

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 11 | NOVEMBER 2026

Miller Lecture features Brian Thompson



The Pendleton & Elisabeth Carey Miller Charitable Foundation presents the Elisabeth C. Miller Memorial Lecture Webinar featuring Brian R.Thompson speaking on **Thirty Years of Stories, Insights, and Wonders in the Miller Library.**

Brian highlights some of his favorite books, authors, and illustrators that he has come to know and love from the shelves of the Miller Library. This includes passionate gardeners from hundreds of years ago, storytellers of the wonders of the natural world, and insights into the depth of knowledge and history that can be found about his favorite plants.

As a life-long Western Washington gardener, Brian found a career that combines his deep interest in horticulture with his love of books. He became a librarian at the Miller Library in early 1997, taking on the dual roles of manager and curator of horticultural literature and rare books in 2007.



Brian was a winner of the Charles Robert Long Award of Extraordinary Merit in 2026 for his many years of work in promoting new and outstanding literature in botany and horticulture. His special focus on lesser known but important authors and publishers have made the book reviews and monthly new book lists of the Miller Library a valuable resource for horticultural libraries and enthusiastic gardeners throughout North America.

Watch Brian's talk

The webinar is available now through December 31. Brian has also provided a **list** of the books he mentions, for listeners who want to learn more. We encourage everyone to visit the Miller Library by Friday, November 13 to add an entry to Brian's memory book.

Paintings & Prints by Molly Hashimoto



Seattle resident Molly Hashimoto's paintings and prints have been published for more than 30 years as note cards, holiday cards, calendars, and children's books by Pomegranate Communications. Her artistic works have been exhibited throughout the Pacific Northwest. Teaching is an important part of her artistic journey and she has offered library programs around the Puget Sound for many years, sharing her appreciation for nature with the public.

Molly's **books** include *Colors of the West: An Artist's Guide to Nature's Palette, Mount Rainier National Park: An Artist's Tour, Birds of the West: An Artist's Guide, Trees of the West: An Artist's Guide,* and *Wildflowers of the West: An Artist's Guide.*

Molly will be presenting a public demonstration of her work process at the Miller Library on Tuesday, November 3 from 1:30-3:30pm. She is one of several artists participating in our December Arts & Crafts Exhibit & Sale, with a Meet the Artists event scheduled for Monday, December 7 from 5:00-7:00pm.

E-Books from the Horticulture Library Consortium

Borrowers can now check out e-books from the Miller Library through the Libby app. In Libby, choose "add library," look for "Seattle Botanic," choose "sign in with my card" and enter your username from our online catalog. Those who prefer accessing e-books in their browser can do so at **hortlibrary.overdrive.com**. Click "Sign in," choose "Seattle Botanic Gardens" and enter your username. For help, reach out to Nick Williams at nwilliams@seattlebg.org. To register as a new borrower, visit the library with photo identification showing your address in Washington.

Browse E-Books

TreeNotes by Nalini Nadkarni

REVIEWED BY PRISCILLA GRUNDY

Every time we walk outdoors, city or country, Nalini Nadkarni wants us to pay attention to the trees we see. *TreeNotes* consists of 300-word mini essays on how to do it.

Nadkarni is a forest ecologist and a National Geographic Society Explorer at Large. When she was nine years old and a regular climber of trees, she decided to protect trees as her life's work, which she has done. This book grew out of her Utah radio program modeled on *Bird Notes,* a program sponsored by the Seattle Audubon Society, now Birds Connect Seattle.



The entries cover a multitude of tree-related subjects. For instance, one explains pykrete, a construction material made from sawdust. Another explores the spaces between trees in a forest. South American rain forests have less space between trees that Asian rain forests. Scientists have used this information to explain why more canopy-dwelling animals live in South America: It's easier for the animals there to move between trees that are closer together.

An entry on chopsticks encourages readers to bring their own to sushi cafes, to reduce deforestation. Another on corkscrews suggests asking for real corks rather than synthetic ones when ordering wine, to help in the battle to preserve cork trees' diminishing habitat. *TreeNotes* is divided by seasons. Read it through or read one entry a day to add a fillip to life. Each entry is well written and loaded with information for tree lovers.

Ask a Librarian

The Plant Answer Line provides quick answers to gardening questions.
Reach the reference staff at 206-897-5268, by email at pal@millerlibrary.libanswers.com, or from our website, **www.millerlibrary.org**.

Digital Resources



Plant Sales | **Garden Tours**



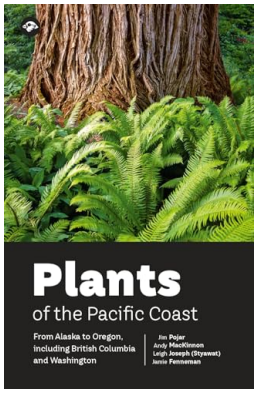
Book Reviews

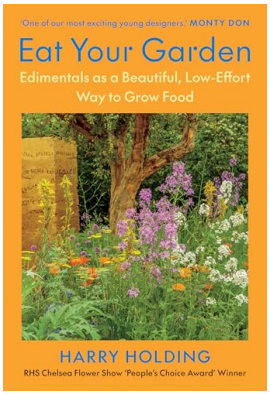
Horticulture Library Consortium

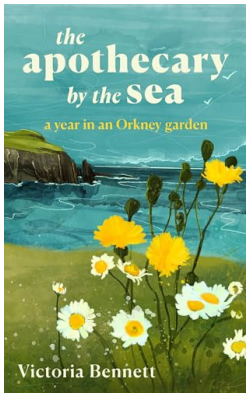
E-books

New to the Library

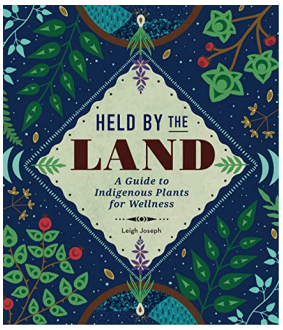
(click above link to see all new print titles)

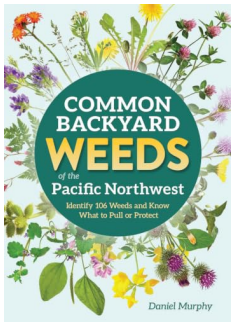


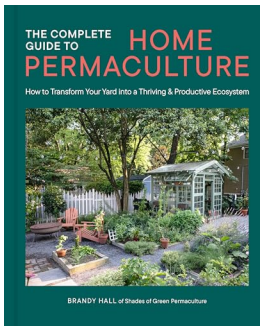


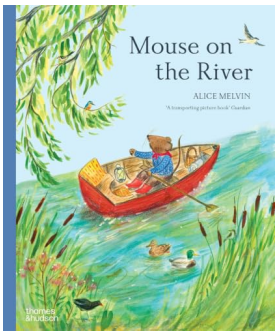














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The Miller Library is now part of Seattle Botanic Gardens. **Learn more**