

EVITT

Dear Sean,

I would love to inform you in this letter about who we are and what our group's focus is based on! Our group consists of Evitt Nashed, Troy Shaffer, Kadynce Sanders, and Kasey Tipton as the team members. The idea we are focused on is the lack of indigenous knowledge, especially in the gardens. We think that indigenous knowledge is a main priority in the gardens considering the fact many of those plants were tended to by the indigenous people.

The product we would like to produce is a self-guided QR Code for an Indigenous Plant tour. This QR Code could lead to a little scavenger hunt around the gardens, informing them specifically from an Indigenous perspective. We also think this could help people fully experience the wonders of the garden. Some people tend to not explore the whole garden so we aim that the QR code will engage them to tour the whole garden.

KADYNCE

Resources needed in order for this idea to come to life include the following: Staff from the Implementation team to help us formulate how to make our words compelling to every age. This task is difficult considering words that most would understand might be slightly harder for younger age groups. Language is something that is difficult to make accessible to large age ranges, which is our goal. Ashley from the herbarium can help us identify which plants specifically we are going to use for our self-guided tour. One thought was to focus on plants indigenous to Missouri, but after further thought, there may be more options if we expanded to the Midwest. Ashley as well as the volunteers from our herbarium tour would be very helpful with us choosing plants that would effectively work for this tour (that includes Indigenous medicinal uses, ritualistic uses, communal uses) (what communities use the plants, and if there are multiple tribes that use the same plant, what those differences are). We also need assistance from the Garden Docents to help with the limits and ethical reasonings with what we either do or do not include in the self-guided tour.

On behalf of the work that our group provides, we need to have all information ready and presentable for the Garden partners. Our idea needs to be conformed and concise enough that it can be shared in a convincing way. Each member is planning on working together and coming up with the ideas we all want. As of where we are right now on our idea, we are combining two of our original ideas, this came from collaboration and effective communication within our group. After we present our idea to MOBOT, they can tell us what exactly they need from us. Whether we need to work on the QR aspect, or if they want us to work on the auditory aspect of the tour. Most of our work will be done hand in hand with the Garden, as they are the implementors of our idea.

KASEY

With our new idea that we want to be implemented into the garden, our hope is to appeal to people of all ages. The QR Code aspect can appeal to younger generations. Including a scavenger hunt aspect can be interesting and engaging to younger audiences because it is a relatively unique concept. We would like to make this a unique experience for the individuals who choose to do our self-guided QR code digital scavenger hunt. Additionally, we want to have educational aspects that can appeal to children in school. Overall, we would like for our idea to appeal to people of all ages in order to spread Indigenous Knowledge throughout the garden.

TROY

With all of this being said, we want to make sure we do this correctly and ethically. We want to make sure the Scavenger Hunt/Tour is easy to access for everyone. We also want to give credit where it is due and recognize everyone who has helped us along our journey. It is also important to us that all of the facts and indigenous knowledge we use for our tour is 100% accurate and has no biases.

To make our scavenger hunt happen, we will obviously need some help from MOBOT. We will need some assistance from the implementation team to help us with more of the technical aspects of the tour, as well as making sure everything is appealing to our audience. The herbarium staff will also be needed to help us find and choose different plants for our tour, that are indigenous to the area. We are very excited to work with the garden staff and make our ideas happen.

Thank you,
Evitt, Kasey, Kadynce, and Troy

Reintroduce group and include our group's focus (EVITT)

Articulate new output (idea details?) (EVITT)

What are the resources we need (who, data, time) KADYNCE

Describe what the work involves, and who will do it (codes and garden) (paragraph)
KADYNCE

What audience would we want in particular (be specific) KASEY

What are some ethical considerations that must remain in mind (TROY)

Accessibility

Benefits to all

Voice of community

Giving credit and citing

Control and ownership

Privacy

Representation

Respect

Research rigor

How can the Garden help? (TROY)