



Gardens for Humanity

Our mission is to develop and share our relationships with Humanity and Nature through gardening, art, and education.

November, 2023

Dear Members and Friends,



The Value of a Legacy: Our founder, Adele Seronde, named our organization *Gardens for Humanity*. The word *Humanity* is a recognition that all people are part of the garden we call *Earth*. Indeed, humanity's very diversity is the beauty we love in a garden, with a myriad of color, texture, design, and purpose, all contributing their gifts to the whole. She envisioned that celebrating the beauty of art and gardens would be key to healing and building community.

Adele's legacy is the foundation we build upon as the traumas of people and the planet urge us even more to heal through art and gardens. We combine learning gardens with nature-based art in our after school clubs, engaging kids to explore many features of our habitat.

These hands-on activities connect them to their food, and to taking care of the environment.

The garden teaches the kids involved in the garden clubs about all that goes into sustaining a healthy garden and environment. It is a living classroom where they explore the magic of seeds and the life cycles of plants. Learning in the garden they discover the joy of watching tiny seeds sprout, nurturing life, and harvesting tasty herbs and veggies.



Mural created by our teaching artist, Joan Bourque with kids at the Science Vortex.

The Verde Valley Seed Library: Seeds are a legacy of our civilization. They preserve traditions and tastes of what humans have eaten for millenia. Our seed library, now in its eighth year, continues to bring together local gardeners to share seeds that have now become regional success stories. The seed library is more than a place to share seeds. It is also a place to share garden wisdom, plants, and stories. We are part of a global movement that adapts local food security to climate uncertainties with the power and heritage of locally saved seeds.



Exploring Ecosystems through Gardens and Art:

Our art and garden clubs make big ideas come to life. Can it be, that a leaf is more powerful than a computer? Humans depend on photosynthesis to make the food we eat. Leaves receive solar energy and produce fuel, proteins, sugars, and vitamins every day. In our clubs, kids learn and grasp this science by expressing what they learn through art. We help kids connect real world learning with fun activities like drawing, music, painting, crafting, planting, and growing.



The Verde Thumbs Garden Club: For more than twelve years, the Verde Thumbs have offered monthly meetings, bringing together gardeners from across our region. They are a key part of our community garden education efforts.



Our programs contribute to an increased awareness of our relationship to Nature and to each other. Your donation helps us continue to bring beauty, and the joy of art, gardens, and community to kids and families.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard".

Richard Sidy, President



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www.gardensforhumanity.org

GARDENS FOR HUMANITY is a 501(C)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt organization