

2026 Summer Seasonal Display Design Overview

This year's summer display embraces a variety of bold colors, dramatic foliage, and vibrant energy throughout the garden. Starting outside the conservatory, bright yellow colors from Canna 'Cannova Yellow', Schefflera arboricola, and Celosia 'Century Yellow', Coleus 'Flamethrower Salsa Verde', Marigold 'Garuda Yellow Bobtail' Bidens 'Bidy Gonzales Top', and Zinnia 'Profusion Lemon'. The cutting garden wall and the greenhouse beds will feature a rich palette of deep pinks and purples, highlighted by Cordyline 'Maria', Angelonia 'Angelface Super Blue', Gomphrena 'Ping Pong Lavender', SunPatiens 'Hot Pink', and Verbena 'EnduraScape Magenta'. At the porte cochere, we will find more of that happy yellow in the Carex 'Everillo', Heuchera 'Lemon Love', Coleus 'Yellow Dragon', and Tradescantia zebrina 'Yellow' while being amplified by the dark tones in the Schefflera, Dracaena, and a dark leaf Colocasia. In the Lunar Lawn beds, the pastels of spring are traded in for bold summer colors. There is an exciting row of Dianthus 'Tiny Rubies' holding in the fun and bouncy Guara 'Whirling Butterflies' and the regal Nerium Oleander 'Petite Pink'.

The motor court is surrounded by a playful pink Caladium 'Flare' and around Eros you will find an equally as playful 'Bada Boom Rose' Begonia. The French parterre will continue the fun bright theme with Marigold Taishan 'Yellow' and 'Orange' as well as Coleus 'Electric Lime' around the statue of Diana.

We'd love to share a few other exciting plants in the gardens to look out for. Gomphrena is a fun plant that looks like gumdrops and you can find them in the cutting garden, around the Lunar Lawn, in the Butler's House bed, and in the rose garden. Celosia is also a fun plant to look out for, as it looks like small flames burning amongst their floral companions—you'll be able to see it right outside of the conservatory! There are also some large Colocasia varieties sprinkled around the garden that will catch one's eye, you can find those in the greenhouse beds, south portico, the porte cochere, and Lunar Lawn. Another impressive plant with a statement to make are the Caladiums, their heart shaped leaves that have a fascinating range of color patterns cannot be missed! You can find the Caladiums around the motor court, holly walk, and near the Security entrance to the mansion.

Additional Items to Note:

- Installation of the summer display started April 27 and we anticipate it to stay in until roughly Sept 21.
- There are 9,700 plants in this display. In our greenhouses, the greenhouse team and volunteers grew 1,325 of those plants.




Thank you for your dedication to Hillwood. If you have any questions or would like to know more, please feel free to reach me at carnsworth@hillwoodmuseum.org.

Thanks!






Cicily Arnsworth, Garden Section Manager and Coordinator

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

<p>Outside conservatory</p>	<p>The main structural elements of the containers will begin with Schefflera arboricola, Canna 'Cannova Yellow', Celosia 'Century Yellow' and Colocasia 'Black Magic'. Filler plants will include Coleus 'Flamethrower Salsa Verde', Marigold 'Garuda Yellow Bobtail', Bidens 'Bidy Gonzales Top', and Carex 'Everillo' Zinnia 'Profusion Lemon'. Trailing elements such as Vinca 'Wojo's Gem', Lysmachia 'Goldilocks', Sanvitalia 'Sunvy Trailing Yellow', and Lantana 'Lucky Yellow' will also be featured.</p>	
<p>Motor court</p>	<p>The center bed around Eros will be comprised of Begonia 'Bada Boom Rose'. The outside bed edges will have Caladium 'Flare'.</p>	
<p>Motor court containers</p>	<p>The large pots will see a mix including Asparagus densiflorus 'Myersii', Sansevieria 'Moonshine' and pink quill bromeliad complimented with Begonia 'Bada Boom Rose', Coleus 'Pink Reef', and Coleus 'Lava Rose'. The Artemesia 'Silver Brocade' from fall of 2023 is still coming back strong and will provide a trailing element. The square planters are made up of Colocasia 'Black Magic' and 'Caladium 'Flare'.</p>	

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<p>Porte cochere</p>	<p>Some plants of note in the tropical display will be the Fiddle leaf fig, Schefflera, Dracaena, and a dark leaf Colocasia. These will act as a backdrop to planters containing Sansevieria 'Moonshine', Begonia 'Solenia Yellow' left in from the spring, Carex 'Everillo', Heuchera 'Lemon Love', Coleus 'Yellow Dragon', and Tradescantia zebrina 'Yellow'.</p>	
<p>Pavilion</p>	<p>Portulaca 'SeaGlass Lemon Twist' and Marigold 'Taishan Yellow'.</p>	
<p>French parterre</p>	<p>Marigold 'Taishan Orange' and 'Yellow' around the edges and 'Electric Lime' Coleus around the statue of Diana.</p>	
<p>Rose garden</p>	<p>The center bed and annual strips will be full of Gomphrena 'Las Vegas Mix'. The rose beds will be edged with Alyssum 'White Stream'.</p>	
<p>Friendship walk</p>	<p>A mix of Ageratum 'Aloha Blue', Dianthus 'Cornet White', and Vinca 'Valient Orchid' the sunnier areas and Impatiens 'Beacon Blue Pearl' and Ageratum 'Kona Blue' in the shadier areas.</p>	



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<p>Putting green</p>	<p>For the containers, Canna Lily 'Shell Pink Dwarf' surrounded by Vinca 'Valiant Mix' and Ipomea 'Heart Light Green'. This same combination will be featured in the beds without the Impomea.</p>	
<p>Lunar</p>	<p>The back row consists of broken up clusters of Nerium Oleander 'Petite Pink', Colocasia 'Black Magic', Canna 'Cannova Bronze Peach', Ruellia 'Purple Showers', Helenium 'Helena Gold', Cosmos 'Sonata Group White', Salvia 'Victoria Blue', Lantana 'Landmark Rose Glow', Gaura 'Whirling Butterflies'. The front border will have clusters of Gomphrena globosa 'Gnome Pink', Zinnia 'Profusion Lemon', Angelonia 'Archangel Pink', and a mass of Dianthus 'Tiny Rubies' traveling around the entire lawn.</p>	
<p>South portico</p>	<p>The beds will be filled with Ageratum 'Aloha Blue' and Colocasia 'Black Magic'. The pots will contain Guara 'Belleza Dark Pink'</p>	

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<p>Vista planters</p>	<p>The bouncy Gaura 'So White' will provide height while the Dichondra 'Silver Falls' will spill over the containers.</p>	
<p>Around the Dacha</p>	<p>pots are filled with more Lobelia 'Sky Blue', Torenia 'Summer Wave Blue', and pink quill bromeliad.</p>	
<p>Holly walk</p>	<p>Pockets of Impatiens 'SunPatiens Compact Rose Glow', Begonia 'Gryphon', Caladium 'Pink Beauty', Fuchsia 'Ballerina Jeté' and a spreading Begonia 'Hula Blush'.</p>	
<p>Security</p>	<p>A mix of Caladium 'Berries N' Burgundy', Impatiens 'Beacon Rose', and Euphorbia 'Stardust Super Flash'.</p>	
<p>Butler's house pots</p>	<p>Pentas 'Lucky Star Lavender' and Muehlenbeckia. Say that three times fast.</p>	

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<p>Butler's bed</p>	<p>Salvia 'Rockin Deep Purple', Dahlia 'Mystic Sparkler', Cosmos 'Apollo Mix', Angelonia 'Archangel Purple', Pentas 'Lucky Star Lavender', Scaevola 'Surdiva Blue Violet', Gazania 'New Day Rose Stripe', Salvia 'Mystic Spires', Salvia 'Wendy's Wish', Gomphrena 'QIS Mix', Gomphrena 'Audray Mix', Pentas 'Lucky Star Dark Red', Pentas 'Lucky Star Pink', Salvia 'Black and Bloom' will be added to the existing planting.</p>	
<p>Cutting garden wall</p>	<p>The Cutting Garden Wall will feature a mix of tropical foliage and long-blooming annuals, including Cordyline 'Maria', Angelonia 'Angelface Super Blue', Gomphrena 'Ping Pong Lavender', Impatiens 'SunPatiens Hot Pink', Verbena 'Endoscape Magenta', and Ipomoea 'Floramia Cameo'. Foxtail fern (Asparagus densiflorus 'Myersii') will be woven throughout the planting to provide texture, movement, and structure along the</p>	
<p>Greenhouse bed</p>	<p>Bigger elements will feature Cordyline 'Maria', Colocasia 'Black Ruffles' and Angelonia 'Angelface Super Blue'. Filler plants will include Impatiens 'SunPatiens Hot Pink', Coleus 'Heartbreaker', Verbena 'EnduraScape Blue', Coleus 'Microblaze Spitfire', and Bacopa 'Megacopa Blue'.</p>	