



WELCOME TO THE Joseph and Emma Lin Biological Orchard and Garden

This unique landscape showcases a slice of biodiversity in the heart of central campus and is a hub for outdoor learning.

A Microcosm of Biodiversity

The drought-tolerant plants growing in the beds here are all from Mediterranean regions with similar summer-dry climates as Davis, including the Mediterranean, South Africa, Chile, and Australia. The beds demonstrate the diversity of plants that can grow in the Sacramento Valley and provide students with a variety of species to study.



Student and Staff Collaboration

The idea for the Joseph and Emma Lin Biological Orchard and Garden (BOG) was introduced by a group of students who planted a forage-friendly fruit tree orchard on campus. With support from the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory, the project has evolved to include “biodiversity islands” that feature drought-tolerant plants.

Partners and Donors

The development of this site was a collaboration between the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory, many UC Davis students, staff, and volunteers and the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden. Thank you to these generous donors for their support:

- Joseph and Emma Lin
- The Kwan Hague Family
- Hal and Reynotta Hoberecht
- The Green Initiative Fund and Go Green Grants
- The California Horticulture Society
- IndieGoGo Campaign Contributors

UC Davis Botanical Conservatory

The UC Davis Botanical Conservatory is a repository of living botanical diversity from across the world. Staff propagate and maintain mosses, ferns, gymnosperms, and a large diversity of flowering plants to support teaching and research in the College of Biological Sciences.

UC Davis GATEways Project

The UC Davis GATEways Project (Gardens, Arts, and the Environment) is a campus-wide initiative to create innovative gardens and programs that showcase the academic strengths of UC Davis, inspire lifelong learning and engage with our community. Learn more at arboretum.ucdavis.edu.

Living Laboratory

The BOG is an outdoor laboratory for hands-on learning. Throughout the seasons, you can find classes performing biodiversity assessments, recording insect observations, and monitoring the weather stations onsite. Student employees, interns, and volunteers at the Botanical Conservatory perform the maintenance of the site year-round and learn how to prune fruit trees in the orchard.

