





The mission of the Atlanta Botanical Garden is to develop and maintain plant collections for display, education, research, conservation and enjoyment.

VISION

The vision of the Atlanta Botanical Garden is to be an iconic destination and global leader, dynamically connecting people with plants
in support of a thriving planet.

2019 was a year to remember...

At our Atlanta and Gainesville gardens, stunning horticultural displays showcased the splendor of all four seasons, inspiring home gardeners and plant enthusiasts alike. The "wow factor" was amplified this year with *Imaginary Worlds: Alice's Wonderland*, an exhibition of colossal, topiary-like plant sculptures celebrating a colorful cast of storybook characters. Our team of expert horticulturists, working in partnership with International Mosaiculture of Montreal, artfully covered large steel structures with more than 110,000 plants and then meticulously manicured the intricate living designs from spring until fall—further establishing the Garden's reputation at the forefront of the mosaiculture movement worldwide.

The Garden also grew as a leading environmental education institution, serving more than 55,000 children in 2019 through on-site and outreach activities. In addition to enriching young minds and encouraging environmental stewardship, we expanded our efforts to promote health and wellness in our community. We know that plants are the key to sustainable local food systems, and there is a great need to increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables in our city. Moving beyond the Edible Garden on our Midtown campus, we launched a new partnership with Food Well Alliance, Atlanta Community Food Bank, Truly Living Well and the City's urban agriculture program to offer a series of hands-on workshops in community gardens across the metro area.

The Southeastern Center for Conservation gained tremendous momentum this year, propelled by the opening of our new Conservation and Training Center facility, which was one of the final major construction projects funded by the \$55 million NOURISH & FLOURISH capital and endowment campaign. The Garden's incredibly talented scientists were hard at work in our conservation laboratories, greenhouses and nurseries, and out in the field, protecting rare and endangered

plants so that they will not be lost forever from our planet. Efforts to rescue North America's most endangered conifer, *Torreya taxifolia*, were accelerated in the aftermath of Hurricane Michael, and the Southeastern Center for Conservation continued to make great strides in safeguarding and restoring pitcher plants, native orchids, and other imperiled species.

We continued to strengthen our innovative business model in 2019, recognizing that earned income from facility rentals, special events, and adult education helps to diversify revenue streams while also fueling the Garden's mission. With this entrepreneurial spirit in mind, coupled with a deep commitment to promoting a greener, healthier future, we ratified a new five-year Strategic Plan to guide our organization onward to even brighter tomorrows.

A record number of 780,000 visitors passed through the Garden gates from January through December, and an unprecedented level of programming took place both locally and globally—underscoring the Garden's value and relevance in today's world. And we couldn't do this vital work without your help.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the remarkable community of donors and friends who support the Garden's success, year after year. Thanks to your generosity, the Garden continues to grow deeper roots and stronger branches, benefiting our region as a beloved destination, a center of learning, and a place of peace and enduring beauty.

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*Deceased, January 2020

2019 BY THE NUMBERS

102,884

plants in the Garden's living collections representing:

12,040

8,567 species

3.5

acres devoted to our Conservation Safeguarding Nursery in Gainesville to protect the Southeast's most imperiled native plants





780,034

guests visited the Garden, **up 28%** over 2018, with **42%** of visitors identifying as people of color





42,138

member households from 2,320 different zip codes

20,748

Title I students served through on-site and outreach programming

55,631

children who benefited from kids' tours, activities, and education programs

2,568

adults participated in Garden classes and lectures

325

teachers trained in STEM education workshops

International Plant
Exploration Program
trips to Southeast Asia to
collect seeds and foster
intercontinental collaboration

24

high school and college interns working to become the next generation of environmental stewards







The 30th anniversary of the Dorothy Chapman Fuqua Conservatory

Since 1989, the beautiful "gardens under glass" in the Dorothy Chapman Fuqua Conservatory have been providing visitors with unparalleled opportunities to experience an astonishingly diverse collection of plants from around the world.

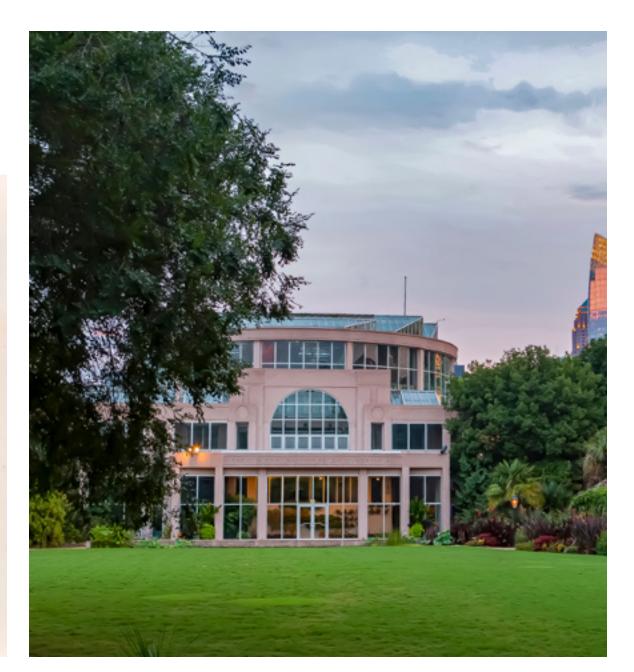
The Conservatory's opening was headline news. Lady Bird Johnson, President Jimmy Carter, and other dignitaries flocked to Atlanta to tour the state-of-the-art facility that had been given to the Garden by J.B. Fuqua to honor his wife Dorothy.

This new botanical destination immediately elevated the Garden's reputation in our city and beyond. After it opened, Garden admission prices were increased from \$2 to \$4.50. Annual

visitation doubled from 100,000 to 200,000, and membership grew to more than 7,000 households. It was the beginning of three decades of extraordinary Garden growth.

The magical environment inside the Conservatory continues to enchant guests today—and we remain eternally grateful for the Fuqua family's significant investment.

Clockwise from top left: Former Garden CEO Ann Crammond discusses a model of the new conservatory with the Fuquas at a groundbreaking ceremony. Dorothy Chapman Fuqua gives a tour of the newly-opened Fuqua Conservatory to Lady Bird Johnson. Dorothy Fuqua joins Ron Determann during construction.











Left: Dorothy Fuqua and family cut the ribbon on the Fuqua Conservatory. **Right and above:** Today, the Dorothy Chapman Fuqua Conservatory is home to hundreds of plant species from tropical and desert regions around the world.





YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2019, the Garden reached new heights...





A true stunner on the Skyline Garden Event Lawn, the Chessboard of Alice's Wonderland required 24,169 individual plants from nine species.

Other popular 2019 exhibitions included:



Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama's *Narcissus Garden*, an array of 1,400 stainless steel spheres installed in Storza Woods, on display in partnership with the High Museum of Art's *Infinity Mirrors* show



A "picture perfect" *Orchid*Daze event, featuring the work of photographer Parish Kohanim alongside the beguiling fragrances and dazzling beauty of orchids, nature's very own works of art



Museum-quality works by
Philip and Matt Moulthrop,
the second and third
generation of an Atlanta family
of acclaimed woodturners,
including bowls made from
tree material reclaimed from
the Atlanta Botanical Garden



Seasonal sensations including the *Atlanta Blooms* bulb festival, *Scarecrows in the Garden*, and a record-breaking run of the must-see winter wonderland of *Garden Lights*, *Holiday Nights*



Throughout 2019, some of our biggest successes were realized with our smallest visitors. We provided a full calendar of drop-in activities for children and families, and we offered an array of educational experiences aligned with K-12 Georgia Standards of Excellence. Over the past ten years, we have substantially increased our Children's Education Initiative programming for students attending Title I schools, growing from 2,000 students served in 2009 to more than 20,000 in 2019. During all on-site and outreach efforts, the Garden's Education team worked hard to make learning fun, introducing kids to key science concepts, and instilling a lifelong love of nature.



School Programs Assistant Manager Lorin Borin discusses a rare frog in the classroom.



Refugee Recipe Celebration brings a weekend of international flavor to the outdoor kitchen.

Programming in our Outdoor Kitchen continued to be a hit with adult guests this year. In addition to the Well-Seasoned Chef and Fresh Plates series, we hosted a Refugee Recipe Celebration weekend where chefs from Syria, Burma, Ethiopia, Nigeria, and other nations prepared and shared their favorite dishes. And for the first time, the Garden's edible gardening programs moved into outreach mode with the launch of an innovative initiative called Plant. Eat. Repeat. Created to support increased access to fresh produce in community gardens citywide, this program is poised to make an even greater impact in 2020.

Families are always welcome at the Garden, and 2019 represented the second full year of a special grant-funded family membership program specifically for employees of Atlanta Public Schools, the City of Atlanta, Grady Health System, and MARTA. Made possible by generous funding from the Lettie Pate Evans Foundation, the **Explore program** provides deeply discounted memberships to thousands of local teachers, nurses, security officers, transit staff, and others who work tirelessly to ensure the quality of life in our city.

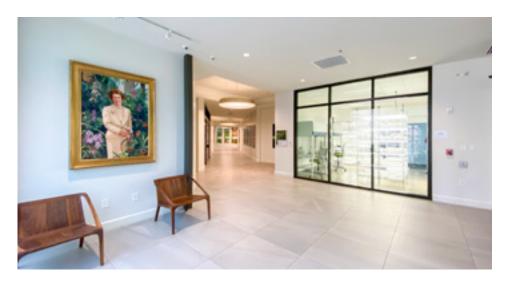


The grant-funded Explore membership program provides targeted access to local teachers, nurses, and other community-serving employees.



In 2019, we celebrated the grand opening of a beautifully designed, two-story

Conservation and Training Center, tucked behind the Fuqua Orchid Center. Housing the Southeastern Center for Conservation, it features laboratories dedicated to seed banking, conservation genetics, and micropropagation. Open work areas and ample meeting spaces allow for collaboration with a variety of research universities and government agencies—underscoring the Garden's important role in advancing conservation science while developing the next generation of environmental stewards.









Exciting renovations also took place in our outdoor gardens, including a wide range of plantings in the Anne Cox Chambers Southern Seasons Garden, an expansion of the Dwarf and Rare Conifer Garden honoring Nancy Fraser Parker, and flower and foliage additions on the forest floor in Storza Woods. We

are grateful to all of the donors who gave restricted gifts to garden upgrades in 2019, as well as the hundreds of unrestricted contributions that supported overall garden improvements, including significant proceeds from the **Gardens for Connoisseurs Tour** and the **Garden of Eden Ball.**



Forty five new plants representing more than 23 different taxa of conifers as well as several dwarf broadleaf evergreen shrubs, Japanese maples, and flowering ground covers were planted for the renovation of the Dwarf and Rare Conifer Garden.



Much of the Garden's field work is focused on safeguarding imperiled native plant species through ex situ collections and seed banking, in addition to assisting land managers to restore degraded habitats back to their natural conditions. In 2019, we also mounted an emergency response after more than 80 percent of the tree canopy in Florida's Torreya State Park was destroyed in one day by Hurricane Michael. The Garden joined with Florida partners to identify and save hundreds of the critically endangered conifers in the park, and we are now expanding ex situ conservation and research efforts to determine how wild Torreya trees may respond to their dramatically altered landscape.



Conservation & Research team member Rashaad Tillery with a Torreya tree that survived Hurricane Michael in Florida's Torreya State Park.















Construction of the eagerly anticipated **Ada Mae Pass Ivester Children's Garden** was completed in late 2019. Situated on the highest point of the 168-acre Gainesville property, the Children's Garden features a Lawn Labyrinth, Treehouse Play Fort, Train Garden, and Fairy Forest, interspersed with newly planted trees, shrubs, and boulder outcroppings. This captivating spot is sure to become one of North Georgia's favorite family-friendly destinations in the years to come!



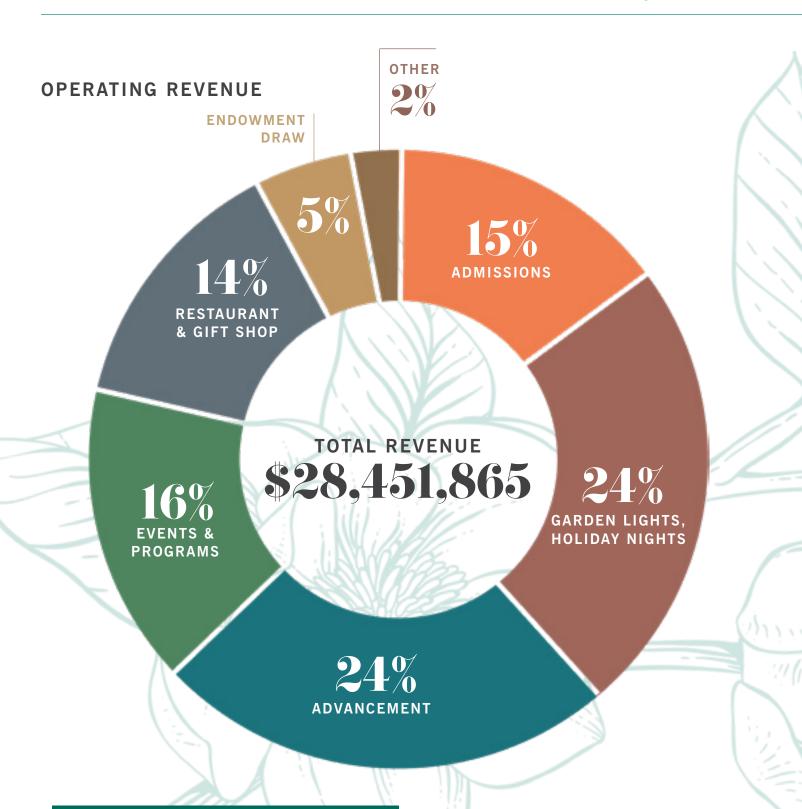
Gainesville's behind-the-scenes facilities were also humming with activity throughout the year. Our **Conservation Safeguarding Nursery**—the largest in the Southeastern United States—provided much-needed shelter for critically endangered plants and offered opportunities to cultivate species of concern in a secure environment. In the ten years since this nursery was built, we have made extraordinary progress working with imperiled plant populations and taking steps to restore them in the wild.



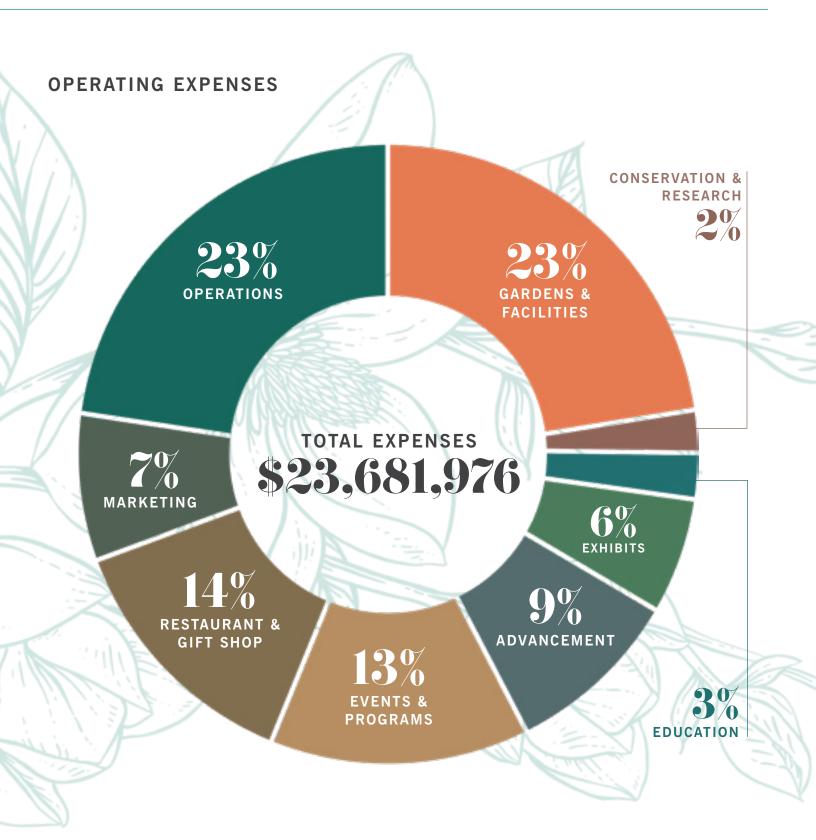
Also in Gainesville, our new **International Plant Exploration Program (IPEP) field nursery** functioned as a test site for evaluating seeds and plant material collected in Southeast Asia for use in ornamental horticulture and as a repository for ex-situ conservation studies. In 2019, the IPEP team made four successful trips to Asia, met twice with conservation organizations in Vietnam, planted more than 300 trees and shrubs for evaluation, and installed new irrigation systems to enhance growing conditions on the nursery site.







Operating profits of the Atlanta Botanical Garden are reinvested back into the Garden through capital projects. Capital projects can range from building renovations to replacement and repairs of existing equipment and general improvements to the Garden.







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Mr. Lester Miller

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Janelle and Kirk Anderson

Kathleen Argenbright

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Ionathan Bender

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Sally and Eddie Cole

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William J. Spurlock, II

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\$500 - \$999 (cont.)

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Ms. Sharon Steele and

Ms. Emily Gwynn

Elizabeth Stephens

Yee and John Stevens

Esther and Jim Stokes

Aina Stratton

Mrs. Kay Summers

Suzanne Szabo and Diana DeLaTour

Helen Tandoh

Heather and Marc Tardif

Mr. Clarence Taylor

Bill Tepper

Dr. William Thoms, Jr.

Mary Thurlow

Ms. Laura Tomlin and Dr. Donald Nesbitt

Christine Tompkins

Mr. and Mrs. Michael W. Trapp

Pamela and Dick Treadwell

Julia and Kam Tse

Patricia and Eddie Turner

Mrs. DeLana Valentine

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne R. Vason

Marianne and Paul Velker

Jill Von Grey

Ms. Rose Marie Wade

Anita and Fred Wallace

Jonne and Paul Walter

Jolanda and Guido Walther

Alisa Waschak and David Fields

Elizabeth and Scott Webber

Tammy Weeks and Amanda Collins

Phyllis and Stephen Weiss

David Welden and Jeanette Faucett

Lezlie and Michael Welty

Sherrie and Jordan Wetstone

Mr. and Mrs. William A. Whitaker

Paula and Barry White

Lynn and Frank Wigington

Elizabeth and Chris Willett

Iosie and Thomas Williams

Keneeshia N. Williams

Mrs. Joyce Williams

Catherine and William Wilson

Nancy Wolk

Anna Wolverton

Mrs. Joan D. Woodall

Ms. Dina Woodruff

CONSERVATION PARTNERS

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Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden

Emory University

Florida State Parks

Friends of Jonathan Dickinson State Park

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Georgia Institute of Technology Georgia Plant Conservation Alliance

Georgia State University

Institute for Library and Museum Services

Jacksonville Zoological Society

The Morton Arboretum

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

U.S. Fish and Wildlife

USDA Forest Service

MATCHING GIFTS

The Garden received matching contributions from the following companies:

ADP

Bank of America

The Coca-Cola Company

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Microsoft

Norfolk Southern Foundation

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State Street Foundation

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The Home Depot Foundation

Tull Charitable Foundation

University Financing Foundation

VOYA (ING)

XL Catlin

PERENNIAL SOCIETY

The Atlanta Botanical Garden would like to express heartfelt gratitude to all members of the Perennial Society who have thoughtfully included the Garden in their estate planning. As a result of the legacy commitments of these philanthropic individuals and families, the Garden will continue to flourish for generations to come.

TRIBUTE GIFTS

The following friends of the Garden were honored or remembered in 2019:

Carol Bassuener Christopher Jones Anne Pollack Barbara Spencer Bastin Andrea and Mark Kauffman Nancy Prescott Ann Chiller Karen Korsun Dorothy Ray Sally Ann Clark Barbara and Ken Kraft Lee Robinson Mary Wayne Dixon Bianka Kucelin Olive and Roby Robinson Nell Everest Jane Lamkin Barbara Rothschild Arlene Anne Sandstrom Deborah Fast Marjorie Leinbaugh Vincent Scarcella John Ferguson Peggy Martin Barbara Frederickson Jane Strickland May **Ieff Schultz** Maureen Fuller Mary Pat Matheson Lila Scott Gail and Peter Furniss Kenneth McKenzie Dean DuBose Smith Nancy Gabianelli Scott McMahan Lessie Smithgall Anne Goldthwaite Myra Meadows Barbara Tolbert James Greene Anna and Hays Mershon Carol Tomé Dolly Greenfield Leslie Myers Laura Wallace Philip Gwynn Susa and Andy Nahmias Dwight Welshans

Jacci Nightingale

Carol Plummer

Faye Peters

BENCH DONATIONS

Megan Haley

William Head

Gay Kahn Joel

Gifts of \$10,000 to \$25,000 were made to name Garden benches honoring the following individuals:

In Celebration of Judy and Don Bender

In Memory of Neil Murray given by his family and friends

In Memory of Jacci Nightingale given by her family

In Memory of Kristine Pettoni given by her family and friends

John Wilcox

Alex Woollcott

In Memory of Doris Smart given by her family

Every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of this document. If there are omissions or errors, please accept our sincere apologies and contact us at 404-585-2015 so that we may correct our records.





Volunteers Make the Garden Grow

The Atlanta Botanical Garden is truly indebted to the 460 individuals who donated their time and talents to the Garden in 2019. Our volunteers greet Garden guests, weed flower beds, serve as docents and Children's Garden guides, assist in the Outdoor Kitchen, respond to Plant Hotline inquiries, and so much more. The Garden's success can be attributed in large part to the tireless dedication of our volunteers, who collectively clocked more than 40,000 hours of service from January through December.

Centennial Club

A total of 188 individuals each contributed more than 100 volunteer hours in 2019.

Roots of the Garden

The following outstanding volunteers provided more than 300 hours of service this year:

Janet Cantrelle 606 hours Charlotte Miller 573 hours Clark Weisner 381 hours Chris File 324 hours Roy Pinkston 300 hours

2019 Volunteers of the Month

The following volunteers were nominated by their staff supervisors for showing exceptional devotion and enthusiasm in their roles:

Cyndy Franklin	Roberta Matthews	Sally Crowe
Joe Alexander	Rebecca Rahm	Harry Larsen
Lynn Malone	Susan Schlather	Sally Finkelstein
Lynda Pollock	Elise Halpern	Bettie Cheek





2019 Volunteer of the Year: Bob Nelson

After taking the University of Georgia Master Gardener course in Day Hall in 1997, Bob began volunteering with the outdoor collections alongside the horticultural staff. He has enjoyed fielding calls and emails for the Plant Hotline, and he has been a dedicated Thursday morning volunteer in the Edible Garden since it opened in 2010.



Lifetime Achievement Award: Nancy Waterfill

This award is reserved for remarkable volunteer contributions over a sustained period of time, and it has only been awarded a few times in the Garden's 43-year history. We are honored to present Nancy Waterfill with the Lifetime Achievement Award for her three decades of service to the Atlanta Botanical Garden. Nancy started volunteering in the Garden

Gift Shop in 1989, and she has been an inspirational, dedicated volunteer for more than 30 years, logging more than 100 hours of service nearly every year since the Centennial Club was established in 1991.

Garden Associates

In 2019, approximately 70 Garden Associates contributed their leadership, creative energy, and financial support to further the mission of the Atlanta Botanical Garden. This dynamic service organization assisted in planning and executing the Gardens for Connoisseurs Tour and other Garden activities throughout the year.

Mary Wayne Dixon, Advisory Chair
Beth Rummel, President
Susan Brooks, Membership
Jessica Dark, Recording Secretary
Sandy Kellam, Education
Forrest Leef, Treasurer
Liza O'Hare, Corresponding Secretary
Debbie Swann, Fundraising







ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDEN

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