April Blooms in The Battery

As you move through the park, use this guide to identify some of the prominent blooms you see around you. Plant locations are listed as different garden areas of The Battery, shown on the map on the next page. Once you locate and read about each plant, check it off in the box provided. Please remember to follow all social distancing guidelines while at The Battery. We hope you enjoy your visit!

Scientific Name: **Cercis canadensis**  
Common Name: **Eastern Redbud**  
Location: **Bikeway, Bosque Gardens**

*C. canadensis* is a hysteranthous tree, meaning its flowers bloom before leaves have appeared. This adaptation improves pollination for the tree, making the flowers easily visible and accessible to the multiple species of bees that visit the tree in early spring for some of their first forages of the warm season.

Scientific Name: **Chionodoxa forbesii**  
Common Name: **Glory-of-the-Snow**  
Location: **Bikeway, SeaGlass Carousel**

These small bulbous perennials, native to the mountains of Turkey, create striking swaths of flowers in early spring. The common name “Glory-of-the-Snow” celebrates the plant’s ability to bloom even through a layer of snow. Shortly after flowering, the foliage will die back as *C. forbesii* goes dormant until the following spring.

Scientific Name: **Epimedium spp.**  
Common Name: **Bishop’s Hat**  
Location: **Bikeway, Bosque Gardens**

Plants in the genus *Epimedium* are native to the Eurasian continent, where they grow in the moist shade of the forest floor. The elongated parts of the petals hold nectar at their tips, so bees must climb fully inside each flower to feed. The bees then brush up against the flower’s pollen, later carrying it in their hairs to other nearby flowers.

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Email education@thebattery.org with questions or for list of image sources.
Like the *Chionodoxa*, *Erythronium* are spring ephemerals, plants that bloom quickly and die back into dormancy shortly after their emergence. This life cycle adaptation allows the plants to make quick use of the spring sunshine and warm weather, before the taller trees leaf out and shade the low-growing plants.

The *Tulipa* genus includes more than 75 species, and even more cultivars after centuries of agricultural breeding by humans. Tulips grow best in temperate areas, with cold winters and warm summers, because they require a period of extended cold temperatures to stimulate the flowering process.