



NATURE CENTER
AT SHAKER LAKES

SPRING 2023

INSIDE:

FORAGING 101: WHAT TO EAT AND HOW TO FIND IT

WHAT DO BOX TURTLES EAT?

AMERICAN BLACK ELDERBERRY

RECIPE: TAHINI ELDERBERRY PUDDING

41ST ANNUAL PLANT SALE

ROOKERY



NATURE'S NATIVE FOODS AND FORAGING

As society has evolved, we have grown largely disconnected from our food, buying it at the market without seeing the tree, shrub, or plant it came from. However, there is a growing interest in reconnecting to our food through gardening and foraging. Learning more about how the plants and animals that provide nourishment can not only reconnect us to our food and health, but also to our ancestors and Native Americans that lived off the land before us.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

DEAR FRIENDS,

The early months of spring come with much anticipation. We've made it through another winter, and now, with more hours of daylight, animals, plants and humans alike seem to reawaken and eagerly await the warmer months to come. At the Nature Center, we always look forward to seeing more visitors on our trails, greeting spring school classes, and preparing for our most beloved events of the season, our annual Plant Sale and summer benefit, Nature at Night.

After 15 years serving as President and CEO, plus four years serving on the Board, I have experienced many springs at the Nature Center. This spring, however, will be bittersweet for me, as it will be my last one in this role before retiring at the end of May. I am proud of all that we have accomplished and the growth we have achieved over the years, thanks to our wonderful staff, board, and members and supporters like you. With your help, we have built positive momentum through our top-notch education programs, as well as our recent capital campaign to enhance and restore our unique outdoor classroom, and I am confident that the next President and CEO will continue to build upon our successes to help sustain the Nature Center going forward.

As I watch trees begin to bud and flowers blossom, I have great hope for the future of the Nature Center. There is so much potential that is waiting to be nurtured as our organization considers its many opportunities to advance its mission. Having recently completed a Strategic Visioning process, the next President and CEO, along with the Board and staff, will have much to consider as they focus on establishing partnerships that leverage our strengths; expanding our programming to be more accessible, inclusive, and relevant, particularly on climate change and environmental stewardship; attracting and retaining the best staff, board and volunteers who reflect the diversity of our community; and maintaining and strengthening our long-term financial viability.

It will be an exciting spring and I look forward to celebrating all things green with you at our 41st Annual Plant Sale on May 6, Homegrown Sale on June 10, and our Annual Benefit, Nature at Night, on June 3. Your support for these events makes all the difference to the Nature Center and the 140,000 visitors, 13,000 students, and 20+ acres we serve and steward annually. Thank you for joining me on this incredible journey over the past 15 years.

See you on the trails!

Kay Carlson

Kay Carlson, President & CEO



THE NATURE CENTER AT SHAKER LAKES

Kicks Off Leadership Fund in Honor of Kay Carlson With a \$1 Million Planned Gift!

The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes is thrilled to announce that we have secured an anonymous lead planned gift of \$1 million to support the new Leadership Fund in honor of President & CEO Kay Carlson.

The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes Leadership Fund in Honor of Kay Carlson recognizes Ms. Carlson for her outstanding 15+ years of service to the organization and will support the position of President & CEO in perpetuity, allowing allocation of other contributed income to the Nature Center's exceptional educational programs and maintaining the infrastructure that makes them possible. We are grateful for this generous and historic bequest, which will help build excitement for the fund and its success.

This new endowment fund, held at The Cleveland Foundation, was established in December 2022 in light of Ms. Carlson's pending retirement this spring. Contributions to the Fund will help secure the future and long term financial stability of the Nature Center, and safeguard the organization from any future unforeseen financial burdens as it turns its focus to the future. The Board of Trustees is deeply committed to supporting this fund to create a more sustainable financial future for the organization. This will further prime the organization to advance and expand the reach of its mission through the execution of its forthcoming strategic plan.

If you would like to learn more about the Leadership Fund, or make an outright or planned gift, please contact Rob Sikora, Chief Development Officer at 216.321.5935, ext. 223 or sikora@shakerlakes.org.

KAY CARLSON LEAVES LEGACY AND BIG SHOES TO FILL AFTER RETIREMENT THIS SPRING

“Just as the Nature Center is a special place for so many in our region, it is and always will be for me as well. From visiting and attending NCSL programs as a child, to serving on the board prior to becoming CEO, I will always carry fond memories of the organization with me. This was a difficult decision, but it is time for new perspectives and fresh energy to lead the organization through its next phase.” – Kay Carlson

Kay Carlson, President & CEO, recently shared her intent to retire from the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes this spring. While those who knew and worked with Kay are sad to see her go, we are thankful for her years of service to the organization and wish Kay a healthy and happy retirement.

Since 2008, Kay had many notable accomplishments which included: successfully implementing the Entrepreneurial Operating System (EOS) business model to guide, streamline and drive efficiency in the organization's strategic and tactical planning processes; creating a reserve fund to protect the financial health of the organization; and launching the Applied Science for Kids (ASK!) program 10 years ago with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, which significantly expanded the organization's environmental and science education programming and increased its reach to underserved youth in the region. In 2019, Kay was named a Notable Woman in Nonprofits by Crain's Cleveland Business.

Most recently, Kay's visionary leadership lead to the completion of a successful capital campaign from 2017 to 2021, which included a transformative restoration of the Nature Center's trails and habitats. The recent renovations and new features such as a Nature Play Area, Treehouse, and Meditation Terrace will provide the community with greater access to nature and more opportunities for environmental education for years to come.

Kay is working closely with the board and staff to ensure a smooth and seamless leadership transition to the next President & CEO. With Kay Carlson's announcement of her pending retirement at the end of May 2023, the Board of Directors has engaged Dise & Company to represent the Nature Center in the national search for the next Chief Executive Officer. Please contact Susan Zak, Executive Vice-President of Search, at szak@diseco.com for questions.



MEET THE STAFF:

KATRINA HEINZEN
Environmental Educator



Q: HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT THE NATURE CENTER?

A: 15 years this spring, which makes it difficult to answer the next question because I have lovely memories working with kids along every inch of the trails...

Q: FAVORITE AREA OF NCSL?

A: I'd have to pick the area surrounding 'Two Tree Square' for all the times I've been able to use the giant red oaks here to introduce children to the forest. I love kids' reactions as they look upwards, "They're SO tall!" and also climb on the enormous roots and give a tree a hug. How many Kindergartners does it take to encircle a giant oak? Seven!

Q: FAVORITE FLOWER OR PLANT?

A: One of my favorites is oak trees! I love all the species of oak—they are all majestic and provide food for so many animals.

Q: HOW DO YOU PRACTICE SUSTAINABILITY AT HOME?

A: In addition to the basic 3 Rs and composting, I feel that consumer choices make a big impact. Hoping these examples inspire: I don't eat red meat and only eat other animal products a few times a week. I bake my own breakfast bars because the packaging of cereal makes me sad. The main ingredients are red lentils, which I bring home in a paper bag from the bulk bins. I aspire to grow more food; sometimes I manage to grow some decent kale. It's a start!

Q: WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT YOUR JOB?

A: I love my enthusiastic colleagues, with whom I share the wonder of nature and the challenges of leading children to experience it as well. I love that the best version of myself emerges to surmount the challenges and connect with the children—and then help the kids connect with nature.

Q: FUN FACT ABOUT YOURSELF?

A: Before I incurred nerve damage, I was a professional French horn player. I still incorporate music into my teaching and am also now writing an album of children's songs with messages to help kids grow towards a more peaceful and cooperative future!

SPRING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

GUIDED BIRD WALKS

Sundays: March 12, March 26* | 8–9:30AM | Nature Center
Sundays: April 16, April 23, April 30, May 7, May 14,
May 21 | 7:30–9AM or later | Nature Center

Join a guided walk through the Shaker Parklands looking and listening for birds. The first walk of each month begins on our ADA accessible boardwalk and moves to dirt trails throughout the Parklands. The second walk of each month (marked with an asterisk) is fully accessible.



Dates in April and May are part of the Audubon Spring Bird Walks. The ending times for these walks vary depending on bird activity and can sometimes last up to 3 hours. Join for however long you're able! These walks begin on our ADA accessible boardwalk and then move to dirt trails throughout the Parklands. People with limited mobility are encouraged to join us for the first portion of the walk. Our fully accessible walks will resume in June. ASL interpretation is available for all Audubon Spring Bird Walks. For all hikes, meet in the Nature Center parking lot. A limited number of binoculars are available to borrow. Rain or shine. **Registration required. Free. Donations welcome.**

HEALING WALK CLUB WITH THE HIIT FACTOR

Saturdays: April 15, May 13, June 10 | 7:30–9AM | HIIT Factor

Start your weekend with an invigorating hike from The HIIT Factor on Larchmere to the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, and back. Focus on the health of your mind and body while alternating between a brisk walk and naturalist-led nature breaks. Back at The HIIT Factor, you are welcome to stick around to enjoy a complimentary sampler class led by fitness instructor, Haja Tunkara (9–10AM). Looking for even more fitness opportunities? NCSL members receive a 15% discount on HIIT Factor Memberships. Prepare for dirt trails and to hike about 3.5 miles. **Registration required. Free.**

RECENTER & RESET HIKES

Sundays: March 26, April 30, May 21 | 6–7PM | Nature Center

Join Jo Rattiliff of GirlTrek Cleveland for our monthly Sunday evening hikes as we watch Spring come to life while trekking the beautiful trails of Shaker Parklands and the surrounding neighborhood. Enjoy the fresh air, trees budding, flowers popping up, sounds of flowing water, evening bird calls, and much more. The trail will be of natural surfaces (paved and dirt trails) and sidewalk. Come rain or shine. All are welcome to join us for a fun-filled evening in nature. **Registration required. Free. Donations welcome.**

CLIMATE FRESK: AN EDUCATIONAL GAME WORKSHOP

Saturday, April 29 | 9AM–12PM | Nature Center

Want to help tackle climate change but don't know where to start? The Nature Center is excited to host this fun, magical, and collaborative workshop using a card- and game-based methodology to activate and tap into the group's collective intelligence. Join Megan Yousef, climate consultant, to collaborate with like-minded peers, and have fun doing it! The facts in Climate Fresk come from the IPCC reports. These are the same reports that inform political and economic decision-making at the highest level around the world. Climate Fresk is neutral and objective and only deals with established scientific facts. **Registration required. \$25 per person.**

BRINGING NATURE HOME LECTURE SERIES

March–April | In partnership with the Doan Brook Watershed Partnership Sponsored by Curb Appeal Painting

Visit shakerlakes.org/programs to view and register for our upcoming FREE lecture series and learn about native plants, plant selection, garden design, invasive removal, and edibles. **Registration required. Free. Donations welcome.**

JOHN FREEMAN IN CONVERSATION WITH MATT WEINKAM

Wednesday, March 8 | 7–8:30PM | Nature Center

Orion contributing writer, John Freeman, author, poet, executive editor at Alfred A. Knopf, and founder of the literary annual, *Freeman's*, will be making a stop in Cleveland on his tour of independent bookstores. Join us at the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes for a refreshing and invigorating conversation between John Freeman and Matt Weinkam, executive director of Literary Cleveland. Books will be available at the event courtesy of Mac's Backs-Books on Coventry, or stop by the store to pick up a copy of one of John Freeman's recent books: *Wind, Trees*, a poetry collection, *Tales of Two Planets*, a collection of essays focusing on inequality and the climate crisis globally, and the recent Freeman's anthology, *Animals*. Mac's Backs will be donating a portion of sales to the Nature Center. This event is sponsored by Orion Magazine in partnership with the Nature Center. **Registration required. Free. Donations welcome.**

BEHIND THE SCENES: ANIMAL CARE

Saturdays: March 11, April 15, May 13 | 11AM–12:30PM | Nature Center

Have you ever wondered what it takes to keep our animals at the Nature Center happy and healthy? If you're curious about animal care or just want a chance to meet our animals up close, join us for an afternoon of feeding our turtles and snakes! **Registration required. \$7 per person. Members save 20% (use coupon code "Member" at check-out).**

I LOVE MY NATURE CENTER EARTH DAY ACTIVITIES

Saturday, April 22 | 10AM–2PM | Nature Center

Celebrate Earth Day with the Nature Center! Pick-up a free tree sapling from 10AM–12PM, help beautify NCSL grounds through a volunteer activity (report to the Treehouse), take a photo at our selfie station, and enjoy a potted plant activity and story time with Shaker Heights Library. **No registration required. Free.**

CHAMBERFEST CLEVELAND AT THE NATURE CENTER

Sunday, June 18 | 11AM–1PM | Nature Center

ChamberFest Cleveland presents a fun-filled outdoor event for the whole family! Join us on Father's Day for world-class chamber music performances and hands-on music-making activities. This all-ages event is free and open to the public. Stay tuned for more details. *Stroller and wheelchair friendly.*

WELCOME DESK ACTIVITIES

Stop by during the month of March for a flower craft and try our Plant Sale WordSearch. Check out new items in the Duck Pond including plant-inspired jewelry and mugs by For the Love of Foliage.

VOLUNTEER NEWS

A special thank you to the following groups: Ruffing Montessori, John Carroll University, Mandel Jewish Day School, and Hudson High School Outdoor Club.

STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY

Saturdays, March 25, May 20, June 24 | 10AM–12PM

Calling all volunteers 8 years (with a guardian) and up! Gloves and tools are provided. Individuals and groups are welcome. Please pre-register for this event on our website.

ANNUAL STREAM SWEEP

Saturday, April 15 | 1–3PM

Join the Doan Brook Watershed Partnership and the Nature Center as we clean up winter's accumulation of trash and pull invasive plants at Ambler Park. Volunteer as an individual or as a group. Groups with school-age children welcome. Please pre-register for this event on our website.

EARTH DAY

Saturday, April 22 | 10AM–2PM

We invite volunteers to come to the Nature Center to clean up Nature Center and surrounding areas. Please pre-register for this event on our website if you plan to help out!

41ST ANNUAL PLANT SALE

Plant Sale volunteers are needed the first week of May!

- **Unloading Plants: May 1, 2, and 5 | 3–5PM**
- **Pick Days: May 3 and 4 | 7AM–7PM (Minimum 3-hour shift assembling orders)**
- **Sale Day: May 6 | 6:30AM–1:30PM (Minimum 3-hour shift, roles vary)**

Please register for shifts on our website.

YOUTH VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- **Spring Break Camp Assistant: March 27–March 31 (Minimum commitment: 2 days) Teens 13+**
- **Summer Outdoor Adventure Camp Counselor in Training & Junior Counselors: June 12–August 11 (Minimum Commitment: 2 weeks) Teens 13+**
- **Summer Youth Stewardship: June 13–August 10 (Minimum commitment: 10 days) Teens 16+**

Application materials are located on the Volunteer landing page at shakerlakes.org/youth-opportunities/. Email volunteer@shakerlakes.org for more information.

ART ON VIEW

UPCYCLED NATURE INSPIRED MOSAICS BY MANDY SPISAK

Opening reception Thursday, April 13
5:30–7PM | Free to View

Mandy Spisak, a local Cleveland artist and art instructor, uses wallpaper and textiles otherwise destined to a land-fill because of discontinued sample books no longer needed in the interior design and construction industries. The pieces of her mosaics form a painting with movement and texture creating sustainable art. This therapeutic art form proved to be a solution to the problem of what to do with discarded materials.

Exhibit runs from Thursday, April 13–Monday, July 3. Pieces may be purchased for a fee with a percentage of proceeds benefiting the Nature Center.



NATURE CONNECTION

FORAGING 101

By Nick Mikash

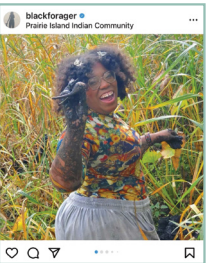
Little makes me happier than finding a patch of blackberries while on a hike, or coming upon a wild apple tree offering a snack on a late summer day. Foraging at its simplest is using knowledge to find the food that is hiding in plain sight around you. It could be as close as the nearest lawn, or the sidewalk out front, or perhaps the woods nearby.

How do you go about determining which plants may be wild and delicious from the ones that could kill you? You'll need to learn from either a skilled forager or the many books or online resources that are now available on the subject. **Positive identification is critical as there are lookalike plants that may be unsafe to eat.** Once you start to learn to positively identify them, you'll see there are edible plants in almost any area. However, it is important to know the history of the property on which wild edibles are found. Avoid areas with histories of pesticide use or industrial contamination, or of course, private property.

Where do you start? Almost anywhere! You could gather serviceberries or crabapples from tree lawns. Convinced by the lawn care industry, many of us believe dandelions are our sworn enemies. In reality, they are edible in many ways—salad greens, teas, sautéed greens, or roasted roots. In fact, there are a number of plants that many consider “weeds” that are edible. Purslane, burdock, chicory, wood sorrel, lamb's quarters and more are almost omnipresent in modern landscapes and gardens.

As important as identification is, knowing how to forage responsibly is equally important. Always know the rules if you are foraging on someone else's property. Most parks have regulations about harvesting from their grounds. You also want to harvest conservatively, take what you need only when you can do so without negatively impacting the plant community. You can often collect a few leaves rather than taking a whole plant, this ensures that there will be some for others, and more importantly that there will be more plants in the future. Other plants may be edible invasives; many landowners would encourage you to remove as much garlic mustard as you can carry. You'll get lots of free pesto and open up the area for native plants to recolonize.

Want to learn more about foraging and how to do it responsibly? Follow Columbus native, Alexis Nikole @BlackForager on Instagram or visit our website for additional resources.



junior NATURALIST

WHAT DO BOX TURTLES EAT?

Box turtles are found in forested areas throughout Ohio. These turtles are omnivorous, just like humans, meaning they will eat both plants and animals, or almost anything available, including berries, insects, roots, flowers (dandelions), mushrooms, and eggs.

Like humans, they need a balanced diet:

40% protein

25% fruit

25% assorted vegetables

10% leafy greens

You can find some box turtle and human favorite foods at our upcoming plant sale, including raspberries, parsley, mayapples, tomatoes, and peppers.

Learn more about box turtles and other animal residents at the Nature Center, by joining us at our Behind the Scenes Animal Care program (see Spring Program page for details). You'll get to meet our box turtles: Happy, Rada, and Tripod.



Spring Break (MARCH 27–30)
& Summer (JUNE 12–AUGUST 11)
Camp registration is still open!

SHAKERLAKES.ORG/CAMP



NATURE STORY TIME

Saturdays: March 18, April 15, May 20
10–11AM | Nature Center

This year, our monthly Nature Story Time series is inspired by Sarah Nelson's book, *A Park Connects Us*. Let's explore, play, and create together as we experience the many ways we can connect here in our neighborhood green space. Each program includes a story, an outdoor exploration, and an activity. For children ages 3–6 with an adult. **Registration required. \$7 per child. Members save 20% (use coupon code "Member" at check-out). Use coupon code "Connect" for BOGO tickets.**

- Bees and pollinators love this plant that many consider a weed.

- Some varieties can be used as an edible garnish.

- While only the Running Buffalo variety is native to Ohio, plants of this type are a better alternative to grass seed for a lawn.

- It can be lucky if you happen to find one with four leaves!

Running Buffalo Clover (*Trifolium stoloniferum*) is an endangered plant native to Ohio. The plant is named "Running" because adult stems grow runners to create new plants and buffalo, which once inhabited Ohio, ate the clover which helped spread the plant's seeds. As buffalo declined and farming occurred, the Running Buffalo Clover became endangered.

(Source: Ohio Department of Natural Resources)



creature feature

Answer: Clover



Sponsored by Curb Appeal Painting and BARTLETT TREE EXPERTS

ONLINE PLANT SALE

MARCH 20 THROUGH APRIL 7

Enjoy online viewing and secure ordering on the Plant Sale website. The Plant Sale catalog can be downloaded from the website. Place your orders early for home delivery within a 15-mile radius at shakerlakes.org.

*Or until sold out. \$50 minimum order required.

New this year: Members at the \$100 level and above receive early access to the Online Plant Sale! Join today to get these great perks and more! Visit shakerlakes.org/membership to join!

PLANT SALE DAY

SATURDAY | MAY 6 | 9:30AM–1PM

Welcome spring with the 41st Annual Plant Sale at the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes! Planting season is closer than you think and there is no better place to shop for a wide variety of native perennials as well as herbs, veggies, annual flowers, and hanging baskets.

We will feature a great selection of native plants with something to fit almost any condition. Wet, dry, shady, or full sun, we'll have a plant! Experts will be available to help you pick the right plant for the right place. A fun day for the whole family! Parking is available on nearby streets and curbside assistance with purchases is provided.

MEMBERS-ONLY PREVIEW

SATURDAY | MAY 6 | 8:30–9:30AM

We invite Nature Center members to join Plant Sale Day ahead of the crowd. Grab a complimentary cup of coffee and a pastry from The Stone Oven while you enjoy the first pick of sought-after offerings. Mingle with fellow garden enthusiasts and get planting advice from our knowledgeable staff and volunteers.

HOMEGROWN PLANT SALE

SATURDAY | JUNE 10 | 11AM–3PM

The popular Homegrown Sale is now a stand alone event! Featuring native perennials and shrubs grown and donated by local gardeners. The Nature Center receives 100% of all sales! Member preview 10:30–11AM.

*Selection online and at day-of sales vary

Grow & Eat UNIQUE INGREDIENTS WITH OUR PLANT SALE

By Nick Mikash

Did you know that some of the plants we offer in our Annual Plant Sale are actually wild edibles? Here are a few plants that you can purchase and enjoy from our Annual Plant Sale in May!



ELDERBERRY

Produces fruits that can be cooked and used in jams, pies or turned into a syrup that can be used to make drinks and cocktails.



SPICEBUSH

The berries of spicebush were traditionally used by indigenous people as a seasoning, as they add an allspice flavor. Spicebush twigs and leaves can also be used for tea.



NODDING ONION

All parts of the nodding onion plant can be used similarly to commercial onions.



VIOLET

Flowers are edible and have often been used to decorate baked goods.

American Black Elderberry (Sambucus canadensis)

Elderberry has gained in popularity in recent years due to its health benefits. The berries are packed with antioxidants and vitamins that may help boost our immune system, tame inflammation, lessen stress, help protect your heart, and lessen cold and flu symptoms.

American black elderberry is usually found in moist, edge habitat, in full or light shade. It is often on lake and pond shores, low areas along roadways, in low forest and fields. It is native across the United States and is found at the Nature Center. You can also grow this versatile plant in your backyard. Elderberry generally flowers in June to July and the fruits ripen in August to September. Elderberry provides food for many species of birds and mammals.

The flowers of this species are used to make wine and the fruits are used to make pies and various jams and preserves. The fruit are not overly sweet, and have a nice earthy and tart balance. They blend well with sweeter fruits such as apples and strawberries, but also more tart fruits such as blackberry or mild-flavored grapes. As some people react negatively to the raw fruit, they should not be eaten unless cooked.

Source: fs.usda.gov/wildflowers/plant-of-the-week/sambucus_nigra_l.shtml

RECIPE!

TAHINI ELDERBERRY PUDDING by Doug Katz and Dana Harary

One of the best ways to use tahini is to create a velvety, rich, creamy dip by simply adding the liquid of your choice. In this case, we will pair it with a sweet elderberry syrup to make a pudding-like dip. Use the pudding to top your ice cream, pancakes or waffles, as a base for a granola, sandwich spread, frosting or just eat by the spoonful!

Elderberry Syrup

1 cup dried elderberry

3.5 cup water

1 cinnamon stick

4 whole cloves

1 teaspoon dry ginger
or 1 tablespoon fresh

1 cup honey or maple
(less or more according to taste)

In a large pot, bring the elderberries and herbs to a boil.

Reduce the heat and simmer for about 40 minutes. The liquid will be reduced by half.

Allow the liquid to cool.

Strain the berries and herbs by using a fine mesh strainer or cheesecloth.

Press the liquid out of the berries (you can use the back of a wooden spoon)

Sweeten with maple syrup or honey.

Create Tahini Elderberry Pudding:

2/3 cup elderberry syrup

1 cup SoCo Artisanal Tahini

With a whisk or fork whip into a creamy plant-based pudding.

Check our programming schedule later this year to hike and forage elderberries as they ripen and attend a cooking demonstration with Dana and Nick Mikash, Natural Resources Manager.

RECIPE
INSIDE!

DOUGLAS KATZ: NATURE CENTER BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2021



Doug has fond memories of visiting the Nature Center with his dad as a young child. Through these visits, he grew a deep appreciation for the outdoors and the Nature Center. This appreciation grew over the years and today he values the Nature Center's commitment to connect people to, advocate for, and preserve this local green space. Doug lives nearby in Cleveland Heights with his family.

Due to his connection with the Nature Center, Doug was inspired to join the board in 2021. "I love being a part of this small but mighty organization. It is such a productive board and one that gets involved in the surrounding community," Doug remarked. Doug feels lucky to have the Nature Center in his backyard, and loves that the Nature Center offers fun and educational opportunities for families and kids. He has been involved in the Nature at Night benefit and other events over the years.

A local chef and restaurant owner, Doug has focused on creating fulfilling, transportive experiences for Clevelanders to enjoy. As chef/owner of Zhug, Amba and soon-to-open Chimi, his driving purpose is to spread joy through meaningful experiences and shared passion. Doug is also chef/partner of Provenance at the Cleveland Museum of Art. He enjoys traveling and exploring other cultures through food.

Doug is an advisor for Seeds of Collaboration Tahini, and has partnered with Dana Harary, Co-Owner, to create an exciting recipe for our readers, on the reverse side, utilizing native elderberry and this delicious, authentic tahini. We hope you enjoy it.

DANA HARARY CO-FOUNDER | SOCO TAHINI



Dana Harary, was born and raised in Israel where tahini is the queen of the pantry. She spent many summers and holiday breaks visiting her Cleveland family and would always bring her own tahini along, as the tahini found in the United States seemed to always disappoint.

Using her skills as a foodie and marketing leader for various food brands in Israel, Dana joined her co-founders and together, they brought the magic and authenticity of tahini to North America.

SoCo (Seeds of Collaboration) is a women-led, impact driven brand with a strong social mission, featuring one of the most amazing super-seeds on the planet—sesame. From taste to nutrition to sustainability and agricultural functionality—it is an exciting plant to work with on every level. SoCo Tahini can be found at your local Heinen's, Market District, and at eatsoco.com. Use code NATURE for 20% off your order!



NATURE CENTER AT SHAKER LAKES

2600 South Park Boulevard
Cleveland, OH 44120



Conserving a natural area, **connecting** people with nature,
and **inspiring** environmental stewardship

SHAKERLAKES.ORG

216.321.5935 · naturecenter@shakerlakes.org



#SHAKERLAKES



SAVE THE DATE

NATURE
at NIGHT

SATURDAY
JUNE 3

a benefit for the
NATURE CENTER
AT SHAKER LAKES

for sponsorship details or more information, please contact
Rob Sikora at 216. 321.5935 or sikora@shakerlakes.org

