



The **ARNOLD**
ARBORETUM
of HARVARD UNIVERSITY

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*William (Ned) Friedman, Director
and Arnold Professor of Organismic
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October 2023

Dear Friend,

Fiscal year 2023 was a banner year for the Arnold Arboretum in many respects, and I'm pleased to share information on the progress, planning, and financial health of the institution with you and all our supporters. As I reflect on our achievements over the past year and look ahead to our ambitious plans for 2024, I am deeply inspired by all that we have achieved together for the Arboretum and its community. Thank you for your role in preserving and moving forward this iconic landscape.

You might recall that last year, as part of the celebrations of the 150th anniversary of our founding, we presented an ambitious vision for the future of the Arnold Arboretum focused on two main themes: **renewing our commitments to promoting equity in our landscape and combating global change and extinction in the plant world**. This past year we launched our entrance improvement project, a key element in our effort to make the Arboretum more welcoming and more responsive to the millions of visitors who come through our entrances each year. As Boston's first and finest free cultural institution, we remain steadfast in our commitment to promoting health, learning, and happiness for all in our landscape. We also made significant progress on several other fronts:

- **Staff Leadership**—Our Public Programs and Horticulture departments gained new directors, essential roles in fulfilling our mission and determining how our landscape welcomes and engages the visiting public.
- **Collections**—We completed the second phase of our comprehensive plan to install emergency irrigation throughout our landscape by protecting over 60 acres of collections on Peters Hill. In addition, our horticulture team prepped and planted nearly 430 new trees, shrubs, and vines and ensured the highest level of horticulture and conservation across our 281 acres over spring, summer, and fall.
- **Scholarship**—Rebounding from the pandemic, our curation department and research labs welcomed scholars from all over the world to conduct their investigations at the Arboretum, including our first Global Change Postdoctoral Fellow.

These achievements were made possible entirely by philanthropy. The generosity of past supporters, along with present members and donors like you, keeps the Arboretum growing and making greater impact. An influx of capital giving inspired by our banner anniversary year has begun fueling our transformative plans for the 21st century. Historically, current philanthropy has accounted for just four to nine percent of our income, but fundraising in support of our sesquicentennial vision increased this share to 17% this year. We are grateful for this boost in support and the confidence it represents in our values and aspirations.

Maintaining our financial momentum in 2024 will allow us to pursue additional advances toward our vision. This includes projects such as planning the third and final phase of our emergency drought mitigation infrastructure, beginning work on renovations of the Poplar Gate Entrance on Peters Hill, pursuing designs to create a South Street Connector boardwalk in the Bussey Brook Meadow, and mapping out a new program for horticultural education at the high school level. As the largest redesign within the landscape since Sargent and Olmsted unfolds, we will also strive to increase our commitment to the care and stewardship of our collections and the sustainability of our operations both today and for future generations.

Your commitment to the Arnold Arboretum helps us to improve life in Boston and contribute to protecting and preserving biodiversity here and around the world. I am profoundly thankful to you and to our entire community of members and donors for your thoughtful support, which has allowed us to pursue ever greater heights of aspiration and accomplishment. To see our full list of donors for FY2023, please visit www.arboretum.harvard.edu/Donors-FY2023.

Best wishes,

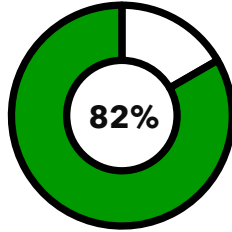
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ned Friedman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

William (Ned) Friedman
Director of the Arnold Arboretum
Arnold Professor of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology
Harvard University



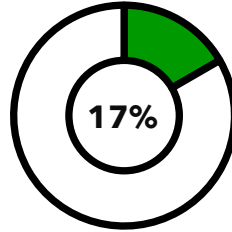
Income Sources

Endowment income
from past philanthropy



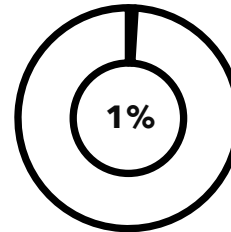
\$16,031,929

Fundraising income
from current philanthropy



\$3,206,000

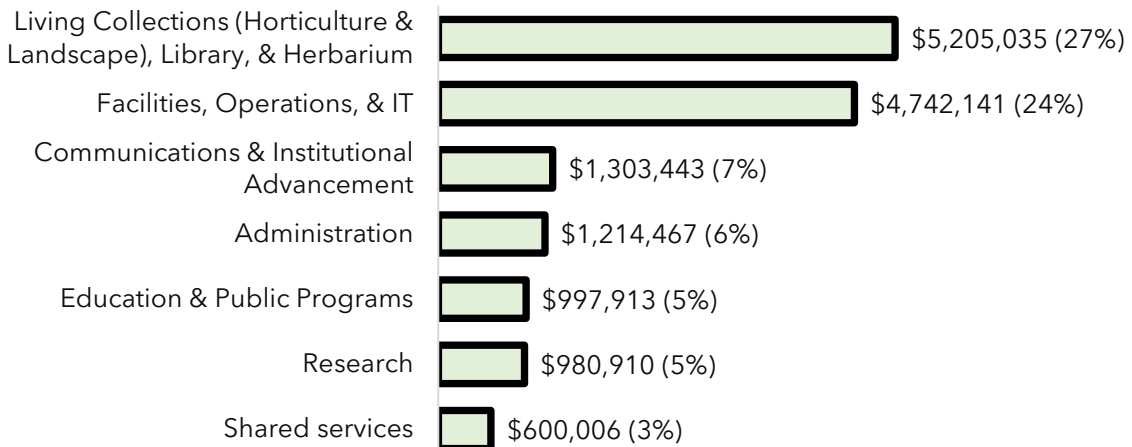
Other



\$190,900

In FY23, fundraising income from current philanthropy continued to surpass historical rates due to the success of the Arnold Arboretum's Sesquicentennial Campaign. Prior to FY22, current philanthropy had accounted for 4-9% of total income.

Operating Expenses



Capital Expenses



\$1.9M of capital costs are annual debt service payments, mostly for the Weld Hill Research Building. This debt will be retired in FY31.

Total Income vs. Expenses

\$19,506,656

Expenses

\$19,428,829

Income

The \$78,000 reduction in net assets will be covered by our cash reserves, which include funds earmarked for future projects.