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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

15 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!
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**

- Gate Fees: 21.5%
- Individual Donations: 19.3%
- Ticket Sales & Program Fees: 15.1%
- Merchandise & Plant Sales (Retail): 14.3%
- Grant Revenue: 7.7%
- Membership Dues: 7.6%
- Gaming Income: 7.5%
- Business Donations: 7.4%
- Rental & Vendor Income: 7.3%
- Merchandise & Plant Sales: 7.3%
- Miscellaneous Income: 0.7%

2018 Expenses **$497,677**

- Payroll: 59.5%
- Operating: 29.3%
- Event: 5.2%
- Insurance: 5%
- Fundraising: 0.8%
Thank you to our 2018 Donors!

### 2018 Volunteers

**Individuals**
- Brenda Adams
- Diane & Dennis Allen
- Michael A. Adaliz
- Beth Baker
- Betsy Baker
- Sheila Barnett
- Chris & Beverly Beheim
- Dan Setar & Mark Bell
- Dawn Bishop-Kieweno
- Debby Blacklock
- Marsha Burns & Lynn Highland
- John Braden
- Susan & Don Brusheber
- Elizabeth Cannon
- Barbara & Larry Cash
- Louise Cattabate
- Paul Chan & Beverly Lueck-Chan
- Martha Cavens
- Donna Chevrier
- Laurie & Steven Constantin
- Mark & Debbie Cruver
- Gretchen Cuddy
- Tamsi Deak
- Mercy & Elliott Dennis
- Harry Deuber
- Karen Driscoll

**Groups**
- Donald & Mary Ann Dunham
- Christopher Elsasser & Brine Xavier
- Linda Ewers & Anna Williams
- N. Diana & Robert Fireg
- Mark Figura & Elise Rose
- Rick & Shirley Ryan
- Lizz Fuchs
- Barbara Garner
- Betsy Gerace
- Lile R. Gibbons
- Ayse & Charles Gilbert
- Michael Graiver
- Lary Greenstein
- Eve & Warren Hancock
- Lynn Hansen
- Maria Hillhouse
- Gail & Brian Hoef er
- Dareen Hunt
- Leash Jones
- Elaine Jones
- Diane Kaplan
- Lee Kaploski
- Mary Knopf
- Molly Lane
- Sandy & Marc Langland
- Carol & John Larson
- Scott & Katherine Lee
- Caroline Lewis
- James William Livesey
- Susan Marchant
- Ose & Grace Matatani
- Virginia McKinney
- Done & Kevin Meyers
- Mel & Lisa Merson
- Diane & Mike Monson
- Brad Neugbauer
- John & Maggie Oswald
- Connie Ozer
- Roger Perrot
- Dirk V. Derksen & Margarot Peterson
- Alonna Pf erger
- Dagmar Phillips
- Nicole Popp
- Gary Popkovich & M. Elise Huggins
- Mike Prozeller
- Cathryn Ramussen
- Ruthie Rasmussen
- Mike Ray
- Brigitte Reisel
- Robert & Dixie Retherford
- Jim & Flo Roino
- Jef rey Rubin

**Mistakes & Miscellaneous Income**
- David & Berrie Ruklin
- Catherine & John Rust
- Daniel Samelson
- Kerry & Robert Scher
- Sharon Schlacht
- William J. Schmid
- Mary Ellen Seghrest
- Cathleen Semeniuk
- Rebecca & M. Ike Senterov
- Yvonne Shoel
- Leonard Smiley & Ann Jach
- Elizabeth Smith
- Roderick Smith & Christine Wilcox
- Beverly & Don Stenaker
- Susan Spyker
- John R Staley
- Wilfrid Steenbeeker
- Mary & Daniella Stella
- Faye Stibrin
- Michael Stinebaugh & Charlotte Fox
- Chad Taylor
- Cammy & Scott Tolar
- Katherine Tellef
- Natalie & Steve Terney
- Tina Tomsen
- Joe Tucker
- Jan & Jeri van den Top

**Merchandise & Plant Sales (Retail)**
- Matt Varga
- Kim Walker
- Robert Wells
- Emily Wisewasser

**Rental & Vendor Income**
- Alaska Airlines
- AK Permanent Capital Mgmt Co
- Alyeska Pipeline Service Co
- Anchorage Wine House
- Denali Alaskan Federal Credit Union
- Earthbound Expeditions Inc.
- Earthscape
- Flatop Farm
- Paul's Tree Service
- SoilScienceAlaska Consulting, Inc.
- Wells Fargo

**2018 Organizational Partners**

**Foundations & Organizations**
- Alaska Community Foundation
- AK, Rock Garden Society
- Anchorage School District
- Atwood Foundation
- Rasmuson Foundation
- Wilcox Garden Club

**American Public Gardens Association**
- The Meconopsis Group

**Businesses**
- Alaska Airlines
- AK Permanent Capital Mgmt Co
- Alyeska Pipeline Service Co
- Anchorage Wine House
- Denali Alaskan Federal Credit Union
- Earthbound Expeditions Inc.
- Earthscape
- Flatop Farm
- Paul's Tree Service
- SoilScienceAlaska Consulting, Inc.
- Wells Fargo

**Individuals**
- Kristi Aafou
- Ferrell Adams
- Wade & Brene-Melendez
- Olga Alford
- Rose Angolick
- Sonja Airdsers
- Ambrose Aitwood
- Jane Albus
- Denise Bagnon
- Clif Baker
- Jane Baldwin
- Dan Barker
- Nina Barlongo
- John Barihte
- Polly Bays
- Nancy Beasley
- Emily Becker
- Chrissey Bell
- Leigh Ann Bellodi
- Jessica Berrin
- Kristine Bingham
- Don Bladon
- Elizabeth Bluemink
- Jeannette Boche
- Jeanette Bock
- Kyle Bonnie
- Judith Brindel
- Hannah Brewhin
- Bridgette Brookway
- Shari Brook
- Jamie Bronga
- Ashley Brown
- Elisa Brown
- Susan Brusheber
- Kristen Buchta
- Jennifer Bueoy
- Rachel Butler
- Joan Marie Calmann
- Maran Carey
- Kim Carpenter
- Kristine Castell
- Jennifer McCarty Charette

**Companies**
- Winterberry Charter School
- Wildflower Garden Club