

To Whom It May Concern,

Gardenship is an artist-run collider space that fosters an ecosystem of creative discourse, exchange, discovery, equity, skill, and support. We are a large industrial artist & artisan space with over 20 studios and an extensive range of fabrication facilities. We host creators that compliment and synthesize amongst each other, creating a community of support in our creative network. Gardenship also hosts a unique series of programs from iron pours to drive-in movies. We engage the local communities to originate and host their own events highlighting the diverse artistry we are in the nexus of. All of this has positioned us a lightning rod of innovation and creation, uplifting the creative practices of a wide range of creators in New Jersey and beyond.

Gardenship's founder, Joshua Knoblick, was one of hundreds of thousands of NJ school children who shared the common experience of learning at NJSOC as a fifth grader. As an organization, Gardenship's mission can complement and support NJSOC in providing experiences for yet another segment of NJ's diverse population and connect full circle with Gardenship's founder and NJSOC's mission. Gardenship's focus on the physical arts and humanities is additionally a curricular area emphasized by NJSOC's education program. We believe the arts can be visually infused throughout the campus, as wel as into events and activities.

We are very excited to support the New Jersey School of Conservation in activating programming at Stokes State Forest. Engaging the community of nature enthusiasts near and around the forest is deeply tied to our mission of expanding arts to broader communities and making the creative process highly accessible. We look forward to interfacing with their curricular population and finding new and inventive ways to use creativity in problem solving climate change and promoting conservation.

Gardenship expresses full support for the Friends of the New Jersey School of Conservation as the best choice to manage NJSOC, so that its promise as an environmental field center for all residents of NJ could finally be realized.

Best,

Joshua Knoblick Board Chair, Gardenship