Adopt A Tree
The Future Will Thank You
“As we become more and more city creatures, living in manmade surroundings, perhaps gardens will become even more precious to us, letting us remember that we began in the garden.”

-- Eulalie Wagner

In 1987, Eulalie Wagner donated her estate to the Friends of Lakewold to steward the preservation of Lakewold Gardens.

Trees sustain life. They provide homes for innumerable birds, animals, insects, and organisms while providing resources for humans. They protect us, provide shade, and inspire us with their beauty. Trees began to populate the earth around 360 million years ago, but researchers have only recently learned that, within forests, trees communicate to nurture each other through underground fungi networks. For many of us here on Earth, trees have spiritual connotations. Almost every religion or mythology has a tree associated with it: trees of life, knowledge, immortality, and the granters of wishes. The World Tree in Norse legend symbolizes unity, linking earth, heaven, and the underworld. In trees, spirits dwell; in mythology, trees talk, advise, and create sacred spaces. C.S. Lewis imagined a wood between the worlds, while his contemporary and friend J.R.R. Tolkien’s ENTS protect forests and defeat evil. Trees symbolize stability, longevity, renewal, and connect us to the ancient world. They give us hope and instill peace.
The Trees of Lakewold are an invaluable resource. These trees live on the last undivided property remaining from the era in which what is today the City of Lakewood, WA was known as the Lakes District. There are 250 trees across the ten acres of ornamental gardens that make up Lakewold Gardens. Some are unusual prized specimens such as the magnificent Dawn Redwood, Metasequoia. Trustee Kate Read and Lead Horticulturist Kristine Dillinger selected ten Tier One Trees and ten Tier Two Trees for an annual adoption campaign. The price of adoption reflects the value of preserving Lakewold as the trees’ forever home and underwrites the cost of caring for specific trees.

Each tree brings visitors joy and instills a sense of well-being. Our campaign includes provisions for the planting of a screen of incense cedars for the north side of the property near the quatrefoil pool. There is a place for everyone to donate. Every gift makes a difference and is received with gratitude.

During this live and virtual campaign we will explore the Environmental Impact of Trees, the Ecology of Trees, and the Mythology of Trees through a variety of activities. We will offer activities in the garden and activities for home, and Lakewold will host speakers on tree topics—both in-person and virtual. Trees can be adopted by individuals, families, groups of friends, businesses, and in honor of just about anything!
Empress Tree
or Princess Tree
or Foxglove Tree

*Paulownia tomentosa*

Standing alone on Flag Lawn, the empress tree commands the attention of visitors as they round Circle Drive toward the house. It was planted in the 1960s after the drive was completed. With its wide rounded crown, large trunk, and huge heart-shaped, light-green deciduous leaves this tree creates a lot of biomass and does it quickly, as it is growing up to 50 feet. The empress tree is cherished for its fragrant lavender purple panicles of flowers, which it produces in abundance in May if conditions are just right: a hot summer the previous year and no late frost to damage the flower buds. The empress tree provides an additional season of interest with its fine yellow fall color. This tree belongs to the Scrophulariaceae (foxglove) family and is native to China. It was given to Mrs. Wagner by the Garden Clubs of America.

LOCATION: Flag lawn
59’ x 10.1’ x 34”
Possibly the most asked about tree on the property, the dawn redwood never fails to engage visitors. As a deciduous conifer, the show starts in early spring with the emergence of new soft, light green needles which darken to a rich green by early summer and stand out against the background of the deeply furrowed, dark brown bark. Then in fall the needles take on rich tones of orange, red, and pink which look glorious against the expanse of lawn that surrounds it. When the needles drop the tree is then encircled with a ring of copper-gold for weeks. This tree belongs to the Cupressaceae (cypress) family and if you examine the square cones you can see why. Dawn redwood was considered extinct until fossil records and a specimen found in China in 1943 were determined to be the same genus. Seed for propagation was shared with horticultural institutions and collectors in the United States beginning in 1948.

LOCATION: Veranda
87.8’ x 15.75’ x 56”
Wolf Tree
or Douglas Fir

Pseudotsuga menziesii

Lakewold calls this very unusual Douglas-fir specimen the Wolf Tree. What transpired in its youth to cause it to grow into this sprawling multi-leader form is unknown, but it became the centerpiece of the Shade Garden designed by Thomas Church in the 1960s and has remained such ever since. Its character is enhanced by the fact that the crotches of its almost horizontal branches provide the perfect home for epiphytic ferns. Understanding its names can be tricky since Pseudotsuga, which translates false hemlock, is in the Pinaceae (pine) family even though its common name is Douglas-fir, and its 1” needles are not clustered like pines, nor do its cones stick up on its branches like true firs. But once you learn to recognize it, it is difficult to forget as it has corky bark with distinctive deep fissures and 1 ½” long dangling brown cones with bracts. Douglas-fir may be the most common evergreen conifer west of the Cascade crest from British Columbia to California, but none of those multitudes of straight timber trees have the awe-inspiring character of the Wolf Tree.

LOCATION: Shade Garden
134’ x 16.1’ x 61.4”
Copper Beech or Purple Beech

Fagus sylvatica Atropurpurea Group

With a sturdy, smooth white trunk, low, wide spreading branches, and purple ruffled leaves that move gracefully in the wind, this very large specimen, located at the top of Erythronium Way, is commented on regularly by visitors. When planted, this specimen was paired with a burgundy-leaved Japanese maple so the foliage of each would be enhanced by presence of the other. The specific epithet (the second portion the botanical name) *sylvatica* means of the woods or forests, in this case the forests of central and southern Europe. Copper beech is monoecious, meaning it has both male and female flowers on the same tree. Though beeches may not flower as young trees, this copper beech specimen is of an age where it does flower and bear edible fruit yearly: a triangular nut with a prickly casing, which is favored by wildlife. This tree is a member of the Fagaceae (beech) family. A visit to this tree in autumn allows one to play in the small mountains of leaves it drops on the lawn.

LOCATION: Downhill from the Knot Garden
108’ x 9.75’ x 29.5’
Garry Oak
or Oregon White Oak

Quercus garryana

The native Garry oaks of Lakewold are a key part of a culturally and ecologically important, now rare but once expansive, gravelly prairie habitat found west of the Cascades from Vancouver Island BC into Marin County, California. Its botanical and one of its common names is a reminder of the colonial expansion and subsequent development that has threatened its habitat—Nicholas Garry was an official with the Hudson’s Bay Company. The Garry oak can grow 65 to 100 feet with forms ranging from straight to meandering. Our favorite of the Lakewold Garry oak specimens is one with a low horizontal leader that acts as an entry arch over the path to the Woodland. Visit the tree and feel its distinctive, deeply fissured bark. In spring watch for the catkins which appear before the lobed light green leaves. Acorns produced by the tree are often eaten by ducks but can also easily be planted to seed new trees. In the autumn the dark green leaves turn brown, fall to the ground, and persist as mulch for several years. This oak belongs to the Fagaceae (beech) family.

LOCATION: Entrance to path to ponds
26’ x 3.3’ x 11.5”
Purple or Red Leaf
Japanese Maple

*Acer palmatum* Atropurpureum

In 1996 this Japanese maple was measured by Robert Van Pelt and deemed to be the Champion Tree of its kind in the state and is almost as wide as it is tall. The bench below it provides a perfect spot to sit and gaze upward into its colorful leaves which emerge purple, then turn a darker bronze in summer and scarlet red in autumn. Purple Japanese maples are small to medium sized delicately branches deciduous trees with 5 to 7 serrated lobes on their simple leaves. They belong to the Aceraceae (maple) family. The specific epithet *palmatum* is a reference to the hand-like appearance of the leaves. *A. palmatum atropurpureum* is originally from Japan, Korea and China but are now propagated widely from seed within the United States and is the parent of many popular Japanese maple cultivars.

LOCATION: Circle Drive
40’ x 6.2’ x 23.6”
Giant Sequoia or Sierra Redwood or Big Tree or Wellingtonia

Sequoiadendron giganteum

Given a possible lifespan of thousands of years (one known specimen in Sequoia National Park is estimated to be 2400 years old), Lakewold’s giant sequoias are in their youth and are still easily identified from a distance because of their strong conical form and symmetrical growth. As giant sequoias mature their canopies widen providing self-contained habitat for some animal species. Topping out at 375’, they are big trees. While they are not the tallest tree on earth, they are the most massive. “One giant sequoia may contain more wood than an entire old growth Eastern hardwood forest can grow in 2 acres.” (Dr. Reese Halter) Currently native to the Sierra Nevada foothills, this species’ range once extended from Alaska to the Midwestern United States and beyond. Up close they can be identified by their thick reddish, furrowed bark, scale-like leaves, and 3 ½” egg-shaped brown cones that hang off the branches. Sequoiadendron is in the Cupressaceae (cypress) family.

LOCATION: Downhill from Overlook
144’ x 15.5’ x 51.5”
Coast Redwood
or California Redwood

Sequoia sempervirens

In its native habitat from Southern Oregon to Santa Cruz California it is a coastal tree that utilizes its proximity to fog created by the Pacific Ocean to aid in providing for its water needs. Planted at the bottom of the waterfall system, Lakewold’s specimen typifies the species with its multiple leaders, a tall pyramidal habit, stringy red bark, small red-brown cones and dark short, two-ranked green needles. Its fast growth and longevity allow it to achieve great heights. The tallest specimen measured thus far in Redwoods National Park is 379’ tall. Lakewold’s coast redwood may not yet have achieved a third of its possible growth. Sequoia is in the Cupressaceae (cypress) family.

LOCATION: North of Picnic Point
116’ x 16.7’ x 66’
**Persian Ironwood**
or **Persian Parrotia**
or **Irontree**

*Parrotia persica*

A multi-trunked tree with wide spreading, upswept branches and mottled, flaky bark in shades of brown, green and pale pink. Apetalous red flowers appear in early spring before the leaves. The wavy simple leaves, resembling that of a witch-hazel, provide multi seasons of interest. Leaves emerge reddish-purple, fade to medium green through the summer, and in fall turn shades of yellow, orange and red. Persian ironwood is native to Iran, Iraq, Turkey, and the Caucasus, where its dense wood is used in construction and tools. This deciduous tree belongs to the Hamamelidaceae (witch-hazel) family.

LOCATION: Picnic Point
48.8’ x 4.75’ x 17’
Katsura Tree
or Japanese Katsura

Cercidiphyllum japonicum

The Katsura tree has a secret it uses to grasp attention: even when its maturity makes viewing its canopy difficult, its fragrance makes one wonder where the Crème Brûlée is? In the fall, its blue-green 2” heart-shaped leaves turn light orange or yellow and when crushed by the footfalls of passersby emit an aroma like caramelized sugar. This tree is also a favorite of the neighborhood sapsuckers, so rows of holes in the bark made by their beaks will assist in locating the tree on the path to Picnic Point. Mature trees range from 40 to 60 feet in height and about 20-35 feet in width. Katsura tree is in the Cercidiphyllaceae (katsura) family and is its sole member. Its native range is parts of China and Japan.

LOCATION: Right side of path to Picnic Point
66’ x 5.25’ x 20.5”
**Lion’s Head**
**Japanese Maple**
*Acer palmatum*

A small, slow-growing tree whose upright, tight, compact growth creates layers of deep green curled leaves that appear to be stacked on top of each other. From a distance, this growth effects a sculpted appearance. Its leaves turn brilliant gold in autumn before falling from the tree. Lakewold’s mature specimen at Picnic Point exemplifies the desired form which requires very little pruning—just the passing of time—to achieve. This unique maple belongs to the Aceraceae (maple) family and is native to Japan, Korea, and China.

**LOCATION:** North of Wee Scree
26’ x 2.7’ x 13”
**Tier 2**
$5,000

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**Japanese Snow Bell**
**Styrax japonicus**

The graceful spreading branches of a pair of Japanese snowbell trees overhang the French Hunter and Gather sculptures to perfume the forecourt in late spring. The blossoms of these small deciduous trees are pendulous clusters of ¾” waxy, white bells and the foliage is glossy green and upward facing, which better allows the flowers to show from a distance. Greenish-brown olive-shaped fleshy fruits follow the flowers. These trees were likely planted at the time of the redesign of the parking area in front of the house in the 1960s. Japanese snowbell is in the Styracaceae (storax) family and is native to Japan, China and Korea.

**LOCATION:** Front of house at Flag Lawn
16.5’ x 2.85’ x 12”
**Tier 2**
$5,000
**Franklin Tree**  
*Franklinia alatahama*

Named for Benjamin Franklin, this difficult to grow, extremely rare small tree is an example of the important role gardens play in global plant conservation. Once native to the Altamaha River region of Georgia (USA) it has been extinct in the wild since 1803 and is now exists only in private and public gardens, which preserve its genetics for the future. Lakewold is fortunate to be home to a Franklin tree specimen in the Fern Garden along circle drive. Its fragrant five-petal white flowers with striking yellow stamens bloom in late summer and its medium green deciduous leaves turn deep red in the fall. *Franklinia* is in the Theaceae (tea) family.

**LOCATION:** Edge of Fern Garden  
15’ x 2’ x 2.5”  
**Tier 2**  
**$5,000**

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**Carolina Silverbell**  
*Halesia carolina*

A medium-sized multi-trunked understory tree native to the southern United States with a wide spreading crown. In late spring, Carolina silverbell erupts in a profusion of pendulous bell shaped flowers at the same time new light green foliage emerges. Flowers are followed by a red-brown winged fruit. At Lakewold this tree can be found to the north of the quatrefoil pool and blooms in concert with white flowering dogwoods and cherries, creating a stunning display. In fall the 2 to 5” long toothed leaves turn yellow. Carolina silverbell is in the Styracaceae (Storax) family.

**LOCATION:** North of the Pool  
63’ x 11.25’ x 12”  
**Tier 2**  
**$5,000**
Japanese Maple
* Acer palmatum ‘Deshojo’ 

While Japanese maples are often noted for their fine red fall color, the Deshojo Japanese maple also has bright red new growth which lights up the canopy above the large pond in the woodland garden in early spring. Its 2” leaves then fade first to pink and then to light green through summer before turning red-orange again in the autumn before falling. This small deciduous tree aids in creating one of the most tranquil settings on the property. Enjoy a picnic on the bench across the pond and leisurely take in the changing light throughout the day. *Acer palmatum ‘Deshojo’* belongs to the Aceraceae (Maple) family.

LOCATION: Down hill from Overlook
20’ x 1.75’ x 6.5”

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Chilean Fire Tree
* Embothrium coccineum 

For much of the year, the Chilean fire tree goes unnoticed in the sea of green at the edge of the Woodland Garden. In late spring, however, it puts on a spectacular show of orange-red tubular firework-like flowers which turn heads and attract hummingbirds for several weeks. The Chilean fire tree is evergreen, with lance-shaped leathery leaves and a slender overall form that grows to 40’. Native to Chile, this dramatic small tree easily makes itself at home in our mild PNW gardens. It is in the Protaceae (protea) family.

LOCATION: Woodland edge east of Shade Garden
35.15’ x 3.45’ x 11”
Mrs Wagner’s cutting edge taste in plant material resulted in Lakewold possessing many specimens that were once rare but are now widely grown and extolled for their excellent qualities. One of these is the paperbark maple. Viewed from a distance this small trees’ fine branching and texture stand out, while an up-close inspection reveals a striking coppery-brown exfoliating bark, which when illuminated appears to glow gold. The whitish-gray undersides of its trifoliate toothed leaves can are easily viewed on its upward reaching branches. This tree is also particularly beautiful in fall when its dark blue-green leaves turn shades of yellow, orange, red and pink. Paperbark maple is member of the Sapindaceae (soapberry) family and is native to China.

The dove tree is well worth a trip down the north slope of the property in late spring. This tall, narrowly pyramidal tree flowers against a backdrop of mixed conifers. Horticultural references suggest the max height is 60’, our specimen has surpassed this mark already. However, it is not the purple flowers that draw one’s attention, as the flowers are hidden beneath 3” long white drooping bracts that flutter in the wind and give the tree its multiple common names. Its botanical name is a nod to a French missionary, Armand David, the first European to record its description in 1896. Native to southwestern China, it is a member of the Nyssaceae (sour gum) family.
Pair of Stewartias
Stewartia monadelpha & Stewartia pseudocamellia

On the left side of the path to Picnic Point two different species of Stewartia were planted together to provide an opportunity to appreciate the beauty of each while also noting the differences between them. S. monadelpha is commonly called orangebark stewartia for its striking exfoliating orange bark. S. pseudocamellia, commonly called Japanese stewartia, has exfoliating bark as well but it is smooth underneath and distinctly mottled in shades of gray, tan and red. Both boast a lovely branching structure and beautiful white camellia-like flowers with orange anthers that bloom in early summer. Both display excellent fall color with serrated leaves that turn deep red for several weeks. These trees are in the Theaceae (tea) family.

LOCATION:
Left side of path to Picnic Point
20.8’ x 1.8’ x 6”
35.4’ x 1.8’ x 6”
Group of Five Rhododendron

Individuals within this group were selected in order to showcase excellent fragrance and foliage, tree-like stature, or rarity in cultivation. *R. ‘Sir Charles Lemon’* is a very large specimen named after its breeder. It has red-spotted white com-panulate flowers, lovely warm red indumentum (hairs below the leaf), and white new growth. *R. ‘Loderi King George’* is one of the first rhododendrons you see when you enter the garden. In early May its fragrant flowers have pink buds that open a pale pink and then fade to white with a green throat. Trusses hold 10-12 flowers. *R. ‘Fragrantissimum’* is tender and thrives best with some protection, thus its placement in the walled Library Courtyard. This variety is grown for its very dark green crinkled foliage and a tour-stopping honeysuckle-like fragrance. *R. ‘Fragrantissimum’* has been winning awards of merit since the 1860s. Flowers are white with a touch of yellow in the throat and a blush of pink on the outside of the petal. *R. rothschildii C. Smith*, positioned along a corner on Circle Drive, is a species rhododendron that has not yet flowered for us, thus we do not yet know what color its flowers will be, but it draws the eye nonetheless with its foliage. With glossy, deep green 10-12” leaves, warm tan indumentum, and contrasting lighter green upright new growth, the whole ensemble pairs nicely with the furrowed, brown bark of the Douglas-fir on whose base the shrub is planted. *R.’Loderi Pretty Polly’* has the same (fortunei ssp. *Fortunei* x *griffithianum*) parentage as *R. ‘Loderi King George’* but instead of its flowers fading to white they remain pink. Found along the path to Picnic Point, this specimen has become tree-like in its stature.
What does your one-year adoption come with?

**Tier One $10,000 Trees**
- A one-year adoption certificate
- A framed rendering of your tree by local artist Jennifer Van Holstein
- Recognition signage for one year in the garden near your tree
- Recognition of adoption in the Trees of Lakewold education booklet
- Seasonal photos of your tree
- A year-long membership to the garden
- Invitations to particular adoptive parents’ events in the gardens
- A special December 5th concert in the house with internationally acclaimed musicians James Jelasic, piano, and Jon Lackey, tenor to celebrate The Future Will Thank You Campaign
- The Future will Thank You - Tree Ambassador Stickers

**Tier Two $5,000 Trees**
- A one-year adoption certificate
- Recognition signage for one year in the garden near your tree
- Recognition of adoption in the Trees of Lakewold education booklet
- A year-long membership to the garden
- Invitations to particular adoptive parents’ events in the gardens
- A special December 5th concert in the house with internationally acclaimed musicians James Jelasic, piano, and Jon Lackey, Tenor to celebrate The Future Will Thank You Campaign
- The Future will Thank You - Tree Ambassador Stickers

Help us create a Living Fence

**Screen of Incense Cedars | $25 - $5,000 donation levels accepted**

With its modest watering needs, a living fence of incense cedars, *Calocedrus decurrens*, is a part of Lakewold’s overall water conservation plan. Additionally, the privacy and noise reduction provided by a bank of these trees will enhance the intimate feel of the garden. These dense evergreen trees with a narrowly columnar habit are suitable for use as a tall living fence. Needing little if any pruning and once established requires little supplemental water, these trees are a good choice for areas outside the bounds of the garden’s irrigation system.

- For this donation you will receive The Future will Thank You - Tree Ambassador Stickers
The Benefits of Adoption

• Preserve a tree for the future
• Preserve its home garden
• Preserve a place where all can enjoy peace and flourish in harmony with nature
• Preserve a nature sanctuary in the city, state, country, and world
• Preserve a home for creatures of all kind
• Bring joy to you and all

To Adopt A Tree today:

Contact Susan Warner
253.584.4106
swarner@lakewoldgardens.org

or

Fill out and return the enclosed envelope

The Future Will Thank You

LIMITS OF ADOPTION - Tree adoptions are symbolic and do not constitute ownership of any tree. The Friends of Lakewold retain all property rights to all trees. Adoption is for a one year period on receipt of funds. Adopted trees cannot be harmed in any way, including removal of branches or foliage and nothing may be attached to the trees. Tree maintenance is the purview of Horticulture staff. Trees may be photographed and said images may be used for business or family promotions that are wholesome and suitable for all audiences. Friends of Lakewold is not responsive for unforeseen and uncontrollable events that might damage a tree such as weather related injury, earthquakes or disease during an adoption period.
MISSION
Lakewold Gardens provides intentional encounters with the life-changing power of nature, fostering peace, creativity and healing in our communities.

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