

ALDRIDGE GARDENS

NATURE AND ART IN BALANCE

Hydrangeas Under the Stars

Hydrangeas under the stars...a late spring night with frogs croaking, fireflies blinking and starlight illuminating the hydrangea blooms, one of Mother Nature's greatest gifts. The Gardens has been celebrating hydrangeas for over 15 years with a party aptly named Hydrangeas Under the Stars!



Guests are greeted with cold prosecco as they walk past rows of Snowflake Hydrangeas, Eddie Aldridge's gift to the world, up to the Pavilion for the silent auction with a varied array of items. Something for everyone!

Following the Silent Auction, guests move to a fabulous dinner under a tent by the lake. Prepared by Chef Joseph Mitchell's outstanding students from Jefferson State Community College's Culinary and Hospitality Institute, this dinner gives future chefs a chance to shine!

Following dinner, the serious the Live Auction begins! With a background chorus of frogs, incredible trips, jewelry, event packages, and surprises are presented in open bidding "warfare"! Laughter, camaraderie, and cut throat scheming all in play!

A walk past starlit hydrangeas...a unique end to a memorable evening!!

Tickets to Hydrangeas Under the Stars 2020 go on sale February 1, 2020. Information about table purchase and sponsorships are available at Aldridge Gardens (205.682.8019). Get tickets now--this event always sells out!

News from our Chief Executive Officer Tynette Lynch

We love setting records at Aldridge Gardens, and in 2019 we had over 90,000 visitors pass through our gates. A ribbon cutting for our Naphcare Foundation Education Building ended 2019--a new indoor classroom for our Gardens' classes. We became a KultureCity Sensory Inclusive Garden too, and are committed to make all Gardens' trails accessible.



Winter weddings are beautiful! While people were enjoying family time over the Holidays, we were hosting beautiful dream weddings for brides at Aldridge Gardens.

Early January brought needed rain to Aldridge Gardens, and our lake is at full pool for the first time in over a year. This is important, not just for the beauty of a full lake, but because we irrigate from the lake. With Springtime just round the corner, that supply of water is needed for our many Hydrangeas and other plants throughout the Gardens.

Welcome to 2020!-- Summer Camps, Spring Field Trips and our Spring Plant Sale are scheduled and planning is underway for our annual fundraiser, Hydrangeas Under the Stars.

The date is Saturday, June 6th, starting at 6 pm with a reception and silent auction in the Pavilion, followed by an amazing dinner and live auction under the big tent, in the center of the Gardens. Table sponsorships and individual tickets go on sale February 1st and this event sells out quickly. The money raised goes to support programs at Aldridge Gardens and the continued growth of your beautiful Gardens. For additional information visit aldridgegardens.com of the Gardens. Table sponsorships and individual tickets go on sale February 1st and this event sells out quickly. The money raised goes to support the many programs at Aldridge Gardens and the continued growth of your beautiful Gardens. For additional information visit our website at www.aldridgegardens.com or call 205-682-8019.



2020 Aldridge Gardens Summer Camps!!

Summer Camp at Aldridge Gardens this year will be AWESOME! Students are out of school, but at Hoover's beautiful Aldridge Gardens, they are out in nature and having a blast!

We cater to students who will start school in the fall (5K's) all the way to 5th graders (Big Kids!). All of the camps are in sheltered and protected locations, but they are full of fresh air, open spaces and nature! ALL teachers are Alabama certified!! Bud's Best cookies snacks are provided (though campers may bring their own). Water and KoolAid are available at all times.

Camps begin on Monday, June 1st at 9am. The first week's line-up includes an American Girl Doll Camp (5K-3rd graders), which will culminate in an outrageously adorable Friday Tea Party with Hoover Belles in hoop skirts, fancy cups, table cloths, photo ops, and treats galore! There is also Cool Art Camp which takes students through the whole process of art activities. Cooking & Booking in the Gardens (using books to find nature crafts and recipes to make, plus daily scavenger hunts!) and The Art & Math



of Origami (big kids only) complete the Week 1 line-up.

Week 2, starting June 8, also has an American Girl Doll Camp, Cooking & Booking in the Garden. In addition, Week 2 has Myth Busters (daily science challenges & tricks) and Music Makers (instruments, choral, anything sound making! 3rd- 5th Big Kids).

To American Girl Dolls Camp, Cooking & Booking, & Myth Busters, Week 3 adds a "Big Kids Camp" of Engineering &

Construction (always a popular camp). Week 4 contains American Girl Doll Camp, Cooking & Booking, a younger kids Engineering & Construction camp and another "Big Kids" music camp called Let's Hear It! Music led by Phillip Giles, the drummer for the Birmingham Heritage Band!

Fliers will go out the end of January to local schools. Registration begins Feb 15 for members of AG, March 1 for non-members. For more information, please see the Summer Camp listing at aldridgegardens.com--you can register on-line while you are there!