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to discover and share knowledge about plants and their environment in order to preserve and enrich life.

mission of the Missouri Botanical Garden

## from the president



There's nothing quite like experiencing nature with all your senses. The beautiful sights, delightful sounds, fragrant smells, fascinating textures, and delicious tastes are all part of what keeps drawing us back to the natural world. It is our love for plants and their environment that drive our mission at the Missouri Botanical Garden, Sophia M. Sachs Butterfly House, and Shaw Nature Reserve. That passion for understanding how plants, people, and the environment are interconnected continues to guide our research and conservation efforts to ensure plants are part of our future—a sustainable future.

After the adoption of the United Nations (UN) Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015, the Garden fully embraced its role as a world-leading botanical institution to ensure plants play an essential role in addressing some of the world's biggest challenges—from biodiversity loss to poverty to climate change. Among the highlights in 2016 was the international conference on "Plant Conservation and the Sustainable Development Goals" that the Garden hosted alongside the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation. Promoting the importance of biodiversity and sustainability is one of the Garden's goals through its advocacy on the global environmental stage and a commitment we make through our everyday choices as an organization.

Building on the many years where sustainability was at the core of our strategic planning, we have continued to expand our tools and expert resources to further our mission to discover and protect plants and their environment. We have come to exemplify the nexus of conservation and quality of life, becoming a global and local leader in plant conservation as well as a world-class cultural institution that engages diverse audiences in learning about plants as the foundation of life. That vision will continue as the Garden implements its new Strategic Plan through 2020. The new plan, approved by the Board of Trustees in the fall of 2016, is a reflection of who we are today and builds on the directions we have been moving in the last six years. We know that we are already heading strongly in the right direction as a global leader in the conservation of plant diversity, and I am optimistic and excited about our shared future in this work. If you haven't already done so, I invite you to delve into the plan at www.mobot.org/strategicplan and share your thoughts on how to take the Garden through 2020 and beyond.

Dr. Peter Wyse Jackson,

President

## from the chair



Henry Shaw was a visionary who created the beautiful Missouri Botanical Garden more than 150 years ago. Today, what he saw as a place of beauty and a living collection for study and research has been taken to incredible heights through the work of the staff, volunteers, and supporters of the Garden.

In 2016, we again welcomed more than one million guests to the Garden, Sophia M. Sachs Butterfly House, and Shaw Nature Reserve. With the personal commitment of various Board leaders and other vital friends, the Garden for the World campaign raised more than \$112 million, surpassing its goal of \$100 million. Significant milestones include restoration of the Japanese Garden and Herring House. We opened the new Edward Jones Hall, welcoming families into the renovated Brookings Exploration Center and new PlantLab. And we broke ground on the Stephen and Peter Sachs Museum.

Our work safeguarding and conserving local and international plant diversity rose to new levels as well. Our herbarium, a vital research tool, is one of the largest in the world. TROPICOS, our online plant science database, is now visited more than 200,000 times each day by individuals all over the world.

Putting our tools to work, our horticulturists added more than 2,100 plants to our living collections and incorporated nearly 1,200 seed accessions into our Seed Bank, with many representing our local plant diversity. As a result, we are on track to safeguard all known Missouri plant species by 2020.

None of this would be possible without your commitment to the Garden's global mission and regional cultural significance. Together, we continue to engage visitors online and in person; in our neighborhoods and with community partners; and through partnerships with colleagues around the world. You are a part of the global leadership the Garden provides in the fields of plant science, horticulture, and conservation. At the same time, the Garden is a must-visit destination with three unique locations across the St. Louis region.

The Board of Trustees proudly adopted the new Strategic Plan to increase this impressive work through 2020. Thank you for your leadership and your belief in the Garden's mission. With your help, we will carry Henry Shaw's vision for years to come.

Lelia Farr,

Chair, Board of Trustees

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\*deceased



# <u>capital campaign</u>

## innovative space

Thanks to the generous support of Edward Jones; Mr. and Mrs. William A. Gilbert; Dr. Ann J. Johanson; John and Anita O'Connell; Nora Stern and the Driver and Gleason Families; the Garden's Members' Board and alumni; and the Garden's Young Friends Council and alumni, the renovated Brookings Exploration Center and brand-new PlantLab in the new Edward Jones Hall opened to the public in the spring. The new spaces invite visitors of all ages to explore plant science and investigative learning through hands-on, interactive displays and activities. The PlantLab now also serves as a year-round experiential learning space for special events and programs.

## opportunity space

The Garden announced the expansion of its nursery operations thanks to a generous land donation by the Oertli family. The new Oertli Family Hardy Plant Nursery ultimately will allow the Garden to produce at least 95% of its plant material as well as to grow wild-collected plants to add to the living collections. It will be a tool for both conservation and education purposes. Most of the plants grown at the new facility will be hardy herbaceous perennials and woody plants, with a focus on wild-collected specimens.

## renovated space

Renovation was completed on Herring House, the Garden gatehouse constructed in 1895. It had been unused since 2001. Thanks to a generous gift from the Herring family, the gatehouse retains its historic features while incorporating modern amenities. Work continues on the gardens around it, which will be renamed Lauren's Secret Garden.

## a piece of history

The Garden broke ground on the construction and rehabilitation work on Henry Shaw's Museum thanks to leadership gifts by the Gertrude and William A. Bernoudy Foundation, Priscilla B. and Gregory G. Evans, The Sachs Fund Trust, Jack C. Taylor, and other generous donors. Since its closing in 1982, it's only open on special occasions, such as Shaw's birthday celebration each July 24. When Dr. Peter Wyse Jackson became president of the Garden in 2010, he recognized the building's historic importance and called for its rehabilitation. The project is set to be completed in 2017 and will once again open its doors to the public as the new Stephen and Peter Sachs Museum.

25

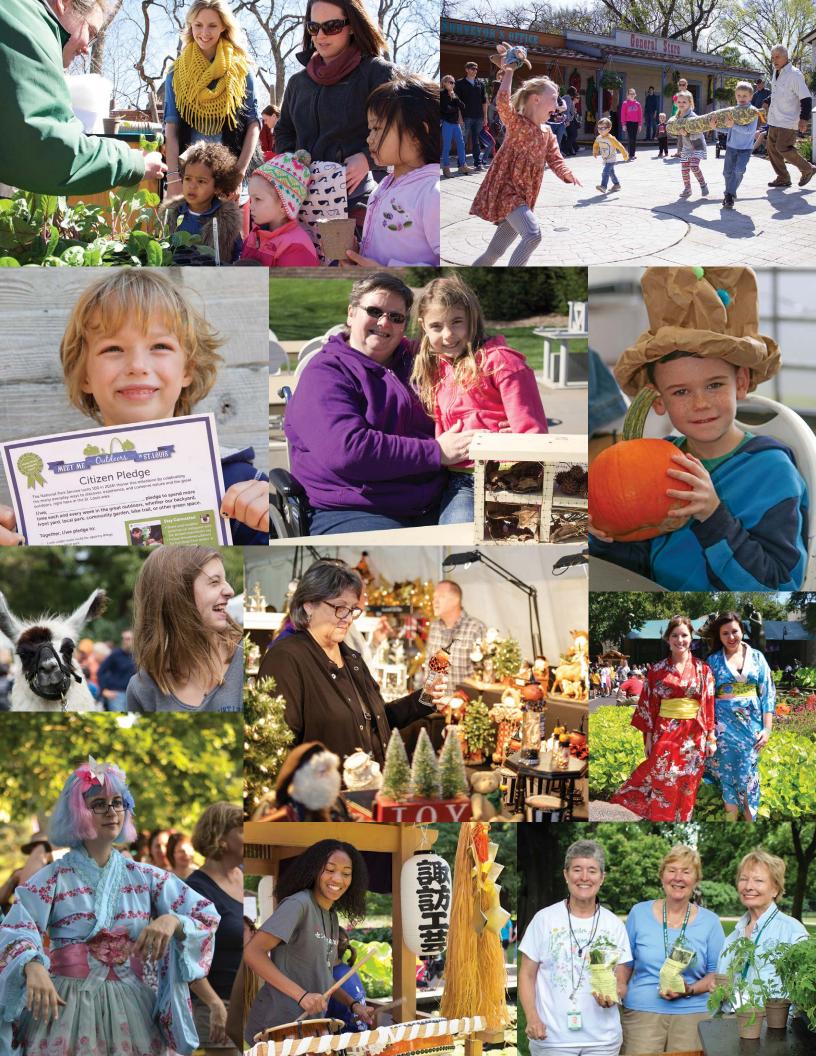
school programs held in the new PlantLab during its first year

6.3

acres of land donated by the Oertli family and located just a few blocks south of the Garden

1859

year the museum was established—the same year the Garden opened to the public



## celebration

## celebrating the outdoors

The Garden kick-started spring with a fun weekend festival by celebrating the great outdoors. The first annual Meet Me Outdoors in St. Louis marked the re-openings of the Doris I. Schnuck Children's Garden, Tower Grove House, and tram rides for the season. During the weekend, visitors also explored the the recently renovated Brookings Exploration Center and the new PlantLab, engaged in wildlife-habitat building sessions, checked out exhibitors from across the region, and more. Meet Me Outdoors in St. Louis is held in conjunction with area partners all focused on outdoor activities, and will be expanded to all three Garden locations in future years.

### milestone anniversaries

The Doris I. Schnuck Children's Garden celebrated its 10th anniversary. The Children's Garden was made possible by a lead gift from the children of the Donald Schnuck family in honor of their mother. The family-friendly area has welcomed almost one million visitors and shows no signs of slowing. Over the years, new learning opportunities have been added, nature play areas have been built, and many memories have been created.

The Best of Missouri Market® celebrated 25 years of offering Missouri's finest artisan food and crafts to thousands of visitors each fall. The Market is the brainchild of long-time Garden volunteers and former presidents of the Garden's Members' Board Nora Stern and Ellen Dubinsky. Stern and Dubinsky were instrumental in bringing in a variety of vendors, establishing relationships with them, and building the event's reputation to make it the signature event it is today. The Market began with just over 50 vendors from across the state occupying two tents. Now the two-day event and preview night attract an average of 25,000 visitors of all ages.

While St. Louis has been home to a Japanese Festival for more than half a century, in 1976 it moved to the Garden. The festival, originally sponsored by the Japanese American Citizens League in cooperation with the St. Louis—Suwa Sister City Committee, was designed to create a greater awareness of Japanese and Japanese-American cultural heritages. Through the years, the different programs have featured everything from the traditional to the modern. Today it is considered the largest Japanese Festival in the United States.

The St. Louis Herb Society celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2016. The Herb Society has been associated with the Garden since its beginning in 1941, forming a relationship with then Garden Director Dr. Edgar Anderson. Society members are most often seen caring for the herb garden directly behind Tower Grove House and hosting Herbs and Heirlooms Tuesdays in the summer. Its generous members have also provided financial support that has been directed to the herb garden and the Herb Garden Legacy Fund.

exhibitors representing local parks, reserves, and environmental organizations at Meet Me Outdoors in

St. Louis

120+
vendors
from across

from across the region participate in the annual Best of Missouri Market®

\$260K of support the Herb Society has provided over the years



# <u>sustainability</u>

## green achievements

The Garden was recognized in the 2016 St. Louis Green Business Challenge with an Award of Achievement–Champion Level. The Garden has consistently achieved recognition for both routine and innovative green measures including developing the "Better Business Through Biodiversity," hosting the Green Business Engagement National Network Conference in 2016, working directly with 176 companies as Challenge program managers, and more. The Challenge, a partnership between the St. Louis Regional Chamber and the Garden, assists companies in integrating sustainable business practice into daily operations.

## capturing water

The Garden completed a three-year project to repurpose an underground storage tank to capture rainwater to irrigate the Temperate House and Climatron®, which use between 500 and 1,000 gallons of irrigation water per day. The new system replaces the 200,000 gallons of city water used each year and lowers the maintenance costs of the existing high-tech purification system.

The Garden is a leader in promoting plant-based rainscaping to facilitate safer, cleaner water with initiatives such as the Deer Creek Watershed Alliance and the Shaw Series for Stormwater and Landscape Professionals. It also partners with the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District's Project Clear. In 2016, St. Louis City property owners were awarded more than \$165,000 to install rainscaping features to combat stormwater runoff. They created rain gardens and installed green roofs, among other things, with the guidance of the Garden's EarthWays Center staff, the horticultural expertise of Shaw Nature Reserve's Scott Woodbury, and the extensive resources in the Garden's online Rainscaping Guide.

## energy efficiency

The Garden's Commerce Bank Center for Science Education (CBEC), home of the EarthWays Center, was ranked among the top 10% in energy efficiency for comparable building types in 2016. CBEC once again earned the ENERGY STAR rating from the Environmental Protection Agency for the fifth year in a row. When CBEC was designed and constructed in 2002, strategic decisions were made to spend extra money to install energy-efficient heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC), lighting systems, and water-saving plumbing. These investments paid off. CBEC is one of the least expensive buildings for the Garden to operate and maintain.

90% waste diverted at signature events

62,390 gallons of rain water the new water storage vault holds

approximate lighting energy needs offset last year by the 36,000 Kwh of energy that CBEC's solar array produced



# discovery

## new species

Scientists at the Garden discovered at least 128 new species of plants in 2016. Garden researchers concentrate much of their work on taxonomy, the building block of discovery. Before a plant can become medicine, food, or another product, it must first be properly identified and named; this process can take years or decades. Garden researchers work and collect regularly in more than 30 countries. Many years are spent comparing specimens in the Garden's Herbarium and other collections to determine if a plant is indeed a new species. With one in three plants threatened with extinction, the race for discovery remains a top priority for the Garden.

## important baseline

In the summer, the specimen data of the Checklist of Missouri Mosses was posted online and re-published as a separate bound booklet for wide dissemination. The checklist is a specimen-based list that utilizes more than 20,000 moss specimens stored in the Garden's Herbarium. The completion of the checklist was instrumental in revising the Missouri Department of Conservation's Checklist of Species of Conservation Concern. Based on distribution data from the checklist, several species of mosses were taken off the state's conservation watch list. It also demonstrated which species were most critically endangered at the state level. Missouri is unique; few states have a modern list of the mosses occurring in the state.

## next generation

The Garden welcomed the first Philip and Sima K. Needleman Doctoral Plant Conservation Fellow, Brigitte Williams, in August 2016. "Everything that the Garden touches is meaningful. It's incredibly valuable to be at an institution that has an appreciation for plants and plant diversity," explains Williams. Philip and Sima K. Needleman made a generous gift to the Garden to support training of a St. Louis University (SLU) doctoral student working the field of plant conservation genetics. Brigitte will be co-advised by Dr. Allison Miller at SLU and Dr. Christine Edwards at the Garden's Conservation Genetics Lab.

5

known
localities where
Clerodendrum
kamhyoae, a
species that's
new to science,
has been
collected in
Madagascar

323 mosses in the Checklist

of Missouri

Mosses

1,976
individuals
from 26 species
genotyped in
2016



## conservation

## leading the global conversation

The Garden hosted an international conference of the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation in the summer. Themed "Plant Conservation and the Sustainable Development Goals," the event gathered nearly 150 participants to discuss the importance of plants for global sustainability and the role they can play in achieving the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Agenda by 2030. At the conference, the Garden signed agreements with representatives of Haiti to renew cooperation toward the development of a National Botanic Garden, and with representatives of the Indonesian Botanic Gardens to cooperate on new research and conservation activities on the Indonesian native flora. Dr. Peter Wyse Jackson presented the results of the conference to a meeting of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity in Mexico in December. Garden Vice President of Education Sheila Voss was also invited to serve on the UN Convention on Biological Diversity's Informal Advisory Committee on Communication, Education, and Public Awareness.

## engaging the community

The Garden-led BiodiverseCity St. Louis network held its first two semiannual Honeysuckle Sweep for Healthy Habitat weeks. Both the spring and fall events helped raise awareness about how bush honeysuckle damages ecosystems and decreases recreation in our green spaces. Homeowners and landowners also received information on how to eliminate bush honeysuckle on their own property and what to plant in its place.

Also in March, the Sophia M. Sachs Butterfly House and St. Louis County launched Project Pollinator, a community garden initiative aimed at creating demonstration gardens at county parks, libraries, and other public spaces. It also engages the community in learning more about restoring pollinator habitats to improve the health of native pollinators. The project planted four gardens, visited 11 sites interested in installing gardens, and held nearly 30 classes for children and adults.

## restoring ecosystems

In April, Shaw Nature Reserve welcomed Mike Saxton as its first ever Ecological Restoration Specialist. He now oversees the fire management program, using prescribed fire to help control invasive plants while promoting the diversity and abundance of native species. He also established a new Land Stewards volunteer program to tackle invasive species removal and help collect seeds. In collaboration with Dr. Quinn Long, ecologist at the Garden's Center for Conservation and Sustainable Development, and Horticulture GIS Specialist Kayla Flamm, Saxton helped launch a new internal restoration web app to document, map, and track all land management activities.

27
countries
represented
at the GPPC
Conference
hosted by the
Garden

210,000

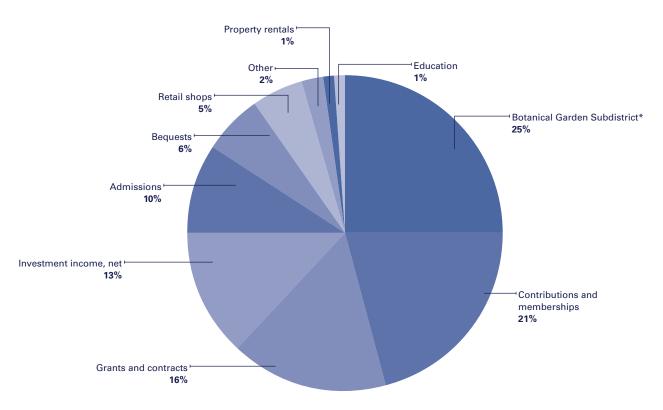
square feet of bush honeysuckle pulled throughout the region during the spring event

114 pounds

pounds of 102 different native plant species collected to be used in the Nature Reserve's restoration projects

## financial information (year ended December 31, 2016)

### **2016 Operating Revenue**



20	16	Op	era	ting	R	ev	enue	
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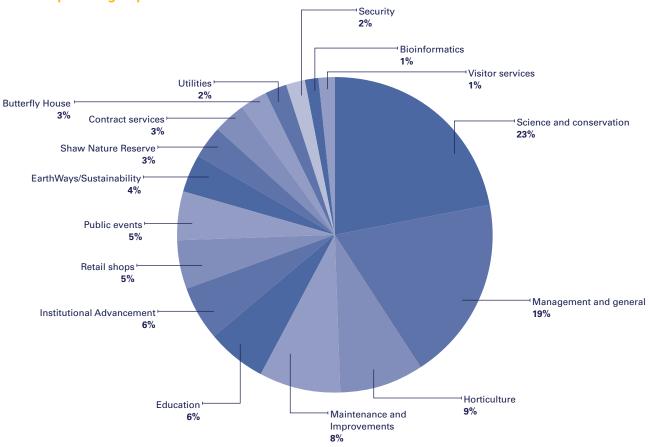
Bequests	2,523,055
Grants and contracts	6,800,970
Investment income, net	5,411,096
Admissions	3,922,329
Retail shops	2,181,391
Other	967,246
Education	410,873
Property rentals	462,398
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	\$42,004,317

#### **2016 Operating Expenses**

Operating Services	
Science and conservation	\$8,588,351
Horticulture	3,404,250
Education	2,342,904
Public events	1,842,899
Retail shops	1,960,730
Contract services	1,195,021
EarthWays/Sustainability	1,544,036
Butterfly House	1,107,069
Shaw Nature Reserve	1,337,179
Bioinformatics	562,509
Visitor Services	543,903
Total Operating Services	24,428,851
Supporting Services	
Management and general	7,218,798
Maintenance and Improvements	3,178,010
Institutional Advancement	2,195,410
Utilities	907,823
Security	736,539
Total Supporting Services	14,236,580
Total Operating Expenses	\$38,665,431

## financial information

### **2016 Operating Expenses**



#### 2016 Fund Balances

#### **Operating Fund**

Total operating support and revenue	\$ 42,004,317
Total operating expenses	(38,665,431)
Total operating transfers	(3,037,420)
2016 Operating fund excess/(deficit)	301,466
2016 Pension liability adjustment	(398,847)
1/1/16 Operating Fund balance	4,774,189
12/31/16 Operating Fund	4,676,808
Endowment Funds	127.180.736
Endowment Funds	127,180,736
Land, Building, and Equipment Fund	79,040,743
Capital Campaign Fund	5,618,585
Gift Annuity Fund	12,465
Total All Funds	\$216,529,337

#### \*Botanical Garden Subdistrict

Since 1972, residents of St. Louis City and County have generously supported the Metropolitan Zoological Park and Museum District (ZMD). The ZMD is a property tax-supported district that distributes funds through five cultural subdistricts, which include the Botanical Garden Subdistrict. The Botanical Garden Subdistrict has provided support for the Missouri Botanical Garden since 1983. The Garden is grateful for the continued support of the Botanical Garden Subdistrict.

Commissioners for the ZMD and the Botanical Garden Subdistrict as of April 2017 are listed on page 16.

Financial information used in this report was obtained from the 2016 Missouri Botanical Garden audited consolidated financial statements. These financial statements can be obtained by visiting www.mobot.org/reports.

## thank you



#### members' board

The Members' Board leadership group organizes the activities and events that enhance and encourage membership, expand awareness in the community, and increase financial support for the Garden's mission.

Mary Kay Denning, President Ann M. Bowen Deborah Callihan Eileen M. Carr Susan A. Cohen Kristen Cornett Knapp Jeanne P. Crawford Angela Dalton Jeanie Davis Ellen Dubinsky Kathy Durel Audrey Feuerbacher Kim Gamel Michael C. Heim Janice A. Hermann

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Sue M. Rapp Susan N. Rowe Marsha J. Rusnack Mary Lee Salzer-Lutz Nancy L. Sauerhoff Susie Littmann Schulte David P. Schulz Jan Simons Raiser Carol A. Squires Susan Squires Goldschmidt Patricia B. Steiner Nora R. Stern Elizabeth Teasdale Jane S. Tschudy Debra K. Windus Douglas R. Wolter

### young friends council

The Young Friends Council engages the young professionals of the St. Louis community with the global work of the Garden, developing events and initiatives to grow the Young Friends Program and increase engagement.

Lucy Adams Jay Alberts Gwen Arenberg Robyn Ast-Gmoser Colleen Autry Laura Bentele Adam Berkowitz Anne Bommarito Patrick Bousquet Billy Brennan Ashley Brewer Ben Cahill Lindsey Carlie Allison Cohn Kadie Crivello Ashley Diaz

Hilary Engelbrecht Rvan M. Furniss Amanda C. Glenn Dottie J. Hemba Christine Hill Rogers David and Cindy Hults Kati Johnson Michelle K. Johnson Megan S. Maher Evan Martin Samir Mehta Chelsea Merta Laura Miller Rebecca Miller, Ph.D. **Bridget Morrell** Jennifer Mullikin

Joseph A. Nonnenkamp Rebecca Patel Julia L. Peters Brian Rapp **Daniel Richter** Katy Robertson Kyle Rosborg Julie Ruettgers Erika Sevigny Cary Stalnecker Katherine Stocke John Strahlman Erin Sullentrup Lee Wilber Virginia A. Williams

### zoological park and museum district

The Metropolitan Zoological Park and Museum District (ZMD) is a tax-supported cultural district governed by an eight-member board of directors, each appointed for a four-year term by the Mayor of the City of St. Louis and by the St. Louis County Executive.

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## botanical garden subdistrict

The ZMD levies an annual tax on property on behalf of five subdistricts, including the Botanical Garden Subdistrict. The subdistrict contracts with the Garden to provide botanical services.

Yemi S. Akande-Bartsch Adrian E. Bracy John C. McPheeters Marcia B. Mellitz Brian A. Murphy Martin Schweig, Jr.\* Pamela Shephard Marjorie M. Weir Francis Yueh Hillary B. Zimmerman

Non-voting advisory members: James Hoffmeister Naretha A. Hopson Janice M. Nelson James H. Yemm

\*deceased

## thank you



#### corporate council

The dedicated representatives of the Corporate Council collaborate with the Garden to further relationships with the corporate community through education, sustainable business programs, volunteer opportunities, and special events.

Ms. Linda Lockwood, *Chair, Regions Bank* Ms. Emily Andrews, *U.S. Green Building Council-Missouri Gateway Chapter* 

Ms. Lindsay Auer, Standing Partnership
Ms. Julie E. Bahr, Clayton Financial Group LLC
Mr. Robert M. Bain, Senniger Powers LLP
Mr. Jake Barnett, Morgan Stanley Wealth

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Mr. Michael Bernard, Centene Corporation

Mr. Patrick Bousquet, SmithAmundsen LLC

Mr. Matt Bremehr, *Object Computing, Inc. (OCI)* Mr. Thaddeus Brija, *Renaissance Financial* 

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Ms. Jessica Fischer, Ernst & Young LLP

Ms. Wendy Flanagan, FleishmanHillard

Mr. Jason Florek, KPMG LLP

Ms. Pamala L. Funk, The City of O'Fallon, Illinois

Mr. Timothy W. Gamma, Gamma Tree Experts

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Ms. Diane Grimsley, Tarlton Corporation

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Ms. Laurel Harrington, Christner Inc.

Ms. Patricia Hernandez, Emerson

Mr. Chip Hiemenz, Hunter Engineering Company

Mr. Jesse Hill, Edward Jones

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Ms. J. Nicci Warr, Stinson Leonard Street LLP
Mr. Robert M. Williams, Williams Patent Crusher
& Pulverizer Company, Inc.

## thank you

#### corporate partners

Companies participating in the Corporate Partners Program make an annual membership gift. They receive Garden admission passes, tickets to public events, recognition among the Garden's 45,000 member households and the general public, and more. They can also appoint a representative to the Garden's Corporate Council leadership board (see previous page).

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Renaissance Financial Corporation **TOYOTA Bodine** 

UMB Bank, N.A. Wehrenberg Theatres Inc.

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Fifth Third Bank Gamma Tree Experts

J.W. Terrill, a Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC Company

KPMG LLP Microgrid Energy MiTek Industries, Inc. Senniger Powers LLP

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# by the numbers

### Visitors

Attendance at all locations	1,048,540
Highest daily attendance: Sunday, September 4 (Japanese Festival)	11,512
Highest non-event attendance: Sunday, May 8 (Mother's Day)	6,892
Lowest non-event attendance: Tuesday, January 12	57

#### **Members**

Members	44,389
Total number of member visits	303,724

#### Personnel

Number of staff	422
Number of volunteers	2,061
Number of volunteer hours worked	137,700
Number of equivalent full-time staff with volunteers	70

#### Communications

Total online visits	9.5 million
Unique online visitors	5.6 million
Total visits via mobile device	4 million (43%)
Total email subscriber base	70,000
Social network followers	189,000



#### **Education**

Education Program Participation	407,550
Students and teachers participating in education programs	61,237
Teachers using workshops and instructional material	1,728
Scouts and Leaders in education programs	4,200
Adults in adult education programs	15,585
Seniors, special-needs, others in horticultural therapy education programs	3,783
Youth and families in education programs	3,526
Youth and community outreach	3,088
Visitors experiencing drop-in education opportunities	314,403

Education Venue Attendance	
Visitors to the Doris I. Schnuck Children's Garden	103,217
Visitors to the Brookings Exploration Center	121,222
Visitors to Tower Grove House	95,648
Visitors to the Dana Brown Overnight Center at Shaw Nature Reserve	5,320

Home Gardening	
Visitors to the William T. Kemper Center for Home Gardening	102,552
Master Gardeners	431 active volunteers; 43,564 hours of community service
Plant Doctor Service	6,013 clients; 9,573 questions
Horticulture Answer Service	8,896 calls; 12,493 questions
Gardening Help web visitors	4,936,485
Online email gardening questions answered	2,407

### Horticulture Displays\*

Total accessions	32,385
Wild source accessions	6,882
Total taxa/unique types of plants	17,304
Total rare taxa/unique types of plants	664
Total genera	2,111
Total species	7,500
Total plantings	56,528

#### **Science & Conservation**

PhD researchers	50
Staff publications	167
New species described	128
Countries where fieldwork is done	36
Graduate students	22, from 10 countries
Herbarium total specimens	6,727,687
Mounted specimens added to Herbarium	61,816
TROPICOS®	4,639,890 specimens 1,307,880 plant names
Articles published in MBG Press's two journals, <i>Novon</i> and <i>Annals</i>	39
New books added in to Library	1,160
Interlibrary loans provided	530 from 20 countries

<sup>\*</sup>as of March 2017

## management team



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