



The American Friends of Versailles

Contribution Form

___ I/We want to take part in the historic Restoration of the Queen's Grove!

Adopt a Virginia Tulip Tree for 1500 Euros!

By supporting Versailles, we choose to maintain a history of civilized cultures who believe that beauty, artistry, and friendship have an absolute value and place in the world. Versailles is an opus that transcends vocabulary and perhaps even the imagination of its creators. It exists as an unparalleled and final statement that is likely never to be repeated.

The Queen's Grove (Le Bosquet de la Reine), with its prominent location at Versailles, replaced the famous Labyrinth Grove originally created in 1665-1666 and enhanced in 1677 with thirty-nine, painted lead fountains featuring enchanting animals from Aesop's fables. This incredible maze wonder was torn down during the replanting of the Palace gardens in 1775-1776 and changed to the current grove, initially called the Grove of Venus and then the Queen's Grove, reserved for Marie-Antoinette.

The new garden paths, simple but elegant, were designed to showcase, in the grove's center, her favorite tree, which she also had planted in her gardens at Trianon, the fragrant Virginia tulip tree (Liriodendron tulipifera). It's native to the southern and eastern regions of the United States. Introduced into France at the beginning of the 18th century, this majestic tree can live for up to 500 years. Today's sculptural decoration was added in the late nineteenth century.

***Please join the American Friends of Versailles in helping to restore the graceful Queen's Grove to its former beauty for millions of present- day visitors to enjoy, as well as for many generations to come. Donations of any size are greatly appreciated. Thank you.**

For gifts of 500,000 euros or more, your name will be listed on the permanent, stone benefactor's plaque inside Versailles. **The Board of Directors, International Council and Catharine Hamilton, President and Founder, of the American Friends of Versailles are forever grateful for your support.**

___ 1,500 Euros to Adopt a Virginia Tulip Tree

For donations made in U.S. dollars towards the restoration of the Queen's Grove:

___ \$25,000 and above ___ \$10,000 ___ \$5,000 ___ \$1,000 ___ \$500 ___ \$250 ___ \$ Other

Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

Checks may be made payable to:

The American Friends of Versailles 1400 North Lake Shore Drive, Suite 8E Chicago, IL 60610
312-943-0173 Telephone info@americanfriendsofversailles.org

Or Please charge my Visa or Mastercard for gifts over \$250

Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Name as it appears on card _____ Amount _____

The American Friends of Versailles is a 501(c)3 charitable organization and its Employer Identification Number is 36-4237214