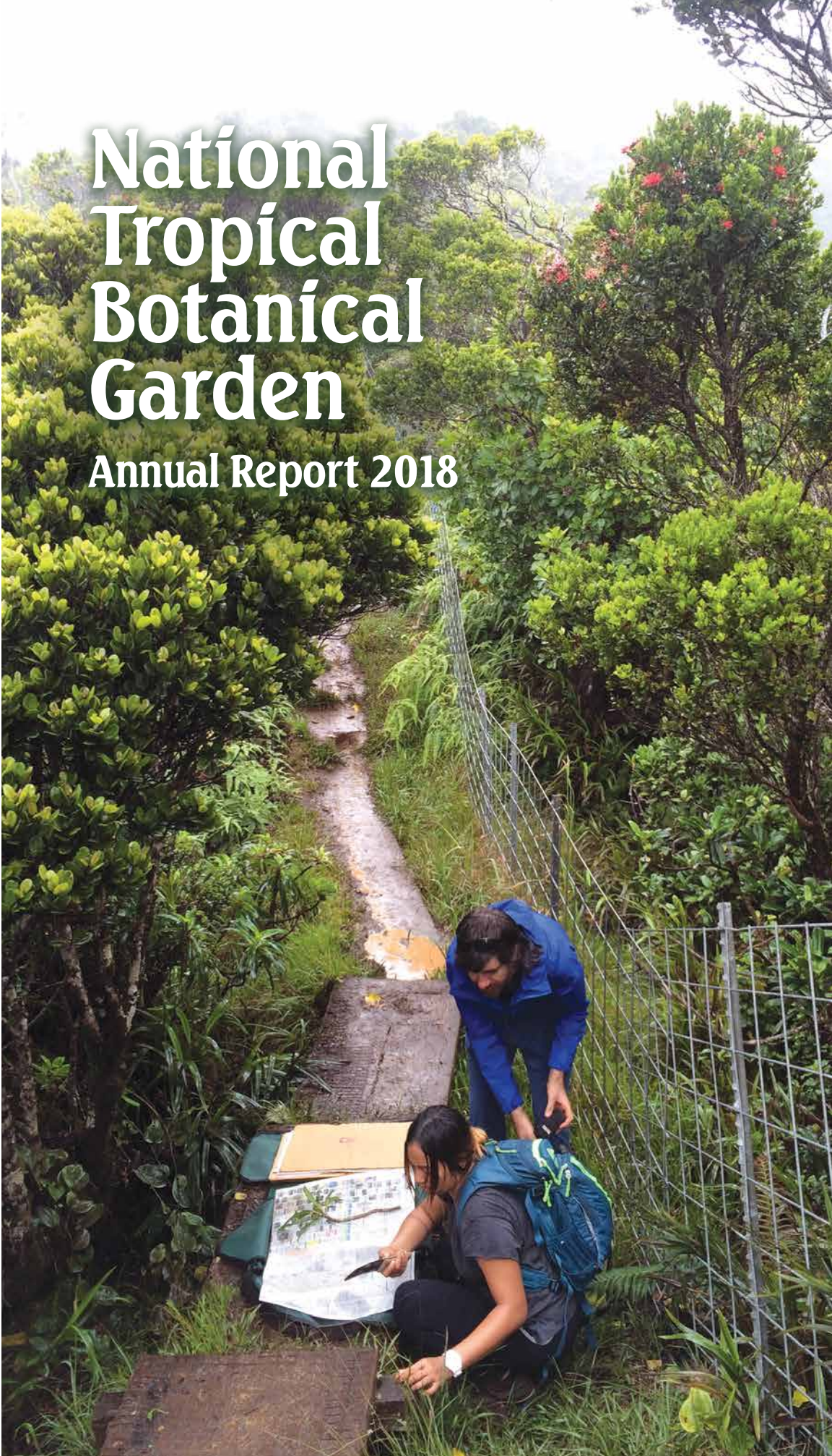


National Tropical Botanical Garden

Annual Report 2018



The Mission

of the National Tropical Botanical Garden is to enrich life through discovery, scientific research, conservation, and education by perpetuating the survival of plants, ecosystems, and cultural knowledge of tropical regions.

www.ntbg.org

NTBG is the only botanical garden chartered by the United States Congress. Established in 1964, the Garden is dedicated to the preservation and survival of tropical plants, emphasizing rare and endangered species. NTBG is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit corporation. We are not operated by the federal government and rely on the much-appreciated support of members and donors like you to carry out our mission.

ON THE COVER: NTBG SEED BANK AND LABORATORY MANAGER DUSTIN WOLKIS (STANDING) AND A COLLEAGUE COLLECT PLANT MATERIAL FOR A HERBARIUM VOUCHER ON KAUAI'. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO.



Message from Thomas D. Hewitt

In gardening, never a dull moment. As the National Tropical Botanical Garden's Chairman of the Board of Trustees, I can attest to the fact that operating a tropical garden offers both year-round challenges and rewards. NTBG is the only Congressionally Chartered botanical garden in the United States and, with our five gardens (four in Hawai'i and one in Florida), along with five preserves, our Garden 'ohana (family) is constantly taking on exciting new challenges.

As a nonprofit organization charged with the mission of enriching life through discovery, scientific research, conservation, and education, our dedicated staff, together with hundreds of volunteers, supporters, institutional partners, and like-minded organizations, approach each new year like an unplanted garden bed, rich with growth potential.

Last year was no exception. True to our mission, in 2018 NTBG made great strides forward in discovering, collecting, preserving, and growing tropical plants representing some of the most critically endangered species in existence.

Through our ever-expanding living collections and beautiful garden sites, dynamic education and public outreach programs, and bold efforts to discover, document, and preserve irreplaceable tropical plant biodiversity, NTBG is having a profound impact at a time when it's most urgently needed.

And despite the challenges that invariably arise, NTBG has a more than five-decade record of achievements in the world of plants. The year 2018 was a great one for our organization and I believe the same is true this year and far into the future. We could not have achieved these successes without our members' dynamic and critical support. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I thank you and invite you to read more about our work in the report that follows.

Mahalo nui loa,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Hewitt".

Thomas D. Hewitt
Chairman, Board of Trustees
National Tropical Botanical Garden



Message from Janet Mayfield

In your hands you hold the National Tropical Botanical Garden's 2018 Annual Report, a summary of who we are and what we have achieved in the previous year. Inside you'll find highlights of our work, snapshots of our programs, and key financial indicators. It's my hope that this report, along with our member's magazine *The Bulletin*, will provide a better

understanding of not just how NTBG fits into the world of botanical gardens, scientific and educational institutions, and environmental non-profits, but our greater role in the world.

Central to our mission is the enrichment of life through discovery, scientific research, conservation, and education. For 55 years, NTBG has pursued this mission on small and large scale endeavors — everything from discovering species new to science and rediscovering others thought to be extinct to collecting traditional plant varieties, preventing their loss, and demonstrating how ancient growing techniques can have an impact in the modern world.

We fulfill this mission when we climb towering trees to collect tiny seeds for study and storage, preserving plant DNA for the future. In our five garden locations, we invite the public to enjoy the simple pleasure of spending time with plants, admiring their beauty, and marveling at their utility. NTBG is comprised of people who are passionate about plants, eager to share their knowledge and sense of wonder. We welcome visitors and volunteers, interns and educators, students and neighbors from within our communities, and strangers from afar to explore and discover, to learn and be inspired by the Garden.

With support from our Board, members, staff, and volunteers, we play a meaningful role in this vast, complex, and increasingly beleaguered world, even as we face great challenges, both natural and human-caused. In 2018, nearly 50 inches of rain fell in one 24-hour period, devastating Kaua'i's north shore, home to Limahuli Garden and Preserve. Despite the record-breaking rainfall, flooding, and landslides, our staff and community volunteers quickly began clean-up and recovery efforts. Hundreds of Garden supporters from around the world provided us with the encouragement and help we needed to rebuild.

At times like this, I know that it will take dedication, teamwork, and thoughtful planning if we are to continue to build an organization that is resilient and strong. As the world moves into an era of greater challenges and change, it can feel overwhelming. But at the same time, these challenges underscore the urgency of our work, calling us to rise to the occasion, stay focused on our mission, and work harder than ever to play our part in creating the kind of world we want to leave for our children, and for all future generations.

Thank you for your interest in NTBG. I hope that you will join us as we save plants and save people.

Janet L. Mayfield
CEO and Director
National Tropical Botanical Garden

2018 by the Numbers

7.8 MILLION SEEDS
HOUSED IN NTBG
SEED BANK

90 TAXA STORED
AS SEEDS

88,000+

VISITORS TOURED NTBG GARDENS
(17% INCREASE OVER 2017)

2,800+

STUDENTS LEARNED THROUGH
GARDEN AS CLASSROOM,
STEM NIGHTS, AND OTHER
EDUCATION PROGRAMS

86,486

HERBARIUM SPECIMENS PRESERVED

50 INTERNS WERE
MENTORED AT
THE GARDEN

3,900

POUNDS OF
BREADFRUIT AND
OTHER CROPS
HARVESTED

600 lbs

OF BREADFRUIT
DONATED
TO KAUA'I
INDEPENDENT
FOOD BANK

320

PEOPLE ATTENDED
BREADFRUIT
AGROFORESTRY
WORKSHOPS
STATEWIDE

900

VOLUNTEERS
COMMITTED TIME
TO THE GARDEN

845+ HOURS

OF STAFF AND VOLUNTEER WORK
CONTRIBUTED TO RESTORING
KAHANU GARDEN'S TRADITIONAL
CANOE HOUSE

433

BOOKS AND
PERIODICALS
ADDED TO
NTBG'S LIBRARY

15

STUDENTS FROM
10 COUNTRIES
PARTICIPATED IN THE
KAMPONG'S TROPICAL
BOTANY COURSE



Science and Conservation

In 2018, NTBG's Science and Conservation (Sci-Con) efforts included rough terrain field work, conservation collecting, and studies involving rare plants such as *Phyllostegia electra* (Lamiaceae), *Hibiscus waimeae* subsp. *hannerae* (Malvaceae), *Polyscias racemosa* (Araliaceae), and other Critically Endangered plant species.

Last year Sci-Con staff contributed to: genetic diversity studies, germination and seed viability testing, expanding and sharing our herbarium collections, creating instructional video for seed conservation tools, educational outreach, mentoring interns, and working with volunteers.

Other 2018 milestones include: the collection and processing of over 5 million 'ōhi'a (*Metrosideros* spp.) seeds as part of the E Mau Ana Ka 'Ōhi'a (Perpetuating 'Ōhi'a) project and began the search for *Hibiscadelphus woodii*, an endemic taxa thought to be extinct that was rediscovered with a drone in early 2019.

Living Collections and Horticulture



Comprised of almost 2,000 acres of gardens, preserves, and research facilities in Hawai'i and Florida, NTBG collects, curates, and manages living collections that represent thousands of taxa from around the tropical world, some of which are extinct in the wild.

NTBG's Living Collections and Horticulture played an important role in collaborating internally with other Garden departments and externally with like-minded conservation organizations to acquire, cultivate, care for tropical plants for a multitude of Garden projects, programs, and initiatives. In 2018, these included:

- Producing almost 3,400 plants for the Breadfruit Institute's Agroforestry Project;
- Developing and refining new protocols for all garden sites to improve efficiency and better inventory with a new system for uploading information to NTBG data base;
- Outreach and partnership with local groups to educate the public about threats to native forests from Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death fungal disease;
- Playing a leadership role for rare plant propagation in Hawai'i including the production of 5,000 *Polyscias bisattenuata* grown and outplanted in restoration sites and on private land.

In 2018, Living Collections and Horticulture continued to work with interns, students, and volunteers, training a new generation to carry on the critical work of a herbarium, plant nursery, plant records management, and field work.



Breadfruit Institute

NTBG's Breadfruit Institute (BFI) has promoted the conservation, study, and use of breadfruit for food and reforestation since 2003. The institute has collected and manages the world's largest and most diverse heritage breadfruit collection, representing over 300 trees and 150 varieties, many of which are rare or extinct in their home islands. Under BFI Director Dr. Diane Ragone, the institute has developed strategic partnerships around the world and is recognized as the leading repository and resource for breadfruit research, conservation, and education. By the end of 2018, BFI helped distribute more than 109,000 breadfruit trees to 45 countries and territories around the world.

In 2018, the Breadfruit Institute demonstrated global impact through:

- Support for the Global Hunger Initiative by collaborating with Cultivaris/ Global Breadfruit to send trees where most needed, including Africa, the Caribbean, and throughout the Pacific;
- Collaboration in reviews, surveys, and taxonomy with partners from the University of Hawai'i, Chicago Botanic Garden & Northwestern University, University of the West Indies, University of Guelph, University of British Columbia, and Kew Gardens;
- Management of the world's most comprehensive breadfruit germplasm repository; developing an updated management plan for the collection at Kahanu Garden; assessing and documenting tree health for the entire collection;
- The Breadfruit Agroforestry Project (with support from the Patagonia Environmental Grants program and Hawai'i Department of Agriculture) which centers around a Regenerative Organic Breadfruit Agroforestry demonstration in the research orchard in McBryde Garden. The demonstration is complemented by the Agroforestry Guide co-published by Agroforestry Net, workshops, open houses, outreach and engagement with local farmers, business owners, and the general public.

Education

Education is central to NTBG's mission and our programs offer learning opportunities to a wide variety of students. We fulfill our educational mandate by utilizing extensive resources that include outdoor living collections, a botanical library with current and historical archival material and rare book room, a herbarium, and other facilities and assets. NTBG's staff, along with hundreds of volunteers, engage with public and private schools locally, nationally, and internationally.

Students from K-12 up to college and graduate level, science teachers, farmers, botanical artists, environmental journalists, interns, and working professionals from a range of fields engage in educational activities at NTBG's five garden locations. In 2018 our education programs included:

- Garden as Classroom targeting K-12 students in alignment with Hawai'i Department of Education (DOE) standards. Served nearly 500 students on Kaua'i's south shore in 2018;
- Limahuli Garden and Preserve's place-based pre-K-12 education. After the 2018 flooding, Limahuli's education specialist continued to work in an alternate site to support the community;
- The Kampong in Miami, Florida offered the Barnyard after-school program with tropical plant, science, art, and local history instruction for students in grades 2-5.

NTBG also hosted Florida International University undergraduate students as well as interns from programs including KUPU, the Hawai'i Community Foundation's Career Connected Learning Program, Kaua'i Community College, and colleges in Japan and around the U.S.

Additionally, DOE teachers participated in the Science Teachers Enrichment Program, NTBG hosted its third Florilegium Society botanical illustration work session, and the Environmental Journalism Program was held for the 16th year.

Staff and volunteer docent/interpreter training sessions were also offered quarterly, contributing significantly to an overall better visitor experience.





MCBRYDE GARDEN



ALLERTON GARDEN



LIMAHULI GARDEN

NTBG Gardens and Preserves

Unique among botanical gardens, NTBG has five distinctive garden locations and five preserves on three Hawaiian islands and in south Florida. Ranging from montane mesic and wet native forests to a sheltered bay where threatened green sea turtles nest, to a coastal pandanus forest, and meticulously maintained gardens that are home to archaeological and historically valuable sites, NTBG gardens and preserves are:

McBryde Garden and Lāwaʻi Preserve is comprised of NTBG's 200-acre flagship McBryde Garden and the adjacent 50-acre Lāwaʻi Preserve which provide safe havens for rare and endangered plants as well as expansive living collections of great scientific, cultural, educational, and conservation value. With a winding Biodiversity Trail, shady streamside walks, Hawaiian Life Canoe Garden, and one of the most expansive native Hawaiian plant collections, McBryde Garden continues to grow in popularity with visitors and a focal point of visiting students and researchers.

Allerton Garden sprawls 80-plus acres along the lower Lāwaʻi Stream on Kauaʻi's South Shore. Established in the 1930s by Robert Allerton, a founding NTBG Trustee, and John Gregg Allerton, the garden is a masterpiece of landscape design and creative use of space, light, and water. Allerton Garden features historically significant plant collections, architectural structures, sculptures, and breathtaking panoramic views of Lāwaʻi Kai, a sheltered bay designated as a Special Subzone by Hawaiʻi's Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Limahuli Garden and Preserve is located on the North Shore of Kauaʻi in a deep, rugged valley and home to one of the greatest concentrations of biodiversity in the Hawaiian Islands. Limahuli plays an important role in visitor education, community outreach, and the perpetuation of cultural and natural treasures. The 987-acre Limahuli Preserve is a critical site for native forest restoration, rare plant conservation, and groundbreaking research.

In April 2018, Kauaʻi's north shore was hit with record rainfall (nearly 50 inches in 24 hours) and flooding that required major repairs at Limahuli and the surrounding area. Even as Garden staff restored the garden and carried on conservation work in the preserve, education programs continued at Limahuli.

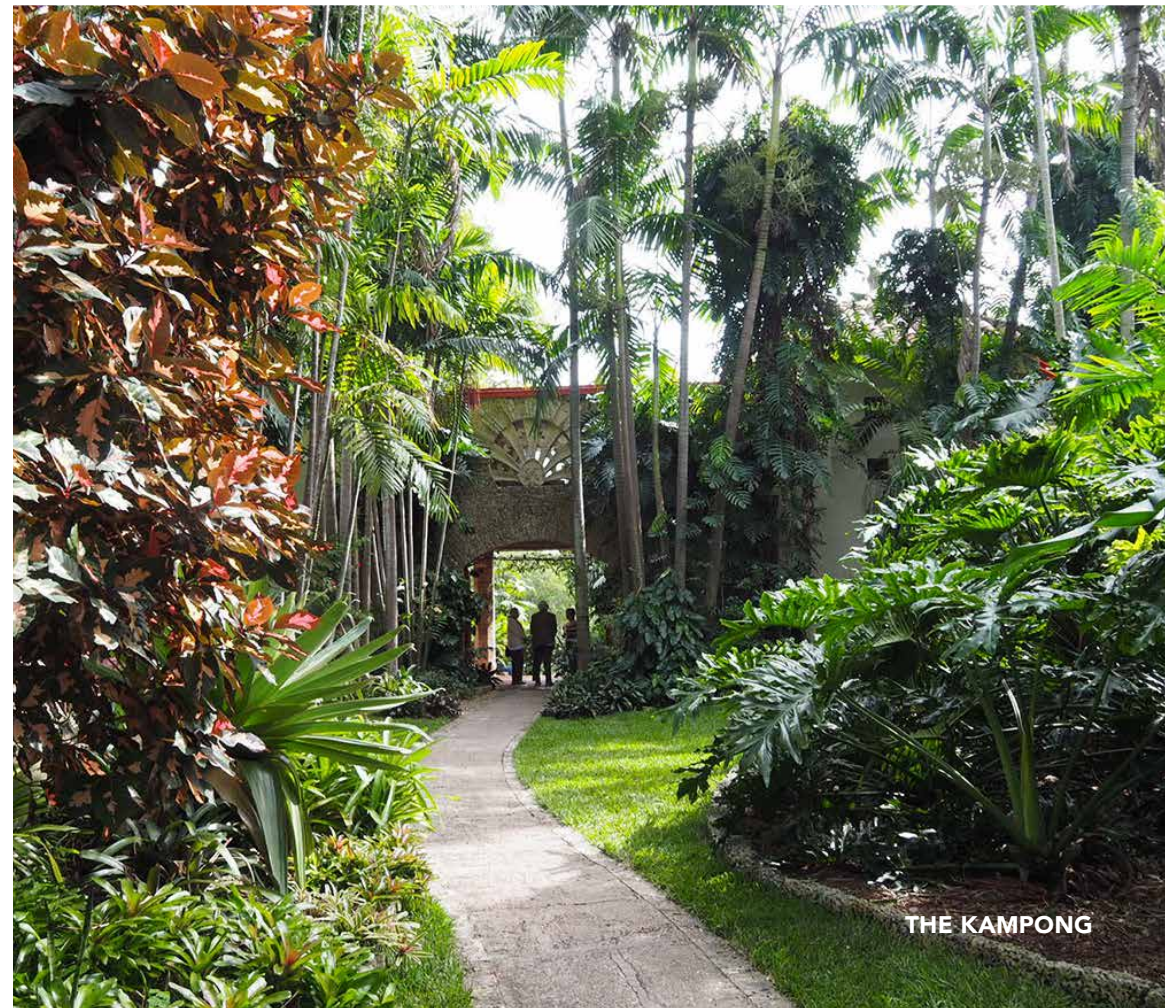


Kahanu Garden and Preserve in Hāna, Maui, showcases native Hawaiian and Polynesian-introduced “canoe plants” and other important Pacific Island heritage species, including the world’s most extensive breadfruit conservation collection. Kahanu Garden is home to the Pi‘ilanihali Heiau which is recognized as one of the largest ancient man-made structures in Polynesia. In 2018, the construction of a new Visitor and Education Center was completed and dedicated. Additional work on a new administrative building, improvements to solar, water, and other infrastructure continued, and repairs to Kahanu’s Hālau wa‘a (traditional canoe house) were finished. Kahanu Garden continued to partner with Mahele Farm and other community projects, engaging with hundreds of volunteers and neighbors.

The Kampong was established as the residence and private garden of 19th century legendary botanist and plant explorer Dr. David Fairchild and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The 11-acre Kampong is located in the south Miami neighborhood of Coconut Grove where it fronts Biscayne Bay and is home to historically significant collections of fruit trees, palms, bamboos, aroids, ficus, and pan-Pacific flowering trees. The Kampong hosts volunteers, interns, students, and teachers through its education programs while also offering the community public lectures and lively events.

Ka‘ūpūlehu Preserve is a nearly six-acre fenced enclosure on Hawai‘i Island comprised of remnant dryland forest with high concentrations of endangered plants that has been managed under a lease by NTBG since the early 1970s.

Awini Preserve is in a remote area of the Awini Plateau in Hawai‘i Island’s Kohala Mountains accessible only by helicopter. Around 85 native and non-native species have been documented in this damaged wet forest where feral pigs, cattle, and invasive plant species are a threat.





Volunteers

In 2018 NTBG's Volunteer Program documented more than 30,000 hours by more than 900 individuals. This was achieved despite restricted access to Limahuli Garden following historic flooding in mid-April. South Shore gardens (Allerton and McBryde) welcomed nearly 700 volunteers, a number that reflects an increase in total hours, thanks in part to use of a new software program that lets volunteers monitor specific department help requests and schedule shifts from home.

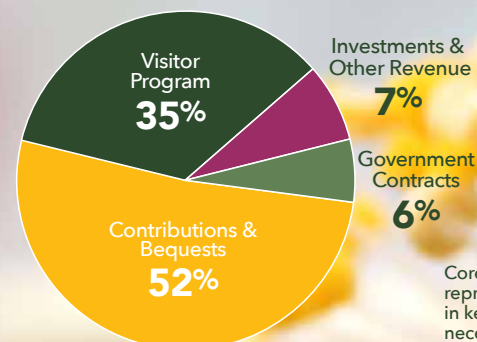
Beyond working in the nursery and on garden grounds, in 2018 volunteers supported NTBG's Education programs, presenting at elementary school STEM nights, public and private events, and professional conferences. Volunteer training opportunities increased with botany basics, Native Hawaiian hospitality, monthly orientation tours, quarterly Garden history instruction, and CPR and first aid training.

NTBG communicates with its volunteers via a monthly newsletter, electronic greeting cards, and at Garden-hosted appreciation events (luncheons, holiday parties, and other occasions). Innovative marketing tools allow NTBG to promote its Volunteer Program to a broader, more diverse demographic and helped over 175 visiting volunteers experience service learning at the South Shore gardens. In 2018, a number of NTBG's volunteers were recognized for their hard work and dedication with local and national designations including the Kaua'i Outstanding Older American Award and the National Agency on Elderly Affairs program.

Financials

Audited December 31, 2018

Revenues & Support



Expenses



Core Mission Support represents the investment in key functions that are necessary, vital, and integral to delivering our programs. Each of our programs is built around, is supported by, and shares responsibility for Core Mission Support.

2018

ASSETS

\$ in 1,000s

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,506
Other current Assets	933
Fixed Assets	35,680
Assets held for preservation	10,780
Assets held for investment	19,140

TOTAL ASSETS

\$ 69,039

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

LIABILITIES:

Current Liabilities	\$ 982
Long-term liabilities	868

NET ASSETS:

Without donor restrictions:	
Unrestricted	31,872
Designated by the board	1,020
With donor restrictions	34,297

TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

\$ 69,039

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FOR THE YEAR

\$ (1,651)*

* Includes unrealized investment losses of \$1.5M due to down-turn in stockmarket in the 4th quarter & \$1.1M in depreciation expense

To review the national Tropical Botanical Garden's 2018 Audited Financial Statement, please visit our website at <http://ntbg.org/about/financial-information>

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