



Greater Des Moines
Botanical Garden



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Botanical Garden Receives Variety Grant

(Des Moines, Iowa) Oct. 27, 2025 — **The Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden is pleased to announce it has received a grant from Variety – the Children’s Charity of Iowa.** This generous funding will support enhancements to the Botanical Garden’s [Nature Play](#) space including new accessibility features and sensory-focused play elements. These additions will create an even more welcoming and engaging environment for children and families to explore and enjoy.

In addition, thanks to a 2024 grant from Variety, a universal changing table has been installed in the Botanical Garden’s newly opened family restroom. This feature enables visitors of all abilities to spend as much time as they wish at the twelve-acre Botanical Garden without the need to plan around care needs.

“We are incredibly grateful for Variety’s generous support, which helps us further our mission to explore, explain and celebrate the world of plants with people — especially children and their families,” said Kim Perez, President and CEO of the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden. “Variety’s generosity allows us to create more inclusive, engaging spaces where every child and every person can experience the joys of nature.”

About Variety- the Children's Charity of Iowa

Variety - the Children's Charity is dedicated to improving the lives of children who are underprivileged, at risk, critically ill, or living with special needs. Grant funding is provided to programs and initiatives that directly impact the well-being of children in our community. For more information on Variety grants and programs please visit varietyiowa.com.

About the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden

The Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden is more than a dome, it’s **the connection point** between plants, people and the natural world. It’s a place where you can **be who you are, do the things you love** and **spend time** with the people who matter most. A place where anyone can explore, create, connect, and **find their true nature**. This urban oasis, located in downtown Des Moines, is a nonprofit that keeps growing because of the support of its members and volunteers. Located amidst a vibrant cityscape and lovely river views, the 12-acres of gardens are teeming with thousands of native plants and exotic greenery from across the world. Its verdant offerings include a soothing waterfall and pond, one of the country’s most extensive bonsai collections, and brilliant seasonal blooms galore. No matter the season, the Botanical Garden provides a range of fun, signature events and classes in an always friendly climate. In operation since 1979, it features an 80 feet tall geodesic-domed conservatory that includes a living wall and 18 outdoor gardens interspersed with sculptures, a serene water garden, regal rows of shade trees, walking paths, a stunning orchid collection, vibrant rose garden, unique Asian-style garden and much more.

To plan your next trip to the Botanical Garden, [visit our website](#) for information on upcoming events, tickets, visitor's guide and more.

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