



While living in Silicon Hills, where the ‘hustle’ never stops, it can be difficult to find the time and space to take a pause and enjoy the natural beauties that grow amongst us. As these beauties diminish in high-density areas due to industrialization, sustaining our connection with nature around us becomes increasingly vital.

The Gear Garden is a sanctuary stemming from this difficulty. It has been built with the aspiration of reconnecting the student body to the natural world, which becomes more imperative due to the increased stress of college campuses. The great outdoors has proven itself as a tried and true remedy for these everyday hindrances.

The Great Gear Fountain offers calming, resonating tones, complemented by the combination of flowing waters and stunning visuals, to create an atmosphere of refreshment and meditation. Located centrally in the garden, the Gazebo acts as an intermixed between relaxation and entertainment, as a flexible ground for a wide range of events in addition to its everyday features.

The Gear Garden stands as the reestablished connection between the campus and nature, available to all who seek to bask in the rejuvenation it offers.

Team Member	Major/Minor/Concentration	Role/ Contribution to project
Participant 1	Theatre & Dance/Business	Team Leader, Story, Concept Art, Layout, Guest Experience and Design Research
Participant 2	Mechanical Engineering	SolidWorks 3D Model Design, Research, Art
Participant 3	Mechanical Engineering/Design Strategies	Feasibility Research, Preliminary Layout, Logo Design
Participant 4	Honors Computational Engineering/Mathematics	SolidWorks 3D Model Design, Research and Technology, Art, Slide Format

In the bustling city of Austin, Texas, where technological advancement thrives, residents have become further removed from the serenity of the soil. Buildings got higher, pavement was expanded, and the balance between nature and innovation grew weaker.

From projects left abandoned, gears could be found in every corner and crevice, both big and small. As time passed, one plot merely used as a passing point for college students began to transform into what is now called the Gear Garden.

As the grassy land highlighted the shape of the gears, the residents found beauty in its technical yet earthy design and vowed to amplify their vision by creating a space that balanced the innovation of humanity with the everyday simplicity and joy of nature.

User/ Guest Experience

The Gear Garden is a tranquil sanctuary for individuals to escape from the chaos of everyday trials and tribulations. Students and guests navigate the lush landscape and witness the various stress-relieving stables across the lawn.

Their first destination, a refreshing and rejuvenating installation known as The Great Gear Fountain. As guests relax and take a short rest on a bench nearby, they are immersed in the calming sounds of chimes fabricated by copper bowls floating amidst the water. Their views then pivot to the seven distinct statues symbolizing the unity and inclusion of each engineering department with the university.

Taking a step forward, guest's attention are drawn to the two-story tall gazebo providing a shaded area for students to study and play games, increasing positive interaction within the student body. The choice is yours; do you take retreat below to relax within the shade or travel upwards to witness a different point of view on the roof of the gazebo?

The Gear Garden encourages guests to take a break and delve deeper into a mindset of relaxation.

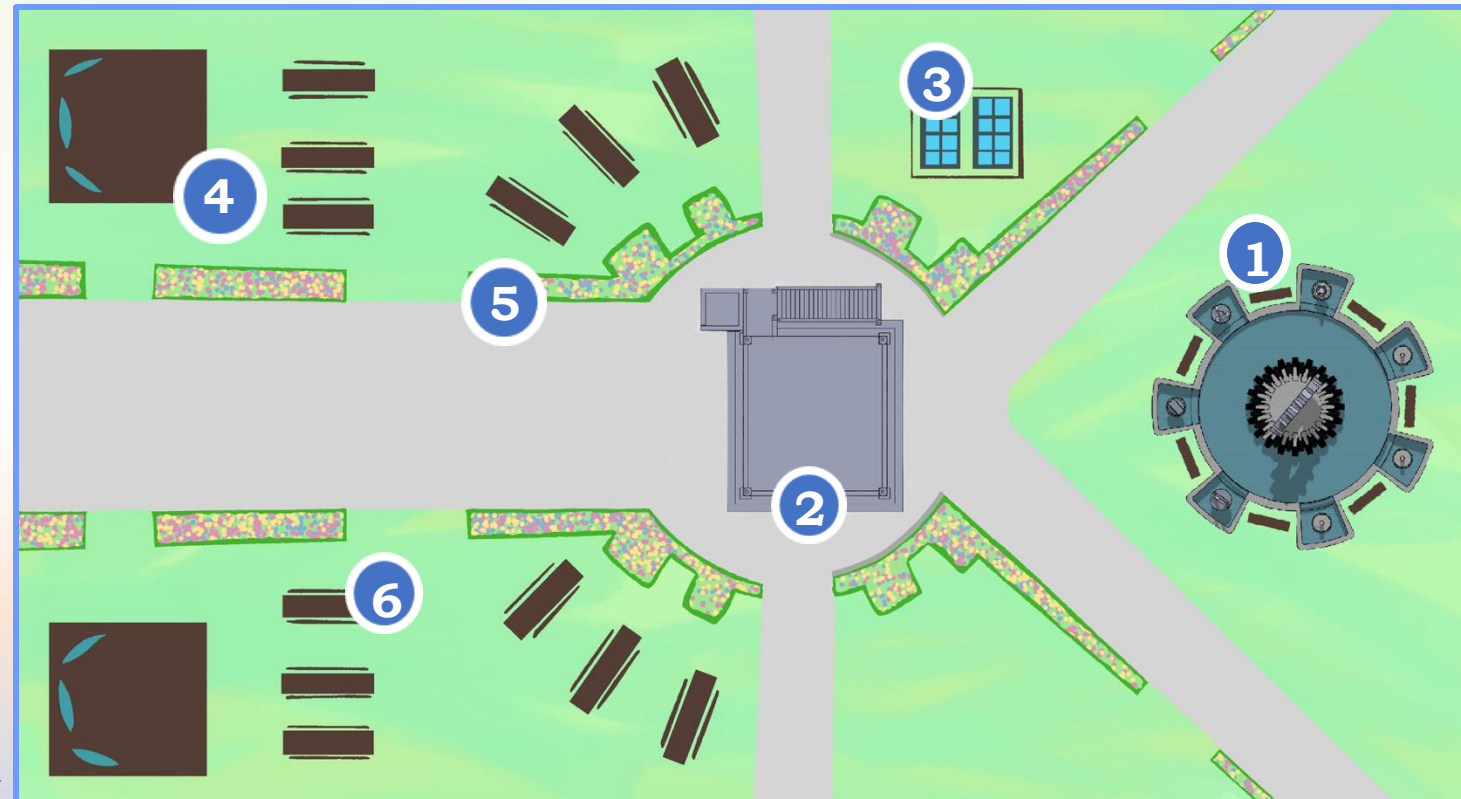


Welcome students, parents, staff, locals, and guests to **Gear Garden**, also known as **fun** and **relaxation central!** Get some shut eye on our **hammocks** or snag your spot for an upcoming pop-up concert in our **gazebo!** Whether you're here with us five days a week or once in a lifetime, we have something to **ease your soul** and **bring a smile to your face!**

Layout

1. **Gear Fountain**
2. **Gazebo**
3. **Solar Panel**
4. **Hammocks on elevated wooden platform**
5. **Flower Bed**
6. **Picnic Tables**

Campus Layout



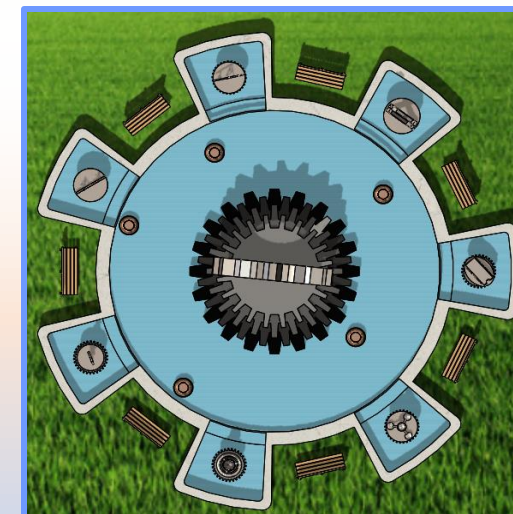
Night View

Day View




The Great Gear Fountain

1. **(Stability) Native Limestone Basin:** *Grounds the fountain*, integrating it with nearby *historic architecture*
2. **(Rhythm) Central Gear:** *Rotates slowly/meditatively* offering a *visual focal point*
3. **(Ambience) Copper Bowls:** Creates *soft, resonant tones* and *aids concentration/mental reset*
4. **(Encompass) 7 Dept. Statues:** Unique *Marine-Grade Steel figures* in each section, *honoring the 7 Engineering Departments* of the university
5. **(Relax) Integrated Seating:** *Ample perimeter benches* designed to *foster community, reflection, and study*

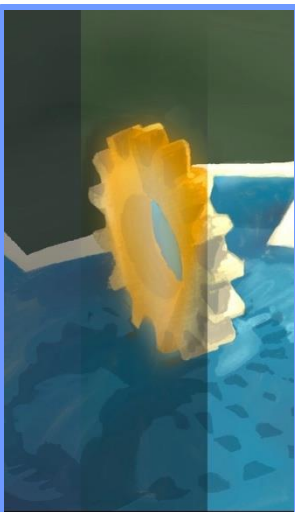


Top View:
Showcases
symmetrical design & *7 distinct sections*



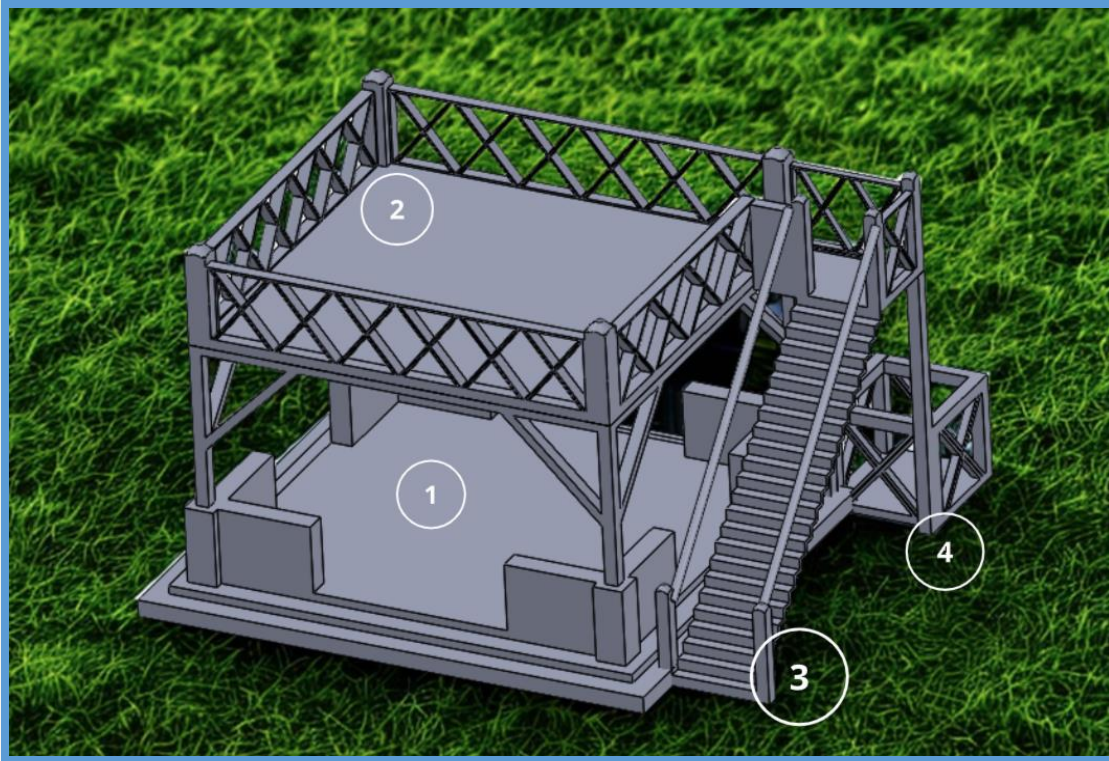
Cooling Oasis: Moving water creates a substantial *cooling microclimate* relief from Texas Heat

Enduring Materials: Gears / Statues utilize *Marine-Grade Steel* for maximum resilience and longevity



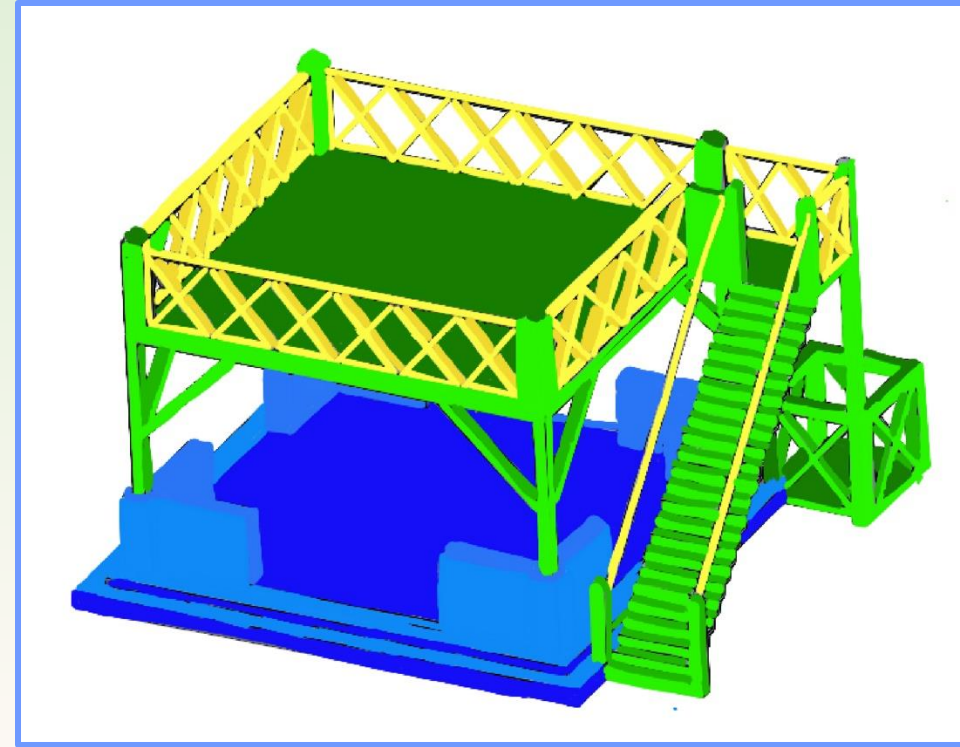
PLC Reliability: Remote Programmable Logic Controller manages all flow and lighting for *usability and consistency*

Night Lights: Shifts to gentle, slow-fade *LED lighting transitions*, enhancing the space as a tranquil retreat



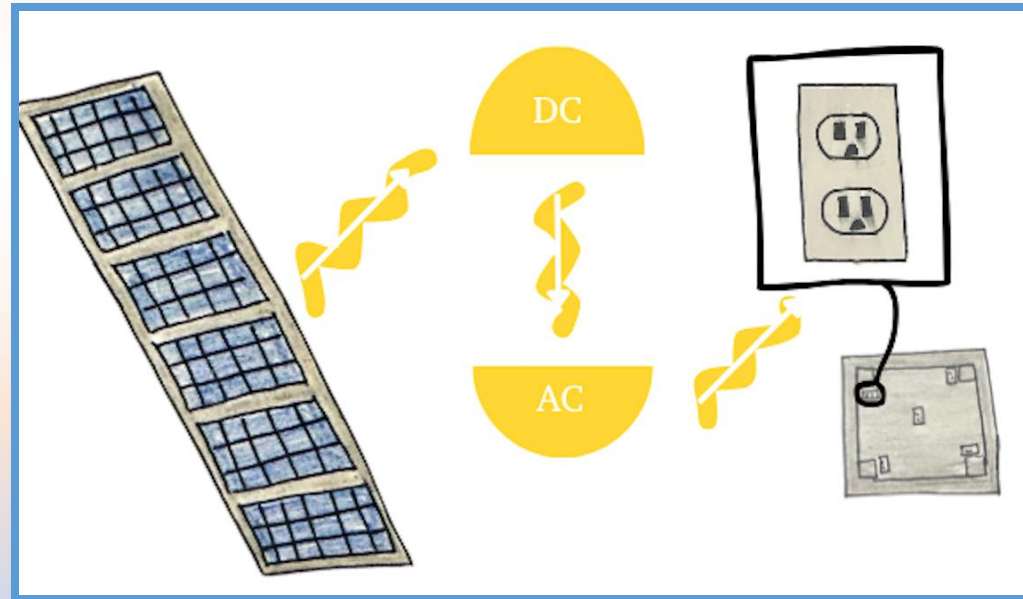
Material Selection:

- Blue** – Limestone for cooling space.
- Green** – Steel for support
- Yellow** – Aluminum for light weight material and rust resistant



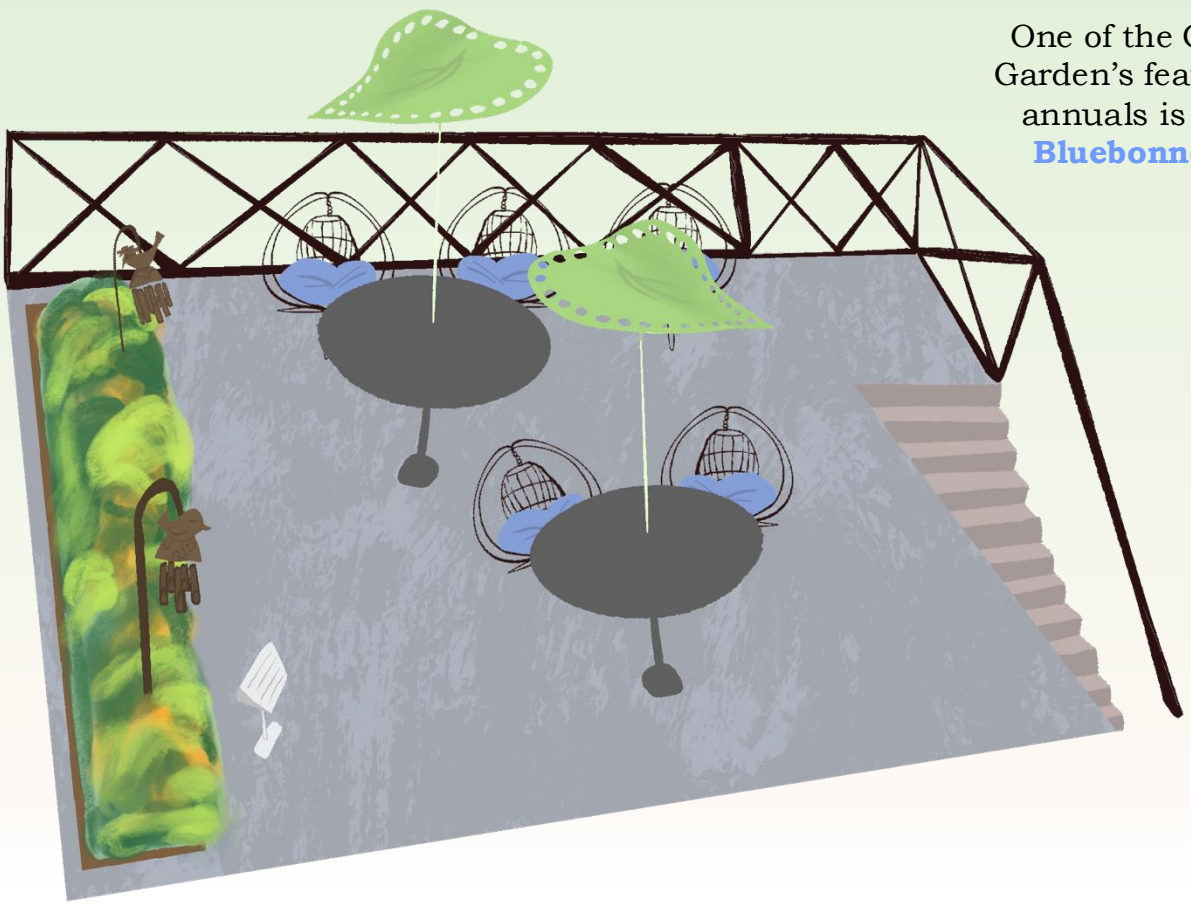
Gazebo

- 1. Ground Floor of Gazebo:**
 - *Large, open* space for student use and events
- 2. Roof of Gazebo:**
 - *Elevate relaxation* by experiencing campus from a different view
- 3. Stairway**
- 4. Elevator Lift:**
 - Allows a *welcome* space for all students

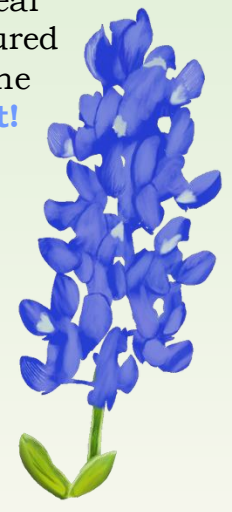


Solar Panel

energy gets transferred from **DC** to **AC** current to **power outlets** for student and event use



One of the Gear Garden's featured annuals is the **Bluebonnet!**



You can find **custom copper bird wind chimes** encompassing the entire Gear Garden, hidden amongst shrubs and flowers, and hanging out with students as they take a restful power nap on a hammock featuring **different bird friend's native to the area!** The windchimes respond to the breeze that passes by, providing comforting **natural auditory stimuli.** **This bird is a sparrow!**



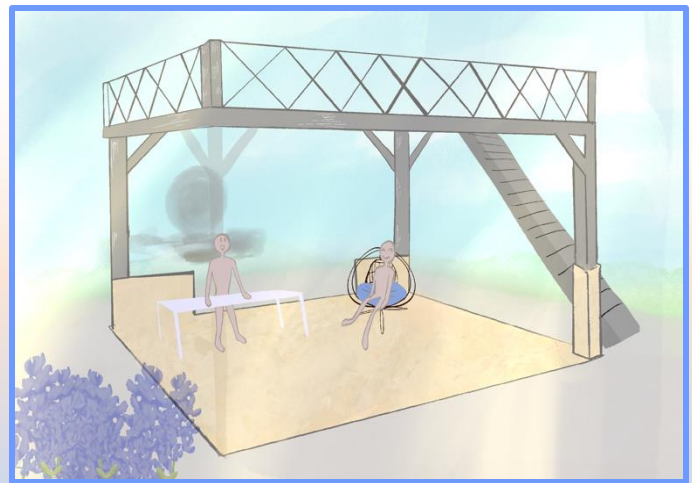
On the Gear Garden's **wooden platforms**, guests can find **classic hammocks** to sunbathe on!



How many total wooden birds could a guest find across the Gear Garden?

The Gazebo's 2nd floor features a **stellar view** of the rest of the Gear Garden, where guests can catch details such as the **flowerbed gear** surrounding the gazebo, featuring all sorts of **shrubs, perennials, and annuals** maintained by **Landscaping Services!**

Within the 2nd floor, guests can lounge on a **hammock-style chair** under the shade of an **aluminum leaf** while admiring flowers installed as a part of **educational programming** for the campus **Biodiversity Center**. Flowers will be in **constant rotation** to match the **time of the year** they will be in bloom.



The Gear Gardens **Gazebo 1st Floor** is a space designed to be in **constant change**, with its standard layout featuring **lounge chairs** so students can sit in the shade while **recharging themselves**, and their devices!

When not in its standard layout, the Gazebo can **host student engagement events** such as **pop-up petting zoos** in partnership with local businesses, **pop up live music** thanks to a city bustling with it, and **tailgates** for Saturday Night Football!