

We're one year old – let's party!

What draws a community together to create something like the Mesa Harmony Garden?

What drives the creative process that brings together the ideas of a group of students at City College, the knowledge and experience of a group of Permaculture designers, the search for new ways to source healthy local produce at the Foodbank, and the desire to find a good use for some barren urban land owned by the Catholic Church?

Nobody knew at the start that the outcome would be a blossoming food forest right at the heart of the Mesa. Nobody knew that the Mesa community would rally round this idea with such spectacular commitment, and so much hard work. Or that less than one year later there would be over 100 fruit trees taking root and growing faster and stronger than anyone could reasonably expect; that grapevines would be curling their tendrils in and around the outside fence; that tender green vegetables would be vying for space with tomatoes, squash and leafy herbs.



Who knew it would be so much fun? Camaraderie, a sense of shared purpose, the satisfaction of seeing a vision unfold, of knowing how many people are going to benefit from a local supply of fresh, healthy fruit and vegetables for years to come. It's a great story to be a part of, which helps to explain why so many people have chosen to take part, that and an innate understanding of the sentiment expressed in this Beatles lyric: *And, in the end, the love you take / Is equal to the love you make*. Thanks to Paul McCartney for finding a new way to express this ancient wisdom.

Talking of fun... sharing food and drink is an important ritual in every human culture, and we'd like to invite our Mesa neighbors to join us for beverages and hors-d'oeuvres at a party to celebrate the first anniversary of breaking ground for the Mesa Harmony Garden.

Thursday, October 20th, 5:30 – 7pm.
Corner of Meigs Road and Dolores Drive.

Visit our website for more information about the garden, and to join our email list
www.mesaharmonygarden.org

Support our work by attending a talk by Dave Jacke on his new book *Edible Forest Gardens*
Monday, Oct. 10, 7:30-9pm at the SBCC West Campus, Fe Bland Auditorium.
This is a fundraiser for Mesa Harmony Garden.