



**For Immediate Release**  
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**Contact:** Ellen Thompson  
Cheyenne Botanic Gardens  
(307) 637-6458  
ellentompson@botanic.org

Maureen Rich  
Lowe's Companies, Inc.  
(704) 758-2298  
maureen.a.rich@lowes.com

**CHEYENNE'S CHILDREN'S GARDEN RECEIVES \$250,000 GRANT**  
*Lowe's Donates Funds for Renovation of Garden*

**CHEYENNE, WYO.** – The Friends of the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens was awarded a \$250,000 grant by the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation to transform the gardens into a discovery and learning center.

The grant makes Lowe's the largest of 589 individuals and businesses that supported the Children's Garden campaign. With the completion of the campaign, the project will begin with the renovation of a 1930s historic shop and yard into a science center and walled garden. Children will learn about sustainable living practices, ecosystems and water quality while surrounded by whimsical landscapes that encourage interactive, imaginative play.

"We are thrilled with the broad support for this project shown by this community and its business partners like Lowe's," Cheyenne Botanic Gardens Director Shane Smith said. "I think that speaks to the wide appeal of a Children's Garden, as well as a sense that a hands-on learning facility will be a valuable addition to Cheyenne. The citizens of Cheyenne encouraged us to include a Children's Garden in the master plan we developed with public input a decade ago. I am happy to say that it will soon be a reality."

The Children's Garden at the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens is the largest project undertaken by the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens in its 30-year history. A Children's Garden was first considered for Cheyenne a decade ago, when the Gardens commissioned Colorado landscape architect Herb Schaal to work with the community on a master plan. Schaal has since been recognized with the most awards of any designers at his firm EDAW, the largest landscape architecture firm in the world. Schaal specializes in children's gardens. His design for Cheyenne's Children's Garden has already received two awards from the American Society of Landscape Architects.

Lowe's was the largest contributor to the project that also included major contributions from Barbara and Anthony Andrikopoulos, the Paul Smith Trust and Cheyenne's Rotary International Club. Significant contributions were made by hundreds of other local businesses and private citizens.

"Lowe's is committed to recognizing and supporting efforts that enrich the lives of our neighbors and customers," said Larry D. Stone, chairman of Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation. "By supporting organizations like the Friends of the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens Foundation, we believe we are contributing to a cause that's important to our customers and employees and helping build a stronger foundation for the children who will be tomorrow's employees, homeowners and community leaders."

Since its inception in 1957, Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation has helped communities nationwide through employee volunteerism and financial contributions. In 2006, the Lowe's Foundation supported community and education projects across the country through grants totaling more than \$15 million.

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**About the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens**

Since 1977, the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens has inspired, beautified and enriched the High Plains through gardening, volunteerism, education, inspiration and stewardship. This is accomplished through providing diverse plant exhibits, meaningful service opportunities and educational outreach to the community with an emphasis on demonstrating landscaping, gardening, renewable energy and sustainable earth-friendly practices.

**About Lowe's**

Lowe's is a proud supporter of Habitat for Humanity International, American Red Cross, United Way of America, and the Home Safety Council, in addition to numerous non-profit organizations and programs that help communities across the country. In 2006, the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation awarded \$15 million to diverse organizations across the United States. Lowe's also encourages volunteerism through the Lowe's Heroes program, a company-wide employee volunteer initiative. Lowe's is a FORTUNE® 50 company with fiscal year 2006 sales of \$46.9 billion and has more than 1,525 stores in the United States and Canada. For more information, visit [Lowe.com/community](http://Lowe.com/community).

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