



2021 ANNUAL REPORT

From the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe that it's now 2022. And, although the pandemic is still with us, much has changed. For Hudson River Park, those changes are reflected in the enormous progress of the past year. Three major construction projects are underway — at Gansevoort Peninsula, Pier 97 and Chelsea Waterside. Pier 57 is opening to the public in the coming weeks, and our new Pier 26 Science Play Area — now in final design — will break ground later this year.

The changes don't stop there. Our longtime Chair, Michael Novogratz, is passing the baton to former Hudson River Park Trust Chair, Diana Taylor. Michael served nine years as Friends' Board Chair and was extremely generous to the Park throughout that time, supporting events, programmatic initiatives, capital campaigns, and, most recently, providing Friends with its largest gift ever — \$1.3 million — for the Science Play Area at Pier 26. His contributions are many and his love of the Park will continue well beyond his board tenure. But I couldn't be more pleased about the capable hands he's leaving Friends in. Diana Taylor has served the Park and this city for the past two decades in both government and the private sector, and her knowledge and understanding of Hudson River Park runs deep. Friends is lucky to have these two talented and committed individuals leading our organization and helping guide us into the next great phase of Hudson River Park's development.

And finally, we said a fond farewell in 2021 to Madelyn Wils, President and CEO of Hudson River Park Trust for a decade, who led the charge for such incredible and inspiring developments as Pier 26, Day's End, Pier 57, the Chelsea Waterside playground, Little Island and so much more. We owe her a debt of gratitude for her vision, leadership and perseverance. Luckily, the Park continues to forge ahead under the helm of Noreen Doyle, whose decades of knowledge, experience and talent will keep it on track through its final completion in the years ahead.

See you all soon in the Park!



Connie Fishman, Executive Director

Contents

<i>Letter from the Executive Director</i>	2
<i>Health of the Hudson</i>	3
<i>Design and Construction</i>	4
<i>Pier 26 Play Area</i>	5
<i>Volunteerism in HRPK</i>	6
<i>Community Connections</i>	7
<i>Financial Statements</i>	8
<i>Staff & Board of Directors</i>	9

Health of the Hudson

Tribeca Habitat Enhancement >

The [Tribeca Habitat Enhancement Project](#) is a large-scale restoration initiative in Hudson River Park. This project deployed a variety of habitat features and added an incredible 11 million oysters in the Park's Estuarine Sanctuary waters located between Pier 26 and Pier 34. Thanks to the project partners, including the New York State Department of Conservation, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Billion Oyster Project and the Hudson River Foundation, the Park is taking significant steps towards its goal to create greater habitat diversity and better water quality.

200 Underwater Habitats

Added to the Hudson River

85 Species of Fish

Will benefit from this ongoing project



Monitoring Our River's Improving Health >

The Hudson River has been on a remarkable journey. Once very polluted, water quality has vastly improved — the result of 40 years of environmental regulations and advocacy. HRPK is one of several organizations that monitors the River's health. The Park's River Project has been developing a dashboard that makes the collected environmental data accessible to broader audiences.

In 2021, the Park was thrilled to receive the “Innovate for Social Impact” award from Cantina, a design innovation agency that works with organizations to create user-friendly experiences involving complex technology. Through this partnership, and with technical support from Columbia University, the Park launched its new water quality model that uses actual and historic data to predict, in close to real time, instances when water quality is degraded due to pollution events. The dashboard supports the Park's environmental stewardship and education efforts while also helping non-motorized boaters make informed decisions about entering the water when conditions are poor. Visit our website to explore this new, [interactive dashboard](#).

Design & Construction



Pier 57 >

Historic Pier 57 will open in phases in 2022. The public rooftop, with incredible views of Little Island and New York Harbor, will open in early spring, and the James Beard-backed food hall will open this fall. Later this year, the Park will begin bringing students into the pier's high-tech classroom and public gallery of interactive marine science exhibits.



Chelsea Waterside Park >

The renewed Chelsea Waterside Park will include many new amenities, including a spacious picnic area, a public restroom facility, an expanded turf field, a concession stand and a larger dog run with separate areas for small and large dogs. The new dog park will be the first new amenity to open in early Summer 2022 while construction on other areas continues into Winter 2022.



Pier 97 >

Opening in summer 2023, Pier 97 includes a playground, versatile sports field, spacious lawn, flexible gathering area, elevated walkway with an overlook, sunset deck, comfort station and accommodations for a historic vessel.



Gansevoort Peninsula >

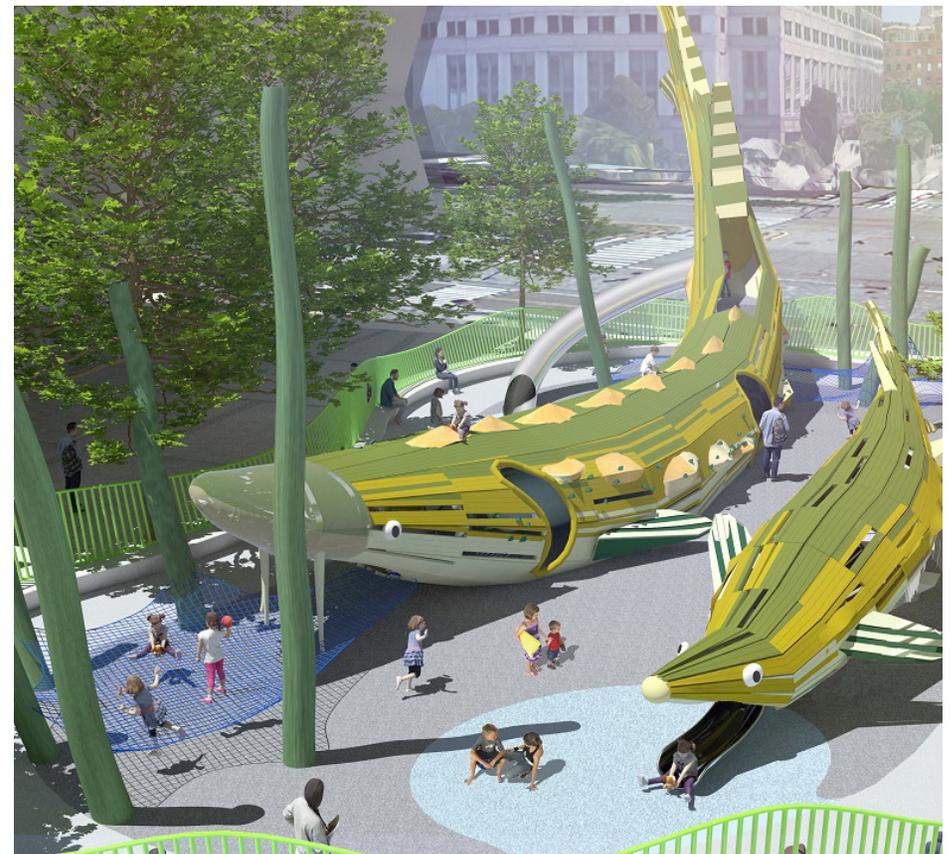
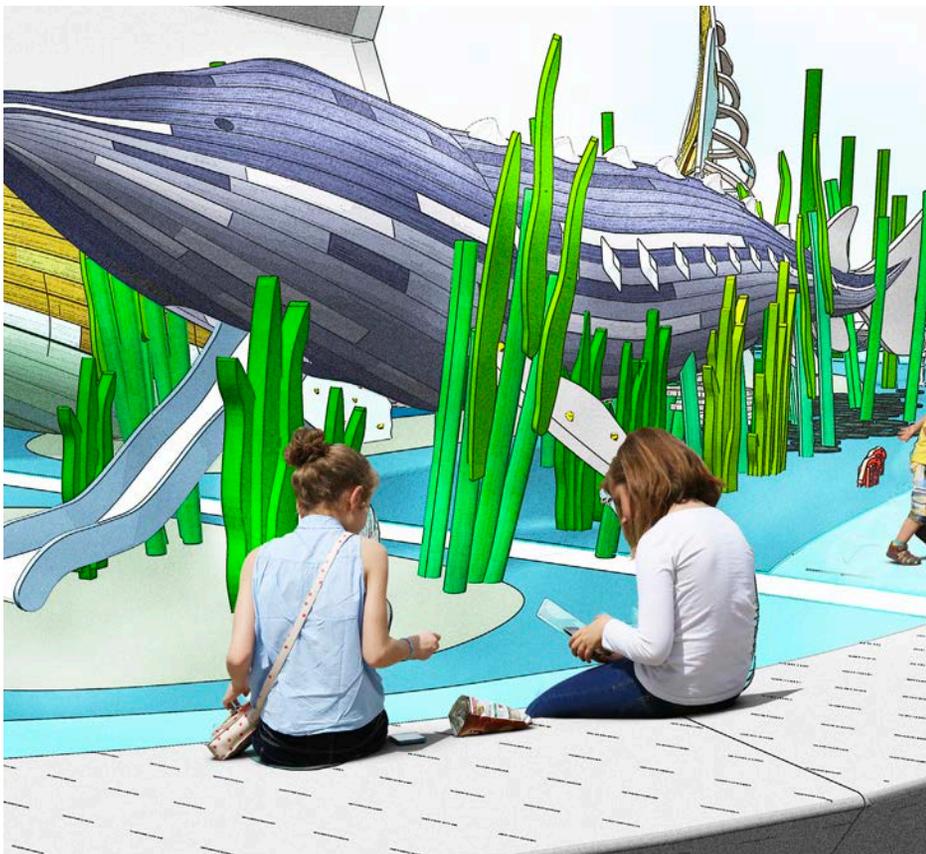
Opening in summer 2023, Gansevoort Peninsula is under construction, with eight different contractors mobilized to construct the south side beach, sports field, boardwalks, pedestrian promenades, salt marsh, park buildings, submerged habitat and more.

Pier 26 Play Area—Goal surpassed!

A marine science-themed playground is on its way to Hudson River Park's Pier 26. Thanks to the generosity of our Park community — and a historic \$1.3 million gift from past-HRPK Friends Board Chair, Michael E. Novogratz — the Pier 26 Science Play Area Capital Campaign raised more than \$3.5 million to fund construction of an innovative play space where children will learn, explore and be inspired by wildlife and the Hudson River habitat.

The centerpieces of the Pier 26 Science Play Area are two larger-than-life interactive play structures in the forms of an Atlantic sturgeon and a short-nosed sturgeon that visitors can climb inside and explore. Designed to spark the imagination of children as they play and discover Hudson River wildlife and habitat, this playground will be a valuable resource for learning and play for NYC families.

We are so grateful to all of our generous [Capital Campaign Supporters](#) who helped make this playground possible. Construction is set to begin in the second half of 2022.



Volunteerism in HRPK

Volunteers play a vital role in keeping the Park looking great year-round and are a key part of the Hudson River Park community.

Working alongside our talented Horticulture and River Project team members, volunteers are invited to participate in four distinct volunteer programs: [Neighborhood Gardeners](#), [HRPK Green Team](#), [Compost Volunteers](#) and [Corporate Volunteer Groups](#).

Corporate Employees >

engage with their co-workers while working on necessary Park beautification projects. HRPK Friends hosted over 50 Corporate Groups in 2021 working on horticulture restorations, composting, oyster monitoring and shoreline cleanups.

Neighborhood Gardeners >

come out once or twice a week and work in a particular garden in HRPK. They contributed over 1,400 hours of labor to the program in 2021.

Green Team >

is an enthusiastic group of Saturday volunteers who work primarily on horticulture projects. Over 350 participants from the community helped with weeding, mulching, pruning and planting projects throughout the season.

Compost Volunteers >

assist in processing compost materials and maintenance of the Compost Center. Last year, volunteers helped our team process over 490,000 lbs. of community food scraps and horticultural waste.



Community Connections



Barktoberfest & Paws for Happy Hour >

Our spring and fall K-9 events, attended by over 100 people and their dogs, are becoming annual traditions. Our new Four-Legged Friends program increased its membership tenfold and generated \$8,500 in sponsorship from local dog-friendly businesses.



Playground Committee Summer Social >

New and old friends gathered in Southampton, NY for a summer cocktail soiree to mingle, shop and raise awareness and funds for our forthcoming, one-of-a-kind 4,000 s.f. marine science play area, breaking ground later this year.



Community Composting >

In 2021, the Park diverted nearly half a million pounds of organic waste from landfills, including 350,000 pounds of horticultural waste and 140,000 pounds of food scraps. This was achieved, in part, through the Park's 10 Community Compost drop-off locations and Compost Volunteer days.

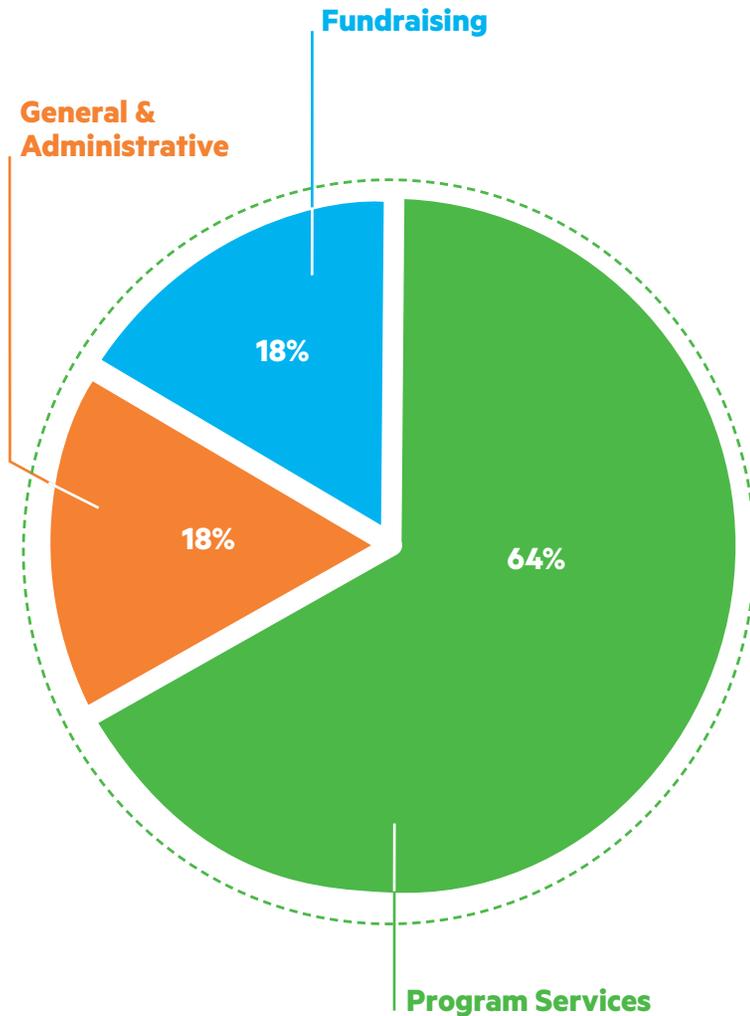


Gala >

Friends' Annual Gala at Pier Sixty honoring Alan Cumming, Ruth Porat and Madelyn Wils, with a special performance by Wyclef Jean, raised \$2.5 million for Friends operations and Park programs. The funds raised during the evening completed the \$3.5 million needed to build the Pier 26 Science Play Area.

Financial Statements

Full audited financial statements available at hudsonriverpark.org/about-us/hudson-river-park-friends/financial-information



Statement of Activities Year Ending 3/31/2021

Revenue	Unrestricted Funds	Temporarily Restricted	Year Ending March, 2021
Contributions	\$1,579,537	\$106,250	\$1,685,787
Grants	\$68,000	\$106,192	\$174,192
Events	\$1,154,135	\$-	\$1,154,135
Membership	\$334,750	\$-	\$334,750
In-kind	\$23,895	\$-	\$23,895
Investment income	\$3,668	\$-	\$3,668
Net assets released from restrictions	\$129,536	\$(129,536)	\$-
Total Revenues	\$3,293,521	\$82,906	\$3,376,427

Expenses

Program Services	\$2,234,161	\$-	\$2,234,161
General and Administrative	\$628,323	\$-	\$628,323
Fundraising	\$620,541	\$-	\$620,541
Total Expenses	\$3,483,025	\$-	\$3,483,025

Net Assets

Beginning of Year	\$1,285,832	\$141,688	\$1,427,520
End of Year	\$1,096,328	\$224,594	\$1,320,922
Change	\$(189,504)	\$82,906	\$(106,598)

Board of Directors

Diana L. Taylor
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

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Douglas B. Heitner

Shari Hyman

David Juracich

Larry Keigwin

Meryl Levin

Paula Madoff

Joshua Rahn

Joseph B. Rose

Martha Stewart

David Tisch

Nat Turner

Mark Van Zandt

Román Viñoly

Greg Wasserman

Daniel J. Williams



I'm incredibly pleased to be taking on the role of Board Chair for Hudson River Park Friends. The Park is near and dear to me and has played an important part in my life for more than two decades. I was lucky enough to be tapped by then-Governor Pataki 23 years ago to serve on his behalf on the board of the Hudson River Park Trust, where I stayed until just last year. During that time, I saw the extraordinary changes that transformed the west side of Manhattan with the creation of this green and blue treasure we all love so much.

Now as Chair of Friends, I will keep on fighting for what is best for Hudson River Park's completion, sustainability, and future so that it can live up to the extraordinary potential I saw all those years ago and continue to benefit the millions of people who depend on it for their quality of life and the city that loves it.

*Warmly,
Diana L. Taylor, Chair
Hudson River Park Friends*

Staff

Connie Fishman
Executive Director

Toby Pearce
Chief Development Officer

Cheryl Herman
Senior Director of Integrated Media

Amy Molinero
*Director, Corporate and
Community Engagement*

Jean Kogut
Director of Finance and Operations

Phoebe Doran
*Senior Manager, Events and
Creative Services*

Julie Goldberg
*Senior Manager of Digital Media and
Communications*

Shannon Guttridge
*Senior Manager of Development
Operations*

Eliza Kinsolving
Senior Individual Giving Manager

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

Brenda Palencia
*Operations Manager and
Finance Associate*

Rita Tobin
Institutional Giving Manager

Victoria Sheridan
Membership and Events Associate

Darian Darakananda
*Corporate and Community
Engagement Associate*

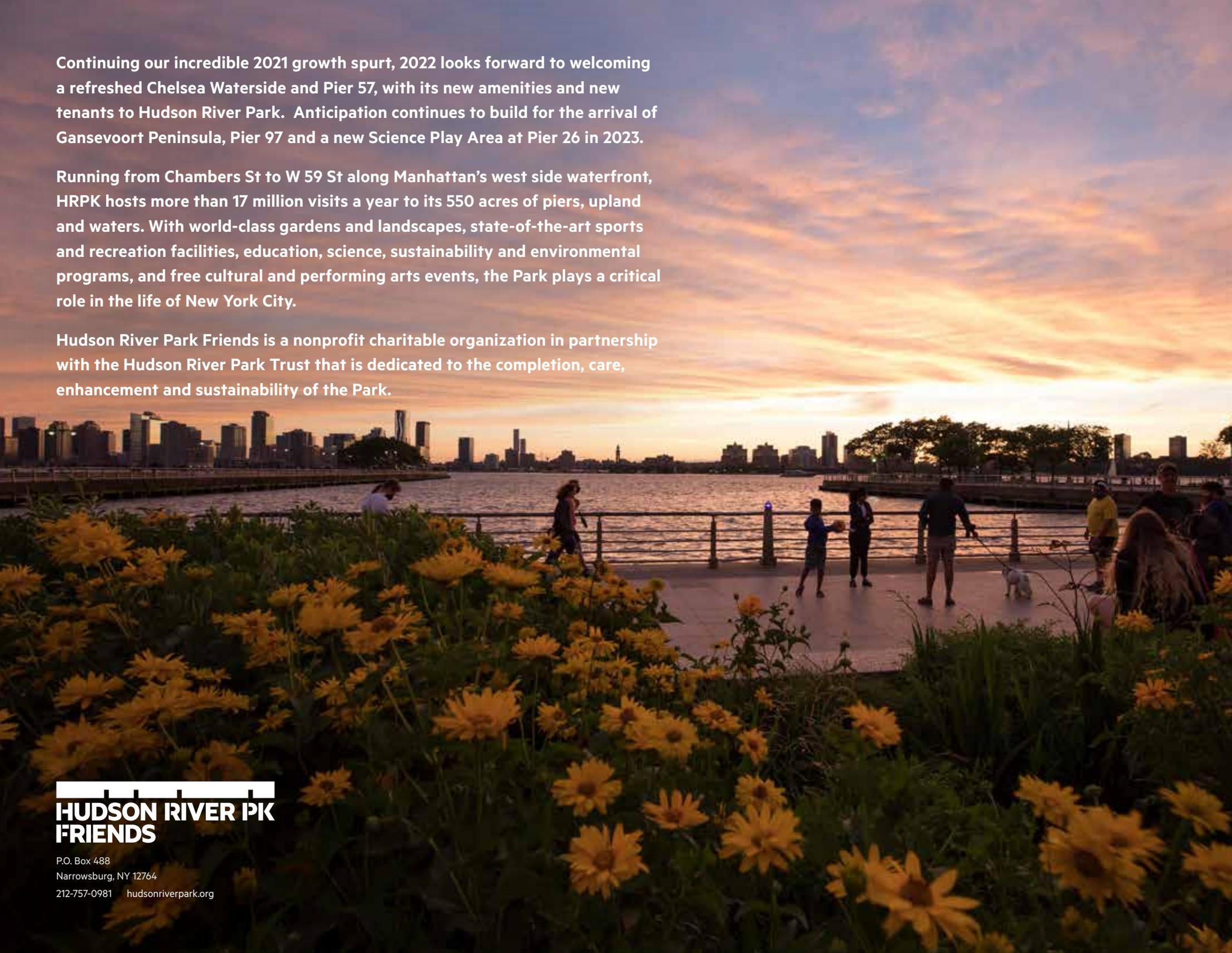
For a full list of Friends, Donors, Foundations and Corporate funders, please visit:

hudsonriverpark.org/donors

Continuing our incredible 2021 growth spurt, 2022 looks forward to welcoming a refreshed Chelsea Waterside and Pier 57, with its new amenities and new tenants to Hudson River Park. Anticipation continues to build for the arrival of Gansevoort Peninsula, Pier 97 and a new Science Play Area at Pier 26 in 2023.

Running from Chambers St to W 59 St along Manhattan's west side waterfront, HRPK hosts more than 17 million visits a year to its 550 acres of piers, upland and waters. 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, the Park 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 PK
FRIENDS**

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