

*The mission of Kalamazoo in Bloom is to plant locally grown flowers and plants in public spaces to beautify our metropolitan communities.*



**Job Title:** Kalamazoo Gardener (1 position available)

**Reports to:** Executive Director

**Status:** Seasonal independent contractor, part-time (23 weeks)

**Pay Rate:** \$4,950 (April 28-October 5)

### **Why work for Kalamazoo in Bloom (KIB)?**

If you love flowers, gardening, and working with others – and are looking for a little extra spending money – this is the perfect opportunity for you! As one of our gardeners, you will share in the rewarding feeling of making our Kalamazoo and Portage communities beautiful with the flowers we plant each May. You will also be able to share your love and knowledge of plants with the community, particularly volunteer bed adopters who help tend flower beds throughout the summer. Your skillful care and guidance will help flowers flourish and also grow the connections volunteers and the community have with KIB.

### **Job Summary:**

The Kalamazoo Gardener works with KIB's Gardener Educator in downtown Kalamazoo. They are responsible for providing leadership and planting assistance to volunteers on community planting days. They are also responsible for the overall care, maintenance, and watering of peacocks, flower beds, flower trees, and containers in Bronson Park and Kalamazoo City Hall; as well as regularly checking on the plants in the Transportation Center pots and the Arcadia Creek bed. They will train and assist bed adopters who volunteer to maintain a bed throughout the summer; communicate with Kzoo Parks staff concerning irrigation and other relevant issues as needed; and assist the planting committee in ordering the following year's flowers. KIB gardeners are independent contractors that work seasonally during the summer approximately 12-15 hours per week.

### **Responsibilities:**

- Add fabric to and help plant the peacocks
- Plant with volunteers on community planting days
- Share daily watering schedule with Gardener Educator and report problematic issues to Kzoo Parks
- Perform weeding and deadheading; fix damaged beds and topiaries when possible
- Orient volunteers to increase their understanding of KIB and their responsibilities
- Regularly meet and communicate with bed adopters and others throughout the season
- Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with volunteers, Kzoo Parks staff, KIB Board and Executive Director, Gardener Educator, and other community partners

### **Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:**

- Master Gardener training preferred but not required
- Professional gardening or landscaping experience
- Flexibility with availability to perform gardening duties and meet with volunteers
- Internet and Gmail capability with some computer proficiency
- Valid driver's license and reliable transportation to bring hoses and other gardening tools to and from the job site
- Ability to work independently and to work with diverse people

**Work Environment and Physical Demands:**

- Outdoor work in variable weather with most of the physical work being done in the morning
- Physical activity includes stooping, kneeling, reaching, standing, walking, picking, pinching, grasping, pulling
- Occasional lifting and moving of up to 50 pounds
- Hoses and other basic gardening tools provided

**To Apply:**

Send resume to [director@kalamazooinbloom.org](mailto:director@kalamazooinbloom.org) with **Kalamazoo Gardener position** in the Subject line. Position will remain open until filled.