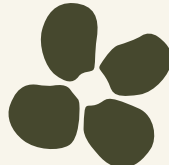


# Annual Report 2021



**Marin**  
Art and  
**Garden**  
Center



**Memory Garden**

Sculpture by Adaline Kent in the Memory Garden, first exhibited in 1937 and gifted to Marin Art and Garden Center in 1982

**2021 highlights**

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**Engaging our community**

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**Celebration**

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**Financial report**

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**Contributions**

# Renewal



We look back at 2021 with gratitude for the opportunities we had to bring back our favorite programs, and to welcome so many people to Marin Art and Garden Center as the pandemic crisis ebbed and we ventured out again. It was truly a year of renewal and fresh appreciation for our beautiful, historic site and the joy of being together in the garden.

Our Redwood Amphitheater was re-opened as an inspiring venue for chamber music and jazz, and our beloved Summer Concerts in the Garden returned with local families and friends gathering to picnic, listen, dance, and celebrate together on the lawn.

The Garden School was again filled with the sounds of children exploring and learning, with our 11 acres as a classroom. We welcomed the community back for weddings, parties, and milestone events that are especially memorable when they happen in the beauty of the gardens.

Artists presented their nature-inspired work in The Studio, highlighted by the 24th International Exhibition by the American Society of Botanical Artists—a colorful tribute to the flora of the world.

Our summer show, “Cool Outside,” focused on the innovations of the mid-century modernists who broke with tradition to design homes and gardens that used organic forms and utilitarian materials to create post-war communities. This spirit was at the heart of the designs for Marin Art and Garden Center, some of which were featured in the show.

Speaking of history, 2021 marked the determination of the historic significance of Marin Art and Garden Center by the California State Historic Resources Commission. Declared eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, the Center’s significance is based on the compelling story of the property’s preservation by local women, and the distinctive designs created for its buildings and landscape from 1945 to 1962. We celebrate this heritage and are committed to preserving the vision of our founders and all the people who have contributed to the property over the years.

Our garden team was challenged to budget water during a severe drought, and they kept the grounds looking beautiful with adaptations in planting and careful management throughout the season. With the help of significant rain in October, we laid the groundwork for a healthy, thriving garden in 2022.

We are deeply grateful for the support of everyone who helped us so generously in 2021, and look forward to seeing you at the Center often this season.

Antonia Adezio  
Executive Director

# Community



When I first had the pleasure of addressing you as President of the Marin Art and Garden Center Board of Trustees a year ago, the world was in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic. The effects of this experience altered many things: how families relate to each other, and children attend school, how people work and where, how we all enjoy gathering in public spaces. How long and to what degree these changes will be felt remains to be seen.

To be sure there have been many other profound societal upheavals as well, but through it all the Marin Art and Garden Center has remained an oasis of calm and provided a sanctuary of peace and natural beauty from which we can all take spiritual sustenance. It is due to the many contributions from our supporters that Marin Art and Garden Center has been able to weather the stormy waters of the past couple of years.

Changes have taken place in our small world, just as they have everywhere. The evolution of activities and facilities at our Center is in the tradition of many layers of its history. When Caroline Livermore and her cohorts at the Marin Conservation League and the Marin Garden Club banded together in 1945 at the end of World War II to save the property from development, there was already a long history of the site, as indigenous people used and stewarded the lands of what is now called the Ross Valley.

From the time my great-great Grandparents, George and Annie Ross Worn, lived in the Octagon House in 1864 while their first home “Sunnyside” was being built, to the occupancy and estate expansion of the Kittle family between 1880 and 1930, the gardens flourished as the surrounding community grew. There are many stories to be told here at Marin Art and Garden Center and we intend to share them.

We are pleased that the Ross Valley Players have resumed their performances at the historic Barn Theater and that Pixie Park will continue to offer a safe play space for children. Our Garden School reopened in September and has had a successful year, although not without its challenges during Covid. As we look ahead, a full schedule of exhibits and events is underway in The Studio and we look forward to our popular Summer Concerts in the Garden. Our robust events program is in full swing, offering the most beautiful wedding venue in Marin and a special location for memorials and other milestone occasions. We moved deliberately to transform our Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Access initiatives from planning to execution, adopting formal equity policies guiding the Center, establishing partnerships with organizations actively involved in communities we have not traditionally served and communicating with our audiences in additional languages. We are committed to this equity work for the long term.

There have been changes, as I mentioned. We honor the legacy of the Northgate Group and Laurel House in our reimagined Shop, highlighting local artisans and creations that celebrate nature, the arts and gardens. We have been cooperating with the Ross Historical Society-Moya Library after they decided to consolidate their operations off campus. This will allow us to expand access to the Octagon House to a wider audience as it becomes our interpretive visitor center, while continuing to honor the contributions of Moya del Piño and the history of the Town of Ross.

Our evolution as a special gathering place celebrating learning, growth, and the beauty of nature continues, and we thank our extended community for your unwavering support.

Tom Perry  
President, Board of Trustees

# Growing highlights in 2021

Children enrolled at Garden School

28

Number of new plants planted

500

Participants in 23 public programs

2,010

Private Events including weddings, celebrations of life, proposals, photoshoots, graduations and corporate events

70

Volunteer hours in 2021

1250

Increase in donors

Reduction in water use

20%

# Engaging our community

## Gardens and the Arts

Thanks to the generous support of our community in 2020 and throughout 2021, the past year saw widespread enhancements to the grounds.

New Garden Manager Michael Bogart joined us in August 2021 and our expert Horticultural Advisory Committee has continued to guide our team to implement climate appropriate adaptations to plantings and maintenance.



Wildlife has thrived, including our Monarch Butterfly population thanks to re-wilded milkweed near the Habitat Pond and Sun Garden, and a healthy raptor population, which helps control our gopher population.

The team remains committed to an organic and pesticide-free maintenance program.

Garden questions? You can email [gardentips@maringarden.org](mailto:gardentips@maringarden.org).

**Our mission states: Marin Art and Garden Center is a special gathering place that celebrates learning, growth, and the beauty of nature; a place that welcomes us all to be inspired, educated and entertained—or to *just be*.**

Our Charter states a commitment to programming and exhibitions to “Gratify the general taste for the artistic and to encourage and increase the flow of artistic beauty into human life,” and we are delighted that our Studio has remained an active hub of artistic expression and exploration.

In 2021 we hosted three major exhibitions: *Abstract Nature* with Katherine Warinner and Nick Taylor, with guest curator Kate Eilertsen, displaying monotypes and sculptures inspired by nature; *Cool Outside* curated by JC Miller, highlighting mid-century outdoor spaces and garden furnishings in California in the 1950s and 1960s (a pivotal period in our own garden transformation); and the 24th Annual International Exhibition of Botanical Art, organized by the American Society of Botanical Artists and celebrating artists’ botanical works from around the world.



## The Garden School

The Garden School reopened under the leadership of new Garden School Director Emma Norris, welcoming 28 bright-eyed and curious students to participate in a nature-inspired, emergent curriculum. The students spend 95% of their time outdoors under the guidance and care of Emma and four dedicated teachers.

# Celebration

Our vision is to create a sense of pride and connection among all the people of Marin—and beyond—in this thriving, inclusive gathering place of inspiration, growth and celebration.

**2021 marked the return of our beloved Summer Concerts with two shows featuring Brotherly Mud and Brass Mafia, respectively.**

Both events drew large, energetic crowds of families and friends to enjoy live music and warm summer nights on our central lawn.



September saw the return of the Harvest Dinner fundraiser, raising over \$100,000 to support our public programming. And in December we launched Holidays at the Garden, featuring Holiday Tea with Crown and Crumpet, a special reading of a Christmas Carol with the Ross Valley Players, classical music with the Eos Ensemble and our annual Holiday Greens Sale.



## Programs

Thanks to a wealth of local talents and artists, we were able to present our best-yet year of public programming, convening and educating community members virtually and in person. Highlights included an artist's journey of painting camellias with Akiko Enokido (live from Japan!); a panel discussion on mid-century landscape design with design luminaries Andrea Cochran, James A. Lord, Roderick Wylie, and Zahid Sardar; "The State of Nature" with Obi Kaufmann; and Community Circle Time in the gardens for children 18 months to 5 years.



# Financial report

Jan. 1, 2021 – Dec. 31, 2021

**16%**

Garden School  
\$215,297

**38%**

Contributions  
\$493,402

**2%**

The Shop  
\$21,852

**2021  
Operating  
Income\***  
\$1.3 million

**11%**

Long-Term  
Rentals  
\$148,447

**30%**

Private Events  
\$388,120

**3%**

Programs  
\$44,371

**10.3%**

Development  
\$161,243

**30.4%**

Administration\*\*  
\$476,737

**2.4%**

The Shop  
\$38,021

**2021  
Expenses**  
\$1.57 million

**30.2%**

Facilities &  
Grounds  
\$472,698

**8.4%**

Garden School  
\$131,990

**8.8%**

Private Events  
\$137,542

**9.5%**

Programs  
\$148,724

\* Operating Income does not include \$2,577,000 in Bequests and Capital Campaign Contributions

\*\* Administration expenses include all property related taxes

Full audited financial statements are available on our website, [maringarden.org](http://maringarden.org)



# Contributions

Jan. 1, 2021 – Dec. 31, 2021

**Thank you to our generous supporters for allowing us to maintain the beauty of our gardens and provide engaging programs for the entire community.**



## Donor Spotlight

“Ginger volunteered at the Laurel House for over 25 years, and I have known and supported the Center since the 1970s. It remains an oasis of beautiful gardens—peace, play, music and theatre. This gem is irreplaceable in Marin and is worth supporting and protecting.”

— Ginger and Dave Egan

*Dave Egan and family at commemorative bench dedicated in honor of Ginger Egan*

### English Oak (\$20,000+)

Anonymous Donor (2)  
Michael and Dudley Del Balso  
Estate of Gloria Pettersson  
Christopher & Eileen Sheldon

### Dawn Redwood (\$10,000 – \$20,000)

Phoebe Cowles and Robert Girard  
Melissa and Shep Harris  
Robert and Jennifer Leathers  
Bob and Robin Mayer  
Stephen Meyer  
Edward and Betsy McDermott

### Valley Oak (\$5,000 – \$10,000)

Anonymous Donor (1)  
Sisi and Bert Damner  
Andy and Stephanie Evans  
The Feibusch Foundation  
Roger and Mary Greenberg  
Gruber Family Foundation  
Candy and Robin MacNaughton  
Tom and Jan Perry  
Maria Van Buskirk Pitcairn  
Philip Smith Charitable Fund

### Mission Pear (\$2,500 – \$5,000)

Anonymous Donor  
Michael Alvarez  
Robert Beadle  
Jo Ann and Julien Collins  
Robin Donoghue  
Diane and Frank Doodha  
Suzanne F. Edwards  
Frank and Barbro Greene  
Anthony Hooker  
Sally and Peter Houser  
Katie and Claude Jarman  
Hadley Mullins and Dan Kalafatas  
Ann and James Kauffman  
Donald and Donna Kelleher  
Richard and Cynthia S. Livermore  
Kurt and Tamra Mobley  
Mary E. and Bill R. Poland  
Patsy and Charles Raven  
June and John Sullivan



Our **Rose Garden** features 170 varieties (and only 12 duplicates!). They are maintained with organic and pesticide free practices.

### Ginkgo (\$1,000 – \$2,500)

Mark and Anita Abramowitz  
Antonia Adezio  
Allen Family Fund  
John and Elizabeth Anderson  
Beverly Bacci  
John and Patricia Cahill  
William and Jeanne Cahill  
John Chase  
Teta and Frances Collins  
Elizabeth C. Dakin  
Ian and Lauren Del Balso  
Amie Dewane  
Margie Ellis  
Gregg and Judy Gibson  
Lauren and Scott Gilbert  
Susan Giorgi  
John and Nina Gladish  
Corinne Hedrick  
Ira Hirschfield and Tom Hansen  
Saxon Holt  
Pat and Frankie Hunt  
John and Kim Kieckhefer  
Jeffrey and Phyllis Koblack  
Carolynne Krusi and Paul Beisswenger  
The L'Heureux Family  
Samuel M. and Cynthia S. Livermore  
Abigail and Robert Lodge  
Roseanna and Wallace Lourdeaux  
Debbie Matthies  
Kristy Pierce and Karl Matthies  
Margaret McCormick  
Julie McMillan and Timothy Baughman  
Suzanne and Robert Mellor  
Emily Morris Soltero and Javier Soltero

# Contributions

Jan. 1, 2021 – Dec. 31, 2021

## **Ginkgo** (\$1,000 – \$2,500), *continued*

Kimberly Ann Nunes  
Ned and Ellin Purdom  
Elizabeth Robbins and Stephen Hauser  
Suzi E. and Dr. Brian J. Salmen  
Melissa and Joshua Schiller  
Andrea Schultz  
Christina Simonelli and Richard Thalheimer  
Richard Stone  
Richard Turner  
Tom and Pauline Tusher  
Amy and Warren Weber  
Polly and Ward Wolff

## **Redbud** (\$500 – \$1,000)

Terry and Kent Ainsworth  
Kate Rowe Archer  
Robin Bacci  
William and Rinda Bishop  
Alisa Burgess and Harold Blajwas  
Donna and Ralph Briskin  
Joey Buckingham  
Sally Buehler  
Lucinda and Bob Chapman  
Bruce Chatley  
Brian and Mariel Collins  
Drexler Estate Fund  
Kai Broms and Jessica Fairchild  
Paul and Jane Foster  
Barbara and Charles Goodman  
Don and Jaccy Harper  
Neil and Kathy Hennessy  
Janell Denler and W. Harrison Hobart  
Zachary Hyatt  
Janey and P. Beach Kuhl  
Merrily Labarthe  
Stephanie Lamarre  
Marguerite Leoni  
Margaret and Edison Lewis  
Martin Moroski  
Janet and John O'Connor  
Darice and Jeffrey O'Neill  
Ann and David Peterson  
John Pogue  
Bruce G. and Elizabeth B. Potter  
Laura and Nigel Rees

Betsy Shelton  
Roger Smith and Lynne Oberlander  
Zoe Brown and Terry Sternberg  
Kathleen and Dan Toney  
Cathy Townsley  
Paul Violich  
Anne-Marie and David Walker

## **Cypress** (\$250 – \$500)

Anonymous Donor  
Ann and Bruce Adams  
Molly Anixt  
Nina and Andrew Berman  
Tom Bires  
Craig and Nancy Branigan  
Paul and Ann Brenner  
Mary Castagnozzi  
Liza and Tim Crosse  
Michael and Leslie Cunningham  
Kathie Feidler  
Dora Fleming  
Carole and John Garcia  
Marian R. Goepp  
Diane Grialou  
Lenore B. Heffernan  
Kit Henderson and Andre Brewster  
Kathy King and Gerald Cahill  
Debra Mansfield  
Jessica Perry and Mike Marom  
Henry and Lynn Moody  
Jeffory and Ann Morshead  
Willa Mundell  
MarySue and Mark Murray  
Lissa and Wendel Nicolaus  
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis O'Neill  
Marty and Naomi Rayman  
Carolyn Revelle  
Frank and Denise Rosenbach  
Gail Skarich  
Gregg and Judy Smith  
David and Sarah Swain  
Irene and Peter Tabet  
Cal and Mary Tilden  
Herbert B. and Nancy Z. Tully  
James and Claire Williams  
Doug and Dellie Woodring  
Mary and Myles Yanta



The **lawn gazebo** and **Habitat Pond** provide ideal bird watching locations. Look for five different raptors (sharp-shinned hawk, red-shouldered hawk, red-tailed hawk, peregrine, kestrel) and a visiting blue heron.

## **Cedar** (under \$250)

Vicki Aballo  
Paul Adamson  
Susan Adamson  
Edward Altemus  
Liz Amini  
Christine Anderson  
Elizabeth Ashley  
Jeanne Azen  
Irmgard Bagshaw  
Carol Banquer  
Heather Barlin  
Maureen Bennett  
Jeffrey Berlin  
Scott Binnings  
Eric Blasen  
Cecile and Jeff Bodington  
Hara Bosch  
Marion Brenner and Robert Shimshak  
Todd and Kirsten Brockman  
Elizabeth Byers  
Terry and Sarah Calvani  
Theresa Cardona  
Philip Castagnozzi Bush  
Winnie Caulkins  
William and Diane Clark  
Benjamin Cohen  
Mary and Michael Connors  
Gaye Cook  
Jane and Al Cooper  
Heidi Craig  
Sheila Cunningham  
Patricia Dawson  
Patricia Diluzio  
Jane and Serge Dumont  
Jeanne S. Eber

# Contributions

Jan. 1, 2021 – Dec. 31, 2021

## **Cedar** (under \$250), *continued*

Kay and Mark Egan  
Jay and Kay Estey  
Peter Fisher and Andrea Hedin  
Anne and B. Mason Flemming Jr  
Bill and Karen Foss  
Cornelia Foster  
Barbara Fuchs  
Tom and Barbara Watt Gaffney  
Sheila and John Girton  
Mark Goldosen and Barbara Solomon  
Patty Griffith  
Margie and David Guggenhime  
Thomas and Sandy Guldman  
Thomas Hall and Patricia Kelley-Hall  
Laurie B. Hanley  
Anita Hansen and Robert Mittelstaedt  
Maxine Miller and  
Melinda Miller Hanson  
Roger Hartman  
Jane and Bob Henry  
Douglas Hildum  
Debra and Scott Hilleboe  
Sheila M. Humphreys  
Bruce and Jeanne Imai  
Karen Johnsen  
Duane Alan Johnson  
Jane Jonckheer  
Susan Kay  
Charlie Kennard  
Charles Kircher  
Glenn Koorhan  
Ninad Kothari  
Barbara Kreissler  
Robert and Karen Kustel  
Maureen Landers  
Julie Lane  
Iris and Michael Lax  
Andrea Leavitt  
Gretchen Leavitt  
Eric Lebel  
Glenna and Reed Letsinger  
Barbara Levinson  
Libby Lill  
Norman and Mo Livermore

Lisa Lukianoff  
Trish Lyon and  
Dr. Peter Williams Allen, Jr.  
Patrick Lytle  
Bruce Macurda  
Daphne Markham  
BJ and Christopher Martin  
Julie and Andy Mascheroni  
David McGrane  
Robin and Anthony Miller  
M. David and Heidi K. Minnick  
Robin Mitchell  
Robin and David Moller  
Douglas and Michael Moore  
Dennis and Zara Muren  
Joanne Murray  
Patrick W. Murray  
D. Steven and Ruth K. Nash  
Patricia and Alan Negrin  
Leslie O'Connell  
Denise Olson  
Dan O'Meara  
John Oppenheimer  
Marta Osterloh and William Curtiss  
Sarah Parker  
Margaret Partlow  
Warren Perry  
Erika Petersen  
Kenneth and Sarah Petrilla  
Katherine Randolph  
G. Kelley and Mary Reid  
Gordon Reid  
Victor Revenko

Joan Rochlin  
Linda Rockwell  
Dan Rosenthal  
Alexander G. and Marguerite L. Ross  
Michelle Ruff  
Renee Rymer  
Jon Sauerbrun  
Barrett Schaefer  
Lynn Schwartz  
Irene S Scully  
Judy and Ira Sharlip  
Mary L. and Randal B. Short  
Eric Siegel  
Paula Daly and Jeffrey Skov  
Margaret Spaulding  
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John and Loulie Sutro  
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Constance Treadwell  
Walden Valen  
Mary Vance  
Singh and Blanche Virk  
John and Kris Walsh  
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Brian West  
Juliann Whelan  
Helmut Winkelhake  
John D. Wright  
Zach and Marlies Zeisler  
Sylvie Zolezzi

## **Corporate and Institutional Donors**

Bank of Marin  
Benevity Community Impact Fund  
Bon Air, L.P.  
Keegan and Coppin Company Inc.  
Marin Garden Club  
Wells Fargo



The **Marin County Fair**  
was held at the Marin Art  
and Garden Center from  
1947–1970.

# Contributions

Jan. 1, 2021 – Dec. 31, 2021

## Garden School Donors

Laura and Benjamin Dewar  
David Friedburg  
Susan Giorgi  
Jenna Greer  
Amanda Hubbard  
Erin and JD Lumpkin  
Carly O'Connor  
Kathryn and Kyle Rosseau  
Jenny and Peter Von Pinnon  
Kelly and Kurt Wilms

## In Kind Donors

Christin Coy  
Crown and Crumpet  
Drew Altizer Photography  
The Duckhorn Portfolio  
Hafner Vineyard  
Hero Shop  
The Little Flower Shop  
Lorenza Wine  
Bob Mayer  
Mayesh Brannan Street  
Merry Edwards Winery and Vineyards  
Oceanic Society Expeditions  
Point Reyes Farmstead Cheese Co.  
Ned and Ellin Purdom  
Pamela Scott  
Simmonds and Associates  
Sojourn Cellars  
Sweet Things  
Sean Sharp  
Katherine Warinner



The **Giant Sequoia** was brought from Yosemite Valley as a small tree in the 1880s.

## Growing Together

Reimagining the future of a unique and special place.

Our Master Plan is part of our vision for the future to address our improvement, enhancement and expansion needs to realize our commitment to convene and educate, to inspire wonder and curiosity, and to foster an appreciation for and responsibility to care for the natural world around us.



## A special thank you to our early Capital Campaign supporters

Anonymous (4)  
Andy & Stephanie Evans  
Robin Paige Donoghue  
Donald & Roslyn Kahn  
Philanthropic Fund  
Jim & Ann Kauffman  
Jeff & Phyllis Koblick  
Bob & Robin Mayer  
Tom & Jan Perry  
Ned & Ellin Purdom  
Rockridge Foundation  
John & June Sullivan  
Mel & Lois Tukman Fund



Our thanks to photographers Drew Altizer, Ben Beisswenger, Marion Brenner, Saxon Holt, Charlie Purdom, Ned Purdom, and Ellian Raffoul who captured the garden in images that they have generously shared with us for this publication.

Design by Studio Scott

# Support

## **Marin Garden Fund**

Donations to our Marin Garden Fund support all of the operating costs of Marin Art and Garden Center. Your support will help keep our gardens beautiful, maintain our historic buildings and grounds, and allow us to present programs and art exhibitions throughout the year.

## **Leadership Circle**

The Leadership Circle was established to acknowledge Marin Art and Garden Center's most loyal and generous supporters who give \$1,000 or more annually to the Marin Garden Fund. Participation offers opportunities for deeper involvement with the Center, including invitations to exclusive programs and events.

## **Commemorative Benches**

Favorite views and vistas throughout this green oasis offer opportunities to rest, reflect, and honor special people while enjoying the beauty of the gardens and grounds. We welcome you to celebrate a loved one, friend or organization with a commemorative bench at Marin Art and Garden Center. Benches are available on a first-come, first-served basis throughout the Center's 11-acre grounds. Benches are offered in renewable 10-year terms and may be sponsored by individuals, groups, or organizations.

## **Magnolia Circle**

Magnolia Circle honors those donors who have made a bequest to the Center in their estate planning. As a beloved resource for the Marin community for 75 years, the Marin Art and Garden Center has a long history of support from generous legacy donations. Your gift will ensure the future of the Center's role in the community, while also allowing you to leave your own legacy.





## Land Acknowledgment

Marin Art and Garden Center sits within the unceded ancestral homeland of the Coast Miwok people. We respect and honor past, present, and future generations of Miwok and their continued connection to this land. We are grateful for the opportunity to gather in this place, and we give respect to its first inhabitants.

### **Board of Trustees**

Tom Perry – President  
Ned Purdom – Vice President  
Robin MacNaughton – Treasurer  
Bob Mayer – Secretary  
Robert Beadle  
Michael Del Balso  
Robin Donoghue  
Andy Evans  
Jessica Fairchild  
Jim Kauffman  
Diane Doodha – President Emeritus

### **Horticultural Advisory Committee**

Richard G Turner – Chair  
Christopher Carmichael  
Shelagh Fritz  
Richard Kennedy  
Meghan Ray  
Matthew Stephens  
Walden Valen  
Stewart Winchester  
Jeff Wright

# A place to celebrate

Marin Art and Garden Center is a private, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that relies on the generosity of our donors to survive and thrive. With your support, we will be able to continue to maintain this beautiful property and providing engaging, inspiring and educational programs for our whole community to enjoy.

There is no fee to visit Marin Art and Garden Center. Our grounds are open to foot traffic from sunrise to sunset, seven days a week.

The Shop is open Thursday – Saturday, 10 am to 4 pm, featuring a curated collection of unique artisan items, with an emphasis on sustainable materials and minority-owned business.