

Hansberry Garden & Nature Center, Inc.

2020 Membership Agreement

By submitting this membership agreement, I certify that I have read, understood, and support the [mission and goals](#) of Hansberry Garden and Nature Center, Inc. (HGNC). I agree to abide by the following rules and conditions, and I also agree to abide by any further rules established by the HGNC Board of Directors.

- I agree to attend the annual Spring Gathering on March 21, 2020, 10 a.m. to noon, at Attic Brewing Co., 137 Berkley St.
 - If unable to attend, because membership terms have changed, both new and returning members should attend an orientation session or have a conversation with the membership chair before beginning to garden this season
- I understand that my membership will not become active until HGNC receives my \$40 membership fee, and \$5 key fee for new members, upon submission of this form, and I have attended either the Spring Gathering and/or an orientation session (required for new members), or have had a conversation with the membership chair.
- In the interest of protecting our environment, HGNC aims to use non-toxic solutions to soil health and horticulture problems. Synthetic chemicals (for example, pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers) are prohibited. I agree to contact a Board member for approval before using any non-organic method or substance anywhere in the garden.
- I agree to respect my fellow garden members and visitors with my actions and in my communications.
- I agree to support and assist with fundraising efforts of HGNC.
- I grant Hansberry Garden & Nature Center permission to use my likeness in a photograph, video, or other digital media in any and all of its publications, including web-based publications, without payment or other consideration.
- I understand that neither HGNC, the HGNC Board, nor any HGNC member is responsible for my actions. I therefore agree to indemnify and hold harmless HGNC Inc., or its Board, collectively or individually, for any liability, loss or claim that occurs in connection with the use of HGNC by me or any of my family or guests.
- I understand that I am responsible for any damage, loss or theft caused by me, my family and/or my guests and that I may be subject to making restitution to HGNC for such damage.

New Members

- New members agree to attend one of three scheduled **orientation sessions** at the Garden on
 - Saturday, March 21, 2-3 p.m.
 - Sunday, March 29, 3-4 p.m.; or

- Thursday, March 26, 6-7 p.m.

Returning Members

- Returning members will pay the \$40 membership fee and **submit membership agreements** by **March 14** in order to maintain use of the same bed assigned to them the previous year.
- **If membership has not been renewed by March 14, use of the same bed is not guaranteed. Beds will be reassigned beginning March 15.**
- Returning members will notify the membership chair by March 14 if they do not plan to participate as Planting Members for the upcoming planting season, and will return the garden and shed keys to the membership chair.

Returning members who have gardened with HGNC for at least one season consecutively **who renew beginning Feb. 29 may begin gardening once they have an approval to begin the season from the membership chair**, in order to take advantage of early spring crops and early bed preparation as soon as the ground thaws.

Privileges of Planting Membership

1. Each \$40 planting membership fee covers one planting bed. There is an additional cost of \$5 for first set of keys. Replacement keys are at market rate.
2. Members have full access to tools, water, and supplies stored in the tool shed and gardening resources available on site to cultivate their own beds. The long-anticipated water renewal project will be in construction early this spring.
3. Members are entitled to attend Board meetings, special members' events, and all community events or workshops hosted by Hansberry Garden.

Rules of Participation

*Hansberry Garden, an association of volunteers, has struggled for a number of years to provide a healthy green, growing space in the midst of our community with shared responsibility for the upkeep of the common spaces, perennial beds, mowing, trash pick up and the like. We aim to provide a place of beauty, peacefulness, and growth, for ourselves and for our neighbors. We have a few supporting members, but the core of our membership are the 39 households who hold planting beds each year. Leaders will always carry more responsibility for the running of the Garden. But each household contributes to the **communal** life of Hansberry Garden — beyond the tending of our own planting beds — so that we are able to manage the many tasks it takes to keep our property in order, and to do the wondrous other kinds of programming that our beautiful space makes possible.*

In 2019, we began a system of record-keeping of these communal hours, to hold ourselves accountable. Though our system was imperfect, to the best we were able to determine, we found that 21% of our membership offered no communal hours last year, and 38%, including the earlier 21%, offered less than 5. We can't continue to function giving the valuable resource of our Planting Beds away in that way.

The Board has adapted this year's membership requirements. Members will need to fulfill these requirements in the 2020 season to continue being eligible for a Planting Bed for 2021.

1. **Membership Requirements Include:**

- a. **Members commit to** completing ten (10) volunteer hours per planting-bed household during the course of the 2020 season: March through October.
 - i. **The Board and Committees will provide multiple ways for you to fulfill this membership requirement.** You are welcome to keep giving, once your required hours are completed:
 1. Monthly Tend the Garden Days (group work days, lots of fun, happen on Saturdays, when some can't attend)
 2. Posted task lists online and at the garden following work days, follow-up for individuals who can't make the work days
 3. Tasks for those who can't do physical labor
 4. Committee Work, Leadership Roles
 5. Events staffing and planning
 6. Hosting of Public Garden Hours, every Saturday, 10 a.m. to noon, May through September
 7. Other needs lifted up through the season
 - ii. **Event Hosts/Committee Leaders will** provide sign-in sheets to gather volunteer hours for group events, but your household is responsible for logging hours in the Garden Member Notebook kept in the shed to show your participation.
 - b. HGNC tracks volunteer hours of members to support grant proposals for funding, and to help us share the load with each other. Keeping track of additional hours beyond what is required helps with our attempts to secure grant funding.
2. Children are always welcome and encouraged to come to the garden to play or plant. In the interest of safety, children must be accompanied and supervised by at least one adult, age 18 or older, for the duration of their visit.
 3. Members will notify the membership chair of extended absences during the growing season to specify maintenance and harvest arrangements during the absence.
 4. Plants in members' beds must not block walkways or impinge upon neighboring beds.
 5. Members will not plant outside their beds unless approved by the Landscape/Maintenance Chair.
 6. Members agree to harvest produce in a timely manner from their bed. **If ripe produce is neglected in a bed, members should expect to hear from someone about donating their produce to the City Harvest Program.**
 7. Members are encouraged to attend Board meetings. Board meetings will appear on HGNC's [online calendar](#).

Important Dates

- Membership Renewal opens **Feb 29**.
- Membership Renewal deadline to keep your bed from 2019: **March 14**. This is one week before the Spring Gathering, a required meeting for new members, and encouraged for all members, held from 10 a.m. to noon at Attic Brewing Co., 137 Berkley St.
- **Unrenewed beds will be assigned to new members beginning March 15.**
- Key Return Deadline for former members not renewing this year is also **March 14**.
- **New this year: Planting Beds must be planted by June 15, or the member household forfeits its bed to someone on the waiting list.** (Membership fee minus \$15 administrative

fee can be returned, if membership is forfeited, or member can stay on as a supporting member. Please ask for assistance if you have trouble getting started.)

- Summer crops must be cleared from beds by **Nov. 1**, after which remaining crops are donated through City Harvest, unless members request an extension for specific plants that are still producing, and/or for overwintering and cover crops.

Violations

- HGNC operates on an honor system; membership in this garden is a position of trust. Accordingly, theft of any kind from members or of HGNC property will result in the immediate loss of membership and all attendant privileges, loss of right to harvest, and/or possible legal action.
- HGNC is a welcoming and fully inclusive organization that strives to maintain an environment of amity and mutual respect. Therefore, insulting, rude, or otherwise inappropriate conduct that the Board determines to be consistently disruptive to our community may result in loss of membership and its attendant privileges.

2020 HGNC Application for Membership

Members are the life-blood of our organization. If you're not already a member, please consider joining us today. You can select the membership level that fits your needs and budget below.

Membership Levels

Please select the appropriate membership level below. You will have a chance to review your selection and the corresponding dues on the next page prior to your credit card being charged.

- A **Planting Membership** entitles the member(s) to one 4' x 8' planting bed and requires the member household to offer at least ten (10) volunteer hours per season in a combination of tasks offered by the garden that fits the abilities and skills of the household's member(s).
- **Supporting Members** are those who opt not to undertake the maintenance of a planting bed and the associated responsibilities, but contribute funds (as well as time and expertise, as they are able) to support HGNC's efforts. Supporting members are welcome at all Members Only as well as community events.
- **Additional Contributions** help us fund programs, maintain and improve the garden, and subsidize fees for members who are unable to pay the full price of membership.

Membership Type

- Supporting - \$40.00
- Planting - \$40.00

Additional Contribution (optional)

- Amount \$ _____
- No thank you

All personal information is considered private and is never sold or given to third parties.

Name _____

Home Address: Street _____

City, State, and Zip Code _____

Preferred Phone Contact: _____ Cell ___ Home ___ Work

_____ Cell ___ Home ___ Work

Texting OK? _____ yes _____ no

Best time to call? _____

Preferred Email Contact: _____

Preferred method of communication

If no strong preference, check as many as work for you:

_____ phone calls

_____ texts

_____ email

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I give permission to share my contact information with other members of HGNC Members.

_____ yes _____ no

Please select your committee preferences; (write 1 for first preference, 2 for second preference).

_____ **City Harvest** (bed management, planting, harvesting, weighing, tracking harvests, morning deliveries to nearby food pantry)

_____ **Communications** (online and print media management and development, phone calls)

_____ **Fundraising and Resource Development** (grant research and/or writing; community partnership development)

_____ **Landscape and Maintenance** (mowing, litter patrol, grounds maintenance; lead participants in Work Days)

_____ **Compost Team** (regular supervision and turning of HGNC's compost)

_____ **Membership** (lead orientations, database management, member connections, mentoring of new members)

_____ **Programs and Events** (develop, plan and implement events, for example, workshops, monthly member potlucks, concerts, and the Fall Harvest Festival)

Please tell us if more than one person will be using your garden bed. The membership fee is per bed, not per member. Only one membership fee must be paid for one bed.

Will you be sharing this bed?

_____ Yes _____ No

If you are sharing a planting bed, please let us know the names, addresses, phone numbers and emails of every adult (including family members) that will be sharing the planting bed. Minors need not be listed.

Name	Address	Best Phone #	Email
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

I have read and understood the membership agreement. By signing here, I agree to abide by the policies and terms of membership in Hansberry Garden & Nature Center.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Submit form to
Janet Peterman, membership Chair
230 W Winona St
Philadelphia, PA 19144
(Between Wayne and Pulaski)

If delivering by hand, enclose in an envelope with your name clearly marked on it and a phone number or email address, so it can be acknowledged. Use the mail slot to the left of the front door on the porch, nearly at ground level.