

## SHARPSTOWN GARDEN FEATURED IN NATIONAL TOUR

**The Garden Conservancy's national tour of the best private gardens in America comes to Sharpstown this Saturday.**

The Garden Conservancy's [Open Days](#) program gives the public access to private garden spaces in select cities around the country. Houston's Open Days stop features *Jardin De La Paz*, an urban backyard garden owned by Sharpstown resident and artist/designer Jeff River Law. Law, owner of [Kabloom Landscaping](#) and former gallery owner, has been transforming spaces into unique outdoor retreats and advocating for community renewal in Houston for over 30 years.

Although many gardens of this caliber are hidden away from public view behind wrought-iron fences and high brick walls, Law's garden is situated behind his modest, mid-century ranch style home in one of the first planned neighborhoods in Southwest Houston. Meaning "Garden of Peace," *Jardin De La Paz* is an intimate hideaway with Law's signature whimsical style and use of repurposed materials on full display. Minimizing the need for irrigation, the garden boasts vibrant pops of color with a variety of foliage and tropical blooms mixed with drought tolerant evergreens and desert plants. This approach, known as *xeriscaping*, allows for minimal maintenance and can be enjoyed throughout the year. The lush landscape in this backyard oasis is complete with several seating areas, an outdoor shower, fountain, dry creek bed, and herb garden.

Being recognized by a national organization like the Garden Conservancy is just a glimpse of great things happening in Sharpstown according to Law, who moved back to the area in 2010. As a graduate of nearby Houston Baptist University, Law lived in Sharpstown in the mid-70's and has been instrumental in helping to revitalize the area since his return. "I've reconnected with residents that have lived here for the past 30 years and are adamant about the revitalization of a once thriving community," says Law. By working with groups and civic leaders like the [Greater Sharpstown Management District](#), Law has joined a growing group of residents and business owners who care about and are invested in effecting positive change and recognition in a once misrepresented area.

Houston Open Days takes place Saturday April 18 from 10am-4pm. Admission is \$7 at each garden, or discounted tickets (6 for \$35) can be purchased to visit all of the Houston gardens. *Jardin De La Paz* is located at 6801 Hazen Street near the intersection of Beechnut Street and Bissonnet Street.