

# The Garden Conservancy

2025 Annual Report



# Letter from the President and CEO

Over the past 37 years, the Garden Conservancy has steadily grown roots throughout the country and proliferated into a strong, passionate community, bound by a shared love of nature, art, and design. As I look back on last year, I am struck by how this sense of common ground has become the heart of our identity, and I am proud that we continue to welcome new members into our growing family each year.

Our signature program, Open Days, is perhaps the best example. Beyond the gates and the greenery, the true essence of this cornerstone program lies in the exchange of ideas and the quiet moments of inspiration shared between strangers. Open Days has become more than a visiting program; it is a space to enjoy a collective appreciation of the land.



Maureen Ruetters and yours truly.

During these garden gatherings, “life becomes simpler, and richer,” as Maureen Ruetters puts it. (See her profile on page 4.) Maureen and Mike Ruetters perfectly represent the community spirit of Open Days, and by extension, the Garden Conservancy community as well. For sixteen years, they have opened their Gardens at Clock Barn, creating a sanctuary that heals and connects. From organizing scavenger hunts for children to collaborating with local organic farms, Maureen demonstrates that a garden is a living gift that can nourish an entire region. It is this level of personal and communal commitment—viewing horticulture as a shared experience—that defines who we are today.

Maureen and Mike are among those we have proudly honored with the Anne and Frank Cabot Award in 2025. This honor recognizes the garden hosts and ambassadors who have been integral to our Open Days success as well as those whose support has significantly enabled the Conservancy to expand its educational and preservation efforts. Conferred with heartfelt thanks, the awards celebrated the Ruetters, along with Belinda and Stephen Kaye, Ellen Petersen, Shelby White, and Silas Mountsier and Graeme Hardie. Their support has enabled us to expand our educational and preservation efforts across the country.

Everything we do at the Garden Conservancy is a direct result of your passion and your belief in our mission. I want to offer my thanks to our members, for this is truly your community, sustained by your generosity and brought to life by your love for America’s gardens. We are simply the stewards of the work you make possible, and we are honored to continue this journey with you.

James Brayton Hall  
President and CEO

On the cover: Flowers and herbs are suspended in the historic drying barn at the Gardens at Clock Barn, home of Maureen and Mike Ruetters, in Carlisle, MA, during a Society of Fellows tour in September 2025.

# Letter from the Chair

Dear Friends,

It brings me great joy to reflect on what a truly extraordinary year 2025 was for the Garden Conservancy. I'm reminded of the incredible passion and dedication of our community, which continues to fuel our mission to preserve, share, and celebrate America's gardens.

This past year was marked by several significant milestones, most notably the 30th anniversary of our signature Open Days program. Since its inception in 1995, Open Days has welcomed some 1.5 million visitors to nearly 5,000 gardens across the country. Our 2025 season continued this legacy of success, featuring 347 gardens across 22 states—including 120 gardens new to the program—and inspiring more than 32,000 garden visits. Complementing these tours, our Digging Deeper series had one of its best years ever, with 32 exclusive, site-specific programs that allowed participants to engage deeply with experts in horticulture and design.

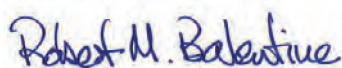
Our commitment to education and outreach expanded both on the ground and online. Our Virtual Programs reached over 7,100 participants, exploring the ecological, social, and cultural shifts shaping today's garden world through talks with visionary leaders like Thomas Woltz and Walter J. Hood. We also took our mission on the road with a successful National Speaking Tour featuring celebrated photographer Ngoc Minh Ngo, whose global journey through rose gardens captivated audiences at six esteemed venues across the country.

In 2025, we awarded 27 Garden Futures Grants totaling \$145,000 to support small public gardens and nonprofit organizations making a significant impact in their communities. We were also proud to host the national premiere of our documentary film, *Earth, I Thank You: The Garden and Legacy of Anne Spencer*, at the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture. Furthermore, we introduced our first-ever Artist in Residence, acclaimed painter Nancy Friese, who spent the year documenting the shifting seasons at two landmark sites currently under restoration: Wethersfield Estate & Garden and Blithewood Garden.

As we look back on these achievements, I am filled with immense gratitude. The success of 2025 is a direct result of the hard work of our extraordinary staff, led by James Brayton Hall; the generous dedication of our board members; and the unwavering support of our growing membership, including 1,365 newcomers.

We simply could not do this important work without you. Thank you for your continued commitment to preserving America's diverse gardening traditions. I look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead as we continue this journey together.

Warm regards,



Robert M. Balentine  
Chair



# 2025 Financial Report

## Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2025 and 2024

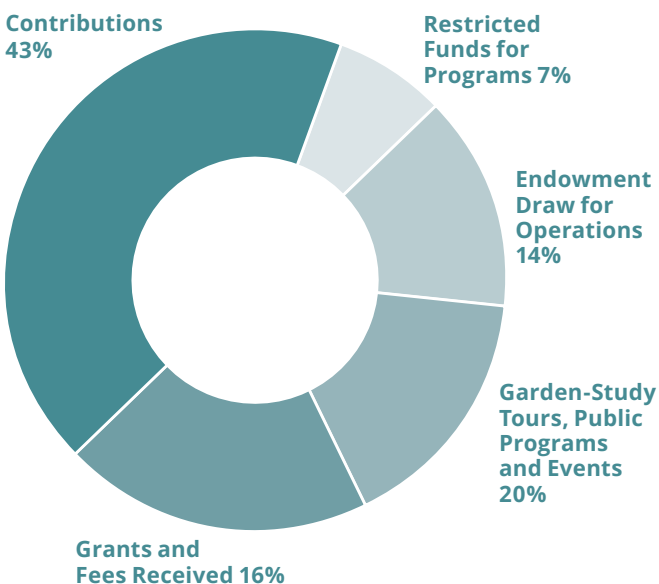
	2025	2024
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$3,828,814	\$3,123,231
Investments	40,817,537	36,834,469
Other assets	251,810	673,523
Non-current assets	-	-
Fixed assets	10,211	15,908
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$44,908,372</b>	<b>\$40,647,131</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Current liabilities	\$498,370	\$937,077
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$498,370</b>	<b>\$937,077</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
With donor restrictions	\$16,694,441	\$16,436,322
Without donor restrictions, designated by board of directors	3,396,162	2,557,696
Without donor restrictions, undesignated	24,319,399	20,716,036
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$44,410,002</b>	<b>\$39,710,054</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$44,908,372</b>	<b>\$40,647,131</b>

## Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

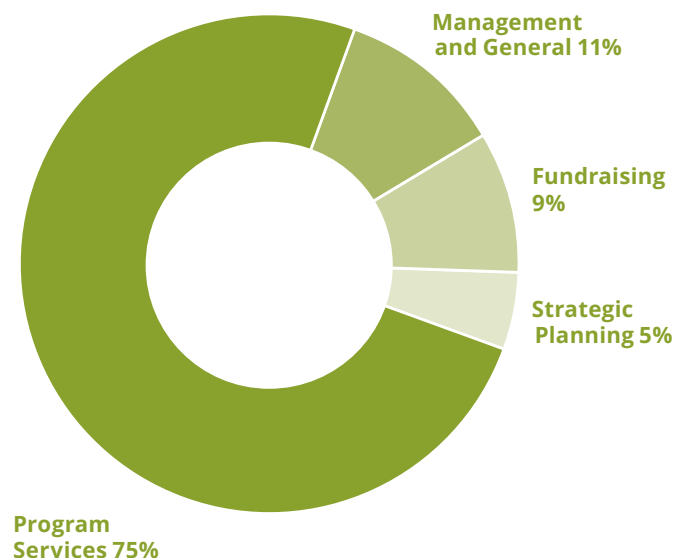
December 31, 2025 and 2024

	2025	2024
<b>PUBLIC SUPPORT</b>		
Contributions	\$2,656,972	\$2,523,431
Membership	428,501	465,927
<b>Total Public Support</b>	<b>\$3,085,473</b>	<b>\$2,989,358</b>
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Open Days admissions	\$218,560	\$300,342
Special events and programs	1,230,410	512,299
Interest, dividends and realized gains	2,125,320	1,909,077
Unrealized gains	2,861,754	2,635,362
Other	1,145,036	10,560
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$7,581,080</b>	<b>\$5,367,640</b>
<b>Total Public Support and Revenues</b>	<b>\$10,666,553</b>	<b>\$8,356,998</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Program services	\$4,332,352	\$3,672,175
Supporting services		
Management and general*	1,126,947	939,466
Fundraising	507,306	669,516
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$5,966,605</b>	<b>\$5,281,157</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Changes in Net Assets	\$4,699,948	\$3,075,841
Net Assets - beginning	39,710,054	36,634,213
<b>Net Assets - ending</b>	<b>\$44,410,002</b>	<b>\$39,710,054</b>

## 2025 Sources of Public Support and Revenues



## 2025 Distribution of Expenses



\* Includes Strategic Planning expenses

# New Board Member in 2025: Mary Read

Mary Read joined the Garden Conservancy Board of Directors in December 2025, bringing with her a lifelong devotion to the land and the art of gardening. A fourth-generation Californian, Read grew up in Orinda, where she and her husband, Steven, also raised their children before moving to Lafayette twenty years ago.

Read has been an active member of the Orinda Garden Club since 1985. In 1987, she and Steven purchased their Napa property in the Stags Leap District. Originally established in 1870 by the Parker family, the estate—now known as “Reads’ Leap”—features historic fig and oak trees dating back over 150 years. The garden holds a place of national significance; it was documented by the Orinda Garden Club in 2007 and officially accepted into the Smithsonian Archives of American Gardens in 2008. The property is also included in the Garden Club of America book, *Gardens Private and Personal*, and featured on its cover. The Reads happily share their gardens and have hosted tours for many garden clubs around the county.

Read has a long history of community leadership, having served on the board of Catholic Charities and for 17 years on the California Pacific Medical Center board.

After several years of service on the Garden Conservancy’s West Coast Council in San Francisco, Read looks forward to this “full circle” moment on the Board, eager to continue learning and sharing her passion for horticultural preservation with the broader community.



## IN MEMORIAM

### P. CHAPIN NOLEN (1932–2025)

The Garden Conservancy community mourns the passing of P. Chapin Nolen, a dedicated champion of American gardens and a distinguished leader within our organization, who died on April 24, 2025. A man of immense professional accomplishment and profound personal warmth, Nolen leaves an important legacy in historic preservation.

Born in Chapel Hill, NC, and educated at Yale University and Harvard Business School, Nolen brought a sharp strategic mind to every endeavor. Following his service as a Captain in the U.S. Air Force Reserve, he embarked on a storied business career, notably serving as President of Combe Incorporated for over two decades.

Nolen became a member of the Garden Conservancy in 1989, joining the Board of Directors in 2007 where he served two consecutive three-year terms plus two one-year terms. Upon relocating to Montecito, CA, Nolen and his wife, Cynthia, became a formidable force for civic and horticultural good. Together, they dedicated themselves to the preservation of California’s unique landscape heritage, working on initiatives with Casa del Herrero and Elings Park. Nolen also served on the board of the Santa Barbara Museum of Art. Chapin and Cynthia Nolen were key orchestrators of our Society of Fellows Garden-Study tour of Santa Barbara in 2006 and graciously hosted the opening reception and dinner.

He acted as a vital bridge between our national mission and the garden treasures of Santa Barbara, providing steadfast support for our partnerships with Ganna Walska Lotusland and the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden. Having served with distinction on the Garden Conservancy Board of Directors, Nolen was named Director Emeritus in September 2015. His fellow board members remembered him not just for his governance and philanthropy, but for his belief that “everyone was a neighbor.” He was later instrumental in the 2022 publication of the Rizzoli book, *Lotusland*, ensuring that the history of that remarkable garden reached a wider audience.





## For Maureen and Mike Ruetters, a Firm Belief Drives a Deep Commitment to Open Days

In quiet, creative, and deeply generous ways, **Maureen and Mike Ruetters** have steadily nurtured the growth of the Garden Conservancy Open Days program.

At their home outside Boston, an Open Day overflows with antique roses, dahlias, geraniums, and fragrant herbs. Visitors enter the old barn and walk through a walled garden, greenhouse, orchard, and woodland. There's room for reflection, along with hubs of activity. The **Gardens at Clock Barn** hosts as many as 700 people during its annual Open Day.

For Maureen Ruetters, the beauty of an Open Day is in the way it affects people, for the better. "Everyone seems more relaxed, because we're on common ground," she said. "That's really important right now."

Maureen and Mike Ruetters have been gardening at their Carlisle, MA, home for 45 years, and hosted their first Open Day in 2009. They have generously supported the program, among other philanthropic work, out of a firm belief in the benefits.

Walking into a garden, "life is simpler and richer," Maureen observes. "Sometimes simpler is richer."

Over three decades, Open Days has welcomed 1.5 million visitors into 4,500 gardens in 40 states. As the nation's largest garden visiting program, it features a diverse range of garden styles and sizes. Participants, from hosts to volunteers to guests, celebrate the opportunity to exchange ideas and inspiration.

Aware that a large garden can seem intimidating, Maureen cultivates a sense of warmth. She wants her guests to feel comfortable enough to enjoy, learn, and gather ideas to take home. She encourages other Open Days hosts to find simple ways to make the experience more meaningful, and to include children in the mix.



At the Gardens at Clock Barn, a scavenger hunt invites families to search for specific sculptures, plants, and elements of the garden. A fairy garden is just one of the highlights designed for small visitors. Kitchen demonstrations offer a taste of the garden, with recipes to take home. A swing beneath an oak tree lifts the spirits of both young and old.

History is on display in the barn, where drying racks hold flowers and herbs harvested from the gardens. In 1939, *digitalis* leaves, used medicinally for the heart, were dried there for a WPA project for the war effort. Special exhibits explore garden themes, such as “The Language of Flowers.” For their Open Day this year, they organized pop-up displays throughout the property celebrating violets, in all their splendor.

The garden has evolved with the times. The Ruettggers have introduced a no-till approach, water-wise practices, and compost made on the property. The small chicken coop has inspired others to raise chickens and enjoy home-raised eggs.

Guests are invited to enjoy the tastes, sounds, and scents of the garden, along with its beauty.

For elderly guests, Maureen notices the power of fragrance in bringing back memories. She recalls seeing an 85-year-old visitor, who was living with severe dementia, immediately recognize a flower as she took in the fragrance: a carnation.

Young visitors, with a little guidance from the hosts, have used a bird app to identify the birdsong they heard in the garden. They named as many as 20 different birds there and then became inspired to use the app in their own backyards.

The Gardens of Clock Barn also brings neighboring organizations into the celebration of an Open Day—from the nearby ice-cream shop to the local CSA. The Ruettggers



introduced the Garden Conservancy to **Gaining Ground**, a nonprofit organic farm that grows vegetables and fruit with help from volunteers and donates the fresh food to meal programs and food pantries. The farm received a Garden Futures Grant from the Garden Conservancy in 2023. Open Days admissions help raise money to support our Garden Futures Grants program.

The many gifts arising from gardens—their ability to heal, connect, and nourish—were proving themselves anew to Maureen as she prepared for another season.

“I have hope in gardens and public parks right now,” she said, noting the people seem to need these “oases of quiet.”

*In 2025, Mike and Maureen Ruettggers were among those honored with the Anne and Frank Cabot Award. The Cabot Award honors garden hosts and ambassadors who have been integral to the success of the Open Days program and those whose support has significantly enabled the Garden Conservancy to expand its educational and preservation efforts.*



The Ruettggers introduced the Garden Conservancy to Gaining Ground, a nonprofit organic farm in Concord, MA.



Posey Congleton enjoys a tour of David Harber's studio during the Society of Fellows tour of the Cotswolds, UK, in May 2025.

## 2025 Report of Gifts

Gifts from Garden Conservancy members, donors, garden clubs, and other organizations, together with grants and sponsorships from foundations and corporations, sustain our mission to preserve, share, and celebrate America's gardens and diverse gardening traditions for the education and inspiration of the public.

We are deeply grateful to all our donors for their participation and support, only regretting that we cannot name each of them on these pages. We are also thankful for the many volunteers and partners who make our efforts possible through their collaboration and support.

The listings on the following pages recognize members and donors who contributed \$125 or more in cumulative gifts between January 1 and December 31, 2025.

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## The Frank & Anne Cabot Society

The Garden Conservancy honors our visionary founders through the Frank & Anne Cabot Society, recognizing donors who have made planned gifts to support the future of the organization. We celebrate those whose generosity ensures that the legacy of extraordinary gardens—the living horticultural heritage and cultural legacy of America—is available for generations to come.

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 Ms. Susan J. Ipsen  
 Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Kennelty  
 Ms. Patricia Lagunas  
 Ms. Christine Mahoney  
 Mr. Joseph J. Marek &  
   Mr. John W. Bernatz  
 Mr. Jim Marsh &  
   Ms. Gioia T. Browne  
 Ms. Susan Panitch  
 Keith M. Pension  
 Ms. Petra Perry  
 Mrs. Lynn R. Quintrell  
 Ms. Nancy R. Ruffner  
 Mr. Richard Russell  
 Mr. & Mrs. Camillo M.  
   Santomero III  
 Mrs. D. Bruce Whittemore  
 Mrs. Diana S. Wister  
 Ms. Dianne E. Young



Anne Cabot, Angela Lansbury, Frank Cabot, and Ruth Bancroft at Bancroft's garden in Walnut Creek, CA.

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 Ms. Mary D. Fowler  
 Jennifer Garr  
 Mr. William Gedale &  
   Ms. Kathrin S. Brown  
 Brad Goldberg  
 Mr. & Mrs. Lionel Goldfrank III  
 Ms. Katja Goldman  
 Ms. Anne Goldrath  
 Carroll Goodman  
 Deborah Goulding  
 Mrs. Marsha L. Greenman  
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 Ms. Mary Ann Hunter  
 Ann & Steven Hutton  
 Girlie Delizo Jasper  
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 Mrs. Elizabeth B. Johnson  
 Mike Johnson  
 Ms. Jenny Jones  
 Mrs. P. Frederick Kahn  
 Mrs. Judy Keller  
 Mr. Newton Kendig  
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 John Larsen  
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 Cynthia & Richard Livermore  
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 Kelli Lord  
 Ms. Wanda McDonald  
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Mr. John McNamara &  
   Ms. Audrey L. Nevins  
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 Mrs. Ruth C. Mead  
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   Ms. Jerrie Whitfield  
 Lydia Muller  
 Mrs. Annie Munch  
 Mrs. Kim Nash  
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 Janis Notz  
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   Mr. Dave Smaldone  
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 Ms. Tina Winchester  
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 Mr. Richard Armstrong &  
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 Mrs. Joan L. Baldwin  
 Jean Barnier  
 Ms. Libby Becker  
 Thomas Bedger  
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 Ellen Bernard  
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 Andrew & Margaret Black  
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 Janet Brady  
 Douglas Braff  
 Thomas & Virginia Brewer  
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     Mrs. Martha Jones  
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 Ms. Kyra L. Montagu  
 Carter Morris  
 Mr. James Mullen &  
     Ms. Nola Anderson  
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 Ms. Priscilla Newman  
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 Mrs. Katharine S. Overlock  
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 Ms. Katharine S. Parsons  
 Josephine Perkins  
 Daniel & Carole Pichney  
 Ms. Sally Pierson  
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 Adam Pomerantz  
 Heather Prillaman  
 Mr. Chip Rae  
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 Mr. Roger Ravenstad  
 Mr. James H. Ray  
 Ms. Roberta R. Remstad  
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 Dr. Eve Rice & Dr. Timothy Mattison  
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 Walter & Susan Richter  
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     Mrs. Mary Foote  
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 Karen Tenney &  
     Thomas Loring  
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 Margaret M. Thomas  
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 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Underwood  
 Ms. Cynthia Underwood  
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 Ms. Kathryn Voland-Mann  
 Mr. Alan Wanzenberg  
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 Ashley Whittaker  
 Ms. Mary E. L. Wilson  
 Kristin Winoker  
 Mrs. Kathryn H. Woods  
 Cynthia W. Woods  
 Barbara Wrenn  
 Mr. Michael L. Young  
 Audrey Zinman



*June Blossoms* (detail) by plein air painter Nancy Frieze, who became the Garden Conservancy's first Artist in Residence in 2025. Wethersfield Estate & Garden, Amenia, NY, 2025, Oil on canvas, 24 x 24 inches. Courtesy of the artist and Cade Tompkins Projects

**\$125-\$249**

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 Ms. Julia Adams  
 Ms. Elizabeth Adelman  
 Cynthia Agro  
 Ms. Barbara M. Alexander  
 Mrs. Christine Allen &  
 Mr. Frank Allen  
 Jan Allison  
 Mr. & Mrs. Frank Allocca  
 Peter & Catherine Altmann  
 Sue Altmann  
 Ms. Linda Alziari  
 Mr. Jared R. Anderson  
 Deirdre Anderson  
 Ms. Linda Christine Armstrong  
 Mrs. Ann H. Armstrong  
 Marilyn Aronson  
 Mr. & Mrs. Allie P. Ash, Jr.  
 Ms. Diane K. Ash  
 Ms. Susan Ayres  
 Rachel Baker  
 Maryann Ballard  
 Ramona Bannayan  
 Mrs. Phebe T. Banta  
 Ms. Joan E. Barist  
 Ms. Karen Bartholomew  
 John Barylski & Jill Thayer  
 Ms. Nancy Bassett  
 Tami Bator  
 Ross Bayton  
 Benjamin Beckham  
 Ms. Suzanne Beers  
 Mrs. Ilona Benham  
 Teddy Benis  
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 Elizabeth Coppola  
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 Ms. Pamela L. Elesh  
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 Ms. Allison D. Geiselbrecht  
 Elizabeth Scott Geyer  
 Ms. Jere Gibber  
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 Ms. Tracy Gibson  
 Laura Gibson  
 Laura Gibson  
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 Ms. Lisa J. Gimmy  
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 Phillip Golden  
 Mr. Douglass Goldblum  
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 Mrs. Lydia Gould  
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 Mrs. Jackie Gray  
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 Ms. Pamela Hale  
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 Mr. Rhett Justice  
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 Siobhan Kelleher  
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 Ms. Janet E. Kettler  
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# 2025 Garden Conservancy Grant Recipients

In 2025, the Garden Conservancy was pleased to award \$147,050 in grants to support the work of the following organizations.

## PRESERVATION GRANT

**Greenwood Gardens**, Short Hills, NJ

## GARDEN FUTURES GRANTS

**Legacy Heritage**, Montgomery, AL (Page Dickey Grant for American Gardens)

**Albany County Historical Association | Ten Broeck Mansion**, Albany, NY

**Archives of American Gardens, Smithsonian**, Washington, DC

**Botanic Garden at Georgia Southern University**, Statesboro, GA

**Buddha Dama Thuka Temple**, Frankfort, NY

**BuggyGirl Enterprises**, Chicago, IL

**Colonial Pennsylvania Farmstead**, Gradyville, PA

**Cylburn Arboretum Friends**, Baltimore, MD

**Denver Urban Gardens**, Denver, CO

**Dumbarton Oaks Park Conservancy Inc.**, Washington, DC

**Elk Rock Garden Foundation**, Portland, OR

**Friends of Clermont**, Germantown, NY

**Friends of Mukai**, Vashon, WA

**Grow Lincoln County**, Newport, OR

**Growing Veterans**, Lynden, WA

**Homegrown National Park**, Boston, MA

**Kind Hearted Women's Society (Cante Waunsilipi Wi Ta Ominiciye)**, Rapid City, SD

**Knoxville Botanical Garden**, Knoxville, TN

**La Huerta Roots & Rays**, Chicago, IL

**Landis Valley Village and Farm Museum**, Lancaster, PA

**Maine Foodscapes**, Windham, ME

**Mercy Garden of Peace and Healing**, Chicago, IL

**The Healthy Earth Organization**, Estero, FL

**Theodore Payne Foundation for Wild Flowers and Native Plants**, Sun Valley, CA

**Wave Hill**, Bronx, NY

**Wethersfield Foundation, Inc.**, Amenia, NY

**Zilker Botanical Garden Conservancy**, Austin, TX

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**Charles Royce**, Riverside, CT

**Jabari Taylor**, Brooklyn, NY

**Elise (Lisa) Trulaske**, St. Louis, MO



The Kind Hearted Women's Society in Rapid City, SD.



Jabari Taylor, at left, a member of the 2025 Garden Futures Grants Program Advisory Committee, celebrates with representatives of three of the 27 grant recipients during our Annual Holiday Celebration in New York City.



The Mercy Garden of Peace and Healing in Chicago.

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Jean O'Reilly  
Joan H. Osowa  
Fletcher Thomas Ott  
Elise Ottenberg  
Katharine S. Overlock  
Janet Paganelli  
Russell A. Pagliughi  
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Burt Peña  
Jane E. Penfield  
Marilyn Percy  
Josephine Perkins  
Bob C. Perry  
Judith Person

Hensley Peterson  
Walter Scott Peterson  
Suzanne Pfister  
Kara A. Pho  
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Sally Pierson  
Janet A.S. Pigot  
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Adam Pomerantz  
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Jane Potrykus  
Halley Potter  
Lee Potter  
Mary E. Prehn  
Heather Prillaman  
Jennifer Prizer  
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Photographer Ngoc Minh Ngo and landscape architect and Garden Conservancy Board Member Joseph Marek discuss her book, *Roses in the Garden* (Rizzoli), at the Ebell of Los Angeles on May 6, 2025.



Looking west across the frog pond at Chelmsford in Greenwich, CT, the home of Garden Conservancy Board Member Alease Fisher and her husband, Paul Tallman. In 2025, Chelmsford was selected for inclusion in the Smithsonian's Archives of American Gardens. Photo: Stacy Bass

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Members of the Society of Fellows gather during a tour of the Cotswolds, UK.



The Enchanting Rose Garden in Grosse Pointe Farms, MI, was one of the highlights of Detroit Garden Weekend in June 2025.

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Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers, hosts, regional ambassadors, and partnering organizations who made our 2025 Open Days Season possible.

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Open Day at Seaside Farm, where the gardens of a historic estate have been restored, in Marblehead, MA.  
 Photo: Brian Jones



Open Day at Jesta, a seaside garden with stunning views in Marblehead, MA. Photo: Brian Jones

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# 2025 Virtual Programs

**The Garden Conservancy's Virtual Programs** offer opportunities for online engagement, addressing seismic changes—ecological, social, and cultural—that the world is experiencing today and exploring how these changes interact with the world of gardens. Our 2025 Virtual Programs lineup is listed below.

## **Sleepy Cat Farm, The Making of a Garden: Four-Part Virtual Program**

**Spring: How the Garden Evolved over Time** with Fred Landman, April 24

**Summer: Pathways and Places** with Charles J. Stick, June 12

**Fall: A Horticultural Perspective** with Alan Gorkin, October 2

**Winter: Planning and Perfecting with the Future in Mind**, Kristi Wright, December 11

**The Land is Full: Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects** with Thomas L. Woltz, Tuesday, April 1

**Gertrude Jekyll's Munstead Wood: The Next 100 Years as a Place of Inspiration** with Katherine Mills and Pam Smith, April 10

**Love Letter to a Garden** with Debbie Millman, May 8

**Bedrock, The Making of a Public Garden** with Jill Nooney, May 22

**Photographing for *Gardening with Nature at the New York Botanical Garden*** with Larry Lederman and Todd Forrest, June 26

**The African Ancestors Garden: History and Memory at the International African American Museum**  
with Walter J. Hood, July 17

**The Art of Fine Gardening** with Craig Bergmann and Russell Buvala, July 31

**Back to the Land, a New Way of Life in the Country** with Pieter Estersohn, September 9

**The Contemporary Garden** a virtual roundtable, October 7

**The New Beautiful: Innovative Spaces and the Changing the Face of Gardens** with Stephanie Mahon, October 21

**Garden to the Max: Joyful, Visionary, Maximalist Design** with Teresa Woodard, November 4

**Life with Flowers: Inspiration and Lessons from the Garden** with Frances Palmer, November 18

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# 2025 Garden Masters Programs

Our **Garden Masters** programs are connoisseur-level educational events at exclusive and significant landscapes. They offer in-depth study opportunities that bring garden enthusiasts together with experts in horticulture and design. While meeting new friends, visitors are offered bespoke experiences to explore the philosophy of garden creation, design theory, and diverse gardening traditions.

**Pottery Tour at The Metropolitan Museum of Art**  
Frances Palmer, April 15, New York, NY

**The Most Important Room of a House, The Garden**  
Norm Silk, Dale Morgan, Richard Hass, June 15,  
Detroit, MI

**Olmsted's Moraine Farm**  
Cindy Brockway, Pilar Garro, Jeremy Dick, July 11,  
Beverly, MA

**Celebrating the American Colonial Spirit  
in House and Garden**  
August 17, Ozaukee County, WI

**Cider Making at Bird Haven Farm**  
Janet Mavec, September 20, Pottersville, NJ

**Robin Hill, a Dan Pearson Garden in Connecticut**  
James McGrath, October 9, Norfolk, CT

**Un-Development at Metabolic Studios**  
Lauren Bon, Andrea Martinez, Kelly Majewski,  
October 21, Los Angeles, CA



Little participants join a hands-on cider making program at Bird Haven Farm in Hunterdon County, NJ. Photo: Brian Jones

The mission of the Garden Conservancy is to preserve, share, and celebrate America's gardens and diverse gardening traditions for the education and inspiration of the public.

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