

STATE OF HAWAII
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

LYON ARBORETUM
Org Code: MALYON
FUNCTIONAL STATEMENT

Lyon Arboretum is a research unit of the University of Hawaii and serves in a supporting capacity for the University's educational, scientific, and service activities; it is also an integral player in the research and conservation efforts of the state's native flora. The 193-acre Harold L. Lyon Arboretum was established in 1918 as a means to control erosion and runoff in the upper Mānoa watershed. It was acquired by the University of Hawaii in 1953, and starting in 1972 began offering educational programs, special events, tours, and other amenities typical of a public garden. Today the Arboretum grounds are home to a living collection of more than 5000 taxa, representing one of the most unique collections of pantropical flora in the world. Lyon is also home to the Hawaiian Rare Plant Program, a conservation unit that is focused on the rescue and recovery of Hawaii's most critically endangered native plants. Lyon's mission is *to inspire and cultivate the conservation of tropical plant biodiversity, and connect it to Hawai'i's culture through education and research.*

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Lyon Arboretum is under the leadership of the Director who reports to the Provost. The Director provides guidance and supervision to all Lyon Arboretum departments and develops both short- and long-term plans for the growth and development of the facility. The Director serves as liaison between the Arboretum and the University administration, government agencies and community groups; serves as liaison and *ex-officio* member of the Friends of Lyon Arboretum, a nonprofit corporation, organized for charitable purposes to benefit Lyon Arboretum; maintains close working relationships with relevant departments and colleges on campus as well as other botanic gardens and museums to provide leadership for the long-term development of the Arboretum; ensures that all collections are properly cared for and maintained at the Arboretum.

OFFICE OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The Finance and Administration Office manages monthly, annual, and internal financial and budgetary statements for the Office of the Director, University of Hawaii, State agencies, and other Arboretum departments. The department is responsible for State personnel matters, Arboretum expenditures and revenues, including donations and gifts, and oversees the Visitor Center.

GROUNDS DEPARTMENT

The Grounds department is responsible for the curation of all ~5000 living accessions on the Arboretum grounds. This includes updating accession information records in the database,

mapping specimens, and oversight and management of collections in the field. The Grounds department is also responsible for upkeep and maintenance of all trails. There is close coordination with the Horticulture department to ensure that specimens are not lost from the collection and to help coordinate outplanting of new material. Along with the Director, the Grounds department works closely with visiting researchers to provide guidance for researchers interested in using Arboretum grounds.

HORTICULTURE DEPARTMENT

The Horticulture Department is responsible for processing all new incoming accessions, and for the propagation and maintenance of specimens that are already housed at Lyon greenhouses. There is close coordination with the Grounds department to ensure that specimens are not lost from the collection and to help coordinate outplanting of new material. The department is also responsible for planning and executing the semi-annual plant sale that is held at Lyon Arboretum.

HAWAIIAN RARE PLANT PROGRAM

The Hawaiian Rare Plant Program (HRPP) is a conservation unit that is focused on the rescue and recovery of Hawaii's most critically endangered native plants. The HRPP is the longest running *ex-situ* endangered plant research facility in the state, and includes a seed germplasm repository, a micropropagation laboratory, and a genetic safety net plant nursery. The HRPP conducts research on best storage practices for endangered species and acts as a distribution center for practitioners and other end users who do not have the resources to store and propagate endangered Hawaiian plants. The HRPP holds the largest collection of native Hawaiian plant species in the world with >20 million seeds banked and more than 33,000 individual plants under *in vitro* conditions that represent >600 native plant species. More than half of the species housed are federally endangered.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The Education Department is responsible for the planning and implementation of the Arboretum's K-12 education program, which includes community outreach programs, lecture series, field activities, school programs and training programs for education volunteers and docents. The department produces educational materials, including books, pamphlets, video, and other audio-visual programs. The unit is also responsible for all external communications and social media accounts, including the Lyon Arboretum website.

FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS

Facilities and Operations support staff are responsible for the general operation, safety condition, appearance, and maintenance of Arboretum buildings, outdoor structures, and equipment. The department oversees the repair and maintenance of existing facilities and vehicles and/or contracts out work as deemed necessary.