

# Annual Report 2016

## letter from the director

This year has been a year of great generosity! We started the year with a goal to build a small wooden bandstand but the interest and generosity of the community was such that we raised our expectations and decided to build a larger structure constructed of concrete and metal. Friends of The Botanic Garden helped raise the money and we are now ready for construction. It will be named Laura's Bandstand (see highlight on page 2) and will be constructed very soon.

Also coming this spring is a new G-scale model train garden and an orchard all made possible by very generous donors and hard work by our staff, volunteers, and students.



### **Ambassadors Rewarded for Service to TBG**

Speaking about generosity - can you imagine volunteering somewhere for 20 years? We recognized four Ambassadors for reaching that milestone: Merry Alexander, Judy Henderson, Joyce McKee, and Carol Solick. We also recognized Kathy Peacock, Debbie Skinner, and Sheila Thomas for 10 years of service and Barbara Pass, Mavonna Ellis, MJ Seals, Jill Simmons, and Joyce Taylor for 5 years.

Joyce Taylor and Mary Davey received the award for the most hours spent volunteering in the garden and Kathy Adkins received the award for the most hours spent volunteering doing things other than gardening.

The TBG Outstanding Service Award for non-gardening support went to Jeneane Campbell. Jeneane's goal this year was to get everyone in a TBG t-shirt and if you don't have yours yet give her a call!

TBG Outstanding Service Award for gardening support went to Les Conner. Les is a dependable, weekly, weeding machine.

Our Ambassadors are so vital to the garden. We appreciate them greatly and invite you to join them if you are not already a volunteer.

The garden is growing and we thank all who have contributed to its success. Please visit soon. Gardens are by, for, and about people so we look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely, Lou Anella

### TBG STAFF

Lou Anella  
Director

Jane Carter  
Garden Manager

Laura Payne  
Volunteer & Education  
Coordinator





## **Laura's Bandstand To Be Constructed This Spring!**

Thanks to very generous donations, a bandstand will be constructed soon and named Laura's Bandstand to honor Laura Payne's 20 years of involvement with TBG. Laura wears many hats at TBG including volunteer coordinator, education coordinator, and field producer for *Oklahoma Gardening*. The structure will look similar to the picture on the left and should be completed before the spring concert series. It will give protection to performers and act as an outdoor classroom and meeting place.

## **Interns Visit Chelsea Flower Show**

TBG interns Faith Daniels and Logan Fisher (pictured on the left) were awarded travel scholarships that took them to England for the Chelsea Flower Show. The scholarship also paid for them to intern at TBG this past summer. We will miss them both as they move on to greener pastures. Congratulations to Logan for securing the prestigious Longwood Gardens Internship for the summer of 2017. And congratulations to Blake Kruse, one of our current student employees, who is this year's recipient of the Chelsea Flower Show travel scholarship.



## **Walk The Labyrinth**

Sara Hills, a Ph.D. candidate at OSU, approached TBG in the spring about creating a labyrinth where people could take meditative walks in a natural setting. She works with a grief counseling group called *Actively Moving Forward* and we loved the idea of having a labyrinth for meditative walks at TBG. Bentley Sod Farms sprigged the site for us and now we have a labyrinth mowed in the grass for all to enjoy. It takes about 20 minutes to complete the circuit. Pictured to the left are Todd Misener, OSU Chief Wellness Officer; Lou Anella, Director of TBG; Sara Hills, President OSU Chapter of *Actively Moving Forward*; and Dave Brown with OSU Facilities Management Landscape Services during the labyrinth grand opening at GardenFest 2016.



## **Mum Sale Growing**

The Friends of The Botanic Garden mum sale tripled in size this year so we plan for this to be an annual fundraiser. This year Homecoming will be in mid-October so we will have many orange mums available for sale. Show your OSU Spirit with orange mums grown by The Friends of TBG. Pumpkins will also abound so make TBG your fall decoration destination.

# We thank the following for their support! (January - December 2016)

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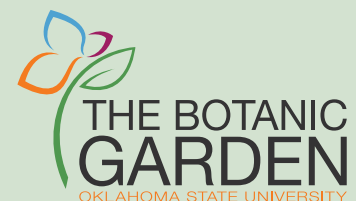
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Our 2016 student employees: Amanda Bradley, Garrett Carter, Faith Daniels, Logan Fisher,  
Rose Galvez, Blake Kruse, Katy Layman, Scott Mendenhall, and Megan Nichols

All those who stroll the grounds of TBG and love it!



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