



# Table of Contents

2– Director’s Note

3– About the Garden

4– Events, Youth Programs, + Workshops

5– Financials

6– Thank you to our Donors!

**The Alaska Botanical Garden is an independent nonprofit living museum. Its mission is to showcase the beauty and value of Alaska’s gardens and natural areas through science, education, and recreation using organic and sustainable practices.**



Alaska Botanical Garden  
2019 Annual Report

# 2019 in Review,

Another successful year is in the books (I hope all my future Annual Report letters begin with this notion). While the second year of Holiday Lights was not as well-attended as planned (remember all those December days and nights of below-zero temperatures?), it was still a wonderful event that is well on its way to becoming an annual community tradition. We've already had detailed discussion on how to improve it next year. Other major events including Beer in the Garden, Wine in the Woods, and our summer gala were all sell-outs. Our education programs also performed very well with school programs and Summer Camp engaging well over 3,000 Anchorage students. The relatively lengthy shoulder seasons (March/April + September/October) are particularly challenging in Alaska for outdoor programming. In 2019, we specifically targeted fall shoulder season by expanding Harvest Day, but mid-September weather is rarely cooperative, and residents might be a bit burned-out from all the dynamic Alaska summer events. That said, we have some great ideas for a mid-summer event that could round-out our schedule (remember Garden Fair?) in 2020.

Thanks to our amazing supporters, ABG had a strong finish to our Annual Appeal, which brought in over \$50,000 in donations! Thank you! Many thanks also to our hard-working, dedicated volunteers that make everything we do so much easier. I'm confident I speak for all ABG staff and board members when I say we are excited about what 2020 will bring including a focus on art and family-friendly events.

See you in the Garden!



Mike Monterusso  
Executive Director





## Board of Directors

### Board President

Emily Wiswesser

### Board Vice President

Janelle Pfleiger

### Board Treasurer

William Schmid, CPA

### Board Secretary

Susan Brusehaber

Steve Hennig

Rosa Meehan

Jamie Newsom Eaton

Claire Kaufman

Sarah Groogan

Melissa Wolf

Alex Taitt

Jeff Lowenfels, Emeritus

# About the Garden

**110 acres** of boreal forest

**8 acres** of cultivated gardens

**1,100 varieties** of plants

**150 species** of Alaska native

## Staff

### Executive Director

Mike Monterusso

### Program Director

Stacey Shriner

### Garden Facilities Mgr.

Will Criner

### Education Specialist

Patrick Ryan

### Marketing + Design

Paige Becker

### Art + Event Manager

Betany Porter

### Horticulturalist

Lindsay Clark

### Operations Coordinator

Tim Taber

## Trails //

FOREST HEALTH TRAIL

LOWENFELS-HOERSTING  
FAMILY NATURE TRAIL

WILDFLOWER WALK

## Gardens //

LILE'S GARDEN

HERB GARDEN

TRAILSIDE GARDENS

ALPINE ROCK GARDEN

ANC HERITAGE GARDEN

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

LOWER PERENNIAL GARDEN

ENTRY PLAZA/SHADE GARDEN



# Events

Plant Sale

Beer in the Garden

Wine in the Woods

Harvest Days

Holiday Lights

Peonies & Poppies Garden Party

## Youth Programs

### **Summer Camps:**

Growing Gardeners, Garden Chefs, Artful Gardener, The Young Botanist

### **Day Camps:**

Heath and Nutrition, Dia De Los Muertos

### **Schools in the Garden + Garden in the Schools**

### **21st Century Community Learning Centers**

## Workshops

Science Behind Plant Names

Wreath Making with Natural  
Materials

Family Wreath Making

Dinosaur Planters

Pumpkin Art and Sip

Garlic Planting

DIY Mushroom Cultivation

Edible Berries

Mushroom Walk and ID

Botanical Sketchbooks

Ikenobo Ikebana

Bed Prep and Planting

Container Garden Hypertufa

Seed Starting

Winter Plant Identification

Advanced Landscape Design

Wildflower and Plant ID

Insect Ecology



# Financials

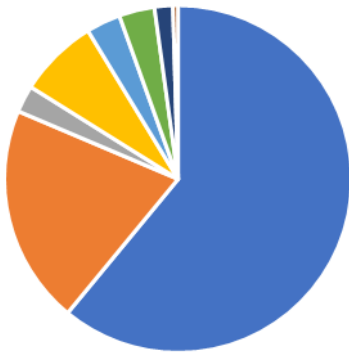


2019 Gross Income **\$632,369**



- MEMBERSHIP    DONATIONS    GATE RECEIPTS
- EDUCATION FEES    FUNDRAISERS    RETAIL
- GAMING    GRANTS    OTHER

2019 Expenses **\$589,825**



- PAYROLL    OPERATIONS    ADVERTISING    CONTRACT SVCS
- CATERING    INSURANCE    BANK FEES    OTHER

# Thank You to our 2019 donors

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 Katherine TePas  
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