2021 REVIEW

As we wrap up 2021, the team at Zilker Botanical Garden wanted to share a review of this past year in the Garden and what we have to look forward to in 2022.

Thank you to each and every visitor and member for visiting and supporting the Garden this year. Austin wouldn’t be the same without this jewel in the city and each of you helps it continue to shine.

VISITATION

The Garden welcomed over 150,000 visitors this past year! Due to increased awareness along with a growing team built by the Conservancy and City staff, the Garden has seen record numbers and a 20% growth in attendance this year, despite the pandemic.
**MUSIC IN THE GARDEN**

The Garden offered both a summer music series and a holiday concert with classical music that enchanted the Garden. A special thanks to Sarah & Andrea for our summer series and to the Austin Camerata for the Winter Concert. Stay tuned for more musical offerings next year!

**WOODLAND FAERIE TRAIL**

This year over 40 homes were built by members of the community and garden clubs to be on display from March-August in the Oak Grove. In 2022, the Faerie Trail will be back, and we hope to add some life-size faerie homes or other features, and are seeking interested designers as well as potential sponsors! If interested, email development@zbgconservancy.org.

**YOGA IN THE GARDEN**

During the Fall, the Garden offered yoga to all ages which provided a zen escape while surrounded by nature. All classes were led by Collete who received rave reviews from all in attendance. Due to popular demand Yoga will return in the Spring.
PROGRAMMING

ROOTS & WINGS

The Garden was the kickoff hub for the annual Roots & Wings Festival on October 24th, which included the popular Butterfly Tent with Monarch tagging and releases, Tree Climb, Monarch Bike, Fun Fact interpretive signs throughout the Garden, and a new Story Walk, Senorita Mariposa.

THE SURREAL GARDEN 2022, COMING IN APRIL

Coming Spring of 2022! Ion Art is excited to announce its next Surreal event with the debut of The Surreal Garden at the Zilker Botanical Garden. The Surreal series is an annual interactive art experience full of fantastical pieces created by Sharon Keshishian and the Ion Art team.

Pre-sale tickets are available now at zilkergarden.org.

By integrating the exhibit into the serene setting of the enchanting botanical gardens, the already stunning art event becomes a phenomenal experience and a wonderful way to benefit the Garden. For two consecutive weekends, the public is invited to attend evening soirées in the Zilker Botanical Garden, including botanical-themed neon surrealism, interactive art sculptures, local-favorite foods, craft cocktails, live music, costumes, dancing, and much more!

A portion of the proceeds of the Surreal Garden event will benefit the Zilker Botanical Garden Conservancy (ZBGC), a 501c(3) established in 2015 to advance the capacity and status of Zilker Botanical Garden. The Garden is now managed as a public-private partnership between the City of Austin Parks & Recreation Department (PARD) and the ZBGC.

Visit https://www.ionart.com/sponsorship to learn how to become a sponsor.
GIVING TUESDAY & AMPLIFY AUSTIN

This year, the Conservancy raised $7,445 on Amplify Austin Day and $27,548 on Giving Tuesday thanks to our amazing community. These annual fundraisers contribute to the Garden’s Vision Plan and enhance our vast 28 acres in the heart of the city.

CURRENT FUNDRAISERS

If you are interested in supporting a specific project, we are currently working to raise funds for the Butler Window Restoration Project, the Garden’s Vision Plan for major enhancements, and seeking sponsors for The Surreal Garden 2022 which will be a neon exhibit created by Ion Art. For more information, visit zilkergarden.org.

MEMBERSHIP

In 2021, we gained over 600 members who have benefitted from unlimited entry to the garden, discounts on events, early member mornings, reciprocal admission to more than 300 other museums and arboreta in the U.S, and a 10% discount on items in our gift shop—now open!

Looking to honor a loved one? Buy a brick or bench in their honor to be displayed at the Zilker Botanical Garden. Bricks can be purchased online at https://zilkergarden.org/walk-of-friends/. For bench inquiries, email development@zbgconservancy.org.
GARDEN CLUBS ARE BACK!

As we slowly get back to normal, the garden clubs have begun meeting in person again at the Garden Center Building. These clubs also received an enhanced web presence on our website where there are now 3 landing pages that provide the history behind these clubs and information on how to join each.

WE'RE GROWING!

The Garden is currently looking to fill a variety of roles. To apply for Visitor Services Associate (PT), email resumes to info@zbgconservancy.org with the role title in the subject line.

Positions coming soon to PARD:
- Garden Rentals & Events (temp, FT)
- Garden Programs (temp)
- Event Coordinator (temp)
- Tree Collections Labelling & Interpretive Asst (temp, PT)
- Garden Center Coordinator (FT)

Visit https://www.austincityjobs.org/ for more information.

AUSTIN PARKS & REC

The City has been hard at work with many projects at the Garden including upgraded Wi-Fi and internet, a new phone system, shared use path plans for Barton Springs Rd. and Stratford Dr., plans for roof and beam repair in the Garden Center, Green Garden revitalization, upgraded irrigation controllers, and musical instruments to be installed in the Children’s Garden.