

Executive Director Search
The McLaughlin Foundation Garden and Horticultural Center
South Paris, Maine
www.mclaughlingarden.org

The McLaughlin Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving one of Maine's renowned historic landscapes, is seeking a full-time Executive Director. The Foundation welcomes over 12,000 individuals to the garden each year.

In 1936 Bernard McLaughlin began planting what has become one of inland Maine's most beloved perennial gardens. A century-old Maine farmstead with massive stone walls and huge barn provided a unique background for his sophisticated collections of trees, woody shrubs and perennials. Bernard welcomed visitors to the garden whenever the gate was open, creating a true mecca for garden enthusiasts, a sanctuary along an otherwise commercial main street. With no formal horticultural training, tending the garden single-handedly for most of his life, he eventually became known as the "Dean of Maine gardeners." Bernard McLaughlin died at age 98 in 1995. Now over sixty years old, the landmark two-acre garden is under the stewardship of a nonprofit organization formed to preserve the historic home, barn and garden for the public. The garden gate continues to be open throughout the season.

The mission of The McLaughlin Foundation is to rehabilitate and sustain the 20th Century garden created by Bernard McLaughlin, maintain the garden's integrity, preserve the 19th century home and barn, and host an educational center where horticulture and historic preservation are nurtured for the local community as well as visitors from other areas.

The ideal Executive Director candidate will be a proven leader with a successful track record in the areas of fund raising, Board and staff development and strategic as well as operational planning. This individual must have a demonstrated ability to provide overall leadership in a wide range of areas including community outreach and media relations, membership development, property management and educational program development.

The Executive Director oversees the educational programs, gift shop and summer café and also manages the building and grounds and collaborates with the horticultural director who manages the garden. The Foundation has an annual operating budget of \$220,000. Paid staff are supplemented by volunteers who are involved in every aspect of the organization's activities. Please visit <http://www.mclaughlingarden.org> for more information about the McLaughlin Garden and its mission.

Salary is based on experience and qualifications. Benefits include health insurance, vacation time and sick leave.

To be considered for this position, please send your cover letter and resume to: McLaughlinGardenSearch@gmail.com. Submissions should be received no later than December 15, 2010.

An Equal Opportunity Employer