



THE FOUNDATION OF A LEGACY

BUILDING ON 25 YEARS OF GROWTH
2018 ANNUAL REPORT

FREDERIK
Meijer
GARDENS
& SCULPTURE
FOUNDATION



NEW SCULPTURE GARDEN ENTRY PLAZA

The new plaza will architecturally and functionally tie together the entrances to the Welcome Center and the Frederik Meijer Gardens Amphitheater. These are the only two places that guests enter Meijer Gardens. The conveniently located new plaza brings more parking spaces closer to the guest entry points. In addition, the plaza will be an outdoor gathering place that strongly represents our dual mission of horticulture and sculpture.

A LETTER FROM THE FOUNDATION'S PRESIDENT



Dear Friends of the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation,

It is almost overwhelming to consider that last year, we celebrated our silver anniversary – commemorating 25 years as a Foundation that supports what has become a world-class masterpiece dedicated to horticulture and sculpture.

Meijer Gardens has a proud history, leaning on the memory of Betsy Borre, who approached Fred Meijer more than a quarter-century ago, wondering if he might like to help sponsor a modest botanical garden in support of the West Michigan Horticultural Society. Banking on his wisdom – and seeking a place to display his own growing collection of sculptures – Fred upped the ante and suggested the site we now occupy on East Beltline Avenue.

In concert with that prophetic act, Ray Loeschner had the vision to foresee the need of a Foundation to support Meijer Gardens – and helped launch that fiscal initiative three years before Meijer Gardens opened.

As outgoing president of the Foundation, I can't begin to describe how proud I am of the team that has surrounded me with talent and hard work to help grow our assets and continue increasing our awareness.

Each year, the Foundation contributes roughly 20% of the funds required to operate Meijer Gardens. That is a direct result of the generous individuals who support our Foundation. Every dollar contributed allows us to sustain Meijer Gardens in perpetuity.

Internally, our Foundation has undergone some changes, all designed to enhance our ability to serve. Our pioneer, Ray B. Loeschner, who has served 25 years as a director, has been

promoted to Emeritus Director, along with an esteemed trio of others who enjoy that status: Lena E. S. Meijer, Earl D. Holton, and the late Frederik G.H. Meijer.

We've also added two new board members – William J. Boer and Amy L. Keane. Both Bill and Amy bring leadership skills that will benefit the Foundation's future.

Please join me in a warm welcome to Saralyn Coupe as she assumes the leadership of the Foundation as president. Saralyn has served with distinction as chairperson of the Foundation's Investment Committee. She is well equipped to further the progress of the Foundation's activities.

On behalf of the Foundation, I trust you will enjoy leafing through this report, which recognizes our contributors and provides information on the work required to keep our beloved Meijer Gardens sustained as a precious resource for so many people seeking beauty. I hope it also inspires you to consider your legacy at the Foundation that will grow and bloom forever.

Warmly,

John G. Baab, President

**"BECAUSE MEIJER GARDENS HAS BROUGHT JOY TO SO MANY GUESTS,
MANAGING GROWTH HAS BEEN OUR GREATEST, AND HAPPIEST, CHALLENGE"
-EARL HOLTON, BOARD MEMBER**



"GOOD STEWARDSHIP GUIDES US IN EVERYTHING WE DO-IT'S PART OF OUR CULTURE AT MEIJER GARDENS. WE ARE COMMITTED TO HONORING OUR DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS AND BEING GOOD STEWARDS OF THEIR GIFTS."

**-DAVID HOOKER, PRESIDENT AND CEO,
FREDERIK MEIJER GARDENS & SCULPTURE PARK**



BUILDING ON 25 YEARS OF GROWTH

We are thrilled with our phenomenal success! Simply put, we didn't anticipate growth of this magnitude so quickly. At the same time, it provides an amazing opportunity for Meijer Gardens to build on our success-to bring joy to more visitors, to welcome new audiences, to educate more people, to create unique exhibitions, and to offer new and distinct visual experiences and programs all four seasons of the year.



THE JOY OF SUPPORTING "A PLAYGROUND FOR ALL AGES"

A trio of themes surfaced consistently during a dinner and panel discussion in June hosted for members of the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation's Bonsai and Perennial Societies:

ONE: Meijer Gardens has blossomed into a spectacular venue that serves as "a playground for all ages."

TWO: After more than 25 years, it's a fantastic world-class destination located right here in West Michigan.

THREE: There are so many benefits from being part of something so special. It's a joy to give to the Foundation that supports the Gardens.

"It's truly a phenomenon," said Gil Davis, "especially when you consider how it started, with a few do-gooders and incredible vision. Today, you look at it and realize you're involved with a world-class affair." Added his wife Pat, "the staff and

management really have their eyes on everything, and that includes gardens and the sculptures. It shows in everything they do."

The Davises were just two of nearly 100 guests who gathered for an annual tribute to members of the Foundation's Perennial and Bonsai Societies, comprised of donors whose cumulative gifts and/or pledges, including pledges in estate plans, to the Foundation meet or exceed \$10,000 and \$100,000, respectively.

They included long-time volunteer Arlene Obetts, a Perennial Society member who has held a variety of positions at Meijer Gardens, including more than 3,500 hours as a volunteer over the last two decades.

Dorothy Williamson described Meijer Gardens as "a playground for all ages," adding that the facility and acreage are "amazing, entertaining and inspiring." The artistry and horticultural touchstones throughout "help to remind us all of the good stewards that we need to be."

Jon Ferguson used the evening to express his appreciation for the opportunity to dedicate an endowment in

the name of his late wife. The Sallie Peterson Ferguson Fund supports the ability of underprivileged children to visit Meijer Gardens. "She loved the Gardens and she loved children," so this endowment was a perfect legacy!

Gwen Bolt said she was drawn to Meijer Gardens and its Foundation thanks to a life-long love affair with gardens and orchards that she helped her extended family tend throughout her lifetime.

Mac and Pinky McPherson can trace their devotion to Meijer Gardens back to when their children came during 5th grade excursions to the holiday trees on display. "This is a spectacular place," said Pinky, "and we can all be very proud and blessed to be a part of this incredible West Michigan destination."

Charles and Patricia Bloom shared while it's natural to give to other deserving area non-profits, the Foundation and the Gardens provides a special way to extend a family's legacy to children, grandchildren and beyond.



A panel discussion drew the evening to a close, during which a panel of Foundation and Gardens leadership reminisced about the inception of Meijer Gardens, and what it has grown to become.

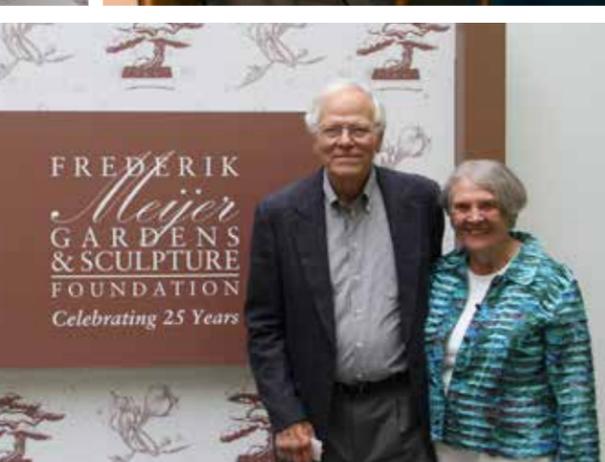
"It's a privilege and an honor to be here talking about gardens that really weren't supposed to be," joked Ray Loeschner, who led the establishment of the Meijer Gardens Foundation. People cautioned him about "committing professional suicide" if he took on the prospect of a foundation for a botanical garden, including naysayers who questioned the wisdom of tying a venue to flowers. Loeschner, who said he'd been "digging in the dirt since I was a child," reminded his antagonists that one only had to consider the Traverse City Cherry Festival, Holland Tulip Time Festival and Pasadena Rose Bowl celebrations to know that people would flock to a place like Meijer Gardens – if it were done well.

25 years later, we have nothing less than a community jewel to celebrate

Hank Meijer – son of Meijer Gardens founders Fred and Lena Meijer – recalled how Amway co-founder Rich DeVos initially labeled the venture "Freddie's Farm," but of course joined a host of others as a dynamic supporter when it began to take shape. The DeVoses later were major donors to The Richard & Helen DeVos Japanese Garden.

Many agreed that over the last quarter century, the Foundation has helped guarantee that Meijer Gardens will be enjoyed in perpetuity, thanks to sound and transparent financial strategies.

"None of us had the vision of what we are enjoying today," said Earl Holton, former president of Meijer, who joined Ray Loeschner and Fred Meijer in a quest to jump-start the Foundation. "And now, 25 years later, we have nothing less than a community jewel to celebrate."



THE FOLLOWING DONORS HAVE MADE CUMULATIVE CONTRIBUTIONS

BONSAI SOCIETY

\$1,000,000 or more

FRED & DOROTHY* FICHTER
DIRK & VICTORIA* HOFFIUS
FREDERIK* & LENA MEIJER
MEIJER, INC
THE MEIJER FOUNDATION
CHRIS* & CHARLOTTE* SOUTHWICK

\$500,000 - \$999,999

JAMES* & JOAN HOFFMAN
BERNIE & ROSE ROSENTHAL
ARTHUR* & ELIZABETH E.* SNELL

\$250,000 - \$499,999

DR. DAVID G. DVORAK/MS.
KAROL J. PETERSON
CLARE F. JARECKI*
CHARLES G. SCHOENKNECHT & WARD A. PAUL
WEGE FOUNDATION

\$100,000 - \$249,999

L. DALE* & JEAN* ATKINSON
KENNETH BANDSTRA
JOHN D. & MARIAN F. BOUWER
EARL & DONNALEE HOLTON
MICHAEL & SARAH JULIEN
C. THOMAS & EVELYN KAPTEYN
THOMAS PETER KAPTEYN
MINER* & MARY ANN KEELER/KEELER
FOUNDATION
KELLER FOUNDATION
RAY & NANCY* LOESCHNER
HANK & LIESEL MEIJER
THOMAS P. MERCHANT & GLEN W. JOHNSON
JOHN & GAIL NOWAK
RICHARD & VALERIE PEACOCK
ED* & JUNE PREIN FAMILY
LYNN & JOHN P. VINKEMULDER

PERENNIAL SOCIETY

\$50,000 - \$99,999

VERN & NORMA BOSS
FRED & SUSAN* COOPER
DANIEL & PAMELLA DEVOS FOUNDATION
ABBY J. & MILO R. DEVRIES
EDIE FLEMING*
GILLETT FAMILY FOUNDATION TRUST
THOMAS* & MARGARET* JACK
WAYNE & VICKI KORSON
DONALD* & KATHLEEN MAINE
DAVID R. & MARY A. MAPES
MARSILJE FOUNDATION
JACK H. MILLER
HAROLD* & PHOEBE* PHELPS
DR. LEONARD* & DORA C.* ROSENZWEIG
BUDGE & MARILYN SHERWOOD

\$25,000 - \$49,999

ANONYMOUS
CHARLES & PATRICIA BLOOM
CONRAD* & MOLLY BRADSHAW
THE BROOKS FAMILY – HOLLAND
JESSE & GIA BUDRICK
THOMAS B. CORNELL*
JAMES & JUDY DELAPA
NANCY MCKENZIE FROST
SID & ELIZABETH HARKEMA
DIRK & JUNE HOFFIUS
SUE ANN JABIN*
THE KORFF FOUNDATION
HARVEY LEMMEN
ARLENE OBETTS
HILARY F. & CONNIE* SNELL
JOHN & JUDY SPOELHOF
JESSE & BECKY STEWART
THE TASSELL-WISNER-BOTTRALL
FOUNDATION
GEORGE & KERSTIN TROWBRIDGE

\$15,000 - \$24,999

CHARLES & DEBBIE BECKWITH
FRED & JULIE* BOGAERT
RICH & SHERI BROLICK
JIM* & JOAN BUCHANAN
IN MEMORY OF
SALLIE PETERSON FERGUSON
FIRST OF AMERICA BANK
GREGORY & KATHY FORZLEY
JOHN & NANCY GORDON
CHARLES R. & LINDA H. JOHNSON
MARTIN* & SUE KLOOSTRA
DEBORAH MEIJER
RICHARD G. & MAUREEN J. MORRISON
RICHARD* & JEANENNE MORTON
JIM & MARIE PRESTON
ALWYN & CHRISTINE ROUGIER-CHAPMAN
HELEN & FRED TALLMADGE
ROGER* & LUELLE* WARNSHUIS
GWEN BOLT & DOROTHY WILLIAMSON

\$10,000 - \$14,999

JOHN & JANET BAAB
BATTS FOUNDATION
JUDY* & KEN BETZ
KARL F. & PATRICIA BETZ
WILLIAM & LAURIE BOER
GLEN & BETSY BORRE
PAUL & CATHY BOYER
DANIEL & BARBARA BRAUN
HELEN BULL*
ROBERT W. BURNHAM
ROBERT & SUSAN CONKLIN
GLEN B. & EUNICE L.* CORP
GILBERT R. & PATRICIA K. DAVIS
ELIZABETH TINNEY DONLEY
CHRIS & DEANNA ECKERT
HENRY FUHS FAMILY
GRACE SPEARS CHADWICK
MEMORIAL GARDEN CENTER
WILLIAM & SUZANNE GREEN
JOHN & GWEN HIBBARD

TO THE FOUNDATION AND QUALIFY FOR PERMANENT RECOGNITION:

DAVID S. & LESLIE A. HOOKER
ROBERT & JUDITH* HOOKER
MARILYN & DAVE* HUNTING, JR.
MIKE & SUE JANDERNOA
JEANNE M. KAPENGA M.D.
JAMES & AMY KEANE
DONALD & ANN KELLEY
JOHN & NANCY KENNEDY
KENT GARDEN CLUB
DOUGLAS & RAYMONDE KRAMLICH
DALE & PAM LARSON
BARBARA MAYO-JOHNSON
MAC & PINKY MCPHERSON
LINDA & DAVID MEHNEY FOUNDATION
JOHN & MARY* MORRISON
KATHARINE L. NEFF
JEFF & PEG PADNOS
STUART B. PADNOS* & JEAN W. BARKIN
THE PULLEN-CHAMBERLAIN FAMILY
RICHARD A. RASMUSSEN* FAMILY
DAVID & KATHLEEN RAY
SHIRLEY J. ROSKAM
CHUCK* & STELLA ROYCE
MARK SHERWOOD & SARALYN COUPE
DR. WILLIAM* & NORMA* SPRAGUE
ROSALYNN STUART*
FRANK & SHARON VAN HAVEN
CONNIE WENGER
STEPHEN & CHERYL WONCH

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

\$5,000 - \$9,999

WILLIAM E. ALT
TAMMY & HOWIE BAILEY
JAMES* & JOY DEBOER
TERRY & MARGIE GRIFFITH
VIRGIL & MAY* JOHANNINGSMEIER
CHRISTINE M. LIEBROCK
MAST FOUNDATION
TODD & JAN POLAVIN
SHAWN TILSTRA
MARILYN TITCHE

THE STEVE VAN ANDEL FOUNDATION
DANIEL & SUSANNE VEENEMAN FAMILY
WOODS CONSTRUCTION

\$1,000 - \$4,999

ROBERT N. (ROB) ALT, JR.
STANLEY* & BLANCHE* ASH FOUNDATION
JANET R. BACON*
RITA CHAMPION BALCZAK
JAMES & SHIRLEY BALK
LOIS E. BECKERING
BJORK BRADFORD
DONOR ADVISED FUND OF
GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY FDN
DEAN & SANDIE BULL
DON & FRAN BUSKE
ANNA MOORE BUTZNER
ROBERT L. BYTWERK
CAMPBELL SALES COMPANY
GREGORY C. CARNEVALE & DIANE MAHON
KEN & JUDI CARPENTER
CHRIS-TINA FOUNDATION/HOFFMAN FAMILY
BETTY M. CLOUD
BRIAN CLOYD & AGNES KEMPKER-CLOYD
PAIGE CORNETET
COMMERCE CORPORATION
LIN CULVER IN MEMORY OF GARY CULVER
DOUGLAS DEBOER MEMORIAL FUND OF
GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY FDN
ANNA & DAVID DETHMERS
DENA & JAMES DEVORMER
DOROTHY LANE MARKET, INC.
DTE ENERGY
MARK & JENNIFER ELLIS
ROBERT & RUDEAN FAIRMAN
FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY-GRAND RAPIDS
BETTY B. FORD*
DR. JEFFREY H. FRANK
GLEA* & W.D.* FRANKFORTER
CHARLES* & ELIZABETH* FRENCH
REV. DR. CHARLES & BETTY JEAN FRY
FUSIONARY MEDIA
CARL* & VIRGINIA* GEIS

GILSON GRAPHICS
JAMES* & BEBE* GLERUM
GRAND VALLEY INDOOR GARDENERS
GRAND VALLEY ROSARIANS OF W. MI
DORIS GRIFFITH*/GRIFFITH FOUNDATION
MICHAEL D. HANKINSON FAMILY
LARRY & CINDY HAVARD
JANET A. HAYNES
DONALD E.* & PRISCILLA M.* HAZELSWART
WILLIAM* & LUCILLE* HICKS
JACK* & MARGE HIGHFIELD
TOM & SHARON HILLIKER
STEPHEN & SUSAN HOFFIUS
JOHN R. HUNTING
PHILLIP & CHERRY JACOBUS
DON & LOIS JANDERNOA
JAROB, INC.
F. MARTIN* & DOROTHY A. JOHNSON
FAMILY FUND
CHLOE & LESTER* JONES
TOM & MARGY JONES
JIM & GINGER* JURRIES
CATHERINE KEANE
EMMA C. KEANE
HENRY & MAUREEN* KEANE
JAMES P. KEANE, JR.
KEHE DISTRIBUTORS
KATIE* & BOB* KIMBALL
PETER & HELGA KLEINSCHMIDT
DONALD KLOPCIC, SR.*
HERBERT & GLENNA KNAPE
SAM* & JANE* KRAVITZ FOUNDATION
JIM & NATALIE KURAS
TOM & SALLY KYROS
MARILYN LANKFER & JEFF SCHAD
AARON LEE
PING & TIM LIANG
BARRIE & JIM LOEKS
MARK. A. LOESCHNER
MARK A. LOESCHNER, JR.
MATTIE LOESCHNER
THE LUKENS FAMILY FOUNDATION
EUGENE G. & JEAN P.* LYONS

JON & MARY ANN MARCH
JAMES & NORMA JEAN MCCORMICK
LEXY MCCULLOCH
WILLIAM G.* & JERRE J.* MCDANIEL
LORRAINE R. MCDONALD
JOHN & KATE MCGARRY
JIM MCKAY* & TWINK FREY
WALTER* & PAMELA MCVEIGH
DOUG MEIJER
MAUREEN C. MEINERT
WENDELL A. MILES*
BETTY R. MILLER
MILLER JOHNSON,
 IN MEMORY OF BETTY SNELL
KIM S. MITCHELL
DANIEL & KATHLEEN MOLHOEK
FRANK & NANCY MOORE
RUTH LAGOW O'KEEFE*
DUANE & NANCY NAGEL
JOANN F. OTT
PAT* & ARMEN* OUMEDIAN
MARTIN & ENID PACKARD
WILLIAM* & SUSAN PAPPAS
BRUCE N. & JEAN A. PARSONS
MARY S. PETERSON
MR.* & MRS.* ROBERT C. PEW II
MARK & MARTI PREIN
RICHARD & JUDITH RATHBURN
PETER P. & PATRICIA RENUCCI
DR. DARREL*, CARRIE*, & SHERI ROSEN
CHARLOTTE A. RUNNELLS ESTATE
SAKURA BONSAI SOCIETY OF
 NORTHERN MICHIGAN
JAMES & BONNIE SCARLETT
DR. KENNETH & CAROLINE SCHULTZ
MARTIN* & EILEEN SHEDLESKI
NED & KRISTI SNELL
SOUTHLAND AUTO WASH
STEELCASE FOUNDATION
JOSEPH & ANN* SWEENEY
THINKWISE, INC.
IN MEMORY OF SETH SOLEIL THOMAS
PETER M. TURNER
LEWIS & NORMA VANKUIKEN
MATT VAN VRANKEN

RAY & WAVELET WEIGEL
SARA R. FERGUSON & DAVID K. WHITMORE
FRANCES R. WILLARD*
DR. MARY E. WILSBURG*
DR. GLENN & LINDA ZIMMERMANN

* Indicates deceased donors

THE FOLLOWING DONORS CONTRIBUTED TO THE FOUNDATION IN 2018 AND QUALIFY FOR ANNUAL RECOGNITION:

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS \$200 - \$999

ALAN & DEBBIE ABRAHAM
JAMES L. BELLIS
LOIS FEICHTENBINER
JAMES W. FLESER
JULIE K. HAVEMAN
DOUGLAS & PATRICIA KLEIN
GREG, LISA, ASHER & AVY LOCKWOOD
PETER & CARROLL PEREZ
SANDRA SWANSON
STEELE & MARY TAYLOR

THE FOLLOWING DONORS HAVE ALSO CONTRIBUTED TO THE FOUN- DATION IN 2018:

KELLY BALLOR
ERIC R. & ANITA B. BENNETT
ROBERT & BARBARA CLARK
DAVID & JOAN CYWINSKI
RYAN, LAURA, ANDY & MAX DIEPSTRA
JOHANNA EHLERS
RALPH PERNICE & NANCY ENGLANDER
JON & MARY FORSLUND
CHRISTINE HESS
RICHARD & KATRINA JENSEN
VIRGIL JOHANNINGSMEIER
JACK & GINNY KELLY
BARBARA P. MARCUS
MARY RUZICKA-SAVAGE

OTHER INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE REMEMBERED THE FOUNDATION IN THEIR ESTATE PLANS:

LOIS E. BECKERING
NANCY MCKENZIE FROST
DALE & CYNTHIA NELSON
BRUCE & JEAN PARSONS

2018 TRIBUTE CONTRIBUTIONS

IN MEMORY OF THOMAS B. CORNELL

PAUL HARRISON MOCK SR.,
 HARRISON MOCK &
 MELISSA MOCK BREWSTER
HAYES & PEGGY CARGILL
CHARLES & JUDY STEWART
PATRICIA WALLERSTROM

IN HONOR OF DIRK HOFFIUS

TOM & JUDY ANTHROP
LINDA CHARVAT

IN MEMORY OF SUE ANN JABIN

MARK & CATHY BISSELL
BROOKE CROSLY & PETER VIS
NATLIE DORRIS
BILL & KAY FARR
LOIS FEICHTENBINER
MARY FORSLUND
GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
MARY J. HASKINS
CHARLES L. KATZENMEYER
KENT GARDEN CLUB
HANK & LIESEL MEIJER
C. DAVID & ELIZABETH MOHAN
JOHN A. & PATRICIA O. NEUHAUS
H. RHETT & JERALYN PINSKY
RALPH & LORRAINE PRICE
LYNN SARAOSIK
MARY SCHAFF
DR. PAUL & DEBRA SUGIYAMA
JOAN THRALL
GRETCHEN ZUIDERVEEN

IN MEMORY OF RICHARD MORTON

RAY LOESCHNER
HANK & LIESEL MEIJER

IN HONOR OF SALLIE PETERSON FERGUSON'S BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY

JON FERGUSON

IN MEMORY OF OUR MOTHER AND GRANDMOTHER, SALLIE PETERSON FERGUSON

ANNA FERGUSON VALORE & DEAN
 VALORE FAMILY

IN MEMORY OF KENNETH DALE WENGER

DONALD & MARY APOL
RITA BALCZAK
LARRY BASHAW
ANNE BENSON
ROBERT BERLIN
BOB & JEAN BLOSSFELD
JOHN & HELEN BLYTHE
LORRAINE BOER
JOHN & MARIAN BOUWER
KEITH & SHEILA BROPHY
KIM BRUYN
MELISSA BUSH & SCOTT DITTENBER
MARK BUTLER
BILL & CHARLENE BYLSMA
GREGORY CARNEVALE & DIANE MAHON
MARILYN CLARK
RAJI SANKARATHIL DANIEL & T.S. DANIEL
ANDREW & PAMELA DAUGAVIETIS
DEBORAH DAVIS
DEAN'S LANDSCAPING & EXCAVATING STAFF
JACKIE DEL RASO & DENNIS WOOLDRIDGE
JOCELYN DETTLOFF
LINDA DODGE
GARY & SUZANNE EBERLE
CHRISTOPHER & DEANNA ECKERT
ANDREA ESSLING
FAST SIGNS OF GRAND RAPIDS

FENCE CONSULTANTS STAFF
CARLTON & MARY FERGUSON
NANCY FERRIBY
MARY FORSLUND
LEONARD & JULIE FRANCKE
FREDERIK MEIJER GARDENS
 & SCULPTURE PARK MANAGEMENT TEAM
GEORGE & NANCY GALE
PAUL GOULET
MARIBETH GROEN
MICHAEL & LORRAINE HANKINSON
SHANE & ANN HANSEN
PAUL MARILYNN HEBEBRAND
AMY HEINDEL & MARGARET CURTIN
SID & PATRICIA HELDER
RALPH & MARY ANN HENSLEY
KIMBERLY HILLEBRAND
DIRK & JUNE HOFFIUS
EARL & DONNALEE HOLTON
DAVID & LESLIE HOOKER
JACK & JOANNE HULST
HURST MECHANICAL
KARYL JUDSON
MICHAEL & SARAH JULIEN
JOANNE KEENAN
DONALD KELLEY & ANN AVERY-KELLEY
MARK & DAWN KIBBEN
SHELLY KILROY
BETTY KINGSTON
EUGENE & PAM KLEIBUSCH
ANDREW KLINE
GERALD & MARJORIE LABRECK
JEFFREY & GAYLE LAMBERT
STEVE & SHERI LAWARRE
RENEE LEIGHTON
NANCY LEPAGE
PING & TIM LIANG
DAVID & MARCIA LUCAS
JON & MARY ANN MARCH
CHRIS & AMY MAUTZ
ARDATH MCCALL
THE MEIJER FAMILY
HENRY & FAYE MELLEMA
TERENCE MERCER & ERIN FETTIG
JOHN & TAMA MILLER

JOE & STACIE NIEDZWIECKI
MARY OHM
ON YOUR LEFT
MARTIN & ENID PACKARD
WILLIAM PADNOS & MARGY KAYE
RICHARD & VALERIE PEACOCK
TODD & JAN POLAVIN
JIM & MARIE PRESTON
CLIFF PURVIS
KATIE RACEY
ANNE ROSSI
ALWYN & CHRISTINE ROUGIER-CHAPMAN
BILL & BETTY SANDERSON
MARVIN & SALLY SCHAAFSMA
MARIANNE SCHMIDT
WILLIAM SCHOONVELD & JAN LAMAN
JOHN & BARBARA SHOEMAKER
NICOLE SOUER
SPECTRAL ENTERPRISES
JESSE & REBECCA STEWART
MARILYN STUART
LINDA THOMPSON
TOD WILLIAMS BILLIE TSIEN DESIGN
TWIN LAKES NURSERY, INC.
STEVEN & SHARON VAN LOON
DAVID & ELLEN VANDEN BERG
LOU VANDERHAVE
JOHN VANDERHAAGEN
DAN & SUSANNE VEENEMAN
ANGELA VIOLET
GABE & RENEE VLASMA
PHILLIP & KATHLEEN VOGELSANG
ZACH WALL
DOUG & MARYLN WALTON
SUE WARD
MATTHEW WARSEN
PHYLLIS WEBB
PATRICIA WENGER
AMANDA WHEELER
GWEN BOLT & DOROTHY WILLIAMSON
YVONNE WOODRICK
GLORIA & CHARLES ZAMIARA
KENNETH ZIMMERMAN

RESTRICTED NAMED FUNDS

Restricted named funds demonstrate some of the ways members have chosen to make their gifts to the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation gifts that grow and bloom forever. If you are unable to establish a named, restricted fund for \$10,000 or more, but you wish to designate your gift to the Foundation for a specific purpose, it is possible. You can designate your gift to a specific area of interest by indicating that preference on the enclosed gift envelope.

KARL F. & PATRICIA BETZ

For support of Vickie's Garden in memory of Victoria Johnson Hoffius

JOHN D. & MARIAN F. BOUWER FUND

Bird collection and maintenance in the Lena Meijer Conservatory and throughout Meijer Gardens

MOLLY BRADSHAW WETLANDS MANAGEMENT FUND

Management of Wetlands embraced within Meijer Gardens

RICH & SHERI BROLICK FUND

Horticultural maintenance

BROOKS FAMILY – HOLLAND FUND

Maintenance of the Brooks Conference Center

JESSE & GIA BUDRICK FUND

Support the "Who Am I? A Butterfly Ballet"

THOMAS B. CORNELL FUND

Care and maintenance of the Water Lilies Sculpture and surrounding planting area

EUNICE L. CORP OF CADILLAC FUND

For the promotion of learning experiences in the art of bonsai

DANIEL & PAMELLA DEVOS FOUNDATION (VISITOR CENTER) FUND

Maintenance of the DeVos Visitor Center

ABBY J. & MILO R. DEVRIES FUND

Bird collection and maintenance in the wetlands, Lena Meijer Conservatory and throughout Meijer Gardens

HARRY & ELIN DOEHNE WILDFLOWER MEADOW FUND

Support Meijer Gardens which contains the Wildflower Meadow and sculpture site

CHRIS & DEANNA ECKERT FLOWER FUND

Enhance fresh flowers on the Balk Café tables

THE SALLIE PETERSON FERGUSON FUND

Support the ability of underprivileged children to visit Meijer Gardens including transportation, admission and materials

FRED & DOROTHY FICHTER FUND

To provide title sponsorship of Meijer Gardens' annual exhibition, Butterflies Are Blooming

GARDENS MAINTENANCE FUND

General Meijer Gardens maintenance

GRACE F. JARECKI SEASONAL DISPLAY GREENHOUSE MAINTENANCE FUND

Maintain high-quality and memorable displays on a monthly basis within the Jarecki Greenhouse

GRACE SPEARS CHADWICK MEMORIAL GARDEN CENTER FUND

Purchase of library books

GWEN & JOHN HIBBARD FUND

For support of sculpture

DIRK & JUNE HOFFIUS FUND

For support of the Varnum Families Log Cabin, Hoffius Hill and the Children's Garden

HOFFMAN FAMILY FUND

Modernization and technological updates of the Hoffman Auditorium

HOFFMAN FAMILY MAINTENANCE FUND

Meijer Gardens & exhibit maintenance

HUMANITIES COUNCIL LECTURE SERIES FUND

Writers & poets themed lecture series

JAPANESE GARDEN FUND

Benefit of the Japanese Garden

CHARLES & LINDA JOHNSON FUND

For support of Vickie's Garden in memory of Victoria Johnson Hoffius

MINER S. & MARY ANN KEELER FUND

Purchase sculptures created by living artists

KELLER ENDOWMENT FUND

Provide transportation & scholarship admission to Meijer Gardens for underprivileged children

JOHN & NANCY KENNEDY FUND

For support of the annual summer camps at Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park

KENT GARDEN CLUB FUND

Ram's Garden maintenance

MARTIN & SUE KLOOSTRA FUND

Maintain and to grow the bonsai collection

DALE & PAMELA LARSON FUND

Maintenance of the Children's Garden

LECTURE SERIES ADMINISTRATION FUND

Administrative support of the Frederik Meijer Gardens' Lecture Series

LAWRENCE & KATHERINE LEMMEN ATRIUM FUND

Maintenance of the Lawrence & Katherine Lemmen Atrium

RAY & NANCY LOESCHNER ANNUAL ART COMPETITION FUND

Annual Art Competition inspired by the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park

THE MARSILJE FUND

For support of the many educational programs at the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park

FRED & LENA MEIJER AMPHITHEATER FUND

Support of the Amphitheater

FREDERIK & LENA MEIJER SCULPTURE ACQUISITION FUND

Support acquisition & installation of sculpture

LENA MEIJER CHILDREN'S GARDEN MAINTENANCE FUND

Maintenance of the Children's Garden

MEIJER SCULPTURE FUND

Support & enhance sculpture exhibits & programs, Curator's salary & sculpture acquisition

MEIJER SCULPTURE MAINTENANCE FUND

Maintain & repair any sculpture exhibit of Meijer Gardens as well as its base & pedestal

ED & JUNE PREIN FAMILY FUND

Maintenance of the Children's Garden

RAM'S GARDEN MAINTENANCE FUND

Ram's Garden maintenance

LEONARD & DORA ROSENZWEIG ORCHID WALL & EXHIBIT FUND

Perpetual care of the Orchid Wall & exhibit

CONSTANCE Z. & HILARY F. SNELL FUND

Support the annual Connie Snell Volunteer Recognition Dinner

VICKIE'S GARDEN FUND

For support of Vickie's Garden in memory of Victoria Johnson Hoffius

JOHN & LYNN VINKEMULDER FUND

Creek & Plantoir sculptures

VOLUNTEER TRIBUTE GARDEN FUND

Maintenance of the Volunteer Tribute Garden

PETER M. WEGE LIBRARY ENDOWMENT FUND

Library materials & maintenance

WEGE ENVIRONMENTAL LECTURE SERIES FUND

Environment lectures

WELCOMING THE WORLD: HONORING A LEGACY OF LOVE FUND

For support of all facilities, gardens and art created, modified or restored as part of the campaign

KENNETH DALE WENGER TREE FUND

Purchase trees to be planted at Meijer Gardens

UNRESTRICTED NAMED FUNDS

Named funds may be established with gifts or pledges of \$10,000 or more. Contributions less than \$10,000 go to the general fund.

L. Dale & Jean Atkinson Fund
John & Janet Baab Fund
Batts Foundation Fund
Ken & Judy Betz Fund
William & Laurie Boer Fund
Fred Bogaert Fund
Jim & Joan Buchanan Fund
Helen Bull Fund
Gilbert R. & Patricia K. Davis Fund
James & Judy DeLapa Fund
Daniel & Pamella DeVos Foundation Fund
First of America Bank Fund
Nancy McKenzie Frost Fund
Gillette Family Foundation Trust Fund
John & Nancy Gordon Fund
Sid & Elizabeth Harkema Fund

Earl & Donnalee Holton Fund
Marilyn & Dave Hunting Jr. Fund
Sarah & Michael Julien Fund
Jim & Amy L. Keane Fund
The Korff Foundation Fund
Wayne & Vicki Korson Fund
Douglas & Raymonde Kramlich Fund
Harvey E. Lemmen Fund
Deborah Hoffman Meijer Fund
Donald & Kathleen Maine Fund
Linda & Dave Mehney Foundation Fund
Fred & Lena Meijer Fund
Hank & Liesel Meijer Fund
Jack H. Miller Fund
John & Mary Morrison Fund
Richard G. & Maureen J. Morrison Fund

Richard & Jeanette Morton Fund
John & Gail Nowak Fund
Jeff & Peg Padnos Fund
Stuart Padnos & Jean Barkin Fund
The Richard A. Rasmussen Family Fund
Chuck & Stella Royce Fund
Mark Sherwood & Saralyn Coupe Fund
Arthur & Elizabeth Snell Fund
Chris & Charlotte Southwick Fund
John & Judy Spoelhof Foundation Fund
Bill & Norma Sprague Fund
Frank & Sharon Van Haven Fund
Tassell-Wisner-Bottrall Foundation Fund
Roger & Luella Warnshuis Fund

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS OF DECEMBER 31	2016	2017	2018
Investments at Market Value	\$101,831,583	\$116,111,392	\$110,353,878
Pledges, Gifts, Other Receivables	\$800,529	\$13,764,069	\$9,898,015
Total Assets	\$102,632,112	\$129,875,461	\$120,251,893
Less: Liabilities	\$1,729,768	\$1,585,556	\$1,460,678
Total Net Assets	\$100,902,344	\$128,289,905	\$118,791,215
Restricted Funds	\$36,522,912	\$55,788,438	\$52,499,555
Unrestricted Funds	\$64,379,432	\$72,501,467	\$66,291,660
Total Net Assets	\$100,902,344	\$128,289,905	\$118,791,215

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

AS OF DECEMBER 31	2016	2017	2018
Contributions Income	\$1,144,300	\$14,253,308	\$1,118,764
Investment Income or (Loss)	\$7,076,910	\$17,590,001	\$(5,656,098)
Total Revenues and Gains/(Loss)	\$8,221,210	\$31,843,309	\$(4,537,334)
Distributions to the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park	\$4,419,280	\$4,358,450	\$4,845,580
Other Expenses	\$88,447	\$97,298	\$115,776
Total Distributions and Expenses	\$4,507,727	\$4,455,748	\$4,961,356
Increase (Decrease) to Net Assets	\$3,713,483	\$27,387,561	\$(9,498,690)

A LETTER FROM THE GARDENS' PRESIDENT



Dear Friends,

Eileen Shedleski is a remarkably wonderful woman with a dynamic sense of humor. Last fall, she visited Meijer Gardens for a tour and I had the privilege of greeting her. I asked Eileen how she was doing and she replied with a big smile, “My first

97 years were a piece of cake. The last 6 months have been a real pain.” We shared a laugh.

Eileen’s generosity has allowed us to include her name on the teahouse in The Richard & Helen DeVos Japanese Garden and on our soon-to-be-finished Picnic Pavilion. At the end of our tour, Eileen had some more serious words for me. She said “David, please tell Mrs. Meijer how deeply grateful I am to her and Fred for creating Meijer Gardens and allowing me to contribute.” It was an emotional moment; a moment that illustrates the uniquely authentic place that is Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park.

That story helps me express my gratitude to Lena Meijer and the entire Meijer family for their leadership, vision and generosity in creating Meijer Gardens. On behalf of all who visit Meijer Gardens, I extend that same appreciation to all of you for your generous gifts of support. Your gifts are important and help further our mission by supporting all we do, including some special programs that give free and reduced admission to groups like Artists Creating Together and other groups from Title 1 schools.

On your visits to Meijer Gardens, you have “Watched us Grow” as part of the Welcoming the World: Honoring a Legacy of Love capital campaign. The project is progressing according to schedule. Last year the Peter C. and Emajean Cook Transportation Center, the Covenant Learning Center and the Steve and Amy Van Andel Terrace seating areas all opened. Soon

the Stuart and Barbara Padnos Rooftop Sculpture Garden will open. Work on the new Welcome Center is exciting to watch and will be ready in early 2021. The new parking lot will give us more parking, more parking closer to our entrance, more accessible parking and a more beautiful presentation. One third of the new lot is now open, the next third will open this Spring and the final third in 2021. We appreciate your patience as we grow.

John Baab is completing a distinguished term as President of the Foundation. John is an exceptionally fine leader who has helped significantly grow the Foundation’s assets and provided wonderful stewardship. I am glad he will continue to serve as a board member. At the same time, I am pleased to welcome Saralyn Coupe who will assume the presidential role. Her fantastic leadership of the Investment Committee has been an important part of the stewardship of the Foundation.

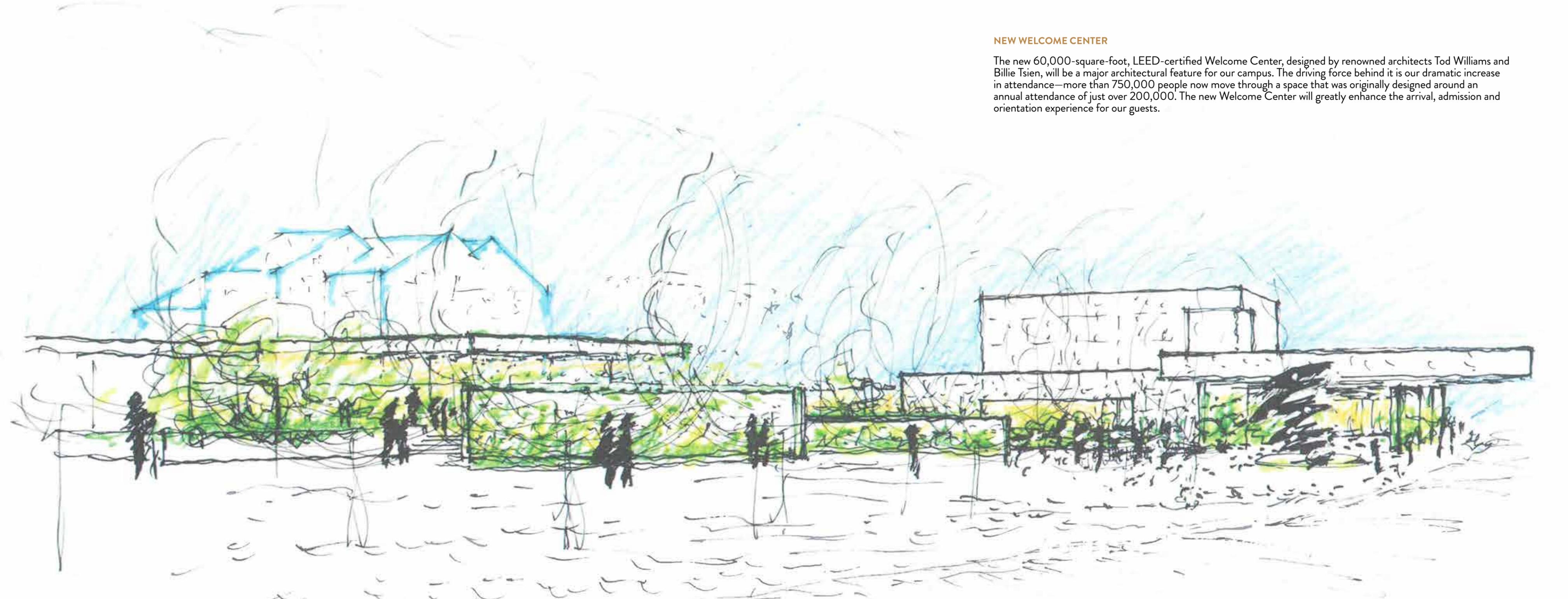
The volunteers who make up the board of the Foundation give tirelessly of their time and talents. It is a significant gift necessary to the advancement of our missions and the sustainability of Meijer Gardens. Thank you for your service.

Gratefully,

David S. Hooker
President
Chief Executive Officer

NEW WELCOME CENTER

The new 60,000-square-foot, LEED-certified Welcome Center, designed by renowned architects Tod Williams and Billie Tsien, will be a major architectural feature for our campus. The driving force behind it is our dramatic increase in attendance—more than 750,000 people now move through a space that was originally designed around an annual attendance of just over 200,000. The new Welcome Center will greatly enhance the arrival, admission and orientation experience for our guests.





STORIES OF GIVING

The Juliens

The Eckerts

The Trowbridges

THE JULIENS

In a somewhat whimsical way, one special couple in our midst gives back to the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park and its Foundation in what you might describe as “The Key of Julien.”

In any respect, Mike and Sarah Julien both love to call Meijer Gardens their home away from home, a place where, in Mike’s words, “anyone who visits is going to find something special.”

Adds Sarah, “We’re just so impressed at how this facility is for all ages, and it’s always changing and improving, including construction of a new entrance to accommodate more people. They’re always thinking ahead.”

To demonstrate their love of Meijer Gardens, the Juliens have invested significant time and treasure into the Foundation to help create a legacy that is destined to live on for the sake of current and future generations.

Mike got his first taste of the Meijer culture in 1975 while working as a certified public accountant with a firm that represented Meijer, Inc. In 1995, he joined Meijer as Vice President Taxes and stayed until 2012, staying busy with projects that included the family’s foundation and its various philanthropic interests. He’s served the Meijer Gardens Foundation since 1996, first as financial advisor, then as Treasurer to the Board since 2010.

Sarah was a stay-at-home mom for most of the time their three daughters attended Forest Hills schools, but she found time to serve the district, as well as the North Country National Scenic Trail and other non-profits. She also served as a significant sounding board for Mike during his 16-year tenure as Cascade Township Supervisor. “It was a great way to give back to the local community,” he says of their involvement.

Mike and Sarah have been donors to the Foundation since 1997. In 2011, they made an estate gift pledge to the Foundation, which they fulfilled in 2016. That gift qualified them to become members of the Bonsai Society.



They like to emphasize that the Foundation allows an opportunity for everyone to create a legacy. “There are ways to become involved at all levels,” says Sarah. “You can give ten dollars or a hundred thousand dollars, anything that anyone gives is always appreciated and helps support Meijer Gardens”

Mike especially enjoys the opportunity to play rhythm guitar and back-up vocals as part of “Franklin Park”, a band he and five 1969 classmates at Holland High School formed to pay homage to 60s rock classics. They performed this past August at Meijer Gardens, and were delighted to be informed that the Gardens actually set records for ticket and concession sales.

Mike’s philosophy of giving back is tied to a belief that “each generation has a responsibility to the next generation to leave its charitable organizations in good shape. That includes good governance, good management and a good, sound financial footing.”

He views an endowment fund – the cornerstone of the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation – as integral to the survival of Meijer Gardens.

“I’ve worked for 23 years to help the Foundation achieve its goals,” he says, “to make sure that as the Gardens grows, its financial backbone grows as well.”

THE ECKERTS

When it comes to chronicling the ways in which Chris and Deanna Eckert have contributed to the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation and the Gardens the big question is this: Where does one start?!

With the fact they've been members of the Gardens virtually since the day they moved from North Carolina to the Grand Rapids area nearly a decade ago? By highlighting how Deanna received the 2017 Octopus award for volunteering in a variety of areas at the Gardens, and how Chris volunteers 250 hours a year while working a full-time job?

No matter how you measure it, the Eckerts are shining examples of the many ways in which anyone can get involved as a volunteer, a donor and a champion for the Gardens and the Foundation.

"After moving here, we came to visit the Chihuly glass exhibit," says Deanna. She glances at Chris and smiles. "That did it; we became members after one visit."

"God blesses us to be a blessing wherever we live," says Deanna. "In this place, we are part of sharing the beautiful things God has placed in this world."

"Meijer Gardens is never about 'bring us your money,'" Chris notes. "Instead, it's 'Hey, become a part of us.'"

Growing up in Iowa, Deanna learned to volunteer from her parents. She carries on the tradition, teaching her sons the importance of volunteers in the community.

Chris was raised in Florida, in a climate of philanthropy, leaning on an adage from his mother to "Always leave a place a little better than you found it."

Together, the Eckerts have combined those values to forge a lasting relationship with many not-for-profits in West Michigan, but hands down, they're most heavily invested in Meijer Gardens where they have donated their time weekly for five years.

In the last year, they created additional impact with a gift to the Foundation. The Eckerts were able to take advantage of the generosity of Chris' employer, GE, which matches employee gifts to qualifying organizations. So, after Chris and Deanna contributed \$5,000 to the Foundation, GE answered in full, qualifying the Eckerts for membership in



the Foundation's Perennial Society at the \$10,000 level.

Even if an employer isn't set up to do a matching gift, it might take no more than "a nudge" to help them understand the benefits of doing so, Chris says. That way, a donor can double down on the impact their own gift has. And in the case of the Foundation, "That enhances the ways by which we can affect this very special and unique organization," says Chris.

The couple is also grateful that their gift to the Foundation allows them the opportunity to establish a special named, restricted fund dedicated to providing fresh flowers in the café. "It's a way for us to honor our life-long love of flowers and plants," says Deanna. "Chris and I enjoy being in the Balk café and wandering through the sculpture park paths whenever possible." Bottom line? Deanna smiles broadly: "There's nothing else like it in the world!"

THE TROWBRIDGES

On the surface, it might not appear there's much in common between Rotary Clubs and Meijer Gardens and the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation.

But if you were to ask George Trowbridge – who will be celebrating 50 years as a Rotarian and is a generous donor to the Foundation alongside wife Kerstin – all you have to do is reflect on Rotary's "four-way test" to send a valid connection.

The last two of those four-way test questions ask whether what you're involved in will "build goodwill and better friendships," and whether it will "be beneficial to all concerned."

Meijer Gardens certainly qualifies on both counts, and for the Trowbridges, Meijer Gardens and the Foundation are ideal ways to embrace a larger community and contribute to the culture of West Michigan.

Anytime they host visitors to their home, for instance, they make sure to acquaint them with Meijer Gardens. "It's the first place we bring them," says Kerstin. "And they're just blown away. They can't believe and don't expect that something like this is in Grand Rapids, Michigan."

After George graduated from the University of Michigan and served two years in the U.S. Army, he earned a scholarship to attend the University of Stockholm in Sweden where he met and married Kerstin. After living in her homeland three years, they settled in Grand Rapids in 1967 and have two grown children – Susanne and Jon.

George retired at the relatively young age of 56 and smiles to recount that "I've never been bored for even one minute." The couple splits their time between a home here, a place in Florida and home in Sweden, where they annually celebrate both their anniversary and George's birthday.

The Trowbridges have been members of Meijer Gardens since the spring of 1996. They joined the Foundation as charter members of its Perennial Society in 2007. "My father had a lot of sayings," relates George, "and among them was 'There's no reason



you should be the richest person in the graveyard.' So we both feel strongly that if you're able to make a contribution to a deserving non-profit like Meijer Gardens, then why not sooner rather than later?" "It's such a joyful place," says Kerstin. "Sometimes we come here and just walk the trails. It's so peaceful and beautiful."

Their special relationship with the Foundation is based on the realization that "it's going to be here long after a lot of us are gone," says George. "Keeping the Gardens sustainable is the Foundation's job. You know that virtually 100 percent is going to the Gardens. Minimal administrative costs, and no junkets."

"You can draw comfort from knowing exactly where your money is going."

WAYS TO GIVE

Bonsai Society

Perennial Society

Gift of Cash

Donor Advised Fund

Charitable Gift Annuity

Gift of Appreciated Securities

Charitable Remainder Trust

Gift of Reserved Life Estate

Gift by Bequest

BONSAI SOCIETY

The Bonsai Society is made up of individuals who have made cumulative monetary gifts and/or pledges, including pledges in estate plans, of \$100,000 or more. Members of the Bonsai Society will be recognized on the Foundation's Donor Recognition Plaque, located in the foyer at the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park. They will also be presented a sterling silver bonsai pin and certificate of membership at the Annual Donor Recognition Event.



PERENNIAL SOCIETY

The Perennial Society is made up of individuals who have made cumulative monetary gifts and/or pledges, including pledges in estate plans, of \$10,000 or more. Members of the Perennial Society will be recognized on the Foundation's Donor Recognition Plaque, located in the foyer at the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park, and will be presented a certificate of membership at the Annual Donor Recognition Event.



To qualify for membership in either the Bonsai or Perennial Society with estate plan gifts, donors must submit a copy of the gift provision in their estate plan, or have other written documentation, verifying that the minimum for a particular society has been met. Not all donors specify a dollar amount in their estate plan. If the plan calls for a percentage of the estate's remainder, and the amount will be over the minimum for a particular Society, a written statement from the estate planner, tax consultant or attorney would meet the requirement for membership.

GIFT OF CASH

(Income Tax Savings)

A lifetime gift of cash is the most immediate and simple way to give to the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation. This donation may be claimed as a charitable tax deduction by those taxpayers who itemize their deductions. Non-itemizers do not benefit from a charitable deduction. The deduction for cash contributions to qualifying charitable organizations is limited to 60% of the donor's adjusted gross income ("AGI"). Subject to certain limitations, the excess amount of the donation over the AGI ceiling may be carried forward over the next five years.

USING A DONOR ADVISED FUND

(Income Tax Savings)

While a lifetime gift of cash is the most immediate and simple way to give to the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation, some donors may find that they no longer itemize their deductions in the aftermath of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, thus failing to realize an income tax benefit from their donations. If that is the case, a donor-advised fund ("DAF") may nevertheless provide the desired tax benefit. The basic operation of the DAF is clear: donors contribute multiple years worth of annual gifts to the DAF in one year, then distribute the gifts out of the DAF to the Foundation over a span of years as they normally would have from their own pocketbook. By combining multiple years of gifts into the single gift to the DAF, the donor may be able to combine years of taking the standard deduction and itemizing deductions in a more efficient manner. As with direct cash contributions above, the deduction for cash contributions to qualifying charitable organizations – which includes the DAF – is limited to 60% of the donor's adjusted gross income ("AGI"). Subject to certain limitations, the excess amount of the donation over the AGI ceiling may be carried forward over the next five years.

Please visit www.fmgsf.org/giving to learn more.

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY

(Tax Savings and Guaranteed Income for Life to Donor)

A charitable gift annuity is part gift and part purchase of an annuity and results in an income tax deduction. Contributions are generally, but not exclusively, cash or securities. With this option, a donor can transfer cash or an asset to the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation and, in return, the Foundation will agree to make regular fixed payments to the donor for life. Regardless of market fluctuations, the donor will continue to receive fixed income payments from the Foundation. The annuity is paid out of the Foundation's unrestricted funds. The donor may also name a second beneficiary to receive payments at donor's death.

A charitable gift annuity offers attractive tax benefits including a charitable income tax deduction for a portion of the gift and deferment of capital gains tax (if funding the annuity with appreciated property). If a donor funds a charitable gift annuity for a third party with appreciated securities, the donor will have to pay the capital gain tax in the year of the gift.

Younger donors may benefit from a deferred gift annuity (i.e., as a way to prepare for future retirement).

Charitable Gift Annuity Rates: The charitable gift annuity rates are approved by the American Council on Gift Annuities. They change periodically, and the following rates were implemented in 2018 and were in effect when these materials were printed.

AGE	SINGLE RATE	RATE FOR HUSBAND/ WIFE THE SAME AGE
60	4.7%	4.1%
65	5.1%	4.5%
70	5.6%	5.0%
75	6.2%	5.5%
80	7.3%	6.2%
85	8.3%	7.3%
90	9.5%	9.1%

Please visit www.fmgsf.org/giving to learn more.

GIFT OF APPRECIATED SECURITIES

("Double" Tax Savings)

A lifetime gift of an appreciated asset to the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation can serve as an attractive tax savings to the donor. If assets have been owned for more than twelve months and have appreciated in value, they generally result in long-term capital gains tax when sold. When transferred as a gift, these long-term appreciated assets:

- Give the donor a charitable income tax deduction for the full market value of the asset.
- Avoid the capital gains tax that would have occurred if the donor had sold the asset (a double benefit!).

Gifts of long-term appreciated assets provides a greater benefit to a donor who may otherwise be considering selling the asset and contributing after-tax proceeds. Gifts of short-term capital gain property (i.e., property held one year or less) provide a deduction for only the donor's cost basis in the property.

Please visit www.fmgsf.org/giving to learn more.

CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST

(Tax Savings and Guaranteed Income for Life to Donor)

A charitable remainder trust provides the donor with a specified annual lifetime income and immediate tax savings. Donors receive a tax deduction for a portion of the charitable contribution and avoid payment of capital gains tax on contributed appreciated property. The underlying gifted assets go to the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation upon the donor's death. (Note: A charitable remainder trust can also be funded at death to benefit one or more persons during their lifetime(s) with the remaining gifted assets going to the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation upon the death of those individuals.)

There are two types of Charitable Remainder Trusts.

CHARITABLE REMAINDER ANNUITY TRUST

("fixed income"):

An annuity trust pays a fixed dollar amount of the initial fair market value of the trust, for life or a term of years (up to 20). Once the annuity terminates, the remainder passes to the charitable organization. The annual distribution amount cannot be less than 5% or greater than 50% of the trust assets' initial fair market value. For example, a 6% annuity trust funded with \$500,000 would pay the donor(s) \$30,000 per year for life. Subsequent gifts to an annuity trust are not permitted.

Please visit www.fmgsf.org/giving to learn more.

CHARITABLE REMAINDER UNITRUST

("variable income"):

A unitrust pays a fixed percentage of its principal, which is revalued annually, for life or a term of years (up to 20). Similar to the annuity trust, once the unitrust terminates, the remainder passes to the charitable organization. Most donors and charities prefer unitrusts invested for growth so that if the investments are successful, both the income increases for the donor and the remainder value increases for the charity. Older donors often prefer the security of a fixed annuity for the rest of their lives. Flexibility is often a key incentive in deciding to create a unitrust. Unlike the annuity trust, subsequent gifts to the unitrust are permitted.

Your personal needs will determine which type of trust provides you with the greatest benefit.

GIFT OF LAND WITH RESERVED LIFE ESTATE

(Tax Savings and Retained use of the Property)

A gift of land, while reserving the right to use the property for life, is another way a donor can contribute to the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation. The property would eventually be sold. The donor may deduct the value of the remainder interest as an immediate charitable contribution if the property is a personal residence. The value of the property would be removed from the donor's estate and, in addition, capital gains taxes would be avoided. Avoidance of the capital gains tax and Michigan income tax assumes that the donors would otherwise sell their home during their lifetime. If the owners own the home at the survivor's death, it would receive a "step-up" in cost basis to its fair market value so there would be no capital gain tax or Michigan income tax.

While ownership of your property will not pass to the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation until a later date, you retain the rights and obligations of ownership during your life and receive an immediate tax deduction. Additional capital improvements (i.e., a new roof) may provide additional tax deductions.

A reserved life estate may not be appropriate if your property is subject to a mortgage or other obligations or if you need the proceeds from the sale of the property.

Please visit www.fmgsf.org/giving to learn more.

GIFT BY BEQUEST

(Estate Tax Savings)

A bequest is a popular way for donors to leave a significant gift to the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation. A bequest is an excellent choice for those who want to assist the Foundation but cannot make an immediate gift. Donors who choose this type of gift will reduce their estate subject to tax.

There are different types of bequests, all which are made at the donor's death:

SPECIFIC BEQUESTS – outright gifts of money, securities or property. Example: A supporter bequeaths \$10,000 to the Foundation without restriction. The funds would be added to the Foundation's endowment in the name of the donor.

RESIDUARY BEQUESTS – allow the remainder of an estate to be left to designated persons or charities after all bequests have been made. Example: A donor bequeaths 50% of the residue of his entire estate to the Foundation for the creation and maintenance of a rose garden. The fund would be used to create a rose garden named for the donor, with the balance put in a named endowment fund to maintain that garden.

CONTINGENT BEQUESTS – are effective only in the event that all other bequests fail. Example: A supporter leaves his entire estate to the Foundation, provided his wife, children and grandchildren fail to survive him.

Tax Tip: If you make a bequest to the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation, your taxable estate is reduced by 100% of the value of the bequeathed property. The tax savings could be as high as 40% of the value of the bequest, depending on the size of your taxable estate.

Benefit to the Foundation: The Foundation adds the gift to its endowment fund which provides annual support to the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park.

Please visit www.fmgsf.org/giving to learn more.

HONORING A LEGACY

Since its opening in 1995, Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park has evolved into a major cultural attraction focusing on horticulture, sculpture, the environment and the arts. The original vision has turned into a top cultural destination in the United States, known internationally for the quality of the art and gardens.

Our growth in visitors has been nothing short of phenomenal. Matching that has been the growth of our art collection, our dedicated garden spaces and our educational offerings.

Since the beginning, our focus has been on delivering an exceptional visitor experience for every member, guest, artist, gardener, student and volunteer who visits Meijer Gardens.

Through the generosity of The Meijer Foundation, Meijer Gardens' Board of Directors participated in a master planning process to address facility needs in response to our significant growth.



MEIJER GARDENS FOUNDATION WELCOMES TWO INCOMING BOARD MEMBERS



The Foundation is pleased to announce the appointment of two new board members -- William J. Boer and Amy L. Keane. Both were elected to the Board with terms that began in January 2019.

A graduate of Grand Rapids Christian High School and Calvin College, Bill Boer went on to earn an MBA with honors in Finance and Strategic Planning from the University of Southern California. He also holds an M.S. degree in High Education from Indiana University. For more than a decade, Bill has served as president of his own firm, Grey Dunes, which provides family office consulting services.

Previously vice president and chief operating officer of RDV Corporation, Bill also has served as president of Michigan National Bank, and as vice president for administration and finance at Calvin College. He currently serves on Calvin's Board of Trustees and the Board of Directors of Independent Bank Corporation.

Bill was a member of the board at Spectrum Health Hospital, and at the West Michigan Aviation Academy and is

a proud recipient of the NESAs Outstanding Eagle Scout Award.

Bill said of his appointment to the Meijer Gardens Foundation Board, that "Meijer Gardens is such an important part of our community," and a frequent destination for himself, wife Laurie, and their family. "And when I'm traveling for my work to other states," he says, "I often mention the Gardens as such a unique part of West Michigan, and I urge those who will be visiting here to make it part of their experience."

Bill says he sees his role at the Foundation and experience as an opportunity to "be a wise manager and a conscientious steward."

Amy Keane earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Albion College and a Masters of Management from the J.L. Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.

She began her work experience at Whirlpool Corporation and later worked as Director of Marketing for W.W. Grainger in Illinois.

She has been active on many boards and committees, including the Grand Rapids Symphony Board, Grand Rapids Public Schools Student Advancement Foundation Board, and East Grand Rapids High School Academic Boosters, where she served as president. She volunteers in a variety of roles throughout the community including tutoring math and reading in Grand Rapids Public Schools.

Amy and her family "have been enjoying Meijer Gardens since it opened" and she remembers that "we loved taking our children there to roll down the hill by the horse and reach their arms up to touch the horse's face."

Amy is the daughter of Ray Loeschner, who was the founder of the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation. She says, "his passion has become one of my passions as well, and one that has fueled countless family memories linked to the Gardens. By helping with the work the Foundation does, I hope I can help other families have the opportunity to enjoy the Gardens as our family has over the years."

FREDERIK MEIJER GARDENS & SCULPTURE FOUNDATION EMERITUS DIRECTORS



Earl Holton



Ray B. Loeschner
Director



Fred Meijer
1992-2011



Lena Meijer



John G. Baab
President



John D. Bouwer
Director



Kathleen P. Maine
Director



Saralyn Coupe
Vice President



Randall Damstra
Director



Hendrik G. Meijer
Director



Tamara R. Bailey
Secretary



Dirk C. Hoffius
Director



Jeffrey Padnos
Director



Michael R. Julien
Treasurer



Amy L. Keane
Director



Michael Gaudino
Ex Officio



William J. Boer
Director



Nancy Kennedy
Director



Susanne T. Veeneman
Executive Director

2018 FREDERIK MEIJER GARDENS & SCULPTURE FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FREDERIK
Meijer
GARDENS
& SCULPTURE

FOUNDATION

MISSION STATEMENT

Established in 1992, the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation is a single-purpose foundation with the goal of building and maintaining an endowment fund to support the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park.

FMGSF.ORG

FREDERIK MEIJER GARDENS & SCULPTURE FOUNDATION

2929 Walker NW Grand Rapids MI 49544

Phone: 616-791-3901

All photos by ShutterSam Photography, Micheal Cook and William J. Hebert | Design by Courtney Stuart
Article excerpts and quotes from Welcoming the World: Honoring a Legacy of Love Capital Campaign