



# Community Grows Here

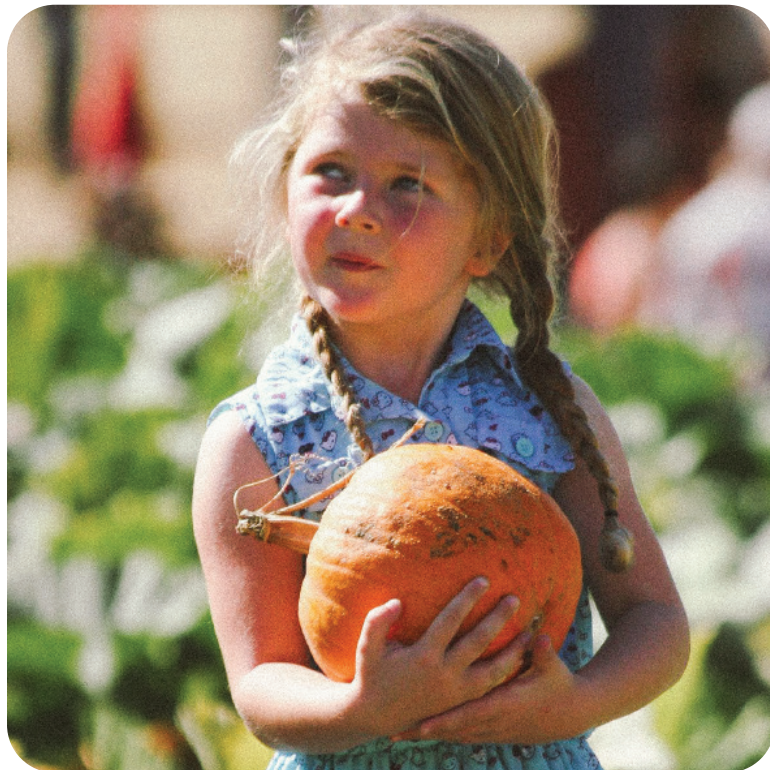
A campaign to expand the Idaho Botanical Garden





# Cultivate. Educate. Celebrate.

We grow our community by connecting people,  
plants and nature



Community Grows Here

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Among the penstemons and evergreens, pumpkins and oregano, there is so much more that grows at the Idaho Botanical Garden. Memories are planted, take root and become new and lasting traditions.

Children discover the wonders of nature. Families enjoy picnic in the shade of a stone lizard lair. Vegetables are harvested to share with under-served communities. Friends and neighbors come together to seek refuge, rest or raise the roof.





# Community Grows Here.

Established in 1984, Idaho Botanical Garden's vision is to be a gathering space where people from all walks of life feel a sense of belonging and closeness to nature and to each other. Our plant collections mirror the diversity of the unique individuals who gather within our grounds. The Garden is driven by a pursuit to cultivate a thriving ecosystem and a resilient community that embraces all.



# Each Year We Serve

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131,000+ guests

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4,800+ garden members

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11,000 children immersed in outdoor  
youth education experiences

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1,300 participants in adult educational  
opportunities

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11,000 volunteer hours

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4,300 pounds of food donated to  
under-served communities

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The Garden sits on thirty-two acres of land at the base of the Boise Foothills within the Old Idaho Penitentiary Historic District. Currently, 15 acres are cultivated with various native and domestic plants adapted to the Intermountain West Region.



In addition to the beautifully developed spaces, Idaho Botanical Garden hosts a series of music, cultural arts, community and family events while offering education programs for all ages year-round.



Community Grows Here

“Idaho Botanical Garden provides a sense of place, history, nature and unique events. It’s where fun stuff happens and is uniquely Idaho.”

-Erin Anderson, Executive Director



# Our Needs Are Growing

While we have been good stewards of our gardens and property, it is time to address pressing needs to continue to create memories for generations to come. The Garden needs more accessible space to grow our programs and continue to be a community asset connecting people, plants, and nature! We have reached capacity due to the lack of both indoor and outdoor spaces to accommodate our education programs, community events, and garden guests. Our community is growing and so must we!

The Master Plan provides a sustainable framework for future facility projects, supports essential garden programming and outlines other vital site improvements.



An aerial photograph of a site with a colorful landscape design overlaid. The design is divided into three distinct areas, each outlined with a red line. The first area, on the left, contains several large orange rectangular structures and a circular garden bed. The second area, in the center, features a large green lawn, a winding path, and various garden beds. The third area, on the right, includes a small building, a path, and a garden bed. The background shows a residential neighborhood with houses and streets.

Phase One

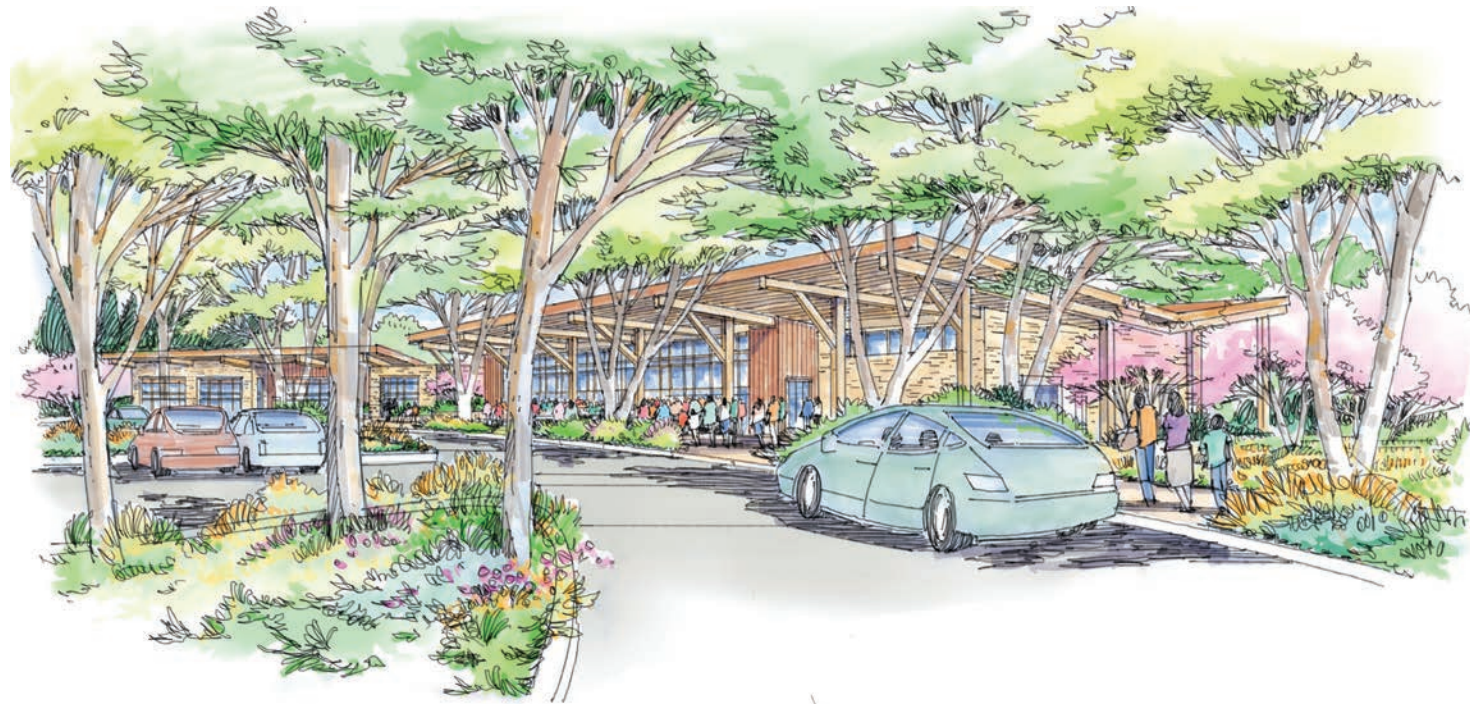
Phase Two

Phase Three

# The Master Plan



# Phase One



New visitor center including indoor classrooms, event space and increased capacity

Year-round, permanent home for Boise Farmers Market

Increased universal accessibility

Improved arrival experience and added parking

Acknowledgment and appreciation of historic gardens and property

Improved irrigation and stormwater management

4.6 acres of new gardens including an outdoor kitchen with a Teaching Vegetable Garden, Horticulture Therapy Garden, Scholar Garden, Arboretum and Outdoor Education Amphitheater Classrooms

# Community Grows Here



“The Garden brings my family together for concerts in the summer, and Winter Garden aGlow in the winter. We have a tradition to have our family picture taken there every year. With adult children and busy lives, it’s difficult to bring everyone together. My family is always ready and willing to spend time together at the Idaho Botanical Garden!”

(Member survey 2023)



# The Future Grows Here

With the completion of our Master Plan, the Idaho Botanical Garden will be a premier garden in the West by being the go-to resource for gardening, sourcing energy and resources responsibly, partnering with individuals and organization that share our beliefs and by cultivating a space for our community to gather. Our vision is to be a community asset and a local, regional and national destination welcoming guests from all walks of life.



## Why Now?

More space is needed to meet the growing demand.

Currently the Garden must deny learning opportunities for youth due to the lack of year-round weather-independent educational spaces. Indoor and outdoor classrooms are needed to ensure more children cultivate an understanding and love of nature.

Community members need access to fresh, healthy food year-round. Creating a vegetable garden space, outdoor kitchen and permanent home for Boise Farmers Market supports food accessibility and opportunities for food education programming.

Cultural arts and community organizations need more intentional gathering spaces.

Our irrigation system is failing. An updated system and better water use and efficiencies will demonstrate best water sustainability practices and optimize water usage.

Improvements and increased accessibility creates a more welcoming environment for all guests.

We must do better to acknowledge the history of the land and its original inhabitants. Our plan honors a long-standing legacy.



# Time to Grow



To continue to carry out our mission and serve the growing community in new and better ways, we know we must do more. Improvement to the gardens and property are needed to plant seeds for the future.

That is why we are launching a capital campaign to increase our ability to grow our community and create new memories by connecting people, plants and nature.

Please join us in this vision.

Please help us plan for future memories and ensure that Community Grows Here today – and for generations to come.



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“We are dedicated to being a catalyst for positive, practical change to safeguard and live in harmony with nature, recognizing that our actions will have a lasting effect on future generations. We rely on the generous support of the community to achieve this.”

Moya Dolsby  
Board President, Idaho Botanical Garden



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