ian.simpkins@vizcaya.org

IAN SIMPKINS

Deputy Director of Horticulture and Urban Agriculture

Vizcaya Museum and Gardens

Ian holds a B.S. in Horticulture from NC State University with tenure in profession extending more than 20 years. At Vizcaya Museum and Gardens, Ian is responsible for developing and overseeing the Museum's horticulture and urban agriculture programs, including restoration and interpretation of the gardens and natural areas. Prior to his appointment at Vizcaya in June 2007, Ian held the position of Executive Director at Shofuso Japanese House and Garden in Philadelphia. Ian is the owner of Garden Elevations, an urban horticulture company and he has served on the boards of the Tropical Arborist Guild and Greater Philadelphia Gardens. He is a recipient of the Chanticleer Foundation and JC Raulston Fellowships, and is currently Chair of the Historic Landscapes Section of the American Public Gardens Association and serves on the Horticulture Advisory Committee of The Kampong, National Tropical Botanic Garden.

efd46@cornell.edu

EMILY DETRICK

Masters of Professional Studies in Horticulture

Cornell University

Emily has just completed a Masters of Professional Studies at Cornell University and has a new position with Cornell Plantations as a Horticulturist. Previously, she held the position of Alpine Horticulturist at Stonecrop Gardens in Cold Spring, NY, after completing their School of Practical Horticulture in 2012. Prior to working in public gardens, Emily was Farm Manager for 3 years at Los Poblanos Organics, a for-profit vegetable CSA in New Mexico. She holds a BFA from Murray State University (2007), and started her professional life as a studio artist and program administrator for Scottsdale Public Art in Arizona. Emily returned for her masters in 2014 in order to ground her 5 years of practical training in horticulture as well as to conduct thesis research on curatorial practices in botanic gardens. Emily's dream jobs include director of horticulture, curator, or – if she's being totally honest – gardener.

jlandgrebe@longwoodgardens.org

JULIE LANDGREBE

Human Resources Administrator

Longwood Gardens

Julie Landgrebe has 24 years of experience working in Human Resources within the non-profit sector. She has served as the Human Resources Administrator for Longwood Gardens since 1999 leading all Human Resources functions for the Gardens. Julie is responsible for talent management, employee relations, leadership and staff development, compensation and benefits administration, and risk management. Julie's role with Longwood has included redesigning and implementing a performance management program that incorporates Longwood's values and goals, which helped to integrate the strategic plan into the culture of the organization. In addition she has designed and delivered a leadership development program for the organization that drives the concept of leadership at all levels throughout the organization.

anovy@aoc.gov

ARI NOVY, PH.D.

Executive Director

U.S. Botanic Gardens

Dr. Ari Novy joined the U.S. Botanic Garden in 2012 and was appointed Executive Director in 2014. In this role, he leads the Garden's efforts to demonstrate the aesthetic, cultural, economic, therapeutic and ecological importance of plants to the well-being of humankind. Dr. Novy started his career in student support services with New York University. He then worked as an estate gardener in Italy, researched sustainable agriculture in the Philippines, and served as an environmental consultant on infrastructure projects in the northeastern United States. Dr. Novy remains an active researcher, holding an appointment as a Research Associate at the Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of Natural History, Botany Department. His areas of research include plant population genetics, invasive species, plant conservation, horticultural improvement, agronomic risk assessment, beekeeping management, plant evolution and agricultural economics and policy.

sarah.leach.smith@duke.edu

SARAH LEACH SMITH

Visitor Services Coordinator

Sarah P. Duke Gardens

Sarah received her BA in Journalism and Mass Communication from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and worked as a customer service specialist in the publishing industry. Deciding to follow a lifelong passion, Sarah returned to school to earn her BS in Horticultural Science from North Carolina State University. Following experiences in retail horticulture, plant breeding, and greenhouse management, it was an internship at Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania that led her to the world of public gardens. Most recently, Sarah received her MS in Public Horticulture from the Longwood Graduate Program in Public Horticulture at the University of Delaware. Now as the Visitor Services Coordinator at Sarah P. Duke Gardens, she manages information desk staff, social media marketing, and the interpretation committee to improve the visitor experience for both in-personal and "virtual" visitors to the Gardens.

pcouchman@highglen.net

PETER COUCHMAN

Executive Director

High Glen Gardens

Peter Couchman is a graduate of the School of Professional Horticulture at the New York Botanical Garden, and has a wide variety of experience in the horticulture industry. Peter has served as a horticulturist at Long Island's Sands Light Estate, a Green Roof Associate at Landcraft Environments in Mattituck, NY, and an Associate Designer and Horticulture Manager at Verdant Gardens Design. In 2011, Peter joined High Glen Gardens of Frederick, MD as Head Gardener, becoming their first Executive Director in 2013. He is responsible for the transition of the property from a 64-acre private estate to a vibrant new public garden. As an active lecturer, Peter has spoken at the New York Botanical Garden, Longwood Gardens, the United States Botanic Garden and American University.