
Horticultural Art Society

City Council Working Session
Presentation
February 9, 2026



Who We Are

- ❖ Established September 4, 1962 as a 501(c)(3)
- ❖ Park use agreement with the City of Colorado Springs (current January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2036)
- ❖ Governed by elected board



Who We Are

- ❖ **Manage 3 Public Gardens in Monument Valley Park:**
 - **Award winning Demonstration Garden**
 - **Heritage Garden**
 - **Pinetum Garden**
- ❖ **Mission: The Horticultural Art Society cultivates beautiful gardens to connect, enrich, educate and inspire the people of the Pikes Peak region**



Where We Are: Demonstration Garden



Created in 1964

**South of City
greenhouses on
Mesa Road**

Where We Are: Heritage Garden



South of the
old Van Briggie
building and
North of Duck
Lake



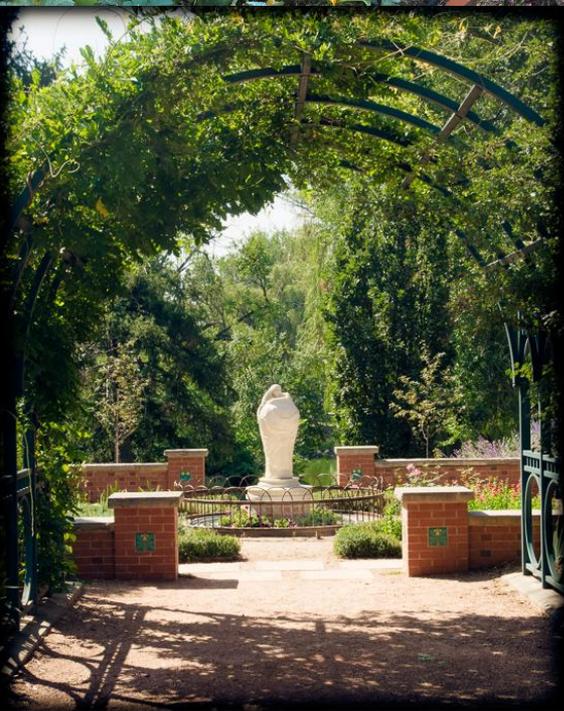
Where We are: Pinetum



South of Uintah, east of
Monument Creek

Note, this is a small
garden of trees vs.
cultivated beds





What We Do

Garden Development, Design & Enhancement

- Rock garden in the Heritage early 2000's
- Steel Arbors & Gazebo in the Heritage 2004-2007
- Thyme garden/Lorelei in the Heritage 2017
- Children's garden in the Demonstration 2019
- Vegetable garden in the Demonstration 2022
- Native and crevice garden in the Demonstration 2026



What We Do



Maintenance

- Tree, shrub, plant additions and replacements
- Tree and shrub pruning + spraying for diseases/blights
- Path, edging and fence maintenance
- Lots of weeding!!



What We Do - Education

- ❖ Lectures 5 per year + 1 hands on rose class and 2 private garden visits.
Examples for 2026:
 - Alex Crochet, City Projects & Principles for Pollinator Gardens
 - Barb Valenti, Soil Amendments & Additives
 - City Forestry, Urban Forestry Improvements Grant & Current Projects
 - Amy Yarger, How Gardeners Contribute to Biodiversity
- ❖ Newsletter - 11 issues per year with approximately 1,200 subscribers



What We Contribute

| | 2025 | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Admin/Education | \$9,300 | \$6,800 | \$7,300 |
| Gardener/Contract Svcs. | \$18,750 | \$15,600 | \$13,700 |
| Garden-Tools, Plants, etc. | \$20,000 | \$19,000 | \$10,100 |
| Volunteer Hours* | \$152,820 | \$129,960 | \$111,060 |
| Volunteer Hours - Fundraising** | \$39,880 | \$40,260 | \$21,420 |
| Total | \$240,750 | \$211,620 | \$163,580 |

* Valued @ \$30/hour ** Valued @ \$20/hour



How We Do It

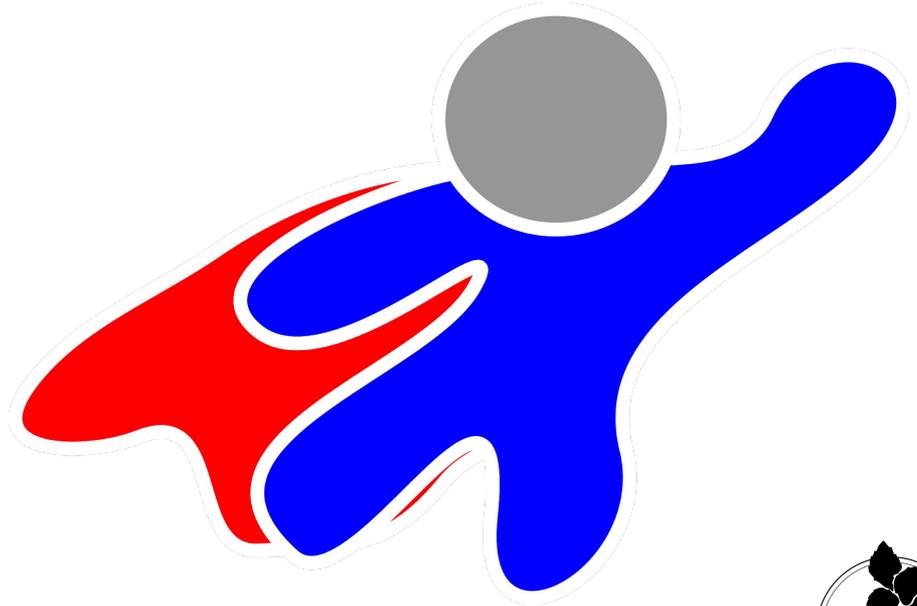
- ❖ Membership: Approximately 400
- ❖ Volunteers: Approximately 170
 - Regular garden volunteers
 - City Serve, BOSS + USAF, Front Range Community Service, Just Serve, Rotary, Private industry
 - Board and Board Support contribute significant volunteer hours
- ❖ Donations & Special Project Grants
- ❖ Yearly Gigantic Plant Sale in May (this is the largest single income generator representing roughly 85%)



How We Do It - Collaboration!

Huge shout outs to our critical partners:

- ❖ **Erik Becker and his team** at Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
- ❖ **Alex Crochet and his team** at City Horticulture



How We Do It - Collaboration!

Additional organizations we collaborate with:

- ❖ Colorado Master Gardeners
- ❖ Colorado Springs Utilities Horticulture group
- ❖ Colorado Native Plant Society/Wild One's Front Range Chpt
- ❖ Friends of Monument Valley Park
- ❖ SavATree
- ❖ All-America Selections (display garden)
- ❖ Concrete Couch
- ❖ Pikes Peak Rose Society/Elmohr Iris Society
- ❖ Colorado College



The Value We Bring

Our gardens are widely utilized by many groups in the Pikes Peak Region

- ❖ Day care, home school groups, general children's play
- ❖ Colorado College classes
- ❖ Tai Chi, Yoga and Meditation groups
- ❖ Photography - nature, weddings, engagements, graduations, quinceaneras
- ❖ Dog walkers
- ❖ En plein air artists
- ❖ Garden and nature lovers





The Value We Bring

- ❖ Supportive of City “get outdoors” persona
- ❖ Consistent with intent of COS Creek Plan - active public use area along Pikes Peak Greenway and Monument Creek
- ❖ Extends PRCS resources in a unique park space managed and maintained by the HAS at an estimated dollar value approaching ¼ million per year
- ❖ Being in the garden allows stepping away from life stressors and achieving a temporary sense of respite
- ❖ Working in the garden promotes community, physical activity and stress reduction

**Shared gardens, shared friendships.
Gardens grow communities.**

hasgardens.org

