Alaska Botanical Garden
2018 Annual Report
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.
2018 in review,

2018 was a successful year for several reasons, not the least of which was the inaugural year of Holiday Lights. Alaska Botanical Gardens (ABG) hosts a number of fun events year-round (page 4), but in its first year, we had no idea how well-received this type of event would be in the dead of winter. Approximately 4,500 people and nearly $30,000 of revenue later, I’d say there is strong interest from our hardy Alaskan community! 2018 was my first full year as director of the Garden after taking the reins in December 2017. However, the transition was not completely from scratch given my five-year tenure as ABG’s gardens and facilities manager. Those five years of experience allowed me to hit the ground running in some ways, but I had a lot to learn; a process that naturally does not end.

Working with ABG’s wonderful supporters is certainly one of the best aspects of my job. There are so many people to thank—among them, my dedicated and passionate staff. Our insightful and creative team tirelessly works toward meeting the need for science, education, and recreation in our community and beyond. Of course, without the dedicated involvement of ABG’s volunteers, some ideas simply could not become reality. These efforts include an immeasurable amount of garden maintenance, Storytime-in-the-Garden, special event support, and in-kind contributions of professional time and materials. Grants, business donations, and individual donations—including 850 members—comprise forty percent of the Garden’s income. These sources provide invaluable support for the continuation of ABG’s programs and mission-driven initiatives.

Looking forward to 2019 and beyond, my emphasis will be to improve the quality and efficiency of events while addressing other demands such as a visitor shuttle and opportunities for garden-wide art.

See you at the Garden!

Mike Monterusso
Executive Director
About the Garden...

110 acres of boreal forest
8 acres of cultivated gardens & interconnecting nature trails
A collection of 1,100 varieties of plants
150 species of Alaska native plants
35,000 visitors annually

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

Volunteer!
The Botanical Garden started as a volunteer effort in 1983. Volunteers continue to be a crucial part of the Garden’s operations, with 327 volunteers (see page 8) in 2018 totalling 1,500 work hours.

The Garden hosts 4 to 6 volunteer training opportunities each year. To learn about volunteering or find out when the next volunteer training will take place, contact our Program Director at education@alaskabg.org.
Events in the Garden

The Alaska Botanical Garden hosts events in the garden year-round to encourage people to come out and “smell the flowers” regardless of the season. These events are lucrative fundraising opportunities for the garden.

Fundraisers

- Summer Gala 25th Anniversary
- Beer in the Garden
- Wine in the Woods

Mission-Specific Events

- Plant Sale
- Annual Spring Conference
- International Mud Day
- Harvest Day
- Holiday lights
- Garlic Tasting

Holiday Lights: A New Annual Tradition!

From early November to late December 2018, over 4,500 people enjoyed the trails illuminated with paper luminaries and ice candles, small “bonfires,” and trees strung with lights. For the first annual Holiday Lights, the Garden was transformed into a winter wonderland—complete with ice and snow structures, seasonal decorations, and hot cocoa in the greenhouse. Holiday Lights will continue to provide a cozy, inviting respite from winter’s bitter cold. The Garden is an affordable and accessible space for all and is the perfect space to gather as a community to embrace the winter.
Youth Programs

Summer Camps
Our camps provide hands-on, science-based environmental learning in a unique garden classroom and the Boreal Forest! Camps are designed for kids ages 6-12. All camp materials are provided and scholarships are available. The 2018 summer camps had about 50 enrolled campers.

Growing Gardeners
Campers create unique raised bed and container gardens by studying the basics of garden design. They learn the science behind soils, fertilizers, and compost to keep their plants happy and healthy all growing season.

Garden Chefs
Campers learn how to plant and care for a raised bed vegetable garden while learning to cook with fresh produce. Campers prepare a daily plant-based snack, practice following a recipe, and learn about key nutrients.

The Artful Gardener
In an entire week devoted to the arts, campers learn how to create art from nature with botanical drawings, leaf molds and casts, photography, sun prints, and floral arranging.

The Young Botanist
Campers explore 120 acres of gardens and Boreal Forest learning to identify native plants, insects, local pollinators and critters living in nearby Campbell Creek. Campers will also learn about the traditional and medicinal uses of plants.

Day Camps
For Day of the Dead (Dia de los Muertos), attendees learned about the traditions of this Mexican holiday through creative and hands-on activities.

A Nutrition and Cooking camp taught attendees how to make healthy snacks and meals.

Schools in the Garden...
In 2018 various programs brought approximately 1,200 students from pre-schools through high schools in the surrounding area into the garden.

... and Garden in the Schools
A similar number of students were engaged through 20 in-school visits in 2018. The Garden provides pre-designed curriculum or can custom design lessons for specific classes!

21st Century Community Learning Centers
One such program is the nation-wide 21st Century Community Learning Centers, which the Garden partners with to host 800 students grades K-6th from eight Title 1 Schools (serving economically disadvantaged students) around Anchorage for an after-school gardening program. Century pays for all necessary materials and supplies.

Educators! Learn about how you can engage your students in the Garden at www.alaskabg.org/teachers!

Youth Programs at the Garden
4 Education Partners
638 Instruction Hours
3,245 Youth Involved
Workshops

The Alaska Botanical Garden offers year-long programming for all ages, including family-centered workshops. In 2018, our workshop offerings attracted 288 participants!

- Floral Design
- Gardening 101
- Hypertufa (x4)
- Spa Night
- Seed Starting (x2)
- Hot Chocolate and Painting
- High Tunnel Design
- Wildflower Class
- Plant Diseases and Pests
- Miniature Flower Pot
- Plant Pattern Painting
- Home Soil Assessments
- Paper Flower Making
- Seed Collection
- Andie Thrams Painting Class
- Mushroom Walk (x4)
- Bulb & Garlic Workshop (x2)
- Wreath Making (x3)

Have an idea for a workshop you’d like to attend? Tell us about it at garden@alaskabg.org!
2018 Gross Income $595,696

2018 Expenses $497,677

Financials
2018 Donors

Individuals
Brenda Adams
Diane & Dennis Allen
Michael Arduaz
Beth Baker
Betsy Baker
Sheila Barrett
Chia & Beverly Beheim
Dan Seiser & Mark Bell
Dawn Bishop-Klewen
Delay Blacklock
Marsha Burns & Lynn Highland
John Braden
Susan & Don Brusbeaker
Elizabeth Cannon
Barbara & Larry Cash
Lesia Castrodale
Paul Chan & Beverly Lucaide-Chan
Martha Cavers
Donna Cherrier
Laurie & Steven Constantino
Mark & Debby Cruser
Gretchen Caddy
Tamas Deak
Mercy & Elliott Dennis
Harry Deuber
Karen Driscoll
Donald & Mary Ann Dunham
Christopher Elbro & Rene Xavier
Linda Evers & Anita Williams
N. Diana & Robert Fejes
Mark Figura & Elise Rose
Rick & Shirley Ryan
Lizzi Fuchs
Barbara Garner
Betsy Gerace
Lile R. Gibbons
Ayar & Charles Gilbert
Michael Gravier
Larry Greenstein
Eva & Warren Hancock
Nissan Hansen
Jana Hayenga
Steve & Lou Ann Hennig
Maria Hillhouse
Gail & Brian Hoefler
Daren Hunt
Lesia Jones
Elaine Jung
Diane Kaplan
Lee Kaploski
Mary Knopf
Monica Laane
Sandy & Marc Langland
Carol & John Larson
Scott & Katherine Lee
Carole Lewis
James William Liveay
Susan Marchant
Ose & Grace Matsutani
Virginia McKinney
Doug & Kevin Meyers
Mel & Lisa Monsen
Diane & Mike Moixness
Reid Neugbauer
John & Madge Oswald
Connie Oer
Rog Sevends
Dirk V. Derksen & Margaret R. Petersen
Alonna Pfieger
Dagmar Phillips
Nicole Popp
Gary Proskush & M. Elise Huggins
Mike Prossrich
Cathryn Rasmuson
Ruthie Rasmussen
Mike Rast
Brigitte Ressel
Robert & Dixie Rutherford
Jim & M F Rooney
Jeffrey Rubin
David & Bernie Ruakin
Catherine Sages
Daniel Samelson
Kerry & Robert Scher
Sharon Schlicht
William J Schmid
Mary Ellen Segenholz
Michelle Semerad
Rebecca & Mike Sentner
Yvonne Sholes
Leonard Smiley & Ann Jache
Elizabeth Smith
Roderic Smith & Christine Wilcox
Beverly Soorenson
Susan Spier
John R Slavay
Willard Streacker
Mary & Damien Stella
Faye Steimh
Michael Stinebaugh & Charlotte Fox
Chad Taylor
Cammy & Scott Taylor
Katherine TePas
Natalie & Steve Tierney
Tina Tomsen
Joe Tucker
Jan & Jeni van den Top
Matt Varga
Natasha Von Imhof
Kim Walker
Roger Wells
Emily Wissweiser

Businesses
Alaska Airlines
AK Permanent Capital Mgmt Co
Alsyka Pipeline Service Co
Anchorage Win House
Denali Alaskan Federal Credit Union
Earthbound Expeditions Inc
Earthscape
Hattop Farm
Pike's Tree Service
SolsticeAlaska Consulting, Inc.
Wells Fargo

Foundations & Organizations
Alaska Community Foundation
AK Rock Garden Society
Anchorage School District
Atwood Foundation
Rasmuson Foundation
Winterlowder Garden Club
Winterberry Charter School

Thank You to our 2018 Donors!

2018 Volunteers

Kristi Aucff
Ferrell Adams
Leslie Adams
Wade Abrose-Melandon
Olga Alvoed
Rose Anagick
Michael Arduaz
Sonja Arduazer
Ambroseen Atwood
Jane Atuk
Denise Bagnon
Cliff Baker
Jane Baldwin
Dee Barker
Nina Barlongo
John Barrinetts
Polly Bass
Nancy Beardsley
Emily Becker
Chiriss Bell
Leigh Ann Bellodi
Janice Berry
Christine Bingham
Don Bladow
Elizabeth Blumenk
Jeanette Boch
Jeanette Bock
Kyle Bokie
Judith Brendel
Hannah Brewster
Bridge Brooklyn
Sharlet Brook
Jaimie Brogan
Ashley Brown
Elisa Brown
Susan Brusbeaker
Kristen Buckler
Jennifer Buey
Shawna Burke
Marsha Burns
Rachel Butler
Joan Marie Callens
Maren Carey
Kim Carpenter
Kirstine Castel
Jennifer McCarthy-Charlette
Gail Charles
Erica Cornwelln
Donna Cherrier
Tara Christie
Karen Coady
Steve Cobian
Maryanne Colson
Amy Cordell
Lawrence Costello
Debbie Creper
Aubrie Cypert
Cami Dillon
Dean Davidson
Hannah Davis
Melinda Debruhl
Shapponna (Shap) Daillo
Aimer Denyiennef
Harry Deuber
Gina Docherty
Heather Dodge
Mary Donlon
Chenesa Downes
John Driscoll
Caitlin Druenas
Fran Dunner
Maggie Dworian
Jiylk Dykes
Christine Edwards
Elaine & Bob Estey
Nicole Emanuel
Terry Eng
Debra English
Frank Evanon
Linda Ewers
Suzanne Farley
Michelle Fehrbach
Carmen Field
Caziaa Flores
Tony Flores
Whitney Flores
Nichole (Niki) Foster
Charlette Fox
Becky Fox
Krogstad
Denise Gagnon
Taisa Galbreath
Alice Galvin
Wildflower Garden Club
Max Garnett
Julie Gargareos
Lawrence R. Gaylard, Jr.
Betsy Gerace
Mary Gerken
Ayse Gilbert
Stephen Gillies
Brian Glashen
Bilky Gulf
Jeff Goffinet
Nancy Grant
Nancy Grozek
Matthew Haar
Elena Habib
Caral Halsey
Elaine Hammes
Lyann Hansen
Mary Hanson
Gail Harbin
Dave Harrington
Sandy Harrington
Robin Harter
Janet Hartmann
Jana Hayenga
Dan Heath
Ella Helly
Brant Heidlebaugh
Mariana Hemanova
Glen Hemingson
Seve Henning
Melanie Hess
Holly Hill
Sabre Hill
Victoria Hillweg
Debbie Hinche
Gail Hoefler
Janey Hoefler
Jessica Hoffman
Sarah Hood
Marie Hopkins
Lynette Horneth
Tricia Howe
Ginger Hudson
Elder Hunter
James Hunter
Kelly Ingram
Zachary James
Cronie Jensen
Rachel Jensen
Martha Jokela
Jon Jones
Leah Jones
Oriole Jones
Franny J urge
Eusher Kalley
Katherine Karabellonk
Claire Kauffman
Sarah Kaul
Taylor Keegan
Sue Keeling
Beth Kennedy
Dylan Kentich
Shannon Kesting
Erika Kienlen
Colleen M. Kirkpatrick
Karen Kish
Marilyn Klaussen
Leslie Kleinfeld
Donna Klinpp
Maryne Koliartck
Sergey (Serge) Kulkov
Teresa Kuru
Sandia Kusano
Linda Kulih
Marge Labbe
Margie Labbe
Nickel LaFluer
Molly Lamorous
Jasenia Lavion
Jessica Leavitt
Diane Leek
Debby Leek
Stephanie Leman
Sarah Levesque
Laura Lightfoot
Jennifer Lindberg
Kathy Liska
Stopy Logan
Sue Looney
Susan Loos
Dorothy Lord-Maithew
Margaret Love
Jeff Lowsenfeld
Beverly Lucaide-Chan
Del Luer
David MacCormack
Annta Mage
Lyle Malotky
Susan (Sue) Marchant
Lorna Marisse
Kyrysty Marzkewicz
Shelley Mathews
Mary Maurer
Elin McKarry
Catherine (Miky) McCarty
Amanda McGraith
Abigail Meik
Susan Miller
Makemyau Mitchel-Saltz
Dorte Mobley
Melodie Monson
Huner Merberg
Carol Morris
Aline Nakada
Anita Nelson
Boz Neugbauer
Linda Nulik
Dan Nuplak
Louie Nuplak
Margaret Peterson
Shelly Petunemos
Jonathan Person
Diane Pleiner
Andrea Purit
Barb Smith
Sarah Rusewicz
Dana Rose
Kathy Reeser
Mary Kate Reeder
Adam Reid
Sasha Reesoff
Brigitte Ressel
Cathy Reabek
Lavonne Rhymer
Angela Ruck
Julie Rileay
Heidi Robuck
Liz Rockwell
Sherry Rogers
Susan Rogers
Jason Rukhas
Amanda Rood
Cassie Rosenbaum
Rosemarie Rotanono
Jean Rounds-Riley
Erena (Anna) Rosey
Jamye Rye
Joan Ryan
Mary Rydesky
Cathy Sage
Shay Salat
Sandy Salvatore
Carrel Samuelson
Melanie San Angelo
Dorcas Sangi
Leona Schick
Sharon Schlicht
Jackie Schoppert
Cathie Schumacher
Grace Schumacher
Eagle Scouts
Judy See
Michelle Semerad
Billey Sepe
Alexi Serekis
Cari Sherris
Kim Sherry
Mary Shier
Cheryl Shoyer
Kenny Silvey
Denise Rader
Kyle Rany
Ruthie Rasmussen
Michael Rant
Mary Kate Reeder
Susan Spyker
Billow Stratecker
Mary & Damien Stella
Faye Steimh
Michael Stinebaugh & Charlotte Fox
Chad Taylor
Cammy & Scott Taylor
Katherine TePas
Natalie & Steve Tierney
Tina Tomsen
Joe Tucker
Jan & Jeni van den Top
Matt Varga
Natasha Von Imhof
Kim Walker
Roger Wells
Emily Wissweiser

Faye Steimh
Rebecca Stinson-Lane
Brendan Stuart
Ron Sullivan
Nancy Swanton
Nancy Swanson
Megan Talley
Heather Tauscuch
Janie Taylor
Sherry Teter
Paul Tenison
Paul Tenison
Eileen Thompson
Shelby Throokmotton
Sonja Tobiesen
George Tolbert
Joan Torvis
Trails - SSCP
John Tranpsah
Nick Trimen
Isabel Trimbom
Carrel Tyner
Natalia Udyovk
Arielle Van Gundy
Victoria Vaughn
Van Waggoner
Natalie Wagner
Tara Walker
Amelia Walsh
Krystal-Marie Walshow
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Lea Xavier
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