

“Festival of Flowers” Garden Tour 2021

Daniel Currie & Allison Glover

1432 Deerwood Drive

Humble Beginnings

“Those who garden together stay together.”

Let’s just say we did not buy our home in Longmont for the yard. In January 2012, the garden at 1432 Deerwood Drive consisted of an impressive variety of native weeds, a few rose bushes, and several discarded potted plants that lay strewn about the concrete patio. There was no grass *anywhere*. The two things that were bountiful in our front and back yards eight years ago were dirt and rocks. Some of these geological artefacts will be on display during your visit to our garden.

Home ownership was new to us, but horticulture was not. We grew up and came of age helping our mothers – *que en paz descansen* – in their flower and vegetable gardens in Massachusetts. Our garden in Longmont pays homage to our moms and our upbringings back East, and also to our love for one other. We’ve been digging, planting, weeding and watering alongside each other for a long time and it is still an exciting and energizing experience as well as a healthy and creative way to intertwine our creative energies.

White, yellow and salmon-pink daffodils fill our garden during March and April, as do crocus, lily of the valley, and patches of stunning poppies. In April and May, several hundred tulips open, celebrating new beginnings with splashes of pink, red, yellow and orange and purple, and inviting passersby to admire their gentility and fortitude. Soon, the iris run the show, captivating people of all ages with their tall, steady stalks, and their hues of purple, black and blue. All of these early bloomers kick things off for dozens of pink, white and coral-colored peonies, as well as for light and dark blue delphinium. As summer heats up, you won’t be able to miss the black-eyed Susans or the sunflowers; they are our garden’s unsung heroes, as are the yucca and hibiscus in the front and a pair of cacti in the back. Lambs ear, lavender and sage bushes are surrounded by day lilies and the California poppies. impatiens and petunias

Succulents are arguably the most abundant species in our garden, particularly hens and chicks and ice plants. Salvia blooms several times throughout the dry, hot months, assuming we cut it (way) back each time. A single honeysuckle, a sea of bee balm, clematis, hydrangeas, day lilies, hollyhocks, a pair of cherry trees, several butterfly bushes and a patch of lilac can be found in the backyard. Our garden also boasts raspberries, strawberries and a couple of peach trees.

*We grow peonies and hydrangeas in honor and memory of Daniel’s mother Arletta Currie (1942-2016), who was an avid gardener. Allison’s mother Melanie MacKenzie (1946-2016) inspires the tulips, especially the salmon-pink collection.

*Daniel has always gardened. It is reminiscent of his childhood. He loves the balance of order and wildness. His motto is: “If there is space, we’ll plant it!” (and see if it survives). Allison likes surprises and her new “lasagna” style of planting layers of bulbs.