ALDRIDGE GARDENS

NATURE AND ART IN BALANCE



Planning a wedding soon? Did you know Aldridge Gardens is the PERFECT place to for your wedding, rehearsal party and/or reception?

Looking for a "woodsy" wedding site? Aldridge Gardens has the perfect spot! Looking for a bit more tradition with an arbor backdrop? We've got that!

How about a lakeside wedding on the lawn with a beautiful backdrop of woods? We have THAT too!

Want a a truly "garden" oriented site? Our Camellia Garden is stunning with the Pergola as the ceremony area—and especially incredible at certain times of the year!

Aldridge Gardens as a wedding venue is second to none—we offer backdrops of azaleas, hydrangeas, the lake, the woods, the Veterans Arbor—you dream it, we've got it and can make it happen! With some exceptions and caveats like accessibility, power, etc., almost anywhere within the acreage of the Gardens a ceremony can happen. We have done weddings deep in the woods, weddings on the front porch of the Aldridge House, weddings inside the Aldridge House by the fireplace, in the circular drive at the Ginkgo Tree, even in the Boathouse—let your imagination run free!

And while you are dreaming, consider your rehearsal dinner or reception at the Gardens! We can do that too! We have an amazing open-air Pavilion that is stunning when set up and decorated in "party/reception mode!" And if you prefer a more intimate inside setting, the Gallery of the Aldridge House is perfect for a memorable dinner or party!

Aldridge Gardens works with the best caterers and lighting/appointment companies in the metro area to make your every dream come true. And our knowledgeable staff will ensure your special day or evening runs like clockwork.

Give Amanda Baker a call at 205.739.6554 (or email at abaker@ aldridgegardens.com) and discuss the possibilities. They are ENDLESS!











Wow...what a year! 2020 started with a question mark—would the new virus come to America? We ALL know that answer! Aldridge Gardens closed for a few weeks, then re-opened, following the health guidelines of the State and City of Hoover. The response was frankly, overwhelming. Every month of 2020 following our re-opening, a new attendance record was set. Over 110,000 people discovered this hidden jewel in the middle of Hoover, shattering our old record of just over 85,000 visitors. And not only did they "visit," many made the Gardens a daily ritual as we hosted breakfast groups, coffee groups, afternoon discussion groups (all socially distanced)...an amazing gathering of people from all walks of life and situations visited this beautiful 32 acre oasis to escape the world "out there." We thank each and every single one of you for coming through our gates....

And NOW for 2021!

As this is being written, we experienced rather warm fall weather, but a far more seasonable and "normal" winter so far. That means we should (fingers crossed!) have an outstanding year starting with our early spring flowering shrubs, especially the native azaleas on the Edmiston Azalea Trail! The Japanese Maples will be going into their second and third years, and many have unfurling leaves that can be mistaken for flowers, so be on the lookout for those! And speaking of flowers, both the Cherry Grove and the Community Orchard in the front lawn are poised to be spectacular this year!

As we move further into the spring season, our Hydrangea display takes center stage. During the middle of Hydrangea season we have the Annual Plant Sale where many of our spectacular hydrangeas and azaleas will be available—including Eddie Aldridge's fabulous Snowflake Hydrangea!

In the middle of Hydrangea season, the Gardens come alive with two incredible events: Summer Camps and Hydrangeas Under the Stars! Children (and moms and dads!) look forward every year to our week long camp sessions that last the month of June. Always geared toward fun, our campers learn about science, math and technology without realizing it! Camps this year begin the last week of May and are ALWAYS sold out (even last summer), so visit the website early and often for registration.

And June would not be complete without our annual fund raiser, Hydrangeas Under the Stars. This ticketed, seated-dinner event is one of the most popular and sought after tickets in the metro area. 2021's date is Saturday, June 12.

Mark your calendars for these special dates and we hope YOU will help us break another record in 2021!

News from our Chief Executive Officer Tynette Lynch

Even though "spring" is not in the air yet, we at Aldridge Gardens are well into our spring planning.

Spring cleanup is well underway and wedding events have continued to take place with just a little seasonal change in the décor. Our outdoor Pavilion continues to be

a favorite for wedding receptions, and our various Garden locations for beautiful ceremonies are being booked on a daily basis.



Over the winter months we added a stoned expansion area to our Pavilion to allow for more room for receptions. Now our petite amphitheater area is more usable and looks incredible. Our "secret" field trip Garden area is also taking on a new look and as this project progresses will add more usable space and continue to become more accessible for all visitors.

We are so grateful for the continued support of our donors that allows us to keep growing and improving through their generosity.

We have set a new record of visitors to Aldridge Gardens in 2020 with welcoming over 110,000 people through our gates, and this number continues to climb as people discover we are no longer the best kept secret, but are now the "best" complimentary outdoor space to visit and enjoy.

Please visit our website for springtime events information and for information on our Summer Camps. Remember, Summer Camps fill up quickly so watch the calendar for dates to enroll.

Happy spring and welcome back to Aldridge Gardens.