Descanso Gardens



Impact Report 2025

Our Mission
At Descanso Gardens, we connect people with nature and one another.

Because of You, Hope Took Root



In early 2025, the Eaton Fire brought devastation and uncertainty to our neighboring communities. Because of you, Descanso Gardens was able to respond not only with resilience but with compassion and purpose.

A time for community

Your generosity made extraordinary moments possible.

In the days that followed, we witnessed overwhelming generosity. The Nuccio family gifted about a hundred rare camellias, and with additional support from dedicated donors, more than 300 plants found a new home at Descanso. Together, staff and volunteers transformed this moment into action, planting a new Camellia Forest Trail that will inspire visitors for generations.

You also helped us open our gardens in new ways. Through your support, Descanso partnered with Los Angeles County to host Care Camp for children and teens affected by the fires. Each day, young people found space to heal, explore, and simply be in nature during a time of upheaval.

Let's grow together

Today, Descanso Gardens continues to grow and evolve—from new plantings to new gathering spaces—while honoring its history. In every leaf, pathway, and discovery, we are reminded that even after hardship, renewal is always possible.

Because of you, Descanso Gardens remains a place where nature and community come together to heal and grow.



American Alliance of Museums Accredited Museum

Visit us online

descansogardens.org

descansogardensLA

descansogardens

descansogardens

Share your photos online and see what other visitors are up to: #exploredescanso

All photos:
© Descanso Gardens
© Copyright 2026 Descanso Gardens Foundation

TABLE OF CONTENTS

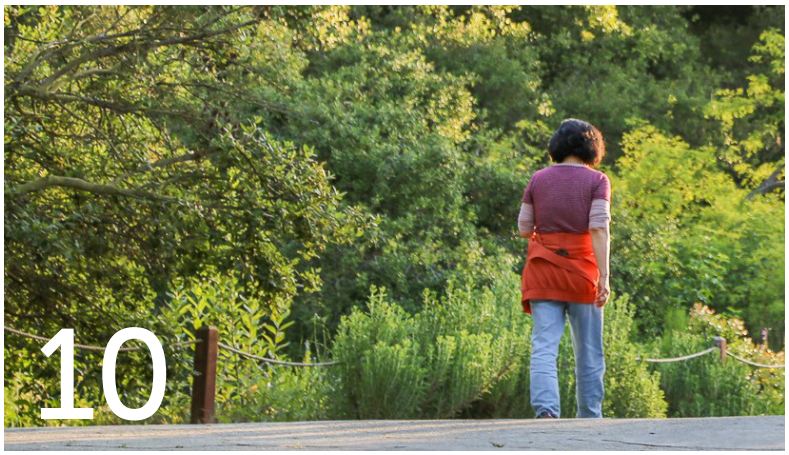
GROWING RESILIENCE



ART IN THE GARDEN



NATURE ACCESS



SCHOOL GROUPS



CAMPAIGN FOR DESCANSO



Supporters 18

Perennial Circle 22

Sponsors 24

A path forward: Descanso responds to the Eaton Fire

The Eaton Fire swept through Altadena and Pasadena, leaving many communities facing loss, disruption, and uncertainty. While Descanso Gardens was spared from the flames, the powerful winds that accompanied the firestorm—reaching nearly 100 miles per hour—left their mark on the grounds and the surrounding community.

Across the garden, the response to the fires reflected a simple but powerful idea: nature and art can help people heal.

An unexpected gift

Just days after the fire, a call came from former board member Greg McLemore, who connected CEO Juliann Rooke with Nuccio's Nurseries, whose





nursery had also suffered fire damage. Despite burned structures, much of the nursery's treasured camellia collection survived. In an act of generosity, the Nuccio family donated around 100 rare and vital camellia cultivars to Descanso.

Longtime supporters Ed and Susan Johnson then stepped forward with a gift that allowed the garden to acquire additional plants, including many historic "mother" plants used for propagation. In total, more than 300 camellias found a new home at Descanso.

Garden staff and a passionate group of volunteers worked side by side to plant the collection along a newly



envisioned Camellia Forest Trail connecting the Main Lawn and Oak Grove. In just six days, hundreds of camellias were planted—laying the foundation for a revitalized, world-class collection and honoring the legacy of the camellia growers.

A place of caring

Descanso's role in the community extended beyond horticulture. In partnership with Los Angeles County, the gardens also served as a Care Camp site for children and teens affected by the wildfires. For several weeks, more than 100 students each day explored the gardens, participated in nature-based activities, and found moments of calm in the landscape. The program also provided critical support for working parents whose children had been displaced by school closures.

Expressions of hope

Art also became a powerful space for reflection and recovery. *Searching for Serenity*, a special exhibition in the Sturt Haaga Gallery, explored how communities can harness the healing power of art and nature. The exhibition invited community and professional artists to reflect on the landscapes, plants, and natural experiences that inspire hope. Nearly 100 artworks were selected through an open juried call. The exhibition also highlighted the deeply personal stories of Altadena artists whose lives were directly affected by the fires, transforming grief and uncertainty into expressions of resilience.

Today, the gardens continue to grow, bloom, and welcome visitors. Like the camellias taking root along the new trail and the artwork filling the gallery walls, Descanso Gardens stands as a reminder that renewal is always possible—and that nature, creativity, and community can help light the path forward.

Welcoming the new and celebrating the historic

Tucked within the Courtyard at Descanso Gardens, a new culinary experience took root. Farmhouse at Descanso Gardens opened in the spring, bringing a farm-to-table dining destination to the garden.

The 7,800-square-foot restaurant was thoughtfully designed to connect the indoors and outdoors, echoing the natural beauty that surrounds it. A main dining room opens onto garden-facing patios, while an indoor-outdoor bar anchors the space. The bar and tables are made from oak trees that once stood in the gardens. Crafted by local artisan William Stranger, they are not only beautiful but a symbol of Descano's commitment to reuse.

Throughout the restaurant, hand-painted murals inspired by Descanso's botanical collections line the booths. Plant installations curated by the gardens' horticulture team shift with the seasons, ensuring the space evolves just as the landscape outside does.

The menu reflects the vision of acclaimed chef Rich Mead, whose nearly four decades in the culinary world have been shaped by close relationships with local farmers and a deep appreciation for seasonal ingredients. His approach celebrates simple, vibrant dishes inspired by the rhythms of the land and the abundance of California's farms.

At Farmhouse, everyone is invited to gather and enjoy dishes prepared with care and creativity. Chef Mead's menus bring fresh





flavors and thoughtful cooking to every plate.

A decade of prehistoric wonder

The Ancient Forest celebrated its 10th anniversary as one of the garden's most evocative landscapes. Shaded by towering redwoods and tree ferns, and anchored by an extraordinary cycad collection, the garden invites visitors to step back into deep time. The transformation began in 2015 with Frederick and Katia Elsea's donation of 183 cycads. Continued gifts since then have expanded the collection and inspired new plantings, ensuring this prehistoric-inspired sanctuary keeps growing for future generations.

A new area to enjoy

Enter the garden and look to the left. This area has long been a popular spot in spring for photos of the glorious *Kawasan* cherry tree, which blooms each year. In 2025, the space was reimagined as a garden of wandering and discovery. Renamed Magnolia Court, it features water-tolerant plants and offers an inspiring example of what visitors can create at home. The area is also designed with quiet nooks with wooden benches for contemplation. And don't worry—the new path leads visitors directly to the beautiful cherry tree, making it the perfect place for a selfie.





Gather and Grow

At Descanso, we are inspired by the curiosity of our members and visitors. We recognize their interest and engagement and, in response, offer a wide range of programs for people of all ages.

In 2025, we held 231 public programs, including workshops, talks, wellness classes, bird walks, family activities, and tours of our collections.

Lessons in the garden

Our horticulture staff shared their knowledge through bloom tours, nature walks, and live demonstrations. These programs helped guests learn more about our plants and how we care for them. The gardens also provided a creative space for art classes and poetry workshops, where guests could find inspiration in nature.

Wellness remained an important part of our programs. Guests took part in yoga, sound baths, and guided meditation, enjoying the calm and beauty of the outdoors. Children and families joined story times, crafts, and hands-on activities designed to encourage learning and curiosity.

Evening exploration

We also hosted evening events throughout the year, including Summer Music and Dance, Cultivate, member celebrations, and Descanso After Dark. The Summer Music and Dance series celebrated a variety of cultural traditions. Our signature nighttime events—Carved and Enchanted Forest of Light—gave guests a special way to experience the gardens after dark.



231
Total programs

24
Workshops/ Education Talks

31
Wellness

12
Birdwalks

51
Family/child programs

24
Collections Tours

13
Evening events

Art in the gardens

Art in the garden should be accessible to everyone, shows at the Sturt Haaga Gallery, Boddy House and in the garden. aim to welcome all. To support this commitment, we provide free garden admission during the openings of all our exhibitions, and there is never an extra charge to visit the art gallery.

In 2025, we presented three diverse art exhibitions, complemented by curator-led tours, artist workshops and talks, demonstrations, and other hands-on activities designed to enrich the guest experience.

Exhibitions in the gardens were generously supported by the following organizations and individuals

Accelerate Resilience L.A.
Heather Sturt Haaga and Paul Haaga, Jr.
LA County Department of Arts and Culture
Pasadena Art Alliance
Perenchio Foundation
TreePeople

Daphne's Wardrobe—Metamorphosis into Nature

March 1–June 1, 2025

By drawing on mythology and folklore, *Daphne's Wardrobe* showcased the work of internationally known women artists who portrayed bodily transformations into nature.



Roots of Cool: A Celebration of Trees and Shade in a Warming World

July 12–October 12, 2025

Roots of Cool invited visitors to connect to and cultivate appreciation for the life-giving role trees and shade play in making urban neighborhoods livable. It featured outdoor art installations as well as artworks displayed in the Sturt Haaga Gallery and Boddy House.



Searching for Serenity

November 1, 2025–January 4, 2026

In response to the 2025 wildfire disasters in Los Angeles County, *Searching for Serenity* blended creativity with personal storytelling. Participating professional and community artists shared how a deep connection to nature can serve as a tool for healing.



BY THE NUMBERS



Member households

31,871



Birthday for the Ancient Forest

10



Art works commissioned

29 pieces, 4 musical compositions, 1 documentary film

34



Mature oaks in the gardens

1,437



Guests at Carved and Enchanted

174,756



Acres wandered by visitors

80

538 Volunteers completed

19,391 Hours of service



Owls released at the garden after rehabilitation

3



Visits to the garden

1,000,000+



Number of trail cameras set up

25



Miles pollen traveled to pollinate a cycad in the Ancient Forest

2,450



Miniature llamas that showed up at Descanso Railroad

1



Seeds of Belonging

Thanks to the generosity of our donors and supporters, we provide free admission and programs that welcome more people into the gardens and foster meaningful connections with nature.

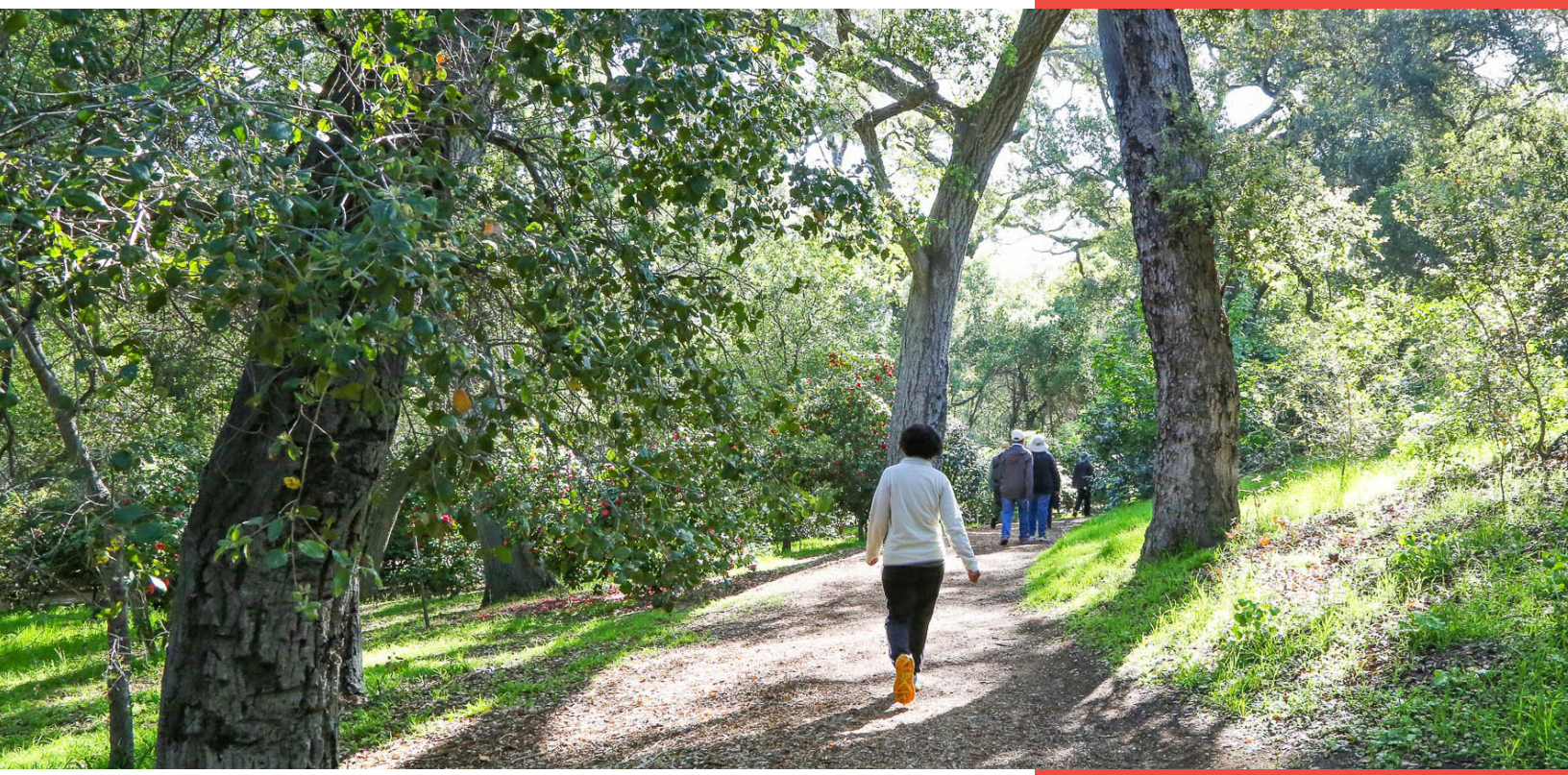
In 2025, more than 100,000 guests visited for free, including EBT cardholders, students, educators, and military personnel. With extended daylight hours, we remained open until 7 p.m., making it easier for people to visit after the workday.

We are also committed to ensuring the gardens are accessible to all. All buildings and many pathways accommodate visitors with mobility needs. Wheelchairs are available to borrow, and a tram provides access to gallery spaces. Looking ahead, our Master Plan includes expanding ADA-accessible paths and walkways to create an even more inclusive experience.

71,828
Free admissions

19,606
EBT cardholders

10,265
Field trip participants



Nurturing Connection

As students wander through the garden, they experience nature in ways that feel new and exciting—often very different from what they see at school or at home. They might discover a bird's nest tucked high in a tree or watch how tiny seedlings slowly grow into towering oaks. Moments like these spark curiosity, inspire wonder, and help students build a meaningful connection with the natural world.

At Descanso, we're proud to offer free field trips that give students the chance to explore and learn through these firsthand experiences. Our programs are designed to encourage curiosity, discovery, and a sense of adventure beyond the classroom, helping young visitors develop a lasting appreciation for nature.

Through these free field trips, the gardens welcomed 10,265 students and adults—many from Title I schools. To support learning before and after each visit, our education team provided lesson plans and expanded resources for both guided and self-guided experiences. We also helped more than 700 students attend by providing transportation.



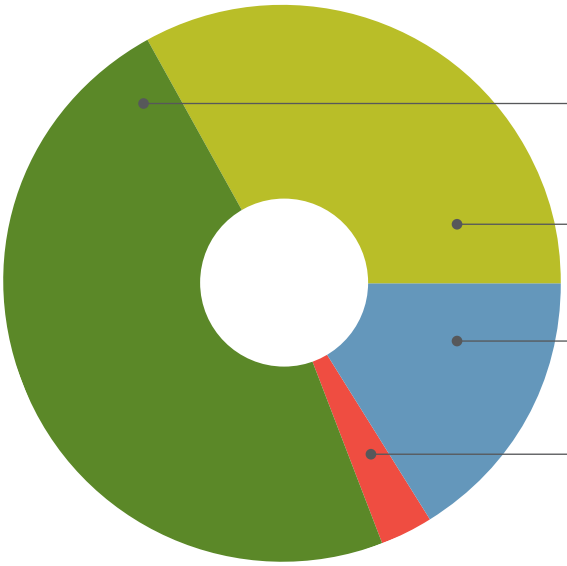
We know that travel costs can make it difficult for some schools to participate, so we've partnered with Dwight Stuart Youth Fund and State of California Natural Resources Agency to help cover busing and transportation—making these opportunities more accessible to more students.

Beyond school field trips, we also hosted four free days for homeschool families, welcoming 1,677 children and their instructors. With activity guides and educational resources in hand, participants were able to explore and connect with nature at their own pace.

We also bring together art and nature through programs such as *My Masterpieces: Discovering Art in My Community*, a collaboration with the Pasadena Unified School District, the Pasadena Educational Foundation, and local cultural partners. As part of this program, Descanso offers a special experience for second-grade students that blends nature exploration with artmaking. It's a chance for students to build creativity, strengthen observation skills, and develop visual literacy. In 2024, 451 students took part in this inspiring program.

For the complete 2025 audited financial report, visit descansogardens.org.

Revenue



Admissions 48%
$9,147,686

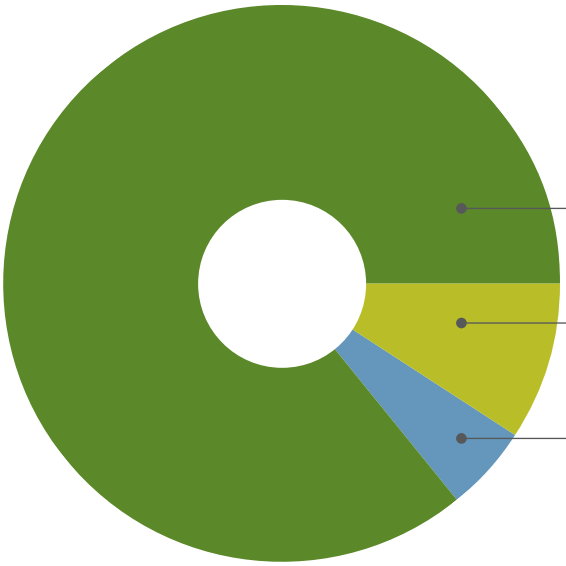
Contributions & Memberships 33%
$6,142,056

Sales, Rentals & Programs 16%
$3,075,314

Other Income* 3%
$545,746

Total Revenue $18,910,802

Expenses



Programs 86%
$16,496,810

Administrative 9%
$1,731,852

Fundraising 5%
$1,059,016

Total Expenses $19,287,678

*Other includes management fee from LA County.

2025 Board of Directors

Brad Schwartz, *Board Chair*
Sandra Mays, *Vice Chair*
Marie Queen, *Treasurer*
Lovell Holder, *Secretary*
Milene Apanian
Ara Aslanian
Dr. Dimple Bhasin
Diane Binney
William Choi
Darcy Coleman
Paige Farmer
Laura Furey
Blythe Haaga Parker
Jane Haderlein
Christy Hobart
Wendy Lees
Jim Levin
Ian McCarthy
Ann Murphy
Laura Olhasso
Patsy Pinney
Linda Segal
Hope Tschopik Schneider
Scott Sugino
Karl Swaidan
Jacob Tujian
Clarissa Weirick
Juliann Rooke *(Ex Officio Trustee)*
Chief Executive Officer, Descanso Gardens

2025 Senior Management

Juliann Rooke
Chief Executive Officer

Somer Sherwood-White
Chief Advancement Officer

Emi Yoshimura
Chief Operations and Administration Officer

Keith Chandler
Director of Guest Experience

Marina Erfle
Director of Education and Exhibitions

Jennifer Errico
Director of Communications and Membership

Kelly Fernandez
Director of Horticulture and Facilities

David Bare
Director of Horticulture and Garden Operations
(Through June 2025)

Lina Swislocki
Director of Education & Public Programs
(Through October 2025)

The future taking root

At Descanso, our mission is simple: to connect people with nature and with one another. Thanks to the generosity of our members, supporters, and community, that vision continues to grow and thrive.

As we look ahead, we are focused on ensuring that this growth is sustainable, that access to green space continues to expand, and that the gardens are preserved for generations to come. Guiding this work is our comprehensive Master Plan, a long-term vision for enhancing the visitor experience, strengthening environmental stewardship, and deepening opportunities for learning and connection.

To bring this vision to life, we launched the Campaign for Descanso—an ambitious effort to invest in the gardens' future. This campaign invites our members, donors, and friends to play a vital role in shaping what comes next.

Bringing the community together

We are proud to share that several key projects in the first phase were completed before 2025. These include the Membrane Bioreactor, which supports sustainable water management; The Market, which enhances the visitor experience; the Descanso Railroad; and the Ruth Borun Nursery and Propagation Center. Each of these projects





strengthens our ability to serve our community while caring for the natural environment.

In 2025, Farmhouse opened. This farm-to-table dining experience is a cornerstone of the guest experience, inviting visitors to deepen their relationship with the natural world through exceptional food rooted in sustainability and local agriculture.

We also made significant progress toward the next phase of development. Planning and preparation for three major projects—The Stormwater Capture Project, the Nature Discovery Garden, and the Lake Restoration—are progressing, with all having broken ground in 2026. In 2025 we also started work on the Camellia Forest Trail.

Water capture and fire suppression solutions

The Stormwater Capture Project represents a major step toward sustainability, while also strengthening regional emergency preparedness.

After the 2025 Eaton Fire, Descanso saw an opportunity to make the stormwater and lake projects a fire-suppression resource for the region. These two projects together are designed to collect over 20 million gallons of water annually and hold 3 million gallons at any one time. The project was redesigned so that fire trucks can quickly access 1.5 million gallons from our underground cistern through a series of special fast-fill fire hydrants, and helicopters can access 1.5 million gallons of water from the lake.



In addition to these public safety benefits, The Stormwater Capture Project will take water from the Winery Canyon Channel, then treat and store it for reuse. Reducing the amount of water the gardens need to purchase by up to 50 percent, transforming runoff into a sustainable irrigation source.

The Nature Discovery Garden will offer a vibrant, three-acre space designed for exploration, play, and learning. Featuring water elements, climbing structures, quiet spaces for reflection, and a sensory garden with a learning pavilion.

The Lake Restoration project will revitalize one of Descanso's most iconic features. In addition to improving visitor access and restoring wildlife habitat, the project will strengthen long-term water management and wetland preservation.

Another milestone is the completion of the Camellia Forest Trail, which opened in early 2026. This reimagined landscape honors the camellia's central role in Descanso's history while celebrating the individuals who helped shape it. The new entrance pays tribute to Francis Miyosaku (FM) Uyematsu, a pioneering Japanese American nurseryman whose contributions to camellia cultivation were foundational to Descanso's collection. The trail also features camellias from Nuccio's Nurseries, a multigenerational Altadena business with a long history of cultivating exceptional plants.

Together, these efforts represent an exciting future for Descanso—one rooted in stewardship, inclusivity, and connection. With the continued support of our community, we are building a garden that will inspire, educate, and welcome visitors for generations to come.

Thank you for supporting The Campaign for Descanso

Adams Legacy Foundation
Marilyn Allen
American Endowment Foundation
Anna and Harry Borun Foundation
Amgen Foundation
Milene and Nazo Apanian
Stephanie Arakaki
Richard and Erin Atwater
Ayco Charitable Foundation Andrea and Paul Backes
Teresa Baldonado
Bank of America
Sue Beatty
Michele Beaty
Margaret Bee
Lorri Biasi
Catherine Biondi
Nancy Borun and Robin Bausch
Johanna and Robert Budman
Maureen Burch and Morley Male
The Charles H. Cahill Charitable Fund
California Community Foundation
California Wellness Foundation
Dr. Claire Cavallaro
Raissa and Bill Choi
Ana Collisson
John and Linda D'Angona
Sandi Davis
Molly and Doug Dell'omo
Christopher and Diane Dixon
Lady and Ben Edwards
Kathleen and Patrick Feely
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Gary Finer and Gina Bonino
Doug and Claudia Forbes
The Franke Family
Laura and Mark Furey
Elizabeth Gee
Melissa and Mark Gerard
Steve Goby and Angela Sierra
Nel Graham
John and Sheri Gray
Heather Sturt Haaga and Paul G. Haaga, Jr.
Sue and Max Habuni
Cam Hall and Doug Spitznagel
Craig Hamilton
High Temp Metals
Christy Hobart
Lovell Holder
The Hole Family
Daryn and William Horton
Karen Howard
J.P. Morgan Charitable Giving Fund
Ed and Susan Johnson
Kathryn Johnson
Alan and Amy Karbelnig
Katie King and Torrey Sun
Kathleen Kovalcik and Michael Weinberger
Eileen Lau
Wendy Lees and Tom Boyle
James Levin and Sarah Mac Dowall
Christine Levine
Mike and Andrea Lichtman
Lucia and Ben Logan
Jane Lurie
Lynn Marks
Gayle Marshall
Rick and Joelle Martinez
Sandra Mays and John Marshall
Kristy and Ian McCarthy
Kathleen and Rex McDaniel
Charles and Dorian Meehan
Peggy Miller
Cathy Mires
Mitchell Foundation For Nature
Ann Mitchell
Morgan Stanley Gift Fund
Wendy Munger and Leonard Gumport
Ann and Peter Murphy
Lila Nastro
Florence Nelson and Terence Cuff
William and Laura Olhasso
Gary Olson
Mary Olson
Pasadena Community Foundation
Blythe Haaga Parker and Tyler Parker
Roger Patterson and Toni LeBel
The Pinney Family
Marie and John Queen
Barclay Quinn
Renaissance Charitable Foundation
Tanja Reutimann
Meredith and Tom Reynold
Pauline Riley
Ydameh Roig and David Montanez
The Rolbin and Katz family
The Rooke Family
Eileen and Richard Rose
Daniel and Lisa Rubino
John Ruck
Schwab Charitable
Hope Tschopik Schneider
Brad and Victoria Schwartz
Linda and Peter Segal
Somer Sherwood-White and Jeff White
Dr. Lisa Sievers
Robert E. and Wilhelmina B. Smith
Maribeth and Gregg Spensiero
Laura Stotler
Frank and Catherine Sulzberger Kathy and Karl Swaidan
Wade Thoma
Jackie Rae and Dan Tracey
Bruce Tsurutani
Tamar and Jacob Tujian
Vanguard Charitable
Francyne Vezina
Donald Voss
Warner Bros. Discovery
David and L. Weeshoff
Clarissa and Bradford Weirick Jennifer and Kurt Weissmuller Frances Westbrook
Carolyn Young and Gary Oberholtz
Stephen and Jennifer Zapp
and those who wish to remain anonymous

Thank you to our public funders

California Wildlife Conservation Board
Wade Crowfoot, Secretary for Natural Resources
Los Angeles County Flood Control District's Safe, Clean Water Program
GAVIN Newsom, Governor
Armando Quintero, Director, California Department of Parks and Recreation
State of California Department of Parks and Recreation

Thank you for your tremendous support

Annual giving in the form of memberships, donations, grants, sponsorships, and other contributions is vital for our mission and ensures the gardens' sustainability for the future.

$500,000+

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

$100,000+

Gary Olson
Perenchio Foundation
The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation
Brad and Victoria Schwartz
Kathy and Karl Swaidan
and those who wish to remain anonymous

$50,000+

Capital Group
The Hole Family
Edward and Susan Johnson
Peggy Miller
Blythe Haaga Parker and Tyler Parker
Marie and John Queen
Juliann Rooke
Hope Tschopik Schneider

$25,000+

The Betty Bazar Foundation
Margaret Leong and Michael Checca
Victoria Degtyareva and Michael Bateman
Laura and Mark Furey
Charles Irvin
Linda Laine
Wendy Lees and Tom Boyle
James Levin and Sarah Mac Dowall
Cynthie and Joe Martin
William and Laura Olhasso
Pasadena Community Foundation
S.S. Russin Living Trust
Heather Sturt Haaga and Paul Haaga
The Kresser Foundation
Gertraud von Sieber
Clarissa and Bradford Weirick

$10,000+

Milene and Nazo Apanian
Richard and Erin Atwater
Kathryn Barger, 5th District Supervisor, County of Los Angeles
Blue Ridge Academy
Kim and Ginger Caldwell
Callie D. McGrath Foundation
Richard and Bonnie Cook
Tanice and Vincent Corti
Kathleen Donahue
Dwight Stuart Youth Fund
Flora L. Thornton Foundation
Doug and Claudia Forbes
Mitchell Foundation For Nature
Nel Graham
Greater Los Angeles Education Foundation
Beth Hakes
Alan and Amy Karbelnig
Lucia and Ben Logan
MacTon Foundation
Sandra Mays and John Marshall
Ann Mitchell
Ann and Peter Murphy
Nuccio's Nurseries, Inc.
POMS Risk Control & Insurance
The Rose Hills Foundation
Linda and Peter Segal
James and Jieun Son
Jennifer Wieland
Craig and Melissa Wilson

$5,000+

Susan and Dennis Baker
Martha and Barry Berkett
Sandy Blasingame Hall
Anoosheh Bostani
Bill and Raissa Choi
Madeline Cripe
Bryant and Judith Danner
Etro Fashion USA Inc.
Sam and Paige Farmer
Kathy and Patrick Feely
The Wilson Family
Kathrine and Nick Grosvenor
Jane and Steve Haderlein
Christy Hobart
Van Hohman and Susan Goldsmith
Lovell Holder
Janet Hotchkin
Ruth and Jeremy Jones
Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture
Kristy and Ian McCarthy
Stephanie and Greg McLemore
Vieve Metcalfe and Jay Holladay
Pasadena Art Alliance
Patsy and William Pinney
Kimberly Raisani
David Rolbin
Ned and Shirley Russell
Joyce and Reid Samuelson
Skeehan & Young, CPA
Lisa and Timothy Sloan
Scott and Narai Sugino
Tamar and Jacob Tujian
Donald Voss
and those who wish to remain anonymous

$1,000+

Betsy and Andy Ackerman
Julie Ann Acosta
Christine Adams
Marilyn Allen
Barbara Aran and Lawrence Hawley
Donna Arcaro
Susan Arcidiacono and Robert Mills
Ara and Karine Aslanian
Dawn Baillie
Erin and Jeremy Baker
Ann Barrett
David and Julie Battaglia
Sue Beatty



Carol and Terry Becker
Theresa Beland
Garrett Bell and Catherine Simms
Dimple Bhasin and Ben Pradhan
Diane Binney and Mike Brown
Andrew and Flora Birdzell
Sheri Bonner and Mark Mastromatteo
Nancy Boxwell
Elizabeth and James Bray
Judith Brown
Martha and Michael Brown
Maureen Burch and Morley Male
Susan and Craig Burger
Michael and Tania Cahill
Marlene G. Calaway Trust
Frank and Margaret Campbell
Therese Carrabine
Sean Chavez
Esther Chicaferro and David Hall
Citizens Business Bank
Darcy Coleman
Christie Crahan
Kelly and Christopher Davis
Edwina and David Dedlow
Jane and Patrick Delahanty
Stephanie and Leo Dencik
Brock Dewey
Lise and Chip Dewey
The Diggers Garden Club Pasadena
Chris Douglass
Lady and Ben Edwards
Frederick Elsea
Trish and Luke Esselen
Nancy Foehner and Lane Ochi
The Barnes Family Foundation
Grant Frederick and Denise Hagan
Rodney Freeman and
Lauren Goldberg Freeman
Mary Gant
Georgina Garcia and Juan Maldonado
Allyson and Frederick Gartside
Nora and Gary Gausman
Dennis and Susan Gertmenian
Gracella Gibbs and Gene Wilcott
Stephen and Linda Gill
Gladys Campbell Charitable Trust
Ryan Godfrey
Christine and Richard Goetz
Jane Gordon and Dennis Levitt
Amy Gutierrez and Sherwin Dela Cruz
Don and Denise Hahn
Catherine and Tom Hamburger
L. Hanami
Dave and Tracy Hansen
David and Katherine Hensley
Beth Higbee
Dr. Marsha Hirano-Nakanishi and
Tom Nakanishi
Richard and Tracy Hirrel
Gary and Kay Holmen
Karen Howard
Jane and Paul Hufnagel
Thomas and Christine Hulick
Ursula Hyman
Barbara Jameson
Jessica Jamieson
Emily Jarvis-Hoag and Andrew Hoag
Debra and Tracy Jeandron
Peter Jensen and Mary Ann McGovern
Karleen Jones
Kimberly Kaspari
Margo and Alex Katz
Christine Kaul
Katie King and Torrey Sun
Shirley and Matt Kirby
Mark Kolokotrones
Marlene Konnar and John Baldeschwieler
Kathleen Kovalcik and Michael Weinberger
Adina Kraim
Jane and Douglas Krech
La Canada Pet Clinic
Lena and Mark Labowe
Richard Lambert
Steve and Penny Ledbetter
Edward and Daniela Lesnansky
Roberta Liao and Chris Rivas
Linda Long
Betty Ma and John Pipia
Roma and Tom Mahrer
Remon and Sahira Marootian
Barbara Marshall
MaxMara
Ila Mcclure and Eddie Perales
Nicholas and Toni McCreary
Ted and Betsy Merchant
Bruce and Valerie Merritt
Carolyn Metcalf
Sharon Mintie Miller and Mark Miller
Steen V. Mitchell and Sue Dockstader
Karen Muller and Joshua Mancell
Dan Munger
Terri Murray
Nancy Myers
Don Nakanishi

Lila Nastro
Mary and Marvin Nelson
George and Muriel Newell
Michael and Sonia Newell
Dana and Edward Newman
Frank O'Dea
Asako and Kosuke Otaki
The Pasadena Garden Club
Mary Petit
Brandee Pierce
Laurie and Craig Poindexter
Katie and Chris Poole
Frances and Charles Porter
Sharon Ramage and Steve Wagner
Tom Reynolds
Eric and Laurie Rodli
Dinah Ruch
Nanci Saling
Joan Saperstein
Rhonda Saunders
Jeff Schultz
Lou Scolnik and Joy Masoff
Michael and Deborah Scott
Somer Sherwood-White and Jeff White
Kendra Simon
Cam Hall and Doug Spitznagel
Brenda and Walter Stevenson
Judith Stroh
Jennifer and Steven Taw
Karen and Nicholas Taylor
Amber Thomas
Brian and Shari Thomas
Tracy and Keith Tobias
Teresa Todaro and Dennis Bruce
Len Torres and Anita Brenner
Toni Tosello
Scott and Mary Tracy
Bruce Tsurutani
Tsutayo Ichioka & Satsuki Nakao Charitable Foundation
Betsey Tyler
Allison and Peter Viehl
Mary Villar
Adele and Gerard Walsh
Warner Bros. Discovery
David and L. Weeshoff
Jill and Eric Weinlein
Diane Wemple Baxa and William Baxa
Stephen Wolleck
Gary and Evangeline Wong
Anita Yagjian
Mike and Alice Zrodlo
and those who wish to remain anonymous

$500+

Clyde and Dawn Alandy
Joan Anderson
John Arcia and Leann Kruse-Arcia
Bank of America
Erica Bashaw and Manzer Ghaznavi
Scott and Sharon Bateman
Cynthia Bedoy
Leah Bishop
Spike and Debbe Booth
Linda Borgeson and Jeff Leake
Margot Bricker
Janice and Thom Brown
Kim and Ted Budge
Noramay Cadena
Kathy Cairo
Vanessa Calderon
Sheila Callison and Matt Sneddon
Kent and Laurie Candelora
Peter Carlson
Carol and David Carlson
Elaine Chapin and Mike Fitzsimmons
James and Francine Chapman
Angie Charky
Ann Choe
Caroline and Dean Conklin
Jennifer Dall
Lisa Day
Linda and Larry DeBoer
Ann Devereaux and Michael Levesque
Douglas Dewolf
Nannette Diacovo
Christopher and Diane Dixon
Alexander Donner
Kay and John Downing
Sheila Eaton
Mary and Zulema Eckenrod
Chris and Cheryl Ecker
Kathi and Ken Ellis
Jilanne Fager
Rita Fernandez
Elysia Figueroa
Richard and Cynthia Foullon
Nathan Funaro
Caitlin Gallogly
Richard Garibaldi
Christie Garrett
Jim Garrison
Michelle and Mike Gavigan
Glenn and Doreen Gee
Louis and Hattie Giambalvo
Ruth and Richard Goldstein
Nora Gordon
Cornelia and Edward Gould
Martha and Guadalupe Granados
John and Sheri Gray
Hilary and Lee Gregg
Glenn and Merrily Gumpel
Jon Hall
Craig Hamilton
Elizabeth Hansen
Hannelore Heer
Michael Hernandez
Felicia Hicks
Heidi Hood
Micah Jones
Nelson Jones
Stephanie and Jim Kambe
Sue and Jim Kaufman
W C. Kelly
Philip Kenney
Michael Kirley
Christina Kremer
Ambitions California, Inc.
Kathryn Lambert
Toni LeBel and Roger Patterson
Mary Legallet
Diane Levine
Li Chu Lin
Warren and Cathy Line
Erica Loewe-Lake and Michael Lake
Douglas Loewy
Karla Loreto
Ann Mang
Barbara Masters
Carlin and David McCarthy
David and Elizabeth McFadzean
Lisa McGuinness and Jay Japlit
Gerald Minter
Edith Morrow
Jennifer Mullen
Molly Munger and Stephen English
Kathryn Murray
Patrick Nulty
Frank Obregon
Roland Pasion and Maria Sy-Pasion
Barry Peterson
Janice Petty

Susan Phifer
Robert and Norma Placensia
Carol Pollock
Doris Popoff
John Pratte and Mia Valles
Natalia Premovic and Zlata Zivovic
James and Patricia Rabe
Sidney Ramos
Elizabeth and Scott Ranger
Ilene and Robert Rivera
Peter Robinson and Buffy Shutt
Rigoberto Rodriguez and Jacob Gipsman
David and Dawn Rose
Pat Ross
Don and Jane Royer
John Ruck
Dina Saalisi
Deborah Saxe
Elizabeth and Gregory Schetina
Fred and Lori Schneider
Christian Schrader
Erika Schultz
Rachel Shaddy
Conni and Don Siminski
Eveline Siracuse and Melissa Cash
Robert Small
Taylor Steinbacher
Sarina and Christopher Stogel
Pamela Stumbaugh
Frank and Catherine Sulzberger
Anna and Scott Swanson
Jennifer Swanson
Catherine Tanous
Laney Techentin
Tracy Tempest
Alan and Helga Thomsen
Linda Tonai
Toni Torres
Kim and Robert Valencia
Leslie and Nancy Waite
Marie-Luise Ward
Edward Watson and Pam Warner
Frances Westbrook
Jerry and Cynthia White
Ned Wilson and Carrie Yutzy
Erica Wirtz
Julia Witter
John and Nancy Wolhaupter
Michael and Mary Yoshimura
Carrie Yutzy and Ned Wilson
Claudia and Gary Zentmyer



Laura Zive
Albert and Teresa Zobrist

Legacy Society

Caron A. Allen Living Trust
Robert H. Barbarin
The Lauren Gaither Bryant Trust
Estate of Joanne Burns
The Willard H. and Sallie M. Brink Trust
David and Judith Brown
Arthur Cable Living Trust
Marlene G. Callaway Trust
Estate of Suzanne Copeland
Anita Jane Davis
The Detoy Family Trust
Ertel Family Trust
Richard N. Frank Living Trust
Waltraut Fehrmann Trust
Doug and Claudia Forbes
Elizabeth Gee
Gondek Trust
Stephen and Virginia Grubb Trust
Heather Sturt Haaga and Paul G. Haaga Jr.
Marlene and Marshall Hall
Craig Hamilton
Hastings Family Trust
In Honor of Elizabeth Quinn Hein
Jenny Januszewski and Mitchell Mendoza
Edward and Susan Johnson
Russel W. Justice Jr.
Jacqueline D. Little
Paul and JoAnn McBride
Elizabeth Crawford McMurray
Vieve Metcalfe and Jay Holladay
George "Buddy" Moss
Lilly G. Paddock
Michael A. Parga
Susan Redpath
Janet and Paul Rodgers
Ruth-Ann Rohman Trust
S.S. Russin Living Trust
Elsie and John Sadler
Hope Tschopik Schneider
Richard Schulhof and Sandy Goodenough
Robert E. and Wilhelmina B. Smith Revocable Trust
Bruce Tsurutani
Winnie and Card Walker
The Phyllis Muriel Wallace 2016 Trust
Thelma Warren
Somer Sherwood-White and Jeff White
and those who wish to remain anonymous

Members of Perennial Circle support Descanso at the highest levels of membership. They are invited to exclusive year-round events, talks, walks, and other special opportunities to deepen their connection to the gardens.

Oak Circle
$25,000

Heather Sturt Haaga and Paul G. Haaga, Jr.
Margaret Leong and Michael Checca

Camellia Circle
$10,000

Susan and Dennis Baker
Kim and Ginger Caldwell
Tanice and Vincent Corti
John D'Angona
Doug and Claudia Forbes

Rose Circle
$5,000

Frederic Anthony
Sandy Blasingame Hall
Bill and Raissa Choi
Bryant and Judith Danner
Kathleen and Patrick Feely
Georgina Fernando and Steven Wilson
Nel Graham
Van Hohman and Susan Goldsmith
Ruth and Jeremy Jones
Wendy Lees and Tom Boyle
Lucia and Ben Logan
James Levin and Sarah Mac Dowall
Stephanie and Greg McLemore
Ann and Peter Murphy
Rick Neumann
Kimberly Raisani
Susan Redpath
Ned and Shirley Russell
Joyce and Reid Samuelson
Diana Singleton
James and Jieun Son
Don Voss
William and Noel Wade

Lilac Circle
$2,000

Ara and Karine Aslanian
Erin and Jeremy Baker
Sue Beatty
Elizabeth and James Bray
Frank and Margaret Campbell
Christie Crahan
Kelly and Christopher Davis
Nancy Foehner and Lane Ochi
Dennis and Susan Gertmenian
Stephen and Linda Gill
Jane and Steve Haderlein
David and Katherine Hensley
Christy Hobart
Lovell Holder
Karen Howard
Ursula Hyman
Debra and Tracy Jeandron
Katie King and Torrey Sun
Jane and Douglas Krech
David and Kay Linden
Linda Long
Mary and Richard Mader
Sandra Mays and John Marshall
Donna Melby
Ted and Betsy Merchant
Karen Muller and Joshua Mancell
William and Laura Olhasso
Blythe Haaga Parker and Tyler Parker
Patsy and William Pinney
Juliann Rooke
Hope Tschopik Schneider
Linda and Peter Segal
Bill and Carol Stafford
Brian and Shari Thomas
Bruce Tsurutani
James and Mitzi Walters
Clarissa and Bradford Weirick
Anita Yagjian

Poppy Circle
$1,000

Betsy and Andy Ackerman
Julie Ann Acosta
Christine Adams
Milene and Nazo Apanian
Barbara Aran and Lawrence Hawley
Donna Arcaro
Richard and Erin Atwater
John Bacich
Dawn Baillie
Ann Barrett
Diane Wemple Baxa and William Baxa
Carol and Terry Becker
Theresa Beland
Dimple Bhasin and Ben Pradhan
Diane Binney and Mike Brown
Sheri Bonner and Mark Mastromatteo
Nancy Boxwell
Martha and Michael Brown
Judith Brown
Maureen Burch and Morley Male
Michael and Tania Cahill
Kathy Cairo
Therese Carrabine
Sean Chavez
Esther Chicaferro and David Hall
David Choi
Renee Cline
John Clisham and Lu Kondor
Darcy Coleman
Richard and Bonnie Cook
Stephanie Courtney and Scott Kolanach
Edwina and David Dedlow
Jane and James Delahanty
Stephanie and Leo Dencik
Zooey Deschanel
Brock Dewey
Lise and Chip Dewey
Chris Douglass
Lady and Ben Edwards
Frederick Elsea

Trish and Luke Esselen
Sam and Paige Farmer
Grant Frederick and Denise Hagan
Rodney Freeman and
Lauren Goldberg Freeman
Laura and Mark Furey
Mary Gant
Georgina Garcia and Juan Maldonado
Allyson and Frederick Gartside
Gracella Gibbs and Gene Wilcott
Christine and Richard Goetz
Jane Gordon and Dennis Levitt
Hugh Gordon
Kathrine and Nick Grosvenor
Amy Gutierrez and Sherwin Dela Cruz
Don and Denise Hahn
Cam Hall and Doug Spitznagel
Francine Hanberg
Edward Helms and Sarah Bastian
Richard and Tracy Hirrel
Jane and Paul Hufnagel
Thomas and Christine Hulick
Barbara Jameson
Jessica Jamieson
Emily Jarvis-Hoag and Andrew Hoag
Edward and Susan Johnson
Melissa Jones
Christine Kaul
Harvey and Ellen Knell
Mark Kolokotrones
Marlene Konnar and John Baldeschwieler
Kathleen Kovalcik and Michael Weinberger
Amy and David Lamb
Richard Lambert
Rebecca and Howard Learner
Roberta Liao and Chris Rivas
Betty Ma and John Pipia
Roma and Tom Mahrer
Barbara Marshall
Carolyn Martin and Mark Pedowitz
Kristy and Ian McCarthy
Nicholas and Toni McCreary
Bruce and Valerie Merritt



Carolyn Metcalf
Peggy Miller
Robert Mills and Susan Arcidiacono
Sharon Mintie Miller and Mark Miller
Steen V Mitchell and Sue Dockstader
Wendy Munger and Leonard Gumport
Terri Murray
Mary and Marvin Nelson
George and Muriel Newell
Michael and Sonia Newell
Dana and Edward Newman
Frank O'Dea
Gary Olson
Barbara and Charles Osburn
Asako and Kosuke Otaki
Mary Petit
Katie and Chris Poole
Frances and Charles Porter
Marie and John Queen
Sharon Ramage and Steve Wagner
Steven Rosen
Dinah Ruch
Ann Russo
Maggie and Kenneth Sabbag
Naoyuki Saito
Joan Saperstein
Brad and Victoria Schwartz
Lou Scolnik and Joy Masoff
Michael and Deborah Scott
Somer Sherwood-White and Jeff White
Garrett Bell and Catherine Simms
Kendra Simon
Scott and Narai Sugino
Kathleen and Karl Swaidan
Yassaman Tarazkar
Vickie and Alex Taylor
Tracy and Keith Tobias
Len Torres and Anita Brenner
Toni Tosello
Scott and Mary Tracy
Tamar and Jacob Tujian
Betsey Tyler
Elizabeth Ugarte and Thomas Magee
Claire Versales
Allison and Peter Viehl
Mary Villar
Lena and Chris Waldheim
Woody and Terry Walker
Adele and Gerard Walsh
Jill and Eric Weinlein
James and Carole Weling
Karen and Robert Wicke
Stephen Wolleck
Gary and Evangeline Wong
Traci Young
Mike and Alice Zrodlo

Thank you to our sponsors whose contributions make possible a variety of events and programs, and who provide year-round support for Descanso.

Enchanted Forest of Light Sponsors

Luminous Sponsor
The Betty Bazar Foundation

Magical Sponsors
Heather Sturt Haaga and Paul Haaga Jr.
James Levin and Sarah Mac Dowall
Peggy Miller
Ann and Peter Murphy
Brad and Vicki Schwartz
Jessica and Lisa Son

Dazzling Sponsors
Kathryn Barger, 5th District Supervisor, County of Los Angeles
Margaret Leong Checca and Michael Checca
Citizens Business Bank
Construction Law, Inc.
Elsie, Lyle and Les Cripe
Grosvenor Family
Janet Hotchkin
POMS Risk Control & Insurance
Marie and John Queen
Linda and Peter Segal
Skeehan & Young, CPA
Kathy and Karl Swaidan
Tamar and Jacob Tujian
and those who wish to remain anonymous

Sparkling Sponsors
Karine and Ara Aslanian
Atwater Family
Sandy Blasingame
Laura and Mark Furey
Christy Hobart
Lovell Holder
Wendy Lees and Tom Boyle
Sandra Mays and John Marshall
Laura and Bill Olhasso
Juliann Rooke
Hope Tschopik Schneider
Karen and Nick Taylor
U.S. Bank Private Wealth Management
Donald Voss
Clarissa and Brad Weirick

Twinkling Sponsors
AnyKey Consulting
Dimple Bhasin and Ben Pradhan
Diane Binney and Mike Brown
Paige and Sam Farmer
Jane and Steve Haderlein
Kimberly Kaspari
Edward and Daniela Lesnansky
Lucia and Ben Logan
Roma and Tom Mahrer
Kristy and Ian McCarthy
Robert and Susan Mills
Brandee Pierce and Mary McGrath
Laurie and Craig Poindexter
Nanci S.
Rhonda B. Saunders
Jeff Schultz
Somer Sherwood-White and Jeff White
and those who wish to remain anonymous



Corporate & Community In-kind Sponsors

California School of the Arts – San Gabriel Valley
The Flashdance

Tribute Sponsors

Bench Sponsors

Victoria Degtyareva and Michael Bateman (In memory of Anna Degtyareva)
Kathleen Donahue (In memory of Craig Donahue)
Charles Irvin (In memory of Wendy Charles Acey and Robert Acey)
Linda Laine (In memory of Jean Laine)
Cynthie and Joe Martin (In memory of Marilynn Ann Sauer)
Gertraud von Sieber (In honor of Gertraud and Henry von Sierber)

Cherry Tree Sponsors

Annette Brandin
Dan Choe
Frederick Elsea
Gary and Nora Gausman
Cheryl Gossett and Roland Starkey
L. Hanami
Dr. Marsha Hirano-Nakanishi and Tom Nakanishi
Karleen Jones
Dan Munger
Judith Stroh

Blooming Bed Sponsors

Erica Bashaw and Manzer Ghaznavi
The Berkett Family
Vanessa Calderon
Peter Carlson



Esther Chicaferro and David Hall
Darcy Coleman
Nannette Diacovo
Elysia Figueroa
Ryan Godfrey
Jon Hall
Elizabeth Hansen
Emily Jarvis-Hoag and Andrew Hoag
Charles Irvin
Barbara Jameson
Nelson Jones
Kimberly Kaspari
Steve and Penny Ledbetter
Gerald A. Minter
Mary Petit
Deborah Saxe
Erika Schultz
Taylor Steinbacher
Jennifer Swanson
Tracy Tempest
Alan and Helga Thomsen
Toni Torres
Anne Wilkerson
Erica Wirtz
Laura Zive
Albert and Teresa Zobris

Legacy Gifts Received

Vieve Metcalfe and Jay Holladay
Ruth-Ann Rohman Trust
S.S. Russin Living Trust

In-Kind Gifts

Nuccio's Nurseries
Frank Obregon
Somer Sherwood-White and Jeff White
Conni and Don Siminski



1418 Decanso Drive
La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011
descansogardens.org
818.952.4391

Descanso Gardens