



NANTESENSE

Special Edition - 12th Floraliés Internationales, Nantes

We came, we saw, we shoveled tons of dirt and mulch (literally), and we re-created our beautiful



native forest with native art in Nantes.



Day 1 - Jenn finds our spot; it is really big!

Kids in a candy shop! Andy, Carmen, and Jenn pick out the stumps that we want. The logistics platform is the source for dirt, mulch, gravel, logs, stumps, you name it.

Day 1



Day 2 - We start moving dirt and pallets. Jenn marks out the spot for the longhouse with pallets. Our trees arrive. Our designers do a little dance because the trees are big, just what we want. Those trying to move the trees, Andy and Tom, are perhaps a little less excited.





Day 3 - The pallets are in place for the floor of the longhouse. We continue placing trees with Carmen in charge and Andy as muscle. The rest of our plants arrive.



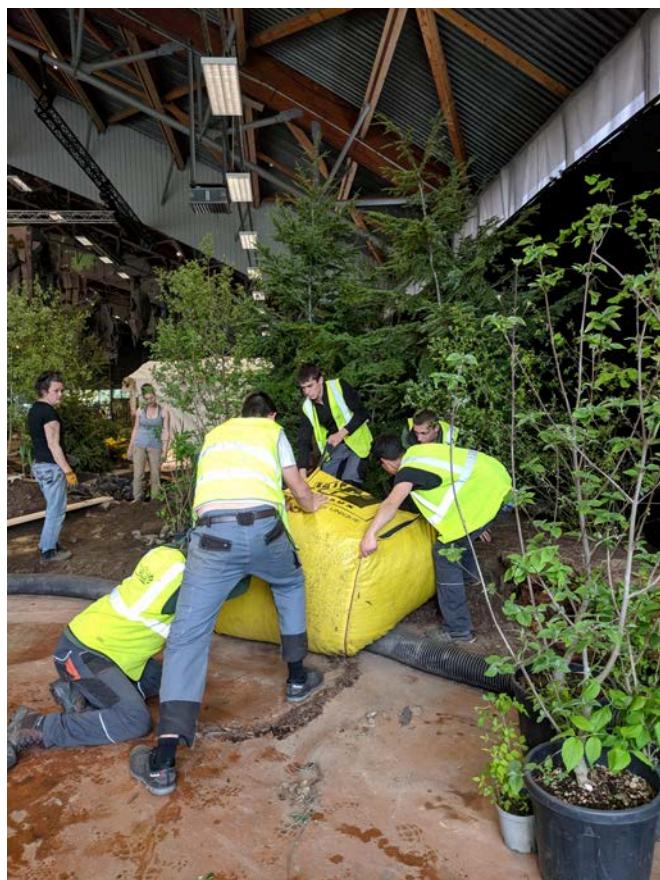


Day 4 - Our student helpers dig out the pond. The longhouse starts to take shape. We are treated to sparkling wine on the logistics platform. We regularly scavenge for extra logs and stumps, using google translate, gestures, and college-level french, which does not help us with vocabulary like "mulch", "gravel", and "backhoe". Jenn places horsetails while Carmen brushes dirt off the log.





Day 5 - The pond progresses. Our next group of students wrestles with mulch. Many plants get placed today. We regularly borrow tools from our neighbors - staple gun, rake, shovels, wheelbarrow. Everyone is nice and helpful.



Day 5



Day 6 - We have water in the pond! Wonderful Gabriel has returned on his day off to help us some more, seen here helping Carmen carry a tree. And he baked us a cake! Beautiful details are appearing. The people next to us give us some of their moss - the perfect addition! Our designers work seamlessly. They will place a few plants, then step back outside the stand to see it from the visitor's perspective, then step back in and rearrange so that it is just perfect. Artists at work!



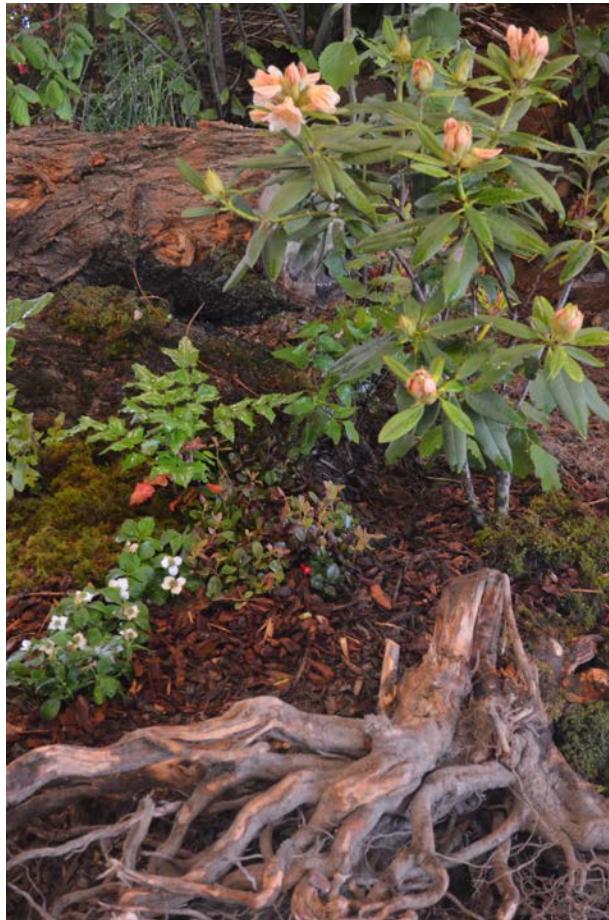
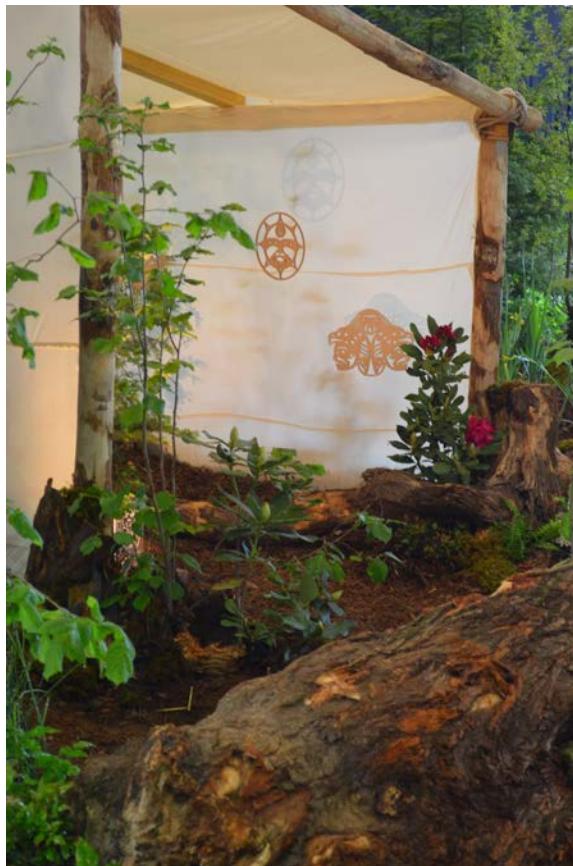
Day 6



Day 7 - The art is up in the longhouse and the edge-lit acrylic plants are turned on. The acrylic skunk cabbage is placed around the edge of the pond. All plants are now in place.



Day 7



Day 8 - The Last Day - final touches and final watering before the opening ceremonies tomorrow. We are done - phew! It has been a tremendous amount of physical labor. We are exhausted and thrilled at what has been accomplished.



Day 8

A huge thank you to all those who contributed to this project:

- Our sponsor - the Duwamish Tribe
- Our friends in France who hosted us, fed us, supported us, and staffed the booth - Mariette Cassourret, Franck Insignares, Michel and Brigitte Marron, Christine Renard, and members of La Maison des Etats-Unis
- Our design and installation team - Jenn Dowell, Carmen Leslie, Susan Kegel, Andy Kegel, Tom Waite, Rick Fox, and Bebet Caguin
- All those who donated to and attended our fundraiser
- And especially our donors -
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 - Pieter and Tish Van Der Meulen
 - Alaina McCallum
 - Linda McCallum
 - Bénédicte and Ty Egbert
 - Misa Bourdoiseau
 - Marc Trinquet
 - Susan Hulbert
 - Jean Leblon
 - Pamela Hughes
 - Philippe and Sandrine Agat
 - Morgan del Fierro

Day 9 - Opening Ceremonies - our team shows the SNSCA display to honored guests: the representatives of the Duwamish Tribe, Kristina Pearson and Katie King; the Regional Council President for the Pays de la Loire, Christelle Morançais; the US Consul for Western France, Jame du Vernay; and the President of La Maison des Etats-Unis, Mariette Cassourret.



Day 9