



Morris Arboretum
& Gardens

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

IMPACTREPORT

JULY 2022 – JUNE 2023





“The gardens are spectacular. As a firm believer that forest bathing helps us physically and spiritually, the gardens are not just food for the senses but for the soul as well.”

—Morris visitor

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

William Cullina

F. Otto Haas Executive Director



Greetings

In 2023, we celebrate our 90th year as a public garden. University of Pennsylvania President Thomas Sovereign Gates officially opened the Morris estate to the public in the spring of 1933 as the newly minted Morris Arboretum. Through the decades, the Morris has grown into one of the largest public gardens in the United States. We are proud to be an arboretum, but we, like many of our peers, realize that many people do not understand what an arboretum is. The truth is, along with our amazing collection of trees, we are also known for our gardens. So, in celebration of our 90th, we decided to expand our name to include both. It is our belief that by changing our name to Morris Arboretum & Gardens, we are more accurately describing who we are while making ourselves more understandable and welcoming to wider audiences.

Speaking of gardens, in April, we reopened our beloved and greatly enhanced Rose Garden, now featuring elegant Pennsylvania bluestone pathways on the central axes for greater accessibility and functionality. In May we celebrated the 25th anniversary of our Garden Railway with an expanded track system and extensive new plantings. In June we opened a brand new “pop-up” garden, *Exuberant Blooms*, which featured a quarter acre of bee- and bird-friendly blooms in a section of former turf within the Azalea Meadow, to the delight of visitors and butterflies alike.

Although trees often outlive us, they do not live forever. Many of the trees alive when President Gates cut the ribbon in 1933 are no longer with us. Age,

disease, and climate change have all played a part. One particularly sad loss this year was the large red oak that graced the corner of our property on Stenton Avenue that is the northwesternmost point in the city of Philadelphia. We replaced it with a sapling southern live oak collected on our 2012 expedition to the Tidewater Virginia area, which we hope will live to see our 300th anniversary. This year we sent our staff to Kentucky, Alabama, and locally here in Pennsylvania to collect native species we hope will be better climate-adapted to the future Morris. Additionally, staff planted over 200 trees and shrubs from our nursery on the grounds this fall.

As we near the dawn of our second century as a public garden, I am excited to report that we are putting the finishing touches on our comprehensive 20-year master site plan. The plan features greatly expanded research and education facilities, new and restored gardens and features, and key visitor amenities such as accessible parking and entry, a new food and event space, and much more.

As always, I am deeply grateful for your support for this wonderful institution. I hope you are as proud as I am at what we have become and as excited as I for the bright future ahead.

With deepest thanks,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "William Cullina". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

A Beautiful Future

Ninety years have passed since the Morris Arboretum & Gardens opened its gates to a curious public. In 1933—at the height of the Great Depression—visitors flocked to see the exquisite gardens at the former estate of industrialist scions Lydia and John Morris. Carefully conceived and beautifully tended, the gardens were both iconic and inspiring. Beauty was in short supply and the Morris delivered it in spades.

Today, the Morris remains among the most beautiful public gardens in the region and the nation. Its living collection is admired by peer institutions around the world, and our visitors—more than 170,000 in FY23—still flock to experience the abundant beauty that is found at nearly every turn.

The Morris recognizes that its beauty is powerful—it opens a portal for welcoming the public and inspiring them to consider the many ways in which they can connect with nature. As is often said, the Morris is a living laboratory, where plant science, horticulture, education, and outreach initiatives join forces to convey and share important information about the natural world.

Our donors enthusiastically and generously support these efforts. In 2023, the Morris received more than 5,800 gifts totaling nearly \$4.1 million for operations, education and outreach, research, and horticultural enhancement. From contributions in support of

enhanced access in the refurbished Rose Garden, and a whimsical new train shed at the Garden Railway, to the seasons-long beauty of *Exuberant Blooms*, our donors enabled us to introduce captivating new garden features that engage, inspire, and delight visitors. Thanks to our donors, visitors can now immerse themselves in multi-sensory experiences that not only celebrate the wonders of the natural world but also offer them the tools they need to learn how they, too, can steward the environment in their own communities, homes, and backyards.

Our donors have also generously supported the Morris's efforts to expand its plant science research program, providing the means by which our researchers can embark on studies that contribute to a global understanding of plant life, especially in the field of rare and endangered plant species. Your unwavering support for the aims of plant science research has fueled our commitment to making a lasting impact in the field.

As the Morris continues to move forward with these efforts, we remain steadfast in our dedication to fostering a deeper connection between people, plants, and place. We are committed to maximizing the impact of every dollar donated, ensuring that your generosity makes a meaningful difference in our programs and initiatives.

Together, we can create a future where nature thrives, and our understanding of plants and their importance grows.



Statement of Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Temporarily Restricted Funds	Permanently Restricted Funds	FY23 TOTAL
Revenue and Support				
Earned Revenue	2,777,819	—	—	2,777,819
Contributed Revenue	1,342,486	1,186,498	626,278	3,155,262
Investment Income	1,005,259	2,939,428	—	3,944,687
Government Support (Grants)	92,833	—	—	92,833
University Support/Misc	980,742	—	—	980,742
Subtotal Revenue and Support	6,199,139	4,125,926	626,278	10,951,343
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	3,237,381	(3,237,381)	—	—
Total Revenue and Support	9,436,520	888,545	626,278	10,951,343

Salaries & Benefits				
Total Salary & Benefits	4,928,658	—	—	4,928,658

Program Expenses				
Plant Science	60,854	—	—	60,854
Horticulture	895,772	—	—	895,772
Education	205,367	—	—	205,367
Visitor Experience	127,927	—	—	127,927
Facilities Operations	1,019,309	—	—	1,019,309
Development	274,253	—	—	274,253
Marketing	269,421	—	—	269,421
General & Administrative	138,457	—	—	138,457
Capital Improvements	156,209	—	—	156,209
University Services	1,360,293	—	—	1,360,293
Total Expenses	9,436,520	—	—	9,436,520

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS +/-	(0)	888,545	626,278	1,514,823
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Investing in Endowment

The Morris was fully open and able to run all activities in FY23, marking a return to normalcy after external factors limited our operations in FY21 and FY22. With strong earned, gift, and endowment revenue, and cost controls in place, we generated a healthy operating surplus again in FY23.

Endowments make up a large portion of our income pool and revenue from endowments generated over 38 percent of total operating income in FY23. Interest on the endowments provides ongoing support for a large portion of the Morris's operations, with this revenue covering 46.6 percent of total operating expenses in FY23.

While the principal of the endowments may not be touched, gifts to endowment provide a steady funding source for the Morris Arboretum & Gardens and allow us to remain mission-focused regardless of external challenges. The health, depth, and breadth of our endowments is something we rely on and for which we are deeply grateful.

Over the past decade, the Morris has received nearly \$12 million in endowment gifts, with total endowment assets totaling \$81.8 million at the end of the last fiscal year, FY23. As was the case for most organizations with endowment holdings, the market value of the Morris's portfolio experienced a decrease over the past two fiscal years after achieving a stellar high in FY21. Even with this decrease in value, the spendable income from our endowments increased to \$3.9 million by the end of FY23, doubling over the past ten years.

\$81.8 million

Combined market value of
Morris Arboretum &
Gardens endowments
as of June 20, 2023

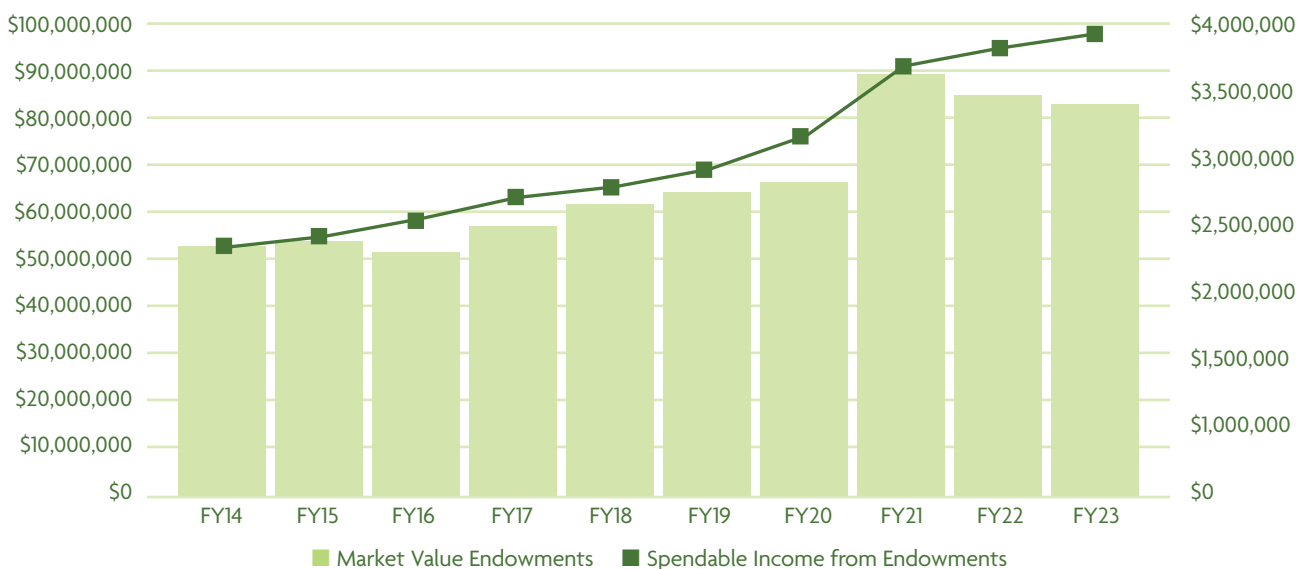
\$3.9 million

Spendable income
from combined
endowments in 2023
100% increase over 10 years

\$11.9 million

New endowment gifts
in the last 10 years

ENDOWMENTS – Market Value & Spendable Income



By the Numbers

The Morris Arboretum & Gardens continued to be an inspiration to people from all over the world—from our neighbors around the corner in Chestnut Hill to first-time visitors traveling from overseas to attend a gorgeous garden wedding.



163,044
GENERAL
ATTENDANCE

6,549

MEMBERSHIPS



31 states

WHERE ARE OUR
MEMBERS FROM?



1,092

ACTIVE MILITARY
ADMISSIONS



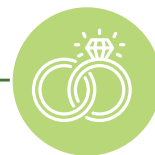
3,000+

PLANTS SHARED
IN MEMBER PLANT
GIVEAWAY



84

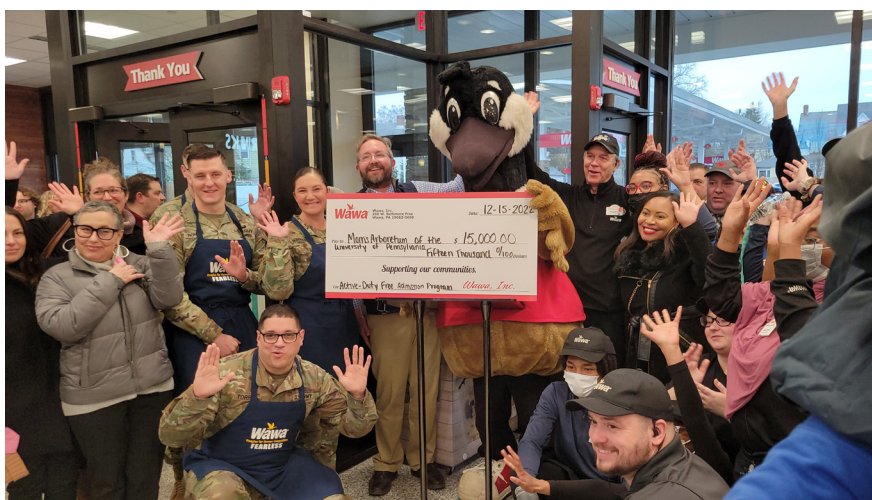
WEDDINGS



Top photo: Paul W. Meyer. Middle photo: Lovestruck Pictures. Bottom photo: Eddy Marenco.

Morris in the News

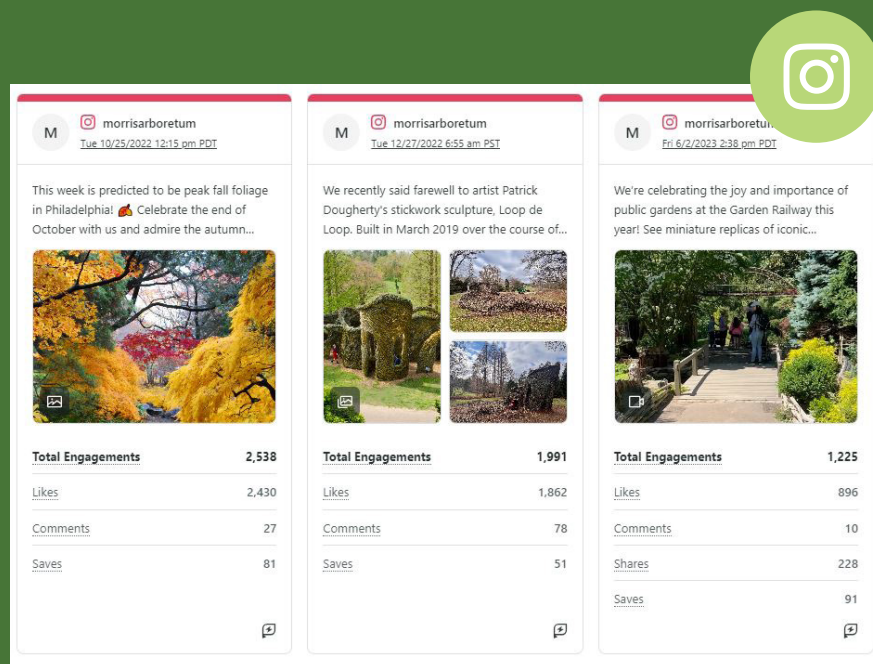
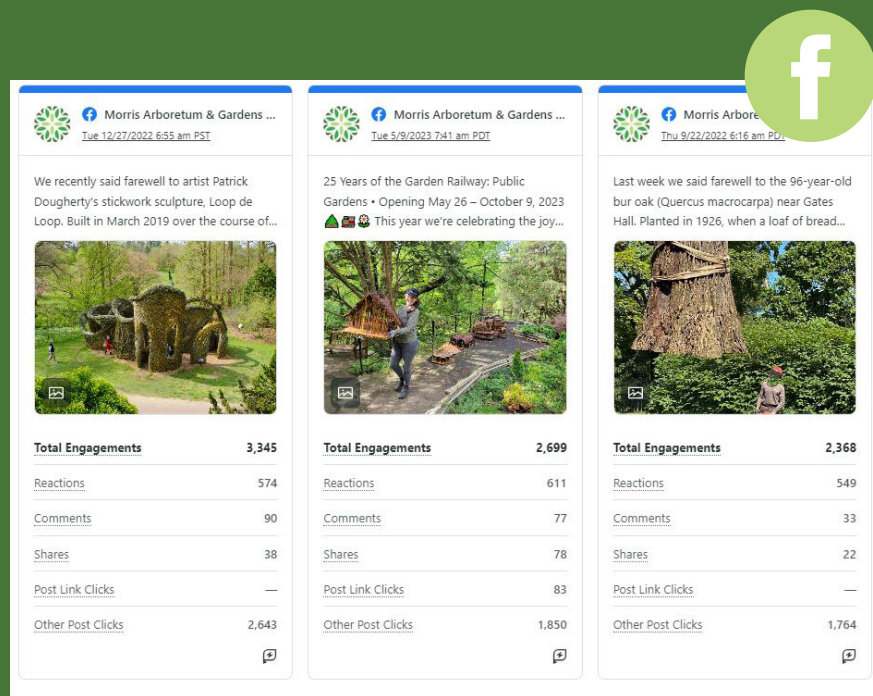
Morris Arboretum & Gardens received a lot of attention in FY23, including being mentioned on *Good Morning America* for our cherry blossoms! We received coverage for Wawa's first-time gift in support of the Morris's active-duty military free admission program. The renovation of the Rose Garden and our *Moonlight & Roses* gala brought the TV cameras out, and the celebration of the Garden Railway's 25th anniversary was a media magnet.



Photos by Mellany Armstrong

Social Media Highlights

These were our most popular posts on Facebook and Instagram for FY23!



Cross-Network Performance

7/1/2022 – 6/30/2023
Instagram, Facebook,
X, and LinkedIn

67,561

Total audience
↑ UP 12%

7,255

Net Total
Audience Growth
↑ UP 32%

5%

Engagement Rate
(per Impression)
↑ UP 26.1%

130,111

Video Views
↑ UP 212.2%



Leadership Gifts and Pledges

The Morris Arboretum & Gardens 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 2023.

\$250,000 and above

Susan & Moses Feldman
Janet & John Haas

\$100,000–249,999

Anonymous (2)
Jessie B. Hill & Ming Fang
Leonard Korman Family
Lee Laden*
Rebecca M. Shuttleworth
Mary D. Starr
Maria & Radclyffe Thompson

\$50,000–99,999

Edith R. Dixon
Janet S. Klein

\$25,000–49,999

Jane & Abass Alavi
Sally & Dick Brickman
Lexa Edsall & Robert Victor
Pamela & W. Roderick Gagné
Linda & David Glickstein
Carole Haas Gravagno
Jane MacElree
Bonnie & Peter McCausland
Ann & Frank Reed
Elizabeth & Kyle Salata
Martha J. Wallace & Edward W. Kane

\$10,000–24,999

Anonymous (2)
Gwendolyn Asplundh
Cathleen & Robert Bartlett
Mary Pat & Thomas Boyle
Joan N. Brantz
Susan & John Campbell
Susan R. & George W. Connell

Carol A. Dolinskas
Steven H. Gendler
Penelope P. Harris
Mary Lane & Robert Durham
Sarah & Ted Lodge
Aileen & Brian Roberts
Elizabeth Van Vleck
Maureen Ward & Elie-Antoine Atallah
Robert Warth
Patricia & Clarence Wurts
Sue* & Michael Young Fund

\$5,000–9,999

Anonymous (3)
Jan Albaum & Harry Cerino
Joan & Robert Anderson
Hali & Scott Asplundh
Beatrice Bast*
Barbara Berkowitz
Marcia Campbell
Deborah E. Glass
Ellen & Jay Hass
Pamela & James Hill
Christine James
Paul McKelvie
Sandra L. McLean
Lorna & Lathrop Nelson
David T. Orthwein
Bette & Jonathan Perlman
Debra L. Rodgers & Paul W. Meyer*
Marilyn Steinbright
Thomasina White & Anthony Nelson

\$2,500–4,999

David Anstice & Ana-Maria Zaugg
Christine & Michael Bamberger
Annabelle Canning
Nancy & Mark Celoni
Ruth & Tai-ming Chang

Allison & Aurelio DeCaro
Jane & Walter Evans
Christina & Dean Fournaris
C. Meade Geisel Jr.
Misty & Gregory Harth
Natalie & Ralph Hirshorn
Carol & James Hovey
Sandra A. Johansen
Emilie & Peter Lapham
Penelope Lapham
Louise M. Lisi
Elizabeth & Robert Lukens
Mandie & Blair Lyon
Nancy Louise Miller
Jacki & Pat Mullen
Hiram H. Munger
Diane Newbury & Steven Berman
J. Kenneth Nimblett
Robert S. Price
Gretchen & J. Barton Riley
Louise Root Melby
Nina & Eric Schneider
Bonnie & Peter Schorsch
Elizabeth & John A.H.* Shober
Allan Summers
David Van Ness Taylor
Tasha Taylor-Igbanol & Ryan N. Igbanol
Anne Walsh

Gifts to Endowment, Programs, and Special Projects

The Morris Arboretum & Gardens acknowledges the individuals who have made gifts of \$250-\$2,499 in Fiscal Year 2023 to endowments, programs, and/or special projects.

Roberta L. Berg
Mark Delestatiuss
Anne & Walter Godley
Sandra & Thomas Greenwood
Pamela & James Hill
Diane & W. David Knox
Madelyn Ladner & Robert Gutowski
Louise M. Lisi
James C. McCracken
Sharon & J. Christopher Miller
Carolyn Montgomery
Susan Munch
Nina & Eric Schneider
Nina Siegler
Richard Siller
Susan G. Smith
Leigh-Anne & Steve Spokane
JoAnn & Joseph Townsend
Frances & John Ward

Photo by Rob Cardillo



The Collectors Circle

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 & Gardens. This list acknowledges donors who made new gifts or pledge payments in Fiscal Year 2023.



Photo by Robert Gutowski

\$50,000 and above

Edith R. Dixon
Mary D. Starr

\$25,000–49,999

Anonymous
Lexa Edsall & Robert Victor
Carole Haas Gravagno
Janet & John Haas
Jane MacElree
Rebecca M. Shuttleworth
Martha J. Wallace & Edward W. Kane

\$10,000–24,999

Anonymous
Gwendolyn Asplundh
Cathleen & Robert Bartlett
Mary Pat & Thomas Boyle
Susan & John Campbell
Susan R. & George W. Connell
Carol A. Dolinskas
Penelope P. Harris
Jessie B. Hill & Ming Fang
Leonard Korman Family
Mary Lane & Robert Durham
Sarah & Ted Lodge
Bonnie & Peter McCausland
Ann & Frank Reed
Elizabeth & Kyle Salata
Elizabeth Van Vleck
Robert Warth

\$5,000–9,999

Anonymous (2)
Jane & Abass Alavi
Jan Albaum & Harry Cerino
Hali & Scott Asplundh
Beatrice Bast*
Barbara Berkowitz
Marcia Campbell
Wendy & Walter Foulke
Pamela & W. Roderick Gagné
Pamela & James Hill
Christine James
Paul McKelvie
David T. Orthwein
Bette & Jonathan Perlman
Susan & Michael Schurr
Patricia & Clarence Wurts

\$2,500–4,999

David Anstice & Ana-Maria Zaugg
Annabelle Canning
Ruth & Tai-ming Chang
Jane & Walter Evans
Susan & Moses Feldman
Christina & Dean Fournaris
C. Meade Geisel Jr.
Linda & David Glickstein
Ellen & Jay Hass
Natalie & Ralph Hirshorn
Carol & James Hovey
Sandra A. Johansen
Janet S. Klein

Emilie & Peter Lapham
Penelope Lapham
Marguerite Lenfest
Elizabeth & Robert Lukens
Mandie & Blair Lyon
Sandra L. McLean
Nancy Louise Miller
Toby Needleman &
Robert Shusterman
Diane Newbury & Steven Berman
J. Kenneth Nimblett
Marianna Price Coll
Robert S. Price
Gretchen & J. Barton Riley
Debra L. Rodgers & Paul W. Meyer*
Nina & Eric Schneider
Bonnie & Peter Schorsch
Elizabeth & John A.H.* Shober
David Van Ness Taylor
Eliza Taylor
Tasha Taylor-Igbanol & Ryan N. Igbanol
Anne Walsh
Maureen Ward & Elie-Antoine Atallah
Anna & Charles Woodward

Gifts to the Annual Fund

The Annual Fund is a significant source of support for the Morris's annual operating budget. This list acknowledges individuals who have made new gifts or pledge payments in Fiscal Year 2023 of \$250–\$2,499. Annual Fund donors of \$2,500 or more are members of the Collectors Circle and are acknowledged on the previous page.

\$1,000–2,499

Joanna & Michael Andrews
Mary & Ralph Benner
Emily & Edward Daeschler
Mark Delestatius
Martin Farley
Susan & Robert Fleming
Nancy Frederick
Marion Phyllis Girard
Patricia & Thomas Griffin
Louise & Peter Havens
Marilyn & Stephen Leonard
Lyn & Daniel Lerner
Henry S. McNeil Jr.
Ann P. Morris
Hiram H. Munger
Tamara & Joseph Paulits
Nancy Pontone
Mary Jane Raymond
Rita & Lawrence Salva
Cornelia Schaefer
Lucy Bell Sellers
Beth Somers Stutzman
Virginia & Lane Taylor
Mira Zergani & Antonio Quiles

\$500–999

Joan & Robert Anderson
Crystal Balla
Charlotte H. Biddle
Patricia & Jeff Boujoukos
Susan Campbell
Sara Gilbert
Suzette & Peter Hearn
Gretchen Heebner
Mary & Paul Henry
Barbara & John Kimberly
F. Peter Kohler
Angela Liem
Elizabeth Masters & John Basinski
Janet & John Moyer
Alison & Alexander Nalle
Pepper & Jeffrey Rexford
Marian & Michael Rieders
Natalie & Wayne Thomas
Beulah Trey & Steve Masters

\$250–499

Anonymous
Maureen Alexander & Kathryn Doyle
Susan Asplundh
Jane & Richard Baron
Amy Brantz Bedrick &
Edward L. Bedrick
Charlotte C. Betancourt
Mary B. Coe & Thomas J. Gallagher
Kristine Conner & Daniel McNally
Helen & Fred Consaley
Susan Crane & Joel Gottfried
Bridget & Gary Crooks
Ann Csink & John Linck
Denise & John D'Avella
Leonardo Diaz
Anne & Thomas Dobbins
Diana & Stuart Donaldson
Nancy Drye & Robert Thomas
Anne Marie Kane
Maxine Lewis
Louise M. Lisi
Mary & Richard Noe
Donna & John Park
Elizabeth Price & David Lamb
Linda & Walter Ritter
Nancy Roberts
Kristine & Eric Robinson
Penny & Paul* Rubincam
Allyson & David Schwartz
Joly W. Stewart
Ann Tabone & Charles Mazza
Alison & Brad Thornton
Elsie & David Viehman
Minturn T. Wright III



Photo by Rob Cardillo

*Deceased

Leadership Members

Membership revenue is an important source of unrestricted operating income for the Morris Arboretum & Gardens. All members contribute to the organizational strength with their membership dues. The individuals listed below have distinguished themselves by joining at the highest levels of membership in Fiscal Year 2023.

Laurel \$1,250

Harry S. Cherken Jr.
Ruth Colket
Jeanne & Philip Connolly
Mary & Anthony Creamer
Gene & Charles Dilks
Laura & Mark Dingfield
Suzanne & George Downs
Eleanore & Christopher Gadsden
Elizabeth H. Gemmill
Mary & Richard Graham
Ann D. Hozack
Cathy Hozack
Roger Learnard
Susan D. Learnard
Evamarie Malsch
Ruth Van Sciver Peckmann
Arabella & James Pope
Maryellen Reilly
Lin Snider & Andrew Markowitz

Oak \$750

Dorothy & Andrew Allison
Donna & Louis Beardell
Audrey Eveloff Berman & John Berman
Robert Berry
Kristin & James Biddle
Kathleen & Scott Brenman
Mary V. Burke & Craig S. Harnitchek
Gretchen Carey
Laura Carey
Diana & James Cosgrove
Karen & Edgar David
Caryn E. Douma & Eric C. Eichenwald
Lisa Erlbaum
Margaret & Thomas Farnoly
Lisa M. Gemmill
Dorothy Vida Grier-Walsh & Christopher Walsh
Susan & Arthur Hankin
Susan & W. Henry Harrison
George Henderson

Eileen & Ronald Javers
Korin & Larry Korman
Melissa O. Koussis & S. Stacy Mogul
Elizabeth Masters & John Basinski
Rose Marie McCabe
Karen Miller & Graham Brent
Erin & Kevin Monaghan
Catherine & Hugh Moulton
Hiram H. Munger
Alison & Alexander Nalle
Toby Needleman & Robert Shusterman
Lorna & Lathrop Nelson
Donna & John Park
Kristine & Eric Robinson
Elizabeth & Harvey Rubin
Elsa Scherphorn
Anita Marie Smith
Tamar & Phillip Stern
Joly W. Stewart
Maria & Radclyffe Thompson
Christopher Walsh
Julia Warren
Judith & Julian Wessell

Holly \$350

Cynthia & John Affleck
Sarah & David Andrews
Patricia Bailey & Richard Murray
Charlotte H. Biddle
Frances Bourne & William Hoffner
Maryanne & Henry Buck
Mary Jo & Jeffrey Buckwalter
Rebecca W. Bushnell & John D. Toner
Jenny Rose & H. Augustus Carey
Maryalice Cheney & Scott Goldman
Carol & Richard Collier
Emily & Edward Daeschler
Leslie Davis & Timothy G. Reekie
Pamela & Christopher Davis
Phoebe A. Driscoll
Dennis Duffy
Steven B. Erisoty

Sonia Fair & Paul Pogharian
Alice & Richard Farley
Charlotte T. Feldman
Kimberly & William Freeman
Meg & Joshua Hartman
Carol & Dennis Heffernan
Monika Hemmers & Stephen Heimann
Helen & John Horstmann
Louise R. Johnston
Jane Subak Kennedy
F. Peter Kohler
Linda & Alfred Kuffler
Julia B. Leisenring
Armando Llanes
Eleanor P. Lloyd
Lisa Lloyd
Brian MacDougall
Kassandra Martin-Wells
Lisa & John McGill
Dennis C. McGlade
Laura & Marc McKenna
Evelyn & John McNiff
Kathleen Nelson & John Kromer
Margaret Mary & Gerald O'Neill
Ross Pogharian
Beth & Jonathan Riches
Jane & Robert Rivera
Judith & Rick Rodes
Laurie & William Schutt
Miriam & Aaron Silberstein
Lauren & Michael Sileski
Cynthia & James Sillhart
Taylor & Frank Slaughter
Jody & Gary Sprague
Francesca Staffieri & Michael Magro
Judith J. Wexler
Ginny Williams & Thomas Reherrmann
Margaret Diana Wood
Danette Wormer & Theodore Schurr
Catherine A. Worrall
Minturn T. Wright III
Rebecca & David Yuhas
Lenore & Albert Zimmermann

Matching Gift Organizations

American Endowment Foundation
The Asplundh Foundation
Charities Aid Foundation
Chipstone Foundation/Stanley & Polly Stone Fund
GlaxoSmithKline Foundation
IBM Matching Grants Program
Johnson & Johnson Corporation
Merck & Company Inc.
Pfizer Foundation Matching Gifts Program
Vanguard Group Foundation
William Penn Foundation Special Gifts Program



photo by Mark Stehile

Corporate, Foundation, Government, and Nonprofit Donors

The Morris Arboretum & Gardens is grateful to the following corporations, foundations, government agencies, and nonprofit 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 2023.

\$250,000 and above

Moses Feldman Family Foundation
1956 Otto Haas Charitable Trust

\$100,000–\$249,999

George Putnam Ausulus Trust

\$25,000–49,999

The CHG Charitable Trust
Kane Wallace Foundation
Jane & Leonard Korman Family Foundation
The Lida Foundation
Jane C. MacElree Family Foundation
The McCausland Foundation
Powder Mill Foundation
The Clark R. Smith Family Foundation
William Penn Foundation Special Gifts Program

\$10,000–24,999

Gwendolyn M. Asplundh Trust
The Chanticleer Foundation
Moses & Susan Feldman Fund
Independence Blue Cross
Johnson, Kendall & Johnson Inc.
The Marshall-Reynolds Foundation
Penn Human Resources
Penn Medicine
Raynier Institute and Foundation
Ropes Wealth Advisors
United Way of Greater Philadelphia
and Southern New Jersey
Victor-Edsall Family Fund
Wawa Inc.
Young Family Charitable Fund



Photo by Leslie Crane

\$5,000–9,999

Bank of America
The F.A. Bartlett Tree Expert Co.
Beatrice W. Bast Charitable Trust
Berkowitz Family Foundation
CHUBB
The Haverford Trust Company
The Hill at Whitemarsh
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
David T. Orthwein Revocable Trust
Penn Business Services
Penn Division of Finance
Penn Facilities & Real Estate Services
PURE Insurance
Debra Rodgers and Paul Meyer Fund
Springer Capital LLC
Studio of Metropolitan Design Architects LLC
ThinkGreen LLC
WSFS Bank
WTW

\$2,500–4,999

Anonymous
Albaum Cerino Fund
Allied Universal
The Asplundh Foundation
Bergmann Associates
Bluestone Foundation
CCI Consulting
Glenna Stone Interior Design 🍃
Harth Builders Inc.
The Hovey Foundation
InTech Construction
KieranTimberlake
Law Office of Jed Silversmith LLC 🍃
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne B. Lyon Foundation
Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel LLP
Pennoni Associates Inc.
Philadelphia Eagles LLC
The Philadelphia Foundation
Primary Resources Group Inc.
Reed Hilderbrand LLC
Robinson Anderson Summers Inc. Landscape Architects
Schwab Charitable Fund
Style By Blain LLC
David V.N. Taylor Foundation
Don Daddario and Anne Walsh Charitable Fund

\$1,000–2,499

William Bast Family Charitable Fund
Chipstone Foundation/Stanley & Polly Stone Fund
Mark & Laura Dingfield Family Fund
The Downs Foundation
The Farley Family Fund
Fleming Family Fund
Forum Management Co. Inc.
The Richard and Mary Graham Charitable Foundation
Thomas and Patricia Griffin Charitable Fund
Jackson Square Partners Foundation
Marilyn R. and Stephen B. Leonard Fund
Merck & Company Inc.
Joseph & Tamara Paulits IV Charitable Fund
Nina Schneider-Design Inc.
John B. Ward and Co. Inc.

\$250–999

American Endowment Foundation
American Society of Landscape Architects
The Bartlett Tree Foundation Inc.
Bartram's Garden
Coventry First LLC
David Family Foundation
The Garden Club of Philadelphia
Garfield Refining LLC
S. & E. Gilbert Charitable Fund
Harmony Hill Nursery LLC
J.P. Mascaro & Sons
Johnson & Johnson Corporation
Marano Gardens LLC
James C. McCracken Charitable Fund
Mercedes-Benz of Fort Washington
Montgomery Family Charitable Fund
The Jeffrey and Pepper Rexford Charitable Fund
Laurie R. and William R. Schutt Charitable Fund
S. Spencer Scott Fund Inc.
Smith Family Fund
Springside Chestnut Hill Academy
Trey-Masters Tzedakah Fund
United Way of the Bay Area
David and Elsie Viehman Charitable Fund
Woodmere Art Museum

In-Kind Donation

Ball Horticultural Company

🍃 Gifts made through PA's [Educational Improvement Tax Credit \(EITC\) Program](#)

Lydia Morris Legacy Society

When Lydia Morris passed away in 1932, her estate plans included an endowment for the preservation, upkeep, and maintenance of an arboretum and established the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania. In 2004, the Advisory Board of Managers created the Lydia Morris Legacy Society to honor those who have provided for the Morris in their estate plans and/or have made gifts through other options, such as IRA distributions, that meet personal financial planning and charitable giving objectives.

Anonymous (3)
Jane B. Alavi
Janet M. Albaum
Myles H. Alderman
Joanna G. Andrews
Michael J. Andrews
Lawrence M. Arrigale
David Barclay
Nancy Barclay
John E. Basinski
Beatrice Bast*
Nancy E. Bell
Ralph A. Benner
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Photo of John and Lydia Morris from Morris Archives



*Deceased



2023 Moonlight & Roses

Moonlight & Roses, the Morris Arboretum & Gardens' annual fundraising gala, was held on Friday, June 2, 2023. The event honored Nelly Jimenez-Arevalo, executive director and CEO of ACLAMO, and institutional honoree Make the World Better, a nonprofit that works with communities to connect people and inspire stewardship through the revitalization of public spaces.

Proceeds from *Moonlight & Roses* directly support the Morris's work as a renowned public garden and as a center for plant-science research and educational programming for all ages.

Morris Arboretum & Gardens is grateful to the following donors who supported *Moonlight & Roses* in 2023.

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Remembering Paul Meyer

“A great loss to the earth.”

That is how one friend describes the passing of Paul W. Meyer, retired F. Otto Haas executive director of the Morris Arboretum.

Meyer died at his Chestnut Hill home on October 10 of complications from pancreatic cancer. He was 71.

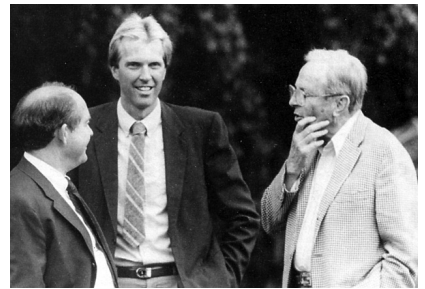
“There was never a more perfect steward of Nature than Paul Meyer,” said Ellen Nalle Hass, former chair of the Advisory Board of Managers. “With (his wife) Debbie by his side, the Morris Arboretum became a world-class organization.”

Paul began his career as the Morris’s director of horticulture and curator, developing a keen understanding of its mission and day-to-day activities while deepening his appreciation of the power of public horticulture. During this time, he oversaw the clearing of overgrown sections of the garden and the renewal of the living collections through expeditions to China and Korea. In 1991 after a nationwide search, Paul was selected to become the Arboretum’s new director. He was chosen for his vision, talent, leadership, and charisma to inspire staff and donors to raise the Morris Arboretum to the level of beauty and inclusion that its founders, John and Lydia Morris, envisioned.

“There is no one who did more to transform the Morris Arboretum into a great institution than Paul,” said Rick Lewandowski, former director of horticulture and curator who worked with Paul. “He had vision and the ‘charming will’ to convince others of his dream to make it so.”

Paul was also passionate about inspiring future generations of public garden leaders. Paul and his wife, Debra Rodgers, personally endowed two funds at the Morris that have been supplemented by contributions from other individuals in his honor: The Paul Meyer and Debra L. Rodgers Study-Travel Endowment and the Paul Meyer and Debra L. Rodgers Historic Preservation Endowment Fund.

“Paul’s love and commitment to the Morris is felt in every acre,” said Bill Cullina, who followed Paul in the role of F. Otto Haas executive director. “We give Paul our deepest thanks for leaving us this beautiful, irreplaceable public garden. As his successor, I am proud and humbled to be able to walk in his footsteps.”



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