Located in Boise’s Old Penitentiary Historic District, Idaho Botanical Garden is dedicated to enhancing our community’s quality of life through fostering a love of nature and developing intellectual curiosity in people of all ages. Originally the site of the tree nursery and grounds of the State Penitentiary, the Garden is a living museum.

The Garden provides enriching garden experiences through educational programs, botanical collections, a variety of entertainment, and cultural and community events in addition to providing a refreshing and inspiring year-round outdoor destination for local residents and out-of-town visitors.

Annual Report

2017-2018

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Sara Berry
President
Caroline Merritt
Vice President
Brian Buckham
Treasurer
Jennifer Banks
Secretary
Kathy Yoshida
Asst. Secretary
Bret Amideo
Conrad Ball
David Berry
Kevin Cobb
Carol Cole
Moya Dolsby
Rialin Flores
Stacy Freeburn Falkner

GARDEN STAFF
Erin Anderson
Executive Director
Rod Burke
Garden Resource & Project Director
Jennifer Dillon
Finance Director
Jennifer Dunmire
Development Director
Chad Thompson
Marketing/Comm. Director
Wendy Irwin
Youth Education Coordinator
Daniel Murphy
Collections Curator
Elizabeth Dickey
Education and Visitor Engagement Director
Courtney Vanmeer
Visitor Services and Office Manager
Adan David Gilsen
Event Director
Gillian Bovard
Event Operations Manager
Michele Lesica
Horticulture Director
Sierra Laverty
Asst. Horticulture Director
Richard Mussler-Wright
Member Relations Manager
Karen Christeson
Volunteer Manager
Cultivate

2017 was a year of tremendous growth in the Garden thanks to donors, like you!

• **PERGOLA:** A new metal pergola was installed in the English Garden, replacing a rotting wood structure.

• **LABYRINTH:** Thanks to donor support, the Labyrinth was redesigned and moved to the upper garden in Foothills Grove.

• **SIGNAGE:** New interpretive signs were installed in the Vegetable Garden and the Idaho Native Plant Garden to better guest experience by describing plant and beneficial bug facts and descriptions.

• **PUBLIC RESTROOMS:** Four flush toilet restroom facilities were finally installed and opened to the public, improving the Garden experience for all guests!

• **FARM TO TABLE:** The Garden held its first Farm to Table dinner event on the Brick Path gathering together to celebrate local food and drink – including our own vegetables and herbs!

FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Every year at the Garden brings exciting changes big and small. Sometimes it’s the temporary changes that inspire—some of our younger visitors this year were most excited to watch construction equipment working in the middle of Outlaw Field. Other visitors have been inspired by Han Seok Hyun’s “Reverse-Rebirth” tree sculpture that grew over the course of 4 weeks and will evolve in the Garden for the next 3-5 years. The Garden’s staff and Board of Directors were inspired this year to develop a new three-to-five-year strategic plan. Our goals, behind the scenes and in the Garden itself, are focused on you—our Members and Community. Because you make the Garden grow.

Over the next few years, we’ll be looking at the Master Plan for the Garden, to ensure the Garden continues to grow, literally, in sustainable and regionally-focused directions. And we’re evaluating how the Garden is used for events, classes, and celebrations to ensure YOU have access to the Garden and all of the great experiences we offer.

In 2018, 1,300 people participated in Garden classes, 27,000 people attended our concerts, and 12,387 people celebrated milestones in the Garden. We had more than 256,000 visitors last year! We want to see all of these numbers grow because we believe the Garden is one of the Treasure Valley’s best destinations for visitors and residents alike. All of this could not be done without the generous support of our volunteers, who contributed more than 15,139 hours to the Garden last year.

This year in the Garden, we celebrated one of our lesser-known community partnerships—with the East Boise Community Work Center. Some of the Garden’s employees live next door to the Garden while working to reintegrate into the community. This inspired us to open a scholarship for eligible employees from the Community Work Center who want to pursue a career in horticulture. We hope to see this partnership grow for years to come.

Thank you for your membership, your donations, and your commitment to the Garden. I hope to see you there soon!

—Sara Berry, President of the Board of Directors

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

You bring magical outdoor experiences to the Garden every day! And, I want to express my sincere gratitude for your membership, your donations, and for helping spread the word about the amazing programs and events we offer here at Idaho Botanical Garden.

It’s your support, big and SMALL, that helps us grow.

In 2017, we finalized our restroom project, and it was a HUGE undertaking. As our Garden grows, we tend to focus on the big projects, the ones with visual impact, that make you say WOW!

Our 2018 fiscal year was our highest revenue to date. With the extra funds we raised through our events, programs, membership and you, our donors and supporters, we reinvested funds into some of the small things… because it is small things that make your experience at the Garden even better.

We purchased ticket scanners to shorten lines at our signature events like Bug Day, Harvest Festival and Winter Garden aGlow. We built a new retaining wall for our VIP section at our Outlaw Field Concert Series for better viewing, and created a designated ADA area. We purchased a small stage for our smaller Great Garden Escape concert series, so you can see the artists better. We beautified our classroom so students feel comfortable and inspired in our indoor space when the weather isn’t quite cooperating. We re-branded with a new logo and updated our website, because it had been 10 years… eek! And we purchased new computers for staff members who were trying to send emails on what felt like an IBM PC Junior from 1984.

These small investments in 2018, and the many many more, help our staff be more productive, improve your experience at the Garden, and help IBG remain one of the top destinations to visit in Boise. Now… if that doesn’t make you say WOW! I sincerely hope you will continue to support the Garden as we move into 2019. With some of those small projects finalized, we are working on our next IBG surprise. So stay tuned for our exciting new projects to come.

—Erin Anderson, Executive Director

IDAHOBOTANICALGARDENMISSION

Cultivate. Educate. Celebrate. We grow our community by connecting people, plants, and nature.
The Garden connects people with nature using hands-on presentations and classes for all ages. This year:

- More than 1,300 adults attended 48 classes and workshops in the seasonal Continuing Education program with classes such as “Soil Science for Gardeners,” “Chinese Herbal Medicine,” “Dehydrating Your Garden Produce,” “Urban Bee Keeping,” and a new “Build Your Own Planting” workshop.
- From April 2017 – March 2018, over 9000 children experienced nature hands-on through our Youth Education Programs.
- Students in pre-K through sixth grade supplemented their school science education with a field trip to the Garden. They learned about how seeds disperse and how flowers make seeds, historical uses for plants, and about the ecology of the Boise foothills.
- Families checked out Story Totes or Family Backpacks filled with activities and tools to promote learning and encourage their curiosity on their self-guided visit.
- During the winter months, Garden on the Road brought IBG to 1,265 Pre-K and Kindergarten students with a craft & activity on Bees!
- During six weeks of EnGaGE camp, middle school girls helped design, build, and plant 13 new garden boxes in the IBG Vegetable Garden.
- The summer months saw families bring their children to Seedlings and Bug Day!

YOUTH TOURS VS. A MONARCH BUTTERFLY’S MIGRATION!

Working together, we can keep up with the movements of a single monarch butterfly!

- An individual student on a single visit walked 0.5 miles.
- On a busy field trip day, IBG had as many as 225 students walking over a total of 100 miles!
- A single monarch butterfly can travel 50-100 miles a day during its migration!

In the first month of field trips this season, IBG had 1,725 students walking over 850 miles!

Between 2017-2018, a monarch butterfly flew 662 miles from Boise, ID to Santa Barbara, CA!

Students who came to IBG in the last fiscal year (8,635 students) walked over 4,300 miles!

Some monarch butterflies may fly as far as 3,000 miles to reach their winter home!

The Garden connects people through a variety of cultural and family events.

In 2017, people gathered in the Garden creating memories and traditions through their experiences with us.

- Plant Sale kicked off another successful season of celebration. A total of 634 members attended and 64 volunteers helped to make this event happen.
- Nearly 900 people attended the 2017 Private Gardens Tour to explore various stunning gardens around the historic Boise Bench neighborhood.
- Towards the end of the summer months, Garden Cinema was brought back and guests enjoyed 3 free movies in Outlaw Field.
- A record number of visitors attended the August educational family event, Bug Day, to learn about the exciting world of entomology.
- The 2017 Outlaw Field Concert Series welcomed many great artists including Carlos Santana (sold out!), Diana Krall, Earth Wind & Fire, and Alison Krauss! Proceeds from the 2017 concert session helped fund restoration of Table Rock following the human-caused fire that burned 2,500 acres the previous summer.
- The Garden continues to be the best venue for live music in the summer. The Great Garden Escape Concert Series brought in over 4,700 visitors for 13 weeks of live music featuring local bands like The Blues Brothers, Innocent Man, Hillfolk Noir, and The Big Wow Band.
- The Garden enthusiastically welcomed the change of seasons with our annual Fall Harvest Festival featuring local artisans, beer & wine, and food. With activities for kids, a hayride, corn maze, live music, and a Beer Garden, this event is truly enjoyed by all ages.
- As always, December closed out the last event of the year with style! Winter Garden aGlow is a holiday tradition and our busiest event of the year. In 2017, we had an astonishing 69,803 guests, nearly 24,000 more than the previous year. Over 40 chilly nights, guests admired 380,000 lights, which were an additional 80,000 compared to the previous year!

“I really appreciated the different modalities of learning provided for the students. They got to listen, get up and move, and do hands on activities. The presenter really supported the management of the group well and was very clear on how the staff could help. We love this service provided for our Head Start students, it means so much to us that they are able to experience this. Thanks again!”

– Adrienne Snyder, Teacher at Madison Early Childhood Center Head Start

“I really appreciate your work and science. I like the fact that you care about nature. I like your job. I love your art. I like how you guys are a part of our community.”

– From Cash, grade school student

156,095 guests of all ages experienced the Garden.

16 BEAUTIFUL COUPLES celebrated true love with a wedding in the Garden.

October continued to be our busiest month for general admission due to the seasonal color and popular Scarecrow Stroll!

Special thanks to our volunteers who gave more than 300 hours in 2017-2018!

Laurie Anderson  Julie Ashcraft
Janet Davis  Lynne Gnecco
Rod Haars  Richard Harris
Beth Lamb  Alexis Neufeld
Arlene Schaeffer  Daniel Smith
Golin Unnasch  Bonnie Wood
Kathy Yoshida

Volunteers played a crucial role connecting the Garden with the community. They extend the ability to serve the public and are essential to achieving our mission. Together they contributed 15,139 hours to the Garden.
## Financials

As of March 31, 2018

### EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Services</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Horticulture</th>
<th>Visitor Services</th>
<th>Administration and Fundraising</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$112,850</td>
<td>$495,142</td>
<td>$755,312</td>
<td>$283,915</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total Expenses

- $1,657,694

### Net Income

- $399,756

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

#### ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Assets</th>
<th>Accounts Payable</th>
<th>Accrued Salaries &amp; Payroll Taxes</th>
<th>Deferred Revenue</th>
<th>Accrued Liabilities Other</th>
<th>Total Current Liabilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$167,328</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Noncurrent Assets</th>
<th>Fixed Operating Assets</th>
<th>Total Noncurrent Assets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$1,188,232</td>
<td>$1,188,232</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities and Net Assets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Salaries &amp; Payroll Taxes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Revenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Liabilities Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Current Liabilities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Current Assets

- Cash & Cash Equivalents: $840,304
- Inventory: $5,079
- Prepaid Expenses: $23,573
- Total Current Assets: $888,910

### Noncurrent Assets

- Total Noncurrent Assets: $1,188,232

### Net Assets

- Unrestricted Net Assets: $1,718,222
- Temporarily Restricted Net Assets: $190,692
- Permanently Restricted Net Assets: $500
- Total Net Assets: $1,909,414

### Total LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

- Net Assets: $2,076,742