Milagro Allegro Community Garden in Highland Park



The Milagro Allegro Community Garden is a soon-to-be realized project integrating urban farming, art and education in the heart of the Highland Park neighborhood. Garden plots will be available for interested community members. A community gathering space will host classes, workshops and events. Local schools may incorporate the garden into curriculum or after-school activities.

Our Mission

To be a center of peace and beauty in the community where the cultivation of vegetables, fruits and flowers as well as creative ideas, artistic expression and neighborly values may take place.

Garden Address 115 S. Ave. 56, Los Angeles, CA 90042

For more information www.hpgarden.org

Nicole M. Gatto, MPH, PhD, Director 323-244-6039 ngatto@ucla.edu

Background

In recognition of the earliest origins of community life in our area as centered around the natural beauty of the Arroyo Seco for the plant and animal life that it sustains, we will establish a green space where this tradition of growing food from the land may continue. With the ultimate respect for our diverse, multi-ethnic community where different lifestyles, economic levels, heritage and cultures are represented, we will create an environment where, through simple acts of agriculture, our diversities may co-exist in harmony and through their interaction, continue to build on the beauty of our neighborhood.

Aims

As a community space, the Milagro Allegro Community Garden aims to promote interaction and collaboration between neighbors, families, teens and other community members through ambitiously pursuing a three-tiered goal of urban farming, art and education, which includes several sub-aims

- 1) Creative Expression
 - a. Include space for art
 - b. Host art walks and serve as a site for art projects
 - c. Foster connections between local artists, schools and community members
- 2) Environmental Education
 - a. Include plots for local schools which may serve as a basis for curriculum and a source of after-school activity
 - b. Conduct outreach to further the awareness about environmental issues
 - c. Provide educational workshops held by master gardeners
 - d. Promotion of healthy eating and lifestyle through hands-on experiences with growing vegetables and fruits
- 3) Urban Farming
 - a. Promote sustainable gardening practices, recycling and reusing resources and on-site composting
 - b. Encourage organic gardening practices and the preservation of heirloom varieties of vegetables, fruits and flowers
 - c. Promote green, eco-friendly lifestyles
 - d. Share produce that is grown at the garden with community organizations
 - e. Include a section where low water and native varieties of plants may be grown

Through our existence as a green space within an urban environment where otherwise concrete and asphalt dominate, we will directly contribute to the Green LA movement, as well as assist in achieving the Mayor's Million Tree initiative by planting trees at the garden.

*We have 501(c)3 non-profit status under the Los Angeles Community Garden Council

Draft garden plan

