

NATIVE GARDENS



Actor Packet



Actor Packet Table of Contents

About the Play	1
About the Playwright: Karen Zacarías	2
History of Gardening in the United States	3
Benefits of Native Plants and Gardens	4
Plant Photo Glossary	5
The American Dream	8
Chilean History and Culture	9
New Mexico History and Culture	10
Overview of Jobs	11
Potomac, Maryland: Facts and Figures	13
Glossary	15

NATIVE GARDENS: About the Play

*There where it is we do not need the wall:
He is all pine and I am apple orchard.
My apple trees will never get across
And eat the cones under his pines, I tell him.
He only says, ‘Good fences make good neighbors.’*

Excerpt from “Mending Walls” by Robert Frost



Native Gardens, Arena Stage, 2017.

Karen Zacarías was inspired to write *Native Gardens* at a dinner party, after a pair of friends suggested that she write a play based on a neighborly dispute in which they were embroiled. Other couples at the dinner chimed in with their own stories involving confrontations with neighbors. During the conversation she picked up common roots to the spats, including class, race, and cultural differences. During a 2017 interview with Hola Culture, Zacarías stated, “I realized that almost every fight with your neighbor involves a couple of things: a fight over property and a fight over taste or culture. Almost every single war and almost every single fight that is going on within our community in the nation and in the world at-large has those things in common. I thought that there is something poetic, primal, and absurd about what makes us so triggered and angry that we lose sight about what’s important. So, I wanted to investigate that with humor.”

Native Gardens uses comedy to discuss themes such as class and generational divides, racism, cultural differences, and sexism. Audiences are introduced to a set of neighbors with different views about life and about gardening. Tania and Pablo De Valle, a young Latinx couple, move into a mostly white upper middle class neighborhood outside of Washington DC. Their nextdoor neighbors, Frank and Virginia Butley, a white couple in their 60s, are initially thrilled about the new addition to their block. Tensions begin to rise when Tania and Pablo discover that their property line should actually extend into Frank’s beloved garden.

It is important to Zacarías that audiences are able to find a connection to each of the characters. In a 2018 interview she remarked upon this idea, “I think it tackles the polemical divide going on in our country in an approachable and comedic way. It’s about two couples who are well-meaning but differ in taste and culture, and they have a fight about a property line and things get progressively worse...I thought it was interesting to analyze this kind of disagreement. Nobody’s wrong and nobody’s right.”

Native Gardens had its World Premiere at Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park in January of 2016. It has also had productions at regional theaters including the Guthrie (Minneapolis, MN), Arena Stage (Washington DC), Old Globe Theater (San Diego, CA), and Trinity Repertory Company (Providence, RI). During the 2018-2019 Season it was one of the Top 10 Most Produced Plays by American theaters.

NATIVE GARDENS: About the Playwright



Karen Zacarías was born in Mexico and moved to Boston, MA with her family when she was 10 years-old. She originally started writing plays to help her cope after being bullied by a classmate, “I started writing a backstory for him...So, as a 10 year-old, play writing was my understanding and humanizing of my immigration experience.” Zacarías majored in international relations at Stanford University, and after graduation she worked in Nicaragua and Guatemala on issues like voting rights. She continued writing and received her MFA in creative writing from Boston University.

Blake Robison, the Artistic Director of Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park which commissioned Zacarías to write *Native Gardens*, stated that, “If you go to a Karen Zacarías play, your blinders on the world open a little more. I see that happening with her audiences of all backgrounds.” Her scripts often feature Latinx characters, and discuss issues like race, class, and gender. Zacarías has been inspired and influenced by playwrights including María Ines Fornés, Caryl Churchill, Sarah Ruhl, Lisa Loomer, Lisa Kron, and Julia Cho.

Zacarías currently lives in Washington DC with her family, and is very committed to working in her community. After receiving her MFA, she founded the Young Playwrights’ Theater with the goal of working to empower underserved students by helping them share their stories through playwriting classes. In 2012, she founded Latinx Theater Commons (LTC) with seven other Latinx theater practitioners. The goal of LTC is “to transform the narrative of the American theatre, to amplify the visibility of Latinx performance making, and to champion equity through advocacy, art making, convening, and scholarship.” Zacarías was a member of the first group of playwrights-in-residence at Arena Stage as part of the theater’s American Voices New Play Institute. In 2018, she was named as a Washingtonian of the Year by Washingtonian Magazine for her arts advocacy work in the community. Last year, Zacarías was the inaugural artist fellow at The Sine Institute at American University in Washington DC. In this role she taught four seminars on a range of topics including how to find inspiration as a playwright and the importance of the Latinx narrative in the arts.

Zacarías’ plays include *The Book Club Play*, *Just Like Us*, *Legacy of Light*, *Mariela in the Desert*, and *The Sins of Sor Juana*. She has also collaborated with composer Debbie Wicks la Puma on musicals for young audiences. These shows include *Jane of the Jungle*, *Einstein is a Dummy*, and *Ferdinand the Bull*. In 2018-2019, she was included on American Theatre Magazine’s list of the Top 20 Most-Produced Playwrights. Last year she received the Lee Reynolds Award from the League of Professional Theatre Women, which is given to a woman in theater who has helped to illuminate the possibilities for social, cultural, or political change.

NATIVE GARDENS: A Brief History of Gardening in the United States

1700s: Without the luxury of corner stores and market produce, American colonists relied on productive home gardens for survival. Small, enclosed dooryard gardens, located right outside the front door, were dedicated to essential edibles and culinary and medicinal herbs.

Early 1800s: As settlers moved west, practical, no-nonsense gardens stayed close to the door, making it easy to protect, maintain and harvest plants. Focused on sustenance, not beauty, "kitchen gardens," as they were called, with fruit trees, veggies and herbs, prevailed.

Mid 1800s: Home gardening became a leisure activity as villages grew and produce markets opened. Edible gardens fell out of favor, and ornamental gardens took center stage.

1860: Pest-fighting tools helped overcome challenges. Dried, crumbled chrysanthemum flower heads, known as pyrethrum, were imported for botanical protection against pests.

Late 1800s: Home gardens moved from just outside the front door to side and back yards. Front-door gardens were replaced by stylish, maintained grasses known as "lawns." Victorians cut tapestry-like, "carpet bed" designs into lawns and filled them with exotic flowers. Professional garden designers came on the scene, and home gardens once designed for public viewing began to include distinct private areas, protected from the public.

Early 1900s: Interest in edible gardening dropped as manufacturing jobs drew Americans to urban areas. Home gardens became more natural looking, with softened lines and landscapes that 'connected' home landscapes. Trend-setting American garden designers started using native plants previously considered too weed-like, instead of new, nursery-cultivated varieties.

1910-1930: New garden styles from England influenced US home gardens. Large, billowing beds of perennials came into vogue, along with "outdoor living rooms." Lawns grew larger, framed by boundaries of massed shrubs, and "foundation plantings" close to the house grew in popularity.

1940s: World War II brought US home gardeners back to the vegetable patch, and urban community gardens started during WWI took on new life. President Franklin D. Roosevelt urged every American household to fight food shortages with a home garden. By 1943, 20 million "victory gardens" supplied more than 40 percent of all American produce grown that year, but interest in vegetable gardens and orchards waned with the war.

1970s: The creation of Earth Day in 1970 renewed interest in growing produce at home. Garden designers started mingling vegetables and fruits in with ornamentals in formal designs, and "edible landscaping" started to take hold. Urban community gardens became more widespread, as did interest in organic gardening.

1980s: Gardens became extensions of the home instead of separate areas, and "outdoor rooms" came back in style. In 1981, the term "xeriscape" was coined for landscapes containing water-wise plants in dry climates. Low-maintenance, drought-tolerant, native plants became more prominent in home gardens.

1990s: Interest in small-space gardening soared as urban populations grew at the fastest rate in history. Containers, trellises and permanent planters built into hardscapes became the new home garden for Americans with small, private urban spaces.

Early 2000s: Edible gardens came back to the forefront — and the front yard — as Americans became more health-conscious and the desire for fresh, local food grew. In 2009, the White House planted its first vegetable garden since WWII. By 2013, one-third of all American households reported growing food.

NATIVE GARDENS: Benefits of Native Plants and Gardens

Low Maintenance

Once established, native plants generally require little maintenance.

Beauty

Many native plants offer beautiful showy flowers, produce abundant colorful fruits and seeds, and brilliant seasonal changes in colors from the pale, thin greens of early spring, to the vibrant yellows and reds of autumn.

Healthy Places for People

Lawns and the ubiquitous bark-mulched landscapes are notorious for requiring profuse amounts of artificial fertilizers and synthetic chemical pesticides and herbicides. The traditional suburban lawn, on average, has 10x more chemical pesticides per acre than farmland. By choosing native plants for your landscaping, you are not only helping wildlife, but you are creating a healthier place for yourself, your family, and your community.

Helping the Climate

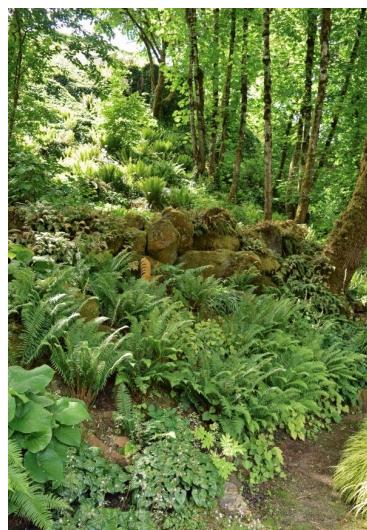
Landscaping with native plants can combat climate change. In addition to the reduced noise and carbon pollution from lawn mower exhaust, many native plants, especially long-living trees like oaks and maples, are effective at storing the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide.

Water Conservation

Because native plants are adapted to local environmental conditions, they require far less water, saving time, money, and perhaps the most valuable natural resource, water.

Wildlife

In addition to providing vital habitat for birds, many other species of wildlife benefit as well. The colorful array of butterflies and moths, including the iconic monarch, the swallowtails, tortoiseshells, and beautiful blues, are all dependent on very specific native plant species. Native plants provide nectar for pollinators including hummingbirds, native bees, butterflies, moths, and bats. They provide protective shelter for many mammals. The native nuts, seeds, and fruits produced by these plants offer essential foods for all forms of wildlife.



NATIVE GARDENS: Plant Photo Glossary

FRANK'S GARDEN



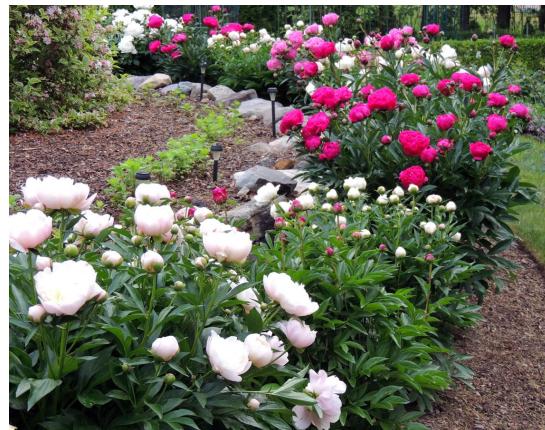
Bermuda Grass.



English Ivy.



Azalea.



Peonies.



Hydrangeas.



Japanese Honeysuckle.

NATIVE GARDENS: Plant Photo Glossary

FRANK'S GARDEN



Asian Azalea.



Kudzu.



Flowers on a Bradford Pear Tree.



Bradford Pear Trees.



Autumn Olive Tree.



Autumn Olive Tree Branch.

NATIVE GARDENS: Plant Photo Glossary

TANIA'S GARDEN



Sensitive Fern (Native to Maryland).



Christmas Fern (Native to Maryland).



White Mulberry Tree.



White Mulberry Tree Branch.



Virginia Creeper.



Carolina Silverbell.

NATIVE GARDENS: The American Dream

1931: Historian James Truslow Adams coined the phrase "American Dream" in his book, *The Epic of America*. He says:

[It] is a land in which life should be better and richer and fuller for everyone, with opportunity for each according to ability or achievement ... It is not a dream of motor cars and high wages merely, but a dream of social order in which each man and each woman shall be able to attain to the fullest stature of which they are innately capable, and be recognized by others for what they are, regardless of the fortuitous circumstances of birth or position.

1930s and 1940s: The term appeared occasionally in advertisements for intellectual products: plays, books and church sermons, book reviews and high-minded articles.

1934: President Franklin D. Roosevelt initiated a series of programs, the New Deal, to jumpstart the economy. Among the programs was the 1934 National Housing Act, designed to spur home construction and home ownership.

1944: In the State of the Union address, Roosevelt laid out a modern vision of the American Dream. He stated that if you worked hard and played by the rules, you deserved certain things. Amongst them, security, a decent shelter, and the ability to not worry all the time about losing your house to bankruptcy. The GI Bill was signed into law in June of this year. Veterans returning home from war could receive free tuition at any college, money for books, a living stipend, and government-backed home loans which made buying a home cheaper than renting. Over the next decade college went from being an upper-class entitlement to a virtual birthright for the booming middle class.

1954: Peter Marshall, former chaplain of the United States Senate, defined the American Dream with spiritually resounding words: "Religious liberty to worship God according to the dictates of one's own conscience and equal opportunity for all men," he said, "are the twin pillars of the American Dream."

1963: Martin Luther King delivers his "I Have a Dream" speech, in which he spoke of a vision that was "deeply rooted in the American Dream." He said he dreamed of the disappearance of prejudice and a rise in community spirit, and made no mention of deregulation or mortgage subsidies.

1970s and 1980s: The connection of the American Dream to notions of equality and community weakened as home builders began to use it extensively in advertisements.

2003: President George W. Bush signed the American Dream Downpayment Act, which subsidized home purchases during a period in which a housing bubble — the one that would lead to the 2008-9 financial crisis — was already growing at a 10 percent annual rate. Forbes Magazine also started what it calls the "American Dream Index." It is based on seven statistical measures of material prosperity: bankruptcies, building permits, entrepreneurship, goods-producing employment, labor participation rate, layoffs and unemployment claims.

2010s: President Barack Obama tries to rally the nation by calling on the abiding beliefs that undergird the American Dream, a set of beliefs about freedom, equality and opportunity. "'Our challenges may be new," he said. "But those values upon which our success depends - honesty and hard work, courage and fair play, tolerance and curiosity, loyalty and patriotism - these things are old. These things are true. They have been the quiet force of progress throughout our history."

NATIVE GARDENS: Chilean History and Culture

A Brief History

The first nomadic tribes arrived in the area around 14,000 BCE. The country was under Spanish rule beginning in the 16th century. Chile declared independence in 1810, and it was formalized when San Martin defeated the last Spanish resistance in 1818. Spain accepted their independence in 1840. The following two centuries were marked by shifting governments, changing constitutions, dictatorships, presidencies, and general political instability. From 1973 until 1990, Augusto Pinochet's oppressive regime ruled over the country, restraining free speech and effectively disappearing anyone who resisted. This is considered one of the darkest periods in contemporary Latin American history, with flagrant human rights violations under a harsh dictator.



Religion & Festivals

The majority of Chileans are Roman Catholics (73%) while 15% of the population are Protestants. The rest of the population are affiliated with other faiths, and 8% of Chileans are not affiliated with any religious faith. Many religious festivals are held in Chile and La Tirana is one of the most colorful. During this festival, more than 150,000 people dance in the streets of the village of La Tirana wearing vibrant costumes and devil masks.

Language

Spanish is the official language, and unlike other South American nations that have experienced immigration from all around the world, the culture and ethnicities of Chile are relatively homogenous throughout. Only 10 percent of Chile's population considers themselves indigenous.

Fine Arts & Literature

- *Artists:* Roberto Matta (a painter known for his surrealist and abstract techniques), Carlos Sotomayor (a neo-cubist painter), and Rebeca Matte (a sculptor).
- *Literature:* Isabel Allende, one of Chile's most important authors, is known for progressive novels that showcase the social and political conditions during the Pinochet regime and feature feminist themes that highlight the way women were treated in a world dominated by men.
- *Poets:* Chilean Nobel Prize winner Pablo Neruda's poetry captured both the country's political atmosphere and defined a unique style of erotic romanticism. Gabriela Mistral was also awarded the Nobel Prize in literature for her poetry on death, childhood, and maternity. She was the first Latin American woman to win the Prize.

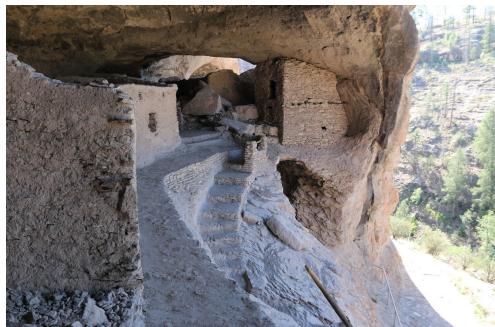


Social Structure in Modern Day Chile

- *The upper class* consists of members of the old aristocracy as well as more recently wealthy industrialists, merchants, politicians, and military men. Both groups supported the imposition of military rule, but by the end of the 1980s many backed the restoration of democratic politics.
- *The middle class* is varied in incomes, occupations, and interests. It is composed of professionals, teachers and university professors, civil servants, small merchants, industrialists, and investors. Many members of the middle class benefited from Chile's rapid economic growth in the late 1980s and throughout the 1990s.
- *The lower class* consists of farm laborers, crafts workers, factory workers, and miners. This is the class that suffered the most from the policies of the military regime, and that turned to left-wing parties after the end of military rule in 1990. Government policy in the 1990s and early 2000s endeavored to improve the health and education of this neglected part of the population.

NATIVE GARDENS: New Mexico History and Culture

A Brief History



Some of North America's most ancient native cultures made their home in New Mexico, including the Clovis, Anasazi and Pueblo people. The Native American culture is still alive and well with 11 active pueblos scattered around the state. Spanish explorer Francisco Vazquez de Coronado was searching for the Seven Golden Cities of Cibola in 1540 when he made his way into the region. The Province of New Mexico was established in 1598, connecting the Spanish New World colonies of Central America with North America. Santa Fe was founded in 1608, essentially making it the oldest town in America. Albuquerque was the next big town to be established in 1706. The territory

was passed to Mexico in 1821 after the War of Independence. The Mexican-American War of 1846-1848 ended with Mexico ceding most of the American Southwest and California to the US, including New Mexico, which became an official state in 1912. In the 20th century, New Mexico was used by the US government for weapons testing at White Sands, Los Alamos and Alamogordo. Major federal research labs and three Air Force bases have contributed greatly to the modern economy although tourism also has a large impact.

Religion

The Majority of New Mexico residents identify themselves as Roman Catholic, followed by Southern Baptist, Mormon, and Methodist. Nicknamed the "Land of Enchantment" New Mexico possesses a spiritual significance to some communities due to the beauty of its terrain.



Language

The main languages spoken in the region include Spanish, English, and Navajo. There is also a new range of speakers who speak a new dialect of New Mexican Spanish and are believed to be descendants of Spanish colonists from the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries. Public education in New Mexico can be delivered in English or Spanish.

Hispanic & Native American Culture



Latino and Hispanic culture and customs have a major presence everywhere in the state, from street names to architecture, from music to cuisine, and from art and dance to academic studies. A prime example of Hispanic influence can be found at the plazas, including Old Town in Albuquerque, and the historic plaza in Santa Fe, where you will find adobe buildings surrounding a central square — a common feature of Spanish colonial towns. Hispanic culture is also present in the arts, crafts, music and dance of New Mexico. Native American culture in New Mexico is celebrated in museums, ceremonial dances, arts and crafts, language, villages, and the daily lifestyle of New Mexico's tribes.

NATIVE GARDENS: Overview of Jobs

PABLO - Associate at Smith, Krause, and Wilson

"I could become the first Latino to make partner in this place. Maybe one day, they'll add DEL VALLE to the letter head. That would be a first, huh?"

Newly hired attorneys, like Pablo, usually start as associates and work on teams with more experienced lawyers. Associates are generally younger attorneys who have the potential to become partners. Large firms divide associates into junior and senior associates, depending on merit and experience level. The typical lawyer works as an associate for six to nine years before ascending to partnership ranks or "making partner." When—and if—an associate makes partner generally depends on a combination of factors, including the associate's legal acumen, his client base, and how well he fits into the firm's culture.



TANIA - Doctoral Student in Anthropology

"I am interested in origins and when we claim them and when we stop. The power of language and place. Native vs. foreign. Especially in a country as complicated as the US."



Tania's route to receiving her PhD in Anthropology would vary a little bit depending on where she is enrolled. Generally it typically takes 6 years to complete the requirements. Courses of study in anthropology vary across sub-disciplines and from student to student. Candidates generally take core classes during the first few years of school. For example, Brown requires four core classes for all students, Principles of Cultural Anthropology, History of Ethnological Theory, Principles of Archaeology, and Linguistic Theory and Practice. During the first and second year of studies, the student works on completing the requirements to receive a Masters Degree. During the third year, students work on their dissertation proposal, select their committee, take a few elective classes, complete the qualifying exams, and apply for funding. The fourth, fifth, and sixth year are spent researching and writing the dissertation.

NATIVE GARDENS: Overview of Jobs

VIRGINIA - Defense Contractor / Engineer at Lockheed Martin

"I've been an Engineer at Lockheed Martin so long, I have my own bathroom."



Since January 2013, Marillyn Hewson has been the CEO of Lockheed Martin, the world's largest defense contractor. As of January 2019, three of the top five aerospace and defense contractor companies are run by women. It's a watershed for what has always been a male-dominated bastion, the culmination of decades of women entering science and engineering fields and knocking down barriers as government agencies and the private sector increasingly weigh merit over machismo.

In 1942, Mary G. Ross became the first female engineer at Lockheed Martin and paved the way for the next generation of female engineers. At the time, working as an engineer within the aerospace industry was a near-impossible achievement for women. Yet through determination, tenacity and undeniable talent Ross quickly made her indelible mark, making special contributions to the P-38 Lightning, a twin-engine heavy fighter.



FRANK - Employee at General Services Agency (GSA)

"He's GSA. As in General Services. His agency manages other agencies. They buy phones and soap and toilet paper."



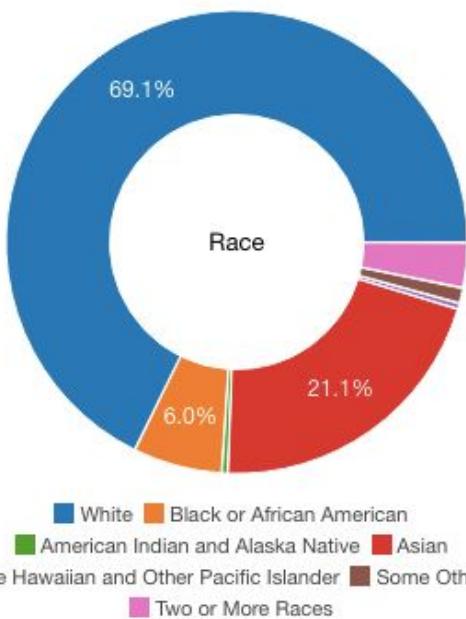
property and management practices promote efficient government operations. GSA is one of the most desired workplaces in the government, and employees consistently rate it as one of the top ten Government agencies in factors such as employee satisfaction.

GSA provides centralized procurement for the federal government, offering billions of dollars worth of products, services, and facilities that federal agencies need to serve the public. GSA's acquisition solutions supply federal purchasers with cost-effective high-quality products and services from commercial vendors. GSA helps federal agencies build and acquire office space, products and other workspace services, and oversees the preservation of historic federal properties. Its policies covering travel,

NATIVE GARDENS: Potomac, Maryland Facts and Figures

While it's considered by many to be the "Beverly Hills" of Montgomery County, Maryland, Potomac offers more to visitors than oohs and ahhs at the gorgeous homes that make up its neighborhoods. People who stay in Potomac praise its thrilling outdoor excursions, appreciation for the arts, and convenient access to all the different parts of Montgomery County and the Washington DC Metropolitan area. Two Potomac neighborhoods were ranked among the ten wealthiest neighborhoods in the country by CNBC in 2014. In 2018, data from the American Community Survey revealed that Potomac was the sixth-wealthiest city in the United States.

Population by Race

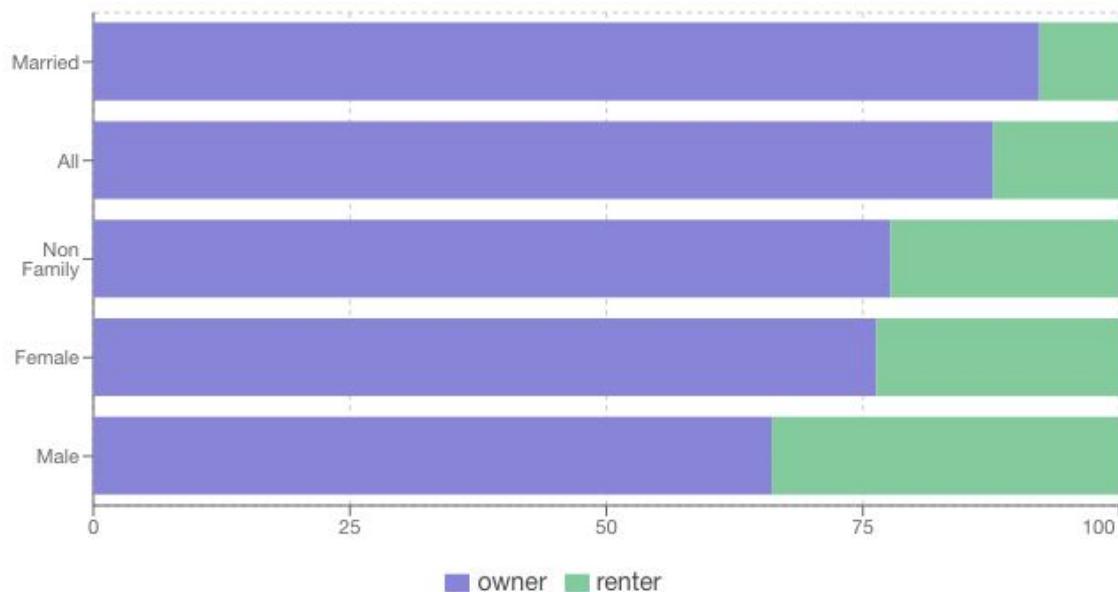


There are 34,701 adults, (10,050 of whom are seniors) in Potomac Md.

Median Age



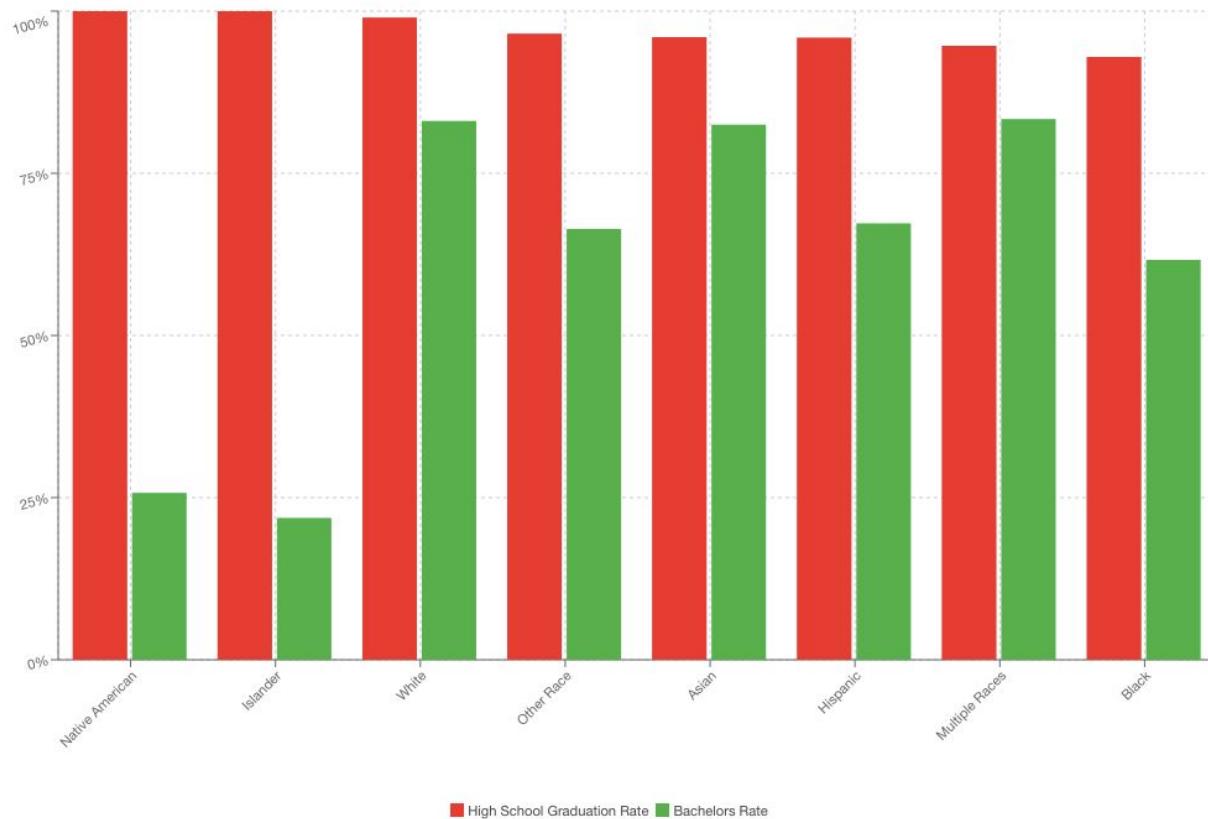
Renter vs Owner Occupied by Household Type



87.7% Rate of Home Ownership

NATIVE GARDENS: Potomac, Maryland Facts and Figures

Educational Attainment by Race



Earnings by Educational Attainment

Name	Average	Male	Female
Overall	\$104,657	\$141,024	\$65,317
Less Than High School	\$33,641	\$26,500	\$35,335
High School Grad	\$30,039	\$51,528	\$25,461
Some College	\$41,972	\$76,313	\$30,275
Bachelors Degree	\$80,617	\$121,163	\$54,139
Graduate Degree	\$132,016	\$159,912	\$100,608

NATIVE GARDENS: Glossary

“Puta madre”: a common expletive in Spanish which translates to “motherfucker” (p. 5)

“Maldita sea”: a common expletive in Spanish which translates to “dammit” (p. 5)

“Mi casa es su casa”: “Make yourself at home” (p. 5)

Machista: a chauvinist/sexist (p. 6)

Native garden: the use of native plants, including trees, shrubs, groundcover, and grasses which are indigenous (occur naturally) to the geographic area (p. 7)

Lockheed Martin: headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland, Lockheed Martin is a global security and aerospace company that employs approximately 110,000 people worldwide and is principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture, integration and sustainment of advanced technology systems, products and services (p. 10)

Defense contractor: an employer who is under a contract with the United States and engaged in the production, maintenance, or storage of arms, armament, ammunition, implements of war, munitions, machinery, tools, clothing, food, fuel, or any articles or supplies, or parts or ingredients of any articles or supplies (p. 10)

Horticultural: the science and art of growing fruits, vegetables, flowers, or ornamental plants (p. 11)

Craggy: rough or rugged (p. 15)

Entomologist: a scientist or zoologist who deals with insects (p. 15)

Native plant: a plant that is a part of the balance of nature that has developed over hundreds or thousands of years in a particular region or ecosystem. Note: The word native should always be used with a geographic qualifier (that is, native to New England [for example]). Only plants found in this country before European settlement are considered to be native to the United States. (p. 16)



Chico and the Man: an American sitcom television series that aired on NBC for four seasons from September 13, 1974 to July 21, 1978. It stars Jack Albertson as Ed Brown (the Man), the cantankerous owner of a run-down garage in an East Los Angeles barrio, and Freddie Prinze (until Prinze's suicide in the third season) as Chico Rodriguez, an upbeat, optimistic young Chicano who comes in looking for a job. It was the first US television series set in a Mexican-American neighborhood. Prinze committed suicide during the third season. The producers considered cancelling the show, but decided to write Prinze's character out of the show by having him go to visit his father in Mexico. The show had a final fourth season after Prinze's death. (p. 18)

Pyramid of the Sun: a large pyramid in the ancient city of Teotihuacán, Mexico, that was built about 100 CE and is one of the largest structures of its type in the Western Hemisphere. The pyramid rises 216 feet (66 metres) above ground level, and it measures approximately 720 by 760 feet (220 by 230 metres) at its base. (p. 18)



NATIVE GARDENS: Glossary

Warren Beatty: an American actor who has also produced, directed, and written screenplays. He is best known for his politically charged portrayals of somewhat outcast but charming heroes. (p. 18)

Acapulco: a city and port, Guerrero *estado* (state), southwestern Mexico. Situated on a deep, semicircular bay, Acapulco is a resort with the best harbour on the Pacific coast of Mexico and is one of the finest natural anchorages in the world. (p. 18)

Anthropology: the study of human beings and their ancestors through time and space and in relation to physical character, environmental and social relations, and culture (p. 19)

Blue blood: a member of a noble or socially prominent family (p. 19)

Blue collar: a person who works in industry, doing physical work, rather than in an office (p. 19)

Estado Unidense: “American”, directly translates to “from the US” (p. 19)

Yahoo: a boorish, crass, or stupid person (p. 21)

Burning bras: a contemptuous term used to refer to an ardent or militant feminist or to someone perceived as such. This term dates back to a protest at the 1968 Miss America pageant by a group of feminists who did not actually burn their bras, but instead threw the bras (and other feminine products) into a trash can to draw attention to the emerging women’s liberation movement. (p. 21)



“Good fences make good neighbors”: the proverb 'Good fences make good neighbours' is listed by Oxford Dictionary of Quotations as a mid 17th century proverb. Robert Frost gave the proverb a boost in the American consciousness with his 1914 poem “Mending Walls. Many people use this phrase to suggest that establishing boundaries between you and your neighbor helps you respect each other's space and privacy. However, Frost uses this phrase ironically in his poem and suggests that boundaries are what alienate us from each other. (p. 22)

“Viva la Raza!”: “Long live the people” (p. 24)



Dick Van Dyke Show: an American television situation comedy that ran from 1961 to 1966 on CBS. The Dick Van Dyke Show chronicles the professional and personal life of Rob Petrie (played by Dick Van Dyke), a young comedy writer for the fictitious Alan Brady Show, a television variety program. The show also starred Mary Tyler Moore as his wife Laura. As in earlier situation comedies, the series often relied on physical, slapstick comedy, but it also advanced the genre by portraying its characters in relatively real, complex terms and taking up subjects such as sex, child rearing, and an awareness of contemporaneous cultural currents that were hitherto unexplored by sitcoms. The show was also one of the first sitcoms to have a formally planned ending. (p. 25)

“Aqui esta.”: “Here it is” (p. 26)

NATIVE GARDENS: Glossary

“A que si.”: “Yes” (p. 27)

Huevon: “Dude” (p. 27)

Chapter meeting: a gathering of members of a local branch of an organization (p. 32)

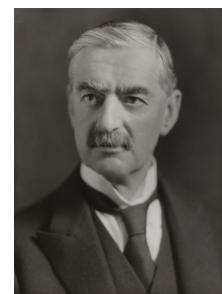
Plat: a plan, map, or chart of a piece of land with actual or proposed features (such as lots) (p. 33)

Loath: unwilling to do something contrary to one's ways of thinking, reluctant (p. 35)

Shark (mentality): a rapacious crafty person who takes advantage of others often through usury, extortion, or devious means (p. 37)

Dandy: of, relating to, or suggestive of a man who gives exaggerated attention to personal appearance (p. 40)

Chamberlain: Neville Chamberlain, in full Arthur Neville Chamberlain, (born March 18, 1869, Birmingham, Warwickshire, England—died November 9, 1940, Heckfield, near Reading, Hampshire), was the prime minister of the United Kingdom from May 28, 1937, to May 10, 1940. His name is identified with the policy of “appeasement” toward Adolf Hitler’s Germany in the period immediately preceding World War II. (p. 41)



Lathered up: a condition of anxious or heated discomposure; agitation (p. 42)

Adroitly: in a clever or skillful way (p. 44)

“Alto! Soy una pinche vieja”: “Stop! I’m a fucking old lady” (p. 48)



Cat Stevens: is primarily known as a folk singer and songwriter. His most popular songs include “The First Cut is the Deepest,” “Moon Shadow,” and “Peace Train.” In 1977, Stevens changed his name to Yusuf Islam and converted to the Muslim faith. Along with his adherence to his newfound religion, Stevens mandated that he would no longer record secular music. He lived for many years in London with his family and founded a Muslim school. Stevens returned to recording non-religious music in 2004 and was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2014. (p. 51)

Sanctimony: the action or practice of acting as if one were morally superior to other people (p. 52)

Provisions: a condition or requirement in a legal document (p. 52)

Squatters rights: a legal allowance to use the property of another in the absence of an attempt by the owner to force eviction. This right may eventually be converted to title to the property over time by Adverse Possession, if recognized by state law. “Squatting” is an old casual word for occupying a place that legally belongs to someone else when that owner hasn’t given permission for the occupation. “Squatters rights” is an assertion that someone is entitled to own land after he’s been squatting there. The legal name for squatters rights is “adverse possession.” (p. 52)

NATIVE GARDENS: Glossary

Recourse: the legal right to demand compensation or payment (p. 52)

Adverse possession: the occupation of land to which another person has title with the intention of possessing it as one's own (p. 52)

“Talking turkey”: to discuss something honestly and directly (p. 54)

Unscrupulous: having or showing no moral principles; not honest or fair (p. 54)

Takoma Park: a suburb of Washington, DC with a population of 17,643. Takoma Park is located in Montgomery County, Maryland. The area has lots of bars, restaurants, coffee shops, and parks. Many families and young professionals live in Takoma Park and its residents tend to be liberal. (p. 58)



K-Street: part of DC's Financial District. It has a long-standing reputation for housing numerous advocacy groups, lobbyists and think tanks, and is sometimes referred to as “DC's Corridor of Influence.” It is within a short walk of the White House, the World Bank and The International Monetary Fund. (p. 58)

Lobbyist: a person who takes part in an organized attempt to influence legislators (p. 58)

Xenophobia: a dislike of or prejudice against people from other countries (p. 58)

GSA (General Services Administration): an independent agency of the US government established in 1949 and responsible for managing federal property and providing contracting options for government agencies (p. 61)

Notoriously: publicly or generally known (p. 61)

Silver spoon: wealth, especially inherited wealth (p. 63)

Latinx: a person of Latin American origin or descent (used as a gender-neutral or nonbinary alternative to Latino or Latina) (p. 69)

“Have a chip on one’s shoulder”: to have an angry or unpleasant attitude or way of behaving caused by a belief that one has been treated unfairly in the past (p. 69)

Impunity: exemption or freedom from punishment, harm, or loss (p. 73)

Bureaucratic: overly concerned with procedure at the expense of efficiency or common sense (p. 75)

Imperialist: one who enacts a policy of extending a country's power and influence through diplomacy or military force (p. 76)

“Desgracido. Que te creí.”: “Unfortunate. That I believed you.” (p. 79)

“Concha culiado!!!”: directly translates to “cunt motherfucker” (p. 81)

“Ay Dios Mio de los Santos!!!”: “Oh my god!!”, directly translates to “Oh my god of the saints!” (p. 83)