donald and Charlotte Test Pavilion

What do singles, couples, newlyweds, roommates and "empty nesters" have in common? Like many households today, they're made up of onesies and twosomes. Life can be complicated, but meals don't' have to be. Registered dietitian, Cindy Kleckner, will provide tips on shopping and meal solutions for fast, simple, delicious and nutritious vegetable meals that will work terrifically for two or just one person. Free with paid garden admission. Registration is required. Visit <u>http://www.dallasarboretum.org/named-</u> <u>gardens-features/a-tasteful-place/tasting-events-in-a-tasteful-place</u> for more information.

#### "Over The Top" Tapas

#### August 19, 2-4 p.m., \$150 per couple, Donald and Charlotte Test Pavilion

"Over The Top" Tapas is an exciting class that teaches guests how to create super flavorful small bites. Guests will learn to extract flavors from Spanish cuisine through a hands-on, instructional cooking class. Small tasting to follow the cooking class. Visit <u>http://www.dallasarboretum.org/named-gardens-features/a-tasteful-place/cooking-events-a-tasteful-place</u> to register.

\*\*2018 programming for A Tasteful Place is supported by Dallas Tourism Public Improvement District.

#### About The Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden:

The Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Gardens is located on the southeastern shore of White Rock Lake at 8525 Garland Road, Dallas, Texas 75218. The Dallas Arboretum is also the home of the internationally acclaimed Rory Meyers Children's Adventure Garden. The Arboretum is open daily from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. General admission is \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors 65 and older, \$10 for children 2-12 and free for Arboretum members and children under 2. **On-site parking is \$15 or \$9, if purchased in advance online.** The Dallas Morning News is the principal partner of the Dallas Arboretum. The Arboretum is supported, in part, by funds from the Dallas Park and Recreation Department. WFAA is an official media sponsor for the Dallas Arboretum.