



HOYT ARBORETUM FRIENDS 2023

# ANNUAL REPORT

*Bringing People and Trees Together*

Dear Friends,

2023 passed in a blur of school buses, Tai Chi classes, revived public tours, tons of volunteer events, and lots of planning for the future. It was a busy, fun year and it felt like normal again in the Arboretum. We spent a lot of the year meeting with park users, neighbors, members, and others as we move forward with our plans to improve facilities as we approach Hoyt Arboretum's 100th birthday. I come out of these meetings with a renewed appreciation for how much the park means to people and the many different ways people enjoy it.



Recently we've been deep in planning for accessibility improvements to the Bristlecone Pine Trail. In the project's community meetings, it has been wonderful to hear from so many people with mobility challenges, of how important that trail is to them, and how they are looking forward to these upgrades that they are part of shaping. These opportunities don't come around very often. The trail was last improved about 40 years ago, and the improvements we make today should last for another 50 years. So, while I get impatient that these projects take so long, it is also pretty magical to know that the second graders exploring that trail on a field trip today might take their kids and grandkids down that trail 50 years from now.

As we look to the future, we've been building our team at all levels, from staff to Board to Advisory Council. We continue to benefit from the best volunteers in all of Portland, and we will need all of this support, at all of these levels to face the challenges in the years ahead. Some of those challenges are upon us right now like the impacts of climate change in the park and across our city. Others are challenges we choose to take on, like making improvements to the park and our facilities to make Hoyt Arboretum more accessible, educational, and welcoming for all.

Hoyt Arboretum's Friends (this means YOU) make all of this work possible. When a big ice storm comes through and creates weeks of clean up, we know that we can turn to our Friends. And when we work to achieve big goals for this park, that optimism also comes from the knowledge that we have our Friends by our side.

Thank you for being a Friend to Hoyt Arboretum,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anna Goldrich". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Anna Goldrich  
Executive Director  
Hoyt Arboretum Friends



## CURATOR'S REPORT



**Martin Nicholson**  
Hoyt Arboretum Curator,  
Portland Parks & Recreation

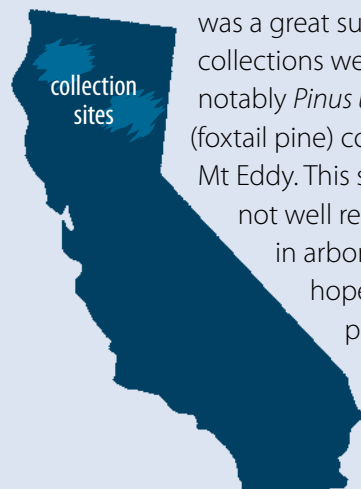
We had a great planting season with 96 additions, and though the summer was warmer than average, good spring rainfall and summer growing conditions were great for the trees. A big snow day in February did not cause much

damage and overall low temp of 18 degrees was comfortable for Zone 8 and lower plants. A record high of 108 in August was uncomfortable but not damaging.

Notable plantings were the Wollemi grove on Bristlecone Pine Trail, *Pinus veitchii*, *Pinus clausa*, and *Pinus strobiformis*, all Mexican pines added to the extensive pine collection. Many new holly cultivars that are part of the American Holly Society test program were added and will be evaluated for horticultural use.

Losses in 2023 were minimal, the most notable being the removal of the bamboo *Phyllostachys vivax* which sustained extensive snow damage over multiple years. The open area will be planted with 4 new clumping bamboo species.

A seed collection trip to the Southern Siskiyou and Northern Sierra mountains in October with the University of British Columbia and Polly Hill Arboretum



was a great success. 106 collections were made, most notably *Pinus balfouriana* (foxtail pine) collected from Mt Eddy. This species is not well represented in arboreta and we hope to distribute plants in 2025 once they are large enough to ship.



## COLLECTION SPOTLIGHT

This year we added a wild collected *Fucospora solandri*, which comes all the way from New Zealand. This southern beech was shared with Hoyt Arboretum from the Washington Park Arboretum in Seattle. This species is from the newly redesignated family *Nothofagaceae* (southern beech) which previously had 42 species in one genus, but now they have been separated out into 5 genera to better recognize the differences between and relationships within them. Argentinian, Chilean, and New Zealand species in this family are cold hardy enough for Portland.

*Fucospora solandri* is an evergreen with small leaves. The trees will hopefully reach 40 feet tall and can be very long lived. We look forward to observing how this species performs in Portland.

# 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

## EDUCATION

**4,670**

**CHILDREN**

visited on a field trip



Students of all ages connect with nature through Hoyt Arboretum programs



First graders on field trips learn the roles animals play in seed dispersal



**1,400**

**ADULTS** connected with nature through **CLASSES, TOURS, & RECREATION ACTIVITIES**



**650+**

preschoolers and their caregivers participated in our

**TREE TIME! WALKS**

**1,946**

youth and families attended

**FREE SUMMER PROGRAMMING**



Youth and families learned how urban tree canopy reduces summertime heat

# 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

## VOLUNTEERS



**60**  
**VOLUNTEERS** spent  
**3,421**  
**HOURS** engaging with  
visitors from around the world



**35** **COMMUNITY**  
**SCIENTISTS** spent

**709** **HOURS**  
contributing to

**5**  **COLLECTIONS**  
and monitoring projects

**Education**  
500 hours: 5%

**Behind the Scenes**  
691 hours: 7%

**Community Science**  
709 hours: 7%

**Visitor Engagement**  
3,421 hours: 33%



Volunteer **NATURE**  
**EDUCATORS** spent  
**500**  
**HOURS**  
leading children on field trips



**815**  
**STEWARDSHIP**  
**VOLUNTEERS**  
spent **5,000** **HOURS**  
caring for the trees and trails



**Stewardship**  
5,000 hours: 48%



**VOLUNTEER ARBORISTS** provide professional tree care for Hoyt Arboretum at the 36th annual Arborists in the Arboretum event

# OUR PLACE IN PLACCE

## HAF's Strategic Plan in Action

### *Our Mission*

*Hoyt Arboretum Friends brings people and trees together. We create meaningful learning experiences in a unique global tree collection that we nurture in partnership with Portland Parks & Recreation.*

To support this mission, we adopted a new Strategic Plan for 2023-2027, and with the first year of implementation behind us, we're proud of the progress we've made toward the goals and milestones it outlines. The new plan serves as a touchstone for all aspects of our work. In some cases we've had to update existing programs to align with our new goals. For new programs, however, we have the luxury of building a framework to align with our goals from the start. And that's exactly what our Education Team accomplished with PLACCE.

In 2022 Hoyt Arboretum Friends was selected to be a part of the Plants and Climate Change Education (PLACCE) cohort, in partnership with the United States Botanic Garden. Funding and collaboration in this program allowed us to pilot a new climate change curriculum for local middle schoolers in the 2023-2024 school year.

### **Empowering and engaging youth through education**

Beginning in the fall of 2023, the HAF Education team has been working with 515 students and 8 teachers from 4 Portland-based middle schools in their own classrooms and on field trips to Hoyt Arboretum.

Using the western redcedar as a model for the effects of climate change on plants, the overarching goal of the

curriculum is to foster an understanding that plants are teachers and humans have a responsibility to listen and rebuild our relationship with the natural world.

### **Expanding access**

This program is offered for free to participating schools including 2 classroom visits and 2 field trips to the Arboretum during the school year. Classroom visits allow Nature Educators to lay a foundation of concepts from the curriculum and what to expect from their Arboretum experiences since many students had never been to the park before.

Nature Educators engage with students through a progression of concepts over time. In the fall semester of the school year, students were asked to explore their personal connections with nature in the classroom before physically experiencing the western redcedar at the Arboretum and being introduced to the concept of reciprocity.

The program will continue with the same students in the spring, focusing on the effects of climate change on the western redcedar. The students will also have the opportunity to contribute to a community science project that monitors this important native tree.

### **Strengthening and growing cultural connections**

To create a sense of belonging in the park and in nature at large among students, Nature Educators were trained to communicate concepts through a social-emotional learning framework. Through storytelling, hands-on activities, and "active hope" nature journaling, students from all backgrounds and with different learning styles are given opportunities to connect with the subject matter.





Some participating students speak only in Spanish, and we were able to place them in groups with Spanish-speaking educators at the Arboretum. For the spring season, we will offer journaling activities and prompts in Spanish for students who need it, or prefer to participate in that language.

### Addressing the impacts of climate change across our programs

This spring, the students will receive training to participate in the Western Redcedar Dieback Project (WRDP). This community science project monitors the impacts of climate change on western redcedars in the Pacific Northwest. Through the PLACCE program, these Portland middle schoolers will collect data from western redcedars in the Arboretum and across the city. They plan to overlay their findings with a heat map of the city to research whether temperature is a major influence on the tree species' health.

#### What we've learned so far:

It's more important than ever for youth to learn about trees and nature, and middle school is when they start making connections between the patterns they are already seeing in the weather and climate change. For

some of the middle schoolers, this was the first time they had considered the benefits plants provide, and after visiting the Arboretum, one student said, "I really loved the idea about thanking and asking plants for resources".

The PLACCE pilot program will conclude at the end of April, 2024 and, with help from local education consultants, we will evaluate students' pre-and-post assessments to determine if they:

1. built a stronger connection to nature
2. have a heightened awareness around the climate crisis
3. have an increased desire to take action

So far, we feel confident that students are forming positive connections with trees, and we hope that at the end of the school year they will be motivated to participate in climate-based solutions in their personal lives.

We plan to continue this program next year with a streamlined curriculum, and will include more schools, particularly those with fewer resources for field trips. Today's middle schoolers are tomorrow's forest stewards, and working with them gives us hope for the future.



**View the full Strategic Plan**  
[www.hoytarboretum.org/about/reports/](http://www.hoytarboretum.org/about/reports/)

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Unaudited 12/31/2023

### ASSETS

Cash in Checking	362,338
Cash in Money Markets	244,600
Cash in Investment Accounts	1,229,349
Endowment	335,034
Accounts Receivable	32,341
Future Facility Planning	91,344
Prepaid Expenses	2,995
Merchandise Inventory	23,385
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>2,321,386</b>

### LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	3,991
Payroll Liabilities & Accrued Vacation	9,037
Deferred Revenue	11,000
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>24,028</b>

### NET ASSETS

Total Available for Operations	966,846
Reserves	400,000
<b>Total Unrestricted Net Assets</b>	<b>1,366,846</b>
<b>Total Temporarily Restricted Net Assets</b>	<b>595,479</b>
Endowment	335,034
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>2,297,358</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>2,321,386</b>

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

### REVENUE

Individual Contributions	409,182
Corporate Contributions	62,282
Foundation Grants	238,727
Government Grants	13,000
Future Facility Planning	252,000
Rental Income	67,975
Fees for Service (program revenue)	50,427
Event Income	36,390
Merchandise Sales	176,826
Interest Income	19,572
Unrealized Gain/ Loss on Investments	56,043
Realized Gain/ Loss on Investments	1,856
In-Kind Contributions	77,348
Other Revenue	1,400
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>1,463,029</b>

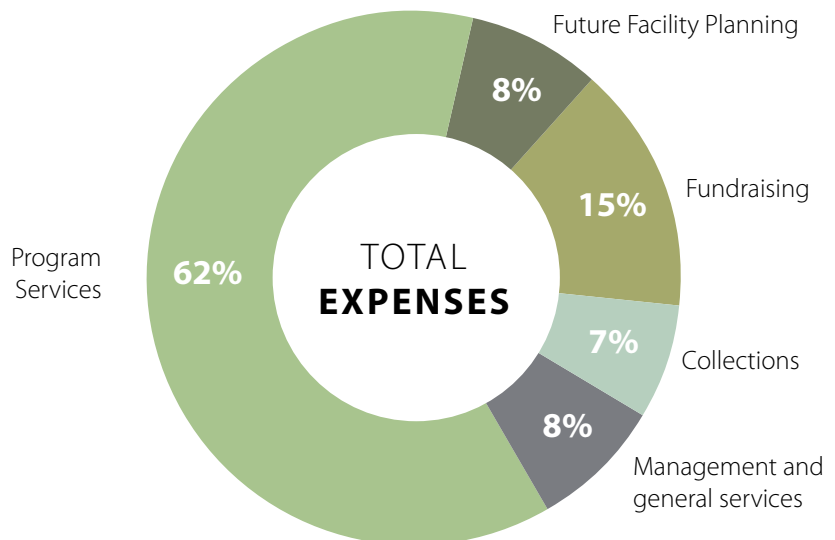
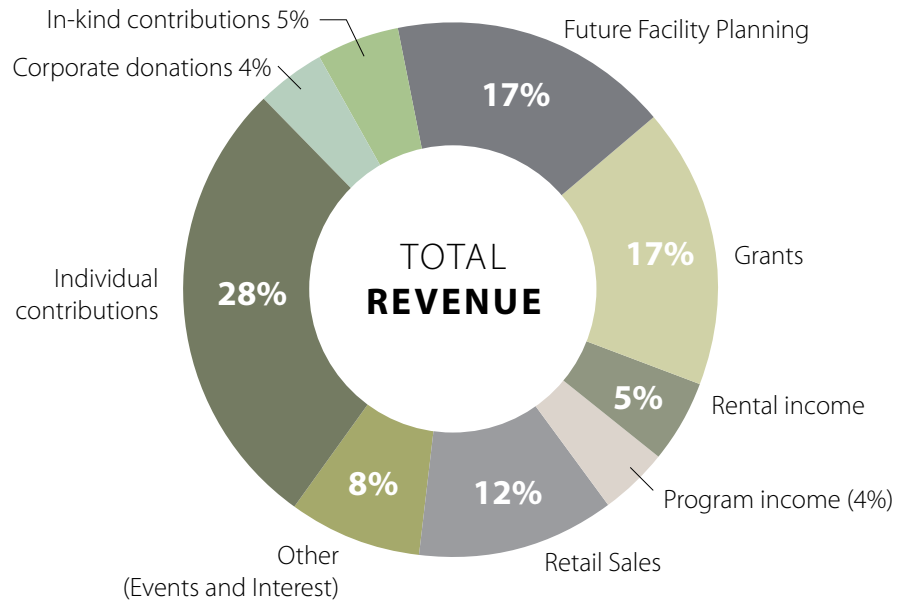
### EXPENSES

Personnel	583,343
Accounting Services	23,155
Education Programs	37,800
Collections & Landscape Services	11,470
Computer & Website Services	15,025
Marketing	4,656
Other Contract Services	63,008
Future Facility Contract Services	62,400
Gift Shop Merchandise	91,859
Staff Training and Development	7,132
Office Supplies	14,064
Insurance	5,387
Printing and Postage	37,013
Dues and Subscriptions	2,618
Miscellaneous Expenses	1,080
Bank Charges	12,211
Endowment Expenses	2,936
In-Kind Contributions	77,348
DEI Training and Programs	7,170
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,059,674</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>403,356</b>

## 2023 FINANCIALS

2023 was a year of growth and success for Hoyt Arboretum Friends. The number of visitors to Hoyt continues to be strong and field trips are booked to capacity. Under the leadership of our expanded education staff we welcomed 4,670 students to our outdoor classroom. Visitors were both generous and engaged, and sales at the Hoyt Arboretum Visitor Center gift shop were higher than ever. Outdoor weddings and other events continued the recent trend, resulting in another banner year for rental revenue.

We celebrated the Arboretum at our annual Forage in the Forest event by raising more funds than expected and surpassed our annual fundraising goal. Moving into 2024 our financial position remains strong. We will continue to invest donor support in expanding education, volunteer, and conservation programming, pursue park improvement projects, and plan for a future at Hoyt Arboretum where we have the capacity to serve all who visit to learn, explore, and hike the trails.





## Susan Hammer's Transformational Legacy

I still remember my first walk at Hoyt Arboretum with Susan Hammer. It became immediately clear that I was with someone who was much more familiar with the park and the trails than I was (at that time). She told me Hoyt Arboretum was her sanctuary, a special place where she could feel surrounded by nature. As we walked that day and over the coming years, Susan also shared her thoughts about improvements she'd like to see at Hoyt Arboretum: more trees with labels and better facilities to host students and anyone who wants to learn about trees as they explore.

When Susan passed away in 2020, we were touched to learn that she left a very significant bequest to help make some of those transformational improvements at Hoyt Arboretum. You'll be hearing much more about these plans as they unfold in the coming months. We know that Susan would be proud to see us maintain this natural "sanctuary" while making it more accessible, educational, and resilient for generations to come. Thank you Susan,

Anna Goldrich, Executive Director, Hoyt Arboretum Friends



## Honoring Phil Rogers

The Hoyt Arboretum Friends first met Phil Rogers in 2016 when Mandy Tu joined our team as Plant Taxonomist and Herbarium Curator. Through Mandy, we got to know Phil as a devoted husband and loving father to their daughters Linnea and Lily. He was always kind, had a smile on his face – especially when beaming with pride



over his endlessly talented girls, and had a silly joke to share in every conversation. We are devastated by his sudden passing in 2023, and he will be missed by all who knew him.

Phil's impact on the community is made clear by the outpouring of tribute gifts received in his honor. These gifts to Hoyt Arboretum support a place that holds memories for their whole family. As our community mourns Phil's passing, we hope Hoyt Arboretum can be a place for everyone to reflect, heal, learn, and grow.

## Thank you to those who made gifts in memory of Phil Rogers

Salman Ahmad  
Dong Baik  
Eugene and Peggy Bartman  
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# THANK YOU 2023 DONORS

## INDIVIDUAL DONORS

### \$10,000+

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*We have made every effort to include all donations from 2023. If our report contains errors, please accept our apologies. Notify Ajah Maloney, Development Director with record updates at 503-823-3655 or ajah@hoytarboretum.org.*



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Thank you also to all of our donors who wish to remain anonymous. Your support helps to sustain our education and conservation programs throughout the year.



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*to our community of members, volunteers, board, staff,  
and community partners that work together to serve our  
students, visitors, trees, and trails.*



*The images in this report were generously contributed by Mike Drewry, Rhonda Dorsett, and Steve Lannigan.*

## Hoyt Arboretum Friends



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