



Dear Members and Friends,

Today, we are charged with the task of educating the next generation of Earth Protectors. This can be a joyful affirmation for future generations when they have experiences that help them love the Earth and create a bond with it emotionally. It is not an exaggeration to feel that the mission of children and young adults will be to heal and transform our planet, and create a lifestyle that enhances and beautifies the environment.

As we create learning gardens in schools, provide an appreciation of nature through art, and assist community members in setting an example through home and community gardens we are helping rebuild the intergenerational continuity of life that is so much dramatized through gardening. From planting, nurturing, and caring for plants to saving their seeds for the future, we participate in an age-old act that is both optimistic and sacred.

We are currently working with ten schools in Sedona and the Verde Valley to help them develop school gardens, and are engaged with six schools providing our art and environmental education program, *Celebrating the Art in Earth*.

With this letter we are including a card that describes *Celebrating the Art in Earth*, a program that brings together the nourishing activities of art and nature. It is a program that teaches art skills, nature awareness, and social skills. This is an example of how *Gardens for Humanity* achieves its mission that

...awakens and tends the gardens of the human spirit by teaching and celebrating our connection to nature, local agriculture, art and community while promoting an ecologically sustainable and more humane culture.

We invite you to become part of our story by sending in your membership donation for the New Year to help us grow the next generation of Earth Protectors.

Thanks to all of you who have donated to our projects, and have helped make possible all that we have accomplished.

Richard Sidy, President

To donate by credit card visit www.gardensforhumanity.org and click on the "Donate" tab.

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