September 16–October 30, 2022
FREDERIK MEIJER Gardens & Sculpture Park

CHRYSANTHEMUMS & MORE!
UNEXPECTED COLOR
The chrysanthemum is coming to life in the fall, while most plants are fading and preparing for winter. This year’s exhibition aims to surprise and delight, with a focus on abundant autumn plantings arranged in intriguing and uncommon color combinations. Both artful and natural, the palette of vivid complementary colors and subtle tone-on-tone pairings—bringing awareness to texture and shape—is sure to pique your interest and catch your eye.

As you explore the gardens and grounds, indoors and out, take special note of the locations listed below to appreciate all the rich and striking detail of Unexpected Color.
Exhibition Map

1 BISSELL Corridor
2 Grace Jarecki Seasonal Display Greenhouse
3 Gateway Garden
4 Doehne Wildflower Meadow
5 Gwen Frostic Woodland Shade Garden
6 Michigan’s Farm Garden
BISSELL Corridor

View new and unique arrangements created by a different local florist each week. Special thanks to these florists for their generous donations.

Hayley Hungerford, Hyssop Floral
Horrocks Market
Brennan Smith, Big City Vibes
Kennedy’s Flowers & Gifts
Meijer Gardens Horticulture Staff
Melissa Snoeyer, Dahlia Acres Farms
Brenda Hankis, Eastern Floral
The chosen color palettes for the annual horticulture exhibitions are first and foremost influenced by our horticulturist’s recommendations and plant availability and then refined for various exhibition applications, materials, and multimedia campaigns. This year’s *Chrysanthemums & More!* color palette is a combination of two color schemes that together present the season in unexpected ways by applying color theory.

Complementary colors are colors across from each other on the color wheel, like blue and orange. See: blue green kale paired with orange mums and orange pumpkins.

Analogous colors are colors next to each other on the color wheel, like blue, purple and pink. See: periwinkle blue asters, dark purple kales and bright pink mums.
Unexpected Color is realized from the Chrysanthemums to the More! as you take in the beauty of fall while passing through the Gateway Garden. See the garden beds come alive with this fresh take on the chrysanthemum color palette. The pairing of analogous colors, like pink and purple, alongside the complementary color pairing of purple and orange create a unique visual experience.
Gateway Garden

Celebrate the More! by appreciating the wide diversity in color and form of kale and cabbage. Beautiful bluegreen foliage is on display with the ruffled leaves of the Winterbor kale and the strap-like, savoyed leaves of lacinato kale. Visit throughout the season to see unexpected fall color change; the deep purple-red leaves of the Redbor kale and purple of the Nagoya ‘Red’ kale intensify as the temperatures drop. Contrasting foliage textures—like the beautiful, wavy edged leaves of Osaka ‘Red’ cabbage and the feathery, frilled leaves of Peacock ‘Red’ flowering kale—provide additional visual interest in this garden. Together, both the Chrysanthemums and the More! serve as an anchor and a key unifying element across the outdoor exhibition plantings.

What other complementary and analogous color pairings can you find in these garden beds?
Doehne Wildflower Meadow

The Chrysanthemums & More! theme for this year, Unexpected Color, creates an element of visual surprise, utilizing specialty chrysanthemums, cabbage, kale, asters and more in unexpected ways through the careful application of color theory. Thoughtful observation of the Doehne Wildflower Meadow, however, reveals this theme from a perspective rooted in the natural environment and Michigan’s own native plants. As you look out into the Wildflower Meadow, take in the rich chrome yellow of goldenrod growing alongside the striking royal purple of New England aster.
In her book *Braiding Sweetgrass*, Dr. Robin Wall Kimmerer reflects on the art and science of how these wildflowers are paired together in nature. Aesthetically, purple and yellow are complementary colors—across from each other on the color wheel and as different from one another as can be. The striking contrast of these complementary colors causes them to appear more vivid when paired together, creating a dazzling natural fall color palette. There are important ecological implications to this pairing as well. This visual contrast similarly makes goldenrod and asters more attractive to bees; goldenrod and asters are visited by these pollinators more often when they grow together than when they are apart. The natural, elegant pairing of goldenrod and asters in fall is a perfect example of what Dr. Kimmerer calls lived reciprocity—“wisdom that the beauty of one is illuminated by the radiance of the other.”
GWEN FROSTIC WOODLAND SHADE GARDEN
Tuesdays, September 20, 27, and October 4, 5–8:30 pm | Music and Food 5:30–8 pm

The Woodland Shade Garden transforms into the Glow Garden, its natural beauty enhanced through the power of light. Enjoy artfully carved pumpkin displays by Grand Rapids printmaker Alynn Guerra, decorative lanterns, log lights, and glowing trees.
Tuesdays at the Farm

MICHIGAN’S FARM GARDEN
Tuesdays, September 20, 27, and October 4, 5–8:30 pm | Music and Food 5:30–8 pm

Eat, drink and dance in the crisp autumn air! The James & Shirley Balk Café pop-up will serve fresh local fare along with West Michigan beer and adult cocktails while guests enjoy live local music. It’s a great time for everyone wanting to experience fall at Meijer Gardens.
Once you’ve seen our chrysanthemums, make time for the More! Enjoy fall festivities with fun for the whole family. All events are included with admission.

FALL BONSAI SHOW
Saturday, October 1, 10 am–5 pm  
Sunday, October 2, 11 am–5 pm
See a variety of bonsai on display, from trees in early training stages to mature older trees. Watch bonsai artists at work and shop for bonsai trees, tools, and supplies.
PRESENTED BY THE WEST MICHIGAN BONSAI CLUB

HALLOWEE-ONES
Friday, October 21, 10 am–12 pm
Get creative at this special event designed for our youngest visitors. Dress your child as a sculpture, mammal, fish, insect, bird, tree, flower, geologist or in any other way that highlights something about the Lena Meijer Children’s Garden. Celebrate Halloween with your wee ones as you listen to Halloween-themed stories and go on a Halloween-themed hunt. No tricks. No treats. Just fun! Parade begins at 10:15 am.
Unexpected Color
Lecture Series

UNEXPECTED COLOR IN NATURE
Sunday, September 25, 2–3 pm
Join us as we experience how *Unexpected Color* reveals itself in nature. Take a walk with Eve Choi, Curator of Horticultural & Environmental Education, to observe the natural colors reflected in the Doehne Wildflower Meadow plantings in autumn. See how the plants pairings can have both ecological importance and aesthetic beauty rooted in color theory, and learn more about the science behind fall color change.

UNEXPECTED COLOR IN DESIGN
Sunday, October 9, 2–3 pm
Join us as we take a closer look at the inspiration behind the *Unexpected Color* theme with Amber Oudsema, Curator of Arts Education. Learn the basics of color theory and see how it has been artfully applied in this year’s *Chrysanthemums & More!* exhibition theme and displays. Then try out what you’ve learned in a hands-on activity exploring the principles of color theory.

UNEXPECTED COLOR IN FLORAL DISPLAYS
Sunday, October 23, 2–3 pm
Join us as we explore *Unexpected Color* on a guided tour of the Welcome Center and BISSELL Corridor indoor plantings and floral displays. Elizabeth Wesley-Martin, Meijer Gardens Florist and Horticulturist, will explain her approach to floral design and highlight key plantings on display throughout the Main Building. Learn the basics of floral design and observe how *Unexpected Color* is beautifully realized through the indoor *Chrysanthemums & More!* displays.
This year’s *Chrysanthemums & More!* color palette is a combination of two color schemes that—by applying color theory—together present the season in unexpected ways. Color theory is a set of principles that helps explain the science behind color mixing and why certain color combinations work better than others. Color theory is explained visually with a color wheel made up of primary, secondary and tertiary colors.
Three primary colors—red, blue and yellow—can be used to create all other colors when mixed in particular combinations.

Purple, green and orange are secondary colors, which result from mixing two primary colors.

Red + Blue = Purple.
Blue + Yellow = Green.
Yellow + Red = Orange.

Tertiary colors are red orange, red purple, blue purple, blue green, yellow green and yellow orange, which result from mixing primary and secondary colors next to each other on the color wheel.
CHRYSANTHEMUMS & MORE!
UNEXPECTED COLOR

is made possible by the generous support of:

The Meijer Foundation
Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation
Botanic and Sculpture Societies of Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park
Michigan Arts and Culture Council, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts
Townsquare Media
FREDERIK MEIJER Gardens & Sculpture Park promotes the enjoyment, understanding, and appreciation of gardens, sculpture, the natural environment, and the arts.