



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **San Diego Botanic Garden Awarded \$10,000 Grant from Cox Charities to Support STEM Education, Conservation, and Sustainability**

*Funds bolster Scholarships for Title I Schools initiative to reach low-income students across San Diego County*

**Encinitas, Calif. (June 2023)** – [San Diego Botanic Garden](#) (SDBG) was one of 10 San Diego County nonprofit organizations to receive a \$10,000 grant by Cox Charities, which awarded a total of \$100,000 in grants for local programs focused on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) education, conservation and sustainability, and military and veterans.

The vital funding will support SDBG's *Scholarships for Title I Schools* initiative aimed at engaging more than 600 public elementary school students across San Diego County in Transitional Kindergarten through fourth grade. Free access to guided educational curriculum at the Garden such as "Amazing Adaptations," "Human & Plant Connections," "Plants and Pollinators," and "Around the World with Plants" will offer students hands-on, immersive outdoor learning experiences that help create authentic connections to the natural world, while underlining the importance of protecting it and ensuring a sustainable future.

Teachers can apply for funding to visit San Diego Botanic Garden for a guided tour and school program throughout the academic year. In addition to Garden admission and curriculum delivery by staff, funds from Cox Charities will be used to cover up to 100% of district bus transportation costs, which is the single greatest barrier to school field trips.

"All students deserve a well-rounded education, and many Title I students and teachers do not have access to experiential science lessons that bring real world challenges like sustainability and conservation to life," said SDBG Senior Director of Education & Visitor Services Tomoko Kuta. "This grant will allow us the opportunity to reach even more students and provide them with hands-on, engaging learning experiences to spark their curiosity in science and our environment."

The Garden's focus on Title I schools is part of the organization's ongoing efforts to be an inclusive, equitable, accessible, and welcoming place of beauty for all. In addition to a growing list of Title I schools that have previously visited SDBG, the grant will allow



the Garden to connect with an expanded roster of schools that have not previously visited due to funding.

For more information about San Diego Botanic Garden and educational offerings, please visit the website at [www.sdbg.org](http://www.sdbg.org). To learn more about Cox Charities and its giving programs, visit [www.coxcharitiesca.org](http://www.coxcharitiesca.org).

### **About San Diego Botanic Garden:**

Established in 1970, San Diego Botanic Garden (SDBG) is a 37-acre urban oasis located in Encinitas, California, just north of San Diego. The Garden's four miles of trails and 8,000 square foot glass conservatory display more than 5,300 plant species and varieties. A premiere institution for botanical science and conservation, SDBG is actively involved in conservation horticulture, botany, and applied plant sciences to address our biggest local and global challenges, from biodiversity loss to climate change, food insecurity to environmental degradation. SDBG has the largest public bamboo collection in North America; gardens representing different regions and flora of the world; and demonstration gardens showcasing fruits and vegetables, water-smart ornamentals, and native plants. Through an array of educational programming, events and activities for both children and adults, the Garden aims to create, share and apply plant wisdom to the world. Learn more at [sdbg.org](http://sdbg.org). | FB [@SDBotanicGarden](https://www.facebook.com/SDBotanicGarden) | Instagram [@sandiegobotanicgarden](https://www.instagram.com/sandiegobotanicgarden) | Twitter [@SDBGarden](https://twitter.com/SDBGarden) | TikTok [@sandiegobotanicgarden](https://www.tiktok.com/@sandiegobotanicgarden)

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