



THE RUTH BANCROFT  
GARDEN

## **Ruth Bancroft Garden Docent Information and Application**

Thank you for your interest in the Docent Training program at the Ruth Bancroft Garden! Our Docents play a vital role in shaping our visitor experience by leading tours for children and adults, and serving as informal Garden Hosts, orienting and welcoming visitors to the Garden.

Docent Training consists of ten 3-hour Saturday morning classes focusing on learning the history of the Garden, gaining interpretive skills, learning basic botany and dry-gardening knowhow, and building a solid knowledge base of the many species of drought-tolerant plants in our collection. Plant identification walks are conducted in the Garden (rain or shine!) and are organized by plant family, with a new family introduced each week.

Upon completion of the Docent Training Program, Docents are expected to commit to at least one 2-hour shift per month. The schedule is flexible and tours are available Tuesday-Sunday. Docent benefits include a 20% discount at the Nursery (after volunteering 20 hours) and ongoing Docent Enrichment opportunities.

The first class will be held at the Ygnacio Valley Library. All other classes will be held outdoors at the Garden.

***Docent Training Program fees: \$150 General Admission, \$100 Ruth Bancroft Garden Member.***

### **Docent Training Schedule (9:00-12:00 unless otherwise noted)**

**November 19, 2016:** Introduction to the Garden & Docent Training Program  
(\*meet at the Ygnacio Valley Library 2661 Oak Grove Road, Walnut Creek, CA )

**December 3, 2016:** Plant Family Asphodelaceae

**December 17, 2016:** Plant Family Agavaceae

**January 7, 2017:** Ruth Bancroft Garden Trees and Shrubs

**January 21, 2017:** Plant Family Crassulaceae and Introduction to Cycads

**February 4, 2017:** Plant Family Nolinaceae and Other Garden Favorites

**February 18, 2017:** Plant Families Bromeliaceae & Aizoaceae

**March 4, 2017:** California Native Plants, Australian Plants, and Proteaceae

**March 18, 2017:** Plant Families Cactaceae & Euphorbiaceae

**April 1, 2017:** Graduation Tours \*10am start

Please fill out the application on the reverse and return to the Garden or email your responses to Anna Halverson at [anna@ruthbancroftgarden.org](mailto:anna@ruthbancroftgarden.org). If you have additional questions please feel free to email Anna or call 925-944-9352.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Why would you like to be a Ruth Bancroft Garden docent?

2. What experience will you bring to your position as a Docent? Include work and volunteer experience, as well as any relevant hobbies or interests.

3. Please tell us about any other special skills (for example, fluency in another language, background in Botany).

4. How did you hear about the Docent Training Program?