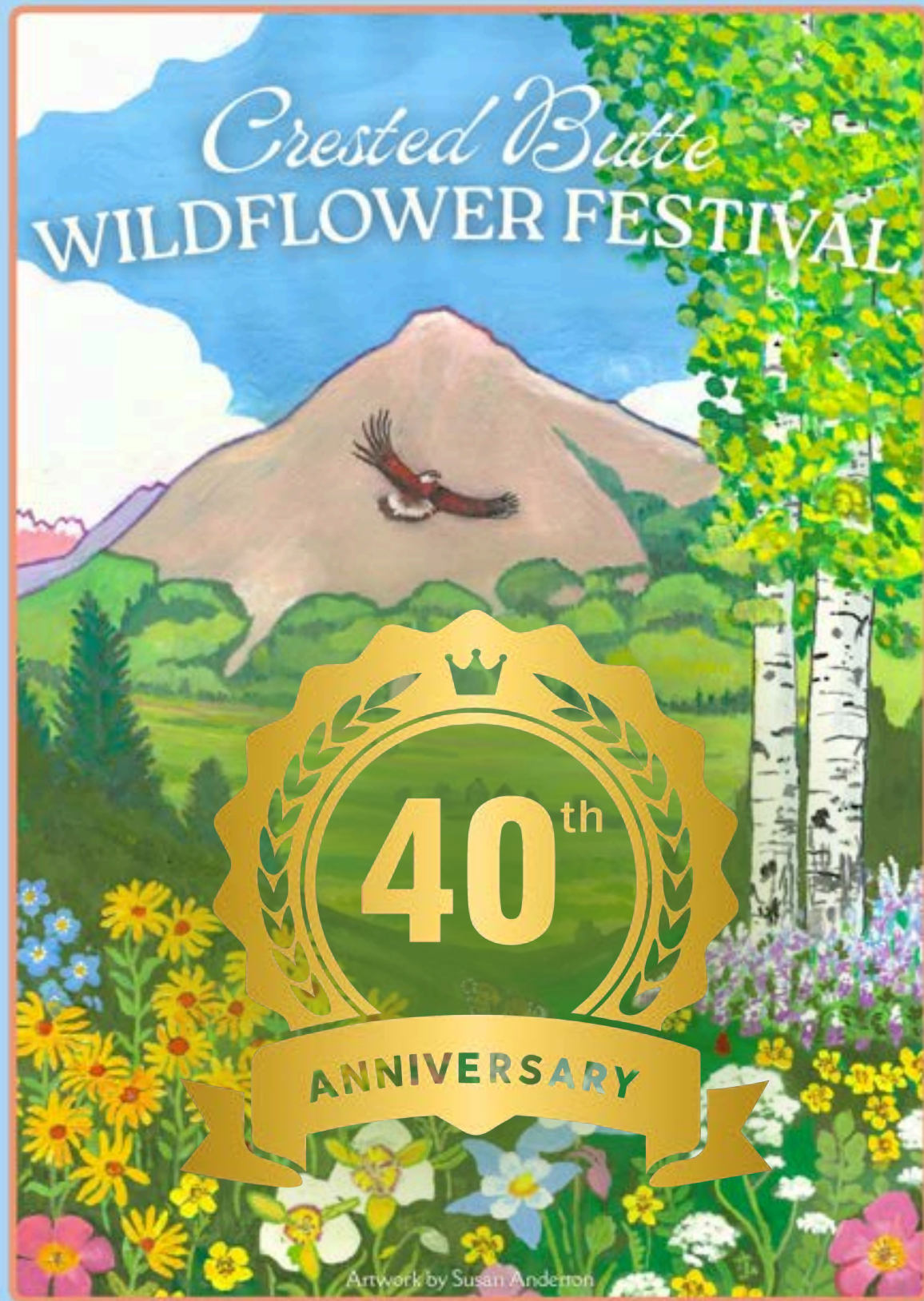




2026 Program Guide

Join Us!
July 10-19, 2026



40th Anniversary | 1986-2026

Artwork by Susan Anderton



General registration
opens April 13.
Members register
earlier!

Quick Links:

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Pre-Festival Events

Thursday, 6/25	Event Name	Code	Pg. #
3:30pm-9:00pm	Adventure Photography Workshop - Day 1	P01	23
Friday, 6/26			
5:00am-10:00pm	Adventure Photography Workshop - Day 2	P01	23
Saturday, 6/27			
5:00am-10:00pm	Adventure Photography Workshop - Day 3	P01	23
Sunday, 6/28			
5:00am-10:00am	Adventure Photography Workshop - Day 4	P01	23
Monday, 6/29			
9:00am-12:00pm	Follow the Bloom	H01	59
Tuesday, 6/30			
8:30am-11:30am	Phone Photography	P04	24
Monday, 7/6			
9:00am-12:00pm	Follow the Bloom	H02	59
Wednesday, 7/8			
8:00am-2:00pm	Rare Species Survey with CoNPS	B08	20
Thursday, 7/9			
3:30pm-10:00pm	Adventure Photography Workshop - Day 1	P02	23



Jacqueline Baird

Festival Events

Friday, 7/10	Event Name	Code	Pg. #
LINK ACTIVE	Virtual Wildflower Tour	H03	58
5:00am-10:00pm	Adventure Photography Workshop - Day 2	P02	23
7:30am-10:30am	Wildflowers & Yoga in the Morning Light	H04	61
7:30am-12:30pm	Wildflowers & Waterfalls of Lake Irwin	H05	66
7:45am-2:45pm	Wildflowers & Waterfalls in the Oh-Be-Joyful Valley	H06	73
7:45am-1:45pm	Three Lakes Hike	H07	66
8:00am-12:00pm	How To Bring the Scene Alive: Outdoor Creative Writing	A01	1
8:00am-2:00pm	Cliff Creek's Summer Garden	H08	71
8:00am-2:00pm	Rare Species Survey with CoNPS	B09	20
8:15am-12:15pm	Geology of Paradise	R01	22
8:15am-1:15pm	Medicinal Plants of the Mountains	C01	21
8:30am-12:30pm	Wildflower Adventure Jeep Tour	J01	16
9:00am-12:00pm	Watercolor Workshop in the Garden	A02	3
9:00am-12:00pm	Miniature Landscapes	A21	14
9:30am-12:30pm	Wonderful Wildflower Connections	H09	59
10:30am-12:30pm	Wildflower ID Walk (MO)	M01	45
10:00am-1:00pm	ABCs of Wildflower Pollination	F01	36
1:00pm-3:00pm	Wildflowers in the Window: Silk Sun Catchers	A25	10
1:00pm-3:30pm	Ken Collins Historic Garden Tour	G01	41
5:30pm-7:30pm	Dinner with a Scientist (MO)	M02	46
6:00pm-10:00pm	Photographing Wildflowers & Alpenglow	P06	26

Festival Events

Saturday, 7/11	Event Name	Code	Pg. #
5:00am-10:00pm	Adventure Photography Workshop - Day 3	P02	23
6:00am-10:00am	Alpine Bloom Panoramas	P07	26
7:30am-11:30am	Birding Among the Upper Loop Wildflowers	F02	36
7:45am-1:45pm	Slate River's Wildflower Wealth	B01	17
7:45am-3:45pm	Poverty Gulch & Daisy Pass	H10	74
8:00am-12:00pm	Splendor on Snodgrass-Beginner	H11	64
8:00am-12:30pm	Lily Lake Wildflowers	H12	68
8:30am-10:30am	Wildflower Polination: Bloom and Bust (MO)	M03	46
9:30am-12:30pm	Gothic Wildflowers	H13	59
9:30am-12:30pm	Wildflower & Bee ID at RMBL	F03	39
9:30am-12:30pm	Exploring Nature Journaling	A03	1
9:30am-12:30pm	Watercolor Miniatures	A04	2
10:00am-12:00pm	Tour of Crested Butte Gardens	G02	40
10:00am-2:00pm	Butterflies of Kebler Pass & Lake Irwin	F04	38
12:00pm-3:00pm	Phone Photography	P08	24
1:00pm-3:00pm	Wildflower ID Walk	H14	63
1:30pm-4:30pm	Drawing En Plein Air	A05	5
6:00pm-10:00pm	Photographing Wildflowers & Alpenglow	P09	26
4:30pm-7:00pm	Wildflower Watercolor & Wine (MO)	M04	45

Festival Events

Sunday, 7/12	Event Name	Code	Pg. #
5:00am-11:00am	Adventure Photography Workshop - Day 4	P02	23
6:00am-10:00am	Petal to Pattern: Closeup Wildflower Photography	P10	27
7:30am-10:30am	Wildflowers & Yoga in the Morning Light	H15	61
7:30am-11:30am	Birding Among the Brush Creek Wildflowers	F05	36
7:30am-12:00pm	Explore Emerald Lake Basin	H16	60
7:45am-11:45am	Splendor on Snodgrass-Int	H17	67
7:45am-2:45pm	Lost Lake & Beckwith Pass	H18	72
8:00am-12:00pm	Hidden Blooms of Baxter Gulch	H20	71
8:00am-1:00pm	Trail 403 to Viewpoint	H19	67
8:30am-11:30am	Identifying Wildflowers with Mobile Apps	B02	17
8:30am-12:30pm	Wildflower Adventure Jeep Tour	J02	16
9:00am-1:00pm	Alpine Wildflowers of Mt. Crested Butte (MO)	M05	47
9:30am-12:30pm	Introduction to Watercolor Techniques	A06	2
9:30am-12:30pm	Wildflower Zines	A07	4
10:00am-12:00pm	Tour of Crested Butte Gardens	G03	40
10:00am-2:00pm	Butterflies of Lily Lake	F06	38
12:00pm-3:00pm	Phone Photography	P11	24
12:30pm-3:00pm	Hawley Historic Garden Tour	G04	41
1:30pm-4:30pm	Expanded Watercolor Techniques	A08	3
1:30pm-4:30pm	Nature Inspired Accordion Books	A09	4
3:30pm-10:00pm	Adventure Photography Workshop - Day 1	P03	23
4:30pm-6:00pm	Member Party (MO)	M06	43

Festival Events

Monday, 7/13

Event Name	Code	Pg. #
6:00am-10:00am Alpine Bloom Panoramas	P12	26
7:30am-11:30am Birding Among the Woods Walk	F07	37
7:45am-11:45am Splendor on Snodgrass-Int	H22	67
7:45am-4:00pm Rustler Gulch	H21	73
8:00am-10:00pm Adventure Photography Workshop - Day 2	P03	23
8:00am-10:00am Gothic Townsite Tour - RMBL (MO)	M07	43
8:00am-12:00pm Upper Loop to Tony's Trail	H23	63
8:00am-1:00pm Discoveries along the Dyke Trail	H24	70
8:30am-1:30pm Walrod's Wildflowers & Caves	H25	69
8:45am-12:45pm Follow the Bloom	H26	59
9:00am-12:00pm Watercolor Workshop in the Garden	A11	3
9:30am-12:30 pm Paper Flowers	A12	6
9:30am-1:30pm The Secret Lives of Plant Names	B03	17
9:30am-1:30pm Wildflowers & Folklore	H27	63
9:30am-12:30pm Nature Inspired Peep Show Books	A13	6
10:00am-2:00pm Butterflies of Copper Creek	F08	38
11:00am-1:00pm Sip the Season: Wildflower Cocktails (MO)	M15	47
1:30pm-4:30pm Mixed Media Floral Collages	A14	9
3:00pm-5:30pm Gardens & Ghosts	G06	40
4:30pm-7:00pm Watercolor & Wine	A15	5
5:00pm-9:00pm Framing the Last Light	P13	27
6:00pm-8:00pm Wellness Wildflower Walk	H62	60

Tuesday, 7/14

Event Name	Code	Pg. #
5:00am-9:00am Sunrise Photography at Peanut Lake	P14	32
6:00am-10:00pm Hike to Aspen	H28	75
7:30am-11:30am Birding Among the Upper Loop Wildflowers	F09	36
7:30am-2:00pm Scarp Ridge	H29	73
7:45am-1:45pm Three Lakes Hike	H30	66
8:00am-10:00pm Adventure Photography Workshop - Day 3	P03	23
8:00am-12:00pm Explore Judd Falls	H31	64
8:15am-12:15pm Aquatic & Carnivorous Plants of Crested Butte	B04	18
8:15am-1:15pm Medicinal Plants of the Mountains	C02	21
8:30am-10:30am Wildflower ID Walk (MO)	M08	45
8:30am-11:30am Reading the Landscape	H32	68
8:30am-12:30pm Wildflower Adventure Jeep Tour	J03	16
9:00am-11:00am Behind-the-Scenes at RMBL (MO)	M16	48
9:00am-11:30am Ink Beginnings	A22	14
9:00am-1:30pm Lily Lake Wildflowers	H33	68
9:30am-12:30pm Gothic Wildflowers	H34	59
9:30am-12:30pm Wildflowers Fit for a Garden	H35	60
10:00am-12:00pm Tour of Crested Butte Gardens	G05	40
10:00am-1:00pm Plant Defenses & Survival Strategies	B05	18
10:00am-1:00pm Butterflies of Brush Creek	F10	37
11:00am-1:00pm Sip the Season: Wildflower Cocktails	C04	21
1:00pm-2:30pm Wildflowers of Italy's Magnificent Dolomites	B06	19
1:00pm-3:00pm Wildflowers in the Window: Silk Sun Catchers	A26	10
4:00pm-7:00pm Capturing Wildflowers with Pencils	A16	9
5:00pm-9:00pm Wildflower Sunset Adventure Snodgrass	P15	27

Festival Events

Wednesday, 7/15	Event Name	Code	Pg. #
7:30am-11:30am	Birding Among the Brush Creek Wildflowers	F11	36
7:45am-4:00pm	Rustler Gulch	H36	73
8:00am-10:00am	Tour of RMBL Herbarium (MO)	M09	44
8:00am-11:30am	Adventure Photography Workshop - Day 4	P03	23
8:00am-2:00pm	Wildflowers & Wetlands of Swampy Pass	H37	69
9:30am-12:30pm	Draw What You See: Realistic Drawing Workshop	A17	11
9:30am-12:30pm	ABCs of Wildflower Pollination	F13	36
10:00am-2:00pm	Snow and Bloom	H38	64
1:00pm-3:00pm	Wildflower Bouquet Arrangements	A10	15
5:00pm-9:00pm	Wildflower Sunset Adventure Snodgrass	P16	27
6:00pm-8:00pm	Wellness Wildflower Walk	H63	60



Karen Theel

Festival Events

Thursday, 7/16	Event Name	Code	Pg. #
6:00am-10:00pm	Hike to Aspen	H60	75
7:30am-11:30am	Birding Among the Woods Walk	F12	37
7:30am-12:30pm	Trail 403 to Viewpoint	H39	67
7:45am-2:45pm	Wildflowers & Waterfalls in the Oh-Be-Joyful Valley	H40	73
8:00am-12:30pm	Lily Lake Wildflowers	H41	68
8:15am-1:15pm	Medicinal Plants of the Mountains	C03	21
8:30am-10:30am	Behind-the-Scenes at RMBL (MO)	M10	48
8:30am-2:30pm	Slate River's Wildflower Wealth	B07	17
9:00am-12:00pm	Watercolor Workshop in the Garden	A18	3
9:00am-1:00pm	Lower Deer Creek Trail	H42	69
9:30am-12:30pm	Wildflowers Fit for a Garden	H61	60
9:30am-12:30pm	Wonderful Wildflower Connections	H43	59
9:30am-12:30pm	Linoleum Stamp Making	A19	11
10:00am-12:00pm	Tour of Crested Butte Gardens (MO)	M11	44
10:00am-2:00pm	Butterflies of Kebler Pass & Lake Irwin	F14	38
11:30am-1:30pm	Lunch with RMBL Scientist (MO)	M12	46
6:00pm-10:00pm	Undiscovered Favorites	P17	29

Festival Events

Friday, 7/17	Event Name	Code	Pg. #
6:00am-10:00am	Landscapes & Wildflowers	P18	29
7:30am-10:30am	Wildflowers & Yoga in the Morning Light	H44	61
7:30am-11:30am	Birding Among the Upper Loop Wildflowers	F15	36
7:45am-11:45am	Splendor on Snodgrass-Int	H46	67
7:45am-2:15pm	Scarp Ridge	H45	73
8:00am-10:00am	Gothic Townsite Tour - RMBL	H48	58
8:00am-12:00pm	Explore Judd Falls	H47	64
8:15am-12:15pm	Geology of Paradise	R02	22
8:30am-11:30am	Miniature Landscapes	A23	14
8:30am-1:30pm	Walrod's Wildflowers & Caves	H49	69
8:45am-12:45pm	Wildflowers & Folklore	H50	63
10:00am-2:00pm	Butterflies of Lily Lake	F16	38
12:30pm-3:30pm	Plein Air Sketchbook Painting	A20	13
1:30pm-4:30pm	Phone Photography	P19	24
3:00pm-5:30pm	Gardens & Ghosts	G10	40
5:00pm-9:00pm	Framing the Last Light (MO)	M13	44
5:00pm-10:00pm	Backcountry Wildflowers	P20	30

Festival Events

Saturday, 7/18	Event Name	Code	Pg. #
6:00am-10:00am	Larkspur, Lupine & Mountains	P22	32
7:30am-11:30am	Birding Among the Woods Walk	F17	37
7:30am-12:30pm	Wildflowers & Waterfalls of Lake Irwin	H51	66
7:45am-2:45pm	Ruby of the Rockies	H52	71
8:00am-12:00pm	Explore Judd Falls	H53	64
9:00am-12:30pm	Mixed Media Wildflowers	A24	10
9:00am-1:00pm	Alpine Wildflowers of Mt. Crested Butte (MO)	M14	47
9:30am-12:30pm	Gothic Wildflowers	H54	59
10:00am-12:00pm	Tour of Crested Butte Gardens	G07	40
11:30am-1:30pm	Wildflower ID Walk	H55	63
12:00pm-3:00pm	Phone Photography	P23	24
12:30pm-3:00pm	Craig & Carmen's Historic Garden Tour	G08	41
1:00pm-3:00pm	Wildflower Bouquet Arrangements	A27	15
6:00pm-10:00pm	Undiscovered Favorites	P24	29



Kirk Fry

Festival Events

Sunday, 7/19	Event Name	Code	Pg. #
6:00am-10:00am	Landscapes & Wildflowers	P25	29
7:30am-10:30am	Wildflowers & Yoga in the Morning Light	H56	61
7:30am-12:30pm	Trail 403 to Viewpoint	H57	67
8:45am-12:45pm	Hidden Blooms of Baxter Gulch	H58	71
10:30am-12:30pm	Wildflower ID Walk	H59	63
10:30am-1:00pm	Historic Garden Tour	G09	41



Joe Lorenzini

NEW

Crested Butte Wildflower Festival

C-Bees Program!



Inspired by the National Park Service's Junior Ranger Program, this summer, we invite our younger explorers to engage in wildflower wonder at their own pace with our C-Bees workbook!

Learn about the history of Crested Butte, flower foundations, pollinators, and more. Designed for ages 3-12, but welcome to everyone. Visit CrestedButteWildflowerFestival.org/c-bees/ to learn about how to get your FREE copy of the booklet and *become a C-Bee!*



Extending a special thank you to the CB Rotary Club! for their support!




Art All workshop materials are provided unless otherwise specified in the event description.

How to Bring the Scene Alive: Outdoor Creative Writing

Morgan Tilton \$95

Level: *Intermediate* (hiking)

Length: 3 miles on rolling singletrack

With mule’s ears and elephant’s head as a piece of inspiration, writers will practice sensory engagement with their writing to hook readers and bring them into the scene. Led by national award-winning travel writer and Crested Butte local Morgan Tilton, we will hike through wildflower meadows to a jaw-dropping Gothic Valley overlook, where we’ll share a 60-minute creative writing workshop. We will walk through writing and editing exercises that help us capture place and provide writers with tools they can use for future storytelling and documenting experiences and trips. Class size is limited to six participants in order to maximize interaction with the instructor. Expect to hike approximately three miles on easy to moderate terrain.

A01 Friday, 7/10 8:00am-12:00pm

Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Exploring Nature Journaling

Lori Ann Levy-Holm \$90

In this immersive class, you'll explore Crested Butte’s breathtaking surroundings while documenting your observations in a personal journal. Explore drawing prompts and tips as you look closely, sketch, write, and connect with the natural world around you. Meet at the Depot dressed for the weather, and bring your own materials, including a sketchbook, drawing supplies, and a portable stool if desired.

A03 Saturday, 7/11 9:30am-12:30pm



Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Watercolor Miniatures

Melinda Laz \$90

Watercolor doesn’t have to be intimidating! In this short workshop, you’ll learn essential watercolor painting tips and tricks, then create charming 2x4” miniature masterpieces. By the end of the class, you’ll proudly take home a beautifully framed painting that showcases your newfound artistic skills! All supplies are included; bring a sketchbook for notetaking if desired.

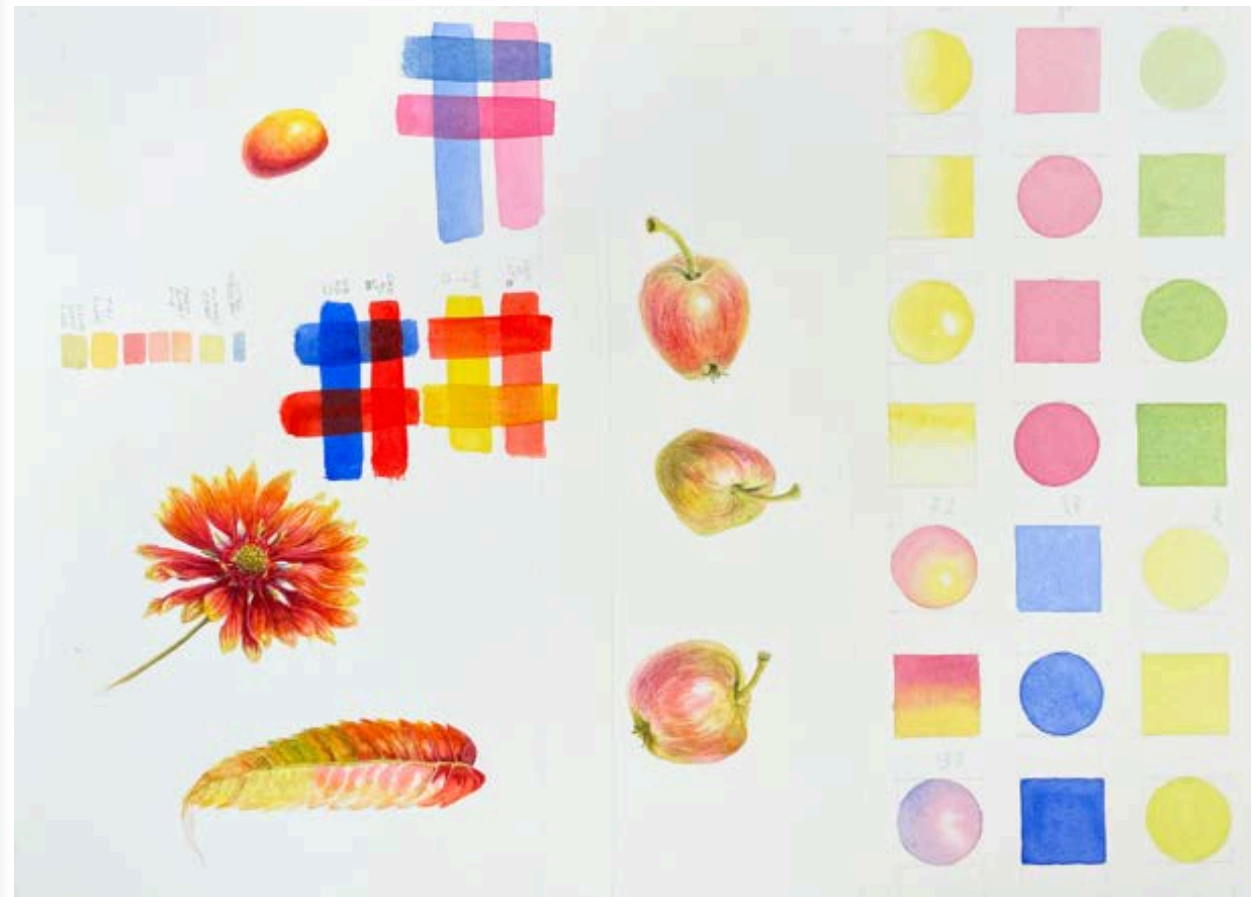
A04 Saturday, 7/11 9:30am-12:30pm

Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Introduction to Watercolor Techniques

Lori Ann Levy-Holm  \$90

Dive into the enchanting world of watercolor! In this introductory class, you'll explore essential techniques using a range of watercolor papers and leave the uncertainty of this medium in the rear-view mirror. Unlock your creativity as you learn to control this versatile medium and build your confidence along the way. All supplies are included; bring a sketchbook for notetaking if desired.

A06 Sunday, 7/12 9:30am-12:30pm



Watercolor Workshop in the Garden

Annie Starr

\$95

Join us for a plein air watercolor workshop in the breathtaking beauty of Three Ladies Park! With sweeping views of Paradise Divide and a vibrant wildflower garden, this inspiring location is the perfect place to paint mountains, blooms, and summer color. All materials are provided, and we'll be creating with liquid watercolors on 300lbs paper. Please wear comfortable clothing, bring a camp chair, a hat, sunscreen, and water.

A02	Friday, 7/10	9:00am-12:00pm
A11	Monday, 7/13	9:00am-12:00pm
A18	Thursday, 7/16	9:00am-12:00pm



Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Expanded Watercolor Techniques

Lori Ann Levy-Holm



\$90

Take your watercolor skills to the next level! After a brief refresher, you'll focus on painting a beautiful leaf with precision and confidence. Experience the magic of capturing nature's details and leave with a stunning, realistic leaf painting that showcases your newfound expertise. All supplies are included; bring a sketchbook for notetaking if desired.

A08	Sunday, 7/12	1:30pm-4:30pm
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Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Nature-Inspired Accordion Books

Melinda Laz



\$90

Dive into the delightful world of accordion books – the simplest of book formats! Discover various styles and techniques to create your own inventive folding book. Use a variety of art materials and writing to express your appreciation for the beauty around you. All supplies are included; bring a sketchbook for notetaking if desired.

A09	Sunday, 7/12	1:30pm-4:30pm
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Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Wildflower Zines

Melinda Laz



\$90

Explore the creative world of zine-making in this playful workshop! You'll learn a simple format for crafting your own DIY booklet or miniature comic from one sheet of paper. You'll fill them with illustrations, collages, and stories inspired by the natural beauty of Crested Butte. All supplies are included for this fun and imaginative experience!

A07	Sunday, 7/12	9:30am-12:30pm
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Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Drawing En Plein Air

Lori Ann Levy-Holm

\$90

Join us for a captivating 3-hour outdoor sketching session along Crested Butte’s stunning Woods Walk trail. Capture the essence of your surroundings with guidance from an experienced instructor from Denver Botanic Gardens. Relax and let inspiration flow as you create in this serene environment. Meet at the Depot dressed for the weather and bring your sketchbook, drawing materials, and a portable stool if desired.

A05 Saturday, 7/11 1:30pm-4:30pm



Charlie Talbott

Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Watercolor & Wine

Lori Ann Levy-Holm

\$90

Experience the joy of painting in a relaxed and social atmosphere! Join an instructor from Denver Botanic Gardens for a fun-filled watercolor session, complete with wine and spritzers for participants 21+. All supplies are provided, along with expert demonstrations to help you create your own masterpiece using watercolor and ink—no experience necessary.

A15 Monday, 7/13 4:30pm-7:00pm

Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Nature-Inspired Peep Show Books

Melinda Laz



\$90

“Peep show” books are not as scandalous as they sound! Using this historic book format, with simple step-by-step instructions, you will create your own nature-inspired 3-D book using drawing, collage, and other art materials. Take home a miniature, fully assembled book that will be a charming memory of Crested Butte. All supplies are included; bring a sketchbook for notetaking if desired.

A13 Monday, 7/13 9:30am-12:30pm



Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Paper Flowers

Lori Ann Levy-Holm



\$90

Bring the beauty of wildflowers into your home with this delightful paper crafting workshop. Create a vibrant and botanically accurate flowers that will never wilt. Learn various paper sculpting techniques to assemble your forever-blooming masterpiece and let your creativity bloom. All supplies are included; bring a sketchbook for notetaking if desired.

A12 Monday, 7/13 9:30am-12:30pm



Meet This Year's Poster Artist, Susan Anderton!

Each year, our Festival is marked by the creation of the annual Wildflower Festival Poster. Each poster represents just one of the forty years, yet together they form something larger. Local artist Susan Anderton created the artwork for our first poster in 1987, a limited-edition silkscreen featuring City Hall, as well as columbine, paintbrush, and glacier lily blooms. She created just 80 copies of that original piece, a far cry from the 1,000 copies produced this year for the 40th-anniversary poster, for which we are honored to have her back as our featured artist.

"This was difficult!" remarked Susan in reflection on how she approached the creative process differently for the 40th-anniversary poster, knowing it would sit in conversation with her original work. "I thought about using the same or similar format [as the original]. I do love the noble façade and history of the Old Town Hall, but to use it again would not be appropriate. I wanted to establish a sense of place. The Wildflower Festival is not about the Town. It represents the valley, the trails, the woods, the views, the thrill of coming out of the woods and seeing the valley open up, and everywhere, the glorious flowers in colorful display," she explained. Mission accomplished.

Susan hopes that, decades from now when someone sees this year's 2026 poster, it communicates: "that we cared for and appreciated the beauty of the wildflowers and took measures to protect them, while educating and enriching the experience of visitors and ourselves" during this moment in the Festival's history.

Read the entire interview with Susan
in this Crested Butte Newspaper Article.

Thank You to Our 2026 Poster Underwriters, Carmen & Craig Alexander!



David Kish

"It's hard to believe, but Craig and I have been involved with the Crested Butte Wildflower Festival (CBWF) for over 10 years now. We look forward to all of the festival events, and we especially enjoy the 'up-close' Members' Only Events. It's amazing to hear, firsthand, from scientists who are conducting groundbreaking research. Connecting with other members who share that enthusiasm is also a highlight! And what could possibly be more magical than hiking across a wildflower meadow on Rustler's Gulch or capturing the perfect shot of a Fairy Slipper or Mariposa Lily in full bloom?"

We are genuinely delighted to again have the opportunity to underwrite the 2026 CBWF poster. Advocating for the appreciation and preservation of wildflowers anywhere is a worthy endeavor. We are honored to support the CBWF and to join with so many others to educate, inform, and preserve the natural beauty and majesty of such a special place, Crested Butte!"

-Carmen Day-Alexander

Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Mixed Media Floral Collages

Melinda Laz



\$90

Discover the endless possibilities of collage in this expressive workshop. Watch as the instructor demonstrates various techniques—like layering and stenciling—before you embark on creating your own nature-inspired artwork. Surprise yourself with the combinations you can achieve. All supplies included, feel free to bring your own materials to personalize your piece.

A14 Monday, 7/13 1:30pm-4:30pm



Capturing Wildflowers with Colored Pencils

Linsey Bachofer

\$90

Join us indoors and out of the sun to learn the basics of drawing flowers, focusing on getting the correct shapes and proportions of various blossom types. Work with paper and reference photos (provided by the instructor or bring your own) to sketch and color the wildflowers endemic to the Crested Butte area. After practicing these basics, you'll be ready to draw any flower you see! Bring a sketchbook and colored pencils.

A16 Tuesday, 7/14 4:00pm-7:00pm

Mixed Media Wildflowers

Linsey Bachofer

\$95

In this class, you'll discover the dynamic possibilities of combining different materials and techniques to create vibrant, textured landscapes. Using a mix of media- such as watercolor, acrylics, colored pencils, and ink - you'll explore how to layer, blend, and contrast these materials to bring depth and energy to your scenes of nature. Ideal for students of all levels, this class encourages creativity and self-expression, offering guidance on both technical skills and personal style. By the end, you'll have a completed landscape piece that showcases your unique approach to mixed media art.

A24 Saturday, 7/18 9:00am-12:30pm

Wildflowers in the Window: Silk Sun Catchers

Shelia Mckay



\$85

Come explore the vibrant, flowing art of silk painting while creating your own luminous silk sun catcher inspired by wildflowers of the Rockies. Choose from a variety of floral designs or bring your own wildflower motif, as long as it fits within an 8" circle. You'll trace your design onto silk, outline it with gutta, and then bring it to life with silk dyes that dance, blend, and bloom across the fabric, capturing the color, movement, and light of wildflowers. Leave with a radiant piece of art that glows like a meadow in the sun. Kit and supplies are included.

A25 Friday, 7/10 1:00pm-3:00pm

A26 Tuesday, 7/14 1:00pm-3:00pm



Draw What You See: Realistic Drawing Workshop

Linsey Bachofer

\$90

Sharpen your drawing skills and learn how to truly see like an artist. In this hands-on class, Linsey Bachofer will guide you through fun, low-pressure drawing prompts designed to help you draw more realistically. Through techniques like timed drawing and loose sketching, you'll train your eye to trust what's in front of you- rather than what your brain thinks something should look like.

As the class unfolds, you'll build confidence capturing shapes, proportions, and details, then apply those skills to a final drawing inspired by hiking supplies. Along the way, you'll explore essential concepts like perspective, shading, and texture, all in a supportive and engaging environment.

Leave feeling more confident, more observant, and better equipped to draw what you see. All drawing supplies will be provided.

A17 Wednesday, 7/15 9:30am-12:30pm

Linoleum Stamp Making

Linsey Bachofer

\$95

In this hands-on class, you'll learn the art of linoleum block printing to create custom stamps and unique prints. Starting with the basics, you'll discover how to design, carve, and print your own linoleum stamps, which can be used to decorate cards, fabric, and paper, or even to create limited-edition art prints. Through step-by-step instruction, you'll explore the carving process and learn how to safely and effectively use carving tools to create bold, clean lines and intricate patterns.

You'll also experiment with different printing techniques to bring your designs to life with rich texture and contrast. This class is perfect for beginners and those looking to refine their printmaking skills, offering a fun, creative outlet for making personalized designs. By the end of the course, you'll have a collection of custom stamps and prints, along with the confidence to continue experimenting with this versatile medium. All supplies included.

A19 Thursday, 7/16 9:30am-12:30pm



40 Floral Frames

Each year, our Festival is marked by the creation of the annual Wildflower Festival Poster. Each poster represents just one of the forty years, yet together they form something larger.

On a wall lined with Wildflower Festival posters, summer unfolds again and again, a visual chronicle of place, season, and the special community that gathers each year to share in the magic of wildflowers.

Come experience this for yourself at the Crested Butte Center for the Arts this summer in a celebratory whole-building exhibit of all forty posters!

June 7 - July 31

Plein Air Sketchbook Painting

Linsey Bachofer

\$90

Join us as we explore plein air watercolor painting in beautiful Crested Butte! Plein air, meaning "open air" in French, refers to the practice of painting outdoors, directly from nature. Guided by a former art educator and local artist, you'll learn essential techniques to capture the landscapes around you. Whether you're a novice seeking to explore your creative potential or an experienced artist looking to refine your skills, this class is designed to inspire and elevate you. Throughout the course, you'll: discover the unique characteristics and versatility of watercolor paints, brushes, and paper, learn how to effectively observe and interpret natural light, colors, and atmospheric conditions, gain insight into composition, color theory and perspective, develop confidence in plein air painting through demonstrations, individualized feedback, and hands-on practice, and cultivate a deeper connection with the environment as you translate its beauty onto paper, fostering a greater appreciation for the local landscape. Please bring your own sketchbook and chair, everything else will be provided.

A20 Friday, 7/17 12:30pm-3:30pm



Miniature Landscapes

Linsey Bachofer



\$95

Are you a big thinker who loves all things miniature? This class is for you! Dive into the world of tiny art as you learn how to create miniature mixed-media pieces using pencil, watercolor, pen, and colored pencil.

You'll be guided through how to approach composition on a small scale, then have plenty of time to experiment and create several one-of-a-kind mini artworks. Keep them as personal keepsakes- or trade them with classmates like art trading cards and head home with a pocket-sized collection of original art.

Perfect for curious creatives who enjoy experimenting, storytelling, and working small. All supplies will be provided, including small 3"x4" frames that will be used to frame your favorite piece of the day.

A21 Friday, 7/10 9:00am-12:00pm
A23 Friday, 7/17 8:30am-11:30am



Ink Beginnings

Linsey Bachofer



\$90

Explore the beauty of wildflowers native to the Crested Butte area in this relaxed, creativity-boosting class. Working from reference photos, you'll create quick contour drawings of each flower during timed sessions designed to keep things light, playful, and pressure-free.

Once each flower is drawn, you'll bring it to life using watercolor and pen techniques such as hatching, cross-hatching, and ink washes to add depth, contrast, and visual interest. The class begins with guided drawing prompts to build confidence and momentum, then opens into studio time and casual gallery walks- allowing your creativity to flourish in a supportive, welcoming space.

Perfect for artists of all levels who want to loosen up, experiment with pen drawing, and connect with local flora through art. All supplies will be provided.

A22 Tuesday, 7/14 9:00am-11:30am

Wildflower Bouquet Arranging

Annie Amrich

\$70

Join us for a fun and hands-on fresh cut flower arranging class where you'll learn the art of creating a beautiful wildflower-inspired bouquet. You will learn how to select and arrange the flowers needed to look as though they were gathered from a mountainside field. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned flower enthusiast, this class will tap into your creativity. You'll leave the session with a personalized, pint-sized mason jar arrangement to enjoy during your time in Crested Butte, and the skill to recreate it at home. All materials are provided—just bring your love for flowers! And, remember, we never pick the Wildflowers!

A10	Wednesday, 7/15	1:00pm-3:00pm
A27	Saturday, 7/18	1:00pm-3:00pm



Olivia Murphy-Welconish

Jeep Tours

Wildflower Adventure Jeep Tour

Jeremy Johndrow

\$210

Level: Beginner

Length: Optional short walks over uneven terrain during multiple stops throughout the tour to take photos and view flowers up close. Mobility required to get into and out of the Jeeps.

For the adventurous wildflower enthusiast, JJ's Jeeps will take you off the beaten path to incredible places many will never see! Escape the crowds and experience the stunning beauty of Crested Butte's world-famous wildflowers from the comfort and safety of a legendary Jeep! Enjoy the sun on your face and jaw-dropping vistas of the Elk Mountains from all directions in their custom open top (weather permitting) Jeep Wranglers. Local guides will not only teach you about the wildflowers, but they are knowledgeable in the local history, wildlife and geology as well! Please note: seating space in a Jeep is "tight." If you would like more space, contact JJ's Jeeps to book a private tour.

J01	Friday, 7/10	8:30am-12:30pm
J02	Sunday, 7/12	8:30am-12:30pm
J03	Tuesday, 7/14	8:30am-12:30pm



Slate River Wildflower Wealth

Jennifer Ackerfield & Richard Davis \$100

Level: *Intermediate-Advanced*

Length: 4-5 miles with steep and rocky terrain

The Oh Be Joyful trail is one of the most scenic trails in Crested Butte. On this trip, we will begin at Slate River, winding our way up the trail through a glacial valley on the east side of Ruby Range. Wildflower-filled meadows await! Along the way, we will also encounter waterfalls as well as some uncommon wildflowers.

B01 Saturday, 7/11 7:45am-1:45pm Jennifer Ackerfield

B07 Thursday, 7/16 8:30am-2:30pm Richard Davis

Identifying Wildflowers Using Mobile Apps

Jennifer Ackerfield \$80

Level: *Beginner*

Length: 2-3 miles on well-packed trail, some steep/rocky terrain

Have you ever wanted to learn how to identify wildflowers with a mobile app? Join Jennifer Ackerfield, Director of the Charles Maurer Herbarium and Assistant Professor of Botany at Colorado State University, as she guides you through the most popular identification apps available for Colorado wildflowers. You will also learn how to use the iNaturalist app, enabling you to not only identify your photographs but also to become a citizen scientist. Bring your smartphone and come away confident in your wildflower identifications!

B02 Sunday, 7/12 8:30am-11:30am

The Secret Lives of Plant Names

Jennifer Ackerfield \$80

Level: *Adv. Beginner*

Length: 3.5 miles, some steep, uneven terrain

Every plant name has a story, from roots in ancient languages and folklore to commemorating explorers or the plants' features. On this guided hike, we will uncover the secret lives of plant names and learn how species receive their scientific and common names and why those names sometimes change. As we explore the scenic Snodgrass Trail, you will encounter a rich variety of wildflowers and enjoy stunning views of Crested Butte Mountain, gaining a deeper appreciation for the plants around you and the stories behind their names.

B03 Monday, 7/13 9:30am-1:30pm

Aquatic & Carnivorous Plants of Crested Butte

Luke Tembrock \$80

Level: *Beginner*

Length: 2-3 miles on well-packed trail, some rolling/steep terrain

A mere 10,000 years ago, the Slate River Valley and surrounding feeder drainages played host to a vast quantity of glacial ice; when that ice melted, water-loving plants thrived! Many of those plant species remain, including the common bladderwort, a carnivorous plant with some of the fastest "jaws" in nature and beautiful snapdragon-like flowers. On this hike will visit Crested Butte's bladderwort hotspot and examine other aquatic and riparian species along the way.

B04 Tuesday, 7/14 8:15am-12:15pm

**CBWF Board Vice President,
Luke Tembrock**



Tracy Schwartz

Plant Defenses & Survival Strategies

Jennifer Ackerfield \$80

Level: *Beginner*

Length: 2.5 miles on well-packed trail, some rolling/steeper terrain

For the biology lover! This hike will highlight particular plant species' defensive and offensive strategies for survival, including production of plant toxins, responses to herbivory, and competition for territory and pollinators—and how these affect human beings!

B05 Tuesday, 7/14 10:00am-1:00pm

Wildflowers of Italy's Magnificent Dolomites

Ken Collins

Lecture and Slideshow



\$25

The Dolomites are a portion of the European Alps located in far northern Italy, close to the Austrian border. Sprinkled with beautiful small towns, it is known for its stunning alpine scenery and the abundance of hiking trails and “refugios” - luxurious trailside restaurants offering lodgings for those walking long distances. Along with the knock-out setting, there is a wealth of brilliantly colored wildflowers in spring and summer. This session will provide an overview of the Dolomites and the outdoor recreation opportunities they offer during the early wildflower season. An effort will be made to highlight the family relationships between the wildflowers seen in the Southern Rockies around Crested Butte and those discovered in the Dolomites.

B06 Tuesday, 7/14 1:00pm-2:30pm



Ken Collins

CBWF Board Member,
Ken Collins



Ken Collins

Rare Species Survey with CoNPS

Lynn Cudlip

Level: *Intermediate-Advanced*

Length: 2.5 miles on well-packed trail, some rolling/steeper terrain



\$80

Join the Colorado Native Plant Society for a rare and rewarding field experience focused on the careful survey to rediscover sensitive plant species. This event offers participants the opportunity to assist with conservation-focused fieldwork while practicing observation and documentation skills in the field.

To protect vulnerable populations, specific species names and locations will not be disclosed in advance. Participants can expect to work in small groups under the guidance of experienced CoNPS leaders, using established survey protocols to document plant presence, habitat conditions, and phenology without disturbing the site.

- **July 8:** Two rare plants occur in close proximity, allowing for a concentrated survey effort within a single area.
- **July 10:** A third rare plant requires a more extended approach, including a 4–5-mile round-trip hike, and is best suited for participants comfortable with sustained hiking over variable terrain.

The cost of the event includes a CoNPS membership.

*Bring plenty of water, snacks, and a sack lunch

B08 Wednesday, 7/8 8:00am-2:00pm

B09 Friday, 7/10 8:00am-2:00pm



CBWF Board President,
Lynn Cudlip



Culinary & Medicinal

Medicinal Plants of the Mountains

Leanne Benton \$90

Level: *Adv. Beginner–Intermediate*

Length: 3-4 miles with some rocky and steep terrain

The wildflowers along the Horse Ranch Park trail are not only beautiful, but many have also served as the grocery store and pharmacy for earlier people and are still used today. We will focus on these edible and medicinal species, plus learn about toxic species to avoid! *Note: the event time includes a 30-min drive to the trailhead.*

C01	Friday, 7/10	8:15am-1:15pm
C02	Tuesday, 7/14	8:15am-1:15pm
C03	Thursday, 7/16	8:15am-1:15pm

Sip the Season: Wildflower Cocktails with Montanya Distillers

Renee Newton, Montanya Distillers, and Amanda Ellis, Super Bloom

NEW \$80

Celebrate the beauty of Colorado's wildflowers through flavor at Montanya Distillers! Join us for an immersive, hands-on cocktail class where guests will craft two signature wildflower-inspired drinks:

- **Frosted Lily:** A crisp, refreshing creation featuring Montanya Platino Rum, glacier lily infusion, citrus, and subtle herbal notes, perfect for a bright, elegant sip.
- **Wild at Heart:** A fragrant, floral cocktail with Montanya Oro Rum, wild rose syrup, and a hint of botanicals, aromatic, balanced, and delightfully vibrant.

This class will guide you through crafting these unique cocktails and their non-alcoholic versions, perfect for celebrating local ingredients, sustainability, and the joy of mixology. Guests will learn about wildflowers, flavor pairing, and creative techniques to bring these botanicals to life at home.

C04	Tuesday, 7/14	11:00am-1:00pm
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Geology

Geology of Paradise

Jeff Delaney \$85

Level: *Intermediate*

Length: 3 miles on a well-packed trail, some steep/uneven terrain

Crested Butte rocks! And why does it rock? The spectacular geology, of course! Learn how this valley was formed from magma, sedimentary rock, and glaciers as we walk through wildflower-filled meadows and woods. You'll find out why this valley is so unique and otherwise known as Paradise.

R01	Friday, 7/10	8:15am-12:15pm
R02	Friday, 7/17	8:15am-12:15pm



David Kish

Photography

This summer, the Crested Butte Wildflower Festival is thrilled to introduce three brand-new Adventure Photography Workshops, each designed to inspire, challenge, and elevate your photography skills while surrounded by the breathtaking beauty of Colorado's wildflower capital. Whether you're picking up your first camera or polishing an advanced portfolio, there's a perfect course waiting for you

Adventure Photography Workshop-From First Shot to Fine Art

David Kish



\$1,750

Level: *Beginner-Intermediate*

With Festival Executive Director David Kish's step-by-step guidance, transform your snapshots into works of art in this supportive, skill-building workshop perfect for newer photographers.

P01 Thursday, 6/25 - Sunday, 6/28

Adventure Photography Workshop-Quiet Landscapes

Sarah Marino



\$2,200

Level: *Intermediate-Advanced*

Join Sarah Marino in exploring mountain vistas, aspen groves, and wildflower meadows while building a cohesive portfolio that captures the magic of Crested Butte.

P02 Thursday, 7/09 - Sunday, 7/12

Adventure Photography Workshop-Wonderful Wildflowers

Alex Noriega



\$2,200

Level: *Intermediate-Advanced*

Venture into alpine landscapes and vibrant meadows with Alex Noriega, learning to refine your vision and create compelling, portfolio-worthy images.

P03 Sunday, 7/12 - Wednesday, 7/15

[View Full Itineraries Here](#)

Cell Phone Photography

David Kish/Eric Phillips/Connor Scalbom/David Snyder & Micahel Ryno

\$125

Level: *Beginner*

Need: *Cell Phone with camera capability*

You don't need a bulky and expensive camera to take amazing pictures. Cell phones today have amazing capabilities. Venture into the field armed with your cell phone to capture broad landscapes as well as close-ups of flowers. We will teach you the basics of composition, adjusting exposure, and when to use flash, as well as other applications you might consider for slow-shutter work to create fantastic, artistic abstract effects. The class will also discuss some of the editing tools available in addition to the toolsets provided by your phone.

P04	Tuesday, 6/30	8:30am-11:30am	David Kish
P08	Saturday, 7/11	12:00pm-3:00pm	Eric Phillips
P11	Sunday, 7/12	12:00pm-3:00pm	Connor Scalbom
P19	Friday, 7/17	1:30pm-4:30pm	Eric Phillips
P23	Saturday, 7/18	12:00pm-3:00pm	David Synder & Michael Ryno



Maria Lee

Photographing Wildflowers & Alpenglow

Connor Scalbom \$185

Level: All levels

Need: DSLR or Mirrorless camera, wide lens, sturdy tripod

Join professional photographer Connor Scalbom for an immersive, golden-hour photography experience designed for photographers of all levels who want to deepen their skills while capturing two of Colorado's most spectacular natural subjects: vibrant wildflowers and the warm alpenglow that lights up the mountains at day's end. Connor will share practical tips on composition, lighting, and camera settings to capture expansive landscapes. Participants will learn how to work with changing light, balance color and contrast, and tell a visual story as the sun dips below the horizon and the peaks ignite with warm evening color.

P06	Friday, 7/10	6:00pm-10:00pm
P09	Saturday, 7/11	6:00pm-10:00pm

Alpine Bloom Panoramas

Connor Scalbom \$185

Level: All levels

Need: DSLR or Mirrorless camera, wide lens, sturdy tripod

Experience the alpine landscape at its most expansive in this photography workshop led by professional photographer Connor Scalbom. Set among high-elevation wildflower displays, this outing focuses on capturing the full scale of the alpine environment—from intimate foreground blooms to vast mountain backdrops stretching to the horizon. Connor will guide participants through techniques for photographing grand landscapes as well as creating panoramic images that convey the breadth and drama of the high country. Instruction will cover composition, lens choices, camera settings, and practical tips for stitching panoramas, all while working with natural light and dynamic mountain conditions.

P07	Saturday, 7/11	6:00am-10:00am
P12	Monday, 7/13	6:00am-10:00am



David Kish

Petal to Pattern: Closeup Wildflower Photography

Connor Scalbom \$185

Level: Intermediate-Advanced

Need: DSLR or Mirrorless camera, macro or telephoto lens, sturdy tripod

Slow down and look closer in this hands-on photography workshop focused on the intricate beauty of wildflowers. Petal to Pattern invites participants to explore the colors, textures, and repeating forms that often go unnoticed at first glance. Led by professional photographer Connor Scalbom, this session will emphasize close-up and macro-style techniques for capturing fine details—delicate petals, bold stamens, unfolding leaves, and the graphic patterns found within alpine blooms. Instruction will include tips on focus, depth of field, light control, background selection, and composition, all tailored to photographing small subjects in outdoor conditions.

P10	Sunday, 7/12	6:00am-10:00am
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Framing the Last Light

David Kish \$185

Level: All levels

Need: DSLR or Mirrorless camera, wide and/or telephoto lens, tripod

Join our Executive Director, David Kish, for a relaxed and inspiring evening of photography. We will begin with an hour of classroom instruction before heading into the field to practice techniques in the soft evening light. Participants will explore thoughtful approaches to wildflower photography, including composition and working with natural light, and then put those ideas into practice outdoors as the golden hour fades into sunset.

P13	Monday, 7/13	5:30pm-9:30pm
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Wildflower Sunset Adventure

Eric Phillips \$125

Level: All levels

Need: DSLR or Mirrorless camera, lenses, tripod, jacket, and a headlamp.

Join Crested Butte Photographer Eric Phillips on an epic sunset wildflower adventure. We'll head out to Snodgrass mountain where we will hike into the wildflowers and photograph the alpenglow and stages of the sunset with a foreground of wildflowers. This class will go over various camera techniques for photographing wildflowers in sunlight and at sunset. Be prepared to spend the entire sunset shooting, and we will walk out together in the dark.

P15	Tuesday, 7/14	5:00pm-9:00pm
P16	Wednesday, 7/15	5:00pm-9:00pm



Change gear the right way

**Sell, shop and swap used camera
gear that won't cost the earth.**



Undiscovered Favorites

David Snyder & Michael Ryno

\$185

Level: Beginner-Intermediate

Need: DLSR or Mirrorless camera, wide lens, macro lens, sturdy tripod, screens/reflectors if you have them.

Join award-winning photographers Michael Ryno and David Snyder for a unique exploration of some of their favorite, lesser-known photographic locations in and around Crested Butte. This workshop is all about discovery, taking you beyond the obvious stops and into places that are rarely photographed, yet easily accessible. These “secret” locations are not far off the road, but they remain wonderfully under the radar. You’ll photograph towering fern forests, dramatic gorges, sweeping mountain vistas, winding scenic roads, and some of the largest and most impressive aspen trees in the Crested Butte area. Throughout the workshop, Michael and David will share their approach to seeing compositions others overlook, how to find compelling images in unexpected places, work with available light, and create strong visual storytelling in diverse environments. If you love exploring hidden gems and capturing images that feel fresh, authentic, and rarely seen, Undiscovered Favorites will quickly become one of your own.

P17	Thursday, 7/16	6:00pm-10:00pm
P24	Saturday, 7/18	6:00pm-10:00pm

Landscapes and Wildflowers

David Snyder & Michael Ryno

\$185

Level: Beginner-Intermediate

Need: DLSR or Mirrorless camera, wide lens, macro lens, sturdy tripod, screens/reflectors if you have them.

We will take you out to wildflower fields as foreground with broader valleys and Mountains in the background. We will discuss focusing techniques (hyperfocal distance focusing and focus stacking), composition, and camera settings using the exposure triangle. We’ll spend hours in the field with endless flowers and scenery you’ll not want to leave. With Colorado’s high country being one of the premier locations for wildflowers and breathtaking scenery, this is a can’t-miss opportunity for you. From fields of Columbines to individual blossoms of many other colorful flowers, this workshop will satisfy your desire to create stunning pieces of art. Bring your wide lens, your macro lens, a tripod, and some reflectors (if you have them).

P18	Friday, 7/17	6:00am-10:00am
P25	Sunday, 7/19	6:00am-10:00am

Backcountry Wildflowers

David Snyder & Michael Ryno

\$185

Level: All; expect up to 1 mile of easy hiking on a well-packed trail

Need: DSLR or Mirrorless camera, wide lens, macro lens, sturdy tripod, screens/reflectors if you have them.

We will take you out to an expanded set of high-altitude locations up Slate, Washington or Gothic roads. We will explore broad landscapes and get down on the ground, focusing on the small details of the flowers. We'll spend hours in the field with endless flowers, scenery, and, if we are lucky, wildlife. With Colorado's high country being one of the premier locations for wildflowers and breathtaking scenery. From fields of flowers to individual blossoms of many other colorful flowers, this workshop will satisfy your desire to create stunning pieces of art. Bring your wide lens, your macro lens, tripod, and some reflectors as we put them to good use creating fine art images you'll want to hang on your wall! Some easy hiking at high altitude (9,000-11,000) feet is anticipated, depending on our final destination. Driving to these locations adds a few minutes to the workshop.

P20 Friday, 7/17 5:00pm-10:00pm



David Kish



YOUR AD HERE

Become a '26 Business Sponsor

Pollinator	Amount
<u>Hummingbird</u>	\$3,000
<u>Butterfly</u>	\$1,000
<u>Moth</u>	\$500
<u>Ladybug</u>	\$250
<u>Ant</u>	\$100

Become a Pollinator!

CrestedButteWildflowerFestival.org/Sponsorships

Larkspur, Lupine & Mountains

David Snyder & Michael Ryno

\$185

Level: All; expect up to 1 mile of easy hiking on well-packed trail

Need: DSLR or Mirrorless camera, wide lens, macro lens, sturdy tripod, screens/reflectors if you have them.

We will take you out to one of our favorite locations on Mount Crested Butte. Fields of Lupine, Larkspur, and Mule's Ear set the foreground for expansive views of the Gothic Valley and Mount Crested Butte. There are opportunities to capture broad landscapes and to get down on the ground, focusing on the small details of the flowers. We'll spend hours in the field with endless flowers, scenery, and, if we are lucky, some wildlife. Mount Crested Butte is iconic for wildflowers and breathtaking scenery. From fields of flowers to individual blossoms of many other colorful flowers, this workshop will satisfy your desire to create stunning pieces of art. Bring your wide lens, your macro lens, a tripod, and some reflectors as we put them to good use creating fine art images you'll want to hang on your wall! Some easy hiking at high altitude (9,000-11,000) feet is anticipated.

P22 Saturday, 7/18 6:00am-10:00am

Sunrise Photography at Peanut Lake

Eric Phillips

\$125

Level: All levels

Need: DSLR Camera with Lenses and knowledge of basic functions/how to adjust aperture, ISO, & shutter speed, extra batteries, SD Cards, & ND or Polariser filters, sturdy tripod and head, camera backpack or carrying system with rain cover, hiking boots, headlamp/flashlight, thermos for coffee/tea, cell phone app PhotoPills (very useful but not required).

Photograph all the stages of the sunrise over beautiful Peanut Lake. Learn the best settings for shooting golden hour, sunrise, and daytime, matched with one of the best compositions of Crested Butte. Lupine and Alpine Sunflower will be the main flowers photographed. There is also a good chance to see and photograph wildlife at the lake.

P14 Tuesday, 7/14 5:00am-9:00am



Paul Rhee



**2026
PHOTO
CONTEST**

July 1 - Aug. 1!

Win Prizes!

**EMAIL: INFO@CBWILDFLOWER.COM
WITH YOUR 10 ENTRIES ATTACHED**

FOR DETAILS VISIT
CRESTEDBUTTEWILDFLOWERFESTIVAL.ORG

1st: Brian Schratz



Instagram: Leah Deason



2nd: Daniel Hannan



3rd: Mannon Kavesky



Facebook: Jim Thomas



Honorable Mention: Anna Mallam



2025 Photography Contest Winners

Popular Pollinators

A-Bee-Cs of Wildflower Pollination

Jackie Fitzgerald \$80

Level: Beginner

Length: 1-2 miles on well-packed, level terrain

What is that bee? Why do our wildflowers depend on them? Join Dr. Jackie Fitzgerald, pollination ecologist, on this pollinator/wildflower walk and explore the intricate relationship between our wildflowers and native bees. You'll have the opportunity to view a variety of bees up close, learn how scientists study wildflower nectar, and view wildflowers with hand lenses to delve into how this interdependency really works.

F01 Friday, 7/10 10:00am-1:00pm

F13 Wednesday, 7/15 9:30am-12:30pm

Birding Among the Upper Loop Wildflowers

Drew Kelly/Jacque Fisher \$80

Level: Adv. Beginner-Intermediate

Length: Approximately 3 miles with steeper and rocky terrain

Discover the birds and wildflowers of the Upper Loop! Be ready to stop, look, and listen; you'll learn to identify birds by sound as well as sight. A final stop to view a blue heron rookery along the Slate River concludes our morning. Flower and bird checklists provided. Bring binoculars and field guide(s). Kids 13+ with supervision.

F02 Saturday, 7/11 7:30am-11:30am Drew Kelly

F09 Tuesday, 7/14 7:30am-11:30am Jacque Fisher

F15 Friday, 7/17 7:30am-11:30am Jacque Fisher

Birding Among the Brush Creek Wildflowers

Jacque Fisher \$80

Level: Adv. Beginner-Intermediate

Length: Approximately 3 miles with steeper and rocky terrain

Discover the birds and wildflowers of Crested Butte's newest trail segment at Brush Creek! Be ready to stop, look, and listen; you'll learn to identify birds by sound as well as sight. Flower and bird checklists provided. Bring binoculars and field guide(s). Kids 13+ with supervision.

F05 Sunday, 7/12 7:30am-11:30am

F11 Wednesday, 7/15 7:30am-11:30am

Birding Among the Woods Walk Wildflowers

Jacque Fisher/Drew Kelly \$80

Level: Beginner

Length: 1-2 miles on well-packed, level terrain

Birds abound! We'll meander the nearby Woods Walk trail, enjoying and identifying the wildflowers and birds. If we're lucky, we'll discover babies in the nest! A final stop to view a blue heron rookery along the Slate River concludes our morning. Flower and bird checklists provided. Bring binoculars and field guide(s). Kids 13+ with supervision.

F07 Monday, 7/13 7:30am-11:30am Jacque Fisher

F12 Thursday, 7/16 7:30am-11:30am Jacque Fisher

F17 Saturday, 7/18 7:30am-11:30am Drew Kelly



Butterflies of Brush Creek

Sara Simonson \$80

Level: Beginner

Length: Approximately 2 miles on well-packed, level terrain

Learn to take notice of the beautiful butterflies that surround Crested Butte. This family-friendly hike follows a dirt road and trail, and passes through a variety of montane streamside habitats, colorful meadows, and wildflower-covered rocky slopes. Kids of all ages are welcome with supervision.

F10 Tuesday, 7/14 10:00am-1:00pm

Butterflies of Copper Creek

Sara Simonson \$80

Level: *Adv. Beginner-Intermediate*

Length: 3.5 miles with rocky and steep terrain

Search for butterflies and other native pollinators in scenic wildflower meadows on this moderate hike past Judd Falls, along Copper Creek. We'll discuss the rich diversity of butterflies in Colorado and view examples of research conducted at the Rocky Mtn. Biological Lab. We'll hike at a naturalist's pace and end the hike with a stop at the RMBL Visitor's Center. Kids 12+ with supervision.

F08 Monday, 7/13 10:00am-2:00pm

Butterflies of Kebler Pass & Lake Irwin

Sara Simonson \$80

Level: *Beginner-Adv. Beginner*

Length: 3 miles with steeper and rocky terrain

This moderate hike passes through subalpine forests and wetlands, with lush streamside butterfly habitats and showy wildflower meadows. We'll visit a variety of habitats that are important to local butterflies and pollinators, and search for interesting aquatic plants and animals near the lake. Kids 12+ with supervision

F04 Saturday, 7/11 10:00am-2:00pm

F14 Thursday, 7/16 10:00am-2:00pm

Butterflies of Lily Lake

Sara Simonson \$80

Level: *Adv. Beginner-Intermediate*

Length: 3.5 miles with steeper and rocky terrain

This moderate hike winds through subalpine forests and wetlands, including diverse butterfly habitats and scenic wildflower meadows. We'll take a break at a lovely, lily-covered pond that supports rare dragonflies and other unique wetland animals. Kids 12+ with supervision.

F06 Sunday, 7/12 10:00am-2:00pm

F16 Friday, 7/17 10:00am-2:00pm

Wildflower & Bee ID at RMBL

Jackie Fitzgerald \$80

Level: *Beginner*

Length: 1-2 miles on well-packed, level terrain

What is that bee? Why do our wildflowers depend on them for survival? Dr. Jackie Fitzgerald will help you explore the world of bees. You'll spend time in both the classroom/laboratory and wildflower meadows learning the basics of bee identification and their importance to our ecosystems during this hands-on workshop.

F03 Saturday, 7/11 9:30am-12:30pm



David Kish



Kathy Krucker



All Garden Tours follow a paved route around town and are wheelchair accessible. The CBWF is happy to provide a portable curb ramp as needed.

Gardens & Ghosts

Glo Cunningham

\$55

Level: *Beginner*

Length: 2 miles of level, paved walking

Is Crested Butte haunted? Perhaps, but the ghosts of this town are of the Casper variety – friendly, harmless, and playful. On this tour, you'll stroll the alleys and gardens of Crested Butte while listening to stories about the antics of old timers whose spirits remain.

G06 Monday, 7/13 3:00pm-5:30pm

G10 Friday, 7/17 3:00pm-5:30pm

Tour of Crested Butte Gardens

Roxie Lypps

\$35

Level: *Beginner*

Length: 2 miles of level, paved walking

Enjoy a guided tour of our local gardens while you admire and identify both wild and tame flowers. Our stroll will move at a leisurely pace; however, plan to walk up to 2 miles. Kids 10+ with supervision. **Please note:** this event is similar to the *Historic Garden Tour* (slightly shorter event).

G02 Saturday, 7/11 10:00am-12:00pm

G03 Sunday, 7/12 10:00am-12:00pm

G05 Tuesday, 7/14 10:00am-12:00pm

G07 Saturday, 7/18 10:00am-12:00pm



David Kish

Historic Garden Tour

Glo Cunningham

\$55

Level: *Beginner*

Length: 2 miles of level, paved walking

Stroll the streets, alleys, and gardens of historic Crested Butte with Glo Cunningham from the Crested Butte Museum. This leisurely tour will provide you with interesting and humorous knowledge of Crested Butte's heritage while we explore the wild and tame flowers growing in our local gardens. We'll be walking up to 1.5 miles around town. Kids 10+ with supervision. **Please note:** This event is similar to the *Tour of Crested Butte Gardens* (slightly longer event with more history).

Ken Collins Historic Garden Tour

G01 Friday, 7/10 1:00pm-3:30pm

Hawley Historic Garden Tour

G04 Sunday, 7/12 12:30pm-3:00pm

Craig & Carmen's Historic Garden Tour

G08 Saturday, 7/18 12:30pm-3:00pm

G09 Sunday, 7/19 10:30am-1:00pm

We are deeply grateful to the extraordinary individuals who have generously answered the call to become Wildflower Garden Members and above of the Crested Butte Wildflower Festival, our highest level of memberships. Their support is a testament to their passion for preserving the beauty of our natural world. In recognition of their exceptional contributions, we are proud to announce that a Historic Garden tour has been named in honor of each of these remarkable members. Their dedication ensures the continued growth and vibrancy of our beloved festival for years to come.



David Kish



David Kish

Members Only

As a nonprofit organization, we owe much of our success to our Wildflower Festival Members! Membership allows us to continuously improve the Wildflower Festival experience. We cannot exist without our Members! As a special thank-you, we offer the following complimentary Members-Only events. [Click here](#) to learn more about Member benefits and how you can support the Wildflower Festival!

Columbine Members

- Register yourself and a guest for the Member & Sponsor Appreciation Party

Scarlet Gilia Members

- Register yourself and a guest for the Member & Sponsor Appreciation Party
- PLUS register yourself and a guest for one Members Only event

Mariposa Lily Members

- Register yourself and a guest for the Member & Sponsor Appreciation Party
- PLUS register yourself and a guest for two Members Only events
- PLUS register yourself and a guest for our Dinner or Lunch with a Wildflower Scientist

Fairy Slipper Members

- Register yourself and two guests for the Member & Sponsor Appreciation Party
- PLUS register yourself and two guests for three Members Only events
- PLUS register yourself and two guests for our Dinner or Lunch with a Wildflower Scientist

Wildflower Garden Members

- Register yourself and two guests for the Member & Sponsor Appreciation Party
- PLUS register yourself and two guests for four Members Only events
- PLUS Register yourself and two guests for our Dinner or Lunch with a Wildflower Scientist

Monument Members

- Register yourself and four guests for the Member & Sponsor Appreciation Party
- PLUS register yourself and four guests for an unlimited number of Members Only events
- PLUS register yourself and four guests for our Dinner or Lunch with a Wildflower Scientist

Columbine Members & Above

Member Appreciation Party

Come mingle with Festival leaders, staff, and Board of Directors, and enjoy appetizers and cocktails. You won't want to miss this fun-filled event, which includes a drawing for great door prizes. *Reservations required - we will email a link to RSVP for the party in the early summer.*

M06 Sunday, 7/12 4:30pm-6:00pm



David Kish

Scarlet Gilia Members & Above

Gothic Townsite Tour

Greta Schoonover

Level: Beginner

Length: 1 mile of walking

Explore the historic Gothic Townsite on a guided tour through the heart of Gothic, Colorado, home to the renowned Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory. Discover the rich history, fascinating stories, and scenic beauty of this charming alpine town. This tour offers a unique glimpse into the past while showcasing the area's natural wonders. Join us for an unforgettable journey through Gothic's captivating history and stunning landscapes!

M07 Monday, 7/13 8:00am-10:00am

RMBL Herbarium Tour

Rick Williams, PhD

Join Rick Williams, PhD for an informative tour of the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory Herbarium. Delve into the fascinating world of plant specimens, learn about the important research conducted at the Herbarium, and discover the diverse flora of the region. Rick Williams, PhD will share his expertise and insights as you explore this valuable resource. Don't miss this opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of plant science in one of the most biodiverse areas of the Rocky Mountains!

M09 Wednesday, 7/15 8:00am-10:00am

Tour of Crested Butte Gardens

Roxie Lypps

Level: Beginner

Length: 2 miles of level, paved walking

Enjoy a guided tour of our local gardens while you admire and identify both wild and tame flowers. Our stroll will move at a leisurely pace; however, plan to walk up to 2 miles.

M11 Thursday, 7/16 10:00am-12:00pm

Framing the Last Light

David Kish

Level: All levels

Need: DSLR or Mirrorless camera, wide and/or telephoto lens, tripod

Join our Executive Director, David Kish, for a relaxed and inspiring evening of photography. We will begin with an hour of classroom instruction before heading into the field to practice techniques in the soft evening light. Participants will explore thoughtful approaches to wildflower photography, including composition and working with natural light, and then put those ideas into practice outdoors as the golden hour fades into sunset.

M13 Friday, 7/17 5:30pm-9:30pm

[Become A Member Here](#)

CrestedButteWildflowerFestival.org/Member

Wildflower ID Walk

Greta Schoonover/Tom Zeiner

Level: Beginner

Length: 2-3 miles on well-packed, rolling terrain

Join us for a wildflower identification walk at a leisurely pace, with time for questions and photographing the beautiful blooms! We'll take you where the flowers are at their best!

M01 Friday, 7/10 10:30am-12:30pm Tom Zeiner

M08 Tuesday, 7/14 8:30am-10:30am Greta Schoonover

Wildflower Watercolor & Wine

Melinda Laz

Experience the joy of painting in a relaxed and social atmosphere! Join an instructor from Denver Botanic Gardens for a fun-filled watercolor session, complete with wine and spritzers for participants 21+. All supplies are provided, along with expert demonstrations to help you create your own masterpiece using watercolor and ink. No experience necessary!

M04 Saturday, 7/11 4:30pm-7:00pm



David Kish

Mariposa Lily Members & Above

Dinner with a Scientist

Mariposa Lily Members and above, join Bobbi Peckarsky, PhD, and Steve Horn for an engaging event at the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory! Enjoy an insightful talk followed by a complimentary buffet-style meal in the beautiful Dining Hall at RMBL. This event offers a unique opportunity to connect with fellow nature enthusiasts, learn from Steve and Bobbi's expertise, and indulge in delicious food in a stunning mountain setting on the RMBL campus. Don't miss out on this memorable experience!

M02 Friday, 7/10 5:30pm-7:30pm

Lunch with Wildflower Scientist

Mariposa Lily Members and above, join Rosemary Smith, PhD for an engaging event at the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory! Enjoy an insightful talk followed by a complimentary buffet-style meal in the beautiful Dining Hall at RMBL. This event offers a unique opportunity to connect with fellow nature enthusiasts, learn from Rosemary Smith, PhD's expertise, and indulge in delicious food in a stunning mountain setting on the RMBL campus. Don't miss out on this memorable experience!

M12 Thursday, 7/16 11:30am-1:30pm



Wildflower Pollination: Bloom or Bust

Mariposa Lily Members and above, Join Will Petry, PhD for an exclusive guided hiking experience that explores the high-stakes world of wildflower pollination. This special outing will venture into a unique area not typically accessible to the public. Along the way, participants will learn how pollination drives the success, or failure, of wildflowers, and how shifting conditions affect the delicate relationships between plants and their pollinators. The hike will highlight ecological and botanical features of special significance, offering a deeper look at the processes that determine whether a bloom thrives or busts.

M03 Saturday, 7/11 8:30am-10:30am



Alpine Wildflowers of Mt. Crested Butte

Leanne Benton

Level: *Intermediate*

Length: *2+ miles rocky, steep, uneven terrain*

Our Mariposa Lily Members and above are invited to join Leanne for a wonderful opportunity to see alpine and sub-alpine wildflowers without having to hike up! You'll ride up the Silver Queen lift and do some hiking on Mt. Crested Butte to around 11,500 ft. Leanne will show you the significant features of gorgeous alpine wildflowers while you enjoy the spectacular views of the valley, especially on the lift ride down.

M05 Sunday, 7/12 9:00am-1:00pm

M14 Saturday, 7/18 9:00am-1:00pm

Sip the Season: Wildflower Cocktails with Montanya Distillers

Renee Newton, Montanya Distillers, and Amanda Ellis, Super Bloom

NEW

Celebrate the beauty of Colorado's wildflowers through flavor at Montanya Distillers! Join us for an immersive, hands-on cocktail class where guests will craft two signature wildflower-inspired drinks:

- **Frosted Lily:** A crisp, refreshing creation featuring Montanya Platino Rum, glacier lily infusion, citrus, and subtle herbal notes, perfect for a bright, elegant sip.
- **Wild at Heart:** A fragrant, floral cocktail with Montanya Oro Rum, wild rose syrup, and a hint of botanicals, aromatic, balanced, and delightfully vibrant.

This class will guide you through crafting these unique cocktails and their non-alcoholic versions, perfect for celebrating local ingredients, sustainability, and the joy of mixology. Guests will learn about wildflowers, flavor pairing, and creative techniques to bring these botanicals to life at home.

M15 Monday, 7/13 11:00am-1:00pm



Behind the Scenes at RMBL

billy barr

Level: Beginner

Length: 1 mile of walking



Fairy Slipper and above: Step inside the heart of the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory for a rare, behind-the-scenes tour with billy barr, the legendary observer whose meticulous records have shaped our understanding of mountain weather, snowpack, and ecological change for decades. This special experience offers a glimpse into the places, tools, and long-term datasets that are not typically open to the public, along with stories from a life spent paying close attention to the natural world. As you explore RMBL’s research spaces, billy will share how patience, curiosity, and consistency have revealed powerful insights about climate and alpine ecosystems. Expect science, storytelling, and a healthy dose of wonder

M16 Tuesday, 7/14 9:00am-11:00am

Behind the Scenes at RMBL

David Inouye, PhD

Level: Beginner

Length: 1 mile of walking



Fairy Slipper and above: Go into the field during this exclusive behind-the-scenes research experience with David Inouye, PhD, one of RMBL’s most influential scientists. Participants will visit an active research site and step into the day-to-day reality of long-term ecological research, learning how questions are shaped, data are collected, and patterns emerge over time. As David Inouye, PhD shares insights from decades of studying plant-pollinator interactions and climate-driven change, you’ll gain a deeper understanding of the methods and commitment behind the science—and why these studies matter far beyond the valley.

M10 Thursday, 7/16 8:30am-10:30am



James Cencer

NEW

Introducing



Join us in planting the seeds of a thriving future by expanding access to wildflower education, protecting native ecosystems, enriching community life, and inspiring a legacy of stewardship that blooms for generations.

Learn more about our new legacy-giving program or consider a planned gift today:
CrestedButteWildflowerFestival.org/Perennial-Promise/

Blue Flax

Teresa Corlew
Elizabeth Donoghue
Robert Eichelberger
Wenda Gantz
Lori Huang
Barbara Kauffman
Dennis Kristensen
Jo Ann Lieberman
Amanda Lora
David Marchand
Tom Mickus
Amanda Munzer
Liga Rostoks
Vicky Schwartz
Pam Smith
Luke Tembrock
Molly Walker
Katherine Woelfel

Lupine

Alisha Acker
Jen Alton
Diane Baugher
Carol Bayens
Leanne Benton
Claire Bouchard
Mary Cohen
Pamela Cox
Winfield & Anda Craven
Kimberlee Douglass
Gerri Duke
Ann English
Shannon Ericson
Erin Eskew
Maggie Gaddis
Holly Gordon
Heather Grady
Jennifer Greene

Melanie Helton
Suzanne Hetts
Hunter
Cynthia Hutchinson
Jill Jakowich
Kathy Johnson
Kathy Kirby
Kay Kitchen
Lindalee Lawrence
J Lutz
Frank Mazza
Mark McFann
Matthew McGee
Reece Motley
Tracie Myers
Betsy Neely
John Nixon
MK O'Brien
Sarah OBrien
Lisa Patrick
Michelle Pfister
Cathleen Pilone
Susan Plaza
Donna Quinn
Ansley Saba
Christy Sanchez
Nancy Swystun
Becky Taylor
Cathy Trujillo
Christina Tuck
Patrick Tuck
Maura Twomey
Joan Vehik
Lisa Velasquez
Kate Walz
David & Elieen Wells
Norm & Kristy Yenkey

Columbine

Ann Albano
Eileen Angelico

Tina Auten
Dare Bagwell
Kevin Barrett
Emily Benson
Ruth Berkshire
Laura Bittner
Jackie Blutworth
Brett Bockhop
Rondi Boroos
Barbara Brussell
Megan Freeman Burton
Dave Chiasson
David & Jacqueline Desposato
Lori Divine
Jenni Dixon
Susan Doak
Don Haver
Joan Enker
Sally G. Fenet
Larry Fisher
Nancy Fitzgerald
Caroline Flynn
Laurie Fondren
Laura Franklin
Harlan & Linda Friedman
Gayla Gallegos
Gail J Gordon
Don & Karyn Haasen
Leah Hains
Alan Harlam
Tanja Harrison
Wanda Harrold
Suzie Heiney
Natalie Hoffberger & Gloria Cleghorn
Nancy Hoffmann
Pilar Hoyos
Ginny Hunt
Sarah Hunt
Robert Hutson
Renee Jankord
Pirie Jensen
Sharon Jewett

Laura Johnston
Gary Keiser
Kris Kenyon
Andrea Kinzey-Wheeler
Jeanette Lamb
John Lauer
Carma Lepinske
May Lowry
Terri Lozier
Vicki Lutrick
Shannon Mallory
Wendy Maring
Paul Mathew
Heather Matus
Chuck McGinnis
Cathleen McKinzie
Mary Jo Morgan
Maury Nichols
Ernie Oshiro
Jennifer Pedneau
Lynn Pender
Sandra Petrocchi
Shari Provenzano
Gary Rainwater
Tracy Rasmussen
Rick & Margaret Reavis
Jennifer Riberdy
Marcia Richardson
Jill Rowley
Beth Russo
Karen Schoenberger
Beck Sharpe
Kim Stacey
Jennifer Starbuck
Marguerite Stewart
Rachel Studley
Karen Thomas
Sheila Turk
Donna Whitesel
Richard Whiting
Rosemarie Whiting
Martha Wilcox

Jamie Wilke
Linda M Williams
Victoria Wiseman
Thomas Wyss
Julie Zott

Scarlet Gilia

Nancy Accetta
Lisa Allen
Joe Allyn
Don Bechter
Michael & Linda Boyd
Susan Burk
Jenny Cavanaugh
Eldy Deines
Elizabeth Dupree-Kyle
Peggy Gentzler
Polly Giblin
Karen Hamilton
Monika Hannan
Carey & Tom Harrington
Claudia Helguero
Joanne Karp
Manon Kavesky
Michael Kelley
Taylor Kotula
Shelly Kussman
Megan Lewis
Peter Lisowski
Rhonda Low
Andrew Lundberg
Rebecca MacVaugh
Beverly Martin
Daniel Martin
Bobby & Tammy Medlin
Diane Miller
Leslie & Keith Morley
Ann Reed

Paul Regan
Terri Roth
Bryan Sperry
Holly Sulte
Yvonne Sutton
Gretchen Swanson
Vicki Walden
Carol Williams

Mariposa Lily

Maureen Boyle
Heather Campbell
Lynn Cudlip
Mary DeLisi
Wendy Foltz
Marcia Haley
Elisabeth Hise
Deyanna Lambert
Peggy Langewisch
Janet Motley
Karen OBrien
Lisa Podmajersky
John Schmid
John Segal
Michelle Thompson
Caroline Trammel
Nancy Wilson
Tom Zeiner

Fairy Slipper

Doris Altman
Amy Brimmage
Karen Dunn

Cheree Hamblen
Ann Frances Jury
Elise Kish
Sally Meyers
Gail Richards
Milisa Rizer
Daphne & Jay Shipowitz
Jim & Beth Stormont
Charles Talbott
Gianna Zeh

Wildflower Garden

Kenneth Alan Collins

Monument

Carmen & Craig Alexander
Kristy Hawley

Thank You, 2026 Members!

Become A Member Here

CrestedButteWildflowerFestival.org/Member

Member Spotlight: Judy Shappell

My first experience [with the Festival] was in 2023. I became a Member to allow me to sign up early in order to receive the variety of events that I desired. I was thrilled to experience the Wildflower Jeep Tour, Tony's Trail, Watercolor Workshop, Birding In the Upper Loop and Sunset Photography. In my second year, I added Needle Felting, Walking Tour of Crested Butte Gardens and another Sunset Photography event, to name a few.

What stood out to me during my first experience was the variety of events offered and the wonderful organization of the Festival staff. Not being able to do everything that I wanted, I knew I had to return. The photography workshop that I took landed me in a beautiful field of Lupins. Also, the plentiful fields of Indian Paintbrush offered me a wonderful photographic experience. It was interesting to see the variety of colors of the Indian Paintbrush. That is my favorite Colorado wildflower.

My advice to a person who is a first-time attendee would be to sign up for a variety of events. The exposure to the real flowers as well as the artistic exposure in the form of art classes, is very rewarding and memorable.

I truly have enjoyed every event, class, or walking around the town of Crested Butte. Very often, I have spoken very highly of the annual festival and have recommended it to people.



Leader Spotlight: Rick Reavis

It is hard to imagine a place more beautiful year-round than Crested Butte. As the enchanted golden Aspen groves of autumn soon cozy up under pristine blankets of sparkling snow, it is remarkable to fathom that the next season's spectacles could possibly measure up to the beauty before it. Contemplating this from the view of a chairlift in 1982 was Rick Reavis, visiting Crested Butte for the first time, chaperoning a youth church ski trip. As he and a fellow lift rider exchanged these musings in warm conversation over the crisp air, a seed of admiration and curiosity was planted.

Enticed by the tales of rainbowed wildflowers and abundant native plants, Tenured Associate Professor of Horticulture at Oklahoma State University, Rick Reavis, planned a trip to Crested Butte that next summer with his wife, Margaret. There, Rick connected with Vinnie Rossignol, who took him "under his wing" and showed him the best trails around the area for wildflower discovery. The seed had been watered.

After this trip, Rick and Margaret would go on to spend their summers in Crested Butte; Rick worked as an interpretive guide at the Weldon and Rosalie Weekley Visitor Center and Store in Gothic, and Margaret served as Treasurer for the Crested Butte Wildflower Festival. It was not long before Rick was convinced by Margaret and the Executive Director at the time, Sue Wallace, to join the Board and eventually serve as President. The seed now budding and blooming, strong and fruitful.

Rick reflects on those early days of the Festival, saying, "I remember many discussions finding ways to bring in new talent, and especially young adults, to the Festival. Always making attempts to expand the interest and success of the Festival while focusing on its future. I recall the Festival's budget being very tight and the Board constantly exploring avenues to generate additional revenues." Thinking about where the Festival is today, Rick shares that he is most proud that the Festival is still around, likening the non-profit to the wildflower "old-man-on-the-mountain, *Hymenoxys grandiflora*." He explains, "the large yellow flowers always face East. It is believed the plant has evolved in this fashion to protect the flower from adverse conditions. Much like the CBWF has survived for four decades."

(Continued on next two pages)

Since its inception, “stemming from the actions of a few locals who thought it might be a good idea to promote the natural beauty of native wildflowers to a broader audience,” Rick notes the significance of the Festival’s growth both in scope and community impact; “In my experience, CB is a tight-knit, local community. Respect and admiration are not guaranteed for a non-profit organization. It has to be earned over a period of years. The preservation of CBWF’s mission of protecting the ecosystems and educating wildflower hiking participants and guests, CBWF has gained respect in the greater CB community.”

Looking ahead to the future, Rick remarks:

The greatest concern for me is overuse of the wildflower trails, combined with a changing climate. What one experiences today may be increasingly less common in the future. I remember a Board discussion about how the CBWF is not a “Disneyland experience.” I remain optimistic about the future of the CBWF. In general, a strong Board and executive team can adjust the organization in ways to adapt to a changing climate and increased population influence here in CB. The CBWF may appear very different forty years from now. Seriously, who would have thought forty years ago the CBWF would be the non-profit it is today?

To keep this positive momentum going, leaning into the importance of community engagement playing into the stewardship of wild landscapes like ours, he emphasizes, “It’s all about community education. Especially the CB natural history. We have a unique opportunity to learn from the scientific research findings of RMBL. The recent partnership between CBWF and RMBL will provide opportunities for a better understanding of CB’s stewardship of our outdoor landscapes.”

For over forty years, Rick has been working hard to do just that, educating folks both directly and indirectly about our local wildflower populations and ecosystems. Since serving on the Board, Rick has continued to stay involved with the Festival, dedicating his time as an event Leader and running training sessions with other Festival Leaders on wildflower identification. Rick is also the author of the Rocky Mountain Wildflower Guide, now in its 4th edition (coming soon). He smiles:

Seeing a new guide’s enthusiasm of discovery and then passing on their insights is one of the greatest rewards for a teacher. Essentially, being able to witness my replacements is what it’s all about for me. I have been so very blessed to have been able to be part of the CB botanical community. I have lifelong friendships that were created out of identifying plants on the trails. It is through CBWF that I was first introduced to RMBL. My family has grown up learning about the outdoor environment because of these relationships. I will always keep attempting to learn and share as long as it’s possible.

For someone attending the Festival for the first time, especially those eager to plant their own seeds of curiosity and appreciation of wildflowers and nature, Rick’s biggest piece of advice is simple: “Don’t make it a ‘one and done’ occurrence! Stay as long as possible and come back for years to come. I have been identifying plants in the area for over forty years and still become amazed at what is out there to discover and learn.” He also recommends keeping an eye out for Moss Campion, Fireweed, and Twinflower, all examples of wildflowers with a circumboreal distribution. He says, “These CB wildflowers are like glacial relics!”

To learn more about what makes these flowers so impressive, or why snowpack can make or break a wildflower season, we highly recommend joining one of Rick’s events this summer (Follow the Bloom, Gothic Townsite Tour, or Hidden Blooms of Baxter Gulch) and join us in thanking him for all that he means to the Festival.

*Need a
Wildflower Guide?*



[Get Yours Here!](#)

Beginner Hikes & Walks

Beginner walks/hikes are generally suitable for most people who can walk at a leisurely pace of 2 miles/hour. These hikes are level, with some rolling terrain, and utilize wider, well-packed trails and Jeep roads. Keep in mind that the altitude here in Crested Butte can often make these hikes feel more challenging than their counterparts at sea level. Plan to travel 2-4 miles with up to 500 feet of elevation gain/loss. Wear sturdy walking/hiking shoes (NO flip flops or sandals!). Bring sunscreen, bug spray, snacks, and carry at least 16 ounces of water. Children ages 12+ welcome with supervision.

Virtual Wildflower Tour

David Kish \$25
Video link will be emailed to all participants.

Can't make it to Crested Butte this year? We have you covered! Join us for a virtual wildflower tour through the breathtaking landscapes of Crested Butte. Experience the vibrant colors and diverse flora of this renowned wildflower capital from the comfort of your home. Led by our Executive Director, this immersive online experience will highlight the region's most stunning blooms and offer insights into their ecological importance and unique characteristics. Whether you're a nature lover, photography enthusiast, or simply curious about the beauty of Colorado's wildflowers, this virtual tour offers a visual feast and educational journey. Don't miss this opportunity to explore one of nature's most spectacular seasons!

H03 Online Links will be emailed after purchase

Gothic Townsite Tour

Rick Reavis \$65
Level: Beginner
Length: 1-2 miles on well-packed, level, rolling terrain

Explore the historic Gothic Townsite on a guided tour through the heart of Gothic, Colorado, home to the renowned Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory. Discover the rich history, fascinating stories, and scenic beauty of this charming alpine town. This tour offers a unique glimpse into the past while showcasing the area's natural wonders. Join us for an unforgettable journey through Gothic's captivating history and stunning landscapes!

H48 Friday, 7/17 8:00am-10:00am

Wonderful Wildflower Connections

Mel Harte \$80
Level: Beginner
Length: 1-2 miles on well-packed, rolling terrain

Explore fascinating connections among wildflowers and animals on the Lower Loop. See over 50 different wildflowers, including the Gunnison mariposa lily! Flower lists are supplied at the beginning, with common and Latin names - but it's the stories behind these fascinating flowers that are emphasized! Ages 10+

H09	Friday, 7/10	9:30am-12:30pm
H43	Thursday, 7/16	9:30am-12:30pm

Gothic Wildflowers

Mel Harte \$80
Level: Beginner
Length: 1-2 miles on well-packed level, rolling terrain

Get up close and personal with rare and unusual flowers near beautiful Gothic Mountain at the Rocky Mountain Biological Lab (RMBL). You'll learn about and identify 60+ kinds of wildflowers (including 2-3 species of ORCHIDS)! Flower lists are supplied-- but it's the stories behind these fascinating flowers that are emphasized!

H13	Saturday, 7/11	9:30am-12:30pm
H34	Tuesday, 7/14	9:30am-12:30pm
H54	Saturday, 7/18	9:30am-12:30pm

Follow the Bloom

Rick Reavis \$80
Level: Beginner
Length: 2-3 miles on well-packed trail with some steep & rocky terrain

Join Rick Reavis, author of Rocky Mountain Wildflower Guide, for a wildflower identification hike at a leisurely pace with time for questions and photographing the beautiful blooms. The wildflowers in Crested Butte peak at different locations at different times during the summer. He'll take you to where the flowers are at their best!

H01	Monday, 6/29	9:00am-12:00pm
H02	Monday, 7/6	9:00am-12:00pm
H26	Monday, 7/13	8:45am-12:45pm

Wellness Wildflower Walk

Sam Faivre

Level: *Beginner*



CB
State
of Mind



\$25

Slow down, breathe deeply, and reconnect with yourself on this guided Wellness Wildflower Walk led by CB State of Mind. Set amid the beauty of Crested Butte's wildflower-filled landscapes, this gentle walk invites participants to experience the calming and restorative power of nature. Along the way, the group will pause to practice simple wellness techniques, including mindful breathing, grounding exercises, and brief guided meditations inspired by the colors, scents, and rhythms of the wildflowers around us. Designed for all experience levels, this walk emphasizes presence over pace and offers tools you can take with you long after the festival ends.

H62	Monday, 7/13	6:00pm-8:00pm
H63	Wednesday, 7/15	6:00pm-8:00pm

Wildflowers Fit for a Garden

Meri Wallace

Level: *Beginner*

Length: 2-3 miles on well-packed, rolling terrain

\$70

Meander through a wildflower paradise and see splendid specimens in meadows and forests that will thrive in your garden. A relaxed pace will allow for discussion on the availability of wildflowers, the ethics of transplanting them from the wild, and the viability of growing wildflowers from seed. We'll finish at a beautiful garden on the edge of town, showcasing the cultivation of wildflowers.

H35	Tuesday, 7/14	9:30am-12:30pm
H61	Thursday, 7/16	9:30am-12:30pm

Explore Emerald Lake Basin

Ken Collins

Level: *Beginner*

Length: 2-3 miles on a well-packed road with some rocky & steeper terrain

\$90

Explore the Emerald Lake basin and its tremendous variety of wildflowers. The lake, as its name implies, is an intensely deep green, and this time of the year, should still have extensive snow banks around it. For those who want a relaxed opportunity to see a mix of alpine and subalpine flowers, this is the perfect outing.

H16	Sunday, 7/12	7:30am-12:00pm
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Wildflowers & Yoga in the Morning Light

Alex Lambro, Kaitlyn Seifert & Sara Herrera

Level: *Beginner*

Length: 2-3 miles on a well-packed, rolling terrain

\$80

Start your day with the ultimate mountain reset. Your journey begins with a mindful stroll through the aspens and wildflowers, leading to a natural sanctuary perfectly suited for practice. Once settled, we'll transition into a gentle yoga class, designed to awaken the body and soothe the mind. By synchronizing your breath with the rustle of the aspen leaves and utilizing the earth's uneven beauty to find your balance, you'll experience a deep, sensory immersion. Find solace in nature's incredible beauty and ground your energy before the hustle and bustle of the day begins.

Expect to walk 2-3 miles on moderate terrain. To make the most of this experience, please wear comfortable layers for the crisp morning air and bring water, a snack, and your yoga mat. You'll return to the trailhead feeling centered, invigorated, and deeply connected to the timeless beauty of Crested Butte.

H04	Friday, 7/10	7:30am-10:30am	Alex Lambo
H15	Sunday, 7/12	7:30am-10:30am	Kaitlyn Seifert
H44	Friday, 7/17	7:30am-10:30am	Sara Herrera
H56	Sunday, 7/19	7:30am-10:30am	Kaitlyn Seifert



Olivia Murphy-Welconish

Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory Interpretive Wildflower Hikes



This summer, learn common wildflowers names while discussing applicable RMBL research connections & natural history with a Visitor Center staff member! [Click Here!](#)

Beginner/Intermediate 2-hr Hike

Check out the Gothic Campus!

@ RMBL Visitor Center

Intermediate 3-hr Hike

Trek through Campus, Judd Falls/401, and into Wilderness Area.

@ RMBL Visitor Center

Intermediate 2-hr Hike

Hike near the proposed Village at Mt. Crested Butte, Crested Butte Land Trust Stewardship, and U.S. Forest Service Land.

@ the Snodgrass West side trailhead off of Gothic Road

Wildflower ID Walk

Agustina Hein/Jackie Fitzgerald

\$45

Level: *Beginner*

Length: 2-3 miles on a well-packed, rolling terrain

Join us for a wildflower identification walk at a leisurely pace, with time for questions and photographing the beautiful blooms! We'll take you where the flowers are at their best! Kids 8+ with supervision.

H14	Saturday, 7/11	1:00pm-3:00pm	Agustina Hein
H55	Saturday, 7/18	11:30am-1:30pm	Jackie Fitzgerald
H59	Sunday, 7/19	10:30am-12:30pm	Jackie Fitzgerald

Wildflowers & Folklore

Leanne Benton

\$80

Level: *Beginner*

Length: 2-3 miles on well-packed, rolling terrain

The lives of people and wildflowers have long been intertwined, leading to a rich trove of stories, traditions, and uses about these plants. We'll explore the folklore, myths, histories, and some interesting facts of Crested Butte's beautiful blooms. Fairies, witches, plagues, love, and healing all have a role, as well as a secret language spoken through wildflowers!

H27	Monday, 7/13	9:30am-1:30pm
H50	Friday, 7/17	8:45am-12:45pm

Upper Loop to Tony's Trail

Ken Collins

\$80

Level: *Advanced Beginner*

Length: 3+ miles on trail with some rocky, uneven terrain

This relatively easy hike is mostly downhill with varied terrain through forest and grasslands. We're likely to see a wide variety of wildflowers with dramatic views of the south side of Mt. Crested Butte as we traverse the Upper Loop trail and connect to Tony's Trail.

H23	Monday, 7/13	8:00am-12:00pm
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Chandra Venkataramani

Explore Judd Falls

Richard Davis/Ken Collins

\$80

Level: *Advanced Beginner*

Length: 3+ miles on well-packed trail with some rocky & steeper terrain

Along this trail we'll experience excellent displays of wildflowers and wonderful views up the Gothic Valley. We will walk up to the Judd Falls overlook, or time permitting, perhaps a little past it. Judd Falls provides a dramatic turn-around point for our walk.

H31 Tuesday, 7/14 8:00am-12:00pm Richard Davis

H47 Friday, 7/17 8:00am-12:00pm Ken Collins

H53 Saturday, 7/18 8:00am-12:00pm Richard Davis

Snow & Bloom

Sara Simonson

\$80

Level: *Advanced Beginner*

Length: 3+ miles with some rocky, steep terrain

Delve into the fascinating relationship between snowpack and the wildflowers that emerge when the snow melts. We will explore how snow cover impacts plant survival, growth patterns, and seasonal transitions in the East River Valley. Learn about the vital roles snow plays in regulating temperatures, moisture, and soil health, and discover how wildflowers adapt to thrive. Whether you're a seasoned naturalist or a curious beginner, this event offers an in-depth look at the beauty and resilience of nature's most delicate ecosystems.

H38 Wednesday, 7/15 10:00am-2:00pm

Splendor on Snodgrass

Ken Collins

\$80

Level: *Advanced Beginner*

Length: 3+ miles with some rocky, steep terrain

Snodgrass Mountain is what makes us the "Wildflower Capital of Colorado!" This hike will take you through fields of flowers in bloom, groves of quaking aspen, stands of spruce and fir trees, with views of Crested Butte Mountain. This lower-elevation wildland and its wetlands also provide habitat for many species, even the elusive Canada lynx. This version of the hike begins on Washington Gulch Road and is appropriate for advanced beginner hikers.

H11 Saturday, 7/11 8:00am-12:00pm

YOUR AD HERE

Become a '26 Business Sponsor

Hummingbird \$3,000

\$1,000 Butterfly

Moth \$500

\$250 Ladybug

Ant \$100

Become a Pollinator!

CrestedButteWildflowerFestival.org/Sponsorships

Intermediate Hikes

Intermediate hikes are suitable for people who consider themselves fit and who participate in jogging/walking/hiking activities on a regular basis. You should be able to comfortably travel at a pace of 2-3 miles/hour. Plan on traveling 3-6 miles on narrower, packed, and rocky trails with some uneven footing. These events traverse steeper terrain, with 500-1000 feet of elevation gain/loss (steep!). Wear sturdy hiking shoes/boots (NOT tennis shoes), and bring sunscreen and bug spray. Bring at least 32 ounces of water and a snack (or lunch if the event is around noon). Rain jacket required. Hiking poles recommended. Children 15+ welcome with supervision.

Three Lakes Hike

Krista Hildebrandt \$90

Level: *Adv. Beginner-Intermediate*

Length: 3 miles with rocky, very steep, and uneven terrain

A moderate loop hike through beautiful aspen forests. We'll visit three lakes and be rewarded with stunning views from the top of Beckwith Pass. Expect gorgeous wildflowers and some waterfalls along the way. Good chance for mushrooms with a wet summer! Ages 12+. **Please note:** event time includes 35-min drive to the trailhead.

H07	Friday, 7/10	7:45am-1:45pm
H30	Tuesday, 7/14	7:45am-1:45pm

Wildflowers & Waterfalls of Lake Irwin

Ken Collins \$90

Level: *Adv. Beginner-Intermediate*

Length: 3-4+ miles with rocky, steep terrain

Join us as we explore the spectacular wildflowers and wetlands surrounding Lake Irwin. The shoreline passes through a variety of habitats, including dense fir forest, lush meadows, and beaver ponds. We'll also explore the beautiful falls on the south side of the dam.

H05	Friday, 7/10	7:30am-12:30pm
H51	Saturday, 7/18	7:30am-12:30pm

Trail 403 to Viewpoint

Susie Attaway/Molly Murfee \$90

Level: *Adv. Beginner-Intermediate*

Length: 3-4 miles with some steep, rocky, and uneven terrain

This moderate hike has one of the richest wildflower displays in the valley, along with spectacular views of the Elk Mountains and Maroon Bells area. We'll hike up towards Gothic Mountain to the high point where you'll find both alpine and sub-alpine wildflowers, including silvery lupine, paintbrush, and spotted saxifrage.

Please note: event time includes a 30-minute drive to the trailhead; a high-clearance, 4-wheel-drive vehicle is required.

H19	Sunday, 7/12	8:00am-1:00pm	Susie Attaway
H39	Thursday, 7/16	7:30am-12:30pm	Susie Attaway
H57	Sunday, 7/19	7:30am-12:30pm	Molly Murfee

Splendor on Snodgrass - Intermediate

Molly Murfee/Richard Davis/Krista Hildebrandt \$80

Level: *Intermediate*

Length: 3+ miles with rocky, steep terrain

Snodgrass Mountain is what makes us the "Wildflower Capital of Colorado!" This hike will take you through fields of flowers in bloom, groves of quaking aspen, and stands of spruce and fir trees, with views of Crested Butte Mountain. This lower-elevation wildland and its wetlands also provide habitat for many species, even the elusive Canada lynx. **Please note:** this event begins at the trailhead on Gothic Rd. with a steep ascent.

H17	Sunday, 7/12	7:45am-11:45am	Molly Murfee
H22	Monday, 7/13	7:45am-11:45am	Richard Davis
H46	Friday, 7/17	7:45am-11:45am	Krista Hildebrandt



Carolyn Mooney

Lily Lake Wildflowers

Leanne Benton/Susie Attaway/Molly Murfee \$90

Level: *Intermediate*

Length: 4 miles with some rocky, steep terrain

A moderate hike through subalpine forests and meadows carpeted in wildflowers to a lake where water lilies bloom against a backdrop of mountains. 86 different flowers have been identified on this hike!

H12	Saturday, 7/11	8:00am-12:30pm	Leanne Benton
H33	Tuesday, 7/14	9:00am-1:30pm	Susie Attaway
H41	Thursday, 7/16	8:00am-12:30pm	Molly Murfee



Reading the Landscape

Jackie Fitzgerald \$80

Level: *Intermediate*

Length: 4+ miles with rocky, steep terrain

Hike in the shadow of Gothic Mountain and explore stunning wildflower displays while learning the fascinating stories of the land’s evolution. Our guide will share how geological forces and human history have shaped the ecosystems, offering a deeper understanding of the environment. Unlike typical hikes that focus on plant identification, this experience invites you to see the landscape through a historical and geological lens, making it ideal for nature lovers, history buffs, and anyone curious about the land’s rich heritage.

H32	Tuesday, 7/14	8:30am-11:30am
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Lower Deer Creek Trail

Jackie Fitzgerald \$80

Level: *Intermediate*

Length: 4+ miles with rocky, steep terrain

Discover the beauty of a locally known, yet infrequently utilized wildflower trail. The out-and-back hike begins on a 4x4 road and narrows to single track. Enjoy a beautiful, meandering hike through open meadows, glacier-created ponds, and centuries-old Aspen groves. Discover diverse displays of Wildflowers and never lose sight of awe-inspiring Gothic Mountain. Thorough discussions of the area's wildflowers and natural history will be provided.

H42	Thursday, 7/16	9:00am-1:00pm
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Walrod's Wildflowers & Caves

Susie Attaway \$90

Level: *Intermediate*

Length: 4-5 miles with rocky, very steep, and uneven terrain

Walrod Gulch meanders across a southern-facing slope in the Cement Creek Valley and is home to one of the most impressive displays of mules ear sunflowers and lupine in the valley! Incredible views of Cement, Red, and Whetstone Mountains. Explore hidden caves as you meander among the wildflower meadows.

H25	Monday, 7/13	8:30am-1:30pm
H49	Friday, 7/17	8:30am-1:30pm

Wildflowers & Wetlands of Swampy Pass

Ken Collins \$100

Level: *Intermediate*

Length: 4-5 miles with steep, rocky, and uneven terrain

Enjoy stunning scenery and spectacular views of the iconic Castles rock formations on this hike! It begins with high mountain meadows blanketed with wildflowers and traverses through beautiful aspen forests. We’ll observe abundant wildflowers and explore riparian areas while enjoying the scenic views of the Ohio Creek Valley. **Please note:** event time includes a 35-minute drive to the trailhead.

H37	Wednesday, 7/15	8:00am-2:00pm
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Advanced & Expert Hikes

Expert hikes are suitable for people who are very physically fit and regularly incorporate running, cycling, or other strenuous exercise into their schedules. You should be comfortable traveling at a pace of 3 miles/hour...uphill! Plan on traveling 5-8 miles (or more) on steep, often rocky terrain, and expect some off-trail hiking across talus slopes. Footing can be challenging, and many of these hikes feature creek/river crossings and sections that are narrow and exposed to cliffs/drop-offs. Elevation gain/loss can exceed 1,500 vertical feet (very steep!). These hikes are not suitable for anyone with medical conditions that prevent them from exerting themselves or a history of altitude sickness when traveling to mountain areas. Sturdy hiking BOOTS, complete rain gear (jacket & pants), sunscreen, bug spray, hat, 2 liters of water, and substantial snacks and lunch required. Hiking poles recommended. Read event descriptions carefully to learn if sandals/river shoes are required. If you have traveled to Crested Butte from sea level, it is recommended that you spend at least 24 hours in Crested Butte prior to your event departure time to acclimate to the altitude change.

Discoveries Along the Dyke Trail

Luke Tembrock

\$90

Level: *Intermediate-Advanced*

Length: 6 miles with steep and rocky terrain

This trip will begin with a focus on the higher altitude flora such as lupines, various sunflower family species, and buttercup family species. As the trail progresses downwards in elevation, we will examine the plants and flowers associated with the several south-facing parks and the scree plants found adjacent to the trail's namesake – an intrusive igneous dyke. Thereafter, the focus will be on the plants associated with aspen forests (this is one of the largest in North America) as the trail winds down to a glacial bench. The trip will conclude with a final look around the large open meadow that is Horse Ranch Park.

Please note: event time includes 30-min drive to the trailhead; we will drop cars at Horse Ranch Park and carpool to the start, then reverse at the end. Please plan on using your vehicle.

H24 Monday, 7/13 8:00am-1:00pm

Hidden Blooms of Baxter Gulch

Rick Reavis

\$80

Level: *Intermediate-Advanced*

Length: 3 miles with steep, rocky, and uneven terrain

This new classic trail took eight years of construction and is a new gem in the mix of trails close to the Town of Crested Butte. You'll ascend through aspen forest then traverse across southern slopes filled with mules ear, aspen sunflower, and lupine. A descent to the creek marks the turn-around point, or if time permits, ascend the wooded slopes on the other side and search for the elusive fairy slipper.

H20 Sunday, 7/12 8:00am-12:00pm

H58 Sunday, 7/19 8:45am-12:45pm

The Ruby of the Rockies

Krista Hildebrandt

\$100

Level: *Intermediate-Advanced*

Length: 3-5 miles with rocky, steep and uneven terrain

This hike is referred to in the trail guide as "classic and unique," and for good reason. It skirts the grandiose rock "Dyke" outcrop of the Ruby Range as it weaves and winds through one of North America's largest aspen forests. A wonderful selection of flowers can be seen here, including a few not present in other areas around Crested Butte. **Please note:** event time includes a 30-min drive to the trailhead.

H52 Saturday, 7/18 7:45am-2:45pm

Cliff Creek's Summer Garden

Richard Davis

\$100

Level: *Intermediate-Advanced*

Length: 5 miles with rocky, steep terrain, including a shallow creek crossing.

Cliff Creek's Summer Garden offers a wildflower hike along the famous Beckwith Pass Trail, a route known for its rich diversity of blooms and sweeping views of the Ruby Range. The trail climbs gradually, with several short, steeper sections, making it well-suited for an observant pace. Along the way, we will pause often to explore the distinctive characteristics of plant families, examine flower anatomy, and discuss a special wildflower that can only be found on this side of Crested Butte. This outing emphasizes careful looking, shared discovery, and time to enjoy the landscape at the height of the summer bloom. **Please note:** event time includes 35-min drive to the trailhead.

H08 Friday, 7/10 8:00am-2:00pm

Lost Lake and Beckwith Pass

Luke Tembrock

\$100

Level: Advanced

Length: Approximately 8 miles with steep and rocky terrain

This scenic adventure travels through one of the largest aspen forests in North America and meanders through open parks of wildflowers before descending on the Cliff Creek trail to Horse Ranch Park. The meadows between Lost Lake and Beckwith Pass are filled with prime examples of Case's Corydalis, Oshá, and Corn Lily, wildflowers said to be emblematic of the West Elk mountains. Enjoy these species along with numerous other montane flowers along with excellent views of Marcelina Mountain, the Beckwith Mountains, the Ruby Range, and the Dyke Trail. ***Please note:*** event time includes a 35-min drive to the trailhead; we will drop cars at Horse Ranch Park and carpool to Lost Lake, then reverse at the end. Please plan on using your vehicle.

H18 Sunday, 7/12 7:45am-2:45pm



Richard Davis

Wildflowers & Waterfalls in the Oh-Be-Joyful Valley

Molly Murfee/Jeff Delaney

\$100

Level: Advanced

Length: 6+ miles with steep, rocky, and uneven terrain

Join this spectacular hike through the Oh Be Joyful valley! You'll encounter gorgeous wildflower-filled fields, beaver ponds, and waterfalls as we make our way towards the high alpine meadows and basins below Blue Lake. The event features sustained hiking with multiple stops for wildflower investigation. Expect several water crossings along the way. River shoes/sandals required.

H06 Friday, 7/10 7:45am-2:45pm Molly Murfee

H40 Thursday, 7/16 7:45am-2:45pm Jeff Delaney

Scarp Ridge

Molly Murfee

\$100

Level: Advanced-◆◆ Expert

Length: 4 miles with steep, rocky, and uneven terrain

Join us for this incredible hike above Lake Irwin. You'll traverse across wildflower-covered hillsides and climb above treeline to reach one of the most spectacular ridges in the Elk Mountains. The views include six 14,000-ft peaks and one of the most abundant and diverse displays of wildflowers in the Gunnison Valley, often featuring masses of alpine sunflowers.

Please note: event time includes 35-min drive to the trailhead; four-wheel drive needed

H29 Tuesday, 7/14 7:30am-2:00pm

H45 Friday, 7/17 7:45am-2:15pm

Rustler Gulch

Molly Murfee /Richard Davis

\$100

Level: Advanced-◆◆ Expert

Length: 5-6 miles with steep, rocky terrain, mud, and creek crossings.

River shoes/sandals required.

One of our favorite hikes is through meadows and pine forest to a beautiful alpine basin. A plethora of waist-high flowers and elusive beauties abound, including monkey flower, parry's primrose, & bog orchid. A variety of rushing water distinguishes this trail and establishes a habitat rich with riparian flora. Be prepared for water crossings! ***Please note:*** event time includes 30-min drive to the trailhead.

H21 Monday, 7/13 7:45am-4:00pm Molly Murfee

H36 Wednesday, 7/15 7:45am-4:00pm Richard Davis

Poverty Gulch & Daisy Pass

Molly Murfee

\$100

Level: **◆◆ Expert**

Length: 6-8+ miles with very steep, rocky, uneven and exposed terrain

Bring sandals/river shoes for creek crossings.

This adventure has it all! Waterfalls around every corner. Wildflowers of every variety blanketed steep hillsides. Dramatic mountain views extending for miles from the Maroon Bells to Scarp Ridge. We'll travel from Poverty Gulch to the top of Daisy Pass and take in the views of the mountains surrounding the Oh-be-joyful valley. It's a hiking experience you won't forget.

H10 Saturday, 7/11 7:45am-3:45pm



Hike to Aspen

Colorado Backcountry Guides

\$495

Level: **◆◆ Expert/Extreme**

Length: 11-13 miles with very steep, rocky, uneven terrain and exposed areas

Please note: there may be avalanche debris blocking the shuttle's access to the trailhead, which would increase the hike distance by 2 miles. Be prepared to hike 13 miles.

Creek crossings required —bring sandals/river shoes.

Join us for an epic adventure on a trip over Colorado's most scenic mountain pass! From the Crested Butte side of the Elk Range, we'll ascend West Maroon Pass, cross the Elk Mountain Divide, then descend beneath the dramatic flanks of Maroon Bells and Pyramid Peak. This hike is easily Colorado's most spectacular wildflower adventure – the combination of lush vegetation, alpine tundra, and colorful geology is unrivaled. Transportation to the trailhead and from Aspen back to Crested Butte is included. We'll grab a "to-go" meal (meal not included) on the return to Crested Butte via shuttle.

H28 Tuesday, 7/14 6:00am-10:00pm

H60 Thursday, 7/16 6:00am-10:00pm





Registration Dates

- February 14th – Program Guide release
- March 30th – Monument & Wildflower Garden level Members can start registering for events
- April 1st – Fairy Slipper Members can start registering
- April 3rd – Mariposa Lily & Scarlet Gilia Members can start registering
- April 6th – Columbine level Members can start registering
- April 8th – Lupine Members can start registering
- April 10th – Blue Flax Members can start registering
- April 13th – General registration opens
- June 13th – Cancellation & transfer deadline
- July 12th – Member & Sponsor Appreciation Party

All registration waves open at 10am MTN. Members will be emailed instructions for registering early at the time their registration waves opens.

Helpful Links

[Join Our Newsletter](#)

[Become a Member](#)

[Cancellation/Transfer/
Refund Policy](#)

[FAQ](#)

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