



Gardens that inspire

Sedum spectabile 'Neon' at the Elizabeth Lawrence House & Garden

WARBLER

ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018

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SEED WILDLIFE GARDEN COMES TO LIFE

Jill Goodrich, Director of Education & Outreach

A dream many years in the making is coming to life! Earlier this year, thanks to valuable contributions of generous donors* and community stakeholders, construction began to make that dream a reality. In response to community demand, and after careful planning and study, Wing Haven is growing to feature a new garden for children and families: the SEED (Student Environmental Education & Discovery) Wildlife Garden. Also as part of this project, the existing Children's Garden is receiving a complete make-over.

The remodeled Children's Garden will focus on edible gardening and gathering, while the new ¾-acre SEED Wildlife Garden will focus on birdlife, nature exploration and outdoor learning. These two spaces will enhance programming as well as allow us to expand our outreach and serve more of the community.

The story of SEED has been one of true collaboration and passionate volunteerism. Edifice Construction provided project management expertise, funded the design and built SEED's centerpiece—the Education Pavilion—which will provide covered space to conduct programming and store program materials, as well as shield visitors from intense sun or occasional rain. Heartwood Tree Service aided in site preparation, donated truckloads of mulch and offered numerous on-site consultations. Fountain Landscaping removed weeds and other natural debris to allow for installation of activity centers. Many truckloads of mulch were spread by volunteers of all ages.

Slowly, centers for activities ranging from natural build to story time to bird observation to crawling, climbing and digging began to emerge. Elsa Hoffman Design created a one-of-a-kind child-size bird nest and constructed framework for the

Wildlife Den and Living Tunnel, which were installed with organic matter by Imagine Gardens.

Peaceful Ponds custom-designed and built a streambed for little toes to dip in, and curious hands to lift rocks to find bugs, lizards or other aquatic life. Soft plantings and a goric pump complete the area. Peaceful Ponds also brought in boulders for climbing and hiding, and to bring balance to the space. Atlantic Landscape Supplies donated material to enhance the stream bed, rain garden and earth play areas. Imagine Garden provided the overall landscape design and installed native plantings to provide habitat for birds and other wildlife, as well as attract pollinators.

CONTINUED INSIDE

*see annual report listing of SEED donors



Bird Nest by Elsa Hoffman Design

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Members and Friends,

Thank you to those of you that have supported Wing Haven this past year with your gifts of time and financial support. We simply could not achieve our goals and continue to make a difference in the Charlotte community without your help.

As we look back over the past four years we see tangible growth in how we make a difference in serving the community. I am thrilled to share that record numbers of children were served through programming, outreach, and events. In the last four years we have seen an increase of 56% served from 2014 to 2018. We anticipate steady percentage growth in children's programs over the next few years with the new SEED (Student Environmental Education & Discovery) Wildlife Garden and renovation of the current children's garden. This new space will provide enrichment opportunities for individuals of all ages in an outdoor education environment to study and explore nature, horticulture and ornithology. Construction is underway and we hope to invite you to come and explore this space by the end of the year. Next steps will be to fundraise to endow the care, programming and staffing of this unique garden. As this program continues to grow by leaps and bounds, we have increased our staff to meet the demands. Jill Goodrich has been promoted to Director of Education and Outreach. We have hired a new Education Coordinator to work alongside Jill, focusing on children and families. Read more about our newest staff members in this issue of the

Warbler. As always, many thanks to the donors that have made this possible.

Additionally, we are partnering with the medical community to use the gardens for healing and restoration. With the completion of the brick path rehabilitation and expansion, the gardens are accessible for all visitors. From a staff member with the Levine Cancer Center - "I love having off-site meetings at Wing Haven. This is such a restorative place."

As we work to inspire a passion for the natural world, I encourage you to visit our website and become part of our ROOTS volunteer corps. We would love to have you help us as we work to fulfill our mission in Charlotte and the region. This issue of the *Warbler* will give you a complete update on all Happenings at the Haven as well as opportunities to get involved.

Thank you for believing in our mission, helping us honor the legacies shared by our gardens' creators and secure our future.



Barrett Sloan Ranson
Executive Director

NEWS FROM WING HAVEN GARDEN & BIRD SANCTUARY

Barrett Ranson, Executive Director

We have lots of good news to share about the Clarksons' garden. I am thrilled to report we have hired a Head Gardener. Reavis Thornton is a native of Gastonia and comes to us by way of a nursery in Wilmington, North Carolina and Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden. In his free time, he enjoys renovating his home and creating his garden. Reavis is delightful and has already addressed some critical needs in the garden. I look forward to your meeting him soon.

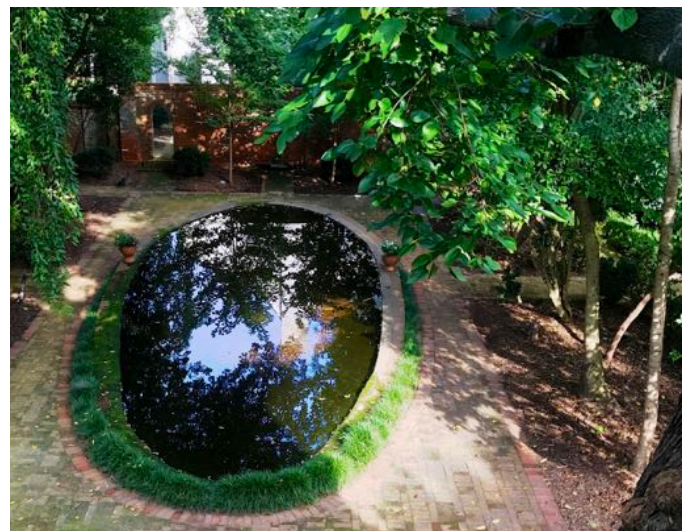
Additionally, we continue to work on restoring the garden to its glory days and Reavis has embraced this effort wholeheartedly, pouring over articles and pictures relating to the the evolution of the property. We will be replanting areas of the garden this fall based on his research and with the help of the garden committee's recommendations and sourcing of plant material in keeping with the historical perspective. If you haven't visited lately, the Oval Pool garden restoration has begun with additional plantings going in this fall.

The various volunteer groups in the garden have done an incredible job of helping us care for specific plantings and areas. The "Boxers" carefully pruned the boxwoods to help preserve the long-term health of the bushes and they look beautiful and healthy. The Herb Garden group maintains the front of the Clarkson House as well as the Herb Garden. Their special touch makes these areas shine. The Rose Garden group has worked hard all spring and summer to maintain the heirloom roses for the season, prior to the restoration project. Their commitment is evident by regular deadheading and mulching to keep weeds to a minimum. We are so grateful to all of these volunteers for helping us give the garden the care it needs.

We encourage you to visit often and see the progress as we continue to restore the garden the Clarksons created.



New Head Gardener Reavis Thornton enjoys the historical perspective.



Oval Pool area plantings will continue to be installed this fall.

OUR TEAM IS GROWING

In addition to new Head Gardener Reavis Thornton, who will work in the Wing Haven Garden & Bird Sanctuary leading the gardening team and also assisting with the Wing Haven Nursery, we add two new part-time staff to the Education and Volunteer areas.

We welcome Stefanie Myer as our new part-time Volunteer Coordinator. Many of you have already met Stefanie in her work as Nursery Volunteer and as our Marketing Intern over this past year. Stefanie will keep Wing Haven's large corps of ROOTS volunteers organized and trained!

In response to community demand, our growing programs for adults and children, and the soon-to-open SEED Wildlife Garden for children and families, Wing Haven has added Erin Welty as our part-time Education Coordinator. Jill Goodrich, who previously held Erin's job, has been promoted to the new full-time Director of Education & Outreach position at Wing Haven.

Please help us welcome these new faces to the Wing Haven team.



Erin Welty and Stefanie Myer join the Wing Haven team.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES EXPAND FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

Jill Goodrich, Director of Education & Outreach

Education and outreach continues to grow at Wing Haven. This spring, in partnership with Mecklenburg Audubon Society, we launched a Senior Bird Walk at Wing Haven Garden & Bird Sanctuary. The program takes place monthly for our older visitors; we are also inviting different area Senior Centers to join in the fun. Participants are saying it is "pure delight" and the "perfect location to experience numerous bird sightings."

Our Lecture Series, starting up again in January 2019, is an excellent resource for adult education. This year's lineup will feature bold and engaging speakers whose presentations reflect our mission of "Cultivating sanctuary in nature, environmental stewardship and the legacy of Southern horticulture." In addition to the tried-and-true topics of unique and practical gardening and the fascination of birds, we are introducing more programs involving health and wellness in the garden. According to the American Horticultural Therapy Association, "The therapeutic benefits of garden environments have been documented since ancient times." What better place to learn about this practice and awareness than Wing Haven?

Learning happens beyond our garden walls. A variety of destination tours round out the offerings for adults. New and exciting regional

travel opportunities will be announced soon! Stay connected to receive the listing of Wing Haven tours, the 2019 Lecture Series and all adult programming. Bookmark our website and sign up for E-News for the latest information and happenings at the Haven!



Photo by Ada Chapman Evans

SEED COMES TO LIFE

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Eagle Scout candidates from numerous troops have come forward to construct pergolas and build raised garden beds, a child-sized tool rack, compost bins and a lending library box, as well as research and place bat boxes. Likewise, a longtime volunteer and Girl Scout Gold Award candidate will build the bird blind and assemble the bird feeding station. This area will be accented with custom-made birdhouses painted by students in the Myers Parks High School National Art Honor Society.

Throughout the entire process, vendors have worked together and volunteers jumped in to create planned activity centers as well as impromptu-inspired areas. It has been a long journey that began many years ago, and one that could never have been accomplished without the generous support of you—our members, donors and volunteers. Thank you!

Stay tuned to be a part of the SEED Wildlife Garden and children's programs as we open this outdoor learning area to the community. With the new SEED garden and redesigned Children's Garden, Wing Haven will continue to inspire and educate in our unique, hands-on way.



ILLUMINATING ELIZABETH LAWRENCE

Andrea Sprott, Garden Curator, Elizabeth Lawrence House & Garden

As I write this, Elizabeth Lawrence's surprise lilies (*Lycoris sp.*) have begun blooming throughout her garden, adding to the melodic chorus of phlox, daylilies, crinums and blue sage. The borders in late summer and fall are abuzz with hummingbirds, butterflies, dragonflies, damselflies and bees. Actually, this past year, the Elizabeth Lawrence House & Garden has been abuzz in one way or another.

Lots of new old things have literally and figuratively come to light. Original plant tags continue to surface, most with the help of Ellen and Bill Archer's metal detectors. The most recent find was for *Cyclamen repandum*. It's astonishing to find tags still bearing that distinctive handwriting. Elizabeth's records show she planted this hardy cyclamen four times, from four different sources—in 1949, 1952, 1955 and 1964—so this tag could be anywhere from 54 to 69 years old! Continuing to find these decades-old treasures in the ground is absolutely due to the phenomenal care previous owner Lindie Wilson took of this property.

In another part of the garden, a mystery of a different kind has been growing. Three Louisiana irises (pictured below right) showed up in the *Camellia sasanqua* hedge shortly after we renovation pruned it to 18" tall in 2015. All three irises bloomed for the first time this past spring—in what we now know quite probably could be more than 60 years! Their identities, all different, were verified by Charles Perilloux, head of the Louisiana Iris Preservation Project. It is nothing short of miraculous that these original irises have survived for so many decades in the deep shade of the mature hedge, biding their time until they could literally see the light.

As should be anticipated with all historic landscape projects, the major weed eradication in the lowest sunny bed behind the house has netted a few surprises. One of those surprises has ended up postponing completion of the project... in a *good* way. Careful excavation of the only mostly intact original rock wall structure left in the garden has revealed that subtle changes over time caused a large portion of it to end up a good bit off its initial placement. The cumulative effect of decades of tree roots and other plants growing and dying slowly shifted stones, causing a third of the low wall to appear as an s-curve instead of a straight line and right angle, as evidence indicates it was originally built. That portion of the structure has always bothered me; nowhere else in the garden did Elizabeth build a stone wall as anything but rectilinear. That s-curve just wasn't right, which is what led me to excavate beyond its current footprint. Historic photos do not show that portion of the wall; plants obscure it in every possible shot. Unearthed flat "base" stones and tunnels of long ago rotted tree roots explain how it shifted gradually.



We never know what we'll find when we put a spade in the ground in our historic gardens. Stone or brick edging long covered over with soil, original plant labels, pottery shards, golf balls, marbles, a light fixture ... we have found some interesting artifacts! This zinc WWI cannon figurine was dug from Elizabeth Lawrence's garden July 7, 2018 during a rock wall excavation project. We're pretty sure this belonged to Elizabeth's nephew Warren, who recalls countless hours playing in "Aunt's" garden. These fun finds keep us—and our garden volunteers—eagle-eyed in the gardens at all times... we never know what we'll be digging up next!

Excavation progress is carefully documented with lots of photos, a few videos and measured drawings. All of this documentation adds to the running dialog of this historic property, and is part-and-parcel of my job as garden curator (with a splash of archaeologist mixed in). I wonder how many more mysteries are waiting patiently below the surface of the soil to be unearthed and solved?

Elizabeth Lawrence's family continues to be the brightest source of illumination of their beloved "Aunt." Her niece and namesake, Elizabeth Lawrence (Way) Rogers, who has been an excellent steward of hundreds of family books that originally occupied Aunt's living room shelves, generously offered to place the entire collection on permanent loan to restore them to their previous home. Many thanks to Courtney Christensen and her family, for retrieving dozens of boxes of books from Elizabeth's home in Annapolis, Maryland! About two-thirds of the collection has already been restored to the shelves. The living room already feels different—more comfortable and lived in. It is interesting to see the things with which Elizabeth Lawrence surrounded herself everyday. My deepest gratitude goes to Elizabeth Rogers, as well as Warren and Fran Way, for their continued support, input and amazing generosity. They, more than anyone else and in so many ways, truly illuminate Elizabeth Lawrence!



Three original irises: (l to r) *Iris fulva*, *Iris nelsonii* rare yellow form, and *Iris nelsonii*



Three of my favorite people: (l to r) Fran Way, Warren Way and Elizabeth Rogers

WHERE'S THE MADONNA?

Andrea Sprott, Garden Curator, Elizabeth Lawrence House & Garden

On June 18, Elizabeth Lawrence's nephew, Warren, and his wife Fran retrieved the iconic "Madonna and Child with Cherubim" cast plaster plaque that hangs in a shallow nook of the cinderblock wall at the back of the garden. Over the next several months, Warren will be painstakingly repairing and repainting it. Back in the day, when the Madonna's color became faded, "Aunt" called Warren and his sister, Elizabeth, to come over from next door and repaint it, so it seems especially appropriate that Warren once again will work his magic. Warren and Elizabeth tell me that each time "Aunt" mixed the paints herself in small glass jars. She would even make a special gold flake emulsion for the halo. Until the original plaster piece returns, a life-size photo replica (or, as I like to call it, the "Faux-donna") hangs in its place.

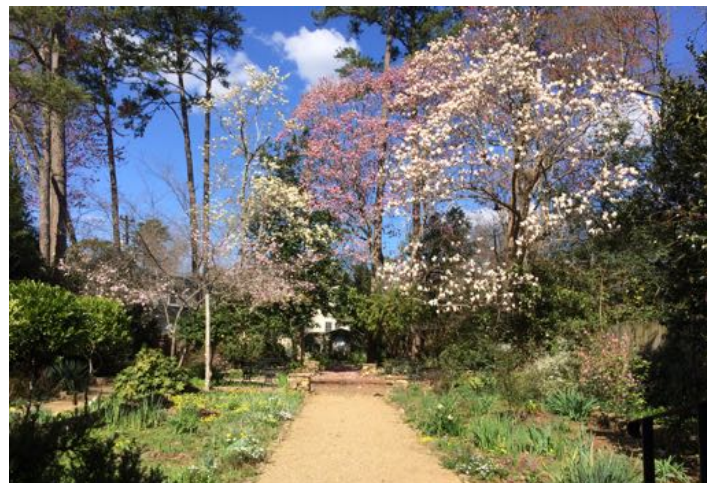
In related news, I have recently stumbled across a clipping of a 1964 article from the *Charlotte Observer* written about, not by, Elizabeth Lawrence, "Gardening and Writing Are Her Two Loves." Buried in this article is the only mention anyone has ever come across of the origin of Elizabeth's *Madonna and Child with Cherubim*, and of the web of deep cracks spanning the entire piece. "The plaque, which came from Italy, has been broken and Miss Lawrence says she put it back together like a jig-saw puzzle."

I immediately scanned the clipping and emailed it to Warren. His reply was exactly what I was thinking: "That explains much of what we see today, and obviously should not be 'corrected'. Let's make sure that reference is kept close to help explain the Madonna as it exists today."

I couldn't agree more.



Elizabeth Lawrence's *Hosta tardiflora* flowers in September—a "Late Bloomer" indeed! © Andrea Sprott



"Creating Garden Envy"—planning and planting in fall reaps rewards later



The faded color is most evident when comparing photos of Elizabeth Lawrence's "Madonna and Child with Cherubim" plaque. The photo on the left was taken around 1980, while the one on the right was taken in 2018.

"One of the delightful and maddening things about gardens is the way strange things are always turning up, and you never remember having planted them."

Elizabeth Lawrence
The Little Bulbs

PROGRAMS FOR PLANT LOVERS

If you love plants, sign up early and often for two special Elizabeth Lawrence programming series!

- "Third Thursdays: Imbibe & Inspire" are intimate and interactive monthly curated tours of Elizabeth Lawrence's garden, and include an adult beverage.

These tours are inspired by regular visits to Elizabeth Lawrence by Dr. Herbert Heckenbleikner. Many a Thursday at 4:00, he and Elizabeth talked plants out on the terrace over a glass of "tea" (bourbon, sherry or port). Many thanks to Larry Mellichamp for sharing his memories of these clandestine meetings.

- "Nosh & Knowledge" is a quarterly series featuring a delectable boxed lunch with an informative presentation on different practical and inspirational aspects of gardens and gardening.

This series continues Elizabeth Lawrence's legacy of sharing information and inspiring a passion for gardens and gardening.

UPCOMING TOPICS

Sept 20, 4:00 pm	Imbibe & Inspire	"Late Summer Bloomers"
Oct 18, 4:00 pm	Imbibe & Inspire	"Creating Garden Envy"
Oct 24, 11:30 am	Nosh & Knowledge	"Ghosts in the Garden"
Dec 19, 4:00 pm	Imbibe & Inspire	"The Quietest Month"

Go to winghavengardens.org for up-to-date information and to register.

EDUCATION CONTINUES TO GROW

Jill Goodrich, Director of Education & Outreach

Upon my return from the 2018 National Children & Youth Garden Symposium, put on by the American Horticultural Society and hosted by Cornell University, I sat down to really examine our educational programming for children and families at Wing Haven. What I gleaned from the symposium's presentations, hands-on workshops, and garden-related field trips reaffirms that we are filling a need. When we target issues like environmental stewardship with our preschool outreach children, or bring awareness through literacy and art with Story Time & More, or teach a child on a guided tour the importance of birds on our planet, we are bridging the ever-growing gap between the natural world and the human world.

We encourage and inspire our youngest participants to continue the cycle of teaching and sharing, to appreciate nature and learn the importance of taking care of the natural world. We see evidence of this process at work when our campers become counselors, older siblings bring younger family members to events, Scouts complete Eagle Scout and Gold Award projects on our property, or youth volunteers insert themselves to take care of the plant life to support the insects, which feed the birds, and so on.

Essentially, we are inspiring "citizen science," a buzzword in environmental education, referring to an individual who voluntarily contributes his or her time, effort and resources toward scientific research in collaboration with professional scientists or alone.

The best example of citizen science at Wing Haven is our involvement in the Great Backyard Bird Count, held each February. We submit participants' bird sightings to Cornell's Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society which helps scientists better understand birds—a marker of environmental health. During camp sessions, our youth participants contribute to Cornell's Lab of Ornithology via e-Bird (e-bird.org). Another example of citizen science at Wing Haven includes high school groups that participate in hands-on learning through onsite botany and ornithological projects. We conduct these programs while exploring, playing, and having fun outside—in nature—where children can really begin to appreciate all that it has to offer. Our hope is that, as a direct result of this interaction with nature, they strive to understand it, care for it and preserve it.

As children explore, dig in the dirt and listen to the sounds of wildlife at Wing Haven, they serve as citizen scientists—as engineers, botanists, artists, writers, birders—if only for a few minutes a day. The benefits of exposure to nature go beyond the application of a skill. Numerous health benefits are being discovered, such as

prevention and treatment of physical and mental illness—another hot topic at the conference. I had conversations with college professors, students and nonprofit leaders who are bringing this concept of healing in nature—the garden as a haven—and the necessity of digging in the dirt for balanced health into their programming, studies and research. At camp this year, we introduced a horticultural therapy workshop, which was as well-liked as the zany bird games, bug hunts and fishing for tadpoles!

Finally, art is a complement to science. Art has always had a strong connection with the Clarksons and Wing Haven Garden & Bird Sanctuary, as evidenced by the numerous plaques, statues, and ornamental features they placed throughout. Of course, as the Clarksons would attest, nature is art; after all, they did not hang artwork on the walls of their home, they simply made their windows large to enjoy the beauty of nature in their garden. We honor that part of their legacy by bringing art into much of our programming. We are expanding that reach this year through a bilingual nature-art program by our newest partner, Art-Kiddo. This Spanish-speaking team teaches art through nature in 6-week workshops throughout the year and introduces children to the world of art with bilingual instruction.

I know we are doing something right simply by the numbers. (See the

“...we are bridging the ever-growing gap between the natural world and the human world.”

“State of the Haven”) In short, our events were populated by more families than ever before; our camps attracted more campers than ever before (and for Summer 2018, we sold out of all three sessions!); our Scout programs increased by nearly 50%; and, more schools and other youth groups visited our gardens for guided tours. In terms of outreach, we served more preschool classrooms per participating school than ever before through our Preschool Environmental Education Program (PEEPs).

Of course, it is not about just the numbers; it's the smiling faces, pleased parents and educators, that first worm wriggling in a child's hand, the shriek of joy when a chickadee is spotted and the taste of a fresh strawberry from the Children's Garden. This connection with nature is necessary and Wing Haven serves to excite, inspire, and encourage it in all that we do!



ROOTS VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Stefanie Myer, Volunteer Coordinator

Wing Haven has been a whirl of activity as we prepare our new SEED Wildlife Garden to be finished before the fall. Part of this project involved moving several piles of mulch from our gravel parking lot to cover the SEED Garden. We reached out for help during the week of the Fourth of July, and the holiday did not stop several volunteers from showing up on multiple days throughout the week. Mei Mei and Ryan, two of our newest ROOTS volunteers, are among the many who are giving their time and energy to help with this important project.

Mei Mei and Ryan were born in China. They were adopted as young children and have lived in Charlotte for most of their lives. Their family lives a few blocks away from Wing Haven and they enjoyed walking through the gardens and listening to the birds when they were little. Mei Mei started volunteering this spring as a Children's Tour Docent and has started an internship with Jill Goodrich in our Children's Programs. Ryan's first time volunteering was this summer when he helped move mulch. They both enjoy sports and spending time together. Mei Mei also loves to play the cello – if you ever go to a Charlotte Symphony concert, check her out in the youth orchestra!



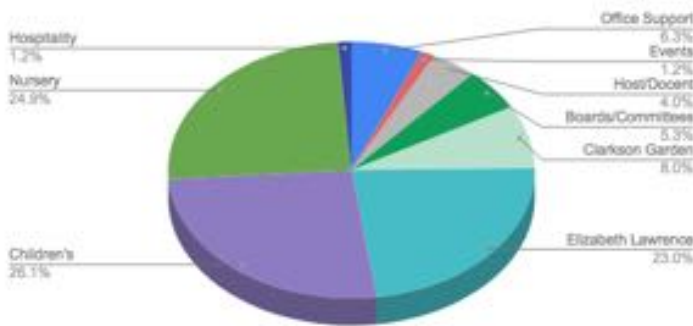
Volunteering is a family affair! Siblings Mei Mei (pictured, left) and Ryan are among the many talented individuals helping out at Wing Haven.

JOIN OUR NUMBERS

Stefanie Myer, Volunteer Coordinator

Wing Haven volunteers share their time and energy throughout the year. There are several areas volunteers can plug in, from weeding the Herb Garden to Office Administration work. Our volunteers spent over 5000 total hours at Wing Haven over the past year. Here is a breakdown of where our volunteers gave their time for Fiscal Year 2018 (data from on-site, signed in volunteers):

Wing Haven Volunteer Hours FY18



We have several events and ongoing commitments which may require training, such as PEEPs, Docents, Hosts, annual family events, garden care, office, birders and more! If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, register at winghavengardens.org/volunteer or contact Stefanie Myer at roots@winghavengardens.org.

Upcoming Fall/Winter Volunteer Opportunities

- Plant Sale** October 3-6 4-hour shifts
- Drop-In Days** One per month 2-hour shifts

This past fiscal year, volunteers spent over **5,000** hours helping out at Wing Haven in many ways.

Three cheers for ROOTS volunteers!



ROOTS volunteer Joe Swift weeds at the Elizabeth Lawrence House & Garden



Providence Day students work regularly in Wing Haven Garden & Bird Sanctuary



HAPPENINGS AT THE HAVEN

2018/2019

For updated information, price and registration details, visit winghavengardens.org.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Yoga at the Elizabeth Lawrence House

Mondays and Thursdays, 9:30 - 10:30 am

Third Thursdays: Imbibe & Inspire Tour

3rd Thursdays, year-round, 4:00 - 5:30 pm

Nosh & Knowledge Series

4th Wednesdays, July, October, January & April, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Holiday Festival

Wednesday, November 14, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Wing Haven Lecture Series

January - March

CHILDREN'S & FAMILY PROGRAMS

Story Time

3rd Tuesdays, year-round, 10:00 am

E-ART-H Kiddo Camp

Monday-Friday, August 20-24, 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

Art Kiddo at Wing Haven Workshop

Mondays, September 10 - October 15, 3:00 - 3:55 pm (3-5s)

Mondays, September 10 - October 15, 4:00 - 4:55 pm (6-9s)

Mondays, October 29 - December 3, 3:00 - 3:55 pm (3-5s)

Mondays, October 29 - December 3, 4:00 - 4:55 pm (6-9s)

Mondays, February 4 - March 18, 3:00 - 3:55 pm (3-5s)

Mondays, February 4 - March 18, 4:00 - 4:55 pm (6-9s)

Mondays, April 1 - May 13, 3:00 - 3:55 pm (3-5s)

Mondays, April 1 - May 13, 4:00 - 4:55 pm (6-9s)

Harvest at the Haven

Saturday, October 20, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Girl Scout Badge Day

Sunday, October 21, 12:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Sunday, April 7, 12:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Holiday Trees for Wildlife

Saturday, December 8, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Great Backyard Bird Count

Friday, February 15 - Monday, February 18, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Birdhouse Building Contest

Monday, April 1 (application deadline)

Wednesday, April 3 - Saturday, April 28 (birdhouses on display)

Naturalist Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 13, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

FARM TO TABLE DINNER

Saturday, October 13



SEASONAL EVENTS

Food Truck and Music in the Garden

Friday, August 24, 5:30 - 8:00 pm

Arts in the Garden

Thursday, September 13, 6:00 - 8:30 pm

Brisket & Brews

Thursday, November 8, 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Gardeners' Garden Tour

Saturday, May 4 and Sunday, May 5

Tea Time in the Garden

Sunday, May 19, 4:00 - 6:00 pm

PLANT SALES

Fall Plant Sale

MEMBERS' DAY

Wednesday, October 3, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Thursday, October 4 - Saturday, October 6, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Spring Plant Sale

MEMBERS' DAY

Wednesday, April 3, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Thursday, April 4 - Saturday, April 6, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm



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EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS

Each year, we welcome prospective Eagle Scouts to choose from various improvement projects at either the Elizabeth Lawrence House & Garden or Wing Haven Garden & Bird Sanctuary. Scouts donate significant time, talent and resources. The following Eagle Scout projects were completed during 2017-2018:

Elizabeth Lawrence House & Garden

Cole Christensen, Troop 116: re-laid concrete paver path and large paver landing on west side of property behind the house

Wing Haven Garden & Bird Sanctuary

Kenny Corsig, Troop 55: re-laid brick work path by Main Garden pergola and built wooden screen by the Nursery

Tripp Gordon, Troop 17: built wooden screen in gardeners' work area behind SEED

We are most appreciative of your hard work and congratulate you on your achievement!

A TASTE OF THE HAVEN
Celebrating Elizabeth Clarkson's tradition of sharing recipes and back by popular demand

Summer Sauce

- 2 cups fresh basil
- 3/4 cup olive oil
- 1/2 cup fresh flat leaf parsley
- 1/4 cup fresh mint leaves
- 1 T. fresh lemon zest
- 2 tsp. fresh lemon juice
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 garlic clove

Peel the garlic clove and mash on a cutting board with the salt to create a paste. Add all ingredients to a small food processor and blend to make a sauce.

This is similar to a pesto but with a bright fresh flavor. It is delicious drizzled over a tomato-mozzarella salad or roasted summer vegetables.

Recipe shared by Dee Marley

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DONATIONS

Gifts received between July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

Thank you for your kind and generous support!

Please contact the Office at 704.331.0664 x108 with corrections or questions.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDATION BOARD PRESIDENT

Greetings from the Haven,

I am delighted to be leading a very enthusiastic and intelligent board this year. We have four new wonderful additions to our Foundation Board. This year, we welcome Nan Allison, Katie Coff, Amy Lovett and Anne Buck Oxrider. Much thanks to departing Board members Bob Rossier, Austin Harris, Janet Voelker and Jamie Yearwood for their years of service and advice. I am also impressed with the exceptional staff we have in place and their diligent, lovely leader, Executive Director Barrett Ranson.

We have wonderful events and programs planned for this year and are very excited about our Farm to Table Dinner planned for October 13th. There will be fun food surprises and it should be a festive and magical night for all.

Fast approaching in 2021, the Wing Haven Foundation will be celebrating its 50th anniversary! Leading up to this milestone, we see true multi-generational interest in Wing Haven. We currently have families in which grandparents support us at the same time one of their children is doing some sort of good for the gardens,

while a third generation volunteers for service hours or completes an Eagle Scout project or Girl Scout Badge here. This is very exciting and unique!

I have been involved at Wing Haven in some capacity for most of the 24 years I have lived in Charlotte. Wing Haven has sustained and respected the history of the gardens. Much has remained the same in wonderful, elegant fashion. There also has been fantastic growth and change that allows much more opportunity for the community to experience the gardens.

There are volunteer opportunities for every age group and I encourage you to get involved. I am proud to be a part of such an amazing place that brings education, compassion, love and happiness to so many. Please come by and see us soon.

Fondly,

Paige

Paige Waugh

Wing Haven Foundation Board President

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Ms. Melissa A. Strahley
The Charlotte Women's Club

Mr. & Mrs. Terry Tindel
Mrs. Sally S. Van Allen
The Philip L. Van Every Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce D. Voelker
Ms. Betty Walley
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Banshee Wines
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Craft Tasting Room & Growler Shop
Dizzy Daisy Designs
Doc Porter's Distillery
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Loftin & Company Printers
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Microfarm Organic Gardens
Moore Farms Botanical Garden
The Olde Mecklenburg Brewery

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Dr. & Mrs. Jimmie L. Wade
Dr. William Welch
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Ms. Lindie Wilson
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Matching Gifts

Aetna Foundation
Barings
Bank of America
Duke Energy
IBM International

Microsoft
Morgan Stanley
Share Charlotte
Wells Fargo

STRETCH YOUR IMPACT!

Increase your impact on the gardens with a matching gift! Many companies offer matching for gifts to Wing Haven by employees, retirees, spouses or Board members. Some, like Bank of America, even offer generous volunteer grant awards! Check with your company's HR representative on their policy, forms and deadlines to boost your support with ease and thank you!

SEED Wildlife Garden and Expanded Children's Garden Donors

Donations to the SEED (Student Environmental Education & Discovery) Wildlife Garden, the SEED Endowment, and to the SEEDs for Success Power2Give campaign (2013)

SEED Wildlife Garden and SEED Endowment

Silver \$50,000 and above
Katie and Mike James

Bronze \$25,000 - \$49,999
PNC Foundation
The Reemprise Fund
Edifice, Inc.*

Oak \$10,000 - \$24,999

Anonymous
The Dowd Foundation
Katie & Walker Morris
Patricia Rodgers
Wendy Strickland
*In memory of Daniel James
McLachlan*
Janet & Bruce Voelker

Acorn \$5,000 - \$9,999
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Ellen & Jim Wade
Eugenia Nisbet White

Bluebird \$1,000 - \$4,999

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Missy & Doug Anderson
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RBC Wealth Management
Verner & Anna Stanley
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*In memory of Mr. Richard J.
Wannamaker Jr.*
Dr. and Mrs. Joe H. Woody
Wells Fargo Village Commons
Branch

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Susan Evans
Donna Fleming**
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Marc Frimerman**
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* In-Kind
** In memory of Sheila Tzerman

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Janet Voelker

Sandra Wagoner
Laura Walger
Mary Claire & Dan Wall
Katherine Yundt

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In Memory Of

Bob Andersen
Mille Fleur Garden Club

Nancy Anne Benton
Ms. Susan Grove
Ms. Helen Wells

Susan Carpenter
Ms. Michelle Press

George Currin
Mille Fleur Garden Club

Martha Doherty
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Mr. John Mitchener

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Dr. & Mrs. Edwin R. Harris

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Pet "Copper Lowry"
Ms. Margaret Rudisill

Pets "Marshall & Margo"
Mr. & Mrs. John M. Lowry

In Honor Of

Jennifer Carter
Mr. David Ibsen

Elizabeth Goggin
Ms. Eimear Goggin

Susan and Wally Kooiman
Ms. Margaret Somerall

Pat Linton
The Garden Club of Weddington

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Zay Kittredge
Ms. Beverly Thomas

THE YEAR IN PICTURES



Symposium speakers Ken Druse and Margot Shaw



A happy Wing Haven Camper



Food Truck and Music in the Garden



ROOTS Volunteer Appreciation Coffee



Oyster Roast



ASC Connect with Culture Day

THANK YOU SPONSORS & PARTNERS

Food Truck and Music in the Garden Aug 2017

Title RBC Wealth Management	Partner The Olde Mecklenburg Brewery
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Arts in the Garden Sept 2017

Title RBC Wealth Management	Partners Assorted Table Wine Shoppe The Olde Mecklenburg Brewery
---------------------------------------	---

Wing Haven Fall Symposium: Inspiring the Unexpected Oct 2017

Title Wells Fargo	Bartlett Tree Experts Bragg Financial Advisors Charlotte Lucas Interior Design Elizabeth Bruns Eye Dialogue Hidell Brooks Gallery Jane Schwab Interiors Knight Residential Group Lowry Insurance Royal Painting Shrub Doctor Williams Subaru	Claudia Heath Fine Art C. DeWitt Foard & Co. Diamond Springs Eastside Landscape & Design Garrett P. Nelson Studio Heartwood Tree Services, Inc. Hot Tomato Catering Joyner-Benfield Distinctive Land & Waterscapes Lat Purser & Associates, Inc. Loftin & Company Printers Longshadow Planters Reid's Fine Foods Tent Guys Unit Paving, Inc. Witherspoon Rose Culture	Partners Daniel Coston Photography Dizzy Daisy Designs Lenny Boy Brewing Navy Hill Winestore Individual Silver Robert Query Ranson Family Endowment Fund Mr. & Mrs. Doug Lowry Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Schwab III Individual Bronze Frances and Herbert Browne Matt and Shirley Kosmicki Mr. and Mrs. John Lowry
Platinum Capitol Charlotte Pipe & Foundry Co. House of Harris			
Gold Burch Mixon Garden Designs Blackhawk Hardware Laurie Durden Garden Design Rountree Plantation			
Silver abode Atlantic Landscape Supplies	Bronze American Security Mortgage Corp. B.D. Jeffries		

Oyster Roast Nov 2017

Title RBC Wealth Management	Partners Craft Tasting Room & Growler Shop Doc Porter's Distillery
---------------------------------------	---

Wing Haven Lecture Series Jan - Mar 2018

Title Blackhawk Hardware	Affiliate Heartwood Tree Services Living Color Gardens
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Backyard Gardening Workshop Mar 2018

Chopt
Microfarm Organic Gardens

Tea Time in the Garden Apr 2018

Witherspoon Rose Culture
Whole Foods Market
Suarez Bakery
Jami Masters School of Dance
Community School of the Arts

Gardeners' Garden Tour May 2018

Title Blackhawk Hardware	Affiliate Atlantic Landscape Supplies Bartlett Tree Experts Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated Lat Purser & Associates Loftin & Company Printers Soil3	Unit Paving, Inc. Wildology at Waverly
Silver Rountree Plantation Shrub Doctor Witherspoon Rose Culture		Partners Community School of the Arts Pasta & Provisions

At Wing Haven Garden & Bird Sanctuary...

It took **2,000** hours

to rehabilitate **9,100** square feet of brick pathway

which is approximately **41,000** brick pavers reset or replaced

to match the original in order to provide safe access for visitors in wheelchairs or walkers.

With many thanks to Unit Paving!



STATE OF THE HAVEN 2017-2018

OPERATING REVENUE

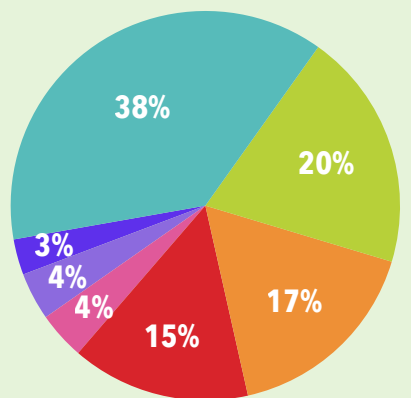
\$842,046*

OPERATING EXPENSES

\$821,604*

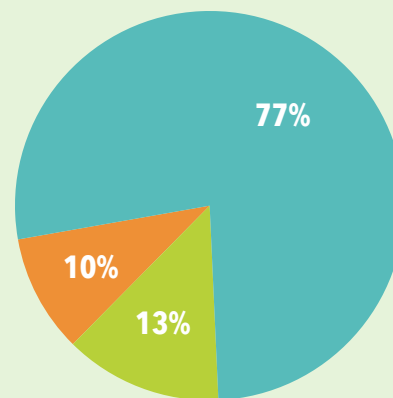
** based on unaudited financials*

SOURCE OF FUNDING



- Contributions 38%
- Special Events & Programs 20%
- Endowment 17%
- Nursery 15%
- Arts & Science Council 4%
- Admissions 4%
- Rentals/Photography 3%

USE OF FUNDING



- Programs 77%
- Management 13%
- Fundraising 10%

\$375,000 cash and in-kind donations raised in designated gifts (or for designated projects)

REVENUE GOALS EXCEEDED

- Education Programs for Children: up by 46%
- Portraits/Rentals: up by 17%
- Total Operating: up by 8%

CHILDREN'S & FAMILY EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

	# OF CHILDREN	# OF ADULTS	YOUTH VOLUNTEERS	ADULT VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEER HOURS
Children's Tours	572	108	4	29	74.5
PEEPs*	188	16	-	21	201
Scouting Programs	337	133	6	32	106.5
Story Time & More	242	188	5	18	33.5
Art-Kiddo	11	-	-	-	-
Seasonal Events	300	274	11	33	131
Camp Wing Haven**	51	20	1	15	195

TOTAL CHILDREN REACHED 1,701 **741.5**

** Preschool Environmental Education Program: 11 classrooms, serving 188 children each month from October through May*
*** Numbers reflect all three camp sessions: June, July and August 2017*

COMMUNITY REACH

Adult On-Site	13,728
Youth On-Site	4220
Adult Off-Site	566
Youth Off-Site	694
TOTAL VISITOR EXPERIENCES	19,208



260 Ridgewood Avenue
Charlotte, NC 28209
winghavengardens.org

Cultivating sanctuary in nature,
environmental stewardship and the
legacy of Southern horticulture

OPEN HOURS:
Wednesday - Saturday 10 - 5



NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
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WING HAVEN STAFF

- Barrett Sloan Ranson
Executive Director
- Susan Little Evans
Development Director
- Beth Gilbert
Office Administrator
- Reavis Thornton
*Head Gardener,
Wing Haven Garden & Bird Sanctuary*
- Danny Perez
Damou Sako
*Gardeners,
Wing Haven Garden & Bird Sanctuary*
- Andrea Sprott
*Garden Curator,
Elizabeth Lawrence House & Garden*
- Jill Goodrich
Director of Education & Outreach
- Erin Welty
Education Coordinator
- Stefanie Myers
Volunteer Coordinator
- Sally Brown
Wing Haven Host
- Beverly Pearson
Weekend & After-Hours Host
- Lorraine Piephoff
Accountant

THE BEST PLANT SALE IN CHARLOTTE

As leaves begin their kaleidoscopic transition, we're reminded that **fall is the perfect season for planting**. You need look no further than the Wing Haven Nursery for everything you need for a happy and healthy garden! We will be open 9 am to 5 pm daily from Wednesday, October 3 (Members Day), through Saturday, October 6.

Shop from a choice selection of all kinds of plants ideally suited to growing conditions in the Middle South, and confer with our volunteers—nearly all gardening experts.

Our Plant Sales are an important source of revenue for our very special properties. Thank you to everyone who shops and/or volunteers with us during our Plant Sales. We appreciate your support!



Fall is the perfect time to plant bulbs like this **Cyclamen hederifolium**. Hardy cyclamen is right at home in dry shade and prefers shallow planting. They're perfect *en masse* at the base of deciduous trees.