

# wisconsin state capitol garden design:

# polka THE WISCONSIN STATE DANCE

“Reflecting the rich Czech-Polish and German heritage found throughout the state, the Polka was adopted as the newest state symbol, the official state dance, in 1993.”

(source: <http://www.wisconsin.gov/>)

## ABOUT THE DESIGN:

During the early part of the 1800s, a dance craze known as the polka began gaining popularity in Eastern Europe, and in a few short years, “polkomania” was in full effect throughout the continent. Immigrants heading to America brought this piece of old-world culture to their new homes, and early communities would gather in taverns and dance halls to eat, drink, socialize, and dance while dressed in exquisite traditional outfits called *kroje*. While the specific designs and patterns of *kroje* vary from region to region, the female ensemble generally consists of a dark skirt, a lacy, white apron, a blouse, a dark vest with lavish embroidery, a red beaded necklace, and crown of flowers. This design imagines a top-down view of a young lady dancing the polka in her finest *kroj*, with each layer of the dress represented by a single plant. Each species was particularly selected to provide a variety of colors, textures, blooms, and smells in order to carefully represent the *kroj*. However, these combined qualities also provide an intriguing planting design for any person, young and old, visiting the Wisconsin State Capitol.

## DESIGNERS:

ROBERT HOLICEK  
ARIANNA NETZKY

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - MADISON  
DEPARTMENT OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

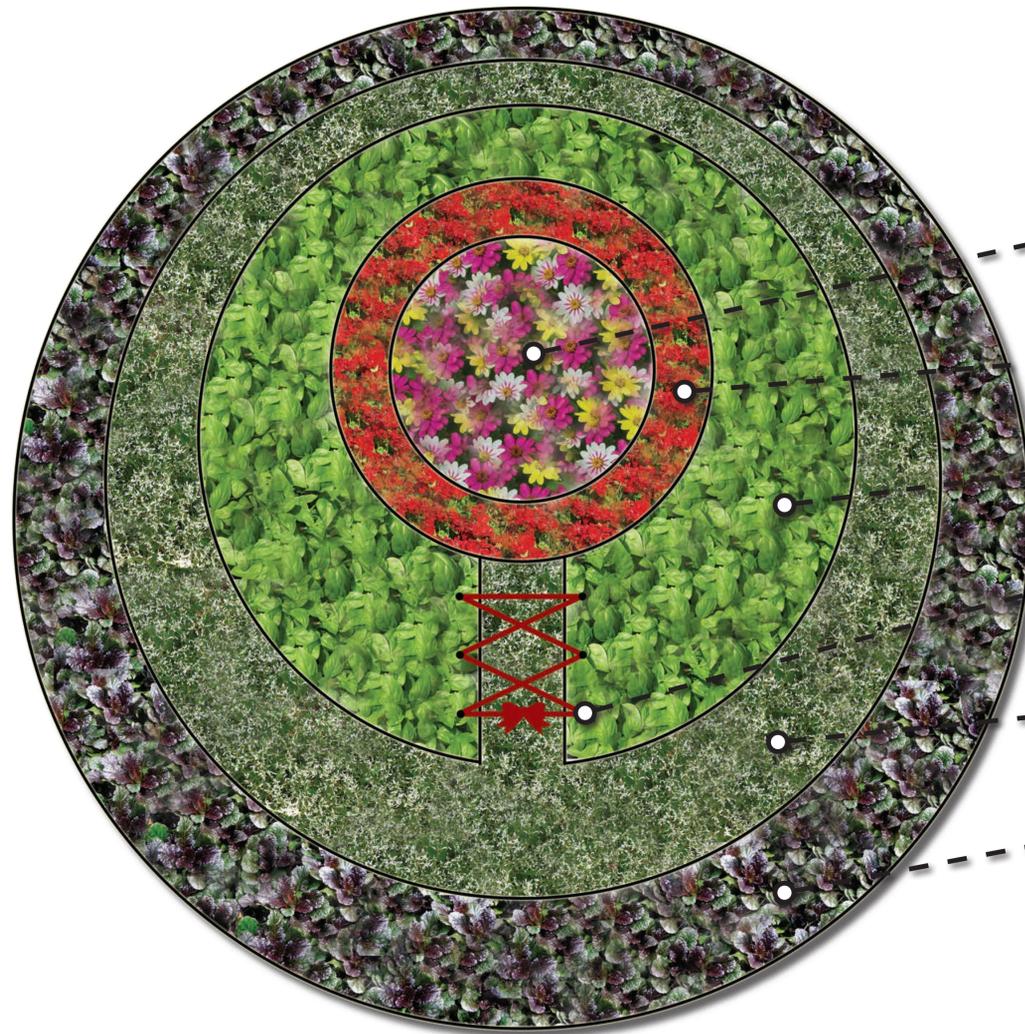
## CLIENT:

WISCONSIN STATE CAPITOL

April 21, 2014

# SITE PLAN

scale: 1/2" = 1'-0"



## FLOWER CROWN

Clusters of daisy-like flowers crown the planting bed with a colorful display throughout summer



## RED BEADED NECKLACE

Large, sweet smelling, bright-red umbels abstract the form of the coral necklace



## VEST

The glossy, green foliage mimics the vest, acting as backdrop accentuating the more colorful parts of the outfit



## RIBBON

Using carefully placed stakes, a red ribbon will wrap around, mimicking the ribbon of the vest



## APRON

Small, soft, white flowers mimic the delicate embroidery of the apron. The color and texture of the Euphorbia are in strong contrast with the bugleweed

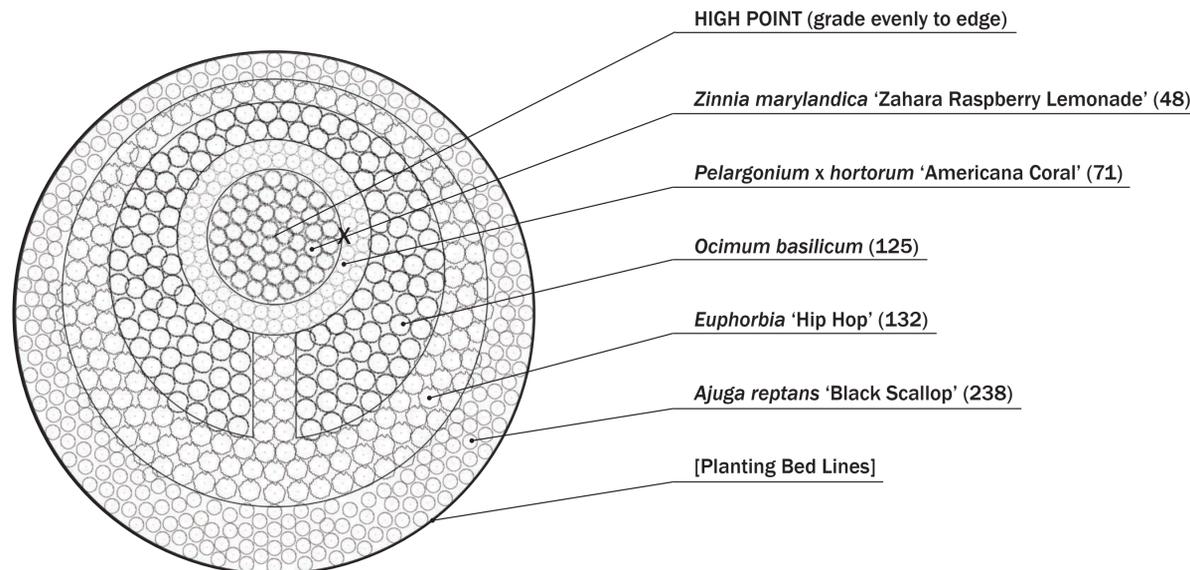


## SKIRT

Deeply scalloped, nearly-black leaves form a low-lying border imitating the hem of a skirt

# PLANTING PLAN

scale: 1/4" = 1'-0"



# PLANTING SCHEDULE

Common Name	Scientific Name	Quantity	Size	Root Condition	Remarks
Black Scallop Bugleweed	Ajuga reptans 'Black Scallop'	238	3"	Pot	Remove Spent Blooms
Zahara Raspberry Lemonade Zinnia	Zinnia marylandica 'Zahara Raspberry Lemonade Mix'	48	3"	Pot	
Italian Large Leaf Basil	Ocimum basilicum	125	3"	Pot	Remove Bolts
Americana Coral Geranium	Pelargonium x hortorum 'Americana Coral'	71	4"	Pot	Remove Deadheads
Hip Hop Euphorbia	Euphorbia 'Hip Hop'	132	3"	Pot	

# RIBBON DETAIL

## HOW TO INSTALL:

1. Insert the stake into ground at specified design location at 2'-0" in height. Make sure to have the eyelet facing parallel to the Capitol Building entrance.
2. Place glue-dot(s) on the point of the triangle eyelet where the ribbon will be tied.
3. Tie the ribbon with a knot.
4. Continue this process for the other stakes, creating a “shoe lacing” pattern.
5. Finish with a secure bow.

