

TRUST AGREEMENT
Of
Tree Research & Education Endowment Fund

Original Agreement Date: August 7, 1976

Amendment Dates:

August 15, 1978
August 13, 1979
August 11, 1980
December 7, 1987
January 14, 1991
August 9, 1991
January 11, 1992
March 27, 1993
May 20, 1994
July 30, 2002
November 12, 2006
November 18, 2007
April 20, 2008
July 24, 2010
December 14, 2010
December 13, 2011



The International Society of Arboriculture Research Trust Declaration of Trust
made as of the 7th day of August, 1976 by the following named officers and
representatives of the International Society of Arboriculture (hereinafter called ISA):
Jack R. Rogers, President; Hyland R. Johns, Jr., President-Elect; Yvon Fournier, Vice

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President; E.B. Himelick, Executive Director; and John Z. Duling, Immediate Past President, who hereby declare and agree that they have received this day from the Research Fund of the ISA, as Donor, the sum of Ten Dollars (\$10) and that they will hold and manage the same, and any additions to it, in trust, as follows:

Pursuant to an agreement dated February 5, 2001 by and between the International Society of Arboriculture Research Trust (hereinafter called ISA RT) and the National Arborist Foundation, Inc. (hereinafter called NAF) a single entity is to be formed following dissolution of NAF in accordance with the laws of the State of New York. (Note: This was amended July 30, 2002.)

ARTICLE I

This organization shall be called the "Tree Research & Education Endowment Fund, TREE Fund. (Note: This was amended July 30, 2002.)

ARTICLE II

The Trustees may receive and accept property, whether real, personal or mixed, by way of gift, bequest, or devise, from any person, firm, trust or corporation, to be held, administered, and disposed of in accordance with and pursuant to the provisions of this Declaration of Trust; but no gift, bequest, or devise of any such property shall be received and accepted if it is conditioned or limited in such manner as to require the disposition of the income or its principal to any person or organization other than a "charitable organization" or for other than "charitable purposes" within the meaning of such terms as defined in Article III of this Declaration of Trust, or as shall in the opinion of the Trustees, jeopardize the Federal income tax exemption of the Trust pursuant to Section 501©(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as now in force or afterwards amended.

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In accordance with this Article II, the Trust will accept funds from the NAF, including the Robert Felix Memorial Fund, and will designate a budgetary line for the appropriate accounting and administration of the fund. It will be accepted as an endowment from which only investment earnings will be used to fund projects, scholarships and other appropriate educational endeavors. (Note: This was amended July 30, 2002.)

ARTICLE III

The purposes of this Trust are to devote and apply the property vested by this instrument in the Trustees and any income to be derived there from exclusively to those purposes or for the use of such organizations described below:

- A. The principal and income of all property received and accepted by the Trustees to be administered under this Declaration of Trust shall be held in trust by them and used to further such charitable, scientific and educational purposes and pursuits such as:
Acquisition of "State of the Art" knowledge in the field of arboriculture that will benefit students and professionals in the field of arboriculture as are within the meaning of Section 170(c)(2) and Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law). (Note: This was amended July 30, 2002.)
- B. The Trustees may make payments, distributions or loans from income or principal, or both, to or for the use of such charitable, scientific or educational organizations or directly for such charitable, scientific or educational purposes, and in such amounts as the Trustees shall from time to time select and determine, limited to and including only charitable, scientific and educational purposes and organizations as defined in the above,

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Paragraph A which come within the meaning of those terms used in Section 501(c)(3) and Section 170(c)(2)(B) and (C) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law). (NOTE: This was amended August 11, 1980.)

- C. The Trustees may also make payments, distributions or loans of the income or principal, or both, to the States, Territories or possessions of the United States, any political subdivision of any of the foregoing, or to the United States or the District of Columbia but only for the charitable, scientific and educational purposes as defined above in Paragraph A.
- D. The Trustees may, at the direction of a donor, designate portions of the principal donated by such donor, of which the income only, during a period of time not to exceed fifteen years, is to be used for such charitable, scientific or educational organizations and purposes as are defined in the above Paragraph A.
- E. The making of grants and contributions and otherwise rendering financial assistance for the purposes expressed in the above Paragraph A shall be within the exclusive powers of the Trustees. Requests for such funds may be presented by the Chairs of the Research and the Scholarship and Education Committees or other designated committees, to the Trustees. The Trustees shall review all requests for funds and shall require that such requests specify the use to which the funds will be put, and if the Trustees approve the request, they shall authorize payment to the approved grantee. The Trustees shall require that the grantee furnish a periodic accounting to show that the funds were expended for the purposes which were approved by the Trustees. The Trustees shall review the accounting. (This was amended 8/13/79; 8/9/91; 7/30/02).

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- F. In this Declaration of Trust and in any amendments to it, references to “charitable organizations” or “charitable organization” means corporations, trusts, foundations, or community chests organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes, no part of the net earnings of which inures or is payable to or for the benefit of any private shareholder or individual, and no substantial part of the activities of which is carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation, and which do not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of an candidate for public office. It is intended that the organizations described in this paragraph shall be entitled to exemption from Federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law). (NOTE: This was amended August 11, 1980.)
- G. In this Declaration of Trust and in any amendments to it, the term “charitable purposes” shall be limited to and shall include only charitable, scientific or educational purposes within the meaning of the terms as used in Section 501(c)(3) and 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 but only such purposes as also constitute public charitable purposes under all applicable laws of the State of Illinois.

ARTICLE IV

No part of the earnings of this trust shall inure or be payable to or for the benefit of any private shareholder or individual, except as provided by Article VII, Article VIII, Paragraph F, and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article III hereof; and no substantial part of the activities of this trust shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation. No part of

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the activities of this trust shall be the participation in, or intervention in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

ARTICLE V

The Trust shall continue forever unless the Trustees terminate it and distribute all of the principal and income, which action may be taken by the Trustees in their discretion at any time. On such termination, the Trustees, after making provision for the payment of all liabilities of the Trust, shall dispose of all the assets of the Trust Fund as then constituted, exclusively for charitable purposes similar to those of the fund itself or to such charitable organization or organizations, as the Trustees shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such charitable purposes as shall at the time (a) qualify as exempt under Section (501)(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Revenue Law) and (b) contributions to which are deductible under Section (170)(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law). The donor authorizes and empowers the Trustees to form and organize a non-profit corporation limited to the uses and purposes provided for in this Declaration of Trust, such corporation to be organized under the laws of any state or under the laws of the United States as may be determined by the Trustees, such corporation when organized to have power to administer and control the affairs and property and to carry out the uses, objects, and purposes of the trust. Upon the creation and organization of such corporation, the Trustees are authorized and empowered to convey, transfer and deliver to such corporation all the property and assets to which this trust may be or become entitled.

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This charter, bylaws, and other provisions for the organization and management of such corporation and its affairs and property shall be such as the Trustees shall determine, consistent with the provision of this paragraph. However funds designated as the Robert Felix Memorial Fund must be distributed to a charitable or educational organization consistent with a recommendation by the National Arborist Association, Inc. (hereinafter called NAA) or its successor in interest, if any such successor exists, and, if not, then as otherwise provided for in this agreement. (Note: This was amended July 30, 2002.)

ARTICLE VI

This Declaration of Trust may be amended at any time or times by written instrument or instruments signed and sealed by the Trustees, and acknowledged by any of the Trustees, provided that no amendment shall authorize the Trustees to conduct the affairs of this trust in any manner or for any purposes contrary to the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 as now in force or afterwards amended. An amendment (s) of the provisions of this Article VI (or any amendment to it) shall be valid only if and to the extent that such amendment further restricts the Trustees' amending power. All instruments amending this Declaration of Trust shall be noted upon or kept attached to the executed original of this Declaration of Trust held by the Trustees.

ARTICLE VII

- A. The Trustees under this Declaration of Trust shall be Chairman of the TREE Fund Chapter liaison committee and eleven (11) to fourteen (14) other members. Trustees' terms will be for three (3) years. Terms will begin January 1. Potential Trustee names shall be submitted to the TREE Fund Governance Committee. Trustee nominations shall

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be voted upon by Board of Trustees. The Governance Committee will be appointed by the Executive Committee on an annual basis. An appointed trustee can succeed him/herself as a trustee. Trustees are limited to two full consecutive three (3) year terms, except under special conditions as approved by the Board of Trustees. Trustees shall serve until their successors have been appointed and have duly accepted the office. Any Trustee under this Declaration of Trust may, by written instrument, signed, acknowledged and delivered to each other Trustee, resign his/her office effective upon completion of such delivery. The number of Trustees shall at all times be not less than eleven (11) and whenever for any reason the number is reduced to ten (10), there shall be, and at any other time there may be, appointed one or more additional Trustees. A resignation shall not be effective if it would reduce the number of Trustees to less than eleven (11). An appointment to fill an unexpired term shall be recommended by the TREE Fund Governance Committee and approved by a majority vote of the Board of Trustees. Any succeeding or additional Trustee shall, upon his/her acceptance of the office by written instrument signed, acknowledged, and delivered have the same powers, rights, and duties, and the same title to the trust estate jointly with the surviving or remaining Trustee or Trustees as if originally appointed. The TREE Fund Office shall maintain a complete and current record of all past and present Trustees, including all documentation of acceptances, appointments and resignations.

- B. None of the Trustees shall be required to furnish any bond or surety. None of them shall be responsible or liable for the acts or omissions of any other of the Trustees or of any predecessor or of a custodian, agent, depository or counsel selected with reasonable care.

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- C. The one or more Trustees, whether original or successor, for the time being in office, shall have full authority to act even though one or more vacancies may exist. A Trustee may, by appropriate written instrument, delivered to each of the other Trustees, delegate all or any part of his powers to another or others of the Trustees for such periods and subject to such conditions as such delegating Trustee may determine.
- D. The Trustees serving under this Declaration of Trust are authorized to pay to themselves amounts for reasonable expenses incurred and reasonable compensation for services rendered in the administration of this trust, if deemed necessary due to extenuating circumstances and approved by a majority vote of the Board of Trustees.
- E. The Trustees shall take office January 1. The Trustees shall select a Chairman, Chairman- Elect, Vice Chairman and Secretary-Treasurer to serve for two (2) years. The Executive Committee will include the Chairman, Chairman- Elect, Vice Chairman, Secretary-Treasurer, The Trustees shall meet at least two (2) times each year. A majority of Trustees shall constitute a quorum. Action may be taken by a majority vote of those Trustees constituting the quorum. Action may also be taken by mail ballot; e-mail ballot; or a quorum gathered by conference call, by a majority vote of all the Trustees. The Trustees shall be required to keep minutes of their meetings and any actions taken by mail ballot and e-mail ballot.
- F. The following standing committees will be established; Governance; Research and, Education, Finance, Audit, Development and Communications and ISA Chapter Liaisons. Committees must be chaired by a trustee appointed by the Board of Trustees., (Note: This was amended July 30, 2002.)

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- G. The TREE Fund shall appoint a President/CEO who will report to the Executive Committee. (Note: This was amended July 30, 2002.)

ARTICLE VIII

In extension and not in limitation of the common law and statutory powers of Trustees and other powers granted in this Declaration of Trust, the Trustees shall have the following discretionary powers:

- A. To invest and reinvest the principal and income of the trust in such property, real, personal, or mixed, and in such manner as they shall deem proper, and from time to time to change investments as they shall deem advisable; to invest in or retain any stocks, shares, bonds, notes, obligations, or personal or real property including without limitation any interests in or obligations of any corporation, association, business trust, investment trust, common trust fund, or investment company) although some or all of the property so acquired or retained is of a kind or size which but for this express authority would not be considered proper and although all of the trust funds are invested in the securities of one company. Principal or income, however, shall not be loaned, directly or indirectly, to any Trustee or to anyone else, corporate or otherwise, who has at any time made a contribution to this trust, nor to anyone except on the basis of an adequate interest charge and with adequate security.
- B. To sell, lease, or exchange any personal, mixed, or real property, at public auction, or by private contract, for such consideration and on such terms as to credit or otherwise, and to make such contracts and enter into such undertakings relating to the Trust property, as they consider advisable, whether or not such leases or contracts may extend beyond the duration of the Trust.

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- C. To borrow money for such periods, at such rates of interest, and upon such terms as the Trustees consider advisable, and as security for such loans to mortgage or pledge any real or personal property with or without power of sale; to acquire or hold any real or personal property, subject to any mortgage or pledge on or of property acquired or held by this Trust.
- D. To execute and deliver deeds, assignments, transfers, mortgages, pledges, leases, covenants, contracts, promissory notes, releases, and other instruments, sealed or unsealed, incident to any transaction in which they engage.
- E. To vote, to give proxies, to participate in the reorganization, merger, or consolidation of any concern, or in the sale, lease, disposition or distribution of its assets; to join with other security holders in acting through a committee, depositary, voting trustees, or otherwise, and in this connection to delegate authority to such committee, depositary, or trustees and to deposit securities with them or transfer securities to them, to pay assessments levied on securities or to exercise subscription rights in respect of securities.
- F. To employ a bank or trust company as custodian of any funds or securities and to delegate to it such powers as they deem appropriate; to hold Trust property without indication of fiduciary capacity but only in the name of a registered nominee, provided the Trust property is at all times identified as such on the books of the Trust; to keep any or all of the Trust property or funds in any place or places in the United States of America; to employ clerks, an administrator, accountants, investment counsel, investment agents, and any special services, and to pay the reasonable compensation and expenses of all such services in addition to the compensation of the Trustees.

ARTICLE IX

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The Trustees' powers are exercisable solely in the fiduciary capacity consistent with and in furtherance of the charitable purposes of this Trust as specified in Article III and not otherwise.

ARTICLE X

In this Declaration of Trust and in any amendment to it references to "Trustees" mean the one or more Trustees, whether original or successor, for the time being in office.

ARTICLE XI

Any person may rely on a copy, certified by a notary public, or the executive original of this Declaration of Trust held by the Trustees, and of any of the notations on it and writings attached to it, as fully as he might rely on the original documents, themselves. Any such person may rely fully on any statements of fact certified by anyone who appears from such original documents or from such certified copy of be a Trustee under this Declaration of Trust. No one dealing with the Trustees need inquire concerning the validity of anything the Trustees purport to do. No one dealing with the Trustees need see to the application of anything paid or transferred to or upon the order of the Trustees of the Tree Research & Education Endowment Fund, TREE Fund.

ARTICLE XII

This Declaration of Trust is to be governed in all respects by the laws of the State of Illinois.

ARTICLE XIII

Duality of Interest. Any Member, Trustee, Officer, Employee or Committee member having an interest in a contract or other transaction presented to the Board of

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Trustees or a Committee thereof for authorization, approval, or ratification shall give prompt, full, and frank disclosure of his/her interest to the Board or Committee prior to its acting of such contract or transaction. The body to which such disclosure is made shall thereupon determine, by majority vote, whether the disclosure shows that a conflict of interest exists or can reasonably be construed to exist. If a conflict is deemed to exist, such person shall not vote on, nor use his personal influence on, nor participate (other than to present factual information or to respond to questions) in the discussions or deliberations with respect to such contract or transactions. Such person may be counted in determining the existence of a quorum at any meeting where the contract or transaction is under discussion or is being voted upon. The minutes of the meeting shall reflect the disclosure made, the vote thereon, and, where applicable, the abstention from voting and participation, and whether a quorum is present.

ARTICLE XIV

Indemnification. Any and all Officers, members of the Executive Committee, members of the Board of Trustees, former Officers, former members of the Board of Trustees, former members of the Board of Directors, former members of the Executive Committee and any persons who may have served at its or their request or by its or their election as a Trustee, Director or officer of another corporation or as a Trustee of or for the benefit of the ISA RT or the Tree Research & Education Endowment Fund, TREE Fund, shall be indemnified by the International Society of Arboriculture against expenses (including attorney's fees), judgments, fines, and amounts paid in settlement actually and necessarily incurred by them in connection with the defense or settlement of any action, suit or proceeding in which they, or any of them, are made parties, or a party, by reason

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of being or having been a Trustee, Director, Officer, Board Member, or Executive Committee member or person who served at the request of any of the foregoing for the benefit of the ISA RT or the Tree Research & Education Endowment Fund, TREE Fund, or of such other corporation, except in relation to matters as to which any such Trustee, Director, Officer, former Trustee, former Director, former Officer, former Executive Committee member or person shall be adjudged in such action, suit, or proceeding to be liable for willful misconduct in the performance of duty and as to such matters as shall be settled by agreement predicated on the existence of such liability. (Note: This was amended July 30, 2002.)

Issued by

Date revised:

Board Action (give date of vote) December 13, 2011

-or-

TREE Fund Chairman's Signature _____

-or-

President/CEO's Signature _____