Concept Proposal and Progress: Presidents’ Pond

University of Arizona Campus Arboretum
Phase I Improvements

Phase I Goals:
Maintain existing trees and shrubs (3a above), thin overgrown aquatic species (3b, above), enhance the patio and plantings to prepare for future major fundraising.

- Remove lava rock from existing patio area where it limits accessibility.
- Remove 2 concrete/brick benches where they limit accessibility.
- Extend stabilized DG patio around the pond (20’ to south and 10’ to north) (2b above)
- Connect patio to the street via a 6’ wide DG path.
- Replace existing irrigation system to allow trees to be watered separate from the turf and to eliminate overspray and deterioration of benches and hardscape.
- Line patio with landscape edging to further buffer turf sprinkler overspray. (2b above)
- Add a mulch border outside the patio - 4 feet wide.
- Integrate border with mulch circles under all existing trees.
- Add boulders to pond edge & patio grade changes.
- Plant little leaf ash, desert willow, kidneywood trees.
- Plant 15 drought tolerant shrubs.
- Install botanical signs, a 12x18” bronze interpretive sign and solar up-lights to feature specimen trees and enhance visibility/safety.
- Pour footers for 4 more benches.
- Install brick medallion at the top of the entry path for future sponsorship.
Visualization of garden improvement goals (top) and landscape design with plant list (bottom)
BEFORE
Pond, ca. 2014

AFTER
Pond, July 2023
AFTER
New entry path and accessible patio
Phase II Goals:
This historic area serves the campus and community. Join us in ensuring it continues to receive care and attention. To create additional seating areas, and to provide funds for future stewardship of the Presidents’ Pond and other historic green spaces on campus, the Campus Arboretum is offering sponsorship of benches and bricks. The impact of your gift provides funding for preservation of historic campus landscapes, perpetuates the legacy of using the campus grounds for botanical education, and notes the personal significance of this welcoming campus and community gathering space.

Benches:
For a gift of $20,000, a 6-foot long, sage-green, powder coated, iron bench hand forged by local artist James Meador will be placed at an available location surrounding the Presidents’ Pond. (The color is “sage green”, one of the original University of Arizona colors representing our desert location). Each bench includes a customized inscription of 150 characters on a 3” x 5” brass plaque which will be placed on the bench back. In collaboration with the Campus Arboretum Director, donors may participation in selecting a preferred available location. From payment to final installation, the process takes approximately 12 weeks. Send payment to the UA Foundation using this link: https://shorturl.at/ehwO5 For more information on bench sponsorship, or to propose an inscription for a paid bench sponsorship, contact Dr. Tanya Quist by email at: tquist@arizona.edu or by phone (520)306-1228

Bricks:
For a gift of $250, a brick will be placed in the entry path with a customized inscription. Bricks can be personalized with a short phrase, your name, or the name of a special person in your life. Up to three lines are available with a total of 45 characters and no more than 15 characters per line are possible. To send payment, use the UA Foundation Link found here: https://shorturl.at/ehwO5 Send a proposed inscription to Tanya Quist, Arboretum Director by emailing: tquist@arizona.edu. You will receive a reply from the Campus Arboretum staff including a mock-up of the brick with inscription and an estimated date for installation.

Gifts to the Campus Arboretum are 100% tax deductible.
Map of Presidents’ Pond Bench Locations Available for Sponsorship:

- NW-1
- NE-1
- SW-1
- SE-1

Sample bench and sample plaque inscription.

With thanks of all campus and community members past and present who love this pond.
Northeast bench opportunity (left and right)

Northwest bench opportunity (top left), and proximity of NW and NE bench opportunities (top right).
Southeast and southwest bench opportunities (below left and below right)

Proximity of SE and SW bench opportunities.
East bench opportunity – two views (below left and below right)
Map of Presidents’ Pond Entry Brick Naming Location:

View of brick entry to the pond patio area with sample brick inscription overlay:

Bear Down!
Wilbur Wildcat
Class of 2024
Brick pavers are approximately 3’’H x 7’’L. Inscriptions can include up to three lines of characters with no more than 15 characters per line. Orders will be taken each academic semester (Spring: Jan-May and Fall: Aug-Dec) with engraving being completed in June and January, for Spring and Fall orders, respectively. Installation of Spring orders will be completed in July and installation of Fall orders will be completed in February. You will be notified when your brick has been engraved.

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