



Alaska Botanical Garden
2019 Annual Report



Table of Contents

2– Director’s Note

3– About the Garden

4– Events + Youth Programs

5– Workshops

6– Financials

7– 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.

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

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Janelle Pfeleiger

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
110 acres of boreal forest
8 acres of cultivated gardens
1,100 varieties of plants

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

35,000
visitors
annually

150 species
of Alaska
native plants

Gardens //

- Lile's Garden
- Lower Perennial Garden
- Herb Garden
- Alpine Rock Garden
- Anchorage Heritage Garden
- Trailside Gardens
- Outdoor Classroom
- Entry Plaza and Shade Garden

Trails //

- Forest Health Trail
- Lowenfels-Hoersting Family Nature Trail
- Wildflower Walk

Events

Plant Sale

Harvest Days

Beer in the Garden

Holiday Lights

Wine in the Woods

Peonies & Poppies:
A Party in the Garden

Youth Programs

Summer Camps:

Growing Gardeners, Garden Chefs, The 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



The Science Behind Plant Names Botanical Sketchbooks

Wreath Making with Natural
Materials

Ikenobo Ikebana

Family Wreath Making

Bed Prep and Planting

Dinosaur Planters

Container Gardening with
Hypertufa

Pumpkin Art and Sip

Seed Starting

Garlic Planting

Winter Plant Identification

DIY Mushroom Cultivation

Advanced Landscape Design

Edible Berries

Wildflower and Plant ID

Mushroom Walk and 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

Aaltje J Smith
Agnes Palik
Alaska Airlines
Alaska Community Fdn.
Alaska Permanent Capital Mgmt.
Alice Samuelson
Allison Brandt & Fred Dunlap
Alonna Janelle Pfeleger
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Barbara Pierson
Barbara Simkins
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Carson Humphrey
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Catherine Straub
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Christina Darby
Christy Dailey
Cindy Johnson
Claudia P Bittlingmaier
Colleen Marinucci
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Craig Graff
Cynthia Schraer
Cynthia Walker
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David MacCormack
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Deborah Gonzales
Denise Smith

Diane & Mike Moxness
Diane Kaplan
Donna Cherrier
Donna Neill
Dore Meyers
Durrell Family Fdn. Fund
Earthscape
ECI
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Karen Driscoll
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Kate Martin
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Katherine TePas
Kathleen Oakes Morrow
Kathy Faryniarz
Kecia Furrh
Keil Franck
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Lile R. Gibbons
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Liping Jing
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Martha Jokela
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