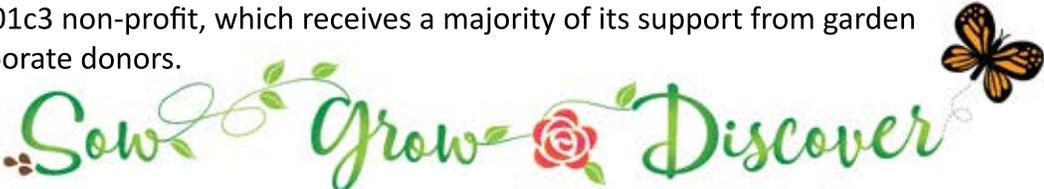




About Us

The 112-acre Huntsville Botanical Garden is open year-round and boasts a picture-perfect aquatic garden, a spectacular wildflower and nature trail, and numerous specialty gardens and plant collections. The 9,000-square-foot Anderson Education Center contains the nation's largest open-air butterfly house and is home to turtles, button quail, tadpoles, frogs, and other critters. The Children's Garden, made up of eight themed areas, including a dinosaur garden, storybook garden, and pollywog bog, is a popular destination for play, pretend, and hands-on learning. Seasonal festivals and exhibits include Beaks and Barks, Huntsville Blooms, the Scarecrow Trail, and the nationally recognized Galaxy of Lights. Be sure to visit our Guest Center to enjoy an art exhibit, browse our unique gift shop, or grab a bite to eat at the Dogwood Cafe. We also offer indoor and outdoor facility rental options and education programs for all ages.

The Garden is a privately run 501c3 non-profit, which receives a majority of its support from garden members, supporters, and corporate donors.

Our Mission Sow Grow Discover 

In 2018 the Garden celebrated its 30th birthday. This milestone presented an opportunity to reflect and recommit to our role as the community's garden. With this in mind, we decided to adopt a new mission statement that reflects our focus on inspiring our community to sow, grow, and discover.

SOW

Our foundation is the greater Huntsville community – our members, volunteers, donors, and sponsors. Our volunteers sow their time; our donors and sponsors, their investments. Local individuals and families sow their support through membership.

GROW

Of course, plant collections are grown at the Garden, but knowledge grows here too! We present a variety of education programs throughout the year, from field trips and day camps to adult professional development courses.

We provide a special setting for marriages to begin and families to grow. Our facilities also offer space for our industry and community partners to grow and develop through workshops and retreats.

DISCOVER

Our beautifully maintained 112 acres inspire visitors to discover the natural world. Popular seasonal events – Beaks & Barks, Huntsville Blooms, the Purdy Butterfly House, the Scarecrow Trail, and Galaxy of Lights – keep our members engaged year-round. And our spectacular rotating exhibits and festivals invite guests from around the world to discover art, music, and different cultures and traditions.



CONTACTS

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Seasonal Festivals



Mid-January - February

Guests and their canine companions are invited to enjoy a stroll along our dedicated pet-friendly paths or a game of fetch in the no-leash zone. Dogs are welcome every day during Beaks & Barks. It's also an excellent time for birding enthusiasts to grab their binoculars and head outdoors. The Garden is considered a birding hotspot by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society and its Lewis Birding Trail features a rich diversity of local and migrating birds.



Mid-March - April

Our beautiful outdoor spaces take center stage during March and April. Spring-blooming trees, shrubs, and perennials are highlighted by colorful displays of tulips and daffodils. The Holmes Trillium Garden is an education and display garden with several major collections featuring thousands of trilliums. And the Bush Azalea Trail, with over 3,000 varieties of azaleas, is a must-see.



May - September

The Purdy Butterfly House, the nation's largest open-air butterfly house, opens on May 1 and through September is home to over 3,000 butterflies, as well as turtles, button quail, frogs, and other critters. A series of butterfly releases are scheduled during the season where visitors can take part in an environmentally safe restoration of the indoor butterfly population.



September - October

Each year artists, families, schools, and businesses create whimsical and wonderful scarecrows for display on the Scarecrow Trail. Weekend hayrides, Scarecrow Trail Night Hikes, BOOtanica, and the Fall Plant Sale are other seasonal favorites. Bring your camera to capture the beauty of autumn in the Garden and don't forget to visit the pumpkin display for a family photo.



Mid-November - December

More than 140,000 visitors walk or drive through the nationally-recognized Galaxy of Lights. This magical event, featuring a series of custom-created animated light displays, is designed and coordinated by more than 1,000 volunteers and delights crowds from around the region. See Santa's sleigh soar over a winter village, nursery rhyme characters spring to life, an enchanting icicle forest, and much more.



2018 At a Glance

2018 Operating Budget	\$4,728,614
2018 Attendance	353,841
2018 Membership (number of households)	8,701
Staff (full-time equivalent, not number of positions)	70
Volunteers (number of individuals)	3,356
Board Size (number of members)	25
Grants Awarded:	
Horticulture: Stanley Smith Grant (\$20K)	
Horticulture: Alabama Invasive Plant Council (1.5K)	
Development: Daniel Foundation of Alabama (\$15K)	
Development: Alabama State Legislature, District No. 20 (\$2K)	
Acreage	112
Year Opened	1988