

The Garden Club of Palo Alto - Project Funding Priorities

Following are priorities for the types of projects the Garden Club of Palo Alto supports with grants. While we don't anticipate any organization or project will achieve all of these priorities, they are the lens by which we review the applications.

1. Alignment with Mission

We value projects that align with the mission of the Garden Club:

- Encourage an interest in gardening, horticulture, artistic use of flowers and plants, conservation of natural resources, and allied subjects.
- Educate the community on these subjects
- Assist in the beautification of public areas in the City of Palo Alto and surrounding communities.

2. Local Impact and Focus

We value initiatives that directly benefit horticulture in the Palo Alto community and surrounding areas, such as providing gardening education or contributing to the enhancement and preservation of local green spaces.

3. Innovation and Creativity

We value projects with innovative and creative approaches to gardening, conservation and community engagement, such as introducing new methods, technologies or approaches to addressing environmental challenges or enhancing garden experiences.

4. Sustainability

We value projects with a commitment to environmental sustainability and responsible stewardship of natural resources, such as incorporating sustainable practices, such as water conservation, native plant gardening and organic methods.

5. Education and Outreach

We value projects that include an educational component or provide opportunities for community engagement and outreach, such as workshops, demonstrations or educational materials that promote gardening skills, environmental literacy, and appreciation for nature.

6. Accessibility and Inclusivity

We value initiatives that promote accessibility and inclusiveness in gardening and environmental activities, ensuring that people from all backgrounds and abilities have opportunities to participate and benefit. Grants will not be made to political or religious organizations.

7. Collaboration and Partnership

We value projects that foster collaboration and partnerships with other community organizations, educational institutions, local government agencies or businesses, to maximize the impact and resources.

8. Financial Responsibility

Organizations seeking support should demonstrate sound financial management and transparency in their operations, including clear budget plans for proposed projects and accountable use of funds.