

## 2023 Spring Seasonal Display Design Overview

The spring display is always exciting as it marks the start of prime time in the gardens for another year. Whether it be the color palate or plant choices, there's quite a bit to share with visitors about the display. Overall, this year leans heavily on yellows, pinks and purples. One exception is the motor court which begins with a blue border of hyacinths and a lovely blue and white viola mix named 'Blueberry Sundae Mix'. From there, we are bringing the heat of 'Moris Gudanov' tulips around the statue of Eros. These peony tulips have large flowers in shades of peach and red. Another exception is in the French parterre. A bright yellow border of 'Mammoth Prima Yellorina' pansies will be punctuated around the statue of Diana with more peony tulips, 'Binary Fusion', a mix of yellow and bright red.

This is the first year in recent memory that we have a mixed planting along the cutting garden wall. The earliest to bloom was the crocus mix 'Vernal Jewels'. That gave way to Hyacinth 'Purple Sensation' mixed with 'Sorbet Lemon Chiffon' violas. Next will be a cascade of blooms by the white tulip 'Maureen' and a mix of 'Bloom Factory' and 'Poeticus Recurvus' daffodils. This has a purpose deeper than aesthetics. Over the last several years the soil along the cutting garden wall continues to develop disease issues that especially plague tulips. Soil has been changed out multiple times in various areas. The thought is to give the soil a rest from tulips for a little bit and see if that helps with disease control.

There are a few fun areas not to be missed. One is the new permanent bulbs found along Friendship Walk. A highlight there are the Narcissus bulbocodium 'Mary Poppins'. They look a little different than what you might expect in a daffodil with large trumpet flowers and grassy leaves. Next will come more traditional daffodils mixed with grape hyacinths. Another spot is the pots at the butler's house. The center is made up of 'Pink Lipstick' Swiss chard. The dark pink stems are quite amazing. There are more planted in the bed at the Merriweather To Go. Finally, though not on the tour route, the beds across the lawn from the Adirondack building have a fun lettuce mix. 'Allstar Gourmet Mix' was developed to have dark red and bright green leaves which will be really interesting with the pink pansies and sherbet tulips.

### **Additional Items to Note:**




- Installation of the spring display started March 21. Although spent bulbs may be removed earlier, we anticipate the display to run until April 24.
- By the numbers:
  - Over 26,000 bulbs were planted in the fall: 1,300 for cut flowers, 3,850 in the permanent gardens and 21,100 for the seasonal display beds. Of those bulbs, over 17,000 were tulips.
  - The seasonal display includes 7,370 spring plants. 5,375 (73%) were grown in Hillwood's greenhouse.

Thank you for your dedication to Hillwood. If you have any questions or would like to know more, please feel free to email me at [jbonilla@hillwoodmuseum.org](mailto:jbonilla@hillwoodmuseum.org). Thanks!







Jessica Bonilla, Director of Horticulture

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(Pictures start from left to right in order of appearance in the text)












Outside conservatory	<p>The larger containers start with woody shrubs (not pictured) as a base planting. Taller herbaceous elements are comprised of: Snapdragon 'Orleans Early Lemon Yellow', 'Hot Cakes Purple' stock, 'Sweet Sugar' Lilies, 'Yume no Murasaki' tulips and Osteospermum 'Ostica Mega Pink'. Filler is provided by Carex 'Everillo', Purple leaf pak choi, Osteospermum 'Osticade Lemon', and four types of violas: 'Sorbet Violet', 'Sorbet Raspberry', 'Sorbet Lemon Chiffon' and 'Sorbet Tiger Eye'.</p>	 <p>A 4x4 grid of 16 images showing various flowers and plants mentioned in the text for the Outside conservatory display. The images include: Snapdragons (yellow and purple), Lilies (pink), Tulips (purple), Osteospermums (pink and yellow), Carex (yellow), Purple leaf pak choi, and various Viola cultivars in different colors (purple, pink, yellow, and white with patterns).</p>
Motor court	<p>The center around Eros contains 'Moris Gudanov' tulips. Along the edge, 'Blue Jacket' hyacinths are mixed with 'Blueberry Sundae Mix' violas; We do not pull the hyacinths in this area every year, we let them naturalize and add more. You may see other hyacinth cultivars mixed in the beds.</p>	 <p>A 2x3 grid of 6 images showing flowers mentioned in the text for the Motor court display. The images include: Tulips (orange and red), Hyacinths (blue), and various Viola cultivars (purple, white, and blue).</p>
Motor court containers	<p>Along with tulips mentioned above, the motor court pots feature Stock 'Katz White', purple leaf pak choi, Asparagus densiflorus 'Sperengeri' and 'Blueberry Sundae Mix' violas.</p>	 <p>A 2x4 grid of 8 images showing flowers and plants mentioned in the text for the Motor court containers display. The images include: Stock (white), Purple leaf pak choi, Asparagus densiflorus (green), and various Viola cultivars (purple, white, and blue).</p>

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Porte cochere	The winter woody planting (not shown) is supplemented with 'Katz Pink' stock, 'Sorbet Yellow/Pink Jump Up' violas and daffodils 'Rapture' and/or 'Yellow Cheerfulness'.	
Pavilion	Apricot snapdragons with 'Mammoth Prima Yellorina' pansies.	
French parterre	'Binary Fusion' tulips around the statue of Diana and a border of 'Mammoth Prima Yellorina' pansies around the edges.	
Rose garden	'Blushing Lady' tulips around the memorial with 'True Blue' violas under the plaque. The rose bed edges will have a mix of Viola 'Sorbet Raspberry' and 'Sorbet Neptune'.	
Friendship walk	'Delta Buttered Popcorn' pansies on the edge of the walkway. This year a large number of permanent bulbs were added: Crocus tommasinianus 'Barr's Purple', Eranthis cilicica (winter aconite), grape hyacinth, and three daffodil cultivars: 'Mary Poppins', 'Delibes', and 'Geranium'.	
Putting green	The planters contain Viola 'Sorbet Tiger Eye'. The tulips in the beds are 'Hella Lights'.	



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Lunar	'See View Plait' tulips with a border of blue grape hyacinths.	 	
South portico	'Cotton Candy' pansies in the bed. The containers are Nemesia 'Poetry Deep Pink'.	 	
Vista planters	'Katz Pink' stock surrounded by 'Cotton Candy' pansies.	 	
Around the Dacha	'Sorbet Neptune' and 'True Blue' violas in the beds and also used in the containers with Osteospermum 'Osticade Lemon'.	  	
Holly walk	Viola 'Sorbet White Jump Up'.		
Security	'Gemini II' tulip mix.		

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Butler's house pots	Swiss Chard 'Pink Lipstick' with 'Sorbet Violet' violas.	 	
Butler's bed	Tulip 'Yume no Murasaki', 'Menton' and 'Verichic' complemented by Erysimum 'Cheers Mighty Mauve', Stock 'Katz Lavender Blue' and Viola 'Sorbet Lavender Pink'. All mixed in with permanent perennials.	     	
Cutting Garden Wall	A mix of Crocus 'Vernal Jewels', Hyacinth 'Purple Sensation', Tulip 'Maureen', Daffodil 'Bloom Factory', and Daffodil 'Poeticus Recurvus' with 'Sorbet Lemon Chiffon' violas.	     	
Greenhouse bed	A large planting of 'Lemony Remedy' tulips highlighted with 'Miracle Blue' stock, 'Black Seeded Simpson' lettuce, 'Hot Cakes White' stock, Snapdragon 'Rocket White' and 'Sorbet Lemon Chiffon' violas.	     	

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