Guide Dogs Memorial Garden

A public place to honour working, retired and passed Guide Dogs

Project Sponsorship

A special opportunity to help create a peaceful and reflective space in the centre of Hobart
An invitation...

Thank you for taking the time to find out more about this memorial garden project - The Garden of Memories. This community project is managed by Tasmanian Leaders Inc. graduates on behalf of Guide Dogs Tasmania. We are excited to share with you our plans and our vision for a beautiful and reflective space in the midst of Hobart’s busy city environment.

The project
The Garden of Memories is a project that is being developed in a small park on the corner of Warwick and Elizabeth Streets. The project has received relevant approvals from Hobart City Council and the project partners include Guide Dogs Tasmania and Tasmanian Leaders Inc. Significant in-kind support has also been provided and committed by Hobart City Council and Playstreet landscape architects.

The vision
Our vision is to create a reflective, respectful and peaceful space where past and present Guide Dogs can be remembered and honoured; both by their handlers and the wider community. It will serve to invite all members of the community to consider the importance and loyalty of Guide Dogs. The space will acknowledge the community and business partners that helped it become a reality.

The need
The Garden of Memories is an inclusive community project and will rely heavily on financial support from local businesses to ensure it’s completion. You or your business can become part of this unique and special project through your financial support. There are a number of supporter options available, each which provide the project with resources to complete the Garden, and provide you with ‘pawsome’ engagement benefits.

We invite you to consider which supporter option may be right for your business and to talk to us about your involvement in creating something new and special in Hobart.

Sincerely
Jane Forrest, Kate Grady, Margie Jenkin, Ben Maynard, Stewart Sharples, Gina Sidhu (Tasmanian Leaders Inc. graduates - 2012)

Contact: Kate Grady 0418 126 634 kate@guidedogstas.com.au
In 2013, a group of six graduates of the Tasmanian Leaders Program began working with Guide Dogs Tasmania and Hobart City Council to develop a garden to remember and celebrate the importance of Guide Dogs. For over ten years Guide Dogs Tasmania clients and instructors have expressed a need and desire to have a special space where they can reflect on the lives and service of past Guide Dogs.

After discussions with all stakeholders, the site on Elizabeth Street/Warwick Street was determined to be the most suitable – due to its ease of access for those with a disability, proximity to public transport and Guide Dogs Tasmania’s office, and the ‘blank canvas’ of grass, path and table that currently exists on the site.

The objectives of the Garden are:

- To provide a dedicated space for reflection for people whose lives have been touched by Guide Dogs
- To raise awareness of the value of Guide Dogs to individuals with vision impairment, and the impact Guide Dogs can have for individuals and the community

The Garden of Memories project will enable the community to share stories and memories of Guide Dogs. This will encourage awareness in the broader community around the significance and impact of Guide Dogs; the independence, mobility, safety and companionship they provide their handlers. However, this project not only fulfils the needs of Guide Dogs Tasmania clients (past, present and future), it also offers an inviting and reflective space in the city for the wider community.

Guide Dogs provide their handlers with 8-10 years of mobility, independence, safety and companionship. During this partnership the handler-dog team form a powerful bond and they travel everywhere together. The relationship develops through strength, courage, trust and loyalty, and when it is time for the dog to be retired, it is the handler who typically grieves the end of the partnership. At present, there are 29 working Guide Dogs in Tasmania, and each year an average of 6 Guide Dogs are retired from service.
The Garden of Memories has been designed in such a way as to provide a beautiful space for both reflection and enjoyment. A small pocket park in the city will become a restful and soothing space accommodating the memories of the loyal and much loved Guide Dogs that have passed away.

The design of the garden on plan represents a stylized dogs collar, a perfectly circular green lawn with a reflective pond and water feature to provide both drinking water and white noise in this city space. A post rising out from the pond will have the capacity to attach the tags from the dogs that have passed. They are to be attached in such a way as to form a sculptural element both visually and aurally when the sun and wind catches them.

The green lawn is to be surrounded by a white compacted gravel path to provide contrast in the ground materials and to aid in visual navigation while also providing a small meandering walk around the garden. The circular and curved form of the garden helps to make the space clear and non-confusing while the materials and plant palette will work together to provide high colour contrast to distinguish one space from another.

As the park is in a city space the components for the lighting and any other services required will be designed in such a way as to be as vandal proof as possible and are to be hidden with the garden areas.

The garden is to be filled with plants of a sensory nature chosen for their lovely scents and the way the foliage sounds with the wind rushing through it or the rain falling on it. The plants will also be used to provide privacy and a sense of enclosure to the space and a space within which to scatter the ashes of the guide dogs.

Glass brick walls, a mix of both clear and coloured blocks are to wrap around the spaces to further enhance the feeling of enclosure while at the same time adding a visually beautiful element with the glittering delight of the glass when the sunlight catches it.

A beautiful sculptural seat has been placed in the part of the garden where the ashes will be scattered to allow for contemplation of memories and further interpretation of the garden.”
Support levels...

We are offering three levels of Garden sponsorship. Each level shows a tangible commitment to this project and ensures you receive both public recognition and benefits to your organisation.

Graduate Partner
Benefits:
• Your organisation acknowledged with logo and/or business name as a Graduate partner on Garden interpretation, and official documentation for the public launch
• Bring up to 5 staff to a specially hosted, exclusive visit and tour to meet new pups when they arrive in the Guide Dogs Tasmania ‘Puppy Play’ area.
• A 3-year corporate membership of the Guide Dogs Tasmania ‘Puppy Love’ program, including your company logo and recognition on the quarterly newsletter

Your commitment: $6,000+ plus GST

Training Partner
Benefits:
• Your organisation acknowledged with logo and/or business name as a Training partner on Garden interpretation, and official documentation for the public launch
• An invitation for up to 3 staff to attend a training session with Guide Dog pups-in-training; meet the instructor
• A 2-year corporate membership of the Guide Dogs Tasmania ‘Puppy Love’ program

Your commitment: $3,000 - $5,999 plus GST

Learner Partner
Benefits:
• Your organisation acknowledged with logo and/or business name as a Learner partner on Garden interpretation, and official documentation for the public launch
• Receive a 45 minute visit and information session from Guide Dog Ambassador Dexter and staff member
• A 1-year corporate membership of the Guide Dogs Tasmania ‘Puppy Love’ program

Your commitment: $1,000 - $2,999 plus GST
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<tr>
<th>Benefits overview...</th>
<th>Graduate Partner</th>
<th>Training Partner</th>
<th>Learner Partner</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Acknowledgement of partnership</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Garden Interpretation</td>
<td>YES</td>
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<td>Public launch</td>
<td>YES</td>
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<td>Puppy Love quarterly newsletters for 2 years</td>
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<td><strong>Money-can’t-buy experience</strong></td>
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<td>Meet new 8-week old pups AND take an exclusive tour of Guide Dogs Tasmania</td>
<td>YES</td>
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<td>Meet pups-in-training and chat to a Guide Dog instructor</td>
<td>YES</td>
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<td>Meet Guide Dog Ambassador, Dexter</td>
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<td><strong>Puppy Love Membership</strong></td>
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<td>2 year corporate membership</td>
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<td>1 year corporate membership</td>
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Thank you.

Please complete this page and return it by 30 June 2015 to

“Garden of Memories”
C/- Guide Dogs Tasmania
PO Box 82
North Hobart TAS 7002

Your Details:

ORGANISATION NAME: ________________________________

ORGANISATION POSTAL ADDRESS: ________________________________

Street/PO Box: ________________________________
Suburb: ________________________________
Postcode: ________________________________

ORGANISATION CONTACT:
Name: ________________________________
Position in organisation: ________________________________
Phone number: ________________________________
Email: ________________________________

Signature: ________________________________
Date: ________________________________

Your Support:

I am pleased to commit to the following support to the Guide Dogs Garden of Memories:

Graduate Partner ($6,000+ plus GST)
Amount: _______ plus GST

Training Partner ($3,000-$5,999 plus GST)
Amount: _______ plus GST

Learner Partner ($1,000-$2,999 plus GST)
Amount: _______ plus GST

Guide Dogs Tasmania will contact you with payment details and advice.

If you would like to discuss any elements of this project further, contact:
Kate Grady
0418 126 634 / kate@guidedogstas.com.au

Note: We reserve the right to decline any sponsorship application on the grounds of organisational alignment.