

# WELCOME TO THE COLORADO SHAKESPEARE GARDENS 2009



This handout is a guide to the Colorado Shakespeare Gardens.  
Please enjoy browsing the Gardens with the help of this Guide and the signage.

## **There are Five Gardens:**

- \* WARS OF THE ROSES \* MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM \***
- \* THYME \* ELIZABETHAN \* HIGHLIGHT \***

The gardeners of the Colorado Shakespeare Gardens are reminded over and over again about the deep knowledge and love that Shakespeare had of plants. We appreciate how his horticultural knowledge, gained in part from his life growing up in the Warwickshire countryside, enrich the plays. His keen powers of observation allow him to employ plants as metaphorical vehicles, and he writes of them in ways that inform us about their medicinal and culinary uses as well as their properties and native environs.

Recognizing this, dedicated horticulturist and Shakespeare buff Marlene Cowdery created the Colorado Shakespeare Gardens in 1991. The garden group meets four times in the spring to study plays to be performed at the summer Festival, and to decide which plants and quotes will be each year in the Garden. We spend the spring months gathering and planting these herbs and blooms. The task is often arduous. Oxlip, Cowslip, Madonna Lily and Samphire typically can't be found in trays at the local supply store. Instead our gardening sleuths must hunt, often finding plants from other gardens or gardeners or on the internet. Once we locate any rare finds we order plenty, planting them also in our own gardens to fend off extinction. It is part of our mission to keep these species alive.

# THE WARS OF THE ROSES GARDEN

(Location: Courtyard's East wall, south of the Midsummer Night's Dream garden)



Rosa alba 'Semi Piena'  
The White Rose of York



David Austin's  
'Glamis Castle'



David Austin's  
'Fair Bianca'



Rosa gallica officinalis  
The Apothecary's  
Rose The Red Rose of  
Lancaster



David Austin's  
'William Shakespeare'



Rosa damascena  
versicolor  
York & Lancaster

The Tudor Rose

*"We will unite the white rose and the red."  
Richard III, Act V, v.*

# THE MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM GARDEN

(Location: Courtyard's North and East walls, on either side of the building entrance)

(North Wall)

Eglantine  
3 traditional & 1 David Austin

*"I know a bank where the Wild Thyme blows,  
Where Oxlips and the Nodding Violet grows,  
Quite over-canopied with Luscious Woodbine,  
With sweet musk roses, and white eglantine."*

*Puck, II, i*

*"Yet marked I where the bolt of cupid fell.  
It fell upon a little western flower,  
Before milk-white, now purple with love's  
wound.  
And maidens call it love-in-idleness."*

*Oberon, II, i*



*"And in the wood where often you and I  
Upon faint primrose beds were wont to lie..."*

*Hermia, I, i.*

Musk Rose, Onion  
Thymes  
Ivy window arch  
Violet  
Johnny Jump-ups;  
Heartsease  
Lily, Cowslip, Rose  
  
Ivy Topiary, Lily  
Lily, Broom  
Ivy window arch  
Heartsease

(East Wall)

# THE THYME (TIME) GARDEN

Honeysuckle

Lonicera -  
L'Graham  
Thomas'

Wild Woodbine

Woolly thyme  
(outside  
ground)

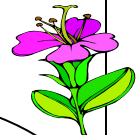
(Location: facing Courtyard's North wall, on the right)

Shakespeare Gardens  
Est. 1991  
Flagstone

*"This garden has a world of pleasures in it.  
What flower is this?" Two Noble Kinsman, Act V, I*

Lemon thyme Creeping thyme Garden Thyme

Featured Flowers: Dianthus, Tiny Rubies, Carnations



Johnny Jump-up



**Oak Tree** in memory of Marlene Cowdery, Shakespeare Gardens' Founder

(Location: Behind you as you face the The Thyme Garden)

*"As ever Oak or stone was sound..."*  
*Paulina, Twelfth Night, II.ii.*

English  
Oak

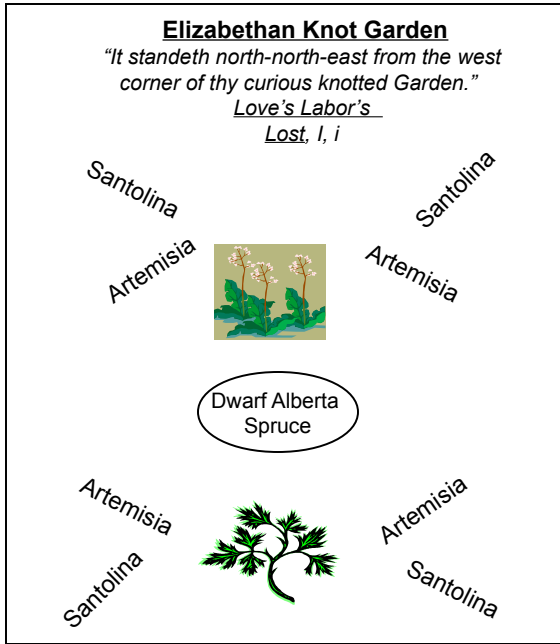
*Though to myself forsworn, to thee I'll faithful prove;  
Those thoughts to me were Oaks, to thee like osiers bowed.  
Nathaniel, Love's Labour's Lost, IV.ii.*

# THE ELIZABETHAN GARDEN

(Location: Center of Courtyard's North wall)

The Elizabethan Garden is populated with plants familiar to the Elizabethan Period (1558-1603), most of which are mentioned in the works of William Shakespeare (1564-1616).

The edging plant is Germander (*Teucrium chamaedrys*), a plant commonly used in Elizabethan knot gardens.



**Elizabethan Plant Garden**

<u>Hamlet:</u>		<u>Winter's Tale:</u>	
Crow's Flower (Ragged Robin)	Fennel	Rue	Lemon Balm
			Lavendar
		Daisy	Mint
Nettle		Marjoram	Savory
Long Purples'	Rosemary		
Lady's Mantle	Bay		Lavender
Hyssop	Calendula	Mint	
		<u>Henry V:</u>	
Bedstraw		Lemon Balm	
		Nettle	
Columbine		Strawberry	
		Leeks	
English	Daisy	Ginger	
Wormwood			Burnett
		Tufted Fescue	

**Gardening Tips From the Bard...**

*"Go thou, and like an executioner,  
 Cut off the heads of too-fast growing sprays,  
 That look too lofty in our commonwealth:  
 All must be even in our government.  
 You thus employ'd, I would go root away  
 The noisome weeds, which without profit suck  
 The soil's fertility from wholesome flowers."  
 Gardener, Richard II, Act IV, I*

*"'Tis in ourselves that we are thus or thus.  
 Our bodies are our garden to the which our wills  
 are gardeners; So that if we will plant Nettles  
 Or sow Lettuce, set Hyssop, and weed up Thyme,  
 Supply it with one gender of herbs  
 Or distract it with many,  
 Either to have it sterile with idleness,  
 Or maimed with industry,  
 Why the power and corrigible authority of this  
 Lies in our wills."  
 Iago, Othello, Act I, iii.*

**The Colorado Shakespeare Gardens:**

- Were founded by Marlene Cowdery in 1991
- Provide visitors with the opportunity to view a selection of flowers and vegetables referenced in the plays
- Plants are selected, planted, and cared for by volunteers
- Enjoy the interest and support of the University of Colorado and the Colorado Shakespeare Festival
- Address: PO Box 20355, Boulder, 80308

Thanks to Philip Sneed for his support and encouragement of this Garden:

*And this our life, exempt from public haunt,  
 Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks,  
 Sermons in stones, and good in everything.  
 - Duke Senior, As You Like It, II, i.*

Thanks to: Lola Wilcox and Mary Karen Euler for the Garden Guide design; to "Fritz" Michael Kinsey for the painting on the first page; & to Chet Anderson of the Fresh Herb Company for plant donations and for being so faithful in over-wintering the Rosemary for so many years.



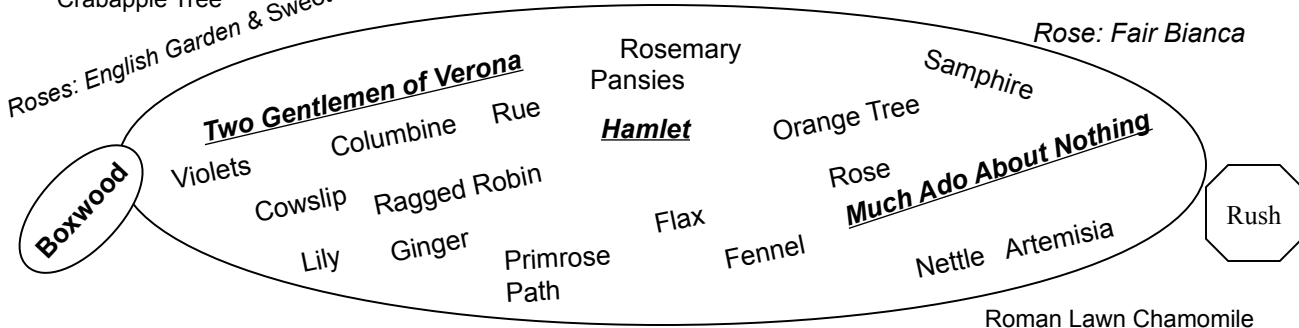
View "Garden" at [www.coloradoshakes.org](http://www.coloradoshakes.org).

We want and welcome new Members; Please call L. Wilcox at 303.324.8434

# THE HIGHLIGHT GARDEN - 2009

Location: facing Courtyard's North wall, on the left.

Crabapple Tree  
Roses: English Garden & Sweet Juliet



The Highlight Garden holds flowers, herbs, and vegetables mentioned in the Colorado Shakespeare Festival's current seasons' plays. Plant reference quotes from the plays are provided in this Guide and on the Garden signage.

## Much Ado About Nothing

*I would rather be a canker in a hedge than a rose in his grace.*  
- Don John, [Act I, iii](#)

*An oak with but one green leaf on it would have answered her.*  
- Benedict, [Act II, i](#)

*The count is neither sad nor sick, nor merry, nor well; but civil count, civil as an orange, and something of that jealous complexion.*  
- Beatrice, [Act II, iii](#)

*Alas, poor hurt fowl! Now will he creep into the sedges.*  
- Benedict, [Act II, i](#)

*And bid her steal into the pleached bower where honeysuckle ripen'd by the sun, forbid the sun to enter.*  
- Hero, [Act III, i](#)

*Margaret: Get you some of this distilled carduus benedictus, and lay it to your heart; it is the only thing for qualm*

*Hero: There thou prickest her with a thistle.*

*Beatrice: Benedictus! Why Benedictus? You have some moral in this Benedictus.*

*Margaret: No by my troth, I have no moral meaning: I meant plain Holy Thistle.*  
- [Act III, iv](#)



## Two Gentlemen of Verona

*Yet writers sa, as in the sweetest bud  
The eating canker dwells, so eating love  
Inhabits in the finest wits of all.*  
- Proteus, [Act I, i](#)

*What is't that you took up so gingerly?*  
- Julia, [Act I, ii](#)

*...look you, she is a white as a lily and as small as a wand.*  
- Launce, [Act II, iii](#)

*Disdain to root the summer-swelling flower  
And make rough winter everlastingly.*  
- Valentine, [Act II, iv](#)

*...The current that with gentle murmur glides,  
Thou knowest, being stopped, impatiently doth rage;  
But when his fair course is not hindered,  
He makes sweet music with the enameled stones,  
Giving a gentle kiss to every sedge  
He overtaketh in his pilgrimage.*  
- Julia, [Act II, vii](#)

*But since she did neglect her looking glass,  
And threw her sun-expelling mask away,  
The air hath starved the roses in her cheeks  
And pinched the lily-tincture of her face,  
And now she is become as black as I.*  
- Julia, [Act IV, iv](#)

## Hamlet

*'Tis an unweeded garden that grows to seed.*  
- Hamlet, [Act I, ii](#)

*Leave her to Heaven  
And to those thorns that in her bosom lodge,  
To prick and sting her.*  
- Ghost, [Act I, v](#)

*O, God, I could be bounded in a nut-shell and  
Count myself a king of infinite space, were it  
Not that I have bad dreams.*  
- Hamlet, [Act II, ii](#)

*Do not, as some ungracious pastors do,  
Show me the steep and thorny way to heaven,  
Whilst, like a puff'd and reckless libertine,  
Himself the Primrose path of dalliance treads...*  
- Ophelia [Act II, iii](#)

*I would give you some Violets, but they withered  
all when my father died.*  
- Ophelia [Act IV, v](#)

*And from her fair and unpolluted flesh  
May Violets spring.*  
- Laertes [Act V, I](#)

