



# UJAMAA SEEDS

Maryland's  
Culturally Meaningful  
Heirloom Seed Company

[ujamaaseeds.com](http://ujamaaseeds.com)

Gardening with heirloom seeds not only preserves heritage varieties of flowers, vegetables, and fruits, but using heirloom seeds contributes to biodiversity and a more resilient and sustainable food system.



**U J A M A A**  
**COOPERATIVE**  
**FARMING ALLIANCE**







## ABOUT UCFA

The **Ujamaa Cooperative Farming Alliance (UCFA)**, is a program under the non-profit organization **STEAM ONWARD Inc.** As a BIPOC led collective, UCFA recruits and supports emergent and seasoned growers who cultivate heirloom seeds and grow

culturally relevant plants for food and healing. UCFA recognizes the need for increased diversity in agriculture and in the seed industry specifically. We are bridging the gap between prospective BIPOC growers and heirloom seed companies.

## UCFA PROGRAM AREAS

Through the following program areas UCFA members are increasing the number of BIPOC growers of heirloom seeds.

**UCFA SEED HUBS:** UCFA is establishing regional Seed Hubs across the nation. UCFA Seed Hubs are localized collectives of BIPOC farmers and gardeners organized around growing, cleaning, processing, and selling culturally meaningful heirloom seeds. In addition, UCFA is indentifying seasoned and emergent BIPOC growers of culturally meaningful seeds nationwide through the *Heirloom Garden Oral History Project*.

**SEED FARMING EDUCATION:** Through the *Ujamaa Academy* and the *Ira Wallace Seed Farming School*, UCFA is providing BIPOC growers instruction in seed farming and seed saving via online classes as well as on-site face-to-face learning. UCFA is passing on the tradition of seed farming and seed saving to youth through our *Collardz 4 Kidz Project*, and our *Wangari Maathai Food Forest Project*.

**DEMONSTRATION SEED FARM:** On four acres in Upper Marlboro, Maryland UCFA is converting *Tayman's Field*, a formerly terraced organic vegetable farm, into a seed farming demonstration site.



## SEED FARMING

Seed farmers grow crops in a way that increases the quality and expands the quantity of plants for the purpose of selling the seeds to other farmers and gardeners. At UCFA we view seeds as more than a commodity, but also as vessels of cultural heritage. Heirloom seed farming can be an additional revenue stream for farmers, gardeners, and growers as demand far outstrips supply.

On a small plot of land, farmers and gardeners can make a profit from seed farming. In fact, many folks take up seed growing as a side business, rather than as their sole source of income.

Support UCFA by purchasing **UJAMAA SEEDS** at [ujamaaseeds.com](http://ujamaaseeds.com). In addition to plant types, our culturally meaningful seed collections are organized by regional and ethnic traditions.



[ujamaafarms.com](http://ujamaafarms.com) [ujamaaseeds.com](http://ujamaaseeds.com)  
[ujamaafarmingcoop@gmail.com](mailto:ujamaafarmingcoop@gmail.com) 240-515-8558

