



Washoe County Community Services Department



WILBUR D. MAY CENTER ANNUAL REPORT



July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Bob Lucey Kitty Jung
Jeanne Herman

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Discovery Center of Washoe County
May Arboretum Society
Community Volunteers

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Wilbur D. May Arboretum	1
Wilbur D. May Museum	46
Financial Summary	65
Marketing & Public Relations	78
Funding Requests	101

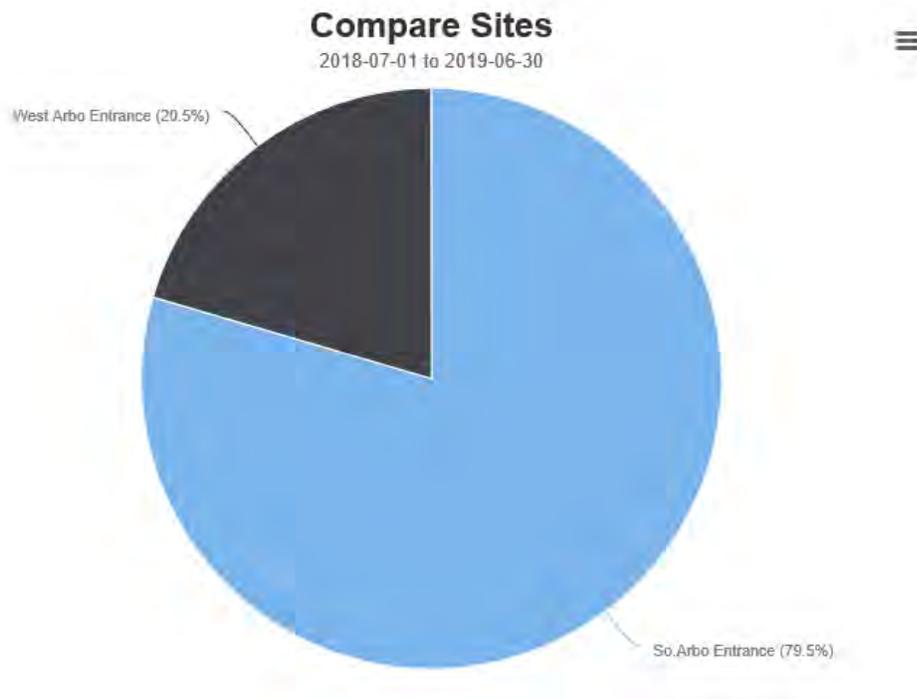
**Wilbur D. May Arboretum
&
Botanical Garden**



Wilbur D. May Arboretum & Botanical Gardens

Attendance

The Arboretum pedestrian counters, located on the south and west gates, calculated approximately 85,831 visitors to the arboretum. Eighty percent entered from the south side located by the Ranch House parking lot. The remaining twenty percent entered from the museum parking lot. During Dragon Lights we had an additional 62,000 visitors who were not counted accurately due to pedestrian counter limitations, including lack of data capacity and infrared sensitivity. We estimate that 148,000 people visited the Arboretum. In a typical year, annual visitation is roughly 70,000 to 75,000 visitors. In addition, data showed there was 53% increase in attendance due to Dragon Lights.



May Arboretum daily visitor count from pedestrian counters. Not included is the estimated 62,000 visitors from Dragon Lights

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Workshops and Volunteer Training

The Arboretum horticulture volunteer training completed its 9th year. It was developed by the horticulturist to recruit and train prospective skilled volunteers to work in the gardens to fill the labor gap. The program, now under the direction of Denise Evans, Washoe County Parks Volunteer Coordinator, provides the horticulturist support and assistance with existing and new volunteers. The program is reviewed and assessed at the end of each season for retention, efficiency and effectiveness. Last year it was determined that the 24 hour classroom training format and 25 hour volunteer service requirement was not effective for retention, based on the accumulated volunteer data.

The coordinator and horticulturist changed the training format to monthly workshops, 2-hours in length, hands on and open to the public as well as existing volunteers. The coordinator also initiated a mentor program for new volunteers. The results were unexpected. The new format yielded 6 new volunteers with a retention rate of 100% compared to our previous retention rate of only 10% - 15% (2-3 volunteers/20 students per class). This year, using the new format, volunteers have logged 140 hours. This has a service value of \$3,123.00. A benefit of implementing the new format it improved the overall satisfaction of our veteran volunteers. It also engaged some of the less frequent volunteers. We also found the new format is cultivating a stronger connection with our current volunteers which has led to better retention rates.



Washoe County Horticulturist demonstrating renewal pruning to new and veteran volunteers during 2019 Arboretum volunteer training class

Arbor Day Celebration

John Slaughter, Washoe County Manager, Dave Solaro, Assistant County Manager, Kitty Jung, Washoe County Commissioner, representatives from the May Arboretum Society, Colleen Wallace Barnum, Washoe County's Park Superintendent, the horticulturist, staff and residents of our community joined our annual Arbor Day Celebration that was held on April 26, 2019. An American elm tree (*Ulmus Americana*, 'Valley Forge') was planted in observance of this day and to remind all of us of the contributions of trees to the planet and how they help combat climate change. Several local news channels recorded the event and aired it in the evening news.



John Slaughter, Washoe County Manager, Arbor Day celebration in the Arboretum



Left, Bill Carlos, Washoe County Horticulturist, Dave Solaro, Assistant County Manager, Ed Kleiner, Susan Mullens, May Arboretum Society board member and John Slaughter County, Manager

Public Gardens Day

National Public Gardens Day was created in 2009 to drive local and national exposure to the importance of building vibrant, relevant gardens committed to community enrichment and environmental responsibility through community engagement, sustainable practices and conversation. Since 2009, the Arboretum has been offering free guided tours of the gardens. It begins with an introduction and history of Wilbur May, the May Foundation and cultural and educational importance of arboretums and gardens both locally and globally. Visitors are shown several gardens then taken to Honey's Garden where the tour ends with a discussion of the future buildout of the gardens and how they can support their local public garden.



Educational Programs - Arboretum Educator/AmeriCorps

The horticulturist was granted \$9,500 through the May Arboretum Society to fill the Arboretum Educator position via an AmeriCorps grant through the Truckee Meadows Park Foundation. The Educator satisfies the Arboretum educational mission and goals. The Educator's purpose is to raise the level of awareness of the Arboretum in the community as a regional and viable educational resource. The main focus the position is to bring pre-school and school age children and University of Nevada students to the Arboretum while revitalizing and remarketing the Arboretum's educational programs. Last year's AmeriCorps member developed an education operation manual for other members to use and developed new turnkey educational programs.

Environmental Education Programs

In 2018 Katie Bird, graduate of the University of Delaware, accepted the Educator position and began in September. Katie immediately scheduled community programs as well as

school programs using the Arboretum Educator operation manual. Katie also developed “Hallo-Week” which was developed for pre-school and early elementary school aged children.

Wilbur D. May Arboretum & Botanical Garden

HALLO-WEEK

Join us with your 6-10 year olds in a week of fun STEAM inspired autumn activities. Kids will use problem solving skills, further develop fine motor skills, and think like scientists.

Cost: \$5 donation per day, or \$20 for the whole week. Cash or check only please. Checks made payable to "The May Arboretum."

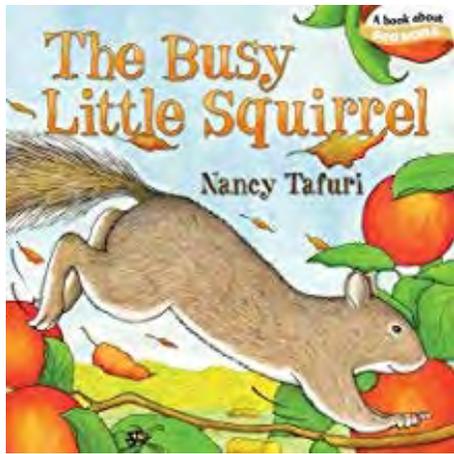
Registration is required and limited to 15 children. Please contact the arboretum educator, Katie, at 775-785-4153 to register. See our schedule below!

- Oct 22: Harvest Builders
- Oct 23: Spider Engineers
- Oct 24: Nature Weaving
- Oct 25: Fall Fruit Scientists
- Oct 25: Pumpkin Painting

Logos at the bottom: Florida Native Plant Society, Florida Native Plant Society, Wilbur D. May Arboretum, and a bat silhouette.

Early Childhood Program “Little Sprouts”

Along with “Hallo-Week” Katie developed and created “Little Sprouts” for the winter. The series began in December and ended in February. Workshops were designed for families with children ages 2-5. The program assists young children practice motor skills, socializing and decision making through activities and garden explorations. The series was FREE and open to the public. Space was limited to 20 children. All fall, winter and spring classes were reserved in the first two weeks. The fall series included activities such as “Seeds are Falling”, “Rainbow Leaves” and “A Squirrel Story”.



Examples of early childhood stories and activities



Children and parents during the fall activity "Rainbow Leaves"

Winter programs included teaching children about their environment. In December they learned about evergreens trees and shrubs through the "Forever Green" activity. In January they learned about bird migration through the winter lesson plan "Goose on the Loose" and in February kids learned about the importance of native herbivores (antelope and deer) that feed and forage on plants of the Great Basin and their importance to the ecology of a high desert ecosystem.



Little Sprouts winter flyer

The spring series was offered shortly after the winters program ended. After the Educator posted the program and spring flyer on Facebook, within less than 24 hours the program post reached over 2,600 people and over 3,000 viewed it at the end of day. By the end of the week the entire series was booked and a waiting list was prepared. The response from the public for the series has been overwhelming. It is a testament from the community the need for environmental educational programming for this age group in the Arboretum.

Programs began in March and included “Feathered Friends”, “Flower Power” and “The Wonderful World of Worms”. Programs were held on Mondays from 10:00 am to 11:00am and were full.

WILBUR D. MAY ARBORETUM &
BOTANICAL GARDEN

LITTLE SPROUTS

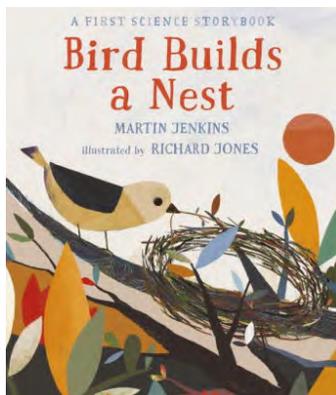
SPRING SERIES AGES 2-5

MONDAYS @ 10:00 A.M.
MARCH 19 "FEATHERED FRIENDS"
APRIL 16 "FLOWER POWER"
MAY 21 "WONDERFUL WORLD OF
WORMS"

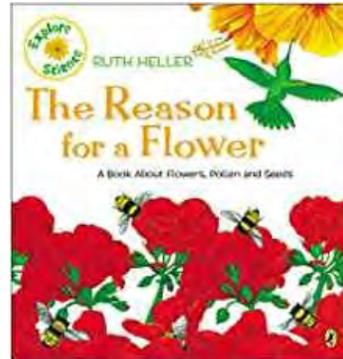
Contact the Arboretum Educator to
sign up (775) 785-4153



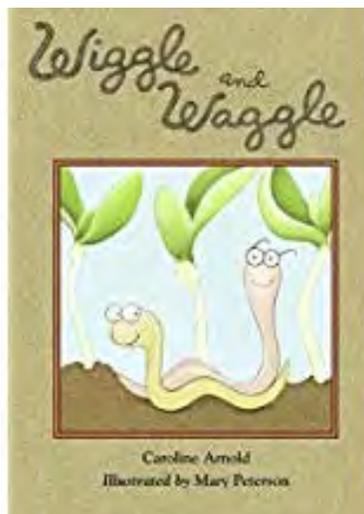
“Birds in The Nest” is an activity that includes lessons on the importance of birds, their biology and how they are part of the food chain.



“Flower Power” is designed to show children about the importance of plants, pollinators and colors.

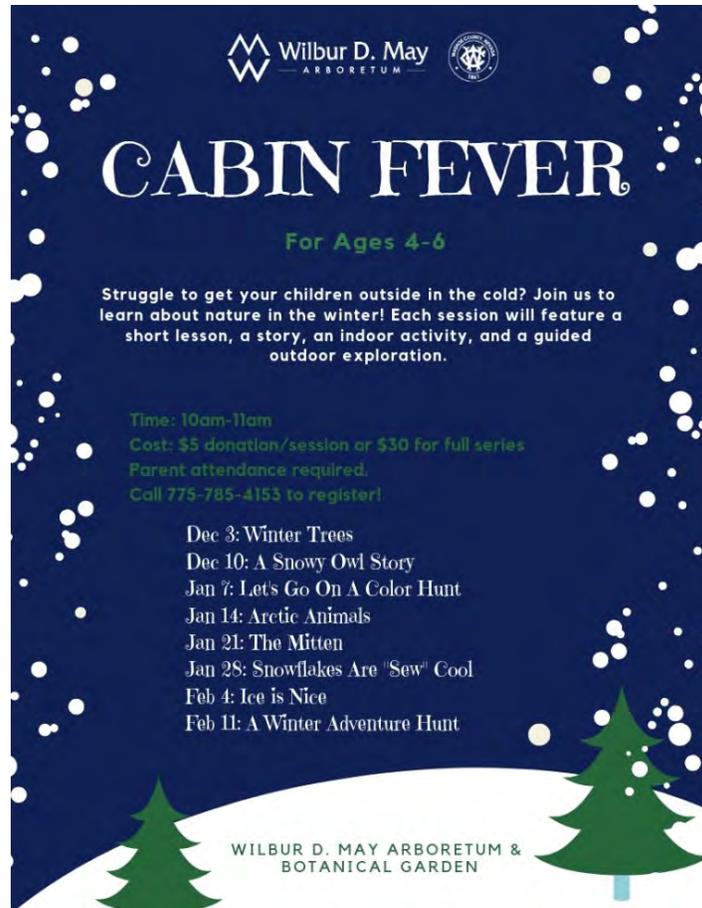


“The Wonderful World of Worms’ engaged children to learn about the importance of worms and why they are good for the soil and plants.



Early Childhood Program “Cabin Fever”

The Educator developed a different winter program for an older age group called “Cabin Fever”. This program was designed for children ages 4 to 6. Different than “Little Sprouts” which provides indoor seasonal activities, “Cabin Fever” was designed for children to explore the winter outdoors.



Cabin Fever flyer

Children were bundled up while the Educator and volunteers directed the children to the gardens where activities were conducted. Eight educational lessons in all were prepared, planned and developed for this series. Similar to “Little Sprouts”, all advertisement was through social media and the class filled in less than a week.



Nature Explorer and Journaling for Home Schoolers

A new program introduced and offered by our Educator was Nature Explorer and Journaling. This program is popular in many home school curriculums, virtual academies and particularly with those using the Charlotte Mason method. The Wilbur D. May Arboretum & Botanical Garden was proud to provide this educational opportunity and experience to our residence.

*Home School
Nature Explorers*

Welcome, local home school children & parents, to a new pilot Arboretum program! Join our educator, Katie, for guided outdoor explorations to learn more about the natural world, get better at drawing, and spend time outside with your family.

What is nature journaling?
Nature journaling is an activity where people spend time sketching & writing about their experiences outdoors. This activity does NOT depend on artistic skill, and instead is a pursuit of observation rather than drawing mastery. Nature journaling is a valuable tool for all ages to develop curious, scientific mindsets.

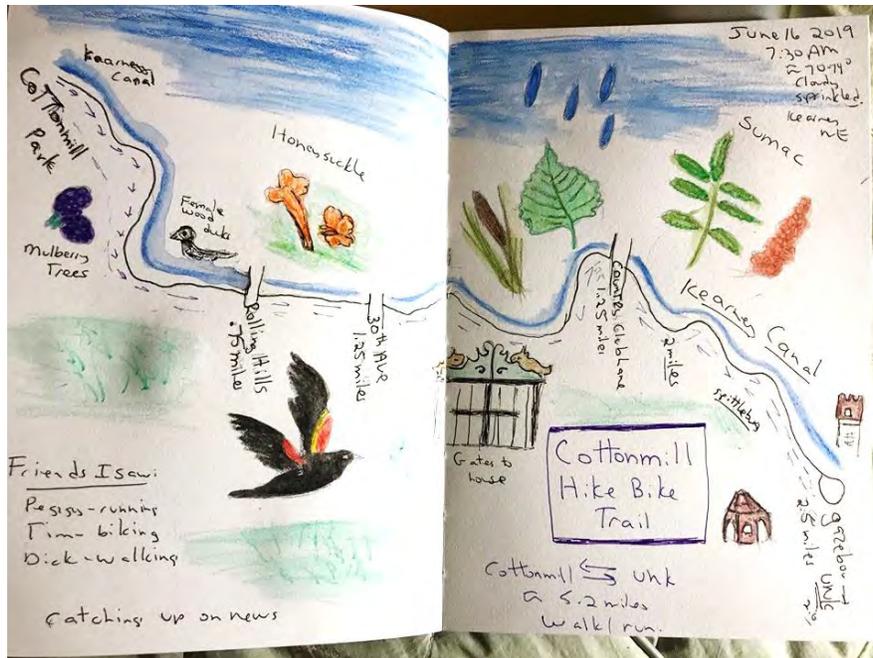
Sessions are free, but registration is requested, due to limited provided art supplies. ****We do ask that you bring your own journals!**** The May Arboretum is proud to provide this educational opportunity to our Reno home school community!

Schedule:
January 15 & 29
February 12 & 26
March 12 & 26
All from 2:30-4pm

Contact: Katie Bird at kbirdewashoecounty.us or 775-785-4153

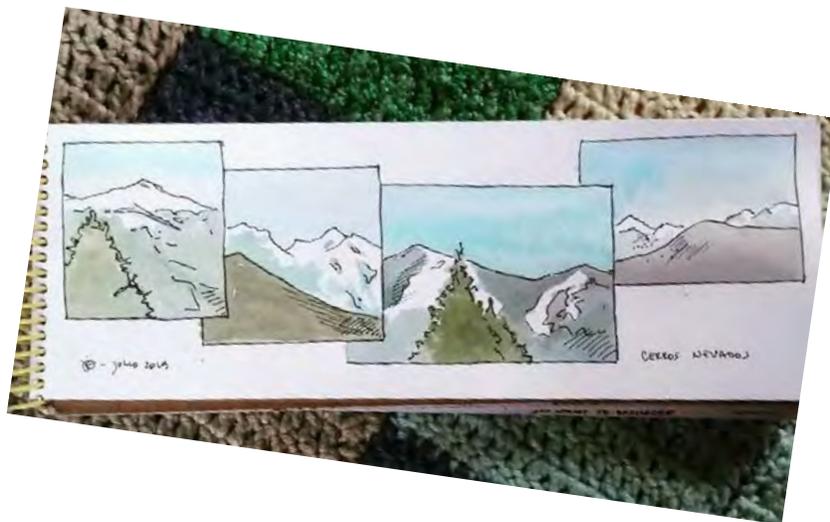
 

This curriculum is designed for children to spend time sketching and writing about the things that they experienced outdoors. This activity does NOT depend on artistic skill, rather a pursuit of observation than of drawing mastery.



Example of Nature Journaling from a home schooler

Nature journaling offers a valuable educational tool for children and adults alike to ask more questions about nature, and in turn develop a mindset more comfortable with scientific inquiry. Getting better at drawing is just a natural side effect of drawing a lot.

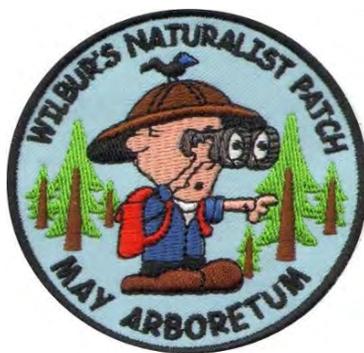


Topics are inspired by Next Generation Science Standards, Nevada Visual Arts Standards, and the California Native Plant Society's Nature Journaling curriculum. Our "Nature Explorer" sessions were 1-1.5 hours long and include a short hike, a guided activity and free journaling time. Session focus points varied between language skills, drawing strategies and using numbers to explore ideas. Pencils, colored pencils and erasers were provided. Journals were supplied by the parent(s). Parents were also encouraged to bring

a journal themselves and draw alongside their child. All of our Nature Explorer sessions were free and open to our community as well as the Carson City and Lake Tahoe area. The May Arboretum Society and May Arboretum volunteers were trained to support the Educator and to assist in teaching kids about the fundamentals of nature and wildlife.

Wilbur's Naturalist & Junior Naturalist Program

The Junior Naturalist guide was offered again for the third year. The Junior Naturalist Guide is for ages 10 and younger, and the Naturalist Guide is for ages 11 and older. Activities are designed to encourage a sense of wonder, mystery and scientific discovery in nature. Guides can be found at the Arboretum Office, Visitor Center and on the May Arboretum webpage under the Learn & Explore button. Children are asked to complete a Junior Naturalist or Naturalist Guide and mail to the Arboretum office with \$1.00. After it has been received, the Educator mails back the completed guide along with Wilbur's Naturalist Patch. Children can pick up their guide at the locations mentioned, complete it and return it to the Arboretum office to receive their patch.



Wilbur's Naturalist Patch

Wilbur's Explorer Back Pack Program

The Educator revised the program to include a volunteer component to assist teachers in implementing the lesson plans from our curriculum. The explorer packs include a bird guide, tree guide, magnifying glass, pencil, clip board and leaf rubbing template for each backpack. In addition, the Educator provides nature activities specifically designed for kindergarten through fifth grade. Each activity meets Next Generation Science Standards. The program also satisfies Washoe County School District standards and lessons are age appropriate and manageable. Each guide can be downloaded by visiting the May Arboretum webpage and clicking on Learn and Explore button then click on Wilbur's Explorer Pack.

Wilbur D. May Arboretum & Botanical Garden

Wilbur's Explorer Pack!

Wilbur D. May travelled the world looking for plants, wildlife, and adventure. Now its your turn to explore the May Arboretum with Wilbur's Explorer Pack!



Each pack is equipped with everything the explorer needs; magnify glass, tape measure, leaf rubbing, and field guides.





Contact the Arboretum Educator to reserve your Explorer Pack today! (775) 785-4153
\$2 donation is requested for each backpack.






Future plans are to create curriculum for children in 6th through 12th grade. This fun and interactive program has been very popular and is used by schools, homeschool groups and the general public.

Friday Bird Walks

The Arboretum supports over 55 different bird species throughout the year. The Educator Katie Bird, who specialized in ornithology at the University of Delaware, developed “Friday Bird Walks”. Partnering with the Lahontan Audubon Society (LAS), Katie led tours throughout the fall, spring and summer for local bird enthusiasts and LAS members. Tours were free and open the public and for all ages and binoculars were made available by the Arboretum for visitor to use. The purpose of the program is to bring diverse audiences to the Arboretum and also have it recognized as an educational wildlife resource.

WILBUR D. MAY
ARBORETUM &
BOTANICAL GARDEN

FRIDAY BIRD WALKS

SEPTEMBER 28 THROUGH NOVEMBER 16

Led by Arboretum Educator, Katie Bird.

All ages welcome, please bring binoculars!

MEET BY THE ARBORETUM OFFICE AT 4PM.



Friday Bird Walk at the Arboretum

Bio Blitz Program

This program was developed by Katie Bird in conjunction with University of Nevada College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resource student volunteers and interns. It was designed as an intense learning period of biological surveying to record all the living species within a designated area. Groups of naturalists and volunteers conduct an intensive field study over a continuous time period. The Arboretum conducted two Bio Blitz's, one in the late winter, "Evergreen Bio Blitz" and in the spring and summer, "Flower Bio Blitz".



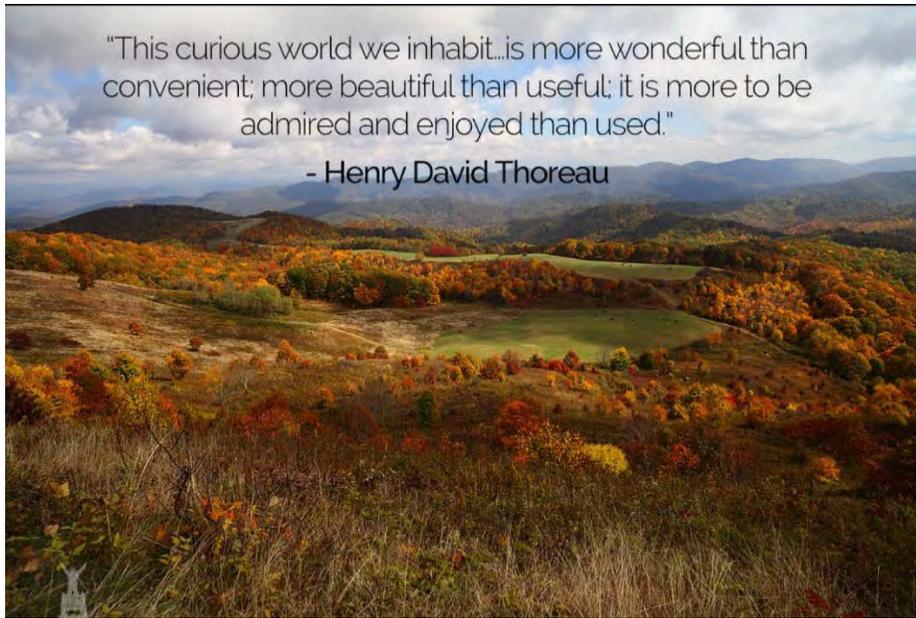
Photos taken during the evergreen and flower Bio Blitz. Douglas Fir pine cones, ornamental Poppies and Columbine

One Truckee River

The Arboretum participated in the One Truckee River Month. It was held throughout the month of May. Our role was providing educational programs about the Truckee River watershed in the Arboretum. Natalie Allen, UNR Natural Resource student volunteer provided weekend education tours during the month.

Plants and People

UNR History Student Intern Noelle Conover completed 20 hours of volunteer service and developed "Plants and People" lecture tours for the Arboretum under the direction of the Educator. Her internship included researching lecture material, learning botany terminology, learning about Great Basin native plants, organizing a detailed lecture outline, preparing lecture visuals and offering weekly walking lecture tours in the gardens for 4 weeks to the general public.



Good Nature Walking Tours for Adults

The Wilbur D. May Arboretum presented, “Good Nature Walking Tours” for older adults again this year. Tours were designed by Arboretum volunteers and the Educator. They were held each Friday at 1:00 pm. Each walk was theme-based and carefully designed to accommodate all those attending. Walks were led by volunteers, professionals, and enthusiasts and each walk had a seasonal plant theme.

Weekend Nature Walks

This program took place on summer weekends for families with children ages 10 and younger. It was designed for children to spend time sketching and writing about the things that they experienced outdoors. Similar to the Home School Nature Journaling, the activity is the same and does not depend on artistic skill, instead is a pursuit of observation rather than of drawing mastery.



WILBUR D. MAY ARBORETUM &
BOTANICAL GARDEN PRESENTS

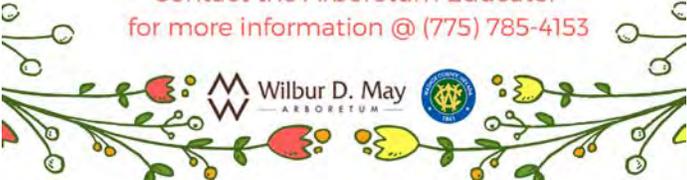
WEEKEND NATURE WALKS

FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN
AGES 10 AND YOUNGER!

SATURDAYS 10:00 - 11:00

Join us as we discover the fun of
Field Journaling!
June 9, 16, 23, 30
Don't forget a notebook!

No registration required!
Contact the Arboretum Educator
for more information @ (775) 785-4153



 Wilbur D. May
ARBORETUM 

Tuesday Tree Talks

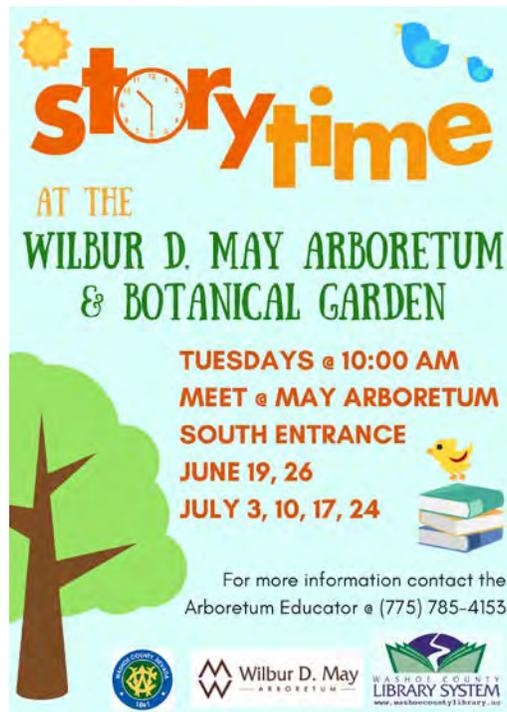
The Educator developed “Tuesday Tree Talks”. Talks were scheduled for the last Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. Talks included information about the plant communities of the Arboretum and presented by local experts. This program was designed for the general public, academia and plant enthusiasts.



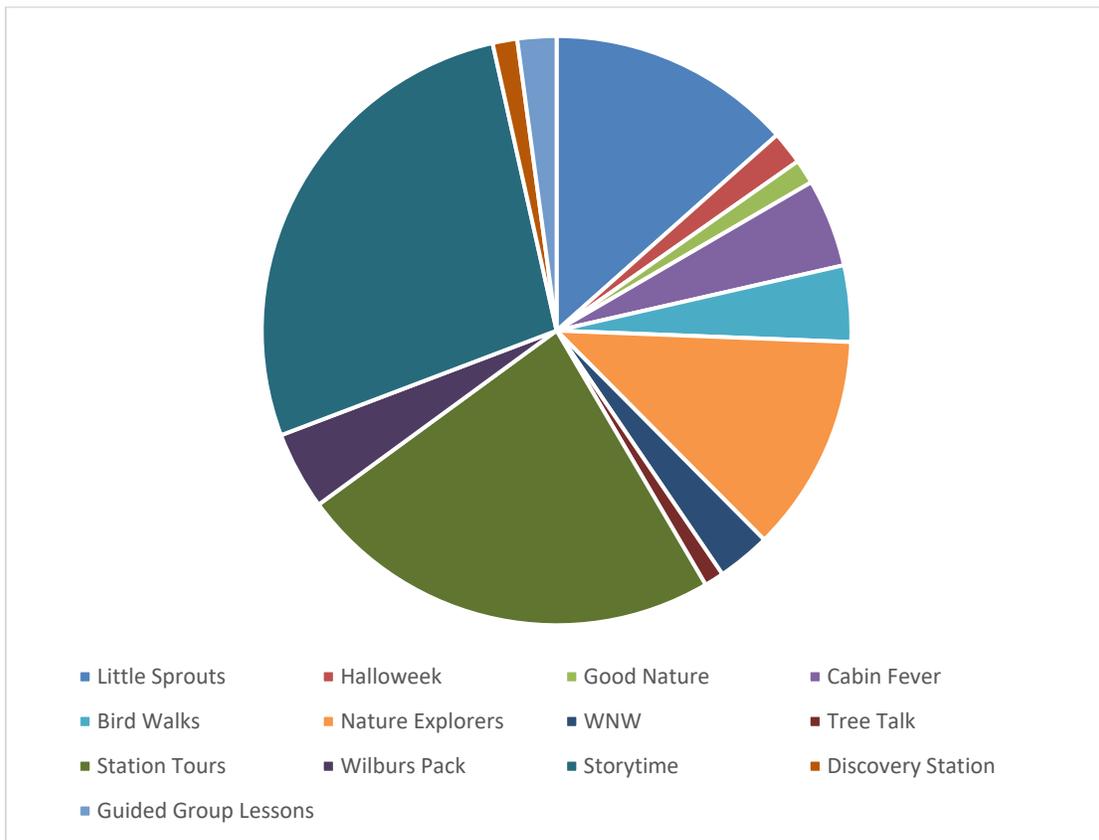
Tuesday Tree Talks

“Storytime” in the Arboretum

The Educator partnered again this year with the Washoe County Library System to present the free weekly “Story Time”. It will held on Tuesdays at 10:00 am from June through July at Honey’s Garden. “Story Time” has become popular and attracted up to 85 parents and children, up 50% from last year. Having an Educator position raised the level of awareness of the Arboretum in the community and anchored it as a viable educational facility within Washoe County.



Little Sprouts, Nature Explorer, Journey through the Great Basin station tours and Story Time are the most popular environmental educational program for the Arboretum. Since hiring the Educator in the fall of 2016, the number of children visiting the Arboretum has increased from 500 to 2,151. Before the horticulturist, volunteers and staff were only able to reach 500 children per year by offering the Journey through the Great Basin station tour. We now offer 13 turnkey educational programs and activities which can be booked through our office and found on line.



Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden, 2018-19 attendance and educational programs are illustrated in the pie chart above.

Greenhouse Operation and School Program

This year the Arboretum's vegetable and herb school seedling program was offered to Washoe County School District. Several middle and elementary schools participated. They included Pine Middle School, Hunsberger, Mamie Tolls, Lemmon Valley, Hidden Valley and Glen Duncan Elementary School. The program is designed to assist teachers with an opportunity to meet STEM requirements and to promote the Arboretum.

All orders were due by the end of January. After the order was taken staff began the propagating of plants from seed. The selected plants were grown from seed and transplanted into 3.5 inch pots after 4 to 6 weeks. The horticulturist notified the school when the plants were ready to transplant outdoors. Staff prepared their order pick up. This year staff grew 664 vegetable "starts" for the schools.



Left: Vegetable seedlings after 2 weeks



Right: Vegetables after 4 weeks

The Arboretum staff propagated over 5,000 plants for the Arboretum and Washoe County Parks. Over 200 ornamental grasses were propagated for North Valleys Regional Park. Flowering perennials and annuals were grown for the Arboretum to be used throughout the year. In early May the Arboretum assisted the May Arboretum Society with their annual plant sale. Over 4,000 plants were transplanted from 1"- 2" containers to 4"- 1 gallon pots by Arboretum and May Arboretum Society volunteers. All of the plants were sold on Mother's Day Weekend.



Left: Volunteers potting



Right: Mature plants ready for sale

May Arboretum Society Events and Support

Annual Plant Sale

The May Arboretum Society (MAS) held their annual plant sale in Burke Garden. An exclusive “presale” was offered to Society members the day before. Society members had the opportunity to purchase plants while enjoying light refreshments. Proceeds from the annual plant sale totaled \$12,000.00.

Thirty-two volunteers helped set-up and assisted with the sale. The annual plant sale success could not have occurred without the support of the MAS Plant Sale Committee, volunteers and arboretum staff. They transplanted, fertilized, controlled pests and monitored the plants in the greenhouse for two months prior to the sale.



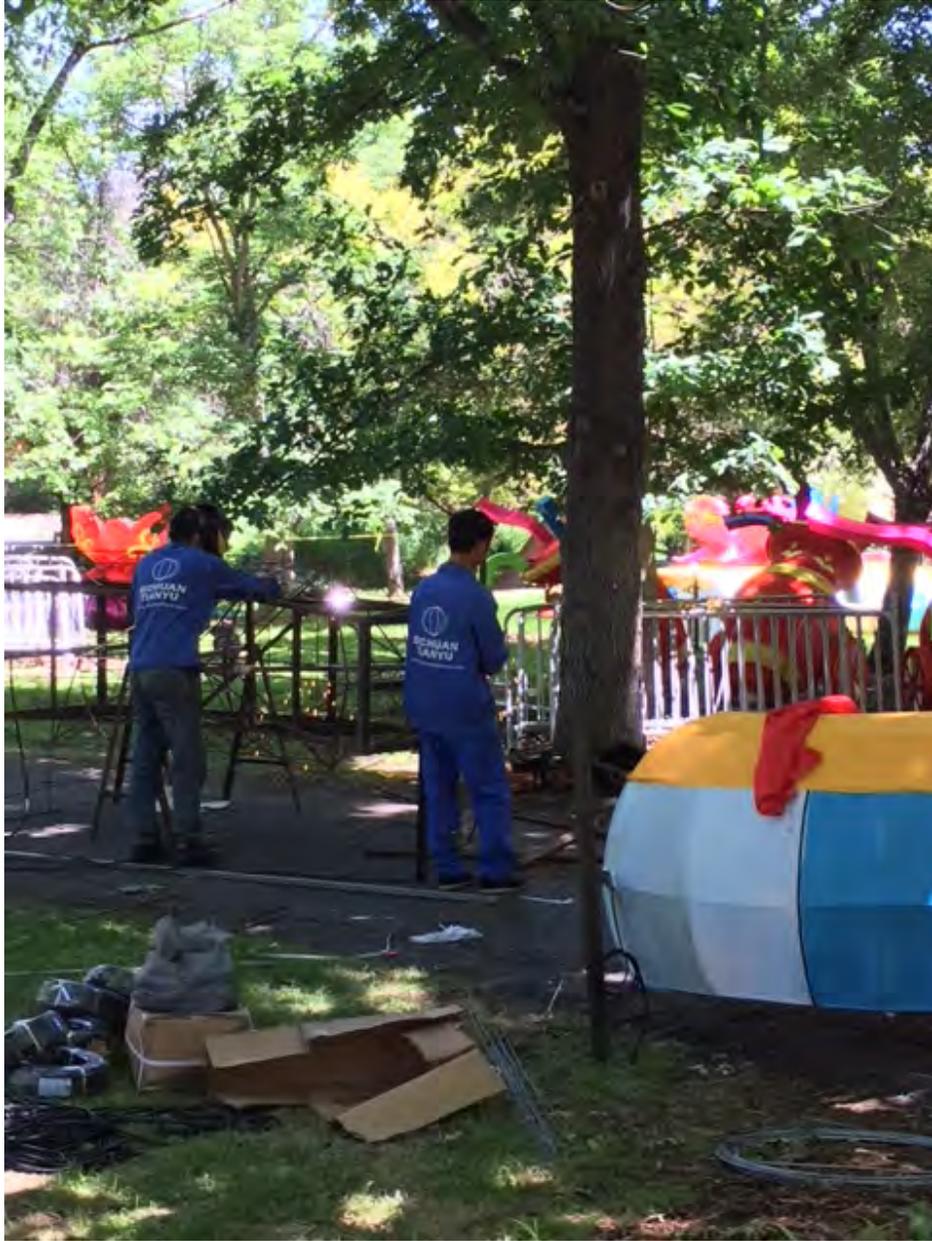
Society members previewing the plants the day before the sale on Saturday

Dragon Lights Festival

Dragon Lights Reno, illuminating Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden, was presented by Tianyu Arts & Culture, Inc. in conjunction with Washoe County and the May Arboretum Society. The exhibit was open from June 30-August 5, 2018. Set up for the event occurred three weeks before the opening June date. Many of the lanterns were shipped in while others were created on site.



Dragon head transported from another festival



Chinese artisans working on the tail of the dragon



The 100 feet long dragon was displayed in phase two of the garden

The festival featured 39 larger than life illuminated displays crafted by Chinese artisans that hail from Zigong, Sichuan, China's cultural capital for the ancient art of lantern-making. An additional 1,000 smaller lanterns graced and illuminated sections of the Arboretum garden paths during the evening hours. Abundant with Chinese music throughout the gardens, the string melodies enriched and enhanced the cultural experience.

The Arboretum was open during the day and free of charge for visitors to enjoy. Over 62,000 people attended the festival during the 5 week-long event.



Lantern at the east side of phase two of the garden



Lantern near the Galaxy Memorial in phase two



Lanterns at the Evans Creek Bridge and wetland area



Lanterns in Dixie Plaza Garden

The Arboretum served as the perfect environment for this evening exhibit. The Arboretum received \$89,000 in revenue from the event.

Lavender Day

The 3rd Annual Lavender Day was hosted by the May Arboretum Society (MAS) and held in the Labyrinth Garden. There were lavender harvesting demonstrations in addition to showing how to infuse and cook with lavender. MAS had a diverse selection of lavender plants for sale. In addition, sachets, wands, wreathes, skin care products and all natural lavender products were for sale. There was edible lavender treats as well. Over 600 people attended the Sunday spring event.

OPERATIONS AND PROJECTS

Maintenance

Record breaking snow levels and unprecedented precipitation fell in the region this past year. Damage was less severe compared to previous years as a result of the mitigation work completed in the Arboretum, trail improvements and tree pruning from 2016 through 2018.

Tree mortality was random among the groves and gardens. Staff is currently observing sudden die off in spring or summer to 35 year old trees. We found the deaths were due to poor planting practices. When the dead trees were removed and the root ball was exposed, staff noticed the root balls of these trees were planted with wire baskets, nylon twine or nylon burlap. Tree roots can become constricted by the wire or nylon rope which prevents water movement into the tree. Wire or nylon twine also girdles the root thereby weakening the integrity of the roots.



The rodent populations and damage is decreasing. The Arboretum employs Integrated Pest Management practices to control the number of rodents on an as-needed basis. This will continue due to the Arboretum's location which is adjacent to the foothills of the Sierra Nevada.

Thanks to the generous donation of the May Foundation, several trees were pruned around the museum and in the Arboretum. In addition several noxious and hazardous trees were also removed. Having the trees routinely pruned and hazardous trees removed preserves the health and vigor of the collection.

Staff prioritizes which trees or groves of trees need pruning. Much of the decision making depends on the value of the tree, historical significance, tree species and location.

Staffing

In 2018-19 the Arboretum retained 4 seasonal workers, two through the fall/winter and two through the winter/spring. Special thanks to the May Arboretum Society for funding these much needed positions (\$54,963.89). Retaining seasonal help provided the support staff needed to take care of on-going maintenance projects. Fall and winter seasonal employees decrease spring tasks and allowed arboretum staff to care for neglected areas of the Arboretum due to a backlog of maintenance projects from the Great Recession that occurred nearly 10 years ago. Seasonal employees used a leaf vacuum and shedder (May Arboretum in-kind donation) in the fall to recycle the leaves. The leaves are then used as mulch for the trees. The mulch is placed around the base of the trees to improve soil health. The mulch also keep weeds from growing and reduces water evaporation. Seasonal staff remove noxious trees, help with snow removal, prune smaller trees and work in the greenhouse and assist in various other projects. Having two additional staff during the winter made an immeasurable impact on the Arboretum.

Phil Brazier, Bradon Franklin and seasonal staff completed the irrigation system on the east side of the greenhouse. The greenhouse is fully operational thanks to their irrigation expertise.



Testing the new irrigation system on the east side of the May Arboretum greenhouse

Staff also planted several new trees in the Arboretum this spring. Many of the trees that were planted were replacement donor trees. In addition to planting trees, winter staff prepared the greenhouse for starting annuals and perennials from seed. Nearly 10,000 plants were grown in the greenhouse - 5,000 plants for the Arboretum and parks, 4,000 plants for the May Arboretum Society annual plant sale and 664 vegetable plants for the Arboretum school seedling program.

Staff Receives National Recognition.

Phil Brazier, Horticulture Assistant and certified arborist was featured in the Western Chapter International Society of Arboriculture (WCISA). In their quarterly regional magazine he was recognized for his service to the chapter, serving as the annual proctor for the arborist certification training and exams. The workshops are held at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park each fall.

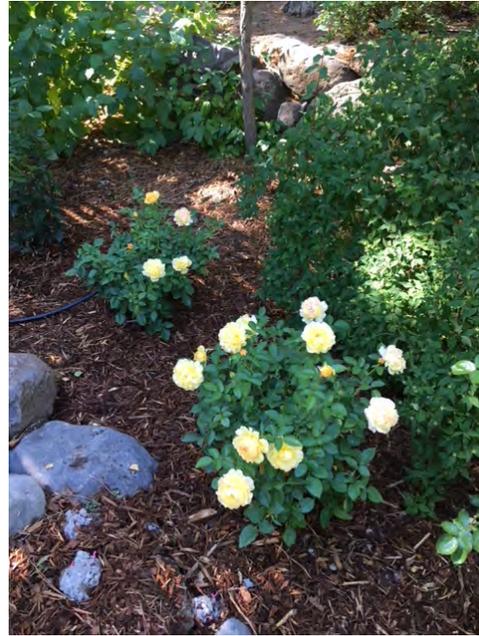
Both Phil Brazier and Bradon Franklin are WCISA members and the Horticulturist serves and Vice President of the Nevada Shade Tree Council. The horticulturist and Washoe County collaborate with the Council by providing training and facilities. The Council reciprocates by offering the workshop to Washoe County park employees at no cost.

Volunteers

The Arboretum volunteers and the May Arboretum Society planted 28 new roses in the rose garden and staff planted and 4 new yellow and white roses in the Honey’s garden.



May Arboretum, May Arboretum Society volunteers and Park Commissioner Darla Woods assist with rose planting



Newly planted yellow roses in Honey's Garden planted by staff

Arboretum Improvement Projects

The horticulturist wrote a proposal to the May Arboretum Society to fund a new floor and in the greenhouse. The previous floor was $\frac{3}{4}$ inch fractured rock (road base) which made disinfecting and mobility difficult. The Arboretum was awarded \$37,430.00 to pour a new concrete floor in the 3,500 square foot greenhouse.



Burke Garden Upgrade

In the fall of 2018 the May Arboretum Society funded \$46,275.00 to upgrade and renovate the 20 year old Burke Garden. A new design called for circular pavers, up lighting, steps, upgraded irrigation, new turf, a water feature and new planters and plants. The goal was to stay with an old world English cottage theme garden in addition to making the garden more wedding and event friendly. The work began in the fall of 2018 and completed in spring of 2019. The garden will be open for reservations in 2020.



Early stages of construction of Burke garden in the fall 2018



Four months after Burke garden was planted and completed 2019



Fall Burke Garden in 2019

Honey's Garden Pump Upgrade

The water feature in Honey's Garden received an upgrade after nearly 10 years. A new and larger pump and well were installed in the spring of 2019. Washoe County funded the \$20,500.00 project and it was completed in mid-May. The life expectancy of the new pump is three years. The Arboretum determined if additional improvements were made above the garden such as a holding pond, the waterfall pump could conceivably double the life of the pump.



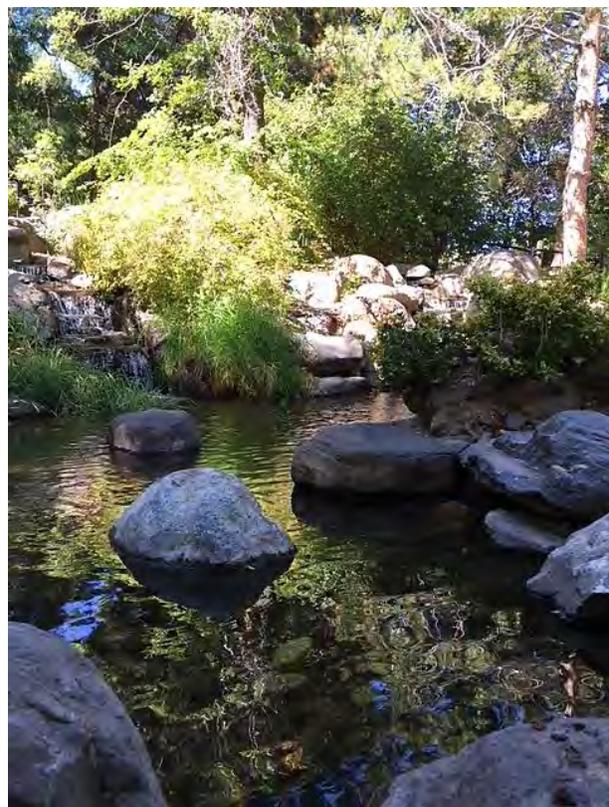
Site for new well



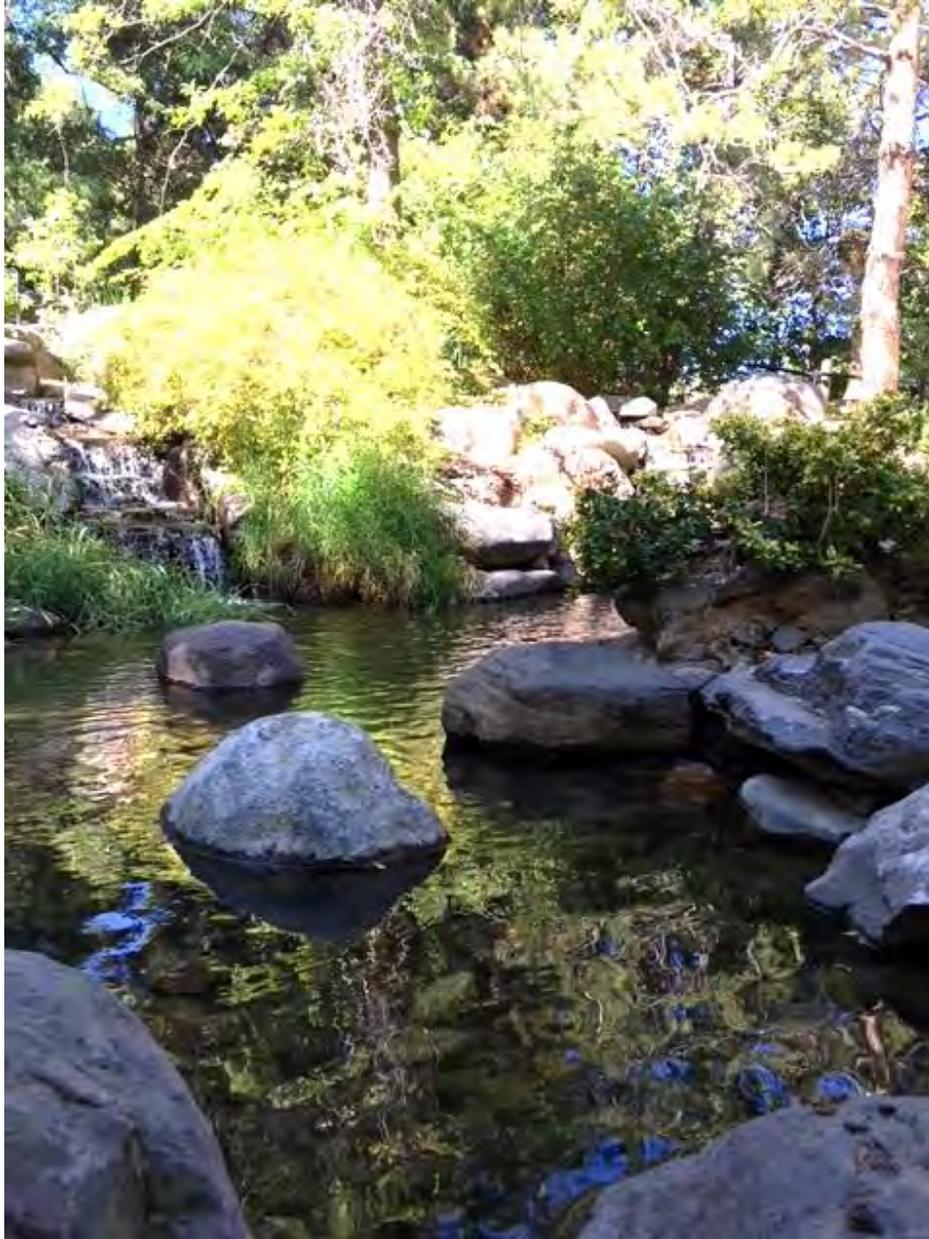
Trench new 4" water line



Water holding tank for the new pump



Completed project



Close up of Honey's Garden waterfall

Immediately after the new pump and well were installed, three donor benches were removed and replaced with new benches. Many thanks to the May Foundation for their generous donation and support. The Arboretum funded the installation of the benches.



Old donor wooden bench



Three new donor benches

Other projects included two irrigation upgrades and fence repair. The irrigation upgrades were completed at the north end of the Arboretum above the May Grove (\$11,714.00) and the other in the Labyrinth Garden (\$5,982.00). A fence repair was completed below Rock and Native garden (\$14,446.00). All three of these projects were funded using revenue from the Dragon Lights Festival. In addition, the Arboretum was able to replace nearly 60% percent of their 20-30 year old utility vehicles, thanks to the May Arboretum Society and revenue from Dragon Lights.



Three new vehicles

The May Arboretum Society accepted the horticulturist proposal to purchase new utility vehicles and granted \$19,032.00 for two carts. The Arboretum also purchased one vehicle using Dragon Lights proceeds (\$9,556.00). Along with these purchases the arboretum was able to acquire a new top-dresser and seeder for the turf areas and new power tools such as blowers and string trimmers.

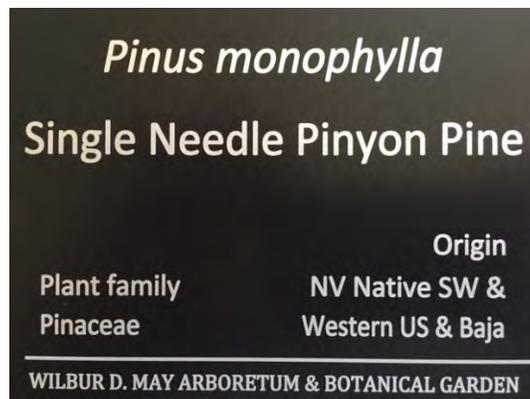
Plant Records



The May Arboretum IRIS BG software is used to inventory and map plants in the Arboretum. This program is used create a plant record for individual plants in the gardens. The system can create reports for individual taxon and species and track all assets (benches, water features etc.) in the Arboretum plus more. Plant records include entering various data regarding the plant, e.g., origin, correct botanical name and family, planting date, where it was purchased and all plants characteristics. Currently the Arboretum inventory is comprised of 4,419 accessions or plant records. This past year the horticulturist accessioned 131 plants from 2018 to 2019. Most of the plants entered were new perennials and new trees.

Curating

Thirty new aluminum botanical markers were installed this past winter. The Horticulturist prioritized the installation based on the rarity and value of the tree. The format includes the common name as well as the scientific name, e.g., family, genus, species and origin. There are over 1,000 markers in the Arboretum that we will be replacing and upgrading.



Interpretive Plan

The horticulturist requested funding for the interpretive plan from the May Arboretum Society in 2018 as requested by the May Foundation. The cost of the plan was \$24,000.00. The May Arboretum Society awarded \$20,000.00 in support of this project. FALLON MEDIA agreed to donate \$2,000.00 of in-kind service toward it and an additional \$2,000.00 was provided by a private donor. Completed in April 2018, the plan includes 35 panels which feature children's panels, a map of the Arboretum, wetland and overlook panels (3) and the remaining panels for individual gardens. Each interpretive board provides a photo, brief history of the garden and highlight the plants.

Below are is an illustrations of the proposed panels. For consistency FALLON MEDIA matched the color of the panel to the existing directional signs in the arboretum and to have the design emulate the arch as seen on the directional signs. The horticulturist provided two bids to fabricate and install the panels. The bids were submitted to the May Foundation in 2018 and are currently be reviewed to award a contract.



Example of Honey's Garden, Dixie and May Grove panels



Example of children's interpretive panels



Example of panels for the overlook and wetland

STATISTICS

Garden rentals are trending up along with donations. Honey's Garden continues to be the most popular of the six gardens.

GARDENS	FY 14-15	FY 15-16	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19
Burke	2	4	5	6	5
Honey's	14	19	8	13	13
Plaza	0	0	1	3	4
Kristen's	1	2	2	0	1
Evans Creek	0	0	2	3	2
Columbus	0	0	1	1	1
Total Number	17	25	19	26	26
Total Revenue	\$12,300	\$14,113	\$8,035	\$15,430	\$17,995

Source	# Donations	\$ Amount
New Memorial Tree	3	\$7,500
Adopt-A-Tree	2	\$1,500
Memorial Bricks	4	\$1,000
General Donations	7	\$3,160
Memorial Benches	3	\$10,500
Projects/In-Kind (MAS)	7	\$109,804
Staffing/In-Kind (MAS)	1	\$64,463
Total Donations		\$197,927
Dragon Lights proceeds	1	\$89,257
Washoe County Projects	1	\$20,500
Total Contributions		\$307,684

	FY 14-15	FY 15-16	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19
Donations	\$27,334	\$83,815	\$39,451	\$169,327	\$197,927

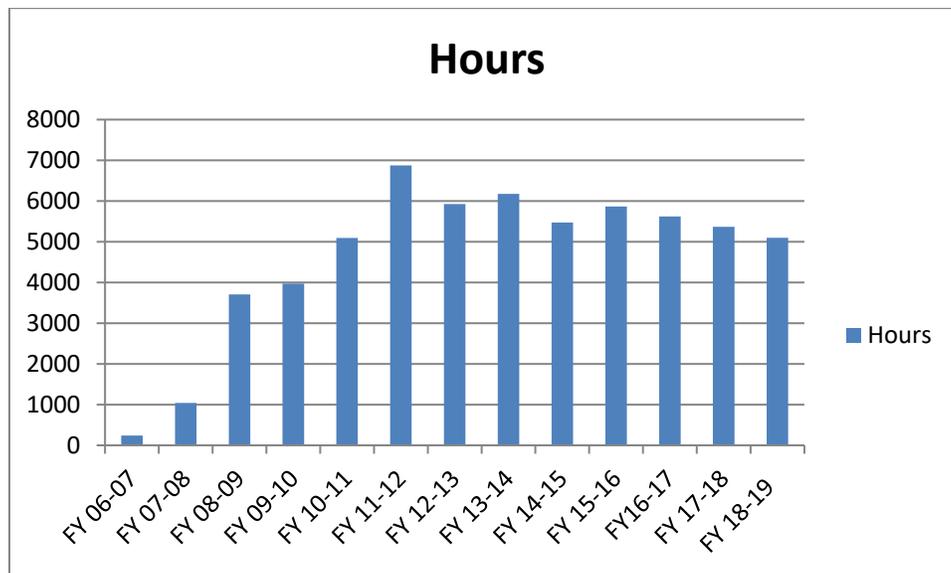
VOLUNTEERS, MANAGEMENT AND RECRUITING

May Arboretum volunteers, May Arboretum Society (MAS) volunteers, interns from Face Forward and Nevada Youth Empowerment programs continue to play an important and critical role in the daily operations of the Arboretum. This year volunteers, interns and County service programs averaged 425 hours of service per month, down slightly from the previous year 447 (11%). The down turn occurred as a result of the declining interest from the Nevada Sierra Job Corps. Prior to 2018-19 fiscal year, the arboretum would secured one or two Job Corps members.

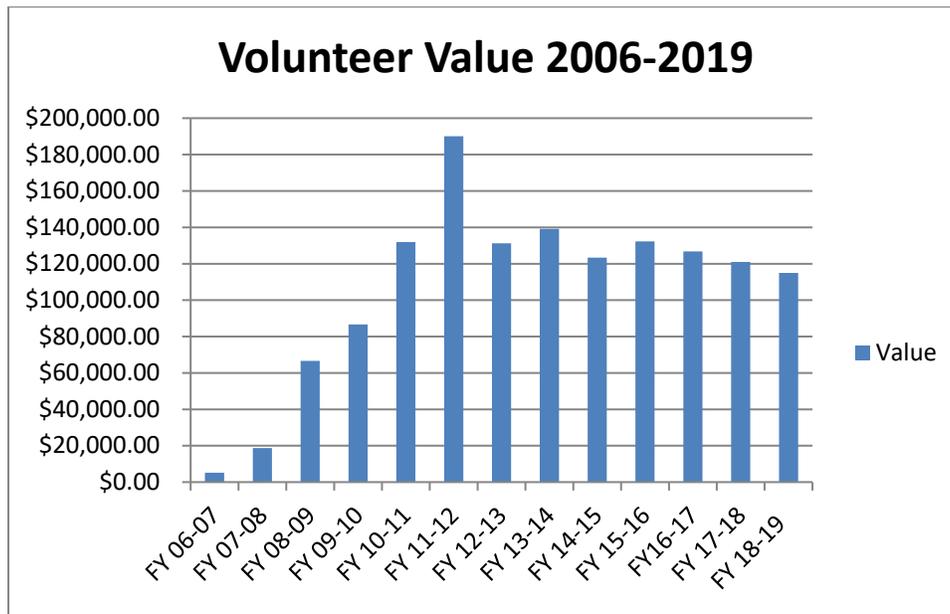
The total number of volunteer hours for the fiscal year, including community volunteers, interns, Crossroads Program, Nevada Youth Empowerment, MAS, and Arboretum volunteers were 5,098 hours. This has a service value of \$114,973.00.

Although we experienced a decline in Job Corps hours, the Arboretum and May Arboretum Society (MAS) volunteer time is trending up. Arboretum and MAS volunteers currently log the majority of the volunteer hours and provide 65% of the labor force compared to the intern service hours from previous years. Washoe County Volunteer Coordinator Denise Evans continues to manage the Arboretum volunteers and the Nevada Youth Empowerment intern. The internships and volunteers assist with filling the labor gap.

2006-2019 TOTAL ABORETUM VOLUNTEER HOURS



2018-2019 TOTAL ARBORETUM VOLUNTEER DOLLAR VALUE



Since the inception of the Arboretum volunteer program, volunteers have provided over \$1.2 million dollars in service to the gardens.

Volunteer Appreciation

Several volunteer and intern appreciation events are held each year by the Parks Volunteer Coordinator, Denise Evans. The Arboretum recognizes volunteers for their efforts by providing acknowledgements from the U.S. Presidential office for their extraordinary service. The number of hours volunteered is a true testament of their commitment and dedication to the May Arboretum.



May Arboretum Society appreciation breakfast during the Balloon Races

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & ASSOCIATIONS

Thanks to the May Foundation, the horticulturist was able to attend the annual American Public Garden Conference in Washing DC., from June 17-21st, 2019. The horticulturist attended the 5 day workshop and garden tours. Seminars attended included: *New Vision for Your Botanical Collection, Excellence in Plant Records, Old Ways and New Ways: Regenerative Thinking in the 21st Century, Germplasm Collection, Path to Long Term Financial Sustainability, USDA Public Garden Partnerships, Advanced Collection Management (Iris GB, two 2 hour session), Inclusion and Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility, Youth and Family Education with a Purpose, Small Garden workshop, Public Private Partnerships, and Bench Marking Your Garden.*



In addition to attending the seminars, the horticulturist visited the US National Arboretum, the Smithsonian and Bishops Garden, the National Cathedral, George Washington's Mount Vernon Farm and Gardens, American Horticultural Society Gardens (Martha Washington's home near the Potomac River) and Gardens on the National Mall. Attending professional conference allows the horticulturist to network with other Public Garden and Arboretum professionals. In addition it inspires the horticulturist to bring new ideas, knowledge and vision to gardens.

Wilbur D. May Museum



Wilbur D. May Museum

PROGRAMS AND EXHIBITS



The Lost World of Dragons (January – May)

The Museum hosted *The Lost World of Dragons* from January – May 2019. We were the first cultural institution in the country to host this brand new exhibit from Stage Nine Exhibitions in Sacramento. The unique exhibition featured life-size animatronic dragons with realistic movements and sound, as well as interactive displays. Visitors learned about dragon mythology throughout time and discovered the connections between dragons in science, literature and the arts.

The Lost World of Dragons exhibition was educational and informative, while also lively and immersive. It was extremely popular with visitors of all ages. One standout element was the virtual reality station, during which visitors could simulate riding a dragon. In addition, visitors enjoyed a number of hands-on stations including stop-motion movie makers, coloring station, fossil dig pit, photo ops and much more.

The Museum offered extended hours during the last month of the exhibition to encourage evening attendance. Other programming included free arts and crafts during Washoe County School District's spring break (conducted by Discovery Room volunteers). The Museum also held a Washoe County Employee Night, with free admission for County employees and their families. Approximately 400 people attended that evening.



Small Expressions Art Exhibition (July)

The Museum hosted the Handweavers Guild of America's "Small Expressions" exhibition. This pop-up exhibition for Artown featured the work of more than two dozen international artists. Each piece was required to be small scale - no more than 15 inches x 15 inches. The textile works varied in technique and material, from weaving to sculpture to jewelry. Pieces were displayed on the walls, pedestals, or in cases. None of the pieces in the exhibition were for sale and admission was free. The show was very well attended and received. More than 700 visitors came to see the exhibition during its 11 public days.



New Directions Art Exhibition (July – September)

The Museum hosted an exhibition featuring the work of six fiber artists from a loose artists collective in California. Each artist had a distinctive style of textile work and the exhibit featured both large and small pieces. The exhibition was free and all work for sale. It was well attended and sales of wall art and bin art were brisk.



Work, Fight, Give Exhibition (September – October)

The Museum hosted “Work, Fight, Give: American Relief Posters of WWII.” This traveling exhibition from Mid-America Arts Alliance featured dozens of original relief posters and memorabilia that focus on the relief efforts during WWII. The exhibition was beautifully designed and worked well in the gallery and lobby space. It received many compliments from visitors.



“Arte de Triomphe” - SWS Winter Exhibition (November – December)

The Museum hosted the Sierra Watercolor Society for their annual winter exhibition of original watercolor paintings. The exhibition featured dozens of wall and bin art pieces with a variety of subjects, including landscapes, animals, botanical, and more. All paintings were available for purchase and admission was free.



Tuba Christmas (December)

The annual Tuba Christmas concert returned to the May Museum. More than 400 visitors attended the event which features an orchestra of tuba, baritone, and euphonium players performing beloved holiday carols. The family-friendly event also offers free admission to the museum, sales in the museum store, and holiday treats and refreshments from the Discovery Room volunteers.



“Seeds of Inspiration” – SWS Spring Exhibition (May – June)

The Museum hosted the Sierra Watercolor Society for their annual botanical-themed spring exhibition of original watercolor paintings. The exhibition featured dozens of wall and bin art pieces focused on plants. All paintings were available for purchase and admission was free.



Other Programming

Find Waldo in Reno (July): The Museum participated in the annual Find Waldo in Reno event organized by Sundance Books and Music. Small cutouts of Waldo were hidden in stores throughout Reno and the public was encouraged to find Waldo by visiting (and shopping). Players had a passport which would be stamped at participating stores where Waldo was found. Sundance offered various prizes to players who found Waldo. The game was popular and many people visited the museum store to look for Waldo.



Great Reno Balloon Race (September): The Museum offered free admission and special hours during the annual Great Reno Balloon Race at Rancho San Rafael Park. More than 800 visitors came through the museum during the three day event.



Museum Day (September): The Museum participated in the annual Museum Day event organized by Smithsonian Magazine. This national event offers visitors free admission to select museums when guests pre-register and download a ticket. Approximately 200 people visited the May Museum.



Nevada Day History Lecture (October): The Museum hosted local historian and author Stanley Paher for a presentation on early Nevada. Stan discussed the early explorers of Nevada, the journey to statehood and mining booms. After the presentation, Stan had a selection of his most popular books for sale.



Adoption Kiosk (October): The Museum hosted the “Nevada Heart Gallery” from the Adoption Exchange and Washoe County Department of Social Services. This kiosk displays photos of children in most need of adoption in the County. Visitors can also take a brochure with more information about the adoption process.

Bridal and Beauty Expo (October & January): The May Center had a booth at the bi-annual Bridal and Beauty Expos to promote rentable facilities at the museum and arboretum.



Museum Studies tour (October): The University of Nevada, Reno's Museum Studies class visited the collection for a lecture and guided tour with Assistant Curator Samantha Szesciorka. Students enjoyed a behind-the-scenes look at the museum.



Election (November): The Museum was a polling place for the 2018 General Election.



Bernice Ende Lecture (November): Renowned long-distance equestrian explorer Bernice Ende visited the museum as part of her national tour. She gave a fascinating and inspiring presentation on her nearly two decades of life on the trail and read selections from her new book. Afterward, she sold and signed copies of her book for attendees.



Yule Steam Expo (November): The Museum hosted the Yule Steam Expo and Ball with High Desert Steam. This two-day celebration of steampunk featured performances, classes and workshops, vendors, specialty food and drinks, book signings and lots of costumes. The event was very successful with more than 400 visitors attending.



Museum Store Sunday (November): The Museum took part in the annual Museum Store Sunday event organized by the Museum Store Association. This event is designed to drive traffic to museum stores around the country by offering special sales and highlighted mission specific products. The May Museum store offered 25% off all items in the store for the one day event.



Presents for Pets (November-December): The Museum held a holiday collection drive to benefit the SPCA of Northern Nevada. The public was asked to drop off items to support pet adoption, including toys, treats, leashes, blankets and more. The collection drive was a resounding success, with several boxes of items collected and donated. The SPCA was very grateful.



Museum Showcase (March): The May Museum participated in the annual Museum Showcase, an annual museum advocacy event organized by the Nevada Museums Association. Two dozen museums from around the state set up tables and activities at the Nevada State Museum, Carson City for a free day designed to promote museums to the public. More than 250 visitors attended the showcase and approximately 80 people attended the private evening event, including several state legislators as well as Congresswoman Dina Titus.

Day at the Museum (May): More than 650 people attended the May Museum during this free event in conjunction with the University of Nevada, Reno. 10 museums on and around the UNR campus offered free admission and activities for the day.

— Join us for a —

DAY at the MUSEUM!

SATURDAY | MAY 4, 2019 | 10 AM TO 4 PM

This event invites visitors to walk the University of Nevada, Reno's National Historic District and tour **10 museums** on and around the campus. Each museum will feature a different hands-on activity or giveaway.

unr.edu/museums

 <p>FLEISCHMANN PLANETARIUM The Place for Space! We feature a dome theater, an exhibit hall, and a science store. Free hands-on activities during Day at the Museum along with our regular schedule, plus 2-for-1 admission to all shows, all day on Saturday, May 4.</p>	 <p>NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY Learn about the silver state's history from the earliest times to the present at Nevada's oldest cultural institution. There will be museum short talks and scavenger hunts during the day. Visit the most extensive photography and research collections library in the West.</p>	 <p>THE LILLEY MUSEUM OF ART In the new University Art Building, with two major exhibitions. Stop by to see the new museum space, visible storage, and works on paper room and have the chance to learn about and handle ancient art from China, Egypt, and Rome.</p>	 <p>BIGGEST LITTLE POLLINATOR GARDEN Come see what all the buzz is about and celebrate pollinators in the Biggest Little Pollinator Garden! Numerous public and private partners will be in the garden where there will be native plant tours, a scavenger hunt, native bee and butterfly specimens, a bug petting zoo, poster and plant giveaways, and much more!</p>	 <p>BLACK ROCK PRESS Black Rock Press, a working museum of all things print and publication, will have a letterpress printing demo in which participants will hand crank a Vandercook letterpress and leave with their own piece of printed ephemeral.</p>
 <p>W. M. KECK MUSEUM We will have hands-on activities with 250 million year old Ichthyosaur fossils and minerals in our 107-year-old space.</p>	 <p>MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY Visitors can see animals and plants of the Great Basin, including live reptiles and insects, get a behind-the-scenes look at our historic museum collections, and talk with scientists who work in our region!</p>	 <p>THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO ARBORETUM We will help you to identify campus trees and will be selling copies of A Visitor's Guide to the University of Nevada, Reno Arboretum, hot off the press.</p>	 <p>SPECIAL COLLECTIONS In the Mathewson-IGT Special Collections presents Closer to the Land, an exhibit showcasing written and visual materials about Nevada's diverse landscapes and wildlife, with related activities for kids.</p>	 <p>WILBUR D. MAY MUSEUM Explore the Lost World of Dragons exhibit with larger than life animatronics, virtual reality, and more! Also check out the museum's collection of artifacts and animals from around the world. Located inside Rancho San Rafael Park.</p>

This event is ideal for families and anybody who is interested in art, history, earth science, life science and even outer space.



University of Nevada, Reno

JTB&S 019

Statistics

Museum Attendance

	FY 14-15	FY 15-16	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19
Total Attendance	29,972	30,736	29,634	28,333	26,471

Exhibits

Exhibit	FY 14-15	FY 15-16	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19
Program Title	Grossology	Snakes Alive	Toytopia	Hall of Heroes	Lost World of Dragons
Operating Days	82	66	62	67	76
Attendance	16,588	15,286	16,576	10,562	15,400
Revenue	\$135,021	\$136,135	\$136,482	\$92,064	\$156,436
Expense	\$201,066	\$211,975	\$218,658	\$181,875	\$227,055
Operating Profit	(\$66,085)	(\$75,840)	(\$82,176)	(\$89,811)	(\$70,619)
Grants/Donations	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$92,000	\$100,000
Profit/Loss	\$33,955	\$24,160	\$17,824	\$2,189	\$29,380

**Dragons 2019
Revenues and Attendance**

	Adult (\$10.00)	Child (\$9.00)	Senior (\$9.00)	Group (\$6.00)	Under 3 (Free)	Special event (Free) *	Total
Total Projected Attendance	2,500	3,000	1,000	4,500	900	-	11,900
Total Projected Revenues \$	\$ 25,000	\$ 27,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 27,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 88,000
Total Actual Attendance	5,009	3,860	1,133	3,290	843	1,265	15,400
Total Actual Revenues \$	\$ 50,090	\$ 34,740	\$ 10,197	\$ 19,740	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 114,767

* Special event: VIP passes, Free Museum day, County night

Revenues and Expenses

	Dragons Exhibit		
	Exhibit	Gift Shop	Total
<u>Revenues:</u>			
Admission fees	\$ 114,767	\$ -	\$ 114,767
Wilbur May Foundation donation	100,000	-	100,000
Concessions	-	41,669	41,669
Total Revenues	214,767	41,669	256,436
<u>Direct Expenses:</u>			
Exhibit Rentals & Shipping	77,550	-	77,550
Seasonal Staff	34,888	-	34,888
Printing	2,044	-	2,044
Advertising	7,538	-	7,538
Supplies	3,254	-	3,254
Credit card fees	3,902	1,417	5,319
Gift shop cost of sales	-	20,835	20,835
Total Direct Expenses	129,176	22,251	151,427
<u>Indirect Expenses:</u>			
Full Time Staff (2)	71,388	-	71,388
Utilities	4,240	-	4,240
Total Indirect Expenses	75,628	-	75,628
Total Expenses	204,804	22,251	227,056
Net Revenue/ (Expenses)	\$ 9,963	\$ 19,418	\$ 29,380

Facility Reservations

	FY 14-15	FY 15-16	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19
# of Reservations	16	32	32	41	39
Revenue	\$14,385	\$44,465	\$42,795	\$56,185	\$64,285

Gift Store

	FY 14-15	FY 15-16	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19
Gross Sales	\$32,161	\$44,339	\$36,042	\$41,388	\$64,991
Cost of Goods	\$15,842	\$20,702	\$18,188	*unavailable	\$30,852
Gross Profit	\$16,475	\$23,637	\$17,854	*unavailable	\$34,139
Margin Analysis	51%	53%	50%	*unavailable	52%

*Note: In April of 2018 the County transitioned to a new point of sale system. In the transfer we could not recover inventory data, including the numbers to determine margin analysis.

Art Concessions

	FY 14-15	FY 15-16	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19
Art Sales	\$1,514	\$7,808	\$5,922	\$2,597	\$2,834

Volunteers

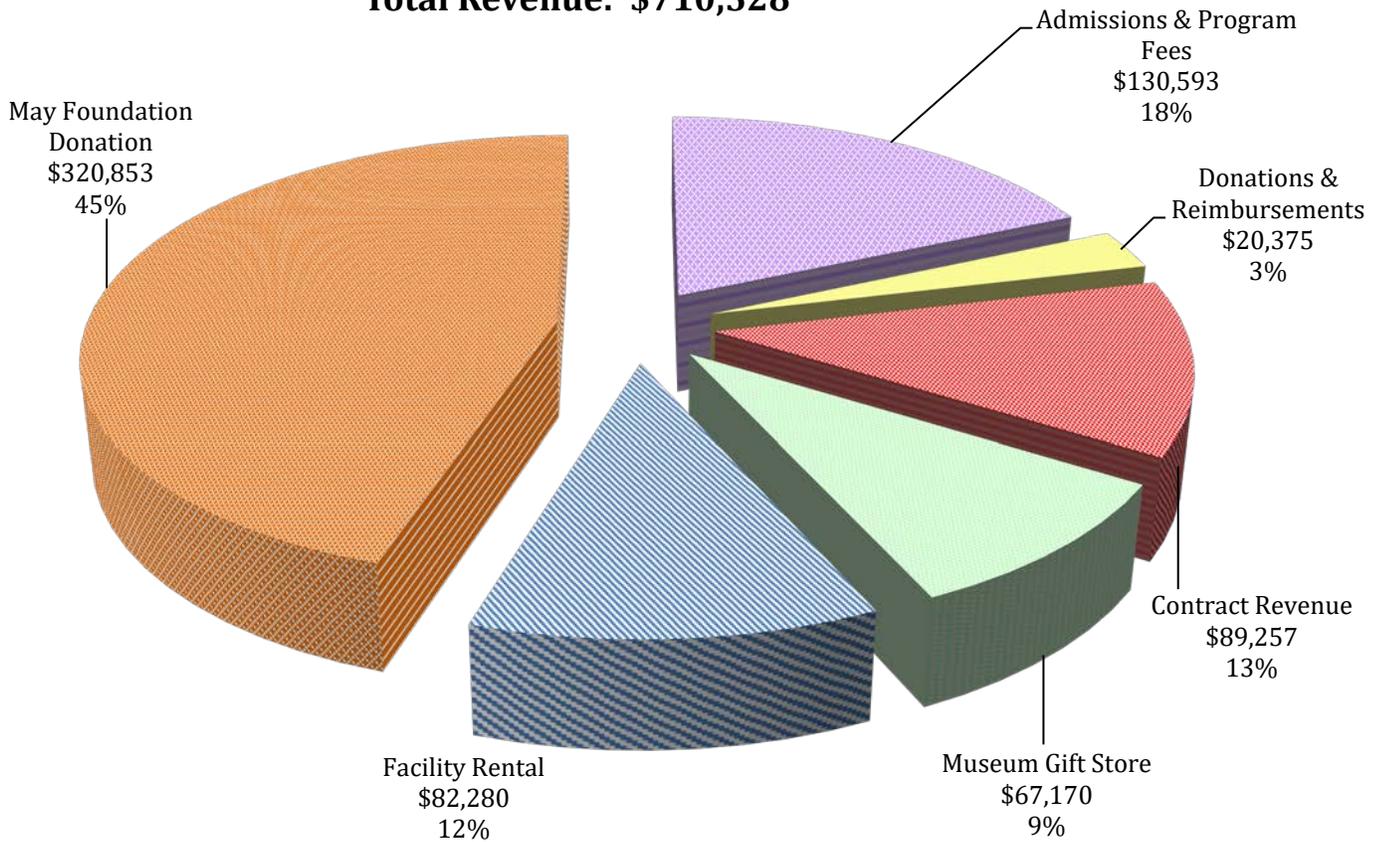
	FY 14-15	FY 15-16	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19
# of Volunteer & Intern Hours	1,007	856	222	447	165
\$ Value of Volunteers & Interns	\$23,232	\$20,173	\$5,353	\$11,036	\$4,196

Financial Summary



Wilbur D. May Museum and Arboretum
Revenues
Fiscal Year 2019
 July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019

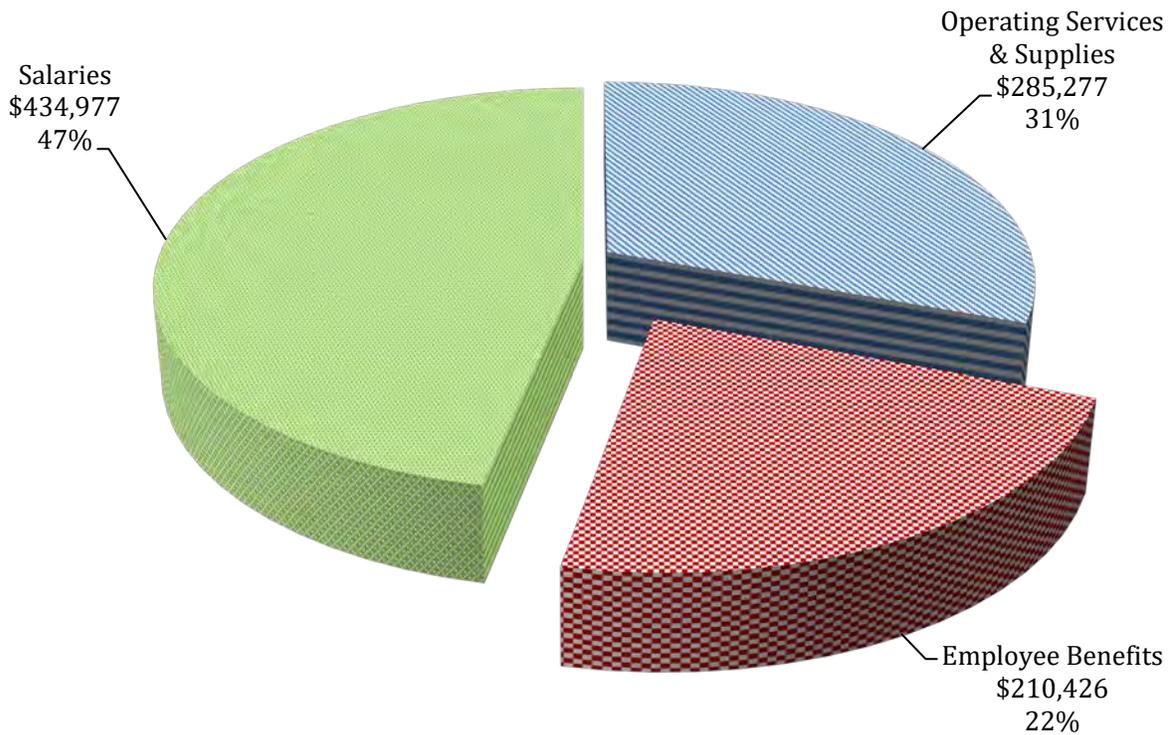
Total Revenue: \$710,528



	FY 2019		FY 2018		FY 2017		FY 2016		FY 2015	
May Foundation Donation	\$ 320,785	45%	\$ 330,745	58%	\$ 316,402	55%	\$ 324,397	50%	\$ 312,847	58%
Admissions & Program Fees	\$ 130,593	18%	109,002	19%	140,665	24%	139,109	21%	146,118	27%
Contract Revenue	\$ 89,257	13%	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%
Donations & Reimbursements	\$ 20,443	3%	33,762	6%	31,509	5%	84,640	13%	27,485	5%
Museum Gift Store	\$ 67,170	9%	38,187	7%	36,042	6%	44,339	7%	32,161	6%
Facility Rental	\$ 82,280	12%	60,465	11%	50,830	9%	58,578	9%	22,960	4%
Total	\$ 710,528	100%	\$ 572,161	100%	\$ 575,447	100%	\$ 651,063	100%	\$ 541,571	100%

Wilbur D. May Museum and Arboretum
Expenses
Fiscal Year 2019
 July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019

Total Expense: \$930,679



	FY 2019		FY 2018		FY 2017		FY 2016		FY 2015	
Salaries	\$ 434,977	47%	\$ 407,639	47%	\$ 372,188	49%	\$ 369,101	49%	\$ 345,196	49%
Employee Benefits	\$ 210,426	23%	\$ 201,953	23%	\$ 180,168	23%	\$ 137,188	18%	\$ 121,113	17%
Services & supplies	\$ 285,277	31%	\$ 259,413	30%	\$ 214,720	28%	\$ 253,242	33%	\$ 233,406	33%
Total	\$ 930,679	100%	\$ 869,005	100%	\$ 767,076	100%	\$ 759,530	100%	\$ 699,715	100%
% change	7.1%		13.3%		1.0%		8.5%			

FY 2019 Salaries & Benefits include the following positions:	
Museum:	Arboretum:
Curator - 1 full time position	Horticulturist - 1 full time position
Assistant Curator - 1 full time position	Horticultural Assistant - 1 full time position
Seasonal Staff - 4 positions	Maintenance Worker II - 1 full time position
	Seasonal Staff - 4 positions

Wilbur D. May Museum and Arboretum
Statement of Revenues and Expenses
Fiscal Year 2019
July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019

All Wilbur D. May Center activities are supported and reportable through the County's financial systems

	Arboretum Total Operations	Museum Total Operations	Total Operations
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REVENUES:

Admission Fee	\$ -	\$ 130,593	\$ 130,593
Gift Store Sales (including art concessions)	-	67,170	67,170
Contract Revenue	89,257	-	89,257
Facility Rental	17,995	64,285	82,280
TOTAL EARNED INCOME	107,252	262,048	369,300
Wilbur May Foundation Donations	105,785	215,000	320,785
Public Donations	20,305	138	20,443
TOTAL GRANT AND DONATIONS	126,090	215,138	341,228
TOTAL REVENUES	233,342	477,186	710,528

EXPENDITURES:

Full Time Salaries (5 positions)	204,539	133,805	338,344
Seasonal Positions	50,859	45,773	96,632
TOTAL SALARIES AND WAGES	255,398	179,578	434,977
Group & Retiree Health Insurance	62,065	41,147	103,212
Retirement	57,341	37,466	94,807
Medicare (hire after April 1986)	2,450	1,472	3,922
Workmens & Unemployment Compensation	6,047	2,439	8,486
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	127,903	82,523	210,426
TOTAL PERSONNEL COSTS	383,301	262,102	645,403
Professional Services (exhibit rentals/presenters)	-	82,585	82,585
Contracted/Temp Services	8,313	24,003	32,316
Service Contracts	572	674	1,247
Laundry Services	-	294	294
Repairs & Maintenance	1,097	4,377	5,474
Operating Supplies	4,285	22,655	26,940
Parts and Supplies	1,699	17,488	19,187
Signs & Markers	-	265	265
Office Supplies	97	887	984
Books/Subscriptions	-	195	195
Postage/Express Courier	-	399	399
Irrigation Supplies	2,605	-	2,605
Horticulture Supplies	970	1,699	2,669
Tree program	22	-	22
Fuel & Lube	2,441	-	2,441
Printing	-	2,748	2,748
Licenses & permits	-	80	80
Other Miscellaneous Expense	49,587	-	49,587
Telephone-Land Lines Only	977	1,224	2,201
Cellular Phone	1,181	-	1,181
Auto expenses	-	153	153
Seminars, Meetings and Memberships	-	75	75
Credit Card Fees	-	10,172	10,172
Advertising	-	9,412	9,412
Food purchases	-	43	43
Utilities	238	9,109	9,347
Water/Sewer	279	279	557
Natural Gas	204	3,462	3,665
Equipment nonCapital	16,255	-	16,255
Computer nonCapital	2,178	-	2,178
TOTAL OPERATING SERVICES & SUPPLIES	93,000	192,276	285,277
TOTAL EXPENSES	476,301	454,378	930,679
NET REVENUES (EXPENSES)	\$ (242,959)	\$ 22,808	\$ (220,151)

Wilbur D. May Arboretum & Botanical Garden
Statement of Revenues and Expenses
Fiscal Year 2019
July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019

All Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden activities are supported and reportable through the County's financial systems

	Washoe County General Fund Support⁽¹⁾	Public Donations & Other Sources⁽²⁾	May Foundation Operations Support	Total Operations
REVENUES:				
Contract Revenue	\$ -	\$ 89,257	\$ -	\$ 89,257
Facility Rental	17,995	-	-	17,995
TOTAL EARNED INCOME	17,995	89,257	-	107,252
Wilbur May Foundation Donations	-	-	105,785	105,785
Public Donations	-	20,305	-	20,305
TOTAL GRANT AND DONATIONS	-	20,305	105,785	126,090
TOTAL REVENUES	17,995	109,562	105,785	233,342
EXPENDITURES:				
Full Time Salaries (3 positions)	156,063	-	48,476	204,539
Seasonal Positions	13,230	-	37,630	50,859
TOTAL SALARIES AND WAGES	169,293	-	86,105	255,398
Group & Retiree Health Insurance	47,060	-	15,005	62,065
Retirement	43,698	-	13,643	57,341
Medicare (hire after April 1986)	1,765	-	685	2,450
Workmens & Unemployment Compensation	4,183	-	1,864	6,047
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	96,706	-	31,197	127,903
TOTAL PERSONNEL COSTS	265,999	-	117,302	383,301
Contracted/Temp Services	-	8,313	-	8,313
Service Contracts	572	-	-	572
Repairs & Maintenance	1,060	37	-	1,097
Operating Supplies	2,663	1,622	-	4,285
Parts and Supplies	1,299	-	400	1,699
Office Supplies	97	-	-	97
Irrigation Supplies	2,605	-	-	2,605
Horticulture Supplies	970	-	-	970
Tree Program	22	-	-	22
Fuel & Lube	900	1,541	-	2,441
Other Miscellaneous Expense	207	48,995	385	49,587
Telephone-Land Lines Only	977	-	-	977
Cellular Phone, Network and Data	1,181	-	-	1,181
Utilities	238	-	-	238
Water/Sewer	279	-	-	279
Natural Gas	204	-	-	204
Equipment nonCapital	-	16,255	-	16,255
Computers nonCapital	-	2,178	-	2,178
TOTAL OPERATING SERVICES & SUPPLIES	13,275	78,940	785	93,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	279,274	78,940	118,087	476,301
NET REVENUES (EXPENSES)	\$ (261,279)	\$ 30,622	\$ (12,302)	\$ (242,959)

(1) Direct Washoe County General Fund support of Arboretum operations.

(2) Public Donations & Other Sources: Expenses used current year donations and cash balance from prior year donations; includes contract revenue earned from Dragon Lights Festival

Wilbur D. May Museum
Statement of Revenues and Expenses
Fiscal Year 2019
July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019

All Wilbur D. May Museum activities are supported and reportable through the County's financial systems

	Operations & May Foundation Support	Exhibit & May Foundation Support	Total Operations
REVENUES:			
Admission Fee	\$ 15,826	\$ 114,767	\$ 130,593
Gift Store Sales	25,501	41,669	67,170
Facility Rental	64,285	-	64,285
TOTAL EARNED INCOME	105,612	156,436	262,048
Wilbur May Foundation Donations	115,000	100,000	215,000
Public Donations	138	-	138
TOTAL GRANTS AND DONATIONS	115,138	100,000	215,138
TOTAL REVENUES	220,750	256,436	477,186
EXPENDITURES:			
Full Time Salaries (2 positions)	89,650	44,156	133,805
Seasonal Positions	22,886	22,886	45,773
TOTAL SALARIES AND WAGES	112,536	67,042	179,578
Group & Retiree Health Insurance	27,569	13,579	41,147
Retirement	25,102	12,364	37,466
Medicare (hire after April 1986)	986	486	1,472
Workmens & Unemployment Compensation	1,634	805	2,439
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	55,291	27,233	82,523
TOTAL PERSONNEL COSTS	167,827	94,275	262,102
Professional Services (exhibit rentals/presenters)	5,035	77,550	82,585
Contracted/Temp Services	12,002	12,002	24,003
Service Contracts (security alarm)	674	-	674
Laundry Services	294	-	294
Repair & Maintenance	4,377	-	4,377
Operating Supplies (gift store inventory & operating)	1,820	20,835	22,655
Parts and Supplies	15,488	2,000	17,488
Signs and Markers	265	-	265
Office Supplies	887	-	887
Books/Subscriptions	195	-	195
Postage/Express Courier	399	-	399
Horticulture Supplies	445	1,254	1,699
Printing	704	2,044	2,748
Licenses & permits	80	-	80
Telephone-Land Lines	1,224	-	1,224
Auto expenses	153	-	153
Seminars, Meetings and Memberships	75	-	75
Credit Card Fees	4,853	5,319	10,172
Advertising	1,874	7,538	9,412
Food purchases	43	-	43
Utilities	6,103	3,006	9,109
Water/Sewer	187	92	279
Natural Gas	2,319	1,142	3,462
TOTAL OPERATING SERVICES & SUPPLIES	59,495	132,781	192,276
TOTAL EXPENSES	227,322	227,056	454,378
NET REVENUES (EXPENSES)	\$ (6,572)	\$ 29,380	\$ 22,808

Exhibit for the year : Dragons

Wilbur D. May Arboretum & Botanical Garden FY2019 and FY2018 Financial Comparison July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019

	FY 2019	FY 2018	Increase/ (Decrease)
May Foundation Donation	\$ 105,785	\$ 105,000	\$ 785
Contract Revenue	89,257	-	89,257
Donations & Reimbursements	20,305	32,928	(12,623)
Facility Rental	17,995	15,430	2,565
Total Revenues	233,342	153,358	79,985
Personnel Costs	383,301	365,954	17,347
Services & Supplies	93,000	47,801	45,199
Total Expenses	476,301	413,755	62,546
Net Revenues/ (Expenses)	\$ (242,959)	\$ (260,397)	\$ 17,439

- Revenues were \$79,985 higher than prior year mainly due to the Dragon Lights Festival, a new event in FY2019, offset by lower donation received from the public.
- Donations support cost of supplies and landscape materials for the Arboretum.
- Garden rental revenues saw a slight increase of \$2,565 from last year mostly from Honey's garden and Plaza garden reservations and rental fee increases effective July 1, 2018.

Arboretum	FY2019	FY2018	Increase/ (Decrease)
Honey's Garden	15	13	2
Burke's Garden	4	6	(2)
Kristen's Garden	-	-	-
Evans Creek Garden	2	3	(1)
Columbus Garden	1	1	-
Plaza Garden	4	3	1
Total # of Rentals	26	26	-
Total Rental Revenue	\$ 17,995	\$ 15,430	\$ 2,565

- Personnel costs were higher than prior year due to cost of living allowance (COLA) and health insurance cost increases.
- Services and supplies were \$45,199 higher than prior year due to irrigation repairs, purchase of a turf cart and applicator/seeder funded by revenues from the Dragon light festival.
- No Washoe County general services overhead fees were charged starting FY2016 and are not expected to be re-implemented in the future.
- May Arboretum Society endowment donations are not included in County operating revenue or expense information.

Wilbur D. May Museum
FY2019 and FY2018 Financial Comparison
 July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019

	FY 2019	FY 2018	Increase/ (Decrease)
May Foundation Donation	\$ 215,000	\$ 225,745	\$ (10,745)
Admissions & Program Fees	130,593	109,002	21,591
Donations & Reimbursements	138	834	(696)
Museum Gift Store	67,170	38,187	28,983
Facility Rental	64,285	45,035	19,250
Total Revenues	477,186	418,803	58,383
Personnel Costs	262,102	243,639	18,463
Services & Supplies	192,276	211,611	(19,335)
Total Expenses	454,378	455,250	(872)
Net Revenues/ (Expenses)	\$ 22,808	\$ (36,447)	\$ 59,254

- Total revenues were \$58,383 higher than prior year due to the gift store sales, admission fees, and facility rental fees.
 - Gift store revenue increased 76% over prior year due to sales from the Dragon Exhibit and new merchandise inventory orders from the Las Vegas market trip attended by the Assistant Curator. The trip was generously funded by the May Foundation.
 - Admission Fee is 20% higher than last year due to Dragons Exhibit bringing in more visitors than Hall of Heroes. In addition, there was an increase in paid programs throughout the year.
 - Facility rental revenue increased 43% over last year's although there were 2 more reservations in FY2018 (41 reservations) versus FY2019 (39 reservations). The reason for the higher revenue can be attributed to rental fee increases and the addition of a new facility after hour fee effective July 1, 2018. There were also several reservations with extended hours of rental and kitchen add-on fees.
- Total expenses for FY 2019 showed a slight decrease of \$872 from last year due to services and supplies offset by an increase in personnel cost.
 - Personnel costs increased due to cost of living allowance (COLA) and health insurance cost increases.
 - Services and supplies decreased due to savings in shipping from the Dragon exhibit. In addition, FY19 exhibit rental fees for the Dragons and the World War II poster exhibits were lower than FY2018's Hall of Heroes and Sherlock Holmes exhibits.
- No Washoe County general services overhead fees were charged starting FY2016 and are not expected to be re-implemented in the future.

Wilbur D. May Museum and Arboretum Completed Projects FY2019

Projects	Wilbur May Foundation Supported Projects	County General Fund & Community Supported Projects	Total Projects
Museum - Marketing - KNPB	\$ 6,037	\$ -	\$ 6,037
Museum - Marketing - ThisisReno.com	5,515	-	5,515
Museum - Marketing-Getaway Reno-Tahoe	4,500	-	4,500
Arboretum - Greenhouse shed	5,725	-	5,725
Arboretum - Tree pruning	10,000	-	10,000
Arboretum - Trail Maps	5,850	-	5,850
Arboretum Honey's Garden new pump/ basin waterfall	-	20,500	20,500
Museum Utility trench cover replacement	-	4,675	4,675
Museum Kitchen floor repairs	-	46,496	46,496
Museum Fire sprinkler system repairs	-	3,840	3,840
Total Cost	\$ 37,627	\$ 75,511	\$ 113,137
Total Museum	\$ 16,052	\$ 55,011	\$ 71,062
Total Arboretum	21,575	20,500	42,075
Total Cost	\$ 37,627	\$ 75,511	\$ 113,137

**Washoe County Direct Cash Contributions
Fiscal Year 2019**

Arboretum direct operating support	\$ 279,274
Arboretum Honey's Garden new pump/basin waterfall	20,500
Community Services Dept-Regional Parks total	299,774
Facility Maintenance Support-Arboretum	1,840
Facility Maintenance Support-Museum	12,063
Museum Utility trench plate/cover replacement	4,675
Museum Kitchen floor repairs	46,496
Museum Fire sprinkler system repairs	3,840
Irrigation Water-main water source (Estimated)	17,543
Community Services Dept-Facility Management total	86,457
Total County contribution	\$ 386,231

Facility Maintenance Support-Arboretum includes:

- Preventive maintenance - furnace, water heater, HVAC
- Wooden hand rail repair at Honey's garden
- Electrical for new transformer & water feature at Honey's garden
- Bathroom fixtures repairs
- Greenhouse pumps activation

Facility Maintenance Support-Museum includes:

- Preventive maintenance - furnace, water heater, HVAC
- Dragon exhibit - banners installation, new ceiling plug
- Fire system repairs
- Swamp cooler at the Discovery room
- Replace lights, fixtures, hardware
- Kitchen and bathroom repairs and maintenance
- Pest control services

Wilbur D. May Building Fund
Federated Investors Account Status Report
Cash Account Activity - Fiscal Year 2019

CASH ACCOUNT BALANCE AS OF 7-1-18			\$339,532.60
Checks issued:			
8/23/2018	#1896	Travel Reimbursement-Samantha S.	\$757.33
8/29/2018	#1897	John Crandell Tree Care-from 2017 fund balance	1,200.00
10/16/2018	#1898	1st Qtr O & M & Exhibit Support	75,000.00
10/16/2018	#1899	1st Qtr Assistant Curator subsidy	5,000.00
10/25/2018	#1900	Travel Reimbursement-Samantha S.	1,098.15
11/15/2018	#1901	KNPB Channel 5	6,036.70
12/3/2018	#1902	2nd Qtr O & M & Exhibit Support	75,000.00
12/3/2018	#1903	Good Morning Publications, LLC-Getaway Reno-Tahoe	4,500.00
12/27/2018	#010150	2nd Qtr Assistant Curator subsidy	5,000.00
1/2/2019	#010151	Ross Recreation Equipment - May Arboretum benches	3,646.00
1/2/2019	#010152	Coulter & Associates - May Arboretum Trail Maps	2,925.00
2/1/2019	#010153	John Crandell Tree Care - Tree pruning	10,000.00
2/1/2019	#010154	Conrad Communicatons LLC- ThisIsReno.com	5,515.00
3/14/2019	#010155	3rd Qtr O & M & Exhibit Support	75,000.00
3/14/2019	#010157	3rd Qtr Assistant Curator subsidy	5,000.00
4/23/2019	#010158	4th Qtr O & M & Exhibit Support	75,000.00
4/23/2019	#010159	4th Qtr Assistant Curator subsidy	5,000.00
4/23/2019	#010160	Arboretum Shed supplies-from 2016 fund balance	785.10
Total Checks Issued			(356,463.28)
Accrued Interest/Investment Income 7-1-18 thru 6-30-19			4,319.34
Wilbur May Foundation Receipts			
8/10/2018	#1329	Travel Reimbursement-Samantha S.-Aug	757.33
10/8/2018	#1339	Arboretum Benches	3,646.00
10/18/2018	#1344	Marketing 2018 funding request- ThisIsReno.com	5,515.00
10/18/2018	#1344	Marketing 2018 funding request- KNPB	6,036.70
10/18/2018	#1344	Marketing 2018 funding request- Getaway Reno-Tahoe	4,500.00
10/18/2018	#1345	Travel Reimbursement-Samantha S.-Oct	1,098.15
12/12/2018	#1367	Arboretum Tree pruning	10,000.00
5/1/2019	#1392	FY 20 O & M Museum, Arboretum, Exhibit	250,000.00
5/1/2019	#1393	FY 20 Traveling exhibits	50,000.00
5/1/2019	#1394	FY 20 Assistant Curator support	20,000.00
5/14/2019	#1398	Security cameras	11,163.00
Total Wilbur May Foundation Receipts			362,716.18
CASH ACCOUNT BALANCE AS OF 6-30-19			\$ 350,104.84

Cash balance includes the following fiscal year's (FY20) operating support

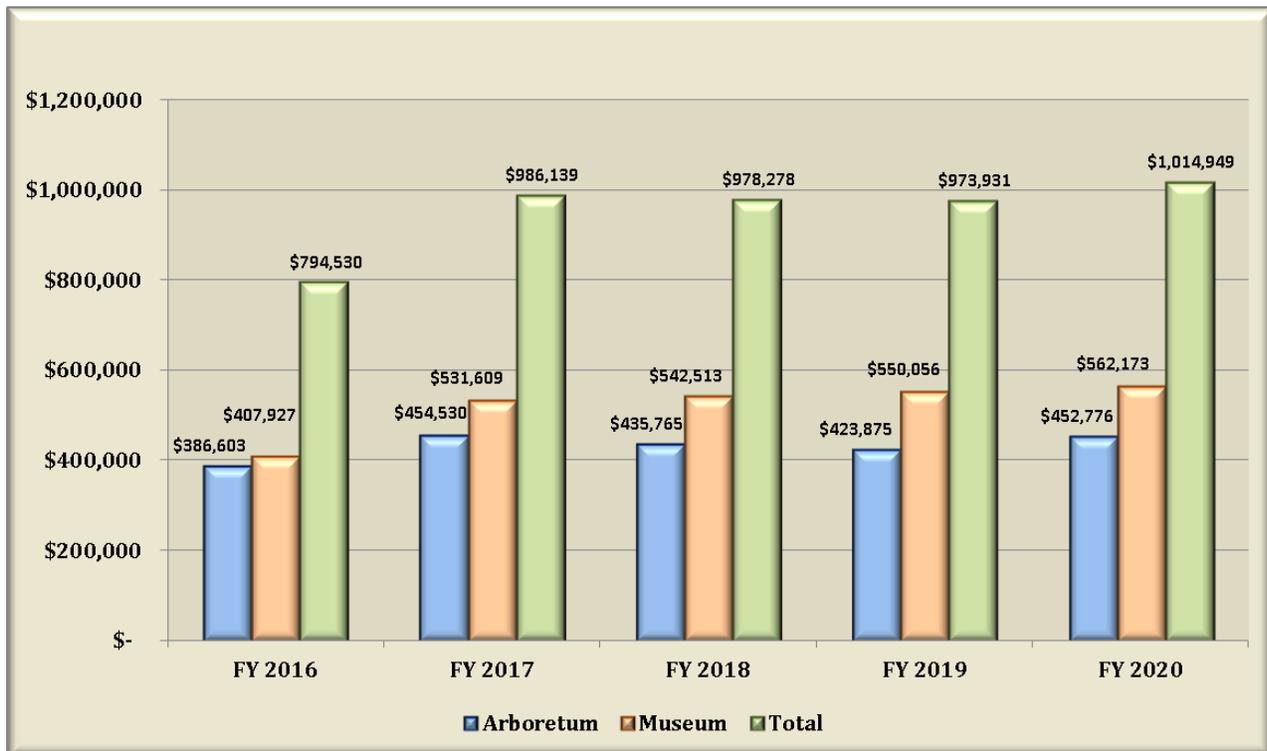
Wilbur D. May Museum and Arboretum
Statement of Revenues and Expenses
Fiscal Year 2020 Budget
July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020

All Wilbur D. May Center activities are supported and reportable through the County's financial systems

	Arboretum Total Operations Budget	Museum Total Operations Budget	Total Operations Budget
REVENUES:			
Admission Fee	\$ -	\$ 213,408	\$ 213,408
Gift Store Sales (including art concessions)	-	30,000	30,000
Facility Rental	15,000	34,000	49,000
TOTAL CHARGES FOR SERVICES	15,000	277,408	292,408
Wilbur May Foundation Donations	105,000	215,000	320,000
Public Donations	-	-	-
TOTAL GRANT AND DONATIONS	105,000	215,000	320,000
TOTAL REVENUES	120,000	492,408	612,408
EXPENDITURES:			
Full Time Salaries (5 positions)	208,797	140,654	349,451
Seasonal Positions	54,652	47,591	102,243
TOTAL SALARIES AND WAGES	263,449	188,245	451,694
Group & Retiree Health Insurance	55,479	39,965	95,444
Retirement	60,919	40,791	101,710
Medicare (hire after April 1986)	1,751	872	2,623
Workmens & Unemployment Compensation	4,474	1,119	5,592
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	122,622	82,746	205,368
TOTAL PERSONNEL COSTS	386,071	270,992	657,062
Professional Services (exhibit rentals/presenters)	-	157,807	157,807
Contracted/Temp Services	-	24,963	24,963
Service Contracts	525	14,000	14,525
Laundry Services	-	250	250
Repairs & Maintenance	1,444	10,000	11,444
Operating Supplies	553	21,784	22,337
Parts and Supplies	1,000	15,000	16,000
Signs & Markers	-	2,300	2,300
Chemical Supplies	250	-	250
Office Supplies	200	1,250	1,450
Books/Subscriptions	-	100	100
Express and Courier and Postage	20	50	70
Irrigation Supplies	4,130	-	4,130
Horticulture Supplies	950	1,500	2,450
Tree program	250	-	250
Fuel & Lube	228	-	228
Other Expenses	53,455	4,000	57,455
Printing	350	2,195	2,545
Licenses & Permits	-	182	182
Rental Equipment	-	500	500
Insurance Deductible & Premiums	150	300	450
Telephone-Land Lines Only	1,048	1,500	2,548
Cellular Phone	1,782	-	1,782
Auto expense	-	200	200
Seminars, Meetings and Memberships	-	100	100
Credit Card Fees	-	3,500	3,500
Advertising	-	12,500	12,500
Food purchases	-	1,000	1,000
Utilities	105	11,000	11,105
Water/Sewer	135	200	335
Natural Gas	130	5,000	5,130
TOTAL OPERATING SERVICES & SUPPLIES	66,706	291,181	357,887
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	452,776	562,173	1,014,949
NET REVENUES (EXPENDITURES)	\$ (332,776)	\$ (69,765)	\$ (402,541)

May Museum & Arboretum Operating Budget

Operating budget remains relatively flat for the last three fiscal years. In FY2020, operating budget shows a slight increase compared to prior year mainly from personnel cost. Cost of living allowances (COLA), insurance and retirement costs increased and are reflected in the budget. Services and supplies budget remains a challenge for the Arboretum. However, the Arboretum enjoys the continued support of and partnership with the May Arboretum Society.



Budget	Total Expenses		
	Arboretum	Museum	Total
FY 2016	\$ 386,603	\$ 407,927	\$ 794,530
FY 2017	\$ 454,530	\$ 531,609	\$ 986,139
FY 2018	\$ 435,765	\$ 542,513	\$ 978,278
FY 2019	\$ 423,875	\$ 550,056	\$ 973,931
FY 2020	\$ 452,776	\$ 562,173	\$ 1,014,949

Marketing & Public Relations



Marketing & Public Relations



- “Beautiful Koi pond, love the history, beautiful walk thru the gardens! Perfect wedding venue or just a fun weekend activity.”
- “Great place to take pictures... beautiful plant life and the flowers are magnificent.”
- “It was so fun to see the dragons. The staff was very friendly.”
- “Always something special happening at the Wilbur D. May Center! I take my grandkids and they always love it (20 months to 12 years).”
- “The kids had a blast with the dragon exhibit! I love that the exhibits change, offering new information and experiences for people of all ages!”
- “They always have a learning experience waiting for their visitors.”
- “Love the gardens, the art, and exhibits.”
- “Both imaginative and educational; highly recommend.”
- “Absolutely beautiful and enlightening exhibition, soooo many artifacts and curios, let alone the life story of a great Nevadan.”
- “Expansive grounds, great species, beautifully cultivated collections, whether you're a plant geek or just enjoy a beautiful walk, this is THE place to go in Northern Nevada for a walk among the trees.”
- “Awesome little gem in Reno.”
- “Absolutely a beautiful museum with plenty of sights in the surrounding San Rafael Park. Each month there's always a new exhibit which is great for learning and worth getting out of the house.”



Paid Advertising Breakdown

May Foundation Funded: KNPB (print, online, television), Getaway Reno-Tahoe (hotel guide), ThisIsReno.com

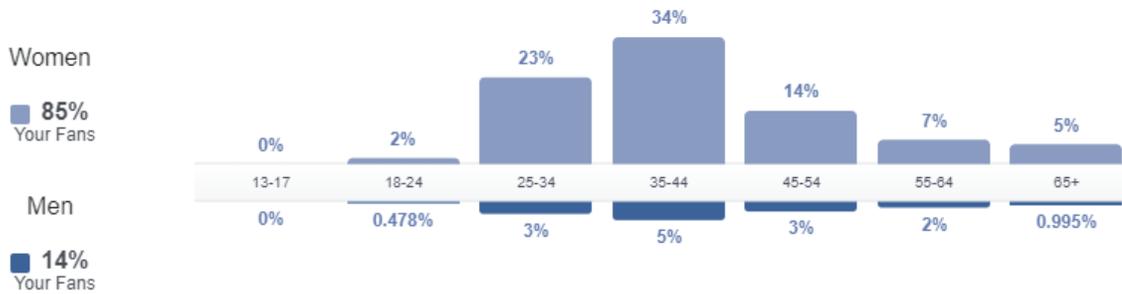
Washoe County Funded: Certified (rack cards), website, all other online advertising, printing, wedding fairs

Facebook

Page Likes	Page Likes Last Report	Percentage Change
5,230	5,067	+ 3.22%

Page	Total Page Likes
1  The Discovery	13.9K 
2  Fleischmann Planetarium	10.7K 
YOU 3  Wilbur D. May Center	5.2K 
4  National Automobile Mu...	4.9K 
5  Nevada State Museum	2.5K 
6  Nevada Historical Society	2.1K 

Aggregated demographic data about the people who like your Page based on the age and gender information that they provide in their user profiles. This number is an estimate.



Twitter



[Edit profile](#)

Wilbur D. May Center

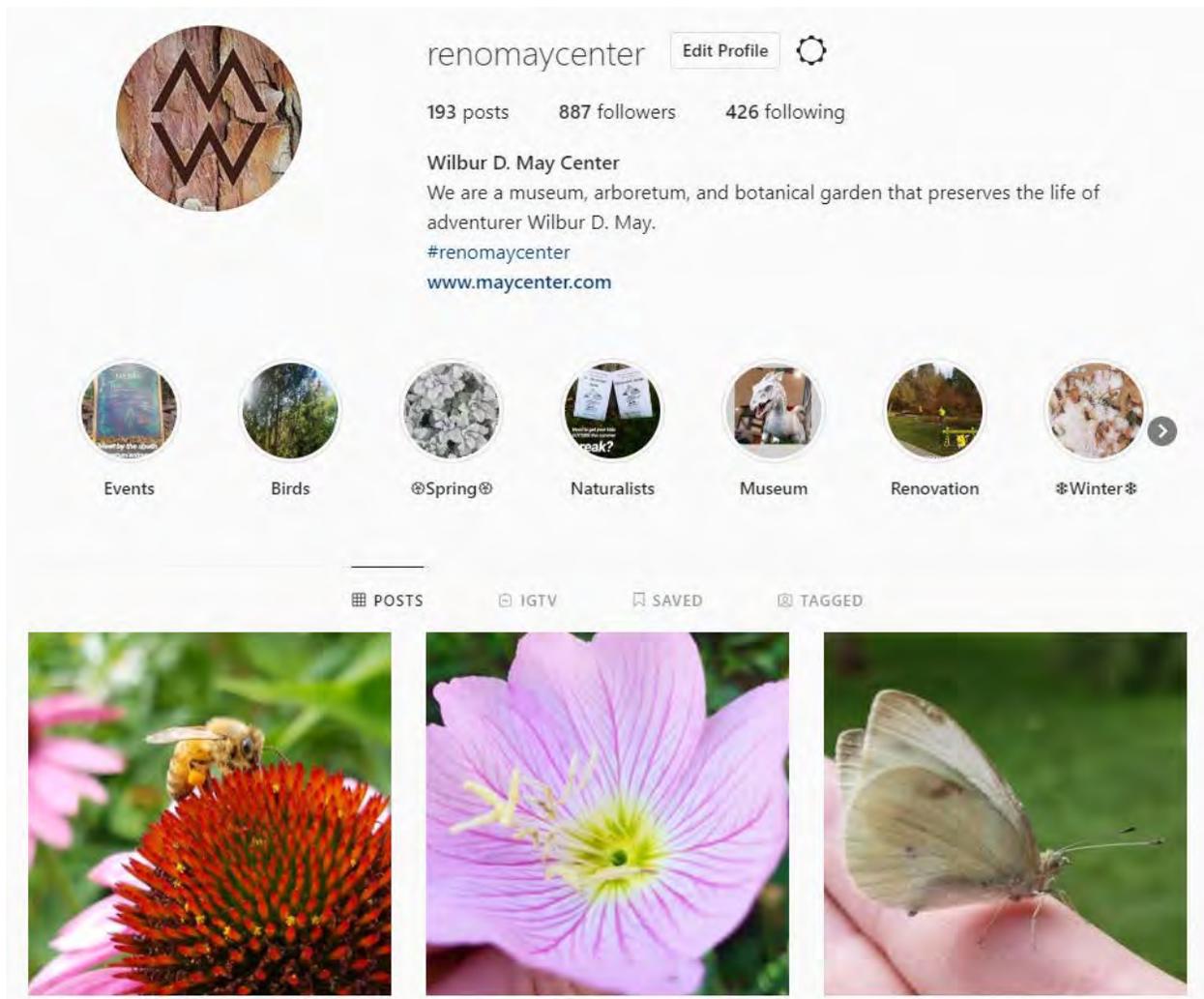
@RenoMayCenter

We are a museum, arboretum, and botanical garden dedicated to promoting the life and legacy of Wilbur D. May - world traveler and renaissance man!

📍 Reno, Nevada maycenter.com 📅 Joined September 2012

342 Following **545** Followers

Instagram



The image shows the Instagram profile for 'renomaycenter'. The profile picture is a circular logo with a stylized 'M' on a wood-grain background. The bio includes the name 'Wilbur D. May Center', a description of the museum, arboretum, and botanical garden, the hashtag #renomaycenter, and the website www.maycenter.com. The profile has 193 posts, 887 followers, and 426 following. Below the bio are seven category icons: Events, Birds, Spring, Naturalists, Museum, Renovation, and Winter. At the bottom, there are navigation tabs for POSTS, IGTV, SAVED, and TAGGED. Three featured images are shown: a bee on a red flower, a pink flower, and a white butterfly on a hand.

renomaycenter [Edit Profile](#) 

193 posts 887 followers 426 following

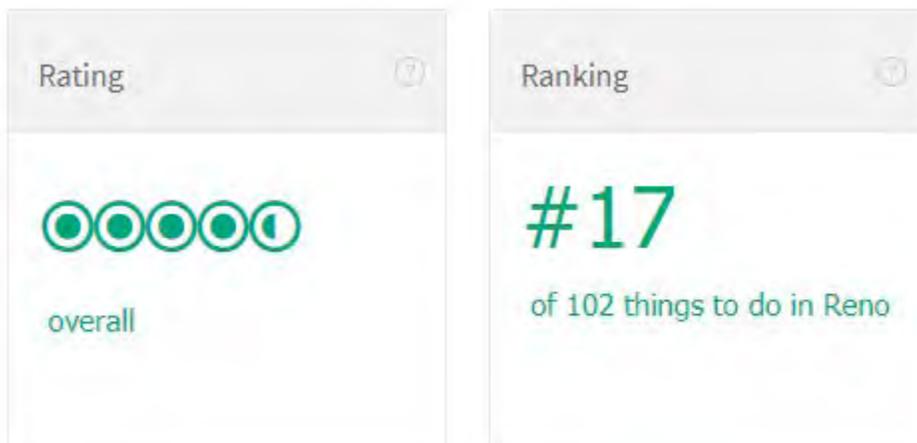
Wilbur D. May Center
We are a museum, arboretum, and botanical garden that preserves the life of adventurer Wilbur D. May.
#renomaycenter
www.maycenter.com

Events Birds Spring Naturalists Museum Renovation Winter

POSTS IGTV SAVED TAGGED



TripAdvisor



The image shows two TripAdvisor cards. The first card is titled 'Rating' and shows a 4.5-star rating with five green circles, the first four being filled. Below the stars is the word 'overall'. The second card is titled 'Ranking' and shows '#17' in large green text, with 'of 102 things to do in Reno' below it.

Rating 



overall

Ranking 

#17

of 102 things to do in Reno

Competitor Set #1 [EDIT COMPETITOR SET](#)

					
	<p>Wilbur D. May Center #17 of 102 things to do in Reno</p>	<p>The Discovery - Terry Lee Wells Nevada Discovery Museum #3 of 102 things to do in Reno</p>	<p>Fleischmann Planetarium #21 of 102 things to do in Reno</p>	<p>Nevada Historical Society #25 of 102 things to do in Reno</p>	<p>National Automobile Museum #1 of 102 things to do in Reno</p>
OVERALL RATING	○○○○○	○○○○○	○○○○○	○○○○○	○○○○○

Newsletter

Subscribers	Average Open Rate
3,178	27%

Ads and Media





Dragon Lights
Illuminating Wilbur D. May Arboretum
and Botanical Garden

June 30th
thru **Aug. 5th**

Buy your advance tickets now
DragonLightsReno.com



Dragon Lights
Illuminating Wilbur D. May Arboretum
and Botanical Garden

June 30th
thru **Aug. 5th**

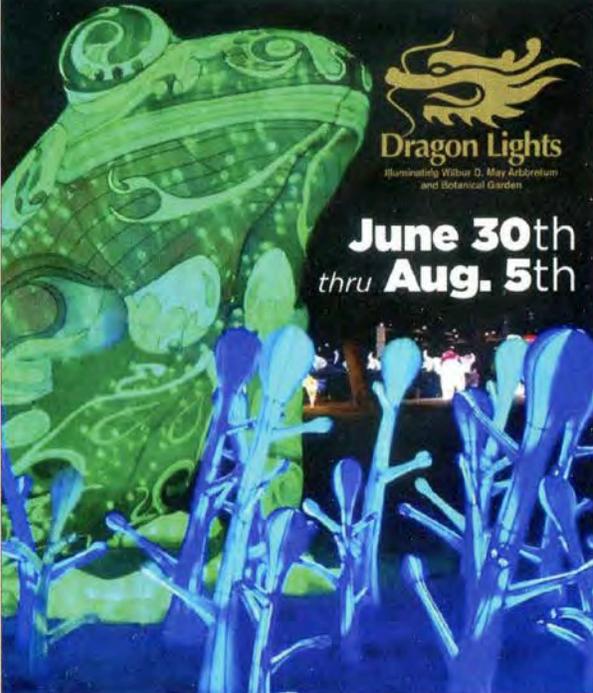
For more festival and ticket information visit:
dragonlightsreno.com



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 **Wilbur D. May**
MUSEUM
www.maycenter.com



Dragon Lights
Illuminates Wilbur D. May Arboretum
and Botanical Garden

June 30th
thru **Aug. 5th**

For more festival and ticket information visit:
dragonlightsreno.com



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MUSEUM
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behind the myths of...

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MUSEUM

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THROUGH may 12

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DRAGONS
INTERACTIVE EXHIBIT

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THE LOST WORLD OF
DRAGONS

AT THE WILBUR D. MAY MUSEUM



THE LOST WORLD OF
DRAGONS

JANUARY 31— MAY 12

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EXHIBITIONS

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Dragons on exhibition at Wilbur D. May Museum

STORY AND PHOTOS BY JERI CHADWELL
JERICHSNEWSREVIEW.COM

The sign just inside the entrance to the Wilbur D. May Museum reads "Here be dragons." It welcomes visitors to the latest attraction at the museum that's known for the interactive exhibits it books annually to fill the late-winter and spring months.

Locals may remember 2006's hands-on biological exhibit *Snakes Alive!*. In 2007, *Tropica* brought together a collection of toys spanning decades and generations. Last winter, the museum played host to *Hall of Heroes*, an exhibit exploring the pop culture history and science behind superheroes.

Even now until May 12, it's *The Last World of Dragons*, an exhibit that mixes animatronic dragons with a bit of science and mythology. The museum's curatorial staff hopes the exhibit will appeal to dragon fans of all varieties—from those eagerly awaiting this month's third animated movie installment concerning how to train dragons, to those anticipating April's release of HBO's *Game of Thrones*, which isn't kid-friendly but also features dragons.

"We look for exhibits that are going to appeal to kids and to adults," said Samantha Szeszciorka, the museum's assistant curator.

"And we have a lot of flexibility, so we look for stuff that's educational, to some extent, but also fun. Over the years, we've done some really cool, really different exhibits—and dragons are always a hit... Every generation loves dragons."

A young visitor examines one of the dragons on display at the exhibit.

Together, the animatronic dragons on display in the exhibit represent the mythologies of cultures spanning from Mesamerica to Asia. Each is accompanied by interactive interactive materials discussing its origins in mythology and context in history. The dragons are large and look strangely right at home in the museum's airy, plant-filled atrium and its darker, adjoining exhibit spaces.

"It's this company we've been working with the last few years—Sage Nine out of Sacramento," Szeszciorka said. "We've gotten the last few years' exhibits through them... We're just really happy with the quality of their exhibit design."

Sage Nine Exhibitions was the company behind both *Tropica* and *Hall of Heroes*. It specializes in incorporating light, audio, video and hands-on elements into its exhibits.

According to Szeszciorka, "That's sort of a trend throughout the museum industry, to sort of make exhibits less these static things that you just walk past or through and look at and read and into more immersive experiences for people—because a lot of people learn better that way, when they hear it or smell it or touch something. And why not? The technology is amazing right now to create these amazing experiences for people that can be educational at the same time."

Troy Carlson—owner of Sage Nine Exhibitions—who was at the May Museum on opening day of the new exhibit, said his company has been approached many times over the years by museums seeking a dragon exhibit. The company began work on *The Last World of Dragons* two years ago.

"We were fascinated with the mythology," he said.

"That's how the story started."

To learn more about the mythology of dragons, Carlson's company partnered with Adrienne Mayor, a folklorist and historian at Stanford University.

"She's kind of our curator who helped us understand all of the stories," Carlson said. "What we found really amazing is that all of these cultures all over the world who had no communication or connection with each other all came up with stories of similar creatures. They're all a bit different, but it was a way for them to make sense of things they didn't understand in the natural world."

Mayor has written extensively about dragon mythology as well as possible links between myth and real natural history—things like sailors mistaking whales for sea serpents and medieval travelers on Asia's Silk Road taking dinosaur bones for those of dragons.

Myth-deepening theories like these are woven throughout the displays, from the red and white Welsh dragons in the atrium to the Asian Lang on the far side of the exhibit space.

But mythbusting isn't the singular focus of the exhibit. Situated around the dragon displays are interactive stations celebrating the mythology and magic of the creatures. Near the Asian Lang, there's a shadow puppet theater. In the hall connecting the atrium and other exhibit spaces,

"Every generation loves dragons."

Samantha Szeszciorka
Assistant curator

visitors can stop to make a crayon rubbing of the dragon of their choice from detailed plates embedded in a table. Other elements, like a display of chained boxes that rattle and emit growls are there for the thrill factor. Things like this and a virtual reality dragon-riding experience—13 and

The Last World of Dragons is on exhibit at the Wilbur D. May Museum, 1905 N. Sierra St., until May 12. Learn more about museum hours and ticket prices here: bit.ly/29k3w7C.

older only—are meant to help the exhibit appeal to people of all ages. Some content may be above the little kids, but we don't want parents—we don't want anyone—sitting on the sidelines," Carlson said. "It's like with the *Tropica* exhibit—at first I think you may think, 'Oh, it's a kids' exhibit.' But we wanted it to have toys that are from my generation and my dad's generation, so there'd be a lot of good sharing opportunities."

Another way Szeszciorka plans to attract all ages visitors is with extended, after-dark hours on certain days.

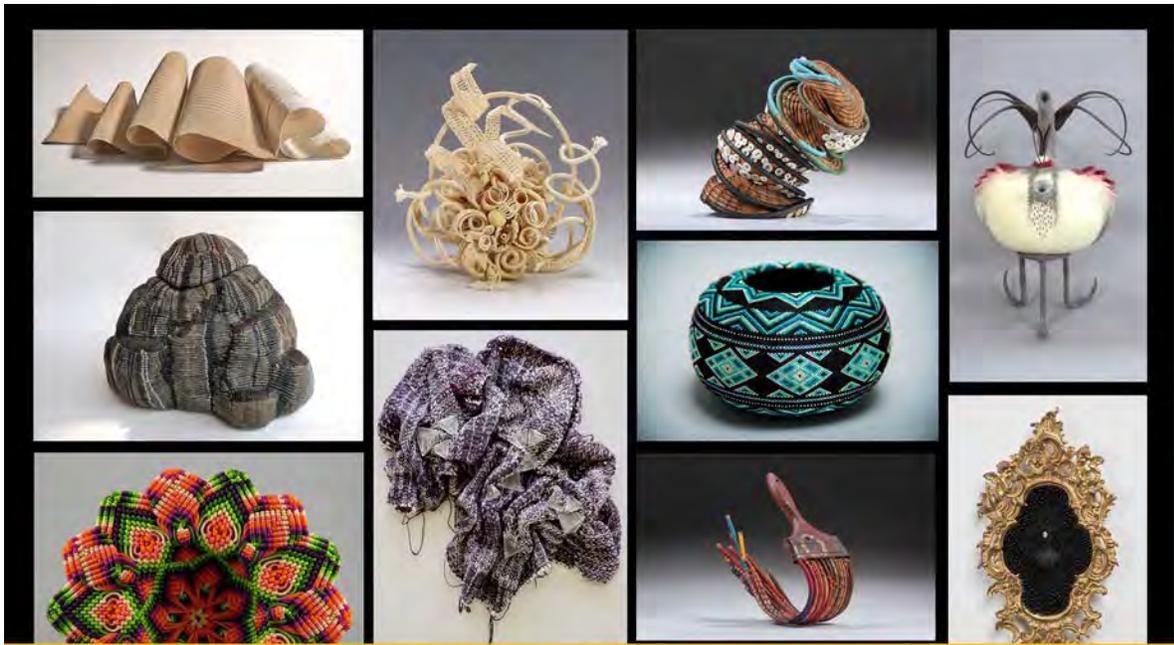
"People can come in and see it glowing in the dark, sort of after-dark dragons," she said. "I think that will be a really fun way for people to see it, too."

She's also planning an adults-only night. This one's likely to catch the attention of those who've been patiently waiting nearly two years for the final season of the aforementioned dragon-centric HBO series.

"So it'll be a *Game of Thrones*-themed adult night," Szeszciorka said. "And it'll be before the next and final season premieres... It's going to be so fun."



An animatronic red Welsh dragon.



SMALL EXPRESSIONS
JULY 1—JULY 15, 2018



Wilbur D. May
MUSEUM



SMALL EXPRESSIONS 2018
ON DISPLAY JULY 1—15
FREE ADMISSION



Wilbur D. May
MUSEUM
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New Directions: 2018

Fiber artists Lin Schiffner, Denise Oyama Miller, Joan Dyer, Martha Wolfe, Linda Waddle, and Sandra Poteet

July 18 - September 1, 2018

Demos July 21, 4 - 5 pm

Reception July 21, 5 - 7 pm



Wilbur D. May
MUSEUM



NEW DIRECTIONS: 2018

ON DISPLAY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1



Wilbur D. May
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SEEDS OF INSPIRATION

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ON DISPLAY
THROUGH JUNE 22



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Dear Wilbur D. May Museum,

Thank you for participating in Find Waldo 2018!
It wouldn't have been such a success without you.
We are ever grateful for your support & friendship.
I hope you had fun & hope to see you again
next year!

Emily Bennett
Events Coordinator

Thank you for supporting Reedatics.

Thanks to you, we were able to
have both teams compete at stake
in Las Vegas. We are so grateful!

Alex Marsh

Zach
Boughner

Michaela
Carr

Ryan
Lukie

Megan
Snowles

Amanda
Lu

Kenzie

Zappe



HGA's *Small Expressions*

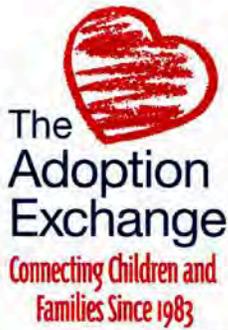
RENO, NEVADA: HGA's annual international juried exhibit of small-scale fiber art will be on view from July 1–15 at the Wilbur D. May Museum. Thirty high-quality, contemporary works featuring

fiber techniques in any media (but not exceeding 15 inches in any direction) were selected by juror Virginia Vogel.

For more information: 678.730.0010, WeaveSpinDye.org

Memories,
 Laura Hacker.
 Handwoven,
 natural dyeing,
 embroidery,
 bead embroidery.
 Natural dyed silk
 thread, metallic
 thread, seed beads,
 natural dyed silk
 and wool fabric,
 cotton fabric,
 found objects.
 14 x 14 x 1 inch.
 Photograph by
 Naomi Fambro.





October 25, 2018

Dear Samantha and Team at
Wilbur D. May Museum,

Member States
Colorado
Missouri
Nevada
New Mexico
Oklahoma
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Utah
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The Adoption Exchange and Washoe County Department of Social Services is truly grateful for your partnership and support in hosting the "Nevada Heart Gallery". We appreciate your collaboration in bringing awareness (to our community and its visitors) of waiting children in foster care who need permanent adoptive families.

Thank you for your support in helping to change a child's life!

Sincerely,

Wilbur D May Museum

I would like to take this time to thank you for your generous donations. Our first blood drive this year was a huge success with blood donation numbers up significantly. We credit our success to you.

Thank you again,



CoraLee S. Gorsline, AAll
Lovelock Correctional Center

Funding Requests



2019 Funding Requests

Wilbur D. May Museum

Marketing

The following are renewal contracts for existing/previously funded contracts; no new contracts are being requested.

- **ThisIsReno.com:**
 - 12 Sponsored Content Posts
 - 12 Web Banners
 - 2 Promotional Videos (with production)

Cost: \$5,515 (no change)

- **KNPB:**
 - 130 commercials on Curious George
 - 117 commercial on KNPB Kids channel
 - Online ads
 - Monthly Program Guide

Cost: \$6,036.70 (no change)

- **Getaway Reno-Tahoe:**
 - 1 full page color ad
 - 3 ½ page color ads
 - 50 word listing
 - Web and social media shares

Cost: \$4,500 (no change)

TOTAL MARKETING PACKAGE: \$16,051.70

Landscaping and Irrigation Upgrades

- **Landscape Plan for area surrounding the Museum**
 - Includes plants and irrigation

Cost: \$5,000

- **Landscape and Irrigation**
 - Construction

Cost: \$25,000

Professional Development

- Souvenir & Resort Gift Show
Las Vegas, NV – September 2020
\$1,500 (Samantha)
- Nevada Museums Association & American Association for State and Local History
JOINT CONFERENCE
Las Vegas, Nevada – October 2020
\$2,000 (Samantha)
*Samantha is currently vice president of NMA

Wilbur D. May Arboretum

Tree Pruning

The benefits of rotating tree pruning and removal program is paramount for the health and vigor of the collection. The arboretum staff has limited resources and equipment for large tree removal and aerial pruning. The Arboretum is requesting funding to contract this service. To be included in the service is pruning of trees that surround the Museum. This on-going preventative approach will assist with the overall maintenance of the Museum facility.

Cost: \$10,000