Honor a loved one or commemorate a special date with a tribute bench, tree or space located in one of our display gardens, along a trail, or in scenic natural areas at Matthaei Botanical Gardens or Nichols Arboretum. Tribute gifts offer unique and lasting ways to recognize family, friends, and events that have touched our lives while also supporting Matthaei-Nichols. Single or collective donations can be used for any tribute and all donations are tax-deductible. All donors will receive an acknowledgment from the University of Michigan and Matthaei-Nichols, along with a notification sent to the honorees, if desired. All tributes will be available to view on our Tribute Tracker database in perpetuity.

Name a Bench at Matthaei Botanical Gardens - $5,000
Name a Bench at Nichols Arboretum - $7,500

Benches allow visitors to rest and enjoy scenic views at Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum. Each bench is American-made from sustainably-harvested teak and securely mounted to a concrete base. Tribute bench locations are pre-determined to fit our long-term landscape design. Your tribute bench gift not only provides an additional seat for visitors, but also supports the care and maintenance of our gardens, natural areas, and plant collections.

Each tribute bench gift includes:

- An anodized alumni tree plaque identifying the tree name of the person(s) honored.
- Mounted concrete bench base (for most benches, trail benches are mounted differently)
- Bench maintenance for a period of 10 years effectively beginning on the day of memorialization, including bench replacement if deemed necessary. Matthaei-Nichols will review the bench condition after the 10 year term and will contact the original bench representative to discuss options for renewing the bench gift at the donation price at the end of the tribute period.
- A digital archive of the bench available for public view on the Matthaei-Nichols ‘Tribute Tracker.’ The archive record will include an accompanying photo of the bench and plaque and a map of the bench location.
- Recognition on our Donor Honor Roll published each year in the Annual Report.
- If collecting gifts for a tribute, weekly updates regarding the running total of the fund and names of contributing donors will be sent to the tribute representative.
- Acknowledgment letters will be sent to all donors on behalf of Matthaei-Nichols.
- All donations are tax-deductible and will receive a donation receipt from the University of Michigan.

UPDATED: 2/2018
Available Tribute Benches at Nichols Arboretum

Nichols Drive Entrance
Gateway Garden
James D. Reader Center
1610 Washington Hts.
Nichols Drive
Nichols Drive Entrance
Centennial Shrubs
Forest Hill Cemetery
Magnolia Glen
Heathdale
Oak Openings
Peony Garden
Wetland Boardwalk
Main Valley
Oak Glen
Peony Garden
Geddes Entrance
Geddes Road
Washington Hts.
Huron River
Amphitheater
Prairie
Nichols Drive
Geddes Road
Magnolia Glen
Hawthorn Valley
Gateway Garden
Nichols Drive Entrance
Nichols Drive
Washington Hts.
East Medical Center Dr.
Washington Hts.
East Medical Center Dr.
U-M Hospitals

Availible Bench Locations

UPDATED: 8/2018

MATTHAEI BOTANICAL GARDENS AND NICHOLS ARBORETUM
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Priority Tribute Benches at Matthaei

Trails
- Sue Reichert Discovery  .4 mi / 10 min
- Sam Graham Trees  .8 mi / 20 min
- Marilyn Bland Prairie  .6 mi / 15 min
- Fleming Creek  .5 mi / 12 min
- Dix Pond  .9 mi / 22 min

Available Trail Bench Locations
1. Fleming Creek Trail Bridge / Intersection
2. East Bank Fleming Creek Overlook
3. Oak Knoll on Fleming Creek
4. Sam Graham Trees Trail
5. Woodland Wildflower Garden
6. Oak and Prairie
7. Oak Openings
8. Great Lakes Garden
9. Bonsai and Penjing Garden
10. Gaffield Children’s Garden
11. Entrance Garden
12. Garden Terrace
13. Gingko Grove Picnic Tables
14. Campus Farm Food Forest

MATTHAEI BOTANICAL GARDENS AND NICHOLS ARBORETUM
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

UPDATED: 2/2018