Located in Boise’s Old Penitentiary Historic District, the Idaho Botanical Garden is dedicated to enhancing our community’s quality of life through fostering a love of nature and developing intellectual curiosity in people of all ages. Originally the site of the tree nursery and grounds of the State Penitentiary, the Garden is a living museum.

The Garden provides enriching garden experiences through educational programs, botanical collections, a variety of entertainment, cultural and community events in addition to providing a refreshing and inspiring year-round outdoor destination for local residents and out-of-town visitors.

ANNUAL REPORT

2015-2016

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Sonya Lenzi
President
Allen Deitz
Vice President
Marlayna Elledge
Treasurer
Sara Berry
Secretary
Bret Amideo
Karen Boesel
Brian Buckham
Corey King
Caroline Merritt
Christopher Pooser
JASON Prince
Kelly Ryan
Misty Sterk
Rich Toney
Rick Turner
Kathy Yoshida

GARDEN STAFF
Erin Anderson
Executive Director
Rod Burke
Project Outreach Director
Karen Christeson
Volunteer Coordinator
Ann DeBolt
Botanist
Elizabeth Dickey
Education Director
Jennifer Dunmire
Development Director
Michelle Elliott
Event & Site Rental Manager
Laurie Good
Youth Education Coordinator
Daniel Janoushek
Irrigation Technician
Sierra Laverty
Horticulturist
Michele Lesica
Horticulture Manager
Anna Lindquist
Horticulturist
Neil Lindquist
Nursery & Greenhouse Coordinator
John McDade
Horticulture Technician
Bob McKay
Horticulturist
Daniel Murphy
Native Plant Horticulture Technician
Richard Mussler-Wright
Member Relations Coordinator
Rebecca Needles
Event Operations Manager
Paul Rodgers
Horticulturist
Adam Ruggiero
Visitor Services Coordinator
FROM THE PRESIDENT
What an amazing year to be your IBG Board of Directors President. Each year, we develop the three pillars of our mission—cultivate, educate, celebrate. In 2015, we focused on the education pillar! Supported by amazing donations from the community, we added a new, indoor home for our adult and youth programs. As you walk up the new path on Outlaw Field, you can see the education building now open for students of all ages! Next steps include adding beautiful landscape to surround the building.

We also added new education youth programs. We now feature 'Fire!' as a youth group field trip tour for students in fourth grade to eighth grade. This tour discusses the role plants play in Idaho’s wildfires including how to protect homes from these fires! A new pre-school summer program called Seedlings began inviting young children to learn about nature in the Garden with their parent!

The goal of this program is to bridge the science learning gap between school sessions while getting parents involved in their child’s learning.

My favorite part of the cultivate pillar of our mission is finding out what’s in bloom in the Garden! Horticulture staff created an excellent, interactive board on the Garden Plaza showcasing current blooms including plant name and actual cuttings providing easy reference for plant lovers of all skill levels. Guests could also take a self-guided tour of the grounds and find ‘Botanical Treasures’—featured plants with plant detail signage and QR codes for more in-depth information.

The last pillar is bringing the community together to celebrate. What would summer be without the many performances on Outlaw Field or the classic Great Garden Escape concerts within the Meditation Garden? These events allow us to celebrate the Garden in a different way and bring new guests into the Garden so that they may fall in love with the Garden grounds and come back again and again to enjoy all it has to offer.

Thank you to each and every one of you for being a friend of IBG. It is our supporters who ensure that our mission is carried out. Looking forward to seeing you in the Garden!

—Sonya Lenzi, President

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Each year, more people visit the Idaho Botanical Garden than the year before. Since the first plant collection was established over 30 years ago, the Garden has flourished. As you walk through the Garden, the hard work of our dedicated staff, board, volunteers, and business partners shows. But, it’s thanks to you, our supporters, that the Garden, our education programs, and our special events continue to grow.

Since joining the Idaho Botanical Garden staff as the new Executive Director, I am inspired by our mission to provide a full garden experience for all ages that enhances community quality of life through plant collections, our education programs, and our entertainment, cultural and community events. Each day, staff, board, volunteers, and members work to accomplish this mission. Over the past year, because of amazing funders, like you, we were able to acquire a new education building, which will allow more children and adults to pass through our Garden gates for educational opportunities. And, we continue to beautify our space, with new plant collections and the addition of a new Garden entrance opened in May 2015.

Moving forward, we are excited to embark on our next big project at the Garden. We will install new restroom units throughout the property. We are well underway in our fundraising efforts, and hope to have the two units installed by next year.

Today we are a vibrant and developing garden because of you. With your continued support, we will thrive.

—Erin Anderson, Executive Director

Idaho Botanical Garden Mission
To provide a full garden experience for all ages that enhances our community’s quality of life through plant collections, education programs, and entertainment, cultural and community events.

APRIL 2015–MARCH 2016

16 seed collections
from 16 species of native wildflower, grass and shrubs were collected in southwest Idaho for long-term seed banking, restoration, & research purposes. IBG uses some of this seed for growing plants for local restoration projects on public lands, in coordination with our BLM partners.

Grew 1,600
native plants (forbs, shrubs) for rangeland restoration projects. This included 160
of the globally rare Packard’s milkvetch. IBG assisted with outplanting Packard’s milkvetch, in an attempt to increase the population.

With the assistance of weekly volunteers, maintained more than 500 plants within The Meadows Garden. Plants had been donated and planted the previous year (2014).

MARCH 2016

• Significant changes were made throughout the English Garden. Old tired plants were removed and new plants were installed. A wall was built which added to the formal elements of the garden which are characteristic of English Gardens. The English Garden will continue to evolve over the next couple years as changes are made and new plants are installed.

• New elements were added to the Children’s Kitchen Garden including a playhouse where children can pretend to make food. This garden will continue to evolve over the next couple years as we add new interactive elements.

We look forward to the 2016 growing season as many more improvements will be made to the Idaho Botanical Garden!
**educate**

**TO NURTURE A FASCINATION** with the natural world is the heart of the Garden’s mission. Our goal is to connect people of all ages with nature whether it is by helping the community garden successfully, or showing a child where their food comes from. Seasonal educational presentations for adults and youth are offered year-round.

**ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM** More than 1,300 Garden members and other adults attended over 45 classes and workshops in the seasonal Continuing Education program with classes such as ‘Organic Yard and Garden,’ ‘Fairy Gardens,’ ‘Culinary Herbs,’ and ‘Firewise Landscape.’ In February, the Garden hosted the annual Rethinking Idaho Landscapes Symposium where over 220 gardeners learned more about horticulture in Idaho. Topics included waterwise gardening, the right plants for hotsummers, recommended trees and shrubs, and the herbal landscape.

**YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAM** Through year-round youth education programs, children are encouraged to be curious, play outdoors, and appreciate the natural world hands-on. From April 2015 – March 2016, over 11,000 children enjoyed one of these awesome programs or events!

**FIELD TRIPS** Students in pre-K through sixth grade supplemented their school science education with a trip to the Garden. They learned about how seeds disperse and how flowers make seeds, historical uses for plants, and about the ecology of the Boise Foothills.

“This was an excellent tour! I loved the vocabulary. The hands on experiences were great! I loved the ‘seed snack.’ The survival game was fun and informative.” — Mrs. Betty Turner, Collister Elementary teacher

**NATURE DETECTIVES** Preschoolers visited the Garden in June to explore the Garden through their senses.

**GARDEN ON THE ROAD** During the cold winter months, IBG came to the students with a craft, an activity and a visit with a real, live tarantula!

**BUG DAY** Families enjoyed an ‘entomological extravaganza’ at this annual event where a variety of bug and insect related booths and activities encouraged kids to explore the Garden and the crawly creatures that live here!

**celebrate**

**THE GARDEN IS A GATHERING PLACE** for the community to make memories with family and friends in the great Idaho outdoors. In 2015, people of all ages enjoyed the Garden through a variety of cultural and family events.

- **Plant Sale** kicked off the season the first weekend of May with a Member’s Appreciation night and public sale raising over $22,000 for IBG horticulture programs while providing CWI horticulture students learning experience.
- **Music lovers came together to listen to jazz, country, blues, rock, big band and bluegrass from national recording artists like Gregg Allman and Alabama Shakes at the Outlaw Field Summer Concert Series to local favorites like The Blues Brothers Rock n Soul Revue and Boise Straight Ahead at the Garden’s own Great Garden Escape!**
- **Over 800 visitors attended the August educational family event, Bug Day, to learn about the exciting world of entomology.**
- **Thirty scarecrows created by local families, clubs, and businesses could be found throughout the Garden representing the 2015 Scarecrow Stroll theme “Heroes.”**
- **The Harvest Festival heralded the advent of fall with a weekend, family oriented celebration with an artisan market and beer & wine garden featuring brews made from ingredients straight out of the Idaho Botanical Garden!**
- **The Garden ended 2015 with a holiday tradition, the Winter Garden aGlow where over 308,000 lights were artistically displayed and viewed by over 51,000 visitors.**

**Volunteers played a crucial role connecting the Garden with the community. They extended the ability to serve the public and are essential to achieving our mission. Through March 31, 2016, the number of active volunteers grew to over 15,489.75 hours total!**

- **Special thanks to these volunteers who gave more than 75 hours in 2015-2016: 15,489.75 hours total!**
- **Laurie Anderson**
- **Bonnie Wood**
- **Brad Hill**
- **Kathy Ellison**
- **Beth Hitchman**
- **Janet Davis**
- **Lois Hibbs**
- **JD Jackovich**
- **120,000 visitors passed through the gates in August, was the busiest month for visitors.**
- **30 SCARECROWS were created by locals to the theme “Heroes”**

**In the winter, Garden on the Road brought the Garden to 1,427 pre-schoolers.**

**139 people attended adult classes and workshops.**

**45 young children studied the senses touch, sight and sound in relation to nature in Nature Detectives.**

**281 children attended week long Botany Camps in the Garden.**

**8,728 people attended School Field trips brought 6,728 students to the Garden.**

**1,300 people attended 49 adult classes and workshops.**

**189 children attended week long Botany Camps in the Garden.**
Statement of Financial Position

ASSETS
- Current Assets
  - Cash & Cash Equivalents: $895,391
  - Accounts Receivable: $8,144
  - Inventory: $13,063
- Prepaid Expenses: $5,662
- Total Current Assets: $922,260
- Noncurrent Assets
  - Fixed Operating Assets: $852,210
  - Noncurrent Assets: $852,210
- Total Assets: $1,774,470

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS
- Current Liabilities
  - Accounts Payable: $19,732
  - Accrued Salaries & Payroll Taxes: $37,541
  - Deferred Revenue: $23,782
- Accrued Liabilities Other: $289,249
- Total Current Liabilities: $370,304
- Net Assets
  - Unrestricted Net Assets: $936,012
  - Temporarily Restricted Net Assets: $467,654
  - Permanently Restricted Net Assets: $500
- Total Net Assets: $1,404,166

TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS: $1,774,470

Financials

As of March 31, 2016

EXPENSES
Program Services:
- Education: $85,054
- Horticulture: $438,343
- Visitor Services: $592,998
- Administration and Fundraising: $166,229
- Total Expenses: $1,682,624

Net Income: $251,109

Public Support & Revenue
Contributions from Individuals and Corporations: $308,287
Grant Contributions: $148,723
Site Rental: $75,282
Education Program Fees: $53,726
Site Rental: $75,282
Garden Admission: $65,626
Other Income: i.e. Site Rental, Box Office Fees

Total Revenue and Support: $1,533,733

The Idaho Botanical Garden is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. As a private entity that receives no city, state or federal government funding for operations, the Idaho Botanical Garden relies on memberships, program fees, and donations to sustain educational programming and plant collections to enable future development. The Garden gratefully recognizes the following contributors for their support in growing the Garden.

Donors of donations totaling $250 or more made between April 1, 2015 and March 31, 2016 are listed. Every effort has been made to ensure that all information is accurate and we apologize for any errors or omissions. Please call the Garden at (208) 275-8603 to make corrections.