

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**STEM in the Garden – Wilson Botanical Gardens Receive  
NC GlaxoSmithKline Foundation Grant**

Wilson, N.C. (April 15, 2016) –Wilson Botanical Gardens (WBG) is pleased to announce that it has received a \$25,000 grant from the North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation through their Ribbon of Hope grant program. These funds will support the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) Garden and its associated programs.

Focusing on the needs of middle and high school students, the STEM Garden incorporates elements of the core STEM programs including science concepts using plant/insect interactions, water use and conservation, technology in weather prediction and information systems, engineering in design and alternative power sources, and mathematical models. Students in Wilson and surrounding counties use the Garden.

The grant award from the North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation will layer program components onto the newly constructed garden. The NC Department of Commerce, several local awards and Wilson Botanical Garden fundraising efforts secured the construction funding for the garden.

“This grant award will allow us to complete the educational areas of the STEM Garden,” says Cyndi Lauderdale, Executive Director of the WBG, “which includes the addition of a Bog garden containing carnivorous plants in the Science area, a weather station in the Technology area, a working windmill in the Engineering area and the Fibonacci themed Math area.”

The Wilson Botanical Gardens is an eleven acre public garden located in Wilson, N.C. Visit our website at [wilsonbotanicalgarden.org](http://wilsonbotanicalgarden.org) and plan your visit to our gardens!

About the North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation

The North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation is an independent self-funding 501(c)3 nonprofit organization supporting activities that help meet the educational and health needs of today's society and future generations. Since its creation in 1986, the foundation has granted \$68.9 million to support North Carolina projects and programs that emphasize the understanding and application of science, health and education at all academic and professional levels. Visit us at [NCGSKFoundation.org](http://NCGSKFoundation.org)

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