In 2018, great momentum propelled the Santa Fe Botanical Garden’s development and engagement of our community and visitors from across our state and beyond. I am pleased to report that combined attendance to the Botanical Garden’s two locations reached 60,000 in 2018, through regular daily admissions, free access during community days, special events, and youth and adult education programs.

The Garden received the prestigious Design Excellence Award from the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) for the Ojos y Manos: Eyes and Hands Garden’s interpretive plan developed by Mollie Parsons, Director of Education & Interpretation, and graphic designer, Andrea Multari. The Garden’s education partnership initiative, launched in 2014, has grown into the Santa Fe Community Educators Network (SFCEN), with more than seventy participating nonprofit educators. In 2018, SFCEN was recognized nationally at annual conferences for the American Public Gardens Association and AAM, with extensive coverage in Museum Magazine.

Truly the Botanical Garden is having both local and national impact. These ongoing successes are made possible from the support of our members, volunteers, Board of Directors, and staff. Together, we are building for today and future generations!

Clayton Bass, President & CEO

2018 Financial Statements

Note: Data is unaudited. Data excludes capital campaign revenues and expenditures, excludes depreciation of fixed assets, and reflects some program expenditures that were funded by prior years’ grants.

Income
Total: $1,120,764
- Earned Income 39%
- Memberships 15%
- Grants 16%
- Fundraising 12%
- Contributed Income 13%

Expenditures
Total: $1,187,284
- Payrolls 48%
- Program Expenses 21%
- Operations 20%
- Cost of Goods 5%
- Fundraising 5%

Inspiring the Future

Youth Education
The Santa Fe Botanical Garden engages children from age 3 up to young adults through various programs at the Garden and in their classrooms. In 2018, we had over 26,000 youth contacts through our educational outreach programs across more than 35 area schools. In September, the first-annual gala fundraiser, Equinox Celebration, brought in close to $90,000 for our mission and education programs.

Schools Served Include
- Alcalde Elementary School
- Amy Biehl Community School
- Aspen Community Magnet School
- Carlos F. Vigil Middle School
- Cesar Chavez Elementary School
- Ohama Elementary School
- Oñate Elementary School
- Chaparral Elementary School
- El Martinez Elementary School
- El Camino Real Community School
- El Dorado Community School
- Estevan Tim Salazar III Elementary School
- Francis X. Nava Elementary School
- Gonzales Community School
- Institute of American Indian Arts
- Hernandez Elementary School
- James H. Rodriguez Elementary School
- Keary Elementary School
- Magro Middle School
- Monte del Sol Charter School
- Nina Otero Community School
- NM School for the Deaf
- Northern New Mexico College
- NYC Early Childhood
- Ortiz Middle School
- Pojoaque Elementary School
- Pojoaque Intermediate
- Ramirez Thomas Elementary
- Salazar Elementary School
- San Juan Elementary School
- Santa Fe High School
- Santa Fe Preparatory School
- Sweeney Elementary School
- Tesuque Elementary School
- Tony E. Quintana Elementary School
- Turquoise Trail Charter School
- Velarde Elementary School
- Waldorf School

Santa Fe Botanical Garden 2018 Annual Report

Photo: Andrea Multari
Building a Community

Volunteers
In 2018, 7,766 total hours were worked by nearly 400 volunteers - that’s equivalent to 3.7 full-time staff! Volunteers helped maintain our two sites, were docents, provided administrative support, and help with special event production. Our volunteers also include our Board of Directors, who provided 874 hours of service. We are grateful to our volunteer base.

Membership
Membership is a crucial part of our revenue. Without our members, we would not be able to accomplish so much of our mission. And our membership base has grown by 94% since we opened the Botanical Garden at Museum Hill. In 2018, we had 1,645 member households. Members receive benefits such as free admission to our two sites, access to member-only events, and discounts on classes and events.

Botanical Garden at Museum Hill
The Botanical Garden at Museum Hill has grown to 20.5 acres in size, with approximately five acres that are developed into gardens, seven acres established as the Arroyo Trails, and the remainder are available future development. Each year, plants become more established, and the vision of landscape architect W. Gary Smith is further realized.

In 2018, the Garden saw nearly 20,000 daily admission visits. Approximately 500 pounds of fruits and vegetables grown in the Garden were donated to The Food Depot. And, an additional 1.25 acres on Museum Hill were acquired from the State of New Mexico for future development.

Leonora Curtin Wetland Preserve
Our original site, the Leonora Curtin Wetland Preserve, features 35 acres of land, including a rare natural cienega. The land served as a cattle watering hole, millpond, and recreation area for decades. It had been overrun with invasive species and the natural springs were drying out due to overuse by people and increased exotic vegetation.

In 2018, we continued site monitoring and large-scale invasive species removal projects, with a focus on Russian olive, Russian knapweed, and bull thistle. As a result, the diversity of our bird population spotted in the Wetland doubled, as recorded by our Citizen Science team and Audubon birders.

Adult Education
In 2018, we offered more than 201 Adult Education programs, resulting in 9,365 contacts with adult students. Our students range from working to retired professionals, from gardening novices to enthusiasts. From the popular Lecture Series to morning yoga in Ojos y Manos, Eyes and Hands Garden, our educational offerings have expanded minds and have helped build a bigger gardening community in Santa Fe.

Events
Every community needs an avenue for celebration! Events held in 2018 brought our mission to the broader Santa Fe Community, and attracted audiences who might not otherwise visit our locations. In 2018, nearly 8,000 patrons attended our public events, including GLOW, Shakespeare in the Garden, Sunset in the Garden Concert Series, and more.