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# Green Bay Botanical Garden Launches Capital Campaign to Raise Funds for Children's Garden Expansion Project

*Garden's Goal to Raise $11.5 Million During*
*Nature Nurtures Capital Campaign*

**(GREEN BAY, WI) (September 23, 2021)** — Green Bay Botanical Garden recently announced the public launch of their new Nature Nurtures Capital Campaign to raise $11.5 million for a planned expansion of their Children's Garden. Construction is slated to begin in early 2022 with a grand opening in spring 2023.

The current Nielsen Children's Garden includes a slide tower surrounded by Mr. McGregor's Garden, a maze, a koi pond, and the Stumpf Hobbit House restroom. The expansion will build upon these beloved favorites to be located in the **Gertrude B. Nielsen Village**, increasing from half an acre to 2.5 acres with a wide variety of new areas to enjoy.

"I'm pleased to share that just over $9.5 million in gifts and pledges have been raised so far," says Susan Garot, Executive Director. "We're now asking our community to help us fund the final $2 million of the project by the end of the year."

The following features to be built within the new **Carol & Bruce Bell Children's Garden** include:

- The Gateway Sculpture, sponsored by the late **Edward L. Meyer, Jr. and Mary Ellen Troup**.
- The Rain Drop Garden, sponsored by the **Judith Parrish** Family.
- The Lily Pad Splash Play is sponsored by the **Gail Fischer** Family.
- The Field is sponsored by the **Rosemann** Family.

Other spaces being reserved or remain available for naming opportunities include the:

- Wetland Deck
- Mushroom Jumper Woodland Play area
- Series of Treehouses
- Council of Critters amphitheater
- Cave Play and Hillside Escarpment
- Lodge
- Maintenance Shed
- And other smaller features

The expanded Children's Garden will continue to connect nature, learning, and play, nurturing a love of nature for all time. Signs placed throughout the expanded footprint of the planned updates include designs created by SmithGroup, a firm out of Madison, Wis., and explain the new features, what they will include, and where they'll be located.

"We're ecstatic to transform our Children's Garden into an updated, natural wonderland where our community can discover new ways to learn and play in the outdoors," says Garot. "This is an important next step for the Garden, and

together, we're creating an experience that cultivates a lifetime of wonder and connection to nature."

Those interested in learning more about the Children's Garden Expansion Project or ways to leave a lasting legacy by supporting the project can contact Susan Garot, Executive Director, at 920.491.3691 ext. 102 or sgarot@gbbg.org or Cindy Berton, Director of Development, at ext. 104 or cberton@gbbg.org.
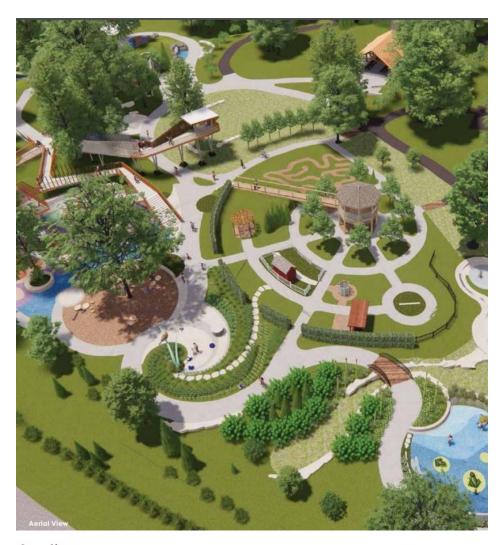
For updates on the project, visit GBBG.org/ChildrensGarden. For renderings and a map of the project, visit GBBG.org/Media.

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**About Green Bay Botanical Garden**
For 25 years, Green Bay Botanical Garden has connected people with plants by providing year-round educational and recreational experiences for everyone in an environment that engages, inspires, and refreshes. First opened in 1996 and now featuring 47-acres of display gardens and natural areas, the Garden is celebrating 25 years of growth and success in 2021, and touches the lives of more than 97,000 visitors annually from northeast Wisconsin and beyond. For more information about other happenings or how we're celebrating this milestone, visit GBBG.org or call 920.490.9457.

**Editors, please note:** Captions follow photos below. Interviews, virtual interviews (i.e. Zoom, FaceTime, etc.), pre-recorded videos, story leads, and additional high-resolution digital images are available by contacting the media representative at the top of this release.

**Caption:**

Aerial view of expanded Children's Garden. (Design rendering courtesy of SmithGroup)

**Caption:**

Tree Houses will become a place for nature, learning, and play for all ages.
(Design rendering courtesy of SmithGroup)