The Elizabeth F. Gamble Garden
Celebrating 25 Years

• Children’s Education and Outreach Programs:
  o We have educated over 2,000 Walter Hays Elementary School children in our Roots & Shoots program over the last 25 years, many of whom now have children in the program. It is an intergenerational gardening program, which pairs senior volunteer mentors with students. The educational lesson is followed by planting, nurturing, harvesting, snacking, and then sharing the excess fruits and vegetables with a local food bank.
  o We have educated hundreds of other schoolchildren through special docent led children’s tours.
  o We propagate seedlings for Abilities United, Collective Roots at EPACS, the Boys and Girls Garden Club in Belle Haven, Community School South, and the Cumberland School among others, allowing them to start their own gardens.
  o We educate and entertain over 500 members of the community during Community Day, open to the public for free each fall.

• Visitors, Volunteers, and Members:
  o We serve over 25,000 visitors annually who are primarily local, however we have many guests from throughout the Bay Area, California, the Pacific Northwest, and even internationally.
  o Over 400 volunteers contributed over 35,000 hours of time last year working in the garden and office, and on classes, committees, and events. Anyone is welcome to become a volunteer!
  o We have a dedicated and generous membership of 1,300, many of whom have been with Gamble Garden since the beginning in 1985.

• Horticultural Resource:
  o We are a community resource for all public gardens and gardeners, and a member of the Bay Area Gardens Network.
  o Besides preserving this historically significant house and gardens, the volunteers of Gamble Garden created a vibrant learning environment within a beautiful garden.
  o Formal gardens along with working beds used for experimental demonstrations and displays educate and inform our visitors about plants and plant care, as well as efficient water usage.
  o Gamble Garden has enhanced Palo Alto’s air and water quality by teaching homeowners how to have a beautiful garden while conserving resources, which has a long-lasting impact upon the entire community.
  o Gamble provides a free facility for the Master Gardeners of Santa Clara County to host a hotline and plant clinic in which their experts answer questions for the public about plants, pests, and gardening in general.
  o Our Horticultural Research Library offers over 1,000 hard to find volumes and is open to the public.
• **Community Outreach:**
  o We collaborate with the Garden Club of Palo Alto on community outreach projects to benefit Palo Alto and its citizens.
  o Docent and self-guided tours are available and enjoyed by school groups, retirement communities, and garden clubs throughout the Bay Area.

• **Adult Education and Outreach Programs:**
  o Over the past 25 years, over 15,000 students have attended Gamble's classes, workshops, and training sessions.
  o Classes are current, reflecting the needs and interests regarding the environment.

• **Special Events open to the Community:**
  o Events such as Spring Tour, Community Day, Holiday in the Garden, Children's Puppet Shows, Easter Egg Hunts, Luncheons, Earth Day, and Mother's Day Brunches are all open to the public and are enjoyed by families and gardeners from throughout the Bay Area.
  o Spring Tour attracts over 2,000 people annually who visit Palo Alto to view private gardens, attend seminars, learn about and purchase plants, and participate in a multitude of activities at Gamble Garden.

**Memorable Quotes from the Community:**

**Children's Community Outreach:** “…Thank you for having us at the gardens. I learned the different techniques of gardening and the different ways it can not only help ourselves, but other animals/insects. I enjoyed tasting the ripened squash. I am thankful that this wonderful program gave me the opportunity to plant your plants in our garden…” *A Community School South student*

**Roots & Shoots 3rd Graders from Walter Hays Elementary School:** “I love Gamble because with all of the freeways and stuff this is a place you can come to relax and enjoy and forget about all your worries.” “Gamble Garden is a place where not only flowers and vegetables can grow, but where we can grow too.” *3rd Grade Students*

**Gamble Garden is the destination for many weddings and special occasions throughout the year:** “We had our wedding at Gamble Garden and it was a great venue - so many gorgeous photo opportunities. The perfect spot for a garden wedding.” *A bride*

**Community Day:** “Please extend our thanks to all the wonderful volunteers that made Community Day so much fun. We enjoyed learning about butterflies, bees, and leaves. The best part according to my children was digging in the dirt for worms. I loved the flower bouquets they made for me.” *A mother*

**Education Program:** “Since I attended my first class at Gamble yesterday I wanted to write and tell you what a terrific offering from and reflection on Gamble I thought it was. The warm welcome you provide with smiles and snacks were way more than I expected! The speaker was terrific as well. What a great choice with loads of information of course, but he made it all understandable for lay people. Staying on track time-wise was great and having hand-outs made the "package" complete. Thanks for doing this good work for Gamble and our community.” *A class participant*