



FALL/WINTER 2025

NEWSCASTING

Grounds For Sculpture's publication for members and volunteers

Salvador Jiménez-Flores:
Raíces & Resistencias

GFS Joins Cultural Access Network

GFS Partners with Native
Roots Farm Foundation

Johnson Atelier Merger

Member Events

Meet the Staff
& Interns

... and more!



SEPTEMBER | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER

WELCOME

Dear Members,

I am excited for you to explore this issue of *News casting* and gain some behind the scenes insights into our work. It was a very busy summer for us at GFS, and the fall is going to be equally packed. One of the main focuses for me as leader of GFS was successfully assuming management and operations of the Johnson Atelier and its state-of-the-art modeling, scanning, milling, painting, and finishing capabilities. This union represents an innovative business model: a nonprofit sculpture park operating a revenue-generating sculpture fabrication business. GFS will expand our ability to produce work that can be exhibited on our own campus, and facilitate the production of work for venues around the world, allowing us to go beyond our gates and deliver on our mission to make sculpture and public art broadly accessible. A great example of this is our recent collaboration with Roberto Lugo. While he was in residence here in 2022, he created the monumental piece *Put Yourself In the Picture* that now is part of our permanent collection. Since that time, he has become a client of the Johnson Atelier, producing other large-scale works that are going out into communities and museums around the country. The possibilities ahead to collaborate and cultivate relationships over time with both blue-chip artists and emerging talent is incredibly exciting. Stay tuned for more updates, which will include artist residencies, new sculpture both on and offsite, and more.

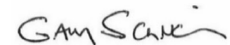
Another exciting venture, both for GFS and for me personally, was the opportunity to curate an exhibition by Chicago-based interdisciplinary artist Salvador Jiménez-Flores. I had the privilege of meeting Salvador when he was part of our group show *Fragile: Earth* in 2022 with The Color Network. Once I saw his work and felt that there may be opportunities for more at GFS, we began a conversation to see how we might expand our collaboration. This new exhibition on view in the East Gallery and outdoors, titled *Raíces & Resistencias*, opens on September 28, and addresses critical issues of migration, cultural hybridity, and resilience. GFS has commissioned a bronze cast sculpture, which will be on view outdoors during the exhibition and will be a new addition to our permanent collection. During a time when art and artists are being silenced, GFS continues to be artist-led and responsive to the world we live in. Salvador's work tells a broader, more nuanced story about what it means to be from more than one place—and how artwork can help us understand each other better.

Thank you for being part of our community and making this kind of impactful work possible. It is encouraging to see how our 42-acre campus in Hamilton, NJ is quickly becoming part of a national (and international) arts landscape. We couldn't do that with your partnership.

With gratitude,

Gary Garrido Schneider

Executive Director



HOURS THIS SEASON

General Hours | 10AM - 5PM | Wednesday – Monday | Closed Tuesdays

Members may visit spontaneously without a reservation on weekdays. A free reservation is required on weekends and holidays to ensure your desired entry time.

RESERVE YOUR VISIT: groundsforsculpture.org/timed-admission-tickets

As an organization, Grounds For Sculpture has made positive strides towards accessibility and accommodations. From June-December 2024, we participated in Art-Reach's Accessibility Task Force pilot program to audit our policies, practices, procedures, and programs to determine improvements for equitable engagement and access for people with disabilities. The result is a three-year Strategic Accessibility Plan that will advise us on our work going forward. Check this space for updates!

The Access Mobile Tour is a 45-minute tour that is available daily for visitors with disabilities or limited mobility. The cart can accommodate either a maximum of five people OR four people and a wheelchair. Tours are scheduled at 11AM, 12PM, 2PM, 3PM. You can reserve seats for the guest who needs it + one additional guest (additional guests may join the tour to the guides discretion). Reservations strongly recommended two weeks in advance by calling 609.586.0616.

Docent Tours are available based on docent availability. Check in at the Welcome Center to see what pop-up tours are available during your visit!

Discover something new or learn more about a longtime favorite!

Explore our collection of 400+ works on our [website](#) and our [interactive map](#), which features sculpture and horticulture throughout the grounds, as well as an [audio tour](#) offering docent interpretations of 28 sculptures and 2 historical spots. View our tool box of new [self-guided activities](#) to enhance your next visit.

[SIGN UP FOR GFS E-NEWS](#)

CONNECT WITH GFS!

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MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP *Register on the GFS website*

Registering your membership's online account allows you to "Sign In" to conveniently reserve your free visits, renew, register for programs, and receive your member discounts where applicable! **If you have not already done so, register your membership's online account [here](#).**

Cover: Salvador Jiménez-Flores, *La resistencia de los nopales híbridos: El Susurro del Desierto/The Resistance of the Hybrid Cacti: The Desert's Whisper*, 2025, cast bronze, 109 x 92 x 36 inches (base not pictured 36 x 72 x 72 inches), Collection of the Artist, photo: David Michael Howarth Photography

Isaac Witkin, *The Bathers*, 1991, cast bronze, 63 x 407 x 41 inches, Grounds For Sculpture, Gift of The Seward Johnson Atelier © Estate of Isaac Witkin, photo: David Michael Howarth Photography

MEMBER EVENTS

For more information or to register for these events, visit groundsforsculpture.org/calendar or call 609.586.0616

MEMBERS-ONLY TOUR: FEMALE SCULPTORS

Sunday, September 14, 2025 (10:30am)

Enhance your morning with a members-only docent-led tour about the female sculptors showcased at GFS. Register at Guest Services upon arrival to GFS. Tour leaves from the Welcome Center, takes place outdoors, and lasts 45-60 minutes.



FAMILY OPEN STUDIOS

First Saturday of each month, (11am – 3pm)

Saturday, September 6: Family Field Day
Saturday, October 4: Black Out!
Saturday, November 1: Stained Glass Stories
Saturday, December 6: Paint with Pulp

Reflect, Create, and Share. Join us for Family Open Studios in our Education Studios for this drop-in workshop inviting all ages to create together for experimentation and curiosity on various fun themes. FREE for members.

[LEARN MORE](#)



TOTS FOR SCULPTURE

On a select Saturday each month

(10:30 – 11:45am)

Saturday, September 20: Calming Caterpillars
Saturday, October 18: Tactile Texture Adventure
Saturday, November 15: Lively Leaves
Saturday, December 13: Parts of a Whole

All Tots For Sculpture workshops are designed for children ages 3 to 5 to explore and create alongside their adult caregivers. \$5 materials fee per child; FREE for adult members. [LEARN MORE](#)



STROLLER TOURS

Mondays from September 8 to October 27 (11am – 12pm)

Enjoy a leisurely 30-minute kid-friendly tour led by a GFS docent and then head into the studio for a creative artmaking activity. This program is designed for families with children 0-3 years old. \$5 materials fee per child; FREE for adult members; pre-registration required. [BUY TICKETS](#)

Children's educational programming at Grounds For Sculpture is made possible by generous support from the Jirair S. and Elizabeth Hovnanian Family Foundation. Additional support is provided by Knowledge Without Borders and PNC Foundation. Support is provided, in part, by Jenifer Morack, and Schaefer/Batterman Family Fund of the Princeton Area Community Foundation.



GFS MEMBER MEET-UP AT ART@ BAINBRIDGE

Tuesday, September 9, 2025 (3:30pm)

Join us for a GFS Member Meet-up at Art@ Bainbridge in Princeton, NJ to view the

exhibition *Léni Paquet-Morante: Extract / Abstract* and learn more about the artwork together with the artist. Morante is a painter and sculptor based in NJ with a studio located on GFS's campus and her featured recent works explore abstracting landscapes through varied media and techniques. [REGISTER](#)



MEMBER PREVIEW DAY

Saturday, September 27, 2025 (10am-2pm)

Member Preview Day is an exclusive opportunity for GFS members to be among the first to explore the season, including new exhibition *Salvador Jiménez-Flores: Raíces & Resistencias*. Join us and participate in a variety of unique programming specifically designed to engage and inspire you!

Member Preview Day highlights include:

- Members-only access starting at 10AM
- Exclusive first look at the new artwork
- Meet the Artist and Curator
- Docent-led Tours
- Wellness Workshop
- Hands-on Printmaking
- Access to the Member Lounge with complimentary beverages

Members may use their Guest Passes to bring additional guests.

[View the program schedule](#)

GFS MEMBER MEET-UP AT BENT IRON BREWING COMPANY

Thursday, October 9, 2025 (4-7pm)

Join us for a GFS Member Meet-up at [Bent Iron Brewing Company](#), a 55-acre farm brewery in Hamilton Township, NJ. Meet and mingle with other GFS members while supporting a new local business! Enjoy 10% off your à la carte brewery tab. GFS will provide light bites, or feel free to bring your own food or purchase from the food truck. The meet-up will run from 4-7PM, but feel free to stay for Bent Iron's trivia night or until closing if you choose! This free meet-up is open to new and current members. Bring a friend or a few to join in the fun!

[LEARN MORE](#)

DIRECTOR'S TOAST 2025

Sunday, October 12, 2025 (3-5pm)

An exclusive, FREE event for *Benefactor* level members

This year's event is hosted by GFS Board Member Michelle Bajwa in Monroe, NJ. Get to know Grounds For Sculpture's leadership, toast the season together, and hear special updates from GFS's Executive Director, Gary Garrido Schneider.

Benefactor level members register [here](#). Current members may upgrade or new members may [join](#) at *Benefactor* to attend. Call the Membership Office at 609.249.0225 with any questions.



MEMBERS' MUSINGS 2025: BENEATH THE SURFACE

Our 16th annual exhibition of artwork created exclusively by GFS members. Submit your artwork via the submission form: September 29 – October 17

Exhibition on view: November 22, 2025 – February 22, 2026
Opening reception: November 22, 2025 from 2-4PM

An annual exhibition at Grounds For Sculpture, this year's *Members' Musings* is the sixteenth show featuring artwork exclusively by GFS members. In addition to supporting the arts, many GFS members are gifted artists themselves. This exhibition showcases the diversity of the organization's membership through their varied artistic creations and unique inspirations, showcased onsite in our Education Gallery. We are looking forward to seeing your submissions. This year's juror is Danielle Davis, an educator dedicated to school and community art programs and visual artist with a background in metalworking and jewelry making. [LEARN MORE](#)

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The Education Gallery at Grounds For Sculpture is supported, in part, by Stark & Stark, Inc.



ART TALK WITH CHAKAIA BOOKER IN CONVERSATION WITH GARY GARRIDO SCHNEIDER

Sunday, November 16, 2025 (3 – 4:30pm)

FREE for *Sustainer* and *Benefactor* level members

Join Chakaia Booker, an internationally renowned and widely collected American sculptor, in conversation with Gary Garrido Schneider, GFS's Executive Director, as they discuss inspiration, artistic process, and the making of *FOCI*, Chakaia's monumental sculpture, which was recently installed at GFS. After the talk, enjoy a curated tasting and further conversation.

Sustainer and *Benefactor* level members register [here](#). Current members may upgrade or new members may [join](#) at *Sustainer* or *Benefactor* to attend. Call the Membership Office at 609.249.0225 with any questions.

Art Talk with Chakaia Booker image: Chakaia Booker, *FOCI*, 2010, rubber tires, stainless steel, H. 30 x W. 8 x D. 8 feet, Collection of the Artist, photo: Eric Van't Zelfden for David Michael Howarth Photography; Artisan Holiday Market image: Andrej Likasov



MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY

Saturday, November 22, 2025 (10am – 4pm)

Cozy up in the Member Lounge with complimentary coffee, tea, hot cocoa, and cookies. You can also make your own greeting card to give to a loved one this

holiday season! Enjoy 20% off in the Museum Shop and Van Gogh Café, and celebrate at the Opening Reception for our sixteenth-annual Members' Musings exhibition *Beneath the Surface*. [LEARN MORE](#)



ARTISAN HOLIDAY MARKET

Saturday, November 29, 2025 (10am-5pm) + Sunday, November 30, 2025 (10am-4pm)

Members have early access at 9-10AM on both days!

Discover over 50 talented artisans offering handcrafted jewelry, pottery, woodworking, original art, skincare, gourmet treats, and much more. Whether you're on a festive date or enjoying a family outing, the Market is the perfect one-stop-shop for unique, locally made gifts. Make a day of it—explore 42 acres of art-filled gardens, stroll through the galleries, and soak in the creative spirit that fills GFS. [LEARN MORE](#)

Warm up with seasonally themed treats, beverages and concessions available for purchase. And, to complete your day, don't forget to enjoy a delightful lunch or dinner at Rat's Restaurant, where the artistry of food mirrors the creativity of the surroundings. [Rats' Restaurant reservations recommended.](#)



WINTER WREATH MAKING | MEMBERS ONLY

Saturday, December 6, 2025 (10:30am – 12:30pm)

Learn to construct a natural winter wreath to bring an understated charm to your home. This 2-hour workshop will teach you to assemble and decorate

these classic symbols of the holidays using natural materials collected from the GFS gardens. This session of this popular workshop is reserved for members only. [REGISTER NOW](#)



The Wellness Initiative and related programs are made possible in part by Capital Health Systems.

Interested in getting more engaged? Bringing additional family and friends with you to programs and exploring our art-filled gardens? Upgrading your membership is easy and can be done anytime during your membership's term - and you'll support the arts! Call 609.249.0225 for more info.

Family Open Studios image: Roshni Khatri; Tots For Sculpture image: David Michael Howarth; Stroller Tours image: Elizabeth Strong-Cuevas, *Arch II (detail)*, 1993, aluminum, 144 x 132 x 60 inches, Grounds For Sculpture, Gift of the Artist, © Artist or Artist's Estate, photo: David Michael Howarth; Member Meet-up Image: Léni Paquet-Morante, *Winter Sky on a Shallow*, 2021, Acrylic on canvas, 31 1/2 x 42 inches, Collection of the artist; Member Preview Day image: Salvador Jiménez-Flores in his studio, photo: Courtesy of the Artist

Member Preview Day

On Saturday, May 17, members celebrated the exciting new season with an exclusive Member Preview Day. Programs included first access to the new exhibition *Clifford Ward: I'll Make Me A World* and newly installed sculpture *FOCI* by Chakaia Booker, opportunities to meet the artists and curator, a Tai Chi class, a Sculpted Figures workshop, and tours of the gardens throughout the day. Members also enjoyed first access to the annual GFS Plant Sale.



Clifford Ward and Guest Curator Noah Smalls with *Animism* (Pictured on the left), and Artist Chakaia Booker (Pictured on the right)



Wordsmith: A Def Poetry Reunion Honoring Sonia Sanchez

GFS presented a second exploration of word flow, verses, live music, and landscapes as

Danny Simmons presented *Wordsmith: A Def Poetry Reunion Honoring Sonia Sanchez – The Poetry Of Peace & Resistance* on Thursday, June 12.

This partnership is inspired by our 2023 acquisition of Roberto Lugo's 20-foot vessel *Put Yourself in the Picture* which is installed outdoors in our 42-acre sculpture park. The piece is Lugo's largest work, to date, and was created at the Johnson Atelier as part of his 2022 exhibition at GFS. We were thrilled to partner with poet, painter, and philanthropist Danny Simmons as he curated Def Poetry Alumni to share their poetic practice utilizing the vessel as a performance piece. The evening included the opportunity to explore our art-filled gardens, indoor exhibitions – *Slow Motion* and *Clifford Ward: I'll Make Me A World* – and food trucks. Performers included Toni Blackman, Kraal “Kayo” Charles, Derick Cross, Lezlie Harrison, Vanessa Hiday, Roberto Lugo, Jessica Care Moore, Abiodun Oyewole, Bonafide Rojas, and Nioka Workman and the Fire Strings Company.

Before the performances, Tammi Lawson, curator of the art and artifact division at the New York Public Library's renowned Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, hosted a powerful pre-event talk for members and the general audience between Danny Simmons and Abiodun Oyewole.

We were delighted to hear how much attendees enjoyed the evening of poetry, live music and food trucks in the gardens. It was an unparalleled experience that captured the joy and power of community. *Wordsmith: A Def Poetry Reunion* will return to GFS in June 2026 for its third year – keep an eye out as more details become available!

Wordsmith: A Def Poetry Reunion Honoring Sonia Sanchez – The Poetry Of Peace & Resistance is supported in part by the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

NEW JERSEY COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES



Behind the Scenes with Clifford Ward

On Thursday, June 5, *Sustainer* and *Benefactor* level members had the opportunity to meet Clifford Ward, the artist featured in the solo exhibition at GFS, *Clifford Ward: I'll Make Me A World*. Cliff gave a special artist talk and tour of his exhibition, sharing about his artistic journey and expansive practice, including themes and concepts amassed from over a decade of his creative work. After the talk, members mingled and enjoyed a tasting of Cliff's favorite bites, specially curated by Constellation Catering.

Clifford Ward: I'll Make Me A World is made possible by generous exhibition support from Julie and Michael Nachamkin. Additional support is provided by the Brooke Barrie Art Fund, NRG Energy, and Marjorie Ogilvie. Support is provided in part by The New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a division of the NJ Department of State, and a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts and the Atlantic Foundation.



GFS Member Meet-up at Art@Bainbridge

Many GFS members will recall Roberto Lugo's exhibition at GFS in 2022, *Roberto Lugo: The Village Potter*. GFS acquired Lugo's 20-foot vessel *Put Yourself in the Picture* in 2023, which is installed outdoors on our 42-acre campus. Roberto Lugo is an artist, ceramist, social activist, poet, educator, and friend of GFS! In celebration of Lugo's exhibition *Roberto Lugo / Orange and Black* on view in Princeton, GFS organized a Member Meet-Up at Art@Bainbridge on Tuesday, June 17. Lugo's exhibition featured "vases that draw on the shapes, techniques, and decorative motifs of ancient Greek vases in order to tell personal and communal stories of contemporary social and political oppression" ("Roberto Lugo / Orange and Black", Princeton University Art Museum). Associate Curator of Ancient Mediterranean Art (and the curator for this exhibit), Carolyn Laferrière, shared insight on how the exhibition came together and connections between Lugo's vases and a selection of ancient Greek vessels from the Princeton University Art Museum's collections that were presented alongside his work.

Have an idea for feature in Newscasting? Email Claire Cossaboon, Director of Membership, ccossaboon@groundsforsculpture.org



“Waste as Art: Excavating Future Futures Through Multiple Perspectives” + Member Mingle

The talk “Waste as Art: Excavating *Future Futures* Through Multiple Perspectives” featured a panel discussion with artist Billy Dufala alongside anthropologist Robin Nagle (NYU) and historian Paul Farber (Monument Lab), moderated also by Farber on Saturday, June 28. The panel explored how the work can be interpreted in diverse contexts—from museum spaces to landfills. Attendees were encouraged to think critically about waste transformation into art and to consider multiple frames of reference to understand our relationship with waste as a material.

Following the talk, a Member Mingle was offered to give members time to converse with the panelists and to socialize while enjoying a variety of refreshments – including a Cookie Station featuring talk-themed Dump Truck Cookies and Compost Krispies. Make sure to keep an eye out for another special talk and Member Mingle this winter!



SHHH in Conversation: Ana Teresa Fernández and Paul Farber

On Saturday, July 12, Grounds For Sculpture and Monument Lab hosted a virtual conversation between artist Ana Teresa Fernández and curator Paul Farber about language, loss, renewal, and reimagining monuments. The discussion centered around Fernández's powerful sculpture *SHHH*, featured in the *Slow Motion* exhibition, which uses mirrored gold acrylic discs to reflect themes of ecological fragility, cultural extinction, and climate justice. The conversation offered insight into the intersections of language, displacement, and environmental urgency, underscoring the importance of art as a catalyst for awareness and dialogue.

Slow Motion is made possible by generous exhibition support from Bloomberg Philanthropies, the Brooke Barrie Art Fund, NRG Energy, and Julie and Michael Nachamkin. Support is provided in part by The New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a division of the NJ Department of State, and a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, the Atlantic Foundation, and the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation.



GFS Family Breakfast

We hosted an annual favorite, the GFS Family Breakfast, on Saturday, August 9. GFS members at membership levels *Family* and above enjoyed breakfast and family-focused activities for all ages, including making colorful, paper flower gardens, as well as intricate origami lotus and lily flowers!



Blood Drive in the East Gallery

Saving lives one pint at a time. **Grounds For Sculpture partnered with the New York Blood Center on Monday, August 18, to host our third annual blood drive in the spacious East Gallery.** We were able to collect 48 lifesaving units, which have the potential to save 144 lives in the community! It is thanks to you that we can supply

hospitals with lifesaving blood products. All presenting donors received free admission the day of and one complimentary guest pass for a future visit. Be on the lookout because GFS plans to hold another blood drive in the future.



Grounds For Sculpture Joins The Cultural Access Network Project

The programs and services of the Cultural Access Network Project are guided by a volunteer steering committee representing arts patrons, state and county officials, arts administrators, and managers from organizations serving people with disabilities. GFS has been invited to sit on this steering committee.

The Cultural Access Network Project was established in 1992 to assist all of New Jersey's cultural arts organizations in making their programs and facilities accessible to seniors and individuals with disabilities to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The Cultural Access Network Project committee is comprised of individuals with specific knowledge and expertise in areas relating to accessible programming and facilities.

Ana Teresa Fernández, *SHHH*, 2023, laser cut plywood, acrylic discs, gold paint, gold sequins, posts, 86 x 248 x 5.5 inches, Courtesy of the Artist; Barton Rubenstein, *Harmonize*, 2016, stainless steel, 16 x 3 x 3 feet, Grounds For Sculpture, Gift of the Artist, Collection of the Artist, © Artist or Artist's Estate photo: Bruce M. White; GFS Family Breakfast photo: The Rose family making paper flowers; William T. Wiley, *To Marcel Duchamp*, 1887-1968, Artist, *Tool and Die Maker*, 1968, stainless steel, chain 6 feet; diameter sphere 29 inches; overall 84 x 112 x 90 inches; pyramid 6 x 7 feet, Grounds For Sculpture, Gift of The Seward Johnson Atelier, Original Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Sabol, © Artist or Artist's Estate, photo: David Michael Howarth

Clifford Ward, *Animism*, 2013-2024, mixed media, dimensions variable, Collection of the Artist, photo: Eric Van't Zelfden for David Michael Howarth Photography; Roberto Lugo, *Put Yourself in the Picture*, 2022 (detail), mixed media, 240 x 132 x 324 inches, Grounds For Sculpture, Partial Gift of the Artist and Partial Purchase, Funds Provided in part by the Kunz/Guindo/Lombard Family & Friends in Loving Memory of Camille Lombard Kunz, photo: Roshni Khatri; Clifford Ward, *Miracle of the Smiling Mom* '98, 2025, acrylic on canvas, 12 x 12 inches each, Collection of the Artist; Courtesy of the Artist

Atelier Merger

Recently, on May 28, GFS announced that our sculpture park, along with Johnson Atelier, are now officially operating as one institution, marrying their unique strengths to form a contemporary arts powerhouse with the distinct ability to produce, conserve, and exhibit large-scale, high-caliber sculptures, and create amplified art experiences that will benefit members like you.

GFS has assumed management and operations of Johnson Atelier and its state-of-the-art modeling, scanning, milling, painting and finishing capabilities, along with its assets including the Motor Exhibits Building, which currently houses studios for 25 artists.

Throughout his career, GFS and Johnson Atelier's founder, Seward Johnson, desired to make the impossible possible while working outside of the confines of traditional art systems and structures. Together, GFS and Johnson Atelier represent 50 years of artists creating together, changing how artists make sculpture, and reimagining how communities engage with the arts. This unification is the realization of Seward's vision, and his hope for these institutions to work as one.

What's more, this enterprising business structure of a nonprofit sculpture park operating a revenue generating sculpture fabrication business that produces work that can be exhibited on its campus, and in venues all over the world, allows GFS to go beyond its gates to deliver on its mission to make sculpture and public art broadly accessible. And, with artist studios right on our campus, we'll be able to both support local artists and develop programs to host guest artists-in-residence, furthering our ability to make art accessible to all.

Here at GFS and Johnson Atelier, we are excited for this union and what it promises for us and for you: a new era of artistic synergy, expanding impact, recognition, and artist support on a global scale, and our ability to provide enhanced cultural experiences for members like you.

The transfer of assets was made possible by The Seward Johnson Atelier (TSJA), which will continue to steward Seward Johnson's legacy through exhibitions, artwork loans, and the sale of Seward Johnson artworks, ensuring his sculptures remain accessible to audiences worldwide.

Tiffany Allen | Director of Education & Community Engagement

Education Gallery Overview

The Education Gallery at Grounds For Sculpture—located in the Seward Johnson Center for the Arts—is a dedicated indoor space for showcasing creative work developed through arts-education partnerships and more. Annually, the Education Gallery showcases an average of seven Community Partner and GFS exhibitions. Recently, these have included shows from ARC Mercer, Millhill Child & Family Development Preschool, Trenton Area Soup Kitchen and The Trenton Community A-Team (TASK/TCAT), GFS Staff, and GFS Members. The most recent exhibition featured TASK/TCAT entitled *From the Ground(s) Up: A Retrospective of TCAT'S Roots and Rising Future*, was on view from June 28 – August 17, 2025, and featured an engaging opening reception with the artists on July 11 with an open mic and live band. The GFS and Johnson Atelier staff exhibition is coming up next and will be on view September 13 – November 2.

Access for Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK) Visual Arts Program is supported, in part, by the Dina Wind Art Foundation. The Education Gallery at Grounds For Sculpture is supported, in part, by Stark & Stark, Inc.

**STARK
& STARK** PC



Special Olympics

This summer, Grounds For Sculpture was proud to welcome back Special Olympics New Jersey for a second year of partnership, with visits in May - October. The return of participating

families has become a meaningful tradition—an experience they look forward to throughout the year. Staff and volunteers at GFS continue to cherish this collaboration, which provides a joyful and inclusive environment for individuals with disabilities and their loved ones. As this partnership grows, so does its impact, creating a safe, welcoming space where all guests can feel celebrated and find moments of peace and comradery.

Hamilton Senior Center Wellness Visits

GFS has been delighted to partner with the Credit Union of NJ Foundation to support access to wellness classes for the Hamilton Senior Center. Beginning in 2023 for access to Wellness Walks, then in 2024 we welcomed seniors from the center to participate in Tai Chi classes. In 2025, we offered Chair Yoga classes. We hope to continue our relationship with the seniors that attend these classes and offer various types of yoga in the future, as participants have been incredibly dedicated to attending Wellness programming and exploring more of GFS. We have also welcomed two new volunteers from the program!

Check out the [calendar](#) for more wellness classes or reach out to our education department at education@groundsforsculpture.org for more information about group tours, programs, and experiences for your organization or community.

Access to Wellness classes for Hamilton Senior Center are supported, in part, by the Credit Union of New Jersey Foundation.

Summer Solstice + National Yoga Day Celebration

On June 21, Grounds For Sculpture welcomed guests to a day of mindfulness and movement in celebration of the Summer Solstice and International Day of Yoga. The full day of programming offered a series of wellness-focused experiences designed to honor the seasonal shift and promote inner balance. Participants had the option of beginning the day with an energizing morning Sun Salutation session and later get hands-on in an herbal mocktail workshop that promotes wellness in the form of natural ingredients. The celebration concluded with a tranquil outdoor evening sound bath, guiding participants through a deeply restorative experience meant to relax the body and reset the mind.

The Wellness Initiative and related programs was made possible in part by Capital Health Systems and the Institute of Museum and Library Services [MA-252851-OMS-23].



Teacher Summer Institute

In early August, GFS hosted its **Teacher Summer Institute**, a unique 3-day professional development series for educators onsite at GFS. The Institute was an immersive experience designed to empower educators with new tools, techniques, and inspiration to foster holistic learning in their classrooms. Each day's agenda was focused on a specific pillar of GFS's vision (art, horticulture, and wellness) and featured a variety of speakers and instructors. Participants engaged in hands-on workshops, interactive presentations, and guided tours that offered practical ideas ready for implementation with students. Thanks to generous support from the Dina Wind Art Foundation, we were able to offer a limited number of scholarships for educators who might not otherwise be able to attend. John Wind, President of the Foundation, and Bill Osman, Education Director of the foundation, were also onsite for one of the days to hold a session incorporating Wind's mother's piece, *The Harp of David #1*, on our campus.

Grounds For Sculpture Teacher Summer Institute is supported, in part, by the Dina Wind Art Foundation.



Interns

This summer, the Education team welcomed two talented interns: Ingrid Alarcon, a recent graduate of New York University, served as our Public

Programs Intern (pictured on the left), and Christalee Kirby, a graduate student at Drexel University studying Arts Administration with a focus on Museum Leadership, joined as the School and Group Visits Intern (pictured on the right). Ingrid worked to make public programs more accessible, including developing an ASL tour of select works in the exhibition *Clifford Ward: I'll Make Me A World* in collaboration with artist Cliff Ward. She also created and led a family program centered on environmental themes. Christalee supported student and adult group visits, concluding her internship with a hands-on school workshop inspired by the animism themes in Cliff Ward's exhibition. Both interns brought a passion for museum education and were an asset to the team this summer.



Photo, top right: Isaac Witkin, *Eolith*, 1994, stone: Blue Mountain Granite, 168 x 96 x 48 inches, Gift of the Seward Johnson Atelier, Inc. All photos by David Howarth for dmlgphotographer.com

One-year Gift of Membership



Share the JOY of GFS with loved ones this holiday season!

GFS membership is **the gift that lasts all year**, sparking the imagination and encouraging wellness through art and nature.

Gift of Membership includes:

- Unlimited year-round admission
- One-time-use guest passes to share
- 10% discount at the Museum Shop, and on dining at Rat's Restaurant, The Peacock Café, and Van Gogh Café
- Free or discounted tickets to programs and events
- Invitations to Member Preview Days, special events... and more!
- **NEW this season!** All memberships include a limited-edition GFS Member pin

Gift a GFS Membership: groundsforsculpture.org/membership

Grounds For Sculpture is a registered nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. GFS Membership provides critical support to sustain our beautiful, art-filled gardens, educational programs, and exhibitions that enrich, surprise, and inspire over 250,000 visitors each year.

Dina Wind, *Harp of David #1*, 1985/2018, mild steel, 26 ft x 24 ft x 22 ft, Grounds For Sculpture, Gift of the Dina Wind Art Foundation, © Artist or Artist's Estate, photo: Ken Ek; The Water Garden at GFS; Isaac Witkin, *Eolith*, 1994, Blue Mountain granite, 135 x 96 x 48 inches, Grounds For Sculpture, Gift of The Seward Johnson Atelier, © Estate of Isaac Witkin; The Monet Bridge at GFS

Native Plants of Lenapehoking: The Beauty Around Us

In late June, GFS hosted the program “Native Plants of Lenapehoking: The Beauty Around Us” in partnership with Native Roots Farm Foundation (NRFF). NRFF is a Delaware-based nonprofit that reunites Native people with aspects of their heritage and shares this knowledge with the wider community through educational programs that use art, culture, and food to encourage connections with the natural world.

“Native Plants of Lenapehoking” included an hour-long walking tour of the grounds, co-led by GFS Manager of Horticulture, Cat Swiderski, GFS Horticulturist, Jen Mothes, and NRFF Executive Director, Courtney Streett. On the tour, participants learned about the ethnobotanical histories and wildlife associations of various native plants on the property before speaking aloud each plant’s name in either Lenape, Munsee, or Passamaquoddy languages. Native communities, including the Nanticoke and Lenape tribes, have been leading language revitalization efforts since being intentionally separated from their languages or forced to speak English during colonization. NRFF contributes to these efforts through the sharing of plant names in their programs. Along the tour route, participants also had the opportunity to sample treats made from native plants including Tehim (strawberry) juice, prickly pear jellies, and white pine tea.

After the tour concluded, the group enjoyed an outdoor painting session where they used a selection of native plant dyes to create vibrant watercolor-like paintings.

This was the second year of offering this program with NRFF. We would like to thank Leah Southerland, GFS Manager of Guest Services, for initiating this partnership, which is supported by the expertise of a cross-departmental team including Horticulture, Guest Services and Education.



Community Access Tickets Program

This year marks the 5th year of our Community Access Ticket program. Through this program, we have a number of no-cost-to-the-participant tickets for request for clients of local nonprofit organizations to visit with family or friends, and for any staff person accompanying a group of clients. Organizations that visit include youth, senior and veteran organizations, as well as other local organizations that support under resourced people in the Mercer County region. In 2025, over 800 individuals will have the opportunity to visit GFS through the generous support of our corporate supporters listed below.

The Community Access Ticket Program is supported, in part, by Art Bridges. The program is made possible, in part, by Stark & Stark, Inc. Support is provided, in part, by Bloomberg Philanthropies, Capital Health Systems, Holman, NJM Insurance Group and NRG Energy. Additional support is provided, in part, by PSE&G, Switlik, and First Bank Charitable Foundation.

Community Engagement is supported in part by the following generous contributors:

Art Bridges, A-1 Tours, a division of A-1 Limousine, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Capital Health Systems, Charles Schwab, Dina Wind Art Foundation, Donna M. Murray Fox & Roach Realtors, First Bank Charitable Foundation, Gallagher, Graduate by Hilton Princeton, Greencrown Energy, Holman, Jenifer Morack, Knowledge Without Borders, M & T Charitable Foundation, NJM Insurance Group, NRG Energy, Organic Green Lawn Solutions, PNC Foundation, Power Place, Schaefer/Batterman Family Fund of the Princeton Area Community Foundation, Stark and Stark, Inc., Stihl, Switlik, TD Bank, and Grounds For Sculpture Business Members.



Tasha Golden Social Prescribing Workshop

In partnership with the New Jersey State Arts Council, GFS hosted wellness expert Dr. Tasha Golden for a talk on the social prescription movement this spring, which is the practice of healthcare providers prescribing meaningful social activities – like visiting museums, wellness activities, volunteering, and more – to improve patient well-being. We welcomed 90 colleagues from across the state, representing other arts institutions, hospitals and local health care agencies, universities, as well as artists and art practitioners. Together we learned more about how we can work together to build coalitions around wellness.

This program is made possible by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts and supported, in part, by Capital Health Systems, The Horizon Foundation of New Jersey and the Institute of Museum and Library Services [MA-252851-OMS-23] and in partnership with Penn Medicine Princeton Health.



Business Membership Program

This year we have welcomed nine new companies: Aging Advisors, Allied Executive Solutions, DELIS Landscaping, Graduate by Hilton Princeton, Facilities Partners & Solutions, Linda Soto Cleaning, Siemens Healthineers, Tonz of Fun, and Noom to the Business Membership program at GFS. Business Members have been holding small to large meetings onsite, utilizing our spaces for offsite retreats and regional meetings, attending a variety of team buildings (some returning with different departments after a great first experience!) and tours.

Business Members receive a variety of benefits and discounts for their company and/or their employees based on their level of membership. They also support access to GFS through the Families First Discovery Pass program. Residents who receive benefits through SNAP, WFNJ, Child Care Subsidy and/or WIC are eligible for up to 6 daytime general admission tickets per visit at GFS. Along with Barbara and Gerald Essig and M&T Charitable Foundation, Business Members have supported 695 tickets through this program for 2025.

Strike Out Hunger Food Drive at GFS

This past July, GFS partnered with United Way of Greater Mercer County to address food insecurity in our community. We invited guests to donate non-perishable food items during their visits and want to express our gratitude to all who participated!



Trenton Back to School Extravaganza

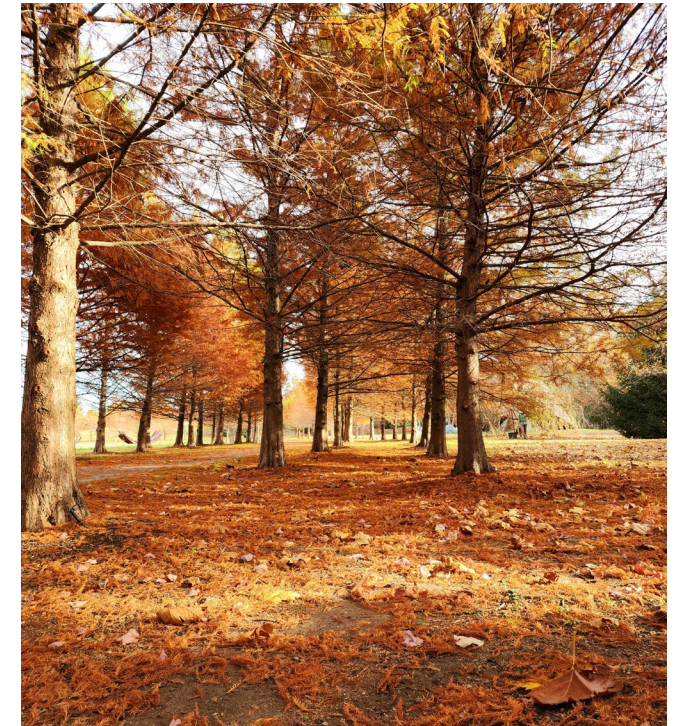
The GFS Education department collected new school supplies for the Trenton Back to School Extravaganza! The Trenton Public School District’s goal was to collect at least 7,500 backpacks filled with school supplies so each school/department will have items to distribute on the day of the event.

Bloom Watch



Early Fall

Acer saccharum ssp. *nigrum*, commonly known as black maple, welcomes the season in with a spectacular show of autumnal color. Black maple is closely related to sugar maple and is native to central and eastern North America. The vibrant yellow and orange hues of this impressive specimen grace the Museum lawn throughout the month of October.



Late Fall

Taxodium distichum, commonly known as bald cypress, is a deciduous conifer that greets late fall with rich, rusty orange tones before dropping its needles. This tall, stately tree is native to southeastern North America and is often found in southern swamps but grows readily in drier soils as well. Bald cypress can be found planted throughout the grounds, but the most spectacular display of fall color will be in the Meadow as you meander down the path of the *Taxodium* Allée during the month of November.

From Our Grounds to Yours: Reflections on the 6th Annual GFS Plant Sale

Cat Swiderski | Manager of Horticulture

The 6th annual GFS Plant Sale took place on May 3 & 4, 2025 and featured a unique selection of annuals, perennials, and shrubs, as well as a variety of GFS propagated trees, houseplants, and succulent gardens. It was our most successful event to date with record-breaking sales numbers. The Plant Sale takes place every year during the first weekend in May and 100% of the proceeds support GFS Horticulture. In addition to the plants brought in from wholesalers, the Horticulture team propagated nearly 2,000 plants in preparation for the sale. Any plants not sold were either planted throughout the grounds or grown on for next year's sale. Preparations are already underway for the 2026 Plant Sale – Horticulture staff and interns began propagating sale plants over the summer! The team looks forward to building on this year's success, which would not have been possible without the support of GFS members.

From Our Grounds to Yours Grounds For Sculpture's Spring Plant Sale was supported in part by Organic Green Lawn Solutions, Power Place, and STIHL.



Save the Date! The 2026 plant sale will take place Saturday, May 2nd-3rd.

With a broad selection of plants from trees to herbs, this one-of-a-kind event has something for everybody – both experienced gardeners and newcomers alike. GFS Horticulture staff and volunteers are on hand to answer questions and share garden-planning advice for all our patrons throughout the duration of the event.

Andrzej Pitynski, *Space, Conquer or Die – Swiatowid*, 2013, cast bronze, 432 x 161 x 159 inches, Grounds For Sculpture, Gift of The Seward Johnson Atelier © Artist or Artist's Estate; Seward Johnson, *Confrontational Vulnerability*, 2011, painted styrofoam, 11 x 246 x 96 inches, Collection of The Seward Johnson Atelier © 2011 The Seward Johnson Atelier, photo: David Michael Howarth Photography.

Spotlight on the GFS Horticulture Interns

Did you know that GFS Horticulture has an internship program? Every year, the Horticulture department selects two to three interns from a pool of undergraduate applicants currently studying horticulture or a closely related field. Both GFS Horticulturist Jen Mothes and I both got our start at GFS through the internship program! Other past interns have gone on to successful careers in fields such as arboriculture and environmental engineering.



Our Horticulture interns work alongside staff throughout the season, cultivating important skills such as proper planting and establishment practices, tree and shrub pruning, plant identification, aquatic gardening, plant propagation, integrated pest management, and using and maintaining power tools such as chainsaws and hedgers.

Throughout this past summer, interns Sarah Light and Josie Buck worked with the Horticulture department full-time, learning the ins and outs of working in a public garden and how to navigate the unique challenges of maintaining the art-filled landscape that is GFS.

Walter Dusenbery, *Rocchetta*, 1983, Turkish gray travertine, 95 1/2 x 86 x 34 inches, Grounds For Sculpture, Gift of The Seward Johnson Atelier; Barton Rubenstein, *Harmonize*, 2016, stainless steel, 16 x 3 x 3 feet, Collection of the Artist, © Artist or Artist's Estate

Sarah is a Conservation & Wildlife student at Delaware Valley University (pictured on the right propagating climbing hydrangea) and Josie moved to NJ for the summer to join us from Kansas State University, where she is a Landscape Horticulture student (pictured on the left mastering the backpack blower). Field trips are an important part of the Horticulture internship program – Josie and Sarah enjoyed visits to other public gardens such as Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Longwood Gardens, and the Scott Arboretum, where they attended the Woody Plant Conference with the rest of the Horticulture staff.

Both Josie and Sarah especially enjoyed learning to use power tools and how to propagate both woody and herbaceous plants. We're grateful for the energy and perspective our interns bring each season and are always pleased to be a part of their growing career and future endeavors.



Salvador Jiménez-Flores

Faith McClellan | Director of Collections & Exhibitions

On September 28, a new exhibition opens in the East Gallery. *Salvador Jiménez-Flores: Raíces & Resistencias* features work by artist Salvador Jiménez-Flores and curated by Grounds For Sculpture's Executive Director, Gary Garrido Schneider. While he is an artist who works in many different mediums, metal, glass and performance among them, Jiménez-Flores' art practice has a strong focus in ceramics, which he also teaches at the prestigious School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

The main focus of this exhibition is a wall mural on the 80-foot articulating wall, painted in clay slip. We tend to think of clay as a raw material that is formed and fired into three dimensional objects, decorative or functional.

Jiménez-Flores used clay slip, which is watered down clay in both terracotta and porcelain clays which he mixed with pigments to create some variation on the color palette for the mural.

The choice to paint with clay references natural-dyed murals that once adorned ceremonial Mesoamerican buildings (Mesoamerica is an historical region and cultural area that begins in the southern part of North America and extends to the Pacific coast of Central America).

"This mural traces a complex and intertwined history of colonization, labor, and migration in the Americas."

"It begins with the recognition that long before railroads were built or borders drawn, these lands were home to Indigenous nations whose histories were violently disrupted by conquest, forced displacement, and genocide. These acts of violence are not relics of the past, form the foundation of today's systems of power and exclusion. From colonial imposition to the modern machinery of global capitalism, this mural confronts how systemic extraction of land and labor has shaped the Americas."

He uses this mural to highlight the history of Mexican workers who helped build this nation laying railroads and harvesting crops during wartime and those who continue to support this country such as migrant laborers in agriculture, construction, hospitality, and healthcare industries.

"In today's volatile immigration climate—where policies shift between political spectacle and humanitarian crisis—this mural gains renewed urgency."

"It stands as a monument to the dignity of migrant lives and labor and as a critique of systems that profit from exclusion. It demands not only that we remember history, but that we act within it."

"It speaks to the ongoing legacies of colonization and capitalist expansion while affirming the cultural, political, and spiritual resistance that has always thrived beneath the surface—*raíces de resistencia*."

Jiménez-Flores was born in Mexico and currently resides in Chicago. His family has a long history over multiple generations of crossing back and forth over the border between Mexico and the United States in search of opportunity. He points to his own struggles adjusting to living life in the US as a teenage immigrant as a formative event and he continues to explore themes related to immigration and living a "hybrid" identity.

Salvador Jiménez-Flores, *Memoria, Tierra, Trabajo: A Glimpse of the Semiquincentennial*, 2025, clay slip, oxides, H. 15 x W. 89 feet, Courtesy of the Artist; Salvador Jiménez-Flores, *La resistencia de los nopales híbridos: El Susurro del Desierto/The Resistance of the Hybrid Cacti: The Desert's Whisper*, 2025, cast bronze, H. 109 x W. 92 x D. 36 inches, Collection of the Artist; Salvador Jiménez-Flores, *Caminantes/Wayfarers*, 2023, cast bronze, Cor Ten, H. 99 x W. 48 x D. 48 inches, Courtesy of the Artist; all photos: David Michael Horwath



Salvador Jiménez-Flores, *La resistencia de los nopales híbridos: El Susurro del Desierto/The Resistance of the Hybrid Cacti: The Desert's Whisper*, 2025

Hybrid human/plant forms are a theme in Jiménez-Flores' work and are evident in the new sculpture displayed along the Main Loop. This hybrid human/cactus totem conveys themes of identity, cultural hybridity, resilience, and survival. Incorporating nopals or prickly pears into his work, leaves Jiménez-Flores to create a visual language that speaks to the strength and endurance of marginalized communities, while also envisioning a future where hybrid identities are celebrated rather than excluded. He offers a hopeful vision of what it means to resist, adapt, and thrive in the face of adversity.



Salvador Jiménez-Flores, *Caminantes/Wayfarers*, 2023

Just outside the East Gallery is a sculpture on view in the hedge gardens. *Caminantes* is a hybrid human/plant form, with spiky, leaf-like "legs" and bare human feet, positioned on top of a steel pyramid base. The title of this sculpture translates to "wayfarers" in English. Jiménez-Flores created this work to celebrate the immigrant community that migrated to the US and setup roots. "We underestimate how courageous people are to leave behind everything they know for an uncertain dream."

Salvador Jiménez-Flores: Raíces & Resistencias is made possible, in part, by the Brooke Barrie Art Fund. Support is provided, in part, by The New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a division of the NJ Department of State, and a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Atlantic Foundation.



Made possible by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.



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Salvador Jiménez-Flores works on *Memoria, Tierra, Trabajo: A Glimpse of the Semiquincentennial*, 2025, clay slip, oxides, H. 15 x W. 89 feet, Courtesy of the Artist



Bloomberg Digital Accelerator Program

Grounds For Sculpture is proud to participate in Bloomberg Philanthropies’ Digital Accelerator Program (DAP), which supports arts organizations through strategic improvements to technology infrastructure.

GFS launched the DAP project in July 2025 and with implementation continuing through the winter of 2026. It is led by Faith McClellan, GFS Director of Collections & Exhibitions, and Bloomberg Tech Fellow, alongside a cross-departmental project team that includes Claire Cossaboon, Director of Membership, Sam Hwang, Director of Guest Services, and Joshua Ortiz, Director of Brand. The project will focus on improvements to our website through four key areas: implementing a new art collection database which will speak directly to the online collection catalog, piloting the creation of new digital collection content, improving the online ticket purchase experience, and creation of a new GFS member space within the website.

Migrating to a new collections database was a key improvement identified by the Curatorial team for more operational efficiency and to better manage an ever-growing range of related digital documentation. Through an interface with the new database, collection content available on GFS website will now be updated in real time. Additionally, the focus on the art collection will include piloting the creation of new digital content, such as videos of less accessible areas or park and recorded ASL tours, which are goals of the organization’s ADA plan, created in consultation with Art-Reach.

Conversations between GFS staff and vendors familiar with the areas of user experience and website design helped refine the project scope and prioritize impactful areas for investment in ticketing and membership. A large portion of this project will focus on revising the website’s user interface to increase ticket sales and donations and launching a dedicated member experience on the website to deepen members’ relationship with GFS.

Together, these enhancements expand GFS’ capacity to meet the needs of our visitors through strategic technological investments which will deepen engagement and increase financial sustainability.

Since 2021, Bloomberg Philanthropies has invested \$128 million in the Digital Accelerator Program to support nearly 350 cultural institutions in the U.S. and U.K. and has supported the development of best practices to share across this network of nonprofit cultural organizations. To date, the 40 institutions that were part of the first cohort cumulatively grew an additional \$20 million in new revenue, reached over one million new audience members, and engaged more than 4,000 new artists and partners.

Grounds For Sculpture is one of 200 nonprofit cultural organizations accepted into Bloomberg Philanthropies’ latest Digital Accelerator Program cohort, spanning artistic disciplines and organization sizes across 52 U.S. cities and 28 U.K. cities.

This project was developed with the support of Bloomberg Philanthropies’ Digital Accelerator for Arts and Culture.

Bloomberg Philanthropies

Help us build a chain reaction of good! Please consider including Grounds For Sculpture in your Year-End giving plans.

One gift can make a difference. Your gift inspires others, builds community, and brings people together. You are vital to GFS’s mission.

We rely on the generosity of the public to keep GFS thriving, which is ever so important as the arts are losing funding. Your support helps us serve as a leading community anchor, where innovative art, sprawling gardens, and educational programming all serve to encourage discovery, connection, learning, and healing.

We accept gifts of any size via check, Donor Advised Fund (DAF), or via credit card online at www.groundsforsculpture.org/donate. Please contact our Development Office at 609.249.0245 if you have questions or would like to discuss your donation options. Thank you for all you make possible.

Seward Johnson, *Has Anyone Seen Larry? (The Three Fates)*, 2011, aluminum, foam, 108 x 179 x 129 inches, Collection of The Seward Johnson Atelier, © 2011, The Seward Johnson Atelier, Inc., photo: David Michael Howarth Photography

Meet the New Staff at Grounds For Sculpture

Caitlin Burns, Membership Associate



This past May the GFS Membership Department gained a new Membership Associate, Caitlin Burns. Originally beginning her journey with GFS in November 2023 as a Visitor Assistant in Guest Services, she is thrilled to be taking on this new role. Before becoming a part of the GFS team, Caitlin graduated from Emory University with a BA in Art History, minoring in Architectural Studies. As an avid fan of art and gardens, Caitlin fell in love with GFS and its mission of providing accessible art and knew it was kismet when a position opened. She is excited to bring the skills she gained in Guest Services and knowledge of the GFS visitor experience to her new role in Membership. From the professional relationships she has made, to the events she has worked on, to even being a featured artist in GFS’s staff exhibition *Another Dimension*, Caitlin knows GFS is a place where she will be able to grow and learn throughout her career. When she is not at work, you can find her enjoying movies, musical theater, and trying new restaurants!

Shaina Zuema, Development Associate



Shaina Zuema, Development Associate, joined GFS in August of 2021. Shaina first started as a Visitor Assistant in Guest Services, then moved to become a Key Holder in the Museum Shop. Now, in her fourth year at GFS she has joined the Development team to support donor management, annual fund coordination and other fundraising goals. Shaina’s first interaction with GFS was a lovely random visit with her sister when she was 17. Fun fact, since she fell in love with the water garden, the following year she volunteered at GFS for one summer. One of her shifts was to work at the shop/call center when it was all housed in the Domestic Arts Building. Seeing the growth and great changes at GFS over the years inspires Shaina to expand and grow at GFS. What a full circle moment! Outside of work, Shaina loves to dream about the ocean, have a good laugh, eat good food, and relax.



Caroline Fazzini, Manager of School & Group Visits

In late March of this year, Caroline Fazzini joined the GFS Education team as the new Manager of School & Group Visits. Prior to working at GFS, Caroline was the Manager of Public Programs at Mt. Cuba Center, a native plant botanical garden in Hockessin, Delaware. She brings experience in project management, event planning, team leadership, and building community partnerships. Outside of work, Caroline enjoys rock climbing, gardening, collaging, watching trash tv shows, and spending time in the woods ID’ing plants.

E. Calder Powell, *Perception Plane IV (Inspired from the Whitney Umbrella Mathematical Surface)*, 2012, cast aluminum, 2/8, dimensions variable, Grounds For Sculpture, Gift of The Seward Johnson Atelier; Seward Johnson, *Has Anyone Seen Larry? (The Three Fates)*, 2011, aluminum, foam, 108 x 179 x 129 inches, Collection of The Seward Johnson Atelier © 2011, The Seward Johnson Atelier, Inc.

Curatorial Interns

Over the summer the Curatorial team hosted two interns to assist with care of the art collection. Cate Curran, a recent graduate from The College of New Jersey, and Hope Vecere, a junior at Rutgers’ Mason Gross School of the Arts, spent 8 weeks learning how to care for a variety of different sculptural materials, what materials we use to treat and maintain the appearance of these works, and how we document condition. Following a short period of classroom learning, Cate and Hope spent the majority of their time out in the field, cleaning sculptures, applying finishes, weeding sculpture beds, and creating updated documentation of conditions that will provide a benchmark for future benefit.



This place is so special to me - I have countless memories of visiting here with my family as a kid, amazed by the different sculptures and the endless ways they transform the grounds. Now, getting to contribute to an incredible institution that has served my community for decades feels like a full circle moment. — Curatorial intern Hope Vecere

The interns also had an opportunity to work with visiting artist Salvador Jiménez-Flores who was onsite creating a wall mural in the East Gallery. They assisted the artist with inpainting areas of the mural which he sketched out and were able to learn more about the equipment and practices used during an exhibition installation.

Book your next party, private gathering, or corporate retreat at Grounds For Sculpture!

Through early November, enjoy our Domestic Arts Tent, which can accommodate events as large as 300 guests, and offers a peaceful ambience near the scenic Water Garden. For more information, fill out our inquiry form at www.groundsforsculpture.org/plan-an-event.





Animals of Grounds For Sculpture!

V I D I B M G Z P L M R D T B
D G C A H P I U U H F F P Z F
G R D O V E R P O R P Y Y P R
K S W T R X S C T U R T L E O
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GROUNDHOG
CARDINA
PEACOCK
FINCH
TURTLE
SQUIRREL
RACON

DOVE
HERON
ROBIN
CROW
FOX
SNAKE
FROG



WHAT GFS STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS ARE READING:
Luncheon of the Boating Party by Susan Vreeland
Stolen Beauty by Laurie Lico Albanese
Your Brain on Art by Susan Magsamen and Ivy Ross
Private Gardens of Philadelphia by Nicole Juday,
photographs by Rob Cardillo



GARDEN CIRCLE LECTURE *Thursday, November 6, 2025, (3:30 – 5pm)*

The Garden Circle, our horticulture affinity group, will attend a special lecture hosted by Lesley Parness, selected as the speaker for the Garden Circle exclusive annual lecture. Lesley Parness, the past President of Garden State Gardens and author of the bimonthly column *The Garden Historian*, will cover a range of plant and garden history – connecting stories of horticulture with human experience. The Garden Circle is separate and distinct from GFS Membership, available as an “add on” experience with separate benefits and offerings. Garden Circle patronage can enhance your membership at GFS, especially if you have a love of gardening, horticulture, and community learning. [LEARN MORE](#)



Director of Horticulture, Janis Napoli, giving a winter tour of the grounds

GIFT MEMBERSHIP

GFS membership is the gift that lasts all year, sparking the imagination and encouraging wellness through art and nature. To give a gift of GFS membership, visit: bit.ly/join-gfs

MEMBER DISCOUNTS AT GFS

Members enjoy 10% off on all merchandise in the Museum Shop and 10% off dining at the Van Gogh Café, Peacock Café and Rat’s Restaurant (parties up to 8). The discount also applies to Rat’s special themed dinners, cooking classes, and comedy nights! Be sure to note “GFS Member” when making your reservation, and plan to show your valid eMembership card to your server. [VIEW RAT’S SEASONAL MENU & EVENTS: ratsrestaurant.com/](https://ratsrestaurant.com/)



VISIT US IN THE MEMBER LOUNGE!

Friday – Sunday, (11am – 2pm)

Located in a bright corner of the Welcome Center overlooking the gardens, the Member Lounge is an inviting space for members to take a break with a complimentary refreshment. Read museum publications, learn about upcoming programs, or connect with a staff member or volunteer.

Elizabeth Strong-Cuevas, *Arch II*, 1993, aluminum, 144 x 132 x 60 inches, Grounds For Sculpture, Gift of the Artist, © Artist or Artist’s Estate; Top and bottom left photo: David Michael Howarth Photography

David Michael Howarth Photography