

2018 Annual Report







A bountiful year

2018 was filled with highlights, with each season bringing new opportunities to gather, learn, and enjoy the beautiful surroundings at the Marin Art & Garden Center. We are deeply grateful to all of you who helped make it a truly bountiful year.

Our historic grounds and gardens are a key focus of our efforts to care for MAGC, and this year we welcomed a new full-time Garden Manager, Steven Schwager, who brings a strong background in horticulture and design to the position. Steven's passion is already transforming the grounds, making them more beautiful and interesting than ever.

To give us some outside perspective and enrich our understanding and expertise, we have created a blue-ribbon Horticultural Advisory Committee. The committee is working with us to define a long-term plan to care for MAGC's magnificent tree canopy, and we were delighted to receive grant support to undertake this project in 2019.

The Studio has become a hub for arts and environmental programming at MAGC and we're gratified by the growth in our audiences and positive feedback we've received from participants. Please plan to join us for a busy slate of lectures, workshops, and exhibitions in 2019.

Our MAGC Summer Concerts are a highlight of the year, and made possible by generous community sponsorship and support. And the third annual Harvest Dinner, held under the trees by the Livermore Pavilion, has become a signature event that brings us together to celebrate the bounty of fall and our appreciation for this magical place.

The Garden School preschool is brimming with young energy and MAGC is the ideal place for children to explore nature, with a new garden area just for kids established this year. Our school field trip programs led by UCCE Marin Master Gardeners and summer day camps presented by the Bay Area Discovery Museum bring children from throughout Marin to MAGC to learn and enjoy the outdoors.

More details of our 2018 highlights are in the following pages, together with an acknowledgment of the financial support of so many of you. This is an exciting time to be at the Marin Art & Garden Center and I hope you share our enthusiasm about the year ahead. Thank you for your generous support.

Sincerely,

ANTONIA ADEZIO

Executive Director



Looking to the future

It is an honor to lead the MAGC Board of Trustees at this exciting time. Our rich and valued history is informing our planning for the future of this beloved place, and we have spent the past year working on a master plan to guide our stewardship for years to come.

With the help of a talented planning and design team, the board and staff have created a framework for addressing the needs of our historic site and polishing this gem to assure that it will shine its brightest. Our goal is to improve the infrastructure to support an excellent visitor experience, while operating more efficiently and assuring financial stability. It is a big undertaking but we are optimistic that all of you who love the Center will join us in making it a reality. We look forward to sharing the details and having your input later this year.



Our goal is to improve the infrastructure to support an excellent visitor experience, while operating more efficiently and assuring financial stability.

We are also turning our attention toward a milestone, our 75th anniversary, which we will celebrate in 2020 with special events throughout the year, embracing our legacy and saluting the future. Caroline Livermore and her visionary associates saw the importance of saving this beautiful 11 acres in 1945, and we are carrying her history forward with appreciation for everyone who has been part of the MAGC story for the past 75 years. Stay tuned for details!

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I thank you all for your loyal support. We look forward to seeing you often in the coming year.

Sincerely.

DIANE DOODHA

President

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Art & Garden

2018 brought many exciting changes to our gardens.

Your financial support has allowed us to bring new plantings to the property, including 1000+ bulbs planted by staff and volunteers that are already popping up throughout the campus as our Bay Area winter shifts to spring. We have also begun crucial fire abatement efforts that will make our entire community safer. In 2019, we will continue these efforts and begin work to address the care of our priceless tree collection.

Our arts program made a splash this year with four professional shows from a variety of artists. One highlight was our first ever sculpture show, Reinvention, by artist Francis Collins. Beautiful landscapes by Christopher Evans, a return of a visitor favorite from last year, Tunnel Tops, and paintings and calligraphy by Larry Thomas completed our 2018 season. Finally, to round out this successful year, we were named one of the top art galleries in Marin County by the Marin Independent Journal!

In 2018, we established the MAGC Horticultural Advisory Committee (HAC) to provide horticultural guidance for the ongoing management of our gardens. The HAC includes highly regarded members of the horticulture and landscape design community from throughout the Bay Area. Former editor of Pacific Horticulture magazine, Richard G. Turner, serves as the committee chair. We are pleased to have this prestigious group of professionals advise us the on the preservation, enhancement, and expansion of the gardens as we approach MAGC's 75th anniversary.



Horticultural Advisory Committee

Richard G Turner, Chair

Christopher Carmichael

Shelagh Fritz

Richard Hayden

Richard Kennedy, ASLA

Matthew Stephens

Stewart Winchester

Horticulturist and instructor, Merritt College

Jeff Wright

MAGC board, staff, and volunteer representatives:

Dianna Blodgett
Propagation volunteer, Marin Master Gardeners

Steven Schwager Garden Manager, Marin Art & Garden Center

Katherine Randolph

Volunteer Pruning Coordinato

Event and Program Highlights

In June, Glorious Gardens of the Tiburon Peninsula, presented in partnership with the Garden Conservancy and the Marin Garden Club, drew hundreds of garden-lovers for self-guided tours of fabulous private gardens. We also had great crowds for our Summer Concert Series throughout July and August. On September 21st, we held our biggest fundraising event of the year, the Harvest Dinner. As always, it was a delicious and memorable occasion. Despite an electrical outage, we carried forward with barely a hitch, and raised funds toward a new deck for our Livermore Pavilion. We finished the year with over 50 families joining us for gingerbread decorating, an event that is quickly becoming a holiday tradition for the MAGC community.

We held numerous lectures and workshops in 2018 as well. The Studio served as the setting for fascinating book discussions from authors like Obi Kaufmann and Christopher Woods. Noted speakers like Chipper Wichman, Director of the National Tropical Botanical Garden, and Steve Oliver, arts patron and advocate, gave passionate lectures. And our hands-on workshops in our Edible Garden, led by Homestead Design Collective, taught new and experienced gardeners alike how to prepare your garden for all seasons.

Our upcoming programs and registration information can always be found on our website, magc.org.

In early November, MAGC hosted the annual conference of the California Garden & Landscape History Society, a statewide nonprofit group that shares and celebrates the beauty and diversity of California's historic gardens.

The theme was "Living with Nature: The Settlement and Protection of the Marin County Landscape." The group enjoyed talks about the history of Marin, including remarks by MAGC trustee Tom Perry about his ancestor and Sunnyside estate resident Isabella Worn. The fall edition of the CGLHS journal, "Eden," featured a history of MAGC by Carol Roland Nawi as well as IC Miller's research about Robert Royston, the designer of our own Pixie Park. Tours of three local private gardens rounded out the weekend for the attendees, who came from throughout California.



Celebration & Education

Weddings



It was another whirlwind wedding season at MAGC! In addition to hosting over fifty weddings in 2018, we created a new social media platform, Weddings at MAGC, to promote our wedding business and allow couples and vendors to share photos and comments. Last year, we made the big decision to change our approved caterers

list to reflect our mission of conservation and our green business certification. All of our catering partners must now be Green Business Certified to ensure environmentally friendly practices are used from start to finish. With this exciting initiative we are pleased to announce the arrival of two new caterers to our approved list: Paula LeDuc and Classic Culinaire.

It looks like 2019 will be our busiest season yet! We cannot wait to celebrate love with all of our couples this year at MAGC.

Garden School



The Garden School continues to grow and thrive. With our successful Spring fundraiser, we were able to fund enrichment activities such as music, yoga and art. Funds were also put towards a garden space near the Butterfly Cottage. We look forward to planting in the spring. Garden Manager Steven Schwager has

opened the Edible Garden to the Garden School students, where we harvested carrots, basil, tomatoes & onions and made a pesto lasagna that was donated to a local family in need. Incorporating more of the educational opportunities that the MAGC grounds have to offer has given our young students a one-of-a-kind preschool experience.

Green Initiatives

The Marin Art & Garden Center is committed to implementing environmentally sustainable practices in all aspects of our organization. As part of this commitment, we made considerable efforts last year to increase our recycling and reduce waste on our property. Our events staff has led the way with this initiative by diligently supervising post-event clean-up and educating visiting catering staff about proper techniques. We have also added more waste stations around the property with signage to direct visitors about proper recycling and composting practices. All of our resident organizations are now required to recycle and our preschool has added it to their curriculum. We are pleased to say that all of our efforts appear to be working! Last year the proportion of materials in our landfill bin that could be diverted to recycling or compost dropped by 40 percent as measured by a trash audit from Marin Sanitary Services.

We have also brought conservation education into our programming. 2018 marked the second season of our annual Conservation Lecture Series, in partnership with the Oceanic Society, the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory, and Audubon Canyon Ranch. In July, we hosted our second Conservation Night at the MAGC Summer Concert Series, bringing together seven local environmental organizations for a conservationthemed fair. Each organization spoke to our audience about their mission and offered educational activities and demonstrations.

Volunteers

We want to thank our dedicated volunteers who spent over 400 hours helping us in 2018. Our volunteers play a key role in keeping our gardens beautiful and in making sure our events run smoothly. We are grateful for their skills, passion and generosity.

MAGC Volunteers

January 2018- January 2019

Mai Billaud Dianna Blodgett Bonnie Case Chris Casey Deborah Celle Hanna Damiani Patty Dion Vanessa Drury Carol Elgie Melanie Facen Fanny Gamble Claire Golan Giovanna Hamilton Laurie Reinsdorf Don Harper Peggy Hodge

Mary Hrize

Phil Klasky

Phoebe Kemp

Merrily Labarthe Max Lachmann Nancy Laurenson Adrienne Liggett Karen Lopez Kristen Montalbano Robert Mooney Kathryn Norris Janet Sato John Schelhorn Hannah Spencer Steve Svienty Julie Walker Marin Master Gardeners Merritt Aesthetic Pruning Guild Members of the Marin Garden Club Members of the Marin Rose Society



2019 Upcoming Events

Leadership Luncheon 4/25

For members of our Leadership Circle, a chance to hear what's new and upcoming at MAGC.

Marin Open Day: Glorious Gardens of San Rafael 6/1

Self-guided tour of gardens in San Rafael in partnership with the Garden Conservancy and the Marin Garden Club.

Harvest Dinner 9/20

Our annual celebration of the harvest season and fundraiser to support our programs.

Gingerbread House Decorating 12/7

This family friendly event is a can't miss holiday tradition.

Carl Hungerford Lecture Series at MAGC to debut in 2019

There was a generous outpouring of support for the establishment of the Carl Hungerford Lecture Series, in memory of this engaged and beloved member of our community.

We will launch the lecture series at MAGC in fall 2019, and look forward to presenting a range of compelling speakers on topics that touch on our relationships with nature and with each other.

Our thanks to Carl's family and many friends for their support of this initiative.





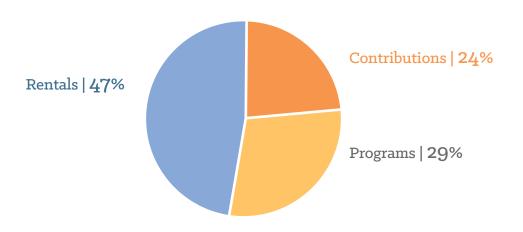




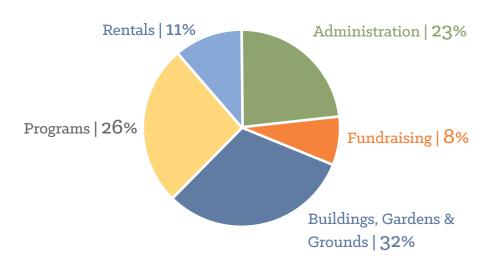
Financial Report

Jan. 1, 2018 - Dec. 31, 2018

2018 Revenue | TOTAL: \$1,618,199



2018 Expenses | TOTAL: \$1,550,185



Full audited financial statements are available on our website, magc.org.

Board of Trustees

Diane Doodha, *President*Thomas Perry, *Vice President*Joe Behrendt, Secretary
Robin MacNaughton, *Treasurer*

Vivien Bronshvag Andy Evans Melissa Harris Jessica Fairchild James Kauffman Jordan Lavinsky Edison Lewis Pamela Scott Antonia Adezio, Executive Director

Report of Gifts

Leadership Circle \$50,000+

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\$10,000-\$49,999

Anonymous Anonymous Fund of MCF Francis & Erin Collins Melissa & Shepard Harris

\$5,000-\$9,999

Allen Family Fund Anonymous

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Mr. & Mrs. Thomas W. Tusher

Paul Violich

Amy & Warren Weber

Polly & Ward Wolff

The Leadership Circle celebrates our most loyal and generous supporters who gave \$1,000 or more annually. Participation offers opportunities for deeper involvement with MAGC's programs and events.

February 1, 2018 – January 31, 2019

\$500-\$999

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Robin Bacci

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