

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUPPORT OF THE MOBILE BOTANICAL GARDENS

In March of 2020, MBG reached an agreement with the City of Mobile such that the City provides operational support annually (\$250,000 as of FY 2024-25). In July 2023 the Mobile County Commission increased operational support to MBG with the Gardens receiving \$75,000 in FY 2023-24.

In June 2020, the Mobile Botanical Gardens received a large gift from the Wayne Denson McRae Endowment Fund for educational and programming support. This fund, managed by The Community Foundation of South Alabama, serves to sustain the Gardens' programming in perpetuity. In addition to the initial gift of \$500,000, a match challenge of \$250,000 was extended from the McRae Foundation. MBG successfully fundraised \$250,000 by August 2023 resulting in our fulfillment of a \$1,000,000 endowment -- and it continues to grow.

Contributions are encouraged to the Endowment fund or you may consider participating in a Naming Opportunity as a way to support a garden asset in addition to supporting the endowment.

EXISTING FEATURES

FUNDS WILL BE ADDED TO THE MBG ENDOWMENT AT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF SOUTH ALABAMA.

AROMI COLLECTION \$30,000
A unique azalea collection within the Azalea Garden.

BENCHES IN THE AZALEA GARDEN \$1000 EA
handsome solid slab benches located throughout.

Vera Lynn
& Randy Sheets

CREPE MYRTLE ALLEY \$25,000
A beautiful and peaceful hillside gravel road lined with Natchez Crepe Myrtles.

KOI POND \$25,000
The first design garden feature at MBG, created in 1974 as part of the Founders' Garden.

Ann & Jack
Di Palma

KOI BRIDGE \$10,000

Stephen
Clements

FRINGE TREE \$2,500
Located on the hillside next to our mailbox, this *Chionanthus retusus* is a focal specimen.

Ricia
Hendrick

GREAT LAWN \$10,000
A 3-acre rolling lawn that includes the concrete walk leading to the lower parking.

The John W. Laidlaw
Foundation

WALKWAY STONE BREAKS \$1,000 EA
Decorative flagstone breaks featuring the MBG logo along the concrete walkways.

LARKINS CLASSROOM I \$10,000
600sf classroom overlooking WinterGarden

LARKINS CLASSROOM II \$10,000
600sf classroom with screen and speaker system

LARKINS CLASSROOM III \$10,000
600sf classroom with rear deck access to WinterGarden

LARKINS OFFICE \$10,000
Visitor reception area and business offices

LARKINS CATERING \$10,000
Features stainless prep areas, commercial refrigerator, Garland ovens, ice machine.

Kitty & Michael
Meshad

LONGLEAF FOREST **\$2,000,000**
35-acre conservation forest that is free and open to the public. The largest urban fire managed forest in the US.

LONGLEAF KIOSKS (3) \$5,000 EA

LONGLEAF BENCHES (3) \$1,000 EA

Neil Kennedy

MAGNOLIA HILL **\$100,000**
A diverse 6-acre enrichment center

CHICKEN COOP AND RUN \$20,000

GLASS DISPLAY CONSERVATORY \$20,000

MIST PROPAGATION HOUSE \$20,000

DOUBLE POLY HOUSE \$5,000

4-HOOP SHADE HOUSE \$10,000

GROW FIELD \$5,000

ART STUDIO \$20,000

TEACHING PAVILION \$10,000

PUMP HOUSES (2) \$1,500 EA

*Greer & David
Wilhelm*

MARKETPLACE **\$75,000**
The retail venue for our plant sales & events

RETAIL PAVILION \$35,000

SHADE STRUCTURE \$25,000

Named in honor of Nita Crandall

LAWN AND GROW FIELD \$15,000

OAK ALLEY **\$25,000**
A shady procession of live oaks along Pat Ryan Drive lining the entry road to the primary parking lot.

POLLINATOR GARDEN **\$30,000**
The hillside collection surrounding Bruce Larson's interactive butterfly sculpture, 'Transformation'

PRIMARY PARKING LOT **\$45,000**
A 65-car capacity parking facility with central raised walkway.

BOLLARDS IN PARKING LOT **\$500 EA**
Hand carved wooden bollards along the central walk

REBLOOM GARDEN **\$50,000**
The feature Tricentennial entry garden with central lawn and unique pink stone walkway. This garden displays 12 months of color for the Gulf Coast.

CITRONELLE BOULDERS **\$1,500 EA**
Mined from areas of northwest Mobile County, these large rocks are featured throughout the Gardens.

*Brenda &
Harold Bolton*

PALM GROUPING AT ENTRY **\$2,500**

CEREMONIAL CIRCLE **\$25,000**
Ceremonial circle of columns with benches in the Rhododendron garden.

*Nella & David MacRae
and
van der Giessen Nursery*

ROSE GARDEN **\$30,000**
A hillside collection of antique roses as well as gifted trial roses from Amsterdam.

PRODUCTION GREENHOUSE **\$35,000**
30' x 96' primary production greenhouse, upgraded in 2021.

POTTING SHED AT GREENHOUSE **\$10,000**
Built in 2017 for the Greenhouse volunteers, there is an enclosed potting area with benches for colder months as well as covered potting area for warmer months.

ENHANCEMENT TO EXISTING FEATURES

FUNDS WILL APPLY TO THE DESCRIBED IMPROVEMENTS OF EXISTING ASSET AS WELL AS TO THE ENDOWMENT FUND.

AROMI GARDEN ENTRANCES (2) \$5,000 EA
The two entrances into the Aromi collection will be enhanced with reclaimed ironwork and stone details.

BOTANICAL CENTER \$500,000
New cedar shake roof, new doors, and improvements to restrooms are needed for this 70+ year old structure.

KITCHEN \$15,000

THE MBG GIFT SHOP \$20,000

OFFICE SPACE \$15,000
Upgrade computer and printer, improve storage and shelving, painting

LIBRARY/MEETING & DINING \$20,000

ART GALLERY AREA \$10,000
Portable, suspended display panels, lighting

FOUNTAIN - BOTANICAL NORTH \$2,500
An existing fountain will be enhanced

CYPRUS GROVE \$5,000
The mature cypress grove is on the hillside along the road leading to the Shop. We plan to clear the area around the grove and add benches or a picnic table.

FERN GLADE \$10,000
This beautiful woodland area needs several trees and invasives removed. The graduated steps leading from WinterGarden to the bridge will be rebuilt.

FERN GLADE BRIDGE \$7,500
The bridge was damaged by a fallen tree. We will repair/replace as needed and paint the new bridge.

FOUNDERS GARDEN \$30,000
Originally installed in 1974, burned completely in 2015. Much of the original design and Bud Horter planting schemes will be returned.

KOI POND PICNIC AREA \$5,000
Addition of a Timberbury, and a trash receptical
In Honor of William Sirmon

JAPANESE MAPLE GARDEN \$75,000
Install concrete paths, benches, landscape lighting

LIGHT POSTS AT GREAT LAWN (3) \$1,000 EA
Repaint, and add stone detail at base

LARKIN'S PLAZA PLANTERS (3) \$1,500 EA
Refinish existing planters; refresh seasonal displays
Betty and Mack Graham

LOOP GARDEN AT HILLSIDE \$15,000
Addition of water feature and paths

MAGNOLIA COLLECTION \$30,000
Addition of companion plantings, paths, signage

REBLOOM PERFORMANCE PLATFORM \$10,000
This area was damaged by Hurricane Sally. Replace decking and repair electrical, add landscape lighting.

STREET ENTRANCE \$30,000
The entrance at Museum Drive will feature a new sign, lighting, irrigation, and freshened plantings.

SHOP BUILDING \$25,000
Replace fire damaged building materials; upgrade lighting and heating in shop; add safety shower; painting

TEA MAZE \$20,000
Ongoing support of this unique feature, and annual sponsorship of First Flush (spring tea leaf gathering)

WILDFLOWER FIELD \$15,000
Addition of meandering path through the wildflower area; heavy seeding for spring and fall displays

WINTERGARDEN BRIDGE EXPANSION \$30,000
A raised boardwalk through the woodland, to the top of WinterGarden near the Dodd Quarry.

SUGAR KETTLE AT DODD QUARRY \$5,000
Thorough cleaning and refresh of the finish; addition of seasonal water lilies. **Anonymous**

WOODLAND TRAILS \$25,000
Addition of trail markers and informational signage.

NEW FEATURES

FUNDS WILL APPLY TO CREATION OF ASSETS AS DESCRIBED.

BOG GARDEN \$30,000
A man-made example of a native endangered habitat.

CHILDREN'S GARDEN \$30,000
An interactive magical garden for children to explore.

CLEYERA CATHEDRAL \$25,000
A hidden natural woodland cathedral formed by 30+ year old Cleyera. This area would serve as a venue for ceremonies.

GARDEN INFORMATIONAL SIGNAGE \$5,000
Longterm signage to replace temporary signs produced in-house.

PRO HAULER \$12,000
This unit will be used on the grounds and to pull our "people mover" (holds up to 12 people) shuttling visitors from the parking lot up to Magnolia Hill, and on excursions into the Longleaf acreage after controlled burns and during peak wildflower blooms.

GOLF CART SHUTTLE \$10,000
A 6-seater unit to be used in support of events and Plant Sales

BENCHES AT GREAT LAWN (4) \$1,000 EA
Spring Hill Garden Club (2)

BLACK FORMAL METAL FENCE \$1,500/PANEL
A continuation of the current black fencing to surround the entire Great Lawn.

CLEAR 20'X30' EVENT TENT \$5,000
Placed on the Botanical Center Plaza for larger events.

ENTRY GAZEBO & PROMENADE \$50,000
A 35' diameter wood gazebo with central admissions area and adjoining covered promenade beside the Bog Garden.

GATEWAY ENTRY BUILDING \$1,000,000
A welcoming structure with drive through entry to the primary parking lot. The building includes functions of giftshop, cafe, event space, and restrooms.

DOGGIE COMFORT STATIONS (3) \$2,500EA
These stations include water bowls with circulated fresh water, doggie bag dispensers and receptacles, hand wipes.

TEA MAZE TRAIL \$5,000
A connective path from the Tea Maze through the magnolia collection and to the Art Studio. Designed for children, the path will feature imaginative and interactive details.

WOODLAND BOARDWALK \$35,000
This raised boardwalk will connect from the Larkin's Center and meander through the woods to the upper WinterGarden. Along the way there will be a woodland teaching deck with benches.

