



Forever Balboa Park

FY2025 Annual Report



Hello from our President & CEO, **Katy McDonald**

Dear Friends,

When I look back on this past year, one word comes to mind: **extraordinary**.

My first year as President & CEO of Forever Balboa Park has been one of deep learning, listening, and discovery. I stepped into this role humbled by the scale of responsibility and inspired by the passion of the people who care for this Park every day. **What I found was a community of staff, volunteers, partners, and supporters deeply committed to Balboa Park's future.**

It has now been one year since the historic Botanical Building reopened to the public. After more than a decade of dreaming, planning, fundraising, and construction, this beloved landmark returned as a living, breathing space for the community. Over the past year, tens of thousands of visitors each month have experienced its beauty, history, and evolving plant collection. Events like our holiday Botanical Wonderland helped spark new traditions, welcoming people back into the space with joy, light, and wonder.

As we move beyond reopening, our focus is clear. We are looking ahead to activating the Botanical Building and its surrounding landscapes with Park visitors. **From public programs and tours to seasonal celebrations and educational experiences, this next chapter is about connection, access, and shared stewardship.**

While the Botanical Building stands as a visible achievement, what inspires me most is the quieter, ongoing work that sustains it and everything else we steward parkwide. **Forever Balboa Park's year-round volunteers, more than 450 strong, are the backbone of our impact.** You will find them welcoming guests at the Visitors Center, interpreting the Botanical Building's horticultural stories, caring for gardens, and tending trees throughout the Park. Their dedication reminds me daily that stewardship is not a moment but a commitment.



As we look ahead, **the momentum continues**. This spring, we will celebrate another major milestone with **the unveiling of the Central Gardens**: Nine revitalized gardens and the recreation of the historic five-bay pergola that frames the Botanical Building. This event will not only mark a new beginning for these landscapes but also offer a glimpse into what is next. **The Central Gardens celebration will be a time to gather, celebrate, and share what's ahead for the Park.**

Beyond bricks, mortar, and gardens, this year reaffirmed something essential. Forever Balboa Park plays a critical role in partnering with the City of San Diego to steward this extraordinary place. As conversations begin around the future of Balboa Park through a new Master Plan, Forever will be at the table, advocating for a vision that matches the Park's potential and the dreams our community holds for it.

I am deeply grateful for your support during this remarkable year. **Together, we are not only caring for Balboa Park as it is but shaping what it will become.**

With gratitude,

Katy McDonald
President & CEO, Forever Balboa Park

BOARD UPDATES & LEADERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Forever Balboa Park is thrilled to welcome new leadership to our growing Board of Trustees. This dedicated group brings a deep expertise and a shared passion for protecting and enhancing Balboa Park.

Meet Our Board of Trustees

**Please welcome our new Board members!*

- Beth Bushke*
- Pat Caughey
- Gaidi Finnie
- Joyce Gattas
- Michael Glass*
- Warren Gorowitz*
- Victoria Hamilton
- James Hughes
- Doug Kerner
- Lynn Langley
- Maureen Lamberti
- Jaimi Lomas*
- Connie Matsui
- Brian Matthews*
- Matt McCormick*
- Betty Peabody
- Gonzalo Rojas
- Allison Rossett
- Pemberton Smith
- John Toman
- Ken Tranbarger
- John Venekamp
- Lucy Warren
- Pete Wheeler
- Ann Wilson
- Brent Woods*
- Michael Yee



We are grateful to our new trustees for serving and the collective strength they, along with the entire Board, bring to Forever Balboa Park. Their leadership enables us to advance and expand our core mission.



AS WE LOOK AHEAD, BOARD CHAIR **VICTORIA HAMILTON** SHARES THIS REFLECTION:

As we celebrate all we've accomplished for Balboa Park this year, I want to express my deep appreciation for our supporters, volunteers, and leadership team. Forever Balboa Park is growing stronger because of you, and together, we are shaping a future where the Park remains an essential and thriving space for all."



Beyond the Ribbon Cutting: Stewarding the Botanical Building Into Its Next Era

In December 2024, we proudly reopened the Botanical Building to the public after years of collaborative planning, fundraising, and restoration, which we led in partnership with the City of San Diego. That moment marked the beginning of a new era for one of Balboa Park's most beloved landmarks. Since reopening, the Botanical Building has welcomed an average of 40,000 visitors each month, reaffirming its place as one of the Park's most vibrant and visited spaces.

This past December Nights marked the first anniversary of the reopening and was celebrated with a special nighttime activation produced by Forever Balboa Park. Botanical Wonderland transformed the building into a walking lightscape with live music and iconic horticultural treasures illuminated after dark.

Throughout the year, Forever Balboa Park volunteers played a critical role in welcoming and educating visitors, sharing the building's history and guiding guests through its thriving plant collection. With a successful first year behind us, Forever Balboa Park looks ahead to expanding programming, partnerships, and activations in 2026, ensuring this restored landmark continues to serve the community for generations to come.

The Botanical Building is more than a beautiful structure—it's a living classroom, a quiet retreat, and a symbol of what we can achieve when community and the City work together.

As we look to the future, Forever Balboa Park remains dedicated to nurturing this space, inviting visitors to rediscover its beauty, and writing the next chapter, together.

Read more about how we're
preserving Balboa Park's
158-year-old legacy!



Central Gardens: What's Next for the Botanical Building and Gardens



Stefanie Bales, Future Central Gardens, 2025

The Botanical Building revitalization was just the beginning... Forever Balboa Park is bringing the **Central Gardens to life.**

Forever Balboa Park is planting **immersive public gardens** surrounding the Botanical Building, each thoughtfully designed to showcase the diversity of Mediterranean-climate plants from around the world, with sustainable horticulture in mind. **The specially themed gardens will offer new spaces for reflection, learning, and community gatherings.**

One of the most anticipated elements of the revitalization is the reconstruction of **the historic pergola**. Although originally constructed alongside the Botanical Building for the 1915 Panama-California Exposition, it was lost sometime during World War II. The Brightview Landscape Development Team is currently rebuilding the pergola and revitalizing the surrounding gardens in accordance with the construction documents prepared by the Spurlock Landscape Architects Team. Careful restoration work guided by expert research will ensure this new pergola honors its original design while offering a picturesque shaded respite.

We are excited to invite everyone—longtime park lovers and first-time donors alike—to join us in this effort and contribute to the future of the Botanical Building and Central Gardens. Naming opportunities, including benches, garden beds, and tiles, are available for those wishing to leave a lasting legacy in the Park.

Scan the QR code to learn more about how you can join this transformative effort and help shape the next century of beauty at Balboa Park.



Contributors to the Botanical Building and Gardens Capital Campaign (As of 1/6/2026)

\$1,000,000+

Brent Woods and Laurie Mitchell

\$500,000 – \$999,999

Betty J. Beyster
J.W. Sefton Foundation

\$200,000 – \$499,999

Anonymous
Nancy Carol Carter
John E. Ford Family Fund
Joseph and Beverly Glickman Fund
Connie Matsui and William R. Beckman
National Park Service
Andrea and Robert Peach
The Parker Foundation

\$100,000 – \$199,999

Anonymous
MA Beyster
Robyn Bottomley
Carol and Jeffrey Chang
Katy Christensen
Robert Dees*
Jeffrey and Cindy Cavnagac, Deborah Ellis
Gina and Ray Ellis
Hervey Family Non-Endowment Fund
Conny Jamison
Gerald Kleinsmith and Gerard Michaud
The Favrot Fund
Sandy Timmons and Rick Sandstrom
John G. Venekamp and Clifford Schireson
William E. Cole Family Foundation

\$50,000 – \$99,999

Bob Nelson Charitable Fund
Joyce Gattas
Hunter Industries
Jay Jeffcoat
Cynthia P. Kellogg and Carol Gallagher
Paula LeGros
Marjorie and Charles O'Malley
Payne Family Foundation
Jean Pomella
Richey Family Foundation
Patricia Roscoe
Allison Rossett and Susan Reynolds
Glenn and Lynne Rossman
Nancy and Alan Spector
John and Johanna Toman

\$25,000 – \$49,999

Balboa Park Fund at The San Diego Foundation
Joye Blount and Jessie Knight Jr.
Marilyn Brown
Elizabeth Courtney
Jane and Thompson Fetter
Gayle and Enrico Grosso Fund
George Hardy
James E. and Kathryn A. Whistler Fund
Jaimi Lomas
San Diego Botanical Garden Foundation
Jean and Pemberton Smith

Ted and Kat Chapman Steuer
The Ellen Browning Scripps Foundation

\$10,000 – \$24,999

Yalemzewed Demoze
Alice and Doug* Diamond
Sarah Brite and Dr. Sean Evans
Judy Sund and Scott Gilbert
Michelle Green
Carmen and Jim Hughes
Carol and Henry F. Hunte
Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation
Doug and Gail Kerner
Katherine J. McDonald
MDM Foundation
Jean Pral
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Dr. Bonnie Scott
Allison Soares
Gerry Sullivan and Bob Benzel
The Ajuda Fund
Christine Trepte McGregor
Criselda and Michael Yee

\$5,000 – \$9,999

Anonymous
Jennifer and Patrick Caughey
Dr. Charles and Mimi Clark
Darcy & Robert Bingham Fund
Barbara and Dean Dunphy
Forbes Family Foundation
Gottschalk Family Fund
Victoria Hamilton and Paul Hobson
Karen and Robert Hoehn
Katherine Johnston
Dr. Peter Linz and Dr. Ann Secord
Richard and Kristine McCormick
Matthew McCormick and Rita Ryu
Holly McMillan and James Chute
Amy and Mark Melden
Mary-Rose and William Mueller
Clarisa and Gonzalo Rojas
Taylor Family Fund
The Diamond/Tilden Charitable Fund
Susan and Richard Ulevitch
Trudy Brass-Welch and Dr. Michael J. Welch
Peter R. Wheeler and Linda Kinkade

\$1,000 – \$4,999

Anonymous
Claire Anderson
Elizabeth Babcock
Thomas and Sylvia Brite
Gordon Brodfuehrer
Joene C. Bruhn
Maurice and Kimberly Correia
Pamela D. and Theodore J. Crooks
Jacqueline C. Crowle and Charles Scott
Elwyn Heller Foundation of San Diego
Emily and Derek Fox
Ronald Garnica

Jacquelyn Hanson
Marjorie Heinrich and Jann Nunn
Heritage Architecture and Planning
Shannon and Jeremy Hogan
David Huffman
Jay Hill Fund
Kerri Kapich
Margie Kitano
Maureen Lamberti
Meltzer Johnson Trust
Gail and Ed Miller
Monica Mroz and Kevin Oliver
Betty L. Peabody
Julie Robson
Terry D. and Mary Jo Ross
Sharron and Larry Seal
Linda Seifert
Drs. Marie Tartar and Steve Eilenberg
The Alpert Family Foundation
Victor and Louise Engleman Charitable Fund

\$50 – \$999

Blair Alexander
Craig Blakey
Lea Booth
Roger Conlee
Irma Cota and Laura Zweckbronner
Dr. and Mrs. Ray F. Weiss
Kerrie and Andy Field
Gaidi Finnie
Maggie Gilleran-Smith
Ms. Roberta Hardiman
Dale Hess
Cynthia and Wallace Hirsch
Hydroplant Hydroseeding, Inc
Ida Louise McCalvin Botanical Gardens
Easter Fund
Dr. Michael Kelly
Julie and David Kinney
Harriet Kounaves and Chris Duke
Lynn and Ken Langley
Laurel and Kent Lemarie
Rory Majoria
Alfred and Mary Manaster
Kate Miller
Noble Robinson
Jean Kluser and Larry Rosenstock
Eileen Samuels
Julie and Jonathan Shulman
Michelle Slingerland
Roberta Stocker
Joseph and Kym Szalkiewicz
Marc Tarasuck
Thomas Tenover and Matthew Nye
Ken and Mary Tranbarger
Joey Trimble
Susan and James Walker
Lucy Warren
Ronald and Santina* Warren
Tiffney Welles
Nate and Sarah Wiger
Ann Wilson

* Honored in memoriam

sPARK Awards Recap: An Evening of Celebration and Community in Balboa Park

On May 22, 2025, Forever Balboa Park proudly hosted the **third annual sPARK Awards**, honoring the visionaries, innovators, and community leaders who are shaping the future of San Diego's most cherished urban park. The event welcomed more than 200 guests and was a heartfelt celebration of transformational contributions to The Park by extraordinary people, with a record-breaking number of nominations.

The evening began with a lively **welcome reception** at the newly revitalized **Botanical Building and Gardens**, where attendees mingled, explored the beautifully restored space, and enjoyed sparkling beverages and bites. This was the first time many of the guests had experienced the Botanical Building since its reopening, seeing first-hand this major milestone in The Park's ongoing revitalization.

Guests then moved to the **Prado Ballroom**, where **emcee Ramel Wallace** set the tone for the night with energy and warmth. Civic leaders, including **Mayor Todd Gloria** and **Councilmember Stephen Whitburn**, delivered remarks recognizing Balboa Park's vital role as a public space that fosters creativity, access, and belonging. Mayor Gloria underscored Forever Balboa Park's role as a crucial partner to the City of San Diego and commended the honorees and community members who make this work possible.

The sPARK Awards ceremony honored three exceptional organizations:

The Crossing Boundaries Award was presented to **Park Takeover** for their grassroots work reclaiming public space through joyful, inclusive cultural programming.

The Igniting Innovation Award was awarded to **Balboa Park Online Collaborative (BPOC)** for their leadership in digital transformation and making technology accessible across the Park.

The Enhancing Ecosystems Award recognized the **California Native Plant Society – San Diego Chapter** for their collaborative native plant restoration at Bird Park, creating habitat and inspiring sustainable practices.



A highlight of the evening was the **sPARK Panel Conversation**, moderated by **Katy McDonald**, President & CEO of Forever Balboa Park. The panel featured three outstanding local changemakers: **Jennifer Luce**, Principal of LUCE et studio; **Susanna Peredo Swap**, Executive Director of Vanguard Culture; and **Patrick Montgomery**, garden design collaborator and community landscape steward. Together, they explored the intersection of art, ecology, and community, sharing insights on innovation, cross-disciplinary work, and the future of Balboa Park.



The sPARK Awards will return this fall as we continue to celebrate creativity and impact in the Park.



Award presenters included **Kay Coleman** from San Diego Foundation, **Chanelle Hawken** from Cox Communications, and **Lenny Leszczynski** from the San Diego Automotive Museum, a former sPARK Award honoree.

The evening closed with live music by the **Young Lions Jazz Conservatory** and a courtyard reception, celebrating all who contribute to the thriving future of Balboa Park. Forever Balboa Park extends heartfelt thanks to our sponsors—**Cox Communications, San Diego Foundation, Burnham Center for Community Advancement, AO Reed, and Maximova Creative**—for making this celebration possible.

See more at:



Cheers to the spirit of sPARK:

Blooming sPARK cocktail
Inspired by Balboa Park in full bloom

Ingredients

1.5 oz Empress 1908 Gin (or tequila)
(for its botanical flavor and lavender hue)

0.75 oz elderflower liqueur
(like St-Germain)

0.5 oz fresh lemon juice

0.5 oz honey syrup (1:1 honey + water)

Splash of sparkling water or champagne

Garnish: Edible flower or sprig of lavender



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



Growing a Greener Park: Tree Planting Year Recap

Partnering with Schools & Businesses to Support Environmental Resilience

Tree planting in Balboa Park is a year-round collaboration between students, volunteers, businesses, and community partners who share a commitment to caring for the Park's living landscape.

Over the past year, Forever Balboa Park worked with schools, scout groups, and corporate partners to plant and care for trees across the Park. Students from City Heights Preparatory Charter School helped launch the 2025 season during the annual Plant It Forward event, supported by SDG&E, adding trees to the Park's urban forest. For four consecutive years, students from High Tech High, led by environmental science teacher John Santos, returned to Balboa Park to apply classroom learning through hands-on conservation work.

Corporate partners also played an important role. Brandes Investment Partners marked its 50th anniversary with a contribution supporting tree planting and long-term care, helping advance the goal of increasing canopy cover across the Park. In April, Cox Communications employees volunteered in Morley Field, planting new trees while connecting with one another and the Park through service.

These collective efforts strengthen Balboa Park's tree canopy, providing shade, supporting wildlife, improving air quality, and enhancing the experience of millions of visitors each year.

Partner with Forever Balboa Park to support community tree planting and long-term tree care.



Corporate sponsorships help fund tree planting, maintenance, and environmental resilience across Balboa Park. Learn more at:

foreverbaloopark.org

National Carousel Day

Carousel Restoration: Bringing the Animals Back to Life

The Dorothea Laub Balboa Park Carousel isn't just a ride—it's a time machine, a hand-carved masterpiece, and a beloved tradition. Adored by carousel enthusiasts around the world, this historic treasure was recently named one of the top ten unique carousels in the nation by USA Today—a well-deserved spotlight for a San Diego icon.



Each year, on July 25th, we celebrate **National Carousel Day** with free rides, family festivities, and community joy. This past year's celebration was particularly meaningful as we honored not only the Carousel's vibrant history but also the incredible work underway to preserve it for generations to come.

The day was filled with music, dance, and performances that kept the magic spinning from morning to afternoon:

Young Lions Jazz Conservatory
Kathryn the Grape
Mariachis and Folklorico Dancers
Opera for Kids

Private carousel event rentals available. carousel@balboopark.org



Help Keep the Carousel Turning. Ongoing care of this essential piece of San Diego history wouldn't be possible without the dedication of Forever Balboa Park's supporters, volunteers, and partners. With your support, we can finish the restoration of the animal menagerie and make other essential mechanical fixes. We are currently seeking funds to replace the Carousel's main gear and connecting parts, which have exceeded their normal life expectancy. This urgently needed repair will help ensure the Balboa Park Carousel remains operable for generations to come.



A heartfelt **thank you** to the **Coronado Junior Woman's Club** for already stepping in and making the Balboa Park Carousel the beneficiary of their 2025 Taste of Coronado philanthropy event.



Visitors Center Impact: A Hub for Exploration

At the heart of Balboa Park's daily rhythm is the Visitors Center, managed entirely by Forever Balboa Park. It serves as a welcoming gateway where hundreds of thousands of guests begin their park adventure each year.

Whether visitors are looking to uncover a hidden trail, admire the Park's architectural gems, or join one of our public guided tours, the Visitors Center has become an essential starting point for Balboa Park lovers of all ages and backgrounds.

The Visitors Center is also a proud supporter of local creativity. Our gift shop showcases San Diego makers and artisans, offering unique, locally crafted goods that celebrate the spirit of our region. Every purchase directly supports Forever Balboa Park and our work to enhance visitor experiences throughout the Park.

Behind every map unfolded and question answered is a passionate team of staff and volunteers dedicated to making each visit to Balboa Park special. These are the people who bring the Park to life—one conversation, one recommendation, and one shared story at a time.

The Visitors Center isn't just a stop, it's your first step into Balboa Park.

EXPLORE EVEN MORE!>>

HOURS

Daily

9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

House of Hospitality

1549 El Prado, Ste. 1
San Diego, CA 92101

visitor@balboopark.org

(619) 239-0512 x8



A New Chapter for the Rose Garden: Pergola Restoration

Tucked within the **Inez Grant Parker Memorial Rose Garden**, the pergola has long served as a quiet backdrop for thousands of park visitors, family photos, and wedding days. As the roses bloom in dazzling colors each spring, the Rose Garden centerpiece stands as a weathered companion.

This year, Forever Balboa Park is proud to embark on a long-awaited project to reimagine the pergola in a classic style with charm and stability. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of our park partners and supporters, the restoration is expected to be completed in 2026. Upon completion, the structure will once again offer shade and beauty for those strolling through the garden.

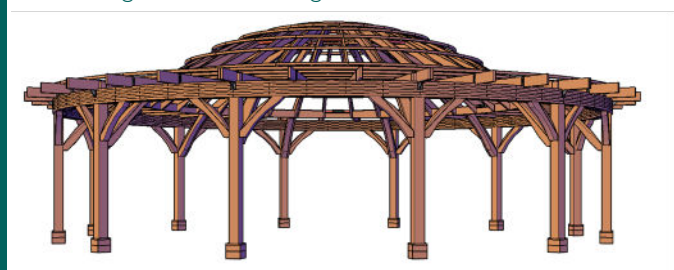
The Rose Garden Corps, one of Forever Balboa Park's largest volunteer groups, has played an important role in the ongoing care and preparation for this project. Their steady hands and thoughtful pruning keep the garden vibrant and accessible, ensuring visitors can continue to enjoy the blooms as work progresses. We are also grateful to the ongoing support of the Lilyan B. Frank Memorial Rose Garden Endowment Fund at San Diego Foundation. Since 2018, the fund has contributed over \$300,000 toward the maintenance of the Rose Garden and adjacent Desert Garden.

The pergola restoration is part of a larger story—one of community, stewardship, and the ongoing promise to care for the places San Diegans treasure most.

Pergola Restoration in Progress



Rendering of Restored Pergola



Growing Health Through Trees and Nature

Trees for Health Garden

PUBLIC TOURS
3rd & 4th Fridays
@ 10 am
Trees for Health
Garden

Trees shape the experience of Balboa Park. They provide shade, support biodiversity, and connect visitors to the natural world. Caring for them requires long-term stewardship and deep expertise.

That is why Forever Balboa Park was proud to welcome the **Trees for Health Garden** under its umbrella of care in 2023. This beloved garden's dedicated volunteers brought decades of knowledge in medicinal trees and plant-based wellness, adding depth to our collective approach to tree stewardship.

Together, we care for the Park's trees at every stage, from planting and monitoring young saplings to preserving mature specimens that have stood for generations. Volunteers, horticultural experts, and community partners work side by side to ensure Balboa Park's urban forest remains healthy, resilient, and accessible to all.

This expanded stewardship also opens new ways for the public to connect. Thanks to Forever Balboa Park's **growing tour program**, guests can now explore the Trees for Health Garden through the **5 Flavors Tour**, an immersive experience that invites participants to engage with the garden by experiencing the five flavors central to Chinese medicine.

By uniting care, expertise, and interpretation, Forever Balboa Park is strengthening the living systems that sustain this extraordinary place.

Explore the Trees for Health Garden from anywhere.

Scan the QR code to discover the interactive map and learn more about this living collection. >>



Mapping the Park's Hidden Wonders

Balboa Park holds countless stories—some well-known, others waiting to be rediscovered. This year, Forever Balboa Park staff, volunteers, and interns expanded an interactive mapping initiative that helps visitors and researchers uncover the Park's hidden horticultural and historical gems through the use of QR codes in the Botanical Building, the Kate O. Sessions Cactus Garden, and the Inez Grant Parker Memorial Rose Garden.

Our most recent mapping project took place in the newly adopted **Trees for Health Garden**, a unique collection of plants showcasing the medicinal properties of trees from around the world. Thanks to the dedication of our volunteers and the support of the Trees for Health Garden Corps, this garden is now easier to explore through the new mapping platform.

This project also honors the garden's rich history and the local stories that have shaped its plantings. The interactive maps—designed with user-friendly layers—allow guests to dig deeper into the past while walking the present paths of the Park. They also serve as a valuable resource for students and remote users everywhere to explore Balboa Park's unique collection of medicinal trees and plants.

By combining technology with storytelling, we're opening doors to a more connected park experience and ensuring that Balboa Park's living collections continue to educate and inspire for years to come.



The Power of Forever Balboa Park's **Volunteers**

THE IMPACT OF OUR VOLUNTEERS IN 2025:

35,000+ volunteer hours
a **316% increase since 2020**

\$1.4 million+ worth of
hands-on care for Balboa Park

Direct impact on San Diego's
environmental + cultural legacy

Forever Balboa Park's volunteers don't just care for the Park—they bring it to life. They foster deeper connections, sustainability, and lifelong memories for the entire community. We're not the only ones recognizing the incredible impact of our volunteers. Each year, some of our superstar volunteers receive national honors as a Daily Point of Light awardee from Points of Light, the world's largest organization dedicated to advocating for and increasing volunteer service.

Forever Balboa Park's volunteer corps is the heartbeat of the Park, contributing more than **35,000 hours of service annually** to steward one of San Diego's most cherished spaces. Their work directly benefits the more than **14 million annual visits** to Balboa Park and provides critical support to the City of San Diego's Parks and Recreation Department.

Our volunteers come from all walks of life—students, professionals, retirees—and bring with them diverse skill sets in **gardening, environmental science, public engagement, tree care, historic preservation, visitor services, and more**. Together, they are helping to shape the future of Balboa Park through hands-on stewardship and meaningful community connections.



Be the Heart Behind the Park

Join the movement that keeps Balboa Park blooming, thriving, and inspiring. Whether you plant a tree, guide a tour, or tend a garden, your hands help shape this beloved place.

Step into the story. foreverbalboapark.org/volunteer



More Ways to Champion Balboa Park

Just hearing “Balboa Park” is nearly certain to bring a flood of cherished memories to mind for anyone who has called San Diego home. Whether it’s riding the Balboa Park Carousel after a visit to the Zoo, picnicking with family under the shade of a massive tree, admiring the lights during December Nights, or meandering through a secluded garden with a special someone, this Park holds a significant place in all of our hearts.

Our goal at Forever Balboa Park is to ensure this beautiful, urban treasure continues to inspire joy, curiosity, and pride for all who walk its 1,200 acres and to encourage people of all ages to connect to nature. Our team of dedicated staff and volunteers work year-round to ensure Balboa Park remains the heart of San Diego – from caring for our 16,000 trees to supporting vital maintenance projects across the Park, we need your help to make it happen! When you become a member of Forever Balboa Park, beginning at just \$50 a year, you’ll receive an inside look at what’s taking place in the Park, our latest projects and initiatives, and invitations to special events.



To join Forever Balboa Park and help support San Diego’s crown jewel, visit foreverbaloopark.org/donate

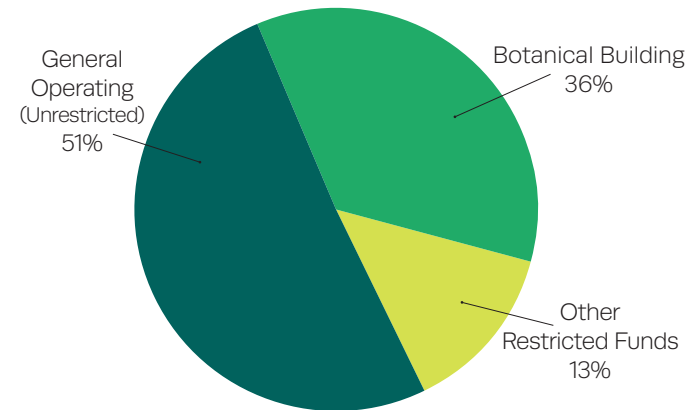


Rooted in Legacy, Growing Forward

FY'25

REVENUE

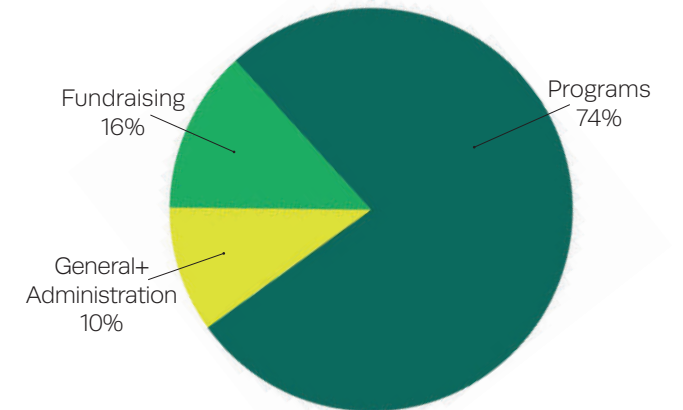
Total Income: \$7,412,906



This year’s financial statements reflect a surplus. The majority of these funds are donor-restricted for multi-year capital projects, including the Central Gardens and historic pergola reconstruction. These contributions were received in advance and are reserved for specific purposes as projects move forward.

EXPENSES

Total Expenses: \$4,789,401



Because these funds are designated for future implementation, they cannot be used for general operating expenses. Our operating budget continues to support volunteer programs, tree and garden care, and public engagement.

This surplus reflects responsible planning and long-term investment in Balboa Park’s future.

YOUR SUPPORT

The following individuals and organizations generously supported Forever Balboa Park with donations, grants, and in-kind contributions to support mission-driven initiatives from July 2024 to June 2025.

\$500,000+

J.W. Sefton Foundation
Laurie Mitchell and Brent Woods

\$200,000 – \$499,999

Conrad Prebys Foundation
National Park Service
V. Susan Gephardt Endowment Fund

\$100,000 – \$199,999

Anonymous
Connie Matsui and William R. Beckman
Betty J. Beyster
MA Beyster
Katy S. Christensen
Dr. Larry and Susan Favrot
John E. Ford Family Fund
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Michelle Green
Hervey Family Non-Endowment Fund
Hunter Industries
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John G. Venekamp and Clifford Schireson

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Cox Charities Foundation
Gayle and Enrico Grosso Fund
Gladys Hakel Fund
Conny Jamison
Gerald Kleinsmith and Gerard Michaud
Lilyan B. Frank Memorial Rose Garden Endowment Fund
San Diego Natural History Museum

Dale Satake
Nancy and Alan Spector
Lucy Warren

\$10,000 – \$24,999

The Beyster Family Foundation Fund at the San Diego Foundation
Brandes Investment Partners
Jim Dax
Alice and Doug* Diamond
Gina and Ray Ellis
Maria Carrera and Corey Fayman
Judy Sund and Scott Gilbert
GS Donor Advised Philanthropy Fund
Lisa and Charles* Hellerich
Karen and Robert Hoehn
Ingrid and Joseph W. Hibben Advised Fund
Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation
Legler Benbough Foundation
Paula LeGros

Jaimi Lomas
Marvin Arnold and Irene Jaquetta Heye Community Enrichment Fund
Harry Matheny
Carmen R. Moseley
Jean Pral
Price Philanthropies
Jane Riley
Allison Rossett and Susan Reynolds
Glenn and Lynne Rossman
San Diego Floral Association
Dr. Bonnie Scott
Ted and Kat Chapman Steuer
Gerry Sullivan and Bob Benzal
The Ellen Browning Scripps Foundation
Criselda and Michael Yee
Linda A. and John J. Zemcik

(continued next page)

YOUR SUPPORT continued

\$5,000 – \$9,999

Anonymous
Joyce Axelrod and Joseph Fisch Burnham Foundation
Mimi and Charles Clark
Mary Dawe
Janet A. and James M. Dort
Barbara and Dean Dunphy
Barbara Nolan and Henry Eimstad
Sarah Brite and Dr. Sean Evans
Michael Ford
Gottschalk Family Fund
George Hardy
Carmen and Jim Hughes
Lawrence Y. True Memorial Fund
Kate Leonard and Richard T. Forsyth
Dr. Peter Linz and Dr. Ann Secord
Margaret and Paul I. Meyer
Deborah M. Pate and Dr. John V. Forrest
Jean and Pemberton Smith
Stephen R. Dows Memorial Fund
John and Johanna Toman
Trudy B. and Dr. Michael J. Welch
Karin E. Winner and Lorie Hearn

\$1,000 – \$4,999

Anonymous
1% for the Planet
A.O. Reed
Joan Anderson
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December 2025 marked the debut of our very first Botanical Wonderland.

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