



## THE ANNENBERG RETREAT AT SUNNYLANDS

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### **Sunnylands Center & Gardens attains LEED Gold Certification**

Rancho Mirage CA – Sunnylands Center & Gardens has achieved LEED Gold certification for environmental sustainability from the United States Green Building Council. LEED, an acronym for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is an internationally recognized green building certification system that looks at several factors, including measurable green building design, construction, operations, and maintenance solutions. The Gold rating is the second highest, based on credits earned in five categories: sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, and indoor environment.

Designed by Frederick Fisher & Partners, the Center utilizes cutting-edge green technology to efficiently manage the site's water and power consumption. An on-site solar field contains 863 collector panels which provide power to the Center & Garden. An advanced geothermal system provides climate control at the Center. This system uses the earth's thermal storage capacity to regulate the building's temperatures. During winter, the higher temperatures bring heat into the building and, in summer, heat from the building is transferred into the ground.

The Center's Gardens are comprised of arid-landscape plantings which are both beautiful and water-efficient. The Great Lawn, which provides a lush space for outdoor events, utilizes an advanced irrigation system that delivers water directly to the roots of a plant, reducing evaporation. Other plants in the Gardens use traditional drip irrigation. Gray-water pipes have been installed in anticipation of a future city gray-water program.

*Green Vision Statement: Environmental responsibility is a core value of The Annenberg Foundation Trust at Sunnylands. Embracing creative and innovative solutions is central to the Sunnylands culture. We strive to be a leader in implementing sustainable practices to meet our current needs without compromising the environment for future generations. Sharing our environmental experiences with the public broadens the impact of our actions.*

The Annenberg Foundation Trust at Sunnylands, which operates The Annenberg Retreat at Sunnylands, is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit operating entity established by the Annenberg Foundation to hold

high level retreats addressing serious issues facing the nation and the world and to educate the public on the historical significance of Sunnylands. More information, including ticket purchase, may be found online at [www.sunnylands.org](http://www.sunnylands.org). ####