

Colleen Zacharias's picks for 2025

The following is part of the informational talk given by Colleen Zacharias in February 2025 at our club. She is a Master Garden and simply a treat to listen to, she is a celebrated garden columnist in the Saturday Free Press and is the only year round garden journalist in Canada. She has been writing a weekly column on gardening since 2010. She writes a free monthly newsletter called Winnipeg Gardener. We were very fortunate to have her attend our meeting where she discussed some of her recommendations for 2025. An interesting fact is that for her personal garden, she focuses on selecting plants that do their best in the fall. Her own garden is at its best in September/October.

There is no particular order to her recommendations and are from my frantic notes during the presentation (I missed a few).



Ground Break Hydrangea (6 inches high)



Quick Fire Hydrangea (early flowering)



Torch Hydrangea



Litte Hottie Hydrangea (draught tolerant)



Dragon Baby Hydrangea



Flowerfull Smooth Hydrangea

Colleen indicates this hydrangea will replace the Annabelle hydrangea because this one has stronger stems and the heads won't flop over as a result of wind and rain. She suggested that because it flowers on new wood, pruned 1/3 off in the spring.



Tortuga Turtlehead (full shade or part sun)

Tiny



Northern Exposure Sienna Heuchera (coral bells)



Rain Dance Clematis (42 inches tall but it requires a support such as a obliesk





Rainbow Rhythm Ruby Spider Daylily



Fire

Island Hostas

- Coleen indicated that you should check the underside of your False Sunflower for beetles.



Millenium Allium (zone 4)



Cobalt Allium (zone 4)



Angel Flare Black Summer Snap Dragon .



Angel Flare Black Container



Zydeco Fire Zinnia



Centaurea Ragusina Silver Swirl (also known as Snowflake Dusty Miller)



Peppers From Heaven (comes in red) suitable for Hanging Basket



Solarscape White Pearl Impatient (15-20" wide, 11 inches tall)



Solarscape "Pink Jewel" Impatient



Easy Wave "Navy Velour" Petunia



Minifamous Uno Funtopia Blue Calibrachoa



Scaevola (Fan Flower) "Purple Bird"



Hula Pink Spreading Begonia (6-10" high, 20-27"



Hula White Spreading Begonia

Colleen suggests only planting 1 Hula Spreading Begonia per container



Buddleia Little Rockstars



Yukon Sun Rose.

*Colleen recommends 49 Parallel roses



Private Jet Arborvitae Cedar

15-20 ft tall, 4-5 ft wide, full to part sun, no browning.