



MEDIA CONTACT

Laura McPhail
Director of Marketing and Communications
Huntsville Botanical Garden
lmcp@mail@hsvbg.org
256-830-4447, ext. 226

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Huntsville Botanical Garden receives \$2 million donation from Wicks Family Foundation

Former Children's Garden renamed Wicks Family Garden

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (May 18, 2023) – On any given day, the sights and sounds of children playing can be heard at Huntsville Botanical Garden (HBG). The beloved Children's Garden area will be renamed the Wicks Family Garden as a result of a \$2 million donation from Mike and Christine Wicks on behalf of the Wicks Family Foundation.

The former Children's Garden—now the Wicks Family Garden—is a popular destination for families, classes on school field trips, STEM camp attendees and those on their way to the section of the Garden called Tweetsville. It is a place where countless children have played, imagined, and learned through nature connections for years.

"We are thrilled and honored to receive this contribution," said HBG Chief Executive Officer Susan Wagner. "Many children and their family members have discovered a love of nature and learning from their experiences at Huntsville Botanical Garden. Through the generosity of the Wicks family, the Garden will be able to make enhancements and improvements in the coming years that will impact children and families from near and far."

For Mike and Christine, the Wicks Family Garden represented an opportunity to give back to the community.

"The Huntsville Botanical Garden is at the top of Huntsville's value proposition, offering so much to people of every age in our community," said Christine. "The beauty of the Garden adds to our already vibrant city."

Beyond a call to support the metro-Huntsville community, giving to the Garden is also personal for the Wicks.

"Our family has always had a love for gardening and horticulture that goes back generations," said Mike. "We make this contribution in honor of Huntsville as well as our family's legacy."

“We are so grateful for this gift and look forward to implementing some visionary plans we are identifying now as part of our master site planning process,” said Wagner. “This donation will help take the Garden to the next level.”

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About Huntsville Botanical Garden

Huntsville Botanical Garden is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that exists to connect people to plants in order to support a healthier quality of life for the region. Open year-round, the Garden contains diverse ecosystems to explore within its 118 acres. From grassy meadows to woodland paths, aquatic habitats to stunning floral collections, the Garden invites guests of all ages to discover the beauty and wonder of the natural environment. For more information, visit hsvbg.org.