The Morris Arboretum is proud to print this Annual Report on FSC® (Forest Stewardship Council™) certified paper, which supports the growth of responsible forest management worldwide through its international standards.

Photo this page: Ashley Angell, cover photo: Rob Cardillo

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Mission Statement

The Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania is a historic public garden and educational institution. It promotes an understanding of the relationship between plants, people, and place through programs that integrate science, art, and the humanities.

The Arboretum conducts four major activities: education, research, outreach, and horticultural display. As the official Arboretum of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania provides research and outreach services to state agencies, community institutions, and to citizens of Pennsylvania and beyond.

Dear Friends,

This past fiscal year capped a period of remarkable growth in serving the Arboretum’s diverse constituencies. Overall, more than 142,000 people came to the Morris Arboretum for garden visits or programs. This is the third straight year of record overall attendance. We are especially proud that more than 43,000 of these visitors were youth, exposing them to the magical world of plants.

There was also dramatic growth in participation in formal education programs. These programs serve diverse audiences ranging from pre-school children to college students and practicing professionals. The total number of students served has grown more than 75% this past year as a result of our utilizing larger off-site venues for programs, and the expansion of our summer camp program. In addition to the summer campers, we again welcomed children from ACLAMO, a Norristown social service organization that provides educational programs and assistance to low income families in Montgomery County.

The Morris Arboretum School of Arboriculture also extended its reach this year. A total of 24 programs were presented, reaching more than 500 students. Most of the participants are practicing professionals who, through their daily work, have great impact on the quality, health, and safety of our urban forest, thereby affecting every resident of our region.

In fiscal year 2017 the Arboretum received a $1.5 million grant from the National Science Foundation. This grant supports the important work of digitizing herbarium specimens and their associated data throughout the region. This data will inform analysis of the impact of urbanization on the changing flora of the region. This work greatly expands the Morris Arboretum’s reach throughout the Mid-Atlantic region.

One downside of this growth is that our limited classroom, laboratory, and herbarium facilities are being used to capacity and parking is ever more frequently pushed into overflow. It is clear as we look forward, that additional and larger indoor spaces are essential, and improved access to public transportation is needed. Both of these needs are addressed in the Arboretum’s master plan, including a proposed education and research center at Bloomingdale Farm, and a pedestrian entrance on Germantown Avenue. The education center will provide a large event and lecture space serving 200 attendees, with three additional smaller classrooms. Also, a new herbarium, library, and laboratories are envisioned.

With more than 6,500 household members, robust support of annual giving, and a growing endowment, the Morris Arboretum has never been stronger or more engaged with the community. Over the past 40 years, the Arboretum has had a sound record of steady progress. Some years represent small steps, others bigger leaps. As we plan for a coming campaign, we will continue to build on our fiscal foundation while preparing for the big leap that will allow us to continue to grow our education programs and service to the community.

Photo: Paul W. Meyer

Ellen Nalle Haas, Chair, Advisory Board of Managers

Paul W. Meyer, The F. Otto Haas Executive Director

Photo: Mark Stehle
The Arboretum is a museum of living plants, carefully managed and curated to fulfill the various aspects of its mission: research, education, display, and outreach. It is important to understand the process through which plants are acquired, propagated, and added to the living collection.

ACQUISITION

The Arboretum is distinguished from other public gardens in the area by having a full-time propagator, propagation intern, and facilities dedicated to growing the results of plant collecting efforts. Plants are acquired in a variety of ways: some are purchased from nurseries, others are grown from seed from local and international sources, or they are produced through vegetative propagation by grafting or cuttings.

In pursuit of wild-collected seed of known provenance, during the past year, Arboretum staff participated in two international plant collecting expeditions. Director of Horticulture and Curator Tony Aiello (pictured below with Michael Dosmann of the Arnold Arboretum) traveled with colleagues to northern Sichuan Province, People’s Republic of China, while Chief Horticulturist Vince Marrocco joined an expedition to the Republic of Georgia (pictured above). Both expeditions enhanced the Arboretum’s holdings in a wide diversity of taxa.

Through relationships with other institutions, collecting efforts are leveraged through seed and plant exchange. For example, last year, the Arboretum received plants and seed collected in 21 states across the U.S., from Idaho to Minnesota and New York, and south to Georgia and Florida. Likewise, additional plants and seed that originated in China and the Republic of Georgia, as well as in Japan and Afghanistan, were acquired.

PROPA GATION

Another method of building the collection is through vegetative propagation (grafting or taking cuttings). In these cases, the primary focus is on cultivated varieties, with a goal of building or expanding key aspects of the collection. Last year, long-term efforts continued to preserve and expand Japanese flowering cherries by propagating more uncommon trees, and by collecting several flowering cherry varieties at Brooklyn Botanic Garden. With an interest in expanding the collection of cold-hardy broadleaved evergreens, cuttings of camellia and osmanthus varieties have been obtained from Scott Arboretum and Longwood Gardens, and are currently being propagated.

Each year, major plantings occur in both spring and fall that include plants grown in the Arboretum’s greenhouses from seed or cuttings, along with some plants that are purchased from nurseries. This past year, some of the highlights included plants from four expeditions to China (2005, 2008, 2010, and 2011) along with plants from expeditions to the Ozark Mountains and Virginia. Among these is a trial of live oaks (Quercus virginiana) that were propagated from acorns collected from several locations, including First Landing State Park in Virginia (pictured at right). These plants are now growing in the nursery at Bloomfield Farm.

One of the primary functions of the Arboretum’s exploration and propagation efforts is to serve as a conduit to provide rare and unusual plants to as wide an audience as possible. As a result, plants are distributed to a diverse group of botanical gardens and private individuals. In the past fiscal year alone, several hundred plants were distributed from the Arboretum’s greenhouses with a significant number sent to Gainesway Farms (Lexington, KY), the U.S. National Arboretum, Greenwood Cemetery (Brooklyn), Bayard-Cutting Arboretum (Long Island), the Chicago Botanic Garden, Longwood Gardens, and the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society Members Plant Dividend event.

Another outcome of exploration and evaluation efforts is the dissemination of information about plants in the collection. This is done through interpretation, lectures, and professional publications. In the past year, Tony Aiello published articles on Corylus fargesii (Farges filbert) and Tsuga chinensis (Chinese hemlock) in Curtis’s Botanical Magazine along with an overview of several years of work on the Acer griseum (paperbark maple) conservation project in The Plantsman.

12,991
Accessioned plants

2,572/310/95
Taxa/genera/families

795
Accessioned plants added or moved

4,330
Wild-collected plants

342
Wild-collected additions

32
Countries represented by wild-collected plants
In September 2016, the Botany department was awarded an Advancing Digitization of Biological Collections (ADBC) grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF). Securing this support on the first try was largely a result of the hard work of botanical scientist Dr. Cindy Skema. This represents the first time in nearly 50 years that the Morris Arboretum has been so honored.

The $1.5 million grant supports the Arboretum and 10 other partner institutions in a three-year effort to image, transcribe, and georeference data from about 700,000 herbarium specimens collected in the Mid-Atlantic region. The partners include The Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University, Delaware State University, Howard University, New York Botanical Garden, Rutgers University, Towson University, and the University of Maryland. Mid-Atlantic specimens at the following institutions will also be digitized: Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Muhlenberg College, and Staten Island Museum. In December, the Arboretum welcomed Anne Barber as Project Coordinator for this initiative. Anne previously held a similar position at the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco. Anne is coordinating the project for all 11 institutions—a big job, indeed!

The data mobilized in this effort will help provide a better scientific understanding of living urban systems, and the critical need for urban planners, restoration ecologists, environmental engineers, landscape architects, and conservationists engaged in creating more sustainable and better designed cities, including the constructed and restored natural environments of our urban areas.

Last fall, an infestation of drugstore beetles (*Stegobium paniceum*) was found among the specimens in the Morris Arboretum herbarium (MOAR). These pests can do serious damage, or even completely destroy, these irreplaceable scientific records. As a result, the entire collection (about 30,000 specimens) was packed up with the help of our wonderful Horticulture volunteers, and transferred to a large walk-in freezer for three months to ensure complete neutralization of all stages of the insect’s life cycle. A generous gift from Arboretum friend Edith Dixon to renovate the Widener building allowed for the acquisition of new, air-tight herbarium storage cabinets, and the herbarium collection was reorganized to meet the latest botanical standards.

With a grant from Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, the Botany department also undertook an investigation of several plant species to determine their scientifically appropriate conservation status. The species involved in this study included *Ammannia coccinea* (toothcup), *Castilleja coccinea* (Indian-paintbrush), *Cuscuta polygonorum* (smartweed dodder), *Hieracium umbellatum* (Canada hawkweed), and *Itea virginica* (Virginia sweetspire). Pennsylvania is home to many species such as these, about which too little is known to be confident about the level of protection they should be afforded. Efforts will continue to identify these species and assign them the protection needed to assure their continued existence within Pennsylvania.
ADULT EDUCATION

3,690
Participants in more than 180 courses, professional development programs, and lectures

11%
Growth in total program participation over FY16

$233,626
Adult Education revenue—up 4% from FY16

YOUTH EDUCATION

7,321
Youth visits for education programs—up 3% from FY16

810
Youth visits with summer ACLAMO program

1,315
Square feet of Bloomfield Barn adapted for youth programs

LITTLE LIGHTNING BUGS AND BLOOMFIELD BUDDIES

It was a growing year for fun and learning at the Morris Arboretum this past summer! Summer Adventure Camp expanded from four to six weeks in 2017, and a new program, Little Lightning Bugs, was created for four and five-year-olds. Bloomfield Buddies, older campers between 6-10, were able to enjoy the unique setting of the Arboretum’s newly renovated wing of the historic barn at Bloomfield Farm. Access to this new space allowed summer camp to double its enrollment. An adventure-packed summer included owl pellet dissections, Springfield Mills tours, nature crafts, DNA extractions, live animal presentations, terrarium workshops, field games, a camper concert during art and poetry jam week, and the capture and release of a few giant crayfish from our wetlands creek!

EXPLORAR! SUMMER BRIDGE PROGRAM

Morris Arboretum piloted a summer program in partnership with ACLAMO Family Center in Norristown. Meant to keep children exploring and learning throughout the summer, the six weeks hosted 45 rising 1st-3rd graders on Wednesdays, and 45 rising 4th-9th graders on Tuesdays and Thursdays. These summer scholars heard stories of the Lenni Lenape at our Waltz in the Woods sculpture, uncovered the physics of Springfield Mills, and hiked everywhere in between. The program, including educator’s salaries, supplies, and transportation, was funded by generous donors, and is the first of its kind at Morris Arboretum. The summer ended with families from both the Norristown and Pottstown ACLAMO centers coming to the Arboretum for student-led tours, soft pretzels, and water ice!
Whether traveling from out of town for a wedding, or from nearby West Philadelphia for a retreat, the rental program at Morris Arboretum introduces the Arboretum to people who may not have otherwise come to visit. In addition to welcoming new visitors, all revenue generated by the rental program supports the Arboretum’s bottom line. Fiscal year 2017 was another record-breaking year for rental revenue. No small part of this success is due to the growing recognition that the Arboretum is an amazing backdrop for events, big and small. Both here in town and across the country, word is spreading about what a special place the Morris Arboretum is for events.

63 Couples tied the knot at Morris Arboretum last year

1 of 20 Best garden venues in the country according to WeddingWire

$380,000 Total rental revenue
When Dodo Hamilton joined the Morris Arboretum’s Advisory Board of Managers in 1988, she quickly got involved in the Horticulture Committee. In 1992, she began her 15-year tenure as Horticulture Chair, during which the Arboretum emerged from its days as a neglected, forgotten estate to the internationally recognized botanical garden that it is today. Under Dodo’s leadership, the accessible path system was completed, gardens and fountains were restored, and the Alice and J. Liddon Pennock Garden was created.

Most important was the restoration of the Arboretum’s Fernery, originally constructed in 1899. Dodo chaired the planning efforts for this project, and contributed $1 million in 1993 as the lead gift for the restoration. The Fernery was dedicated as the Dorrance H. Hamilton Fernery in October 1994, ushering in an era of new possibilities at the Morris Arboretum.

The next year, looking down on the beautifully restored Fernery, Dodo noticed the nearby dilapidated greenhouses. She said it reminded her of Snow White and the ugly step sisters. Then she paused, smiled, and said, “We’ll have to do something about that!” She soon led the effort to build new greenhouses at the Arboretum.

In 2002, during the planning for the Horticulture Center at Bloomfield Farm, a first step was the construction of the new entrance road and associated utility lines. Dodo agreed to provide the lead funding for this project, saying, “I like to take on critical projects like infrastructure that might lack broad appeal to other donors.” Then, a few years later, she pledged another lead gift for the construction of the Horticulture Center.

Recently, Dodo remembered the Morris Arboretum with an estate gift for the Dorrance H. Hamilton Endowment which will help maintain the Fernery and adjacent greenhouses. Dodo was a dear friend and partner. She led the Horticulture Committee with a firm, but gentle hand, always looking to build collaboration and consensus. She expected quality and excellence, but always encouraged, rather than criticized. Her leadership at the Arboretum over a period of nearly three decades was truly transformational, and her vision and spirit continue to provide inspiration today.
MARKETING

EXHIBIT SUCCESS WITH A NEW BUSINESS MODEL
This year marked the 20th year of the Garden Railway at the Morris Arboretum. To capitalize on that milestone, the search was on to find an exhibit that would complement the Garden Railway and tie into a theme of motion.

With the discovery of Lyman Whitaker, an artist who specializes in large-scale kinetic wind sculptures, an exhibit was planned, and “Morris Arboretum in Motion” became the spring/summer theme.

Partnering with the Kansas City gallery representing Lyman Whitaker, it was proposed that the artist’s entire collection of kinetic sculptures, including the 53 sculptures on exhibit at the Morris Arboretum, would be available for purchase. The Arboretum would receive 25% of all sales. Sales started off strong, and the exhibit also garnered press coverage from The Philadelphia Inquirer, CBS3, and 6ABC among other media.

MOBILE AND ONLINE TOURS LAUNCHED
With a grant from the Pew Center for Arts & Heritage, Morris Arboretum launched “Awakening the Senses,” a series of online tours which families can use to plan their visits remotely and enhance their experience on-site. “Awakening the Senses” tours enable visitors to use their personal mobile devices as an interpretive tool in the garden. The tours impart information about the Arboretum’s plant collections, history, architecture, trees, and sculpture, and engage children with interactive games.

MORRIS ARBORETUM LECTURES EXTEND REACH
Morris Arboretum lectures focus on plants, gardens, and landscapes, and feature speakers who provide insight on a variety of related arts and culture topics. Thanks to dedicated volunteer Jan Albaum and many staff members, lectures now frequently fill the largest room at the Arboretum which holds only 65 people. To accommodate increased interest, partnerships with nearby institutions were developed, including Ambler Theater and Temple University’s Ambler Campus. Both have auditoriums that can hold large audiences. Strong promotion, extensive press coverage, and effective use of social media helped to sell out lectures held at these off-site locations when noted author Andrea Wulf spoke at Ambler Theater, and environmentalist John Francis spoke at Temple-Ambler. Both lectures attracted more than 200 attendees.

SOCIAL MEDIA - THERE’S NO ESCAPING IT!
If John Morris were alive today, he would be jumping with excitement too, as the Arboretum surpassed 11,000 Instagram followers. Social media’s reach continues to grow with strategic messaging. The positive results show up in increased interaction and sharing among followers, visitor attendance at an all-time high, increased wedding bookings and revenue, and sold out summer camp. Social media has become an essential tool in branding and marketing the Arboretum.

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<th>Platform</th>
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<td>Facebook</td>
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<td>14,102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twitter</td>
<td>13.7%</td>
<td>4,654</td>
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Photos: Amanda DeLeo, Bob Gutowski, Paul W. Meyer
The Urban Forestry team supports the Morris Arboretum’s educational mission by disseminating tree care knowledge and providing unbiased arboricultural consulting services and technical assistance to clients including municipalities, colleges, tree care companies, landscape architects, and businesses throughout the region.

The School of Arboriculture provides classes for a wide audience including arborists, allied professionals, and industry leaders. While the classes target people in these disciplines, the general public is always encouraged to attend to further their arboricultural knowledge.

Trish Kemper, a former Morris Arboretum intern (2015-2016), joined the team as Urban Forestry Technician. This position was added through an expanded partnership with the University of Pennsylvania’s Division of Facilities and Real Estate Services Department (FRES). Trish is inventorying and assessing campus trees, and providing maps and other information to contractors to reduce tree-related risk.

The consulting team is also crafting a University Tree Policy to address tree-related issues on campus, and updating information in the tree database which is accessible to the public through Penn’s Plant Explorer website. A special concern is overseeing the management and care of the University’s elm and ash trees, which are threatened by Dutch elm disease and emerald ash borer.

This year, the team worked with Wilmington, Delaware’s Public Works department to update the tree inventory and assessment data for selected areas in the city in order to provide accurate decision-making information about the city’s trees. Approximately 1,300 trees were assessed or added/removed from the city’s database.

At Swarthmore College, the team is helping protect trees during three ongoing construction projects, including preserving a mature oak located very close to new construction. Recommendations included soil decompaction, supplemental irrigation, treatment with growth regulators, and minimizing grading within the root zone. The college’s tree-related policy was also revised, and a Heritage Tree Policy was crafted to identify and properly treat valuable campus trees.

High-quality, containerized native plants from local sources were also provided to Philadelphia’s Parks and Recreation Department to meet restoration and programmatic needs, totaling about 1,100 trees and shrubs for the city.
Each year, Penn students are engaged and encouraged to visit the Arboretum as part of their student life. This year, new students were introduced to the Arboretum at New Student Orientation events, then again at the new class tree planting during homecoming weekend. More than 100 students visited the Arboretum last fall, and took part in the Korean Harvest Festival which showcased Penn student group performances throughout the day. More than 350 students visited in April, in large part due to complimentary buses which brought students to the Arboretum so they could enjoy the warm weather and celebrate the Japanese Cherry Blossom Festival. These activities are possible through the generous support of Bill (Wharton ’74) and Kathie Hohns.

**AWAKENING THE SENSES**

Walking through the Arboretum, visitors young and old can be seen with smartphones in their hands. Snapping selfies in the Rose Garden, taking photos of majestic trees, and web searching for plants and animals are a few of the ways visitors use their phones in the garden. This past year, new platforms were launched to take advantage of the growing number of smartphone users and connect them with fun, interactive, family-friendly activities through their mobile device.

One of the ways to capitalize on this new technology is through *Arboretum Adventure*, which invites users to explore the Arboretum with the help of five animal guides in iconic locations such as the Rose Garden and Fernery. Families are encouraged to bounce, buzz, and flap to different sections of the Arboretum, and once there, they can color flowers, plant acorns, and learn scientifically accurate lessons about plant and animal life, all on their phones.

*Arboretum Adventure* incorporates custom illustrations made specifically for this experience by local artist Todd Miyashiro, alongside content developed by Arboretum staff. This project was a part of the *Awakening the Senses* project funded by the Pew Center for Arts & Heritage to enable the Arboretum to experiment with mobile content and reach the Arboretum’s audience in new and innovative ways. This program, along with other mobile tours, Wi-Fi hotspots, and an online plant collection database are all new ways mobile technology is being utilized to enhance and improve the visitor experience.

**SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES**

When the University of Pennsylvania launched its Climate Action Plan 2.0 in the fall of 2014, its carbon and energy goals aligned with the longer term goal of carbon neutrality by 2042. Morris Arboretum is committed to sustaining its natural resources. The 167-acre Arboretum property is a collection of demonstrations exhibiting stewardship of different kinds of landscapes.

In the past year, great strides were made in sustainable upgrades to utilities and operations. The substantial investments required for these upgrades will pay for themselves in 6 to 14 years.

- 220 Upgraded LED lights (interior and exterior) will generate a 36% savings each year
- 5 New heating and hot water systems installed, which operate at 86-95% efficiency
- 8 Air conditioning units replaced to provide energy reduction of up to 47%

**VOLUNTEERS**

The Morris Arboretum is grateful for the service of its loyal volunteers. The volunteer corps blend seamlessly into the Arboretum, contributing significantly to daily operations. In turn, volunteers are given opportunities to learn, experience the garden, socialize, and grow. Volunteers also connect with the community by helping fulfill the Arboretum’s mission and becoming stewards of their environment.

Volunteers assist in all areas of the Arboretum including:
- Advisory Board of Managers
- Archives
- Botany
- Development
- Directors’ Guild
- Events/Plant Sale
- Garden Railway
- Greenhouse
- Guides
- Horticulture
- Moonlight & Roses committee
- Run of the Millers
- Visitor Services

- 285 Active Arboretum Volunteers
- 13,545 Volunteer hours contributed
- 6.7 Full-time staff equivalent
ENDOWMENTS

Alan T. and Marjorie Miller Arboriculture Endowment
Alice and Liddon Pennock Flower Walk and Intern Endowment
Anne C. Highland Natural Areas Endowment
Barry W. Jeffries Historic Landscape Education Endowment
Byron & Elizabeth Lukens Lecture Endowment
Charles S. Holman Jr. Rose Garden Intern Endowment
Charles S. Holman Jr. Key Fountain Endowment
Charlotte Shepherd Meigs Endowment
Children’s Education Endowment
The Compton Fund
Curatorial Endowment
Dorance H. Hamilton Fernery Endowment
Eli Kirk Price Botany Intern Endowment
Elizabeth P. McLean Mercury Loggia Endowment
Equipment Replacement Endowment
Fine Art Conservation Endowment
F. Otto Haas Executive Director’s Chair Endowment
F. Otto Haas Facility Maintenance Endowment
F. Otto Haas Oak Allele Endowment
Garden Railway Endowment
The Gayle E. Maloney Director of Horticulture Endowment
The Gayle E. Maloney Garden Endowment
The Gayle E. Maloney Plant Exploration Endowment
The Hay Honey Farm Horticulture Intern Endowment
Hiram Munger Hill & Cloud Garden Endowment
Historic Preservation Endowment
Horticulture Center Endowment (1)
Horticulture Center Endowment (2)
Joanna McQuail Reed Herb Garden Endowment
John C. Plunkett Botany Research Endowment
John J. Willaman Director of Botany Endowment
John J. Willaman and Martha Haas Valentine Intern Endowment
Joseph Shurtleworth Garden Railway Endowment
Llewelyn J. Griffiths Endowment
Lucille R. Roland Garden Endowment
Lydia Morris Trust
Madeleine K. Butcher Fine Arts Endowment
Martha S. Miller & Rusty Miller Urban Forestry Intern Endowment
Martha J. Wallace Plant Propagation Intern Endowment
Martha J. Wallace Staff Compensation Endowment
Mary P. and Richard W. Graham Natural Areas Endowment
McCauley Natural Lands Horticulturist Endowment
McLean Education Internship Endowment
McLean Endowment for Staff Compensation and Development
Medicinal Plant Garden Endowment
Mildred R. Montgomery Trust
Morris Arboretum First Century Fund
Morris Arboretum Internship Program Endowment
Moses & Susan Feldman Natural Areas Section Leader Endowment
National Endowment for the Humanities
Our On a Limb Tree Adventure Endowment
Paul W. Meyer & Debra L. Rodgers Study-Travel Endowment
Paul W. Meyer & Debra L. Rodgers Historic Preservation Endowment
Plant Exploration, Evaluation, and Introduction Endowment
Steven D. Murray Metasequoia Grove Endowment
Steven Laden Marketing Endowment
Sue & Michael Young Education Fund
Taylor Woodland Endowment
Toshiko Takaesu Bell Endowment
Walter W. Root Arborist Intern Endowment
William Klein Lectureship Endowment
William Penn Foundation Endowment for General Operating Support

Photo: Paul Meyer
Photo: Lori Schimpf
The Arboretum is deeply grateful for the generous financial support of its community of members, donors, and friends. More important than the value of these gifts is knowing that each contribution—whether $5 for the Annual Fund or $500,000 for a capital project—represents a profound statement of support for the Arboretum’s mission of promoting awareness and protection of the natural world.

Fiscal Year 2017 marked the strongest year ever for the Annual Fund, which generated more than $700,000 in contributions. Other sources of annual giving, including membership and the annual Moonlight & Roses gala, raised an additional $945,000, bringing total unrestricted contributed revenue in FY17 to more than $1.6 million. Fiscal Year 2017 also brought in more than $1 million in bequests, helping to further strengthen the Arboretum’s endowments, whose income generates nearly one-third of the Arboretum’s annual operating budget.

Major gifts in FY17 supported an array of projects: the refurbishment of the Widener Visitor Center, special support for horticultural efforts—including the trail restoration project, the Rose Garden perimeter project, and plant propagation—plus generous gifts to the Botany and Plant Sciences funds.

A number of contributions were received this year in support of education and outreach efforts. Special gifts were made to the Youth Education Endowment, as well as renewed multi-donor support for the second year of the Explorav! Summer Bridge Program, a partnership with ACLAMO Family Services in Norristown, PA that provides a summer of exploration and fun for underserved children (ages 8-14) at the Arboretum.

In Fiscal Year 2017, Paul W. Meyer, the F. Otto Haas Executive Director, marked 40 years of service. This milestone was celebrated with great generosity by nearly 120 donors who contributed almost $250,000 to establish the Paul W. Meyer & Debra L. Rodgers Endowment Fund for Historic Preservation—a fitting cause that has been a central theme of progress at the Arboretum throughout Paul’s decades of service.

All told, special gifts were made to more than 50 discrete, mission-driven project funds this fiscal year, recognizing the Arboretum as a precious local gem, an official statewide resource, a national model for botanic gardens, and an international repository for botanical research. The Arboretum’s donors and members have made all of this, and more, possible through their unwavering support and commitment to the protection and preservation of the natural world.
The Morris Arboretum is grateful to the following individuals who have provided generous operating, programmatic, and/or capital support through new gifts, pledges, or pledge payments totaling $2,500 or more in Fiscal Year 2017.

**Leadership Gifts and Pledges**

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|$250,000–$499,999|
|Anonymous|
|Dortrace H. Hamilton†|
|Lehman E. Kapp Jr.†|
|Henry S. Miller Jr.†|

|$100,000–$249,999|
|Patricia & Clarence Wurts|
|Minturn T. Wright|

|$25,000–$49,999|
|Kane Debra L. Rodgers & Paul W. Meyer|
|Ann & Frank Reed|
|Frances & James Maguire|
|Kathlene & William Hohns|
|Pamela & James Hill|
|Joanie & Murray Goodman|
|George W. Connell|

|$5,000–$9,999|
|Sue & Michael Young|

|$2,500–$4,999|
|Anonymous (2)|
|Sarah & John H. Ball|
|Carol A. Dolinskas|

**Gifts to Endowments and Special Projects**

|Joan & Robert Anderson|
|Anonymous|
|Roberta L. Berg|
|Ruth & Tai Chang|
|Katharine T. Claghorn|
|Bruce & Rebecca Conrad|
|Emily & Edward Dueschler|
|Ellen W. Decker|
|Donna A. Delany|
|Janet Erzi Berger|
|Christa & William Farnon|
|Charlotte T. Feldman|
|Joseph C. Fitzgerald|
|Eugenie & John Fishery|
|Robert Friedman|
|Elinor I. Goff|
|Lynn & Ralph Haber|
|Suzanne & Crawford Hill III|

|Nina & Eric Schneider|
|Donorhea & Donald Schnoor|
|Evelyn Price Scott|
|Janet & Georg Simon|
|Pam & Michael Sharp|
|Joly W. Stewart|
|Barbara & Leonard Sylk|
|Mania & Radcliffe Thompson|
|Tonia Uffner|
|Maureen Ward & Elie-Antoine Atallah|
|Deborah & Andrew Webster|
|Quentin M. White|
|Mari D. Witte|
|Lenore & Albert Zimmermann|

† Deceased
The Collectors Circle is a group of individuals who give $2,500 or more to the Annual Fund. Their commitment provides organizational strength and capacity for the Morris Arboretum. This list acknowledges donors who made new gifts or pledge payments in Fiscal Year 2017.

**$50,000 and Above**

Bonnie & Peter McCausland
Sarah & Ted Lodge
Marguerite & Gerry Lenfest
Augusta Leininger
Jessie B. Hill & Ming Fang
Meg & Richard Hayne
Penelope P. Harris
Edith Robb Dixon
Jessica Berwind

**$25,000–$49,999**

Martha J. Wallace & Edward W. Kane

**$10,000–$24,999**

Debra L. Rodgers & Paul W. Meyer
Aileen & Brian Roberts
Susan & Robert Peck
Hali & Scott Asplundh
Gwen & Edward Asplundh
Elizabeth P. McLean
Mary Lane & Robert Durham
Mary Lan & Robert Durham
Elizabeth P. McLean
Linda & David Glickstein
Lynda & Jay Hass
Carol & James Hovey
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11,896 Adult members
34 of 50 States represented by Arboretum members
7,417 Child members

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The Morris Arboretum is grateful to the following corporations, foundations, government agencies, and non-profit organizations who have provided generous operating, programmatic, and/or capital support through new gifts, pledges, or pledge payments totaling $250 or more in Fiscal Year 2017.

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Paul W. Meyer - 40 Years of Service

As America celebrated the nation’s bicentennial in 1976, a young Paul Meyer arrived at the gates of the Morris Arboretum. This “kid from Ohio” came to the Arboretum with the goal of gaining experience before moving on. With a B.S. in Landscape Horticulture from Ohio State University, one year as an intern at Hillier’s Garden & Arboretum, and a subsequent position of Curator of the Living Collection offered by the Morris Arboretum, Paul was well-prepared to accept the position of Curator of the Living Collection offered by the Morris Arboretum.

Paul was first introduced to the Arboretum through fellow students, and was immediately drawn to the garden because of its remarkable collection of mature trees. Little did he imagine in 1979 that his commitment to the institution and its community would turn into 15 years of service as the Curator & Director.

In October 2016, the Arboretum community established the Paul W. Meyer & Debra L. Rodgers Historic Preservation Endowment to celebrate Paul’s legendary leadership as well as Paul and Debbie’s deep commitment to the institution and its community.
The Arboretum’s annual fundraising gala, *Moonlight & Roses*, is a much-anticipated, premier summer event in Philadelphia. The Morris Arboretum is grateful to the following donors who supported *Moonlight & Roses* held on June 2, 2017.

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Thomas Bregatta*
Michael Burnett*
Nicholas Conception*
Leonie Goldman*
Frank Hollingworth*
Daniel Killoran*
Richard McAdams*
Janice Pavlovich*
Robert Porter*
Nicholas Shields*
Andrew Staples*  

Visitor Experience (cont’d)
Joan Regan*
Patricia Shepherson*
Elaine Sideri*
Michelle Smith*
Nicholas Turo*
Loren Vosika*
† Deceased
† Part-time Staff
† No longer on Staff
† Discussed