

COMMUNITY OF GARDENS  
PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT FORM

Dear Parent or Legal Guardian,

Our class is participating in a national storytelling program through Smithsonian Gardens. Students will have the opportunity to interview gardeners in their community (family, friends, and community members) and submit their oral history project to *Community of Gardens*, or share their own school garden story with *Community of Gardens*. *Community of Gardens* is an online, digital archive dedicated to preserving garden history stories for future generations and maintained by Smithsonian Gardens. By participating in this project, students will have the opportunity to learn more about the importance of green spaces in their community and, with your permission (the consent form follows), may contribute to a national archive. Before giving consent, learn about the *Community of Gardens* by visiting: <https://communityofgardens.si.edu/faq> and <https://communityofgardens.si.edu/submission-agreement>.

Parental Permission:

I understand that my child is participating in a class project to create stories, photos, videos, interviews, and audio files about gardens, *and if I consent*, my child's teacher may share my child's project with the Smithsonian for possible inclusion in a Smithsonian digital archive, *Community of Gardens*, and related Smithsonian activities. I have reviewed the *Community of Gardens* submission rules and FAQs.

I hereby grant permission for my child's teacher to submit, and for the Smithsonian to generally use, my child's class project, along with his/her first name and (if submitted) likeness without time limit and without compensation to my child or me. This permission includes but is not limited to publication of my child's project, in whole or part, on the *Community of Gardens* website, other Smithsonian communication channels (websites, social media, print and online publications or newsletters), fundraising, educational programming, and exhibitions. I understand this is a public archive,

meaning that if it is selected for inclusion my child's project will be available to the public for personal, educational, or non-commercial uses.

I understand that I can revoke this consent for my child's participation in *Community of Gardens* at any time by contacting Smithsonian Gardens.

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Child' Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

**About *Community of Gardens*:** *Community of Gardens* is a free, non-commercial digital archive and website created and managed by Smithsonian Gardens, part of the Smithsonian Institution. The archive is a collection of stories about gardens and gardeners added by the general public, ranging from interviews with family and neighbors, stories of backyards and community gardens, and memories of gardens past. With the help of the public, including students and teachers, we hope to preserve these community stories for future generations of gardeners and historians.

If you have any questions about the project, please contact Smithsonian Gardens at [communityofgardens@si.edu](mailto:communityofgardens@si.edu) or 202-633-5840.

- Information about the project is available at:  
<https://communityofgardens.si.edu/faq>
- A complete description of *Community of Gardens*, and the information that it collects from users, is described in the Submission Agreement:  
<https://communityofgardens.si.edu/submission-agreement> and Privacy Statement: <http://www.si.edu/Privacy>