

A Partnership with CU and NOAA



CU keeps the record of Colorado's plants. The garden keeps them alive, in public, for everyone.

Boulder holds world-class plant and climate science, built for researchers and rarely seen by the public. Boulder Botanical Gardens would be its public window, a few blocks from campus on the Creek Path.

Three different jobs

	EBIO RESEARCH GREENHOUSE	HERBARIUM COLO	BOULDER BOTANICAL GARDENS
Holds	6,000+ living plants, 1,500 species	About 320,000 pressed specimens	Living gardens outdoors, a conservatory and dome
Built for	Teaching and research	The scientific record	The public
Public access	Two tours a year	By arrangement	Every day

Six ways we make each other stronger

1. **A public front door.** A rotating “From the Herbarium” exhibit pairs century-old specimens with the same plants growing outside. The Herbarium has already imaged all of its Colorado specimens.
2. **A documented collection.** The garden files reference specimens of its Colorado plants in COLO.
3. **Outdoor research plots** at the canyon mouth for EBIO and INSTAAR climate and pollinator studies.
4. **Climate change you can see.** Volunteers record bloom dates today against the herbarium's century-old record.
5. **A shared dome.** A joint display and propagation lab with EBIO, growing rare Colorado plants for restoration.
6. **Outreach at scale.** Every school in the county, with CU students as guides.

What the garden will not build: a research herbarium, a research-grade greenhouse or competing degree programs.

NOAA in Boulder

NOAA's David Skaggs Research Center houses the Chemical Sciences, Global Monitoring, Global Systems and Physical Sciences laboratories, the Space Weather Prediction Center and CU's CIRES institute. Partnership ideas:

- **Science On a Sphere**, the room-sized globe created by NOAA researchers in Boulder and available to any institution, in the Main Building.
- **A live weather and air station** with plain-language explanations from NOAA and CIRES scientists.
- **Creek and climate exhibits** on snowpack, Boulder Creek and plant response.
- **A public science talk series** in Super Bloom.

CU units with a natural role

Ecology & Evolutionary Biology

Research plots, field courses, the shared dome

INSTAAR & Mountain Research Station

Alpine science for the alpine and meadow zones

Environmental Studies & MENV

Internships and 11-month capstones

Fiske Planetarium

Science On a Sphere experience

College of Music

Performers for the Live Music Lawn

CU Museum, Herbarium COLO

Reference specimens and exhibits

CIRES

Public climate education and events

Environmental Design & CEDaR

Community design studios

Leeds Business Research Division

An independent economic impact study

Art & Art History

Artists for the sculpture garden

THE ASK

Meet with us, name a faculty advisor, or propose a capstone or studio project. A short letter of interest from any unit strengthens grant applications.

Contact & press: Joe Pergolizzi · LetsGrowTheBoulderBG@gmail.com ·
BoulderBotanicalGardens.org

Sources: CU Boulder Today, EBIO greenhouse, 2018; CU Research & Innovation, EBIO Greenhouses; COLO collection profile; CU Museum of Natural History; David Skaggs Research Center (Wikipedia); NOAA Science On a Sphere; CU Boulder Today, Fiske Planetarium Sphere, 2006; CU Environmental Studies community partners; CIRES education.