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UW Botanic Gardens Newsletter, Vol 9 Issue 12, December 2014

We passionately believe plants make the world a better place.

Upcoming Events

- 12/5 [Holiday Art and Gift Sale and Reception](#)
- 12/6 [Holiday Tablescapes](#)
- 12/6 [Birds in Winter Story Program](#)
- 12/9 [Fiddleheads - Animals in Winter](#)
- 12/20 [Fiddleheads - Evergreen Trees](#)
- 1/3 [All Year Round Story Program](#)

[See all events »](#)

Free Weekend Walks



There are no scheduled walks in December. Weekend Walks resume in January. See you next year!

Season's Greetings



Do you believe plants are the answer? Then grow with us as we enrich the lives of all who visit our gardens or participate in one of

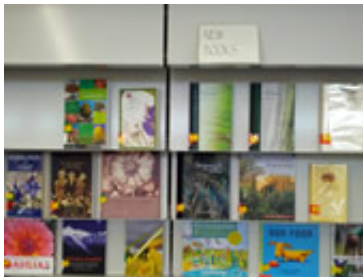
On Exhibit in the Miller Library



From December 5 - 23, the Miller Library will have a selection of locally made arts and crafts available for purchase. Nature inspired gifts such as hand made tiles, letter press cards, and felted wool flower pins will delight recipients.

Join us for refreshments at the opening reception and sale on Friday, December 5th from 5 to 8pm.

New Books in the Library



our programs. [GIVE A GIFT TODAY!](#)

Holiday shopping to delight and inspire

There are so many opportunities to give unique presents that will also benefit the UW Botanic Gardens:

- One-of-a-kind [framed Herbarium specimen](#)
- [Gift certificates](#) for adult classes
- [Gift certificates](#) for Fiddleheads family nature classes
- The Miller Library [gift show](#) features handmade prints, cards, tiles, felt flowers, and more
- The [Arboretum gift shop](#) is filled with beautiful jewelry, books for nature lovers, and fantastic items for all ages

Winter class schedule now available

Check out our complete [course catalog](#) (pdf) for classes January through March. Whether you are a novice gardener or an experienced horticulturist, you are sure to find something to pique your interest! [See schedule highlights](#).

Fragrance Garden renovation enters phase two

The Fragrance Garden at the Center for Urban Horticulture is being refreshed with help from our partner, the Seattle Garden Club. The ailing snakebark maple will be removed and new scented plants will be added. [Read more about the renovation](#).



December 2014 Plant Profile: Schlumbergera

Looking nondescript throughout most of the year, the so-called “Christmas cactus” puts on a tremendous show as the holidays arrive in November and December. If you are the recipient of one of these holiday gift plants, follow a [simple care regime](#) to guarantee flowering every winter for years to come.



Family: CACTACEAE

Genus: *Schlumbergera*

Species: × *buckleyi* (T.Moore) Tjaden = *S. russelliana* × *S. truncata*; *S. Buckleyi* Group is the most common.

Cultivar: Assorted named cultivars exist, but often offered by color only

Common Name: Thanksgiving/Christmas Cactus, Zygo-Cactus

Location: CUH Douglas Conservatory Entry

Origin: Wild species originate from SE Brazil

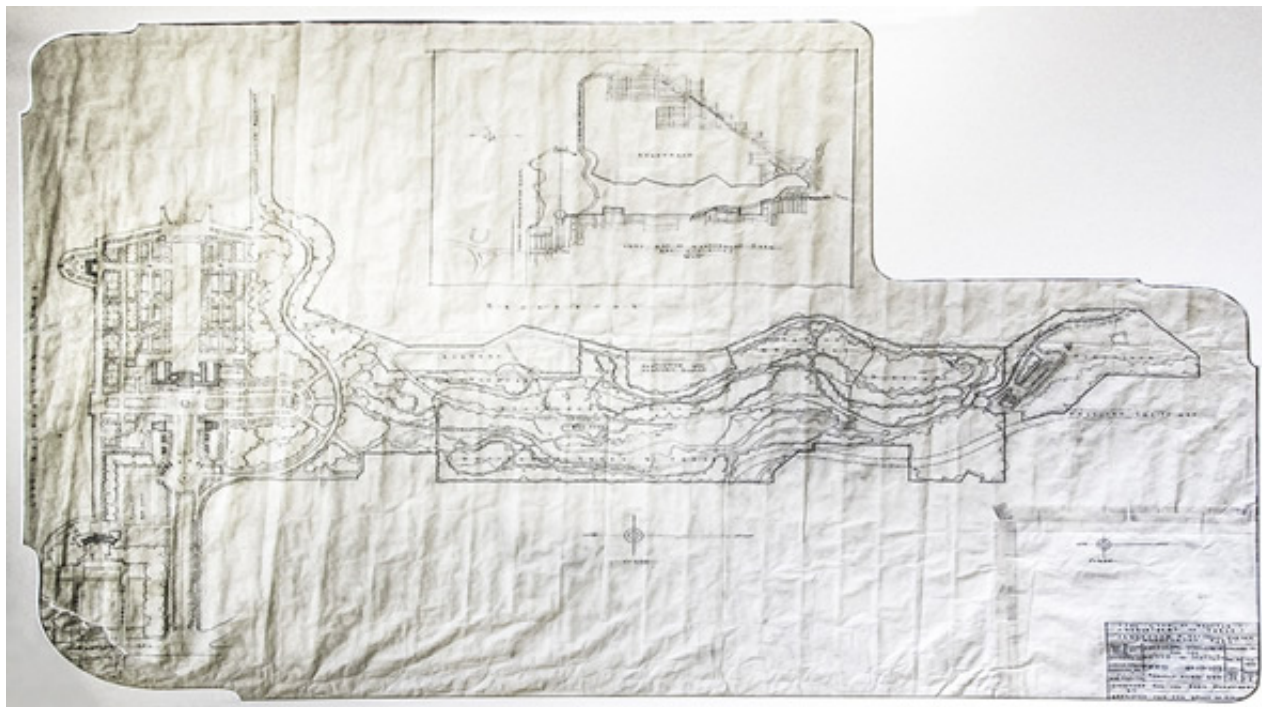
Height and Spread: 1.5-2' high with stems that can drape 3-4'. long

Bloom/Fruit Time: November-early January

[Read the full Plant Profile.](#)

Glimpse of the past - Leissler's 1934 design for the Arboretum

By John A. Wott, Director Emeritus



An historic document connected to the early “life” of the Washington Park Arboretum has been found. It is the (believed) first design for the Arboretum, prepared in 1934 by Frederick Leissler, landscape architect in the Seattle Department of Parks. [Continue reading](#) to learn about Leissler’s design and how Professor Wott learned about the document’s existence.

Twigs

What treasures do preschoolers find in their “magic spots” at the Fiddleheads Nature School? Find out about the [“Vitamin N” children receive](#) at the Washington Park Arboretum everyday.

Help us grow our nature-loving community by liking and sharing our [Facebook posts](#), inviting your friends to subscribe to E-Flora or joining one of our [support organizations](#).

Explore New Zealand’s must-see botanical treasures and view impressive specialty collections next November 2015 on a tour led by UW Botanic Gardens Director Sarah Reichard. [Full itinerary](#) (pdf)

If the weather outside is too frightful to garden, then stay inside and [maintain your tools!](#) Horticulturist Neal Bonham suggests stainless steel tools don’t need maintenance and recommends using the [right tool for the job](#).

Give a Gift Now

E-Flora is a regular online newsletter of the University of Washington Botanic Gardens
206.543.8616 | uwbg@u.washington.edu | www.uwbotanicgardens.org

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