



Smithsonian Gardens

COLLABORATIVE APPROACHES TO “ONE SMITHSONIAN”



Smithsonian Institution



- A museum and research complex of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, as well as research facilities and libraries and a GREAT public garden.
- 640 buildings
- Facilities in 7 states, DC, Belize, Republic of Panama
- 138 million objects and specimens
- 2 million library volumes
- 30 million visitors each year
- 6,000 full-time employees 6,000 interns/volunteers

Smithsonian Gardens



Mission is to Engage, Inform and Inspire

Established in 1972

Received AAM Accreditation in 2013

Staff of 64

Over 180 acres of gardens, landscapes and grounds

64,000 square foot greenhouse facility

Gardens that complement the museums they border

Exhibits and public programming

Living plant, artifact and archival collections

Competing Attractions



No Interior Exhibition Space



Construction



Turning Challenges into Opportunities

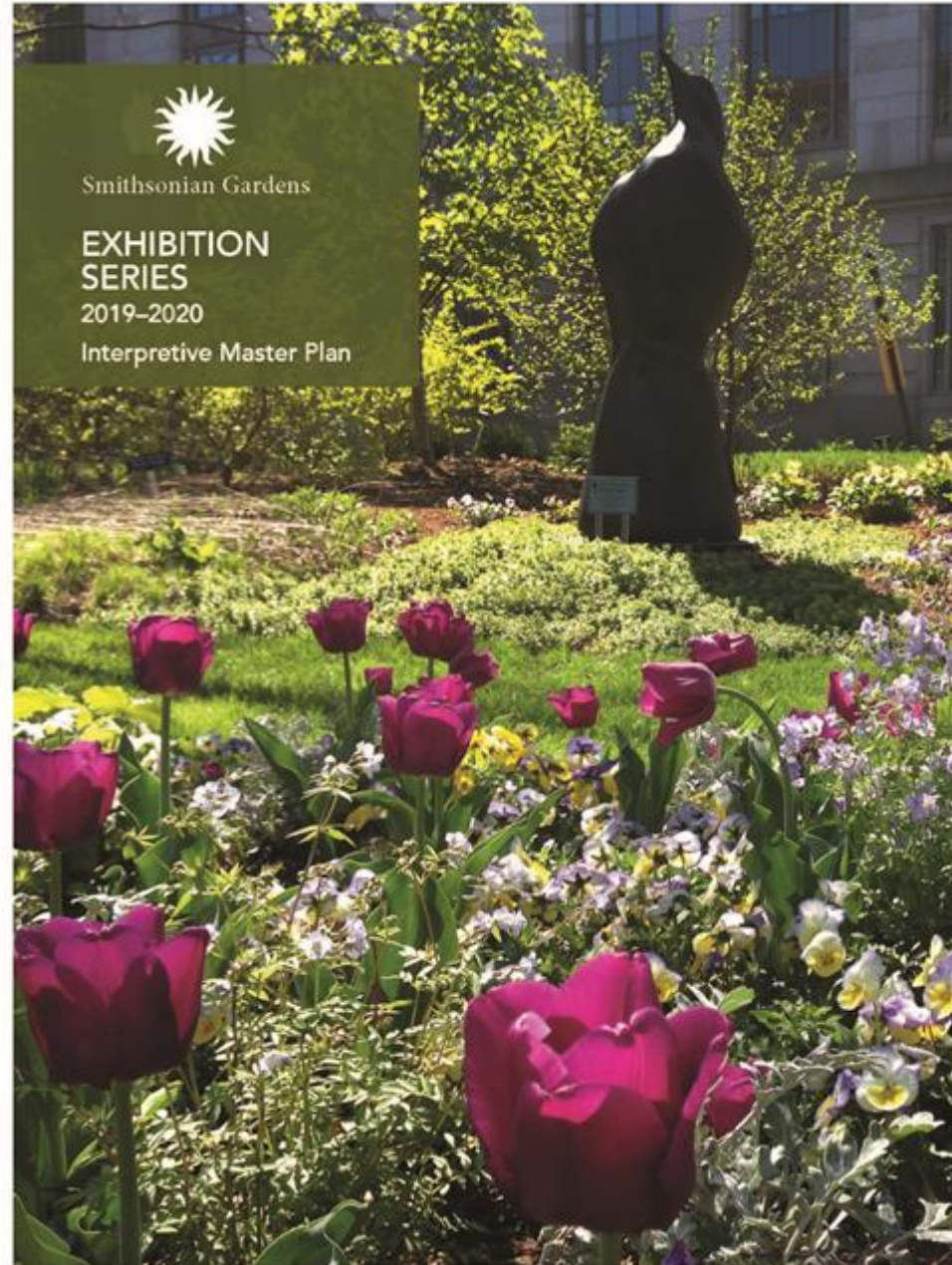
- Don't fight them join them
- Build relationships and trust
- Communicate on a continuous basis
- Try to say yes
- Be flexible and open to new opportunities







Building Future Collaborations





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SMITHSONIAN GARDENS HABITAT

OVERVIEW

The 2019-2020 Smithsonian Gardens Exhibition Series theme will be Habitat. Habitat was selected for its mission relevance, particularly as it relates to the Smithsonian Institution's Grand Challenge of "**understanding and sustaining a biodiverse planet**" and Smithsonian Gardens' Mission to "**inform on the roles people and plants play in our cultural and natural worlds.**"

CONTENT HIERARCHY

BIG IDEA

The "big idea" is the overarching message that visitors will understand upon leaving the exhibition. It is the basis for all the content that is presented and unifies each section of the exhibition. For *Habitat*, the big idea is:

PROTECTING HABITATS PROTECTS LIFE.



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SMITHSONIAN GARDENS HABITAT

EXHIBIT CONCEPTS

The following exhibits are proposed as part of *Habitat*:

HOMES

Mary Livingston Ripley Garden

The exhibit *Homes* will feature different types of structures that animals call home, from birdhouses to beehives and insect habitats. Whimsical sculptures of human homes will draw visitors into the garden. Once in, they will discover fun forms to create for their own gardens.

HABITAT OF FLIGHT

Northeast side of the National Air and Space Museum

The *Habitat of Flight* exhibit will explore the importance of wildlife in the science of flight. Signage and plantings around the National Air and Space Museum north terrace will highlight habitat features that ensure the survival of birds, insects, and other wild creatures and how critters influenced inventions of flight.

NATIVE AMERICAN LANDSCAPE

National Museum of the American Indian

The *Habitat* exhibit at the National Museum of the American Indian is a collection of indigenous trees, shrubs, and perennials grown in a piedmont landscape. The plants support wildlife found in the community and have ethnobotanical use for Native American peoples. The pond is lush with aquatic plants and provides a habitat for amphibians, birds, small mammals, and insects. This exhibit replicates habitat pockets still found in the mid-Atlantic area and is an example of how modern landscapes can provide habitats.

“One touch of nature makes the whole world kin.”

– William Shakespeare

SMITHSONIAN GARDENS HABITAT MARK

This mark will appear on all *Habitat*-related materials to identify the exhibition.



Two colors,
PMS 583 and PMS 384



One color, black and white



Smithsonian Gardens