

## **Frederik Meijer Garden**

*Madeline Bielecki (MI), 2021 Annual Session Planning Committee Member*



Hello NEAFCS members! We are looking forward to welcoming you to Grand Rapids this November. My name is Madeline Bielecki and I am a member of the NEAFCS planning committee.

While you are in Grand Rapids, I hope that you have the opportunity to experience Frederik Meijer Garden & Sculpture Park. Since opening in 1995, Meijer Gardens has made it their mission to have not only the environment and gardens be respected and relished, but sculptures and the arts as well.

Although we will be in Grand Rapids in the fall, there will still be plenty to do at the gardens. If you want to experience crisp, fall weather, you can visit the Frey Boardwalk or Wege Nature Trail. The outdoor gardens are filled with plants that thrive in each specific season so they can be enjoyed by the community year-round.

If you would prefer to stay inside, there are five different indoor gardens. Each of these gardens features its own theme: tropical, Victorian, arid, seasonal, and carnivorous plants. Within each of these gardens, be sure to look for various highlights and sculptures such as: The Orchid Wall, Cacao Trees, Five Meerkats (by Tom Hillis) and the Aristilochia Vine.

With Meijer Gardens being such a large exhibit, I was only able to share the tip of the iceberg on how you can spend your time here! To learn more about the gardens, sculptures, and other attractions at Meijer Gardens, please visit [meijergardens.org](https://www.meijergardens.org).