



DISTRICT 5320

ORANGE AND SOUTHERN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

DISTRICT GRANT APPLICATION

Please print or type all information and use additional sheets of paper if necessary. **Incomplete applications will be returned.**

ROTARY CLUB OF **Fullerton Sunrise**

AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM DISTRICT

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Please describe the project, its location, the objectives, and how they will be attained. Note: The project cannot be started until the District Simplified Grant Application is approved by the district grants subcommittee.

1. What is the purpose of this project?

To support the Fullerton Arboretum's children and family educational programs facilitated through their Nature Center. The Nature Center is a major point of contact for visitors and is the heart of education and interpretation at the institution. It is in need of some updates that will help better connect with visitors, give children the opportunity to "touch and feel" and display the arboretum's core values of environmental education, conservation and stewardship. This grant request will provide materials to create new interpretive exhibits to display core values of environmental education, conservation and stewardship as well as a timeline of the history of the Fullerton Arboretum.

- 2. How will it meet the needs of the community?** The Nature Center at the Fullerton Arboretum is the oldest building on the grounds and currently serves as a place for visitors to get maps and information. It is the first building people visit when they enter the Arboretum. By adding interpretive exhibits, displays and touch/feel experiences, children and their families will have access to outdoor science, nature and history throughout the 26 acres of the arboretum, at no cost to them as there is not an admission fee to the Fullerton Arboretum.

Estimated project start date: [October 15, 2013](#)

Estimated project completion date: [March 31, 2014](#)

OTHER NON-ROTARY ORGANIZATIONS:

If this project involves a cooperating organization, provide the name of the organization below, attaching a letter of participation from that organization that specifically states its responsibilities

and how Rotarians will interact with the organization in the project. By signing this application, the Rotarian sponsors endorse the organization as reputable and responsible.

Name of Organization: [Friends of the Fullerton Arboretum](#)

PROJECT BUDGET:

Include a complete itemized budget for the entire project. Please use separate pages if necessary. Price quotes from the supplier and/or other cost documentation must be attached for each item.

TOTAL: \$7,000

PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS OR SUPPLIES:

- 1. Who will own equipment, materials, or supplies?** [Any materials will become the property of the Fullerton Arboretum](#)
- 2. Who will be responsible for maintenance, operating, and/or storage costs of the equipment/supplies?** [The Friends of the Fullerton Arboretum will be responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of all materials.](#)

PUBLICITY:

How will the general public know that this is a Rotary-sponsored project? Please provide details, e.g. publicity in a newspaper or display of the Rotary wheel (complying with RI guidelines). [Fullerton Arboretum Web site, weekly email blast and recognition plaque in the Nature Center](#)

ROTARIAN INVOLVEMENT:

Please list below the activities your club will undertake demonstrating the active involvement of Rotarians in this project. [Rotarians will work with the Friends of the Fullerton Arboretum to develop the Nature Center renovation plan, list of materials and skill sets needed to get the job done. Rotarians will perform the work over the necessary weekend days. Work to include; Remove Existing Cabinets; Prepare interior walls, patch, repair, paint; Prepare floor, Clean and prep floor, Apply surface coating; Assemble and mount new cases; External Shed, prepare surface – level and install hard surface, assemble and install shed.](#)

Detailed Project Description Follows:

Fullerton Arboretum Grant Request to Fullerton Sunrise Rotary

The Fullerton Arboretum's Nature Center is a major point of contact for many visitors and is the heart of education and interpretation at our institution. It is in need of some updates that will help us better connect with our visitors and display our core values of environmental education, conservation and stewardship.

Updates to the Nature Center include the installation of several new interpretive exhibits:

The first will consist of a series of tabletop **shadowbox displays (1)** that will provide information about various Arboretum-focused topics. The displays in these boxes will be a multimedia combination of text and objects, each covering a topic that helps tell the story of the Arboretum, and plants in general. We anticipate the topics to include Fauna of the Fullerton Arboretum (focusing on insects and other arthropods and their interaction with plants), Agricultural History of Orange County, Ethnobotanical Uses of Arboretum Plants, What's In Bloom (seasonal display) and possibly an Animal Evidence display, showing how careful observation of plants can reveal which animals are nearby. These shadowboxes will be designed to be updated and rotated as needed, providing new content on occasion. We will need to purchase 4 to 5 shadowboxes, interpretive panels for each one, and natural and cultural history objects that go with each topic.

The second interpretive exhibit will be a set of "kid-friendly" **display cases (2)**. These cases will be placed at a height that is easily viewed and accessed by our young visitors and will include an "eyes-only" section, containing delicate but fascinating natural history materials (nests, bones, insect collections, etc), and a "hands-on" section, which will highlight the tactile world of nature and encourage kids to pick up and touch bark, seeds, cones, fruits, nuts, galls, and more. These display cases will encourage a sense of wonder and excitement about the outdoors and prompt kids to look for the items they see in the cases out on the Arboretum grounds and other open spaces. In order to create the kid-friendly displays, we need a set of display cases of the appropriate height (between 30 and 40 inches high). A ready-made case that may be appropriate can currently be found at Ikea. If we went with the Ikea case, we would need 4 total. Plus, we need magnifying glasses and microscopes for students to use with hands-on projects.

Third, we will install an **Arboretum timeline display (3)** that reveals the history of the institution through a series of dates, text and photos. The Nature Center building itself is historic in the context of the Arboretum, being one of the oldest structures on the site. Many visitors come into the Nature Center asking about Arboretum history. A display like this would provide that history to everyone and provide visitors with a deeper understanding of the work that has gone on at the Arboretum over the past several decades. This panel would be designed and produced by an interpretive graphic designer. This display would then be supplemented with archival pieces, provided by the arboretum, such as newspaper articles and photographs. The timeline piece would be displayed in conjunction with a current map of the Arboretum grounds and would be conveniently located for the volunteer docent to easily direct visitors to points of interest and explain how they relate to Arboretum history.

Fourth, we will commission several professional **interpretive wall panels (3)** to display in the Nature Center. These panels must be timeless, yet Arboretum-specific, and appeal to all ages. Two to three of these panels are needed. Panel topics would be several of the following: Birds of the Fullerton Arboretum, Trees of the Fullerton Arboretum, Fruits and Vegetables of the Fullerton Arboretum, Why Are Plants Important To Me?, etc. In order to produce high quality educational and interpretive panels, we will hire an interpretive graphic designer. These panels should be produced as a package, with a visual continuity with the Arboretum timeline piece and the shadowbox panels described above.

In addition to interpretive displays, we will be updating the Nature Center with several pieces of infrastructure that will improve communication between the Arboretum and its visitors. The first of these pieces are two **posting cases (4)**, to be mounted on the north and south exterior walls of the Nature Center building. These posting cases will allow Arboretum staff and volunteers to securely display information about upcoming classes, events and Arboretum news. Information will be available even when the Nature Center is closed. These cases are weatherproof and lockable; meaning the information inside is protected from the elements and will remain posted for as long as appropriate. Two cases are recommended so that information is easily accessed from both sides of the Nature Center building.

The next pieces of communication infrastructure are a **bulletin board and chalkboard (5)** space inside the Nature Center building. This posting area will be used to display Arboretum information, but will also serve as an interactive space where visitors can report their sightings of birds, insects, flowers in bloom, etc. Sightings lists such as this are used in a variety of environmental education and conservation facilities and are highly valued by visitors. It is a great, “crowd sourced” way to share information and to track and take advantage of organic, unplanned events (like rare bird sightings). We need at least one bulletin board and either a chalkboard or chalkboard paint to create a writing space on an existing surface.

Furthermore, we need additional storage and storage tools. At the current time, the Nature Center is a main storage place for a variety of materials that are used for educational programs. But, these materials need to be stored in a better way, so they do not clutter or crowd the public space and exhibits in the Nature Center. Under the main counter, we need a uniform set of **storage tubs (6)** to hold educational supplies. Above the utility closet we could use several larger storage bins to store cluttered materials. We need 15 to 20 of these tubs in several sizes.

In addition to storage tubs, there is a pressing need for extra storage space for larger items and for surplus education items that are needed, but only used several times a year. We would like to install a small auxiliary **storage shed (7)** on to the north exterior wall of the Nature Center. This will provide storage space for larger items and will keep them readily accessible to volunteers and staff.

These updates and improvements will make the Nature Center more reflective of the Arboretum’s mission to provide visitors with the opportunity to gain knowledge and appreciation for the plant world. Detailed below is list of the needed items, with examples of actual products and estimates of prices.

Nature Center Update Items and Estimates

1. **Shadowbox boxes (4 to 5)**

\$250-300 (x4) ~ \$1500



2. Display Cases (3 to 4)
 Ikea Klingsbro \$145 each (x4) ~ \$580



3. Custom Interpretive Panels & Displays (Arboretum map, Arboretum timeline, large and small cultural and natural history panels)
 Design, printing and installation of interpretive panels estimated cost ~ \$3000





4. Exterior Posting Cases

\$250 (x2) = \$500



5. Chalkboard, Chalkboard Paint & Bulletin Board

Bulletin Board: \$15 - \$40; Chalkboard: \$15 - \$30; Chalkboard Paint: \$15 - \$30 ~ \$100



6. Storage Tubs (15 to 20)

\$7 to \$15 dollars each ~ \$105 to \$300



7. Exterior Storage Shed

PreFab Lean-To Option ~ \$400-\$1,000



Total Estimate:

Shadowboxes	\$1500
Display Cases	\$600
Interpretive Panels & Equip	\$3000
Posting Cases	\$500
Chalkboard / Bulletin Board	\$100
Storage Tubs	\$300
Storage Shed	\$1000
Total	\$7000

Resources:

www.displays4sale.com/

www.ikea.com

http://www.amazon.com/Arrow-Shed-YS410-A-10-Feet-Storage/dp/B00097IDJE/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1358883743&sr=8-2&keywords=lean+to+storage+shed