



THE GARDEN CLUB *of* AMERICA

2016 FOUNDERS FUND AWARD FINALISTS
Proposal Summaries

The HISTORIC WASHINGTON GARDEN at the OLD NORTH CHURCH
Proposed by Beacon Hill GC, Zone I | Seconded by Chestnut Hill GC, Zone I

The Old North Church of Paul Revere fame is Boston's oldest standing church and most visited historic site, attracting half a million visitors each year. The Beacon Hill Garden Club has been a partner of the Church for over sixty years. The two now plan to recreate the garden ahead of the church's 300th birthday and the nation's 250th. This accessible garden will showcase 18th century plant materials, the famous Longfellow poem and a flexible outdoor classroom.

BUILDING SUSTAINABILITY at HARTFORD'S HISTORIC KENEY PARK
Proposed by GC of Hartford, Zone II | Seconded by Connecticut Valley GC, Zone II

Hartford's historic Keney Park borders a neighborhood of astounding poverty. GCH will provide educational and employment opportunities for park workers and volunteers through a course on basics in urban park care. These best practices will be illustrated by planting the park's five entrances using the winning plan from our *Partners for Plants* design contest. The curriculum will be posted online for public access. Signage will teach visitors about habitat diversity within this 700-acre Olmsted Brothers-designed jewel.

The WETLANDS EDUCATION CENTER at CATTAIL MARSH
Proposed by Magnolia GC, Zone IX | Seconded by The GC of Houston, Zone IX

The Magnolia Garden Club seeks to construct The Wetlands Education Center at Cattail Marsh, a manmade wetland in Beaumont, Texas. As the end stage in the city's wastewater treatment, it astonished engineers by becoming an amazing, diverse wildlife habitat. It is a demonstration for the future where mankind and nature interact. This elevated classroom with large viewing platform will provide outreach to schoolchildren and visitors, raising awareness and understanding of the role of wetlands in our ecosystem.