

# HUDSON RIVER PARK YOUR 2020 LIFELINE

---

2020 Annual Report

IN YOUR WORDS...

# Our HRPK Community Shares the Love



***“We all need fresh air now more than ever”***

***“What a gift the park is to us and the city”***

***“Just the escape I needed”***

***“I love the environment and being in nature, HRPK is my slice of nature”***

***“Walking through the Park, it’s life affirming”***

***“Thank you for keeping the Park so welcoming”***

# Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

What would we do without parks? In a city as dense as New York, parks are linked to its history, its health, its very existence as the city that so many know and love. Having worked on, in and for Hudson River Park for the better part of two decades, I thought that I understood the importance of parks – until the pandemic hit us all late last winter. That’s when New York and the rest of the world learned the true importance of parks and open space. For those of us living in dense urban environments in particular, parks became our lifeline. Without other alternatives for entertainment, dining, live performances, culture, physical fitness, family gatherings, socializing with friends or romantic interests, we all went to the park. There we discovered life again: people, nature, blue skies, room to breathe and play. Places to heal from the sadness that was all around us.

Hudson River Park is proud to have provided New Yorkers with a lifeline during the pandemic, and Friends is proud to help it continue to do so in 2021. Parks are essential to our health and our happiness. I understand this now in a way I never really did before.

See you in the Park!



Connie Fishman, Executive Director



## Contents

<b><i>Letter from the Executive Director</i></b>	<b>3</b>
<b><i>Community Programs</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Design &amp; Construction</i></b>	<b>5</b>
<b><i>Pier 26 Today &amp; Tomorrow</i></b>	<b>6</b>
<b><i>Volunteer Program</i></b>	<b>7</b>
<b><i>Community Connections</i></b>	<b>8</b>
<b><i>Financial Statements</i></b>	<b>9</b>
<b><i>Staff &amp; Board of Directors</i></b>	<b>10</b>

# GROWING GREEN

## Community Programs

### HRPK's River Project

2020 and the COVID-19 pandemic brought a series of challenges, and the Park paused all in-person programming in March of 2020. To continue supporting students, teachers and families during the unprecedented year of remote and virtual learning, the Park's River Project embarked on creating digital resources and programs to connect with the estuarine sanctuary from home. Since then, the Park's River Project has developed virtual public programs focused on our local waters, supported teachers with dynamic STEM field trips online and created publicly-accessible science lessons and digital resources.

#### Virtual Program Series

60 programs with  
21,000+ views

#### STEM Activity of the Week Series

25 lessons (including 5 translated into Spanish)  
4,100 page views & downloads

#### Virtual Wetlab

49 animals featured  
2,850 page views



### HRPK Community Compost

In April 2020, budget cuts from the pandemic led the NYC Sanitation Department to halt its curbside composting program. After a 6-month pause, Hudson River Park resumed its own Community Compost Program featuring 3 new locations for a total of 10 drop-off sites along its 4-mile footprint. Even with this gap, the total organic waste composted reached 90% of the total in 2019!

**36,000 lbs.**

Collected neighborhood food scraps

**350,000 lbs.**

Collected horticulture waste

**386,000 lbs.**

Total organic waste

This essential community service enables the Park to self-sustain our green spaces, offsetting carbon dioxide emissions and the costs associated with purchasing soil and fertilizer.



# GROWING GREEN

## Design & Construction



### Day's End

Coming this Summer, David Hammon's *Day's End* will be one of the largest public art installations in New York City. Located on the southern edge of Gansevoort Peninsula, this "ghost monument" is a three-dimensional transparent blueprint of the former Pier 52.



### Gansevoort Peninsula

Breaking ground this Spring, this 5.5-acre public open space includes a promenade, lawns, large sports field, salt marsh, habitat enhancements, a resilient sunbathing beach with direct river access for kayaks and canoes, and the last remnant of 13th Avenue.



### Little Island (formerly Pier 55)

Coming this Spring, Little Island will help enrich a part of Hudson River Park with almost three acres of new public parkland featuring lush greenery and a diverse array of community spaces and performance venues.



### Pier 97

Breaking ground this Spring, Pier 97 highlights include a playground, versatile sports field, open spacious lawn, a flexible gathering area, an elevated walkway with an overlook, a sunset deck with various seating options, comfort station and a historic vessel.

# TODAY & TOMORROW

## Pier 26

### Pier 26 The Ecological Pier

On September 30, 2020, HRPK opened Pier 26, the Park's first new pier since 2010, and a major new open space in Manhattan. Designed by OLIN, the 2.5 acre pier incorporates indigenous plantings evocative of Manhattan's ecosystem prior to human development.

In addition to the habitat walk through native ecological zones, a multi-use recreation area, spacious lawn, boardwalks and seating areas, Pier 26 features an innovative, engineered Tide Deck. Located at the western edge of the pier, the Tide Deck is a cultivated rocky salt marsh that provides an immersive river ecology experience. The elevated walkway offers spectacular city and river views and, at low tide, the Tide Deck is accessible for tours guided by Park educators.



### Pier 26 Playground Capital Campaign

As we enter the final year of our three-year capital campaign for the new Science Play Area at Pier 26, Friends will be raising the remaining \$1.3 million to reach our goal. This science-themed playground, with over 4,000 square feet, will serve as an outdoor extension of the environmental programming planned at the future Pier 26 Estuarium and complement the eco-themed Pier 26. It includes two accessible play structures in the shapes of the

Atlantic sturgeon (the Hudson River's largest fish) and the Shortnose sturgeon. The play structures invite children to walk inside and learn about the Hudson River Estuary. The Science Play Area will also include an expansive seat wall, safety surfacing, climbing nets and ground play elements. Situated across from Pier 26, this section of the Park continues to enjoy tremendous growth and community appeal.



# Volunteer Program



After a late start due to Covid-19 restrictions, our in-Park Volunteer Program safely re-launched both its corporate and individual volunteer events. Volunteer groups from 5 to 15 came out to help with much-needed gardening, composting and oyster monitoring projects. We also hosted virtual volunteer projects with Corporate Members who provided skills-based consultations, curriculum translations and data entry/calculations of living organisms in the Hudson River for the Park's science and education team, River Project.

- AllianceBernstein
- BlackRock
- Blackstone Charitable Foundation
- Brookfield Properties Corporation
- CB Richard Ellis
- Citigroup Inc.
- Colgate-Palmolive Co.
- Consolidated Edison Inc.
- EPIX Entertainment LLC
- Gilbane Building Company
- Goldman Sachs
- GPB Capital
- Guggenheim Partners
- HDR, Inc.
- Huron Consulting Group
- IAC
- IHS Markit
- iStar
- Jamestown LP
- Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co.
- Liberty Coca-Cola Beverages
- L'Oreal USA
- lululemon
- The Moinian Group
- National Australia Bank Limited
- New York Cruise Lines
- Oxford Property Group
- Pfizer Inc.
- Ralph Lauren Corporation
- RXR Realty
- Starry, Inc.
- TD Bank, N.A.
- Tishman Speyer Properties LP
- Turner Construction Company
- US Street Inc.
- Valeray Real Estate Company Inc.
- ViacomCBS
- The Walt Disney Company
- Warburg Pincus
- WarnerMedia, LLC
- Weill Cornell Medicine
- WeWork

**269**  
volunteers

**1,056**  
hours of service  
donated

**6,240**  
bulbs planted

**1,393**  
plants installed

**\$19,008**  
of gardening  
value

# Community Connections

Park events serve myriad functions, bringing together the community and providing essential support for Hudson River Park including volunteering, environmental stewardship, horticulture, playgrounds and much more.



## Luncheon

HRPK's Playground Committee Luncheon is the highlight of our winter season and raises funds to support playgrounds and family programs throughout the Park.



## UnGala

Friends held its first virtual "UnGala", an at-home celebration of Hudson River Park, honoring the Park's essential workers and raising over \$1 million for Friends operations, horticulture, education, environmental stewardship and public programming.



## Pumpkin Smash

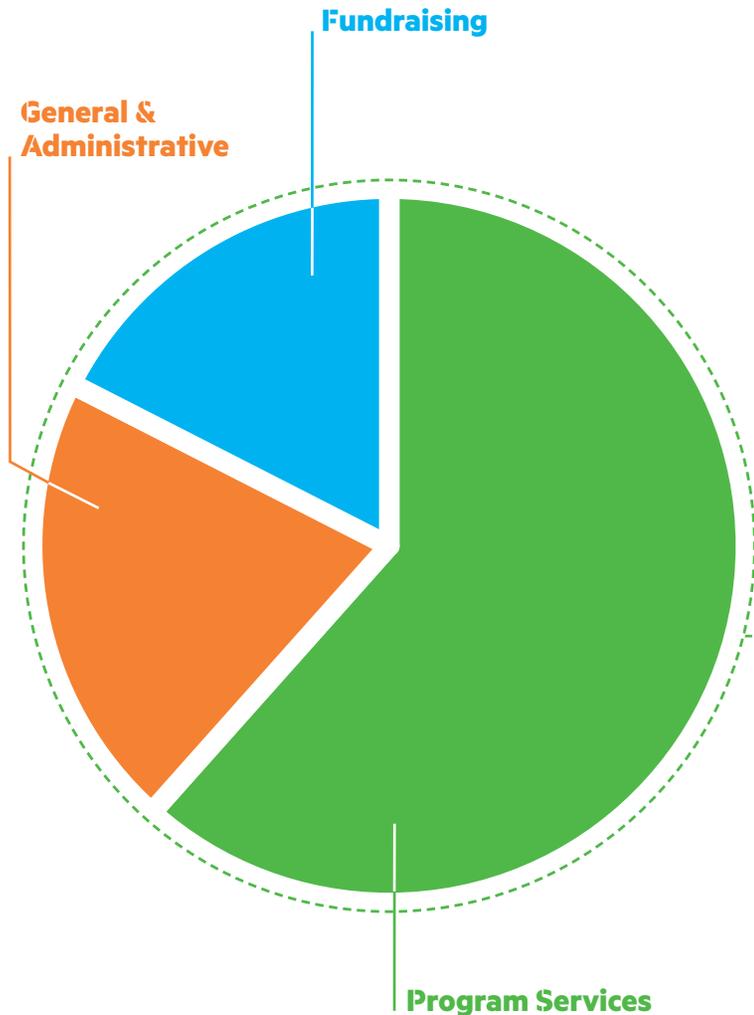
Hudson River Park celebrated sustainability at the Park's third annual Pumpkin Smash. More than 200 New Yorkers smashed nearly 1,000 pounds of pumpkins, which were turned into nutrient-rich compost to nourish the Park's gardens and landscapes.



Hosted by Jenna Bush Hager, the event featured Martha Stewart, Lea Delaria, Diana Taylor, David Chang, Julianne Moore, Charlotte Groeneveld, Mike Novogratz and New York's Lieutenant Governor, Hon. Kathy Hochul.

# Financial Statements

Full audited financial statements available at [hudsonriverpark.org/about-us/hudson-river-park-friends/financial-information](http://hudsonriverpark.org/about-us/hudson-river-park-friends/financial-information)



## Statement of Activities Year Ending 3/31/2020

Revenue	Unrestricted Funds	Temporarily Restricted	Year Ending March, 2020
Contributions	\$993,890	\$-	\$993,890
Grants	\$24,643	\$127,233	\$151,876
Events	\$2,058,086	\$-	\$2,058,086
Membership	\$450,833	\$-	\$450,833
In-kind	\$130,391	\$-	\$130,391
Investment income	\$12,330	\$-	\$12,330
Net assets released from restrictions	\$193,439	\$(193,439)	\$-
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$3,863,612</b>	<b>\$(66,206)</b>	<b>\$3,797,406</b>

### Expenses

Program Services	\$2,318,133	\$-	\$2,318,133
General and Administrative	\$787,605	\$-	\$787,605
Fundraising	\$658,434	\$-	\$658,434
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$3,764,172</b>	<b>\$-</b>	<b>\$3,764,172</b>

### Net Assets

Beginning of Year	\$1,186,392	\$207,894	\$1,394,286
End of Year	\$1,285,832	\$141,688	\$1,427,520
Change	\$99,440	\$(66,206)	\$33,234

# Board of Directors

**Michael E. Novogratz**  
*Chair*

**Scott M. Lawin**  
*Vice Chair*

**Justin Sadrian**  
*Vice Chair*

**Samuel F. Martini**  
*Treasurer*

**Susanna Aaron**  
*Secretary*

**David Amsterdam**

**Cathy Blaney**

**Anthony Borelli**

**Peter Braus**

**Ben Brown**

**David Chang**

**Jennifer Cohan**

**Walter Haydock**

**Douglas B. Heitner**

**Shari Hyman**

**David Juracich**

**Paula Madoff**

**Joshua Rahn**

**Joseph B. Rose**

**Martha Stewart**

**Diana L. Taylor**

**David Tisch**

**Nat Turner**

**Mark Van Zandt**

**Román Viñoly**

**Greg Wasserman**

**Daniel J. Williams**



“2020 showed us all what Hudson River Park really means to this community and this city. Whether it’s your morning run, your evening stroll, your kid’s (or dog’s) playground, your sports field, your morning commute or weekend bike ride, this Park during the pandemic has been our lives. Just imagine what the past 12 months would have been without it. I, for one, can’t. That’s why I give to support all that the Park gives back to my family, my neighbors and all the New Yorkers who flock to this incomparable blue and green oasis to learn and play.

It’s hard to overstate the value the Park brings to our lives. It has made the west side of Manhattan a wonderful place to live, visit and raise a family. I hope you will join me, as Chair of Friends, in supporting the treasure that is Hudson River Park – especially right now, when we need it more than ever.

Sincerely,  
Michael E. Novogratz, Chair  
Hudson River Park Friends

## Staff

**Connie Fishman**  
*Executive Director*

**Toby Pearce**  
*Chief Development Officer*

**Cheryl Herman**  
*Senior Director of Integrated Media*

**Adam Glick**  
*Director, Individual Giving and Special Projects*

**Jean Kogut**  
*Director of Finance and Operations*

**Amy Molinero**  
*Director, Corporate and Community Engagement*

**Tony Simone**  
*Director of External Affairs*

**Phoebe Doran**  
*Senior Manager, Events and Creative Services*

**Julie Goldberg**  
*Senior Manager of Digital Media and Communications*

**Shannon Guttridge**  
*Senior Manager of Development Operations*

**Brenda Palencia**  
*Operations Manager and Finance Associate*

**Tobin Kent**  
*Manager, Volunteer Program, Corporate and Community Engagement*

**Rita Tobin**  
*Institutional Giving Manager*

**Victoria Sheridan**  
*Membership and Events Associate*

For a full list of Friends, Donors, Foundations and Corporate funders, please visit:

**[hudsonriverpark.org/donors](https://hudsonriverpark.org/donors)**

From groundbreaking to new pier openings, 2021 kicks off a year of tremendous growth for Hudson River Park as we march towards completing the final 20% of the Park.

Running from Chambers St to W 59th St along Manhattan's west side waterfront, HRPK hosts more than 17 million visits a year to its 550 acres of piers, upland and water. With world-class gardens and landscapes, state-of-the-art sports and recreation facilities, education, science, sustainability and environmental programs, and free cultural and performing arts events, it plays a critical role in the life of New York City.

Hudson River Park Friends is a nonprofit charitable organization in partnership with the Hudson River Park Trust that is dedicated to the completion, care, enhancement and sustainability of the Park.

**HUDSON RIVER PARK  
FRIENDS**

P.O. Box 488  
Narrowsburg, NY 12764  
212-757-0981 [hudsonriverpark.org](http://hudsonriverpark.org)