

## ABOUT REIMAN GARDENS

One of the beautiful attractions in the Midwest is Iowa State University's Reiman Gardens. Located immediately south of Iowa State's Jack Trice Football Stadium, The Gardens offers 17-acres and 26 unique garden areas with seasonal displays designed around a grand theme that changes each year. Inside there are two large glass houses; the breathtaking Christina Reiman Butterfly Wing, holding one of the most diverse collections of live, exotic butterflies in the country, and an indoor, tropical Hughes Conservatory open year-round. Guided tours and rental of its private rooms and gardens make this a memorable location. Education programs and events are also scheduled.

## REIMAN GARDENS' MISSION

Educate, enchant, and inspire an appreciation of plants, butterflies, and the beauty of the natural world.

## REIMAN GARDENS' HISTORY

Iowa State University has had a horticulture garden since 1914. The Gardens is the third location for the gardens. The first location was north of the Farm House at the Horticulture Research Station. In the early 1960's, the gardens were moved to a  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre site on the northeast corner of the campus north of the power plant. This site offered little room for expansion and was surrounded by the campus's industrial zone.

In the early 1990's, faculty in the Horticulture department and university administrators discussed the possibility of moving the gardens to a larger, more visible location to beautify the entrance to the city of Ames and Iowa State. In 1993, alumnus, Roy Reiman and his wife Bobbi generously gave \$1.3 million to initiate phase one of the new gardens. Construction began on Reiman Gardens in 1994 and was officially dedicated in 1995. At its opening, Reiman Gardens covered just five acres. The Gardens have continued to grow over the last eight years to cover 17-acres. The most recent updated space is the Hillside Water-wise Garden, which opened in October 2017.

Rodney Robinson Landscape Architects, a landscape architecture firm in Wilmington, DE, designed the Gardens. Robinson was selected because of his experience at other public gardens. Daryl Metzger, of Architects Smith Metzger in Des Moines, designed the buildings within Reiman Gardens. The architecture reflects a Midwestern style, inspired by the state's agricultural traditions.

## THEME YEARS

Each year, Reiman Gardens creates a new theme that is featured in its horticultural displays, educational programs, events, and even in products in the Gift Shop. The entire garden emphasizes a new theme so guests can visit again and again to see something new in the ever-changing and exhilarating displays.

