

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DENVER BOTANIC
GARDENS

PRESS CONTACT

Erin Bird

720-865-3552

erin.bird@botanicgardens.org

2025 ART EXHIBITIONS AT DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS

A diverse roster of exhibitions featuring botanical and environmental themes is presented in the Freyer – Newman Center. Local, national and international artists are featured. Exhibitions are included with general admission. Related programs will be announced later.



Seeds of Inspiration

January 18 – May 26, 2025

Botanical art used to inspire gardeners across the nation is presented with works from the collection of Colorado-based seed and garden products company Botanical Interests®. Original colored pencil, watercolor and watercolor pencil illustrations highlight the unique connection between art and nature in seed packet design. Detailed images of flowers, vegetables and herbs are used to help gardeners envision what they can grow from seed. A selection of historical seed catalogs from Denver Botanic Gardens' collection will also be featured.

Image: Meredith Feniak, *Costata Romanesco Summer Squash*, watercolor, 2017. Artwork © Botanical Interests, Inc.



Anna Kaye: Finding Light

February 15 – May 26, 2025

Detailed charcoal drawings of fire and scorched forests explore the cycles of loss and regrowth in nature. As wildfires increase in size and intensity, making it harder for ecosystems to recover, Anna Kaye's work examines the complexity of fire's ecological impact. Kaye conducts research for her drawings within the site of the Hayman Fire, a 2002 wildfire northwest of Colorado Springs. She has visited the site many times over several years to explore the long-term impacts of forest fire. Emphasizing hope, *Finding Light* highlights transformation and regrowth as plants and animals return to burned forests. Kaye, based in Denver, teaches at Denver Botanic Gardens' School of Botanical Art and Illustration and at the Denver Art Museum. Image: Anna Kaye, *Whirlwind*, charcoal, 2023.



Contemporary Fibers: Botanicals

May 17 – September 28, 2025

Inspired by the natural world, this exhibition features artworks made with fiber materials and innovative textile techniques. This exhibition is juried by the *Fiber Art Now* magazine's creative team and will be featured in their Spring 2025 issue. Selected works present a broad array of contemporary artists working in fiber and textiles with nature as their muse. Image: Kay Sekimachi, *Asian Willow*, skeleton leaves, paper, watercolor, spray paint and wallpaper paste, 1998. Photo by M. Lee Fatherree. Collection of Forrest L. Merrill.



Blue Grass, Green Skies: American Impressionism and Realism from the Los Angeles County Museum of Art

June 7 – September 14, 2025

Idyllic landscapes, urban scenes and intimate interiors of 19th century American Impressionist oil paintings are presented. Inspired by French artists who founded the Impressionism movement in Europe, American artists adapted glowing colors and fluid brushstrokes to explore light, atmosphere and domestic scenes. Featuring some of the most esteemed American Impressionists including Mary Cassatt, Childe Hassam, Ernest Lawson, John Henry Twachtman and William Wendt, this exhibit highlights how American

artists embraced Impressionism to capture the beauty and emotion of countryside and city alike. Information about the history of the 19th century gardening movement will be presented in the gallery and a retail pop-up will accompany the exhibition in the adjacent gallery. *Blue Grass, Green Skies* was curated by Leah Lembeck, Department Head, European Painting & Sculpture and American Art, at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. The exhibition is organized by the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and generous support for this project is provided by Art Bridges. Image: Mary Cassatt, *Woman and Child*, oil on canvas, late 19th or early 20th century. Museo Nacional de Arte. Gift of Deborah and John Landis.



Agave: Symbol and Spirit

September 27, 2025 – March 15, 2026

The spirit of agave, a succulent plant with a storied role in the religion, culture and economies of Mexico is presented through photography, painting, ceramics and other media from the collection of Museo de las Americas, Denver. *Agave: Symbol and Spirit* tells the story of the plant's many practical and spiritual uses past and present, revealing its deep roots in Mexican culture—from fiber for clothing, building materials and paper, to fermented drinks for ritual and recreational

purposes. Image: Unknown artist, *Untitled*, paint on amate paper, mid-20th century.



Nourished: Works by Jazz Holmes

September 27, 2025 – March 15, 2026

The complex origins of southern American food culture is explored through vibrant, large-scale paintings celebrating quintessential Creole dishes. Southern-born, Colorado-based artist Jazz Holmes work highlights plants and the people who have been growing and cooking them for centuries. Stories about agriculture, personal history and cultural connections are presented. Using her Creole background as a catalyst, Holmes' mixed media works celebrate the many colorful aspects of Black American culture. Holmes is also an educator and community organizer, and her artworks have been exhibited throughout the United States and internationally. She was a 2022 Land Line artist-in-residence at Dever Botanic Gardens. Image: Jazz Holmes, *Sorrel*, mixed media with copper leaf, 2023.



Xochimilco: Works by Eduardo Robledo Romero

October 11, 2025 – March 22, 2026

Detailed linocut prints depict a world inhabited by animal spirit guides, shamans who can manipulate the weather and farmers who till both soil and spirit. Eduardo Robledo Romero's artworks highlight the complex ties that bind Mexican culture to the natural world through both Indigenous and European beliefs. Robledo's artworks draw on cultural traditions from his hometown of Xochimilco, Mexico City, Mexico as well as his experiences to explore the spiritual power of plants, animals and the endless natural cycles of birth and death. He is co-founder of the Lugar de huida gallery that showcases Mexican printmakers. Image: Eduardo Robledo Romero, *La suerte*, linocut print, 2020.

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About Denver Botanic Gardens: Green inside and out, Denver Botanic Gardens was founded in 1951 and is considered one of the top botanical gardens in the United States and a pioneer in water conservation. Accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, the Gardens has a robust living plant collection, natural history collection and art collection along with temporary art exhibitions. The Gardens is a dynamic, 24-acre urban oasis in the heart of the city, offering unforgettable opportunities to flourish with unique garden experiences for the whole family – as well as world-class exhibitions, education and plant conservation research programs. Additional sites extend this experience throughout the Front Range: Denver Botanic Gardens Chatfield Farms is a 700-acre native plant refuge with an active farm in Jefferson County; Mount Goliath is a high-altitude trail and interpretive site on the Mount Blue Sky Scenic Byway. The Gardens also manages programming at Plains Conservation Center in Aurora. For more information, visit us online at www.botanicgardens.org.