50 Years of the Professional Horticulture Program

Today’s Horticulture Symposium
February 7, 2020

50 Celebrating 50 Years of the Professional Horticulture Program

LONGWOOD GARDENS

Today’s Horticulture
At Longwood Gardens
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50 Years of the Professional Horticulture Program

Started in 1970, the Professional Horticulture Program (previously called the Professional Gardener Program) is a combination of practical training alongside Longwood Gardens staff and collegiate-level coursework designed to cover key concepts and career development skills across core horticultural modules. In addition to being tuition-free, the two-year Professional Horticulture Program enables students to live rent-free on the Longwood grounds, receive hourly pay, and enjoy a number of other benefits including travel abroad and certification opportunities. The Professional Gardener Alumni Association (PGAAA) was organized in 1976 to promote communication and to disseminate information among its members. This symposium is held annually thanks to the volunteer efforts of a committee of the PGAAA. For more information about the Professional Horticulture Program, call the office of Domestic and International Studies at 610.388.4501 or visit longwoodgardens.org.

About Our Speakers

Ron Gagliardo

Ron Gagliardo grew up near the Florida Everglades, where he developed a permanent passion for nature. He studied botany at North Carolina State University and in 1993 joined the Atlanta Botanical Garden curating tropical collections. After six years working to conserve amphibians, Gagliardo returned to horticulture in 2014 as Amazon’s first horticulturist overseeing all aspects of horticulture and corporate landscapes at The Spheres.

Ash Gillis

Ash Gillis is a doctoral candidate in social psychology at The Pennsylvania State University. Using their varied expertise, Gillis informs, develops, and evaluates programs that encourage environmentally sustainable behavior. Gillis’ work has been published in Global Environmental Change, Nature Climate Change, and Journal of Environmental Psychology.

Adam Glas

Gardener Supervisor Adam Glas has worked at The Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College since 2012. With a focus on sustainability and organic methods, he has been renovating and cultivating the Dean Bond Rose Garden. Glas graduated from the Professional Horticulture Program in 2004 and studied horticulture and landscape design at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

Charlotte Harris & Hugo Bugg

Harris Bugg Studio is an award-winning landscape design practice based in the UK whose clients include The National Trust, The Royal Horticultural Society’s new Bridgewater garden, botanic gardens in Jordan and Sweden, and estates throughout England and Scotland. Winners of two gold medals at RHS Chelsea, Harris Bugg Studio has been called “pioneering design talents of their generation” and their work has been featured in Country Living and Architectural Digest.

Event Sponsors

Longwood Gardens, Chanticleer Foundation, Mt. Cuba Center, and the Professional Gardener Alumni Association

The Symposium Selection Committee


Special thanks to Susan Caldwell, Adam Dooling, David Gotthardt, Mark Missinski, Victor Platt, Shami Ruszczycy, Brian Trader, Jessica Whitehead, and Deb Wiles

Olugbala’s early work with Natural Leaders, Brother Yusuf, Youth Ed Venture Network, and YO! underscored the necessity of reintroduction to land as a source of healing and power for those who have been historically and systematically disconnected.

Amani Olugbala

Amani Olugbala, community educator at Soul Fire Farm, is a storyteller and food justice advocate with more than 16 years of experience in youth education and community outreach. Olugbala’s early work with Natural Leaders, Brother Yusuf, Youth Ed Venture Network, and YO! underscored the necessity of reintroduction to land as a source of healing and power for those who have been historically and systematically disconnected.

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8 am Registration (Visitor Center)
Plant Sale (Patio of Oranges)

8:50 am Welcome (Ballroom)
Emily Reuther, Event Coordinator

9 am The Thousand Year Wood: Past, Present, and Future of People and Oaks
William Bryant Logan
Oaks and people have been intimately connected since at least the Mesolithic Period. Learn about the long history of that relationship including the many things oaks have taught us, in locations from Japan to Europe to California. William Bryant Logan discusses the present possibilities for planting and maintaining oaks in the landscape with consideration given to the preferences of different species and where they are best suited.

9:45 am Transforming Residential Landscapes
Ash Gillis
With biodiversity in severe decline, one way to affect change is to radically increase native plants in residential landscapes. But what would motivate homeowners to make this shift when faced with opposing societal pressure? This presentation offers insights from social psychology and successful real-world examples of communities growing native plants together.

10:30 am Break

11 am Year Five on One Day: Cultivating the Amazon Spheres
Ron Gagliardi
In 2018, Amazon HQ Seattle opened The Spheres, a new take on the urban office environment that embraces biophilic design. The Spheres is a result of innovative thinking about the character of the workplace and an extended conversation about what it often lacks: a direct link to nature that inspires curiosity and conservation.

11:45 am Lunch (Terrace Restaurant)

1 pm Professional Horticulture Alumni Spotlight Part One: Water Gardening Lessons Learned
Tim Jennings
Adding a water feature to your garden can enhance your entire landscape. Explore the culture, care, and maintenance of aquatic plants with the horticulturist responsible for Longwood’s outdoor Waterlily Display, reinforcing water gardening principles and introducing a few favorite plants.

Professional Horticulture Alumni Spotlight Part Two: Horticultural Therapy at the NJDOC
Debbie Mahon
The New Jersey Department of Corrections operates the Jones Farm Horticulture Program in Mercer County. Instructor Debbie Mahon will present the day-to-day, yearly, and professional achievements of the students she teaches, while also sharing some positive points in hiring a returning citizen.

Professional Horticulture Alumni Spotlight Part Three: Why Not Roses?
Adam Glass
Fall back in love with America’s native flower. Many gardeners are intimidated by roses because of their reputation for being difficult to grow. Learn how new breeding efforts, sustainable growing methods, and trials for pest and disease resistance have positioned roses for a renaissance and find out which ones are best for your garden.

2 pm Dessert/Coffee Break

2:15 pm Farming White Black: Uprooting Racism, Seeding Sovereignty
Anmari Ogubala
Some of our most cherished sustainable farming practices have roots in African wisdom, yet discrimination against African-American farmers has led to their decline to fewer than 2% of all growers today. Meanwhile, Black communities suffer disproportionately from lack of access to fresh food and healthy ecosystems. Learn about Soul Fire Farm’s commitment to ending racism and seeding food sovereignty based on justice, dignity, and abundance for all.

3 pm Break

3:30 pm Collaborative Approaches to Design and Planting at Harris Bugg Studio
Charlotte Harris & Hugo Bugg
Charlotte Harris and Hugo Bugg share case studies of a range of their public and residential projects, as well as insight into what it takes to produce an award-winning garden at the Chelsea Flower Show. They also explore some of the challenges of collaborating and how they have (or haven’t) resolved them.

4:15 pm Closing Remarks

Registration
Preregistration is required via paper registration or online.
Sorry, no telephone registrations. No walk-ins will be accepted. The Symposium fee includes admission to Longwood Gardens, all lectures, CEUs, lunch, refreshments, and plant sale access.
To register online, visit longwoodgardens.org/todayshorticulture.
To register by mail, please use the attached form.
Onsite Symposium Pricing
$119 Onsite Symposium Early Bird (if registered by January 4)
$149 Onsite Symposium (if registered after January 4)
$75 Onsite Symposium PAA Members (discounted rate applies to alumni who have paid 2019 dues)

Attend Online
You may now participate in Today’s Horticulture anytime, anywhere, for free. You can access the symposium webcast, live or on demand, using your preferred platform, including mobile devices. For details or to register, visit longwoodgardens.org/todayshorticulture.

Cancellation Policy
Early registrations are recommended. Seating is limited and registrations will be accepted on a first-come basis. Registration fees will be refunded less a $30 processing fee if requests are made by January 3, 2020. The event will be held regardless of weather conditions. No refunds will be given if you are unable to attend due to weather.

Accessibility
Longwood Gardens and the Today’s Horticulture Selection Committee will make every effort to assist individuals with accommodation requests. Please contact us at least one week prior to the symposium to discuss any questions or concerns.

Registration Form
Today’s Horticulture Symposium
February 7, 2020
Longwood Gardens

Name (for additional registrants, please use a copy of this form)
Company/Fraternity
Address
City, State, Zip
Telephone number
Email
Professional Horticulture Program Alumni? Y / N
Year of Graduation

Payment Information
To register using a paper registration, please include a check payable to Longwood Gardens. To use a credit card, please register online.

Mail to:
Continuing Education
Longwood Gardens
PO Box 501
Kennett Square, PA 19348-0501

Must be postmarked by January 31, 2020

Contact Us:
Questions regarding this event’s content may be directed to:
Emily Reuther, Symposium Event Coordinator,
todayshorticulture@gmail.com

Continuing Education Units
Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are offered by the following organizations for attendance at the symposium. Unless otherwise noted, CEUs are not available to webcast attendees:

ASHS 4.5 units with self-reporting; available to webcast attendees

DNLA 6 units with verification of attendance

ISA 6 units with verification of attendance

OALCP 4 units with self-reporting; available to webcast attendees

PLANA 4.5 units with self-reporting; available to webcast attendees

DNLA 1 unit with verification of attendance

ISA 2.5 units with verification of attendance

ALPD 5 units with self-reporting; pending approval of webcast attendees

LA-CES 6 units with verification of attendance

Please check the symposium website for updated information.