

## Seeds of This Community

Tens of thousands of seeds fill a tiny jar, the potential for ten thousand native plants. Collected during the most inhospitable season and meticulously processed and banked, the seeds are generational wealth, their gathering an actionable hope. They carry the entirety of their roots, stems, leaves, flowers, perfume, fruit and offspring within their DNA. Thank you, Madena Asbell, for the seed bank tour at MDLT.

The seeds of community, cultivated friendships old and new, are fertilized and staked by this annual event that brings us out of our own gardens to wander with curiosity and appreciation through others'.

To be welcomed within your neighbors' gates at the apotheosis of desert spring! And sometimes to be carried beyond: the adornment of African glass beads on opuntia paddles, appointments on cholla and on yucca spikes. Thank you, gardener-artist Valerie Davis.

To catch an aesthetic and then gift a planter that's been behind your shed but goes perfectly with a neighbor's vibe. To be buoyed anew by the superbloom and the company of like-minded humans -- thinking, might this be the year I try euphorbia? Thank you, Jeff McClellan.

And to return home, where it's afternoon, a little too warm, and there is already wilt. Placement of that inappropriate color-popping Home Depot crave was OK yesterday and now it's not, a hellish harbinger of (shh ... whisper it only (until the stars come out, of course)) summer. Wait!!! Stop! Let's live on a high desert garden tour in full bloom forever. Thank you, MBCA.

Submitted by Allie Irwin