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Have questions? Reply to this email and we'll respond as soon as possible.



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## What are Kissing Balls?

You've seen them everywhere from holiday corridors to wedding aisles- so what's the big deal with kissing balls?

In the Middle Ages, villagers would wind together evergreen branches into a sphere and place a clay figure of an infant (to represent the baby Jesus) in the center. These balls would be hung from the ceiling along passageways in castles and houses to bring blessings and good luck to all who passed under them.

In Victorian times, the tradition was updated by poking foliage into apples or potatoes to create a circular design. Many added herbs with romantic connotations, and over time their meaning changed to that of love and affection, and it became a romantic gesture to kiss under this ball of fragrance.



In the early 20th century this tradition seemed to fade, however, with the addition and widespread availability of mistletoe the kissing ball was revived and reinvented! These days, the kissing ball is back and is very popular in both holiday

and wedding décor.

Whether you're looking for a reason to plant a smooch on your special someone or to add a pop of festive greenery to your holiday home décor, you can make a kissing ball of your very own with us at Alice's Garden! On December 2nd and December 9th (both at 3pm), Alice's Garden is hosting a Kissing Ball Making Workshop! For tickets, call (or stop by) the store, or visit our Eventbrite [here!](#)

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## Featured Houseplant:



This week's featured houseplant is the **Gaultheria Winterberry!** With its glossy leaves and crimson hanging berries, this Wintergreen has become a holiday favorite- but can be grown indoors year-round! While it will stay fairly dormant during the winter season, springtime will bring new growth with increased sunlight. Water when top 2-4" of soil are dry. The fragrant oil from its leaves has even been used for medicine and tea!

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## Trees, and Wreaths, and Porch Pots— oh my!



It's not too late to decorate for the holidays! Alice's Garden has beautiful ready-to-display porch pots, wreaths, and of course- Christmas Trees! Check out our wide selection of holiday greenery, door charms, decor and more!

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## Upcoming Classes:

- December 2nd, 3pm: Kissing Balls
- December 9th, 1pm: Holiday Centerpiece Making
- December 9th, 3pm: Kissing Balls
- December 16th, 1pm: Holiday Centerpiece Making

- December 16th, 10am-2pm: FREE Santa and Mrs. Claus Meet-and-Greet!
- January 6th, 1pm: Houseplants for Beginners
- January 13th, 1pm: Terrarium Building
- January 20th, 1pm: Candle Pouring
- January 27th, 1pm: ADVANCED Terrarium Building (Jumbo Size)

To purchase tickets to any of these events, head to our [Eventbrite Page](#), visit the store, or call us at (317) 291-1441 to reserve your spot today!

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Alice's Garden

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