



"Science scores of American children are the lowest of all academic areas tested, with earth sciences the lowest of all. If our education system is going to keep up with the needs for our country, we have to interest children at a much earlier age in science, engineering and math. I believe that the Dallas Arboretum's Rory Meyers Children's Adventure Garden does that by teaching science creatively."

-Former U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, Honorary Chair, Rory Meyers Children's Adventure Garden

"I'm excited about the hands-on learning experience that the next generation of geologists and engineers will have in the Energy Learning Center. Challenging young minds is the way we will adapt to the future energy demands."

-T. Boone Pickens

"The opening of the Dallas Arboretum Rory Meyers Children's Adventure Garden is an exciting new development in the connections that our 500+ member gardens make with their communities. Designed from the inception to explain science outdoors in alignment with federal and state curricula, it is a treasure that will benefit well over 100,000 children per year as they learn the importance of nature and embody the values of stewardship and conservation. This significant investment will impact our children's future locally, regionally, and nationally as it sets a new standard in how we educate."

-D. Casey Sclar, Ph.D., Executive Director, American Public Gardens Association

"Younger children have a greater joy of discovery. This period of wonder is a great time to introduce them to the sciences."

-Dr. Gerald Turner, President of Southern Methodist University:

"The Dallas Arboretum Rory Meyers Children's Adventure Garden is, without a doubt, the best outdoor educationally focused experiential site I have ever seen, period."

-Dallas ISD Superintendent Mike Miles

"Living in an urban area like Dallas, a large Metroplex, children don't get the chance to see much nature. The Dallas Arboretum's Rory Meyers Children's Adventure Garden gives kids that chance to be immersed in a natural area."

-Dr. David Chard, Dean of the Annette Caldwell Simmons School of Education and Human Development at Southern Methodist University

“As a scientist, I feel that the Rory Meyers Children’s Adventure Garden will help to increase the exposure to natural science for a large number of children at an age when they are most susceptible and curious. Also, understanding basic scientific concepts is of vital importance for the functioning of our society. Motivating young people to choose a career in science or engineering is necessary to keep scientific research in our country at the highest level, with benefits for the economy, the environment, and many other aspects of life.”
-**Johann Deisenhofer, Ph.D.**, 1988 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, and Chair, Dallas Arboretum Scientific Advisory Committee

“A growing body of evidence indicates disconnection from the natural world poses real threats for our children’s health and wellbeing, as well as for future stewardship of our natural resources. The good news is research also shows reconnecting families with nature makes kids healthier, happier and smarter. Providing settings for creative play and curious exploration outdoors is thus one of the most important things we can do, and the Dallas Arboretum’s Rory Meyers Children’s Adventure Garden is a flagship model for this vital work.”
-**Carter Smith**, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department executive director

“The Rory Meyers Children’s Adventure Garden is a critical contribution to the educational needs of the young people of Texas. It will change the way we introduce young people to science.”
-**Dr. Ann Stuart**, Arboretum Board member and Chancellor and President of Texas Women’s University

“The Adventure Garden will be a superb facility in which students can do and learn science...it will allow students across North Texas to deepen their knowledge and strengthen their skills...The Adventure Garden will motivate and inspire students to do the work of scientists and strive to make this world a better place for all.”
-**Arnold E. Holtberg**, St. Mark’s School of Texas headmaster

“...this (Rory Meyers Children’s Adventure Garden) is about to become the coolest family attraction in Dallas...This garden—really, it’s a science lab—will attract new members from greater distances. Brinegar and her team have created something wonderful.”
-**Tim Rogers**, Editor, *D Magazine*

“The Dallas Arboretum’s Rory Meyers Children’s Adventure Garden is a truly spectacular addition to this community—brilliantly conceived and beautifully executed. Kids of all ages will have an engaging and entertaining experience, all while learning more about the wonders of our planet.”
-**Boyd Matson**, Host, *National Geographic Weekend*

“America’s children need to be grounded in the knowledge and application of science, math, engineering, and technology, and the Dallas Arboretum’s Rory Meyers Children’s Adventure Garden will provide students, teachers, and adults with engaging opportunities to explore and apply these ideas and skills. The Children’s Adventure Garden will provide an outdoor science exploration experience for children through exciting and engaging hands-on learning aligned to the national and state science standards.”

–**Cathy Bryce**, Ed.D., BOSC, Inc., Cathy Bryce Consulting, and former Highland Park ISD superintendent

“The Children’s Garden is designed to help children learn and retain principles of science...yet the approach is fun and imaginative and engages the children as well as the teacher or parents who may accompany them. Visitors will be able, through the best outdoor laboratory of all, to see the relationships of nature and observe the principles of life and ensure our lives on earth.”

–**Linus D. Wright**, LDW Consultants and former Dallas Independent School District superintendent

“This Adventure Garden is an eight-acre science education facility that will immerse our students in an outdoor laboratory unlike any other in the world... The benefits to our children will be invaluable both now and in the future.”

–**Mike Morath**, Dallas Independent School District Board of Trustees, District 2

“Improving students’ knowledge and skills in the area of science is critical to the future of our nation and the North Texas region...The Adventure Garden provides children with an 8 acre outdoor science laboratory in which to investigate various life and earth science concepts...it will provide our students with in-depth enrichment experiences for years to come...another very positive and impactful tool in the mission to improve science education and outdoor experiences for school children in the North Texas area.”

–**Paul G. Sugg**, Ed. D., Director, Environmental Education Center, Science Resource Center, Dallas Independent School District