

NORFOLK BOTANICAL GARDEN

A Natural Beauty. 

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GARDEN AWARDED \$125,000 FOR 'BIG IDEA' *Norfolk Botanical Garden Wins Big In Facebook Contest*



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NORFOLK, VA (May 26, 2011) – Norfolk Botanical Garden (NBG) has officially been named the recipient of a \$125,000 prize in the Chase Community Giving program. This opportunity was made possible thanks to 11,311 online supporters, part of NBG's 'eagle community,' who nominated the Garden and began rallying for votes.

The Chase Community Giving program is designed to benefit 501c3 charities with operating expenses between \$1 and \$10 million. During round 1, the Garden placed 9th in the Top 100 eligible charities, receiving \$25,000. During round 2, the charity with the most online votes received \$500,000 and the remaining Top 24 charities were awarded with amounts ranging between \$20,000 and \$400,000. NBG was pleased to be counted among the Top 10, coming in 8th, earning another \$100,000.

“This is just an amazing award and shows the impact of the digital community. I wish to extend a great big thank you to all our supporters and voters. This wonderful award would not have been possible without you,” expressed Don Buma, Executive Director of Norfolk Botanical Garden.

During round 2, charities were asked to submit their ‘Big Idea’ for what they would do with the money, should they earn the big prize.

Norfolk Botanical Garden’s vision is to upgrade our technical capabilities and create exciting new programs. Through this we would develop compelling stories, online learning resources, printed materials, videos, images, benchmark-driven educational curricula, demonstrations and other multimedia resources and make them available to our viewers at no cost. This free educational program would be under the title of ‘Without Boundaries – Wild Eagle Encounters.’

According to Donna Krabill, Director of Education and Communication at NBG, “The funds will allow us to further develop our environmental education programs and make them available to schools and individuals around the world using multimedia, website and online programs.”

Norfolk Botanical Garden continues to move forward in anticipation of yet another ‘eagle season’ and is looking forward to helping our eagles truly soar into the lives of people, homes, and classrooms all over the world.

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About Norfolk Botanical Garden

Norfolk Botanical Garden represents an oasis of over 30 theme gardens encompassing 155 beautiful acres.

From stunning plant collections to *WOW- World of Wonders: A Children’s Adventure Garden*, this diverse natural beauty can be explored by tram, boat, or walking tours.

The Garden is accredited by the American Association of Museums, is recognized as a Virginia Historic Landmark, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and is managed by the Norfolk Botanical Garden Society in cooperation with the City of Norfolk.

Norfolk Botanical Garden is dedicated to enriching life by promoting the enjoyment of plants and the environment through beautiful gardens and education programs.

Admission is \$9 for Adults, \$8 for seniors and military, \$7 for ages 3-17. For more information, visit www.norfolkbotanicalgarden.org