



We've had a stressful two years, and we all need to focus on joy and all the life-affirming activities that we can. So the Plantrama team, Ellen Zachos and C.L. Fornari, are here to say:

*Let's Party!*

We want you to get outdoors and be joyful in the garden. In this presentation, we have suggestions for garden celebrations large and small.

1. Find places to sit outdoors. Place bistro tables in random places, use umbrellas or arbors to create that feeling of "shelter." Create gathering places outdoors (we know that it's safer, when it comes to virus transmissions) where there is good air circulation.
2. Set the stage with paper lanterns, strings of lights, and plants, plants, plants.
3. Gather around the firepit or outdoor fireplace. From simple to elaborate, there is a firepit for every landscape.
4. Don't dismiss the color orange! Be inspired by Christo's The Gates: <https://christojeanneclaude.net/artworks/the-gates/> Paint furniture and other objects for the garden with shades of coral and orange. Plant orange flowers!

5. Our celebratory plants: colorful ornamental peppers, peonies, bread poppies (*Papaver somniferum*), corn poppies (*Papaver rhoeas*), edible flowers, passion flowers (*Passiflora*), hollyhocks and night flowering cereus (*Epiphyllum oxypetalum*).
6. Be creative in the garden! Use natural materials for filling containers, make flower headpiece, create your own bench out of recycled items, or plant an old chair. Add touches of whimsy, and create lavender party favors for your guests.
7. Make garden-based beverages and food. (Find recipes for those shown today at: <https://backyardforager.com/>)
8. Make new beginnings. Plant something you've never grown before, start something new from seed, or create a new gathering spot in your yard and garden. Whether you're having coffee for one, tea for two, or cocktails for twenty, do it in your garden. Get colorful and creative, and cultivate!

**[www.Plantrama.com](http://www.Plantrama.com)**

We thank our fellow garden party lovers and sponsors, and hope that you'll check out all the amazing celebrations they have to offer.



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