

## FALL FESTIVAL DEBUTS OVER TWO WEEKENDS

September 5-7 and 11-15

A-list speakers giving lectures and workshops for both beginners and pros, family activities, music, and even a tomato buffet—these are just some of the highlights of the inaugural Fall Festival and Bulb Mart, *A New Look*, September 5-7 and 12-15 in the Dome and on the grounds of the Des Moines Botanical Center.

Join the Friends of the Botanical Center in celebrating the harvest with a fun and informative weekend for the whole family. David Howard, recently retired head gardener at Highgrove House, the private residence of Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall, will be giving two lectures as he kicks off his U.S. lecture tour. Amy Goldman, renowned author and board president of Seed Savers Exchange, will premiere her new book, *Heirloom Tomatoes*, at the opening-night reception. And Justin Roberts and his Not-Ready-For-Naptime-Players will give a free concert on the lawn, kicking off our Family Sundays. (For complete details of all events, see page 3.)

It's also the perfect time to take a stroll around our 14 acres and discover all the changes our dedicated staff and hard-working volunteers have made to the Botanical Center grounds. Our "New Look" features the fall display in the popular Gardeners Show House, the new rose beds, and our refurbished permanent collections, including the orchid displays and the historic Bonsai trees.

Both weekends are filled with ticketed and many free events. Please see the details on page 3 and 4 for a listing of all activities for the whole family, including the kids. And continue to check our Web Site for updates.

## FIRST ANNUAL BULB MART: September 11-15

The Friends of the Des Moines Botanical Center, in partnership with *Brent and Becky's Bulbs*, third-generation growers and distributors of quality bulbs from Gloucester, Virginia, are pleased to offer Central Iowa an extraordinary array of spring bulbs just in time for fall planting. With the majority deemed *deer resistant*, the Bulb Mart will include over 26,000 individual bulbs in convenient 10-packs, each accurately labeled and with information for growing. Friends members are invited to meet master bulb procurer Brent Heath and also get the early bird's chance to purchase from 4 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, September 11. Sale opens to the public on September 12 at 10 a.m. For complete bulb listings, please go to [www.botanicalcenter.com](http://www.botanicalcenter.com) -- or pick up a printed list at the Botanical Center information desk.

Fall Festival and Bulb Sale

**Friday, Sept. 5**

Opening Reception: 5:30—8 pm  
Special Guest: **Amy Goldman**  
Cost: \$35/Members \$50/Nonmembers

Exhibition of **David Cavagnaro** Photographs: Ongoing  
North Gallery  
FREE

Gardener's Show House: Ongoing  
New Fall Display  
FREE

**Saturday, Sept. 6**

Lecture & Book Signing: 10 am  
Guest: **Amy Goldman**  
Topic: ***Heirloom Tomatoes: from garden to table***  
Guest: **Diane Whaley**  
Topic: ***Meet the Seed Savers***  
Oak & Willow Rooms  
FREE

**Slow Food** Tomato Extravaganza Tasting: 1—3 pm  
In the tent on West Lawn  
Cost: \$10/Members \$15/Nonmembers

Lecture: 2 pm  
**Bulb Mart Preview:** Best Bets & Best Buys at next week's Bulb Mart  
Guests: ***Ethne Clark, Wes Hunsberger & Elvin McDonald***  
Levitt Classroom  
FREE

**Sunday, Sept. 7**

Family Activities & Events: 1—4 pm  
Dome and on the grounds  
FREE

Concert: 3:00 pm  
Special Guest: **Justin Roberts and the Not-Ready-For-Naptime-Players**  
In and around the tent on the West Lawn

FREE

### **Friday, Sept 12**

Bulb Mart: 10—8 pm  
East Greenhouse  
Special Guest: **Brent Heath, 10-12 noon**  
FREE admission

Reception & Lecture: **David Howard**  
Reception in Dome: 5:30 pm  
Lecture: 6:45 pm  
Topic: ***“My Life as a Gardener”***  
Oak & Willow rooms  
Cost: \$25 Members \$35 Nonmembers

Gardener's Show House: Ongoing  
New Fall Display  
FREE

### **Saturday, Sept. 13**

Bulb Mart: 10—5 pm.  
East Greenhouse  
FREE admission

Bulb Lecture: 10 am  
Guest: **Linda Grieve**, founder, ***Perennial Gardens***  
Topic: ***Gardening with Perennials, Bulbs & Deer***  
Oak & Willow Rooms  
FREE

Lecture: 1 pm  
Guest: **David Howard**  
Topic: ***Sustainable Lessons for Organic Gardening***  
Oak & Willow Rooms  
Cost: \$10 Members \$15 Nonmembers

### **Sunday, Sept. 14**

Bulb Mart: 10-5 pm.  
East Greenhouse

FREE Admission

Family Activities & Events: 1—4 pm

Dome and on the grounds

FREE

Lecture: 1 pm

Guest: **Justin Hancock**, Senior Garden Editor, BHG.com

Topic: ***Getting your Garden Ready for Winter***

Oak & Willow Rooms

FREE

## Special Guests:

**Amy Goldman** works to preserve the agricultural heritage and genetic diversity of the world's fruits and vegetables. Known to viewers of *Martha Stewart Living* and PBS, this "vegetable rights activist" has written for *Organic Gardening* and has been profiled in such publications as *The New York Times* and *House & Garden*. Amy lives in New York and serves as the president of the board of Seed Savers Exchange in Decorah, Iowa. Her new book *Heirloom Tomatoes* has just been published.

**David Howard**, recently retired as the head gardener at Highgrove House, the private residence of Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall in Gloucestershire, England, served in that position for the past nine years. Arguably one of the most important gardens in Europe, Highgrove is a foremost working example of an organic garden. An international lecturer, David travels the world promoting the message that organic farming and gardening is the way to a healthier, sustainable future.

**Justin Roberts** is truly one of the "all-stars" of the indie family music scene. He logs thousands of miles on the road each year, leading some to call him the hardest working man in children's show business. With national awards and recognition and a devoted fan base, Justin and his wonderfully named bandmates "The Not Ready for Naptime Players" dish out unexpectedly intelligent and whimsically rocking music for kids and their parents. A Des Moines native, Justin uses Chicago as his home base. Here he offers up a free concert to the families of Des Moines.

**Victor Schrager** is an internally exhibited photographer whose work has appeared in numerous collections and museums, including the Whitney Museum of American Art. He is a frequent contributor to *Martha Stewart Living* and *House & Garden* magazines. His photographs, some on exhibit in the North Gallery during September, are from Amy Goldman's two previous books, *Melons for the Passionate Grower* and *The Complete Squash*.

**Slow Food** is a non-profit, eco-gastronomic member-supported organization that was founded in 1989 to counteract fast food and fast life, the disappearance of local food traditions and people's dwindling interest in the food they eat, where it comes from, how it tastes and how our food choices affect the rest of the world. Members of the Des Moines convivium, led by Drake professor Neil Hamilton, will sponsor a Tomato Extravaganza tasting of dishes—from savory to sweet—with good natured judging.