



April 17, 2018

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Myriad Botanical Gardens brings Dancing, fitness, Full Moon Bike Rides, OKC Garden Fest, workshops and so much more to Downtown OKC

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma -- Myriad Botanical Gardens packs the May calendar with tons of outdoor excitement, from dancing the salsa and learning activities and fitness fun like Full Moon Bike Rides and barre3 free workouts, to dining under the stars with our major fundraiser Splendor in the Gardens. Every day offers a new chance to spend quality time in downtown's most beautiful destination -- whether it's Yoga on the Great Lawn or purchasing plants grown in Oklahoma for your home garden at OKC Garden Fest, Myriad Botanical Gardens is the place to get active, build new experiences and celebrate the warmer weather in the city. For more information and to register online at www.myriadgardens.org or contact (405) 445-7080. Download images [here](#).

MAJOR EVENTS

Dancing in the Gardens

Friday, May 4 featuring Salsa!
Dance Lessons, 7-8pm
FREE Dance, 8-10pm
Seasonal Plaza
FREE, all ages welcome!

Dancing in the Gardens returns Friday, May 4, as one of the city's favorite ways to spend an out-of-the box Friday night. On opening night, instructors from Clips n Hips will start the evening with a Salsa dance lesson at 7 p.m., followed by free dance lessons for all. At 8 p.m., D.J. Red Handed will spin Salsa tunes to really get the party started. Pitchfork in the Park will feature food and drink specials and a new addition to the festivities this year will be additional bars and booths inside the Park House Event Center and Pilar Designs outside for face painting. Park House events close at 10 p.m. but the dance party lasts until 11 p.m. Other dances are June 1 – Bollywood; July 6 – Hip Hop; and August 3 – Country Western.

OKC Garden Fest

Saturday, May 5, 9am-4pm

Southwest Corner of the Gardens off Hudson

30+ Made in Oklahoma vendors. Get the list at myriadgardens.org

FREE

Myriad Gardens will again be the location OKC Garden Fest. The fourth annual event will be held Saturday, May 5 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The festival will feature herbs, perennials, roses, produce, pottery, jewelry, wineries, food products and food trucks. Activities for children will also be offered and there is no charge for attending. This year will again feature an area with information for those wanting to start a butterfly garden or Monarch Waystation, an intentionally-managed garden that offers food and habitat for the Monarch butterfly population. Several vendors will offer milkweed for Monarchs along with other pollinator friendly plants.

Irrigation and Water Conservation Workshop

Saturday, May 5, 10am-Noon

2nd floor Conference Room and Garden Grounds

Members \$8; Nonmembers \$12

Register by Tuesday, May 1 at myriadgardens.org

Expand your Oklahoma plant knowledge and get inspiration for your garden with our educational walking tours. Each month will feature different plants from our outdoor collection that make great choices for our region – from spring color to drought tolerant and more. Self-guided plant tour handouts are also available in our South Lobby.

10-11AM: Dr. Lou Anella, professor and Director of The Botanic Garden at Oklahoma State University, will present an overview of landscape irrigation; what it is, why it's helpful and some best practices. He'll then discuss a revolutionary irrigation system installed at the OSU Botanic Garden, with tips for bringing the same ideas into your home garden. Finally, you'll get hands on experience setting up a drip system together.

11AM-NOON: Robert Reaves, Water Conservation Coordinator with the City of Oklahoma City Utilities, will provide a hands-on, practical experience as he shows each of the components in an irrigation system, explaining how they work and how to make basic repairs to any system. He'll also cover a few DIY options for saving money.

Splendor in the Gardens

Thursday, May 17, 6-9pm Great Lawn

Individual tickets are \$150

Purchase tickets online at myriadgardens.org or contact Susan Grossman at sgrossman@myriadgardens.org

The magical farm-to-table gala dinner known as Splendor in the Gardens returns for its fourth rendition on Thursday, May 17. Co-chaired by Chris Fleming and Kathy L. Williams, the biannual gala takes place on the Great Lawn of Myriad Botanical Gardens. Limited to 400 guests, the evening begins with a reception at the Park House Event Center. As the sun sets against the backdrop of the downtown Oklahoma City skyline, guests stroll through the Gardens to the Great Lawn where they will dine al fresco on a feast inspired by the south of France. Prepared and served by a variety of metro area chefs including Alain Buthion of La Baguette, Kamala Gamble and Barbara Mock with Kam's Kookery, and bread baked by Esca Vitae in Midtown, the menu will feature the fresh foods and herbs of Provence. Wines will be provided by Joullian Vineyards & Winery.

Full Moon Bike Ride and Run sponsored by Stephenson Cancer Center

Tuesday, May 29, 8pm run; 8:30pm ride

Meet at the Band Shell by the Great Lawn

\$5 per person to participate, register and fill out your liability waiver in advance at myriadgardens.org

Runners and cyclists, take your mark! It's time to for the Myriad Gardens' much-loved annual Full Moon Bike and Run. Join other runners in a 5K, led by OK Runner, through the scenic downtown area as the sun sets. Those who pay \$5 will be entered in a drawing to win prizes. Bring your bike and meet up for a leisurely one-hour ride. Downtown-area routes are specifically planned by Schlegel Bicycles. Don't have a bike? Use Spokies Bike Share or Ride OKC! Ride OKC will have their trailer onsite for people of all ages to rent bikes. Lights and helmet are required to participate. Those who pay \$5 will be entered in a drawing for prizes from Schlegel Bicycles. Schlegel Bicycles and Ride OKC will be onsite one hour prior to the ride for quick bike maintenance and learn how to bike lessons near the Sheridan Bus Loop. OK Runner, Schlegel Bicycles, and Ride OKC will lead ride and run safety workshops 15 minutes prior to the event start time.

Other rides are: Thursday, June 21 on Summer Solstice; Thursday, July 26; Monday, August 27 and Monday, September 24, 7pm run; 7:30pm ride.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Reading Wednesdays

Wednesdays, May 2, 9, 16, and 23, 10-11am

Crystal Bridge South Lobby

FREE

Best for ages 2 to 5

Bring your youngster for story time each Wednesday at 10 a.m. Books are nature-themed and selected based on the season. We'll begin with an interactive song and children will enjoy creating a small craft after the story. For groups of 10 or more, please call Kodi Clifford at (405) 835-6789.

Painting in the Gardens: Folky Frida

Saturday, May 5, 11am-1pm

Water Stage

Member: \$30 register (405) 227-0230

Nonmember: \$35 register online at www.wineandpalette.com

Join Wine and Palette in celebrating Cinco de Mayo painting in the Gardens our homage to Frida Kahlo during the OKC Garden Festival at Myriad Botanical Gardens (16x20 wrapped canvas).

Little Sapling Series

Every Other Tuesday, May 8, 22, 10 – 11am

Children's Garden (South Lobby Reading Nook in inclement weather)

Members \$3; Nonmembers \$4

Best for ages 2-5

Register online at myriadgardens.org

Join us in the Children's Garden for an hour of songs, games, and interactive nature fun. Toddlers (and parents!) will get to learn about the exciting world of gardens in an engaging and educational way. Experience activities such as making mud pies, watching caterpillars grow, making bird seed ornaments, or potting up seeds. Every Little Saplings event will include a sensory bin, a song, and a game.

Pattern Hunter

Saturday, May 12, 9:30-10:30am

2nd Floor Conference Room and Children's Garden Porch

Member \$4; Nonmember \$6

Best for ages 6 to 10

Register by Tuesday, May 8

Kids will be detectives and artists in this on-the-go class, where they will discover how complex and beautiful nature is. The activity begins with a scavenger hunt to find natural and man-made patterns in the garden, gathering materials and drawing some of the findings. Kids will then play a pattern game and read a few great books.

Sprouting Chefs: Strawberries Galore

Saturday, May 19, 2-3pm

2nd Floor Conference Room

Member \$8; Nonmember \$10

Best for ages 7 to 11

Register by Tuesday, May 15 at myriadgardens.org

May in Oklahoma is peak strawberry season and they're bursting with flavor at the Myriad Gardens for this tasty event. Participants will learn about the strawberry plant and then have a rare opportunity to play with their food. Kids will learn strawberry prep techniques and how easy it is to make a healthy and mouth-watering spring treat. The class will conclude with a strawberry feast as participants devour their creations.

Ingredients for this class are generously donated by Whole Foods Market.

Family Prairie Exploration

Friday, May 25, 2-3pm

2nd Floor Conference Room and Prairie Garden

Member \$4; Nonmember \$5

Best for ages 7 to 11

Register by Tuesday, May 22 at myriadgardens.org

Explore Oklahoma's native prairie landscape in the heart of downtown. The class will start with a learning session about the parts of a flower and a craft, then kids will discover the rare and wonderful plants that live in the prairie. The class will end with a scavenger hunt in the Myriad Gardens' own Prairie Garden, finding the beautiful flowers and grasses the kids learned about earlier.

Flights of Fancy: Fairy Houses

Saturday, May 26, 11am-noon

Member \$5; Nonmember \$6

Best for ages 5 to 9

Abigail Curry, Children's Garden Manager

Register by Tuesday, May 22 at myriadgardens.org

Fairy gardens are full of magic and all are invited to believe at Flights of Fancy. The event will begin with a fanciful fairy story, then fairy seekers will head to the Children's Garden to gather supplies to make fairy houses. Kids will love building their houses to attract mystical and illusive fairies.

Reading Wednesday with the Downtown Library

Wednesday, May 30, 10-11am

Crystal Bridge South Lobby

FREE

Best for ages 2 to 5

On the last Wednesday of every month, we're excited to welcome the Downtown Library to Reading Wednesdays! Library staff will be on-site to do normal reading and craft as well as a fun, additional activity.

Family Workshop: Dino Terrariums

Wednesday, May 31, 2-3pm

2nd Floor Conference Room

Member \$9; Nonmember \$11

Best for ages 6 to 10

Register by Friday, May 25 at myriadgardens.org

Travel back to prehistoric days of dinosaurs by creating your own mini dino garden. Kids will learn how to care for a terrarium, what the plants need to survive and what our tiny dinosaurs need. Each child will get to create a small terrarium to take home with their own dinosaur model and plant to take care of.

ADULTS

Yoga in the Gardens

Sponsored by Tinker Federal Credit Union
Instructed by Lisa Woodard from This Land Yoga
Tuesdays, 5:45pm
Late arrivals not accepted after 5:50pm
Outdoors or Terrace Room
Members \$5; Nonmembers \$10
Must be 16 and older

This is an all-levels class led by Lisa Woodard from This Land Yoga. Class participants should bring a yoga mat and water. Meet in the south lobby for check-in each week. Drop in for a session or two or enjoy the entire series.

Barre3 in the Gardens

Monday, May 7, 7-8pm
Great Lawn and Band Shell
Bring yoga mat and water
Recommended for adults, children welcome
FREE

Barre3 returns to the Gardens for another season of FREE community outdoor fitness. Barre3 mixes athleticism, grace, and the latest innovations designed to balance the body. Other dates are June 4, July 9, August 6 and on September 10, from 7-8pm and October 1 from 6 to 7 p.m.

Myriad Kitchen: An Intro to Healthy Cooking

Saturday, May 12, noon-2pm
2nd Floor Conference Room
Member \$20; Nonmember \$27
Kamala Gamble and Barbara Mock, Chefs, Guilford Gardens and Kam's Kookery
Register by Tuesday, May 8 at myriadgardens.org

Treat yourself to a delicious lunch that will taste so good you'll have trouble believing it's healthy. The program includes an overview of eating well and using in-season fresh fruits and vegetables, adding flavor with fresh and dried herbs and best methods for healthy cooking. Ingredients for this class are generously donated by Whole Foods Market.

Beats and Balance FREE Yoga Class

Sponsored by Tinker Federal Credit Union
Tuesday, May 15, 5:45 –6:45pm
Great Lawn and Band Shell
Must be 16 and older

Yoga with a twist! Join us for an all-levels class led by Lisa Woodard from This Land Yoga with a rocking soundtrack provided by DJ Brian from Mutt Radio. This event will be fun and high energy so bring your yoga mat, water, and friends. Participation is FREE!!

Growing Marvelous Melons

Saturday, May 19, 10-11:30am

2nd Floor Conference Room

Member \$10; Nonmember \$12

Micah Anderson, Langston University Extension

Register by Tuesday, May 15 at myriadgardens.org

Few things kick off the dog days of summer like watermelon and Oklahoma is a great place to grow them. Join Micah Anderson as he teaches you the ins-and-outs of growing various melons, with a focus on watermelons and cantaloupes. Micah will cover the botany and history of the plants, the types of each and will demonstrate planting as he discusses how to care for them, including how to make sure your flowers get pollinated. Each participant will head home with unique seeds to sow in their garden.

Gardens Walking Tour

Saturday, May 26, 10-11am

South Lobby and Garden Grounds

FREE

Walkups Welcome

Every last Saturday of the month

Expand your knowledge of Oklahoma plants and find inspiration for your own garden with our educational walking tours. Each month will feature different plants from our outdoor collection that make great choices for our region – from spring color to drought tolerant choices and more. Self-guided plant tour handouts are available in our South Lobby.

The Myriad Botanical Gardens is one of Oklahoma City's most beloved public spaces, offering its visitors a 15 acre natural escape in the very heart of downtown. A half-acre children's garden, an off-leash dog park, restaurant space, splash fountains, and paths for walking and jogging provide guests young and old with a place to seek solitude with nature, or seek community and the company of others. Additionally, the Myriad Gardens offers a variety of horticultural education programs for adults and children.

The Crystal Bridge Tropical Conservatory's unique design has earned attention and praise in the architectural community. It is 224 feet long, 70 feet in diameter, and is covered by 3,028 sections of translucent, double-layered acrylic panels. The Conservatory includes 13,000 square feet of plant display area in two distinct climates: the Tropical Wet Zone, which is at the south end and is watered daily; and the Tropical Dry Zone at the north end which receives water from April through September, followed by drought from November through March. Some 2,000 varieties of plants and a 35-foot waterfall round out the spectacular features of the Conservatory.

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