

## Call to Artists!

### Garden Art Totem Exhibit, Contest, and Silent Auction

We are seeking submissions of Garden Art Totems as part of our inaugural Bigleaf Magnolia Art and Garden Festival to be held in May 2019.

Would you like to display your art in our beautiful gardens amidst forest and flowers? Imagine walking through a forested trail and coming upon a vibrant totem nestled among the ferns or beneath a bigleaf magnolia tree. We would love to showcase your whimsical, beautiful, playful, colorful, creative, and/or innovative art along trails in the Van Landingham Glen, a woodland garden that is reminiscent of the mountains. Use your creative spirit and love of nature and gardens to help support our education and art programming!

We foresee our Bigleaf Magnolia Art and Garden Festival will continuously grow every year and would love for you to be a part of the groundbreaking event!

#### **Entry form:**

<https://gardens.uncc.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2019/03/Garden-Art-Totem-submission-form.pdf>

#### **Totem Guidelines:**

##### **Foundation:**

All Garden Art Totems must **begin** as 4" x 4" x 6' ground contact pressure treated posts. These can be purchased by the artist for under \$7 at the following stores:

Lowe's:

<https://www.lowes.com/pd/Severe-Weather-Common-4-in-x-4-in-x-6-ft-Actual-3-5-in-x-3-5-in-x-6-ft-2-Treated-Lumber/4560704>

Home Depot:

<https://www.homedepot.com/p/4-in-x-4-in-x-6-ft-2-Ground-Contact-Pressure-Treated-Timber-288741/301913683>

The post does not need to be used in its entirety. It may be carved, cut, embellished, or altered as you see fit. However, the bottom 18" of the post must be intact and unaltered for installation underground. It may still be painted but keep in mind this portion will not be visible once installed.

#### Decoration and embellishments:

Artists may select any media(um) for their totems, with the following stipulations:

Media should not be chosen which could be potentially dangerous to wildlife, plants, or water resources.

Media should be selected which can withstand weather and animal exposure typical of outdoor gardens. If paints or adhesives are used, they should be weather-resistant and/or the final totem should be weather treated.

Final totems can be of any shape, but must be able to be reasonably lifted and transported on foot by an average person. Our garden and landscape staff will be installing them, so please be mindful of the weight and size of your finished product. If you can't carry it, neither can we!

While planning your design, keep in mind our mission: "To inspire a love for plants and nature through programming, classes, and botanical displays."

To see some examples of totems you can refer to the following Pinterest Page:

<https://www.pinterest.com/wwilso35/painted-garden-poles/>

#### Submissions:

- Each participant may submit 1 - 2 entries
- All entries are considered donations and will be auctioned off during the Bigleaf Magnolia Art and Garden Festival; any proceeds will be retained by UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens for Art and Education programming.
- Entries, along with completed forms, may be delivered in person from 9 am - 4 pm on **Saturday, April 27** or **Wednesday, May 1, 2019** to:  
McMillan Greenhouse  
9090 Craver Road  
Charlotte, NC 28262  
Directions available at:  
<https://gardens.uncc.edu/visiting-the-gardens/directions-and-parking/>

#### Entry Fees:

- There are no entry fees. Thank you for your submission!

### Judging:

- Submissions will be judged by UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens staff and Art Department Faculty.
- Any artist who does not follow the guidelines listed above may be automatically disqualified.
- Judges have a right to disqualify any entry for any reason, including, but not limited to lack of appropriateness and quality.
- The Judges' decision is final.

### Three Prizes!

- Best of Show
  - Winner receives a UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens Family Membership (a \$60 value)\*
  - Winner receives a \$100 commission to create a Garden Art Totem to be displayed at UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens for a minimum of one year
  - Winner's work, website, and artist bio will be linked on our website
- Best Painted Totem
  - Winner receives a one-year individual membership to the UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens (a \$45 value)\*
- Best Totem of alternate medium(a)
  - Winner receives a one-year individual membership to the UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens (a \$45 value)\*

### Schedule and Use of Garden Art Totems:

- Totems must be delivered **no later than** 4 pm on Wednesday, May 1, 2019.
- Totems will be judged and installed by May 6, 2019.
- Totems will be accompanied by artists' information so that visitors can learn more about you and your art.
- Totems will be on view from May 6 - May 19, 2019.
- An opening reception for the Totems and the silent auction kick-off will be held the evening of May 17, 2019.
- The silent auction will close at 4 pm on Sunday, May 19, 2019.
- Totems will be uninstalled and available for pick-up by winners on Thursday, May 23 from 9 - 4 pm, or by appointment.
- Upon submission of a totem, it becomes the property of UNCC BG. Credited images of totems may be used for promotions and marketing.

For questions, please email Amy Tipton, Assistant Director, UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens [AmyTipton@uncc.edu](mailto:AmyTipton@uncc.edu) or Wendy Wilson, Adult Education Coordinator at [wwilso35@uncc.edu](mailto:wwilso35@uncc.edu).

Disclaimer: We love our gardens and work hard to keep them beautiful for our visitors. Please keep in mind that while we appreciate the beauty in both nature and art, we are unable to control the elements, critters or people that visit. UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens is not responsible for any damage or theft to any piece that has been submitted either before or after installation.