January 26: **Mushroom Discovery Presentation** | 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

This photo-filled presentation will cover some common mushroom taxonomy and identification methods, in addition to some of the research conducted by author Christian Schwarz, mushrooms he has found along the central coast, and beyond. You’ll get some Q&A time with Christian and look at fresh specimens. Christian will be selling and signing copies of "Mushrooms of the Redwood Coast". **No reservations required. Suggested donation $5 Garden members / $10 public**

February 3: **Chumash Kitchen - Winter Health** | 8:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Chumash chefs and herbalists, Violet and Jeanette, will share the practices of collecting, processing and transforming seasonal, local foods into several modern and traditional recipes, paired with other winter flavors. We’ll learn about the trinity of healing herbs: Yerba Buena, Yerba Santa and Yerba Mansa, while enjoying a beautifully prepared breakfast and lunch featuring flavors of the season. **Pre-registry is REQUIRED for this intimate offering. Sliding scale $88-$120**

February 24: **Pine Needle Basket Weaving** | 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Artist Elizabeth Bear will guide attendees through the process of creating beautiful, fragrant, and sustainable pieces of artwork at this intimate workshop. Just bring sharp scissors, imagination, and a bagged lunch as Ms. Bear provides all materials and her masterful insight. Each participant will make their own basket and start a second basket to complete at home. **Pre-registry is REQUIRED for this workshop. Workshop is $100 Garden members / $130 public.**

March 24: **Spring Plant Sale Fundraiser** | 10 AM - 1 PM

It’s time to add some new color to your garden. Let us help find the perfect plant for your yard! The Garden features charismatic and colorful plants that make a great statement without affecting your water bill. Join us at the San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden’s semi-annual plant sale on March 24 from 10 AM to 1 PM, with a **Garden Members Only Hour starting at 9 AM**, and **free admission** into El Chorro Regional Park for everyone!

**Event Details and Registration available at slobg.org**

Garden is located at 3450 Dairy Creek Road, San Luis Obispo

*El Chorro Regional Park charges a $3 per vehicle fee April to September on weekends and holidays*
The Garden Receives Grant from The Community Foundation SLO County
By Debbie Hoover, Operations Director

It is with much appreciation that the San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden received a generous grant of $2,500 from the Community Foundation SLO County on December 14, 2017 for hardware and software updates at the San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden. This grant will allow our volunteers and staff to work more efficiently and provide more online educational content.

The Community Foundation provides leadership and encourages charitable giving for the issues that improve and enhance lives in the county. The Community Foundation has raised the impact of charitable giving to new heights in the local community. Their endowment has grown to more than $60 million, and has given grants totaling more than $30 million to local nonprofits in our communities.

A Busy Year of Garden Planting
By Pete Pederson, Accessioning Committee

2017 proved to be a very successful year for planting. It began with our volunteer propagation team. The team met every Tuesday morning to plant seeds and cuttings harvested from the Garden. The young seedlings were nurtured, labeled and moved from trays to four inch pots to one gallon pots. These plants were either sold to the public or planted in the Garden.

Once plants destined for the Garden had been planted, the volunteer accessioning team took action. They tracked the location of the new plants in the Garden. Each plant was assigned a number and its location identified using GPS technology. This information was entered into a database. In 2017, 184 plants were planted. Of that, 134 plants were planted in the Fire Safe Garden.

The Garden’s board and staff send a big THANK YOU to all our volunteers who donate their precious time to keep the Garden thriving.

Introducing our new Poppy Logo!

The Garden’s New Poppy Logo was created by Joanne Mendoza, Graphic Design intern at the SLO Botanical Garden. Joanne is actively developing a new, mobile-optimized website for the Garden and a new T-Shirt design! Thanks Joanne for your beautiful work!