



“This garden should be a mandatory visit for every single public garden leader anywhere. Great job, everyone!”

*Attendee at the North American
Rock Garden Society
Annual Meeting, 2021*



All floral photographs courtesy of Jan Curtis

Durango Botanic Gardens



Annual Report

- **Leading** in information and adaptation to climate change
- **Growing** as an all-volunteer organization
- **Educating** youth in horticultural practices
- **Building** community
- **Advancing** the science of horticulture
- **Demonstrating** best gardening practices
- **Supporting** local artists and the Creative Economy
- **Providing** free access to beautiful gardens



MEMBER GROWTH

Membership grew by 168.4% in 2022. Your membership supports our work, buys plants, mulch, and materials for our volunteers. Thank you!



LITERARY GARDEN

Our new Literary Garden made a giant leap forward in 2022 with 900 new plants and the addition of various architectural features such as pergolas, benches, a sunshade, and more.

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WATER CONSERVATION

We installed a drip irrigation system in the Literary Garden cutting water usage from 4,000 gallons per week to 1,800. The garden was designed and contoured for rainwater capture.



NEW SIGNAGE

Most people visit our gardens without the aid of our docents. That's why interpretive signage is so important. Our "book" sign won a Durango Design and Development Award in 2022.

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NON-PROFIT OF THE YEAR FINALIST

We were honored in 2022 to be recognized by the Chamber of Commerce as a Finalist in the Chamber's "Non-Profit of the Year" awards program.

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Bulb Sale

Durango Botanic Gardens 2022 Annual Report-at-a-Glance



Great Garden Series



Social Media



Docent Contacts



Volunteer Hours



Membership



Gardens on Tour



VOLUNTEERS AND DOCENTS

We logged approximately 1,000 hours of volunteer time in 2022 and we graduated a new class of Docents.



GRASS GARDEN

One of our most popular new gardens, the Grass Collection, was completed with a new pathway and water retention efforts as well.



YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Youth activities increased dramatically in 2022 with various school groups helping us plant and care for plants. Our youth program and mission seeks to encourage knowledge of gardens and gardening.



POLLINATOR GARDEN

We began development of a new Pollinator Garden just below the Grass Collection. Located along the trail, this garden will promote education about the importance of pollinators to garden and landscape health.



GARDENS ON TOUR SETS RECORD

Our wildly popular Gardens on Tour had nearly 400 participants in 2022, a new record as this event builds momentum year after year.

Our Multi-faceted Mission

Scientific: We record and maintain plant records shared with Plant Select® and other entities to advance horticultural research and data collection.

Advancing Gardening: Our Gardens are designed with the objective of demonstrating to visitors what works best in our challenging climate and landscape.

Waterwise Plants & Gardening: We focus, increasingly, on water retention and conservation in gardening.

Art Appreciation: Our growing collection of outdoor art is making the Gardens the community's largest outdoor collection of art in the Four Corners.

Diversity and Inclusion: We are free and open to everyone.

Reading Encouragement: Our new Literary Garden reflects the deep and profound connection between nature and some of our favorite literary works. This Garden also reflects our partnership with the mission of the Durango Public Library.

All-Volunteer Non-Profit: We do all of these things with donations, memberships, and event fees. Your financial support is an investment in your community. Our members and donors make all of the above possible.

Community: The Gardens provide a unique gathering place for school groups, tours, and events.

Beauty: Even if you're not looking for great ideas for your garden, the Gardens are a wonderful place for a relaxing stroll and a place to appreciate the diversity and beauty of nature.

Adding to the 'Hood': We are a key component in adding to the cultural mix and overall attractiveness of the North Main Neighborhood District.

"The creativity, expertise, knowledge and hard work of the Durango Botanic Gardens is absolutely the Gold Standard of public service!"

*Luke Alvey-Henderson, Director,
Durango Public Library*



All floral photographs courtesy of Jan Curtis

Thanks Durango and the Four Corners,

As you can see from our activities on the previous pages, 2022 was truly eventful. I think we even surprised ourselves with what was accomplished. But none of this would have been possible without the support of our volunteers, docents, board members and, of course, our members, donors, and grantors.

Our volunteers put in hundreds of hours of work in the gardens, giving tours, producing free classes in gardening. We can do this and continue to keep our gardens admission free, open to all, because of the generosity and public-spiritedness of them, you, and our community.

Thanks and we look forward to seeing you in our gardens!

President

Durango Botanic Gardens



Our work depends on members, donations, and grants

Our volunteers put in hundreds of hours of work in the gardens, giving tours, producing free classes in gardening, and more. We can do this and keep our gardens admission free, open to all, because of our members, donors, and grantors. Perhaps someone like you. And, if you're not a member or donor yet, we would truly welcome you as a supporter. You will be supporting a truly valuable community asset.

JOIN AS A MEMBER. Your investment of \$35 for an individual membership or \$55 for a family membership is easily paid back and more with all of our member benefits, including discounts at local nurseries, free admission to a host of public gardens in the U.S., and many other benefits.



DONATE. We welcome general donations of any amount but you may also wish to consider purchasing a bookcase stone or pathway stone in our Demonstration Garden. There are many other legacy products to commemorate your support, honor a loved one, or recognize your children or grandchildren.



DurangoBotanicGardens.org