

Development News

Arboretum Receives Jones Foundation Grant

The California Arboretum Foundation has received a \$20,000 grant from the Fletcher Jones Foundation to study and design the expansion of the Arboretum education program at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum.

The Jones Foundation grant provided funding for an education program assessment that was conducted June 2, through June 5, 1990, at the Arboretum, located in Arcadia. A panel of six renowned educators representing major arboreta and botanic gardens across the United States and British Columbia, along with three representatives from local, public and private school systems, reviewed current Arboretum programs and developed recommendations for expansion. Dr. Mildred Mathias, Director Emeritus, Mildred Mathias Botanic Garden, UCLA, chaired the three day symposium and is overseeing the preparation of the committee report and recommendations.

The Arboretum plans to enlarge the children's education program, to initiate courses that reach disadvantaged individuals and to expand the adult program.

Arboretum programs are designed to instruct and educate individuals about the value and use of plants. Gardening is a pursuit that crosses all cultural and ethnic barriers. "Considering the diversity of nationalities represented within the population of Los Angeles County, the Arboretum serves an important purpose by bringing people from various ethnic backgrounds together through a common interest in plants and gardening," noted California Arboretum Foundation President, Richard A. Grant, Jr.



Arboretum Education Symposium Panel (l to r).

Patricia A. Pachuta, Director of Education, Denver Botanical Garden

John F. Reed, Vice President of Education, New York Botanical Garden

Mildred E. Mathias, Director Emeritus, Mildred Mathias Botanic Garden, UCLA

Lucy Jones, Vice President of Education, Brooklyn Botanic Garden

David Tarrant, Education Coordinator, University of British Columbia Botanic Garden

Ronald D. Regan, Head, Ornamental Horticulture Dept., California State Univ., San Luis Obispo

Not pictured:

Francis Ching, Director Emeritus, Los Angeles County Arboretum

Margaret Smith-Kimble, Polytechnic School

Fran Powell, Pasadena Unified School District

Jim Hastings, Los Angeles County School District

Thank You to Vons

Vons Companies, Inc. generously donated \$12,500 to help underwrite the costs of "A Midsummer Night's Dream", held on June 22, 1990 at the Los Angeles County Arboretum.

Bill Davila, Vons president was the guest of honor and spoke to the group about the importance of the Arboretum.

The evening netted nearly \$42,000. These funds will be used to help construct the proposed Arboretum Education Center. The new Center will include: new classrooms and offices, gardening instruction areas, a library and an herbarium.



Bill Davila, president of VONS Companies, Inc., speaks to the Midsummer Night's Dream guests.



1988. "Arboretum receives Jones Foundation grant." *News* 1990:fall, 2.

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