

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF HRPK

25
YEARS
HUDSON RIVER PK
FRIENDS

2022
Annual Report

From HRPK Friends

Dear Friends,

Welcome to 2023 in Hudson River Park! The year ahead promises to be one of our most exciting yet, with major openings of new park spaces at Pier 57, Gansevoort Peninsula, Pier 97, a rejuvenated Chelsea Waterside and Pier 26 Science Playground. Nearly eight acres of new green spaces will be added to the Park this year: the 25th Anniversary of the Hudson River Park Act.

Twenty-five years ago, the Governor of New York, the Mayor of New York City and the NYS Legislature came together to pass the Hudson River Park Act. The product of that effort is what we see today — a 550-acre public Park that spans four miles of land and water along the West Side and links our many Park communities from Tribeca to Hell’s Kitchen. The result speaks for itself, with 17 million visits to Hudson River Park yearly. New Yorkers and people from around the world come to experience an astounding variety of activities in this blue and green mosaic of sports, recreation, nature, culture, environmental stewardship, marine science research, habitat education, performing arts, fitness, leisure and volunteering.

The Park’s unique funding model paired public capital funds to design and build the Park with private funding and philanthropy to operate and maintain it. It was a novel approach at the time that has demonstrated its success over the past two decades. You, our Friends, are part of that success, as is our remarkable partnership with the Hudson River Park Trust.

We’re delighted to share with you, our Park users and supporters, the highlights of our 2022 season and look forward to an even better year ahead in Hudson River Park.

See you all in the Park!



Connie Fishman, Executive Director

Contents

Letter from HRPK Friends	2
Health of the Hudson	3
Environmental Education & Public Programs	4
Signature Events	5
More Community Connections	6
Volunteerism in HRPK	7
Design & Construction	8
Financial Statements	9
Board of Directors & Staff	10

Health of the Hudson: Spotlight on Sustainability

In 2022, as part of a large-scale restoration initiative, we added 20 million juvenile oysters to Hudson River Park's 400-acre Estuarine Sanctuary via underwater habitat enhancements north of Gansevoort Peninsula. These new additions joined the 11 million oysters restored to Park waters as part of the 2021 [Tribeca Habitat Enhancement Project](#).

When our River Project team monitored the progress of the Tribeca enhancements, they saw significant growth — “[a hopeful sign in the Hudson River](#).” The goal of installing these features is to create greater habitat diversity for the organisms that live in Hudson River Park's Estuarine Sanctuary. The bottom of the Hudson River is mostly muddy and soft, so adding additional hard structure has two important benefits: it gives both encrusting organisms like oysters and mussels somewhere to settle, and mobile organisms like crabs and juvenile fish a place to hide.

Oysters are of great significance to the health of the Hudson. Oysters filter water as they eat, which helps clarify the water and remove certain pollutants, including nitrogen. This is very important to a marine ecosystem because excessive nitrogen triggers algal blooms that deplete the water of oxygen and create “dead zones”. Also, oyster reefs are a natural storm barrier and can help soften the blow of large waves, reducing flooding and preventing erosion.

Thanks to project partners — the New York State Department of Conservation, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Billion Oyster Project and the Hudson River Foundation — these underwater habitats advance the Park's mission of protecting and supporting the Estuarine Sanctuary and create a more resilient Park.



Environmental Education & Public Programs

Expanding Access to the Hudson River as an Outdoor Classroom >

In 2022, NYC students of all ages explored Hudson River Park's marine sanctuary through enriching and fun hands-on science activities provided by our River Project team. For older students, our [2022 Student Leadership Program](#) offered paid summer research opportunities to female-identifying high school students and college mentors, granting these students the chance to build experience and confidence in STEM.

Community members of all ages also had the chance to discover the importance of the Hudson River through public programs and events. During open hours at our Pier 40 Wetlab, the Park's flow-through aquarium system, River Project staff introduced visitors to dozens of species of Hudson River fish and invertebrates all caught within the Park's waters as part of an [ongoing ecological survey](#). Plus, the Ask a Scientist series expanded, bringing local STEM and marine science experts to the Wetlab. 2022 also saw the return of long-time favorite Big City Fishing, a catch and release fishing program and tours of the one-of-a-kind [Pier 26 Tide Deck](#), where the public gets a close-up view of this engineered rocky tidal landscape and the wildlife it supports.



Finding Community Through Music & Movement >

For the first time since 2019, the Park hosted a full lineup of in-Park events in 2022 — including welcoming back two of our signature celebrations. Our summer season kicked off with the spectacular return of the two-day Hudson River Dance Festival at Pier 63, and in August more than 13,000 of you joined us for Blues BBQ Festival at Pier 76. This newly opened pier became the popular new home for our Dance at HRPK participatory dance series and our Bike Skills 101 program in partnership with Bike New York.

All summer long, music lovers savored outdoor concerts thanks to Jazz at Pier 84, presented in partnership with the Jazz Foundation of America and Sunset on the Hudson Friday night performances. And our popular Healthy on the Hudson series, presented by lululemon, also kept New Yorkers active throughout the season. Our 2022 season was also special because community support helped make it possible, with events presented in part by Hudson River Park Friends.

Signature Events



Playground Committee Luncheon >

The HRPK Friends 7th Annual Playground Committee Luncheon is the highlight of our winter season; this year it raised nearly \$400,000 to support the Park's playgrounds, sport fields, environmental education and family programs.



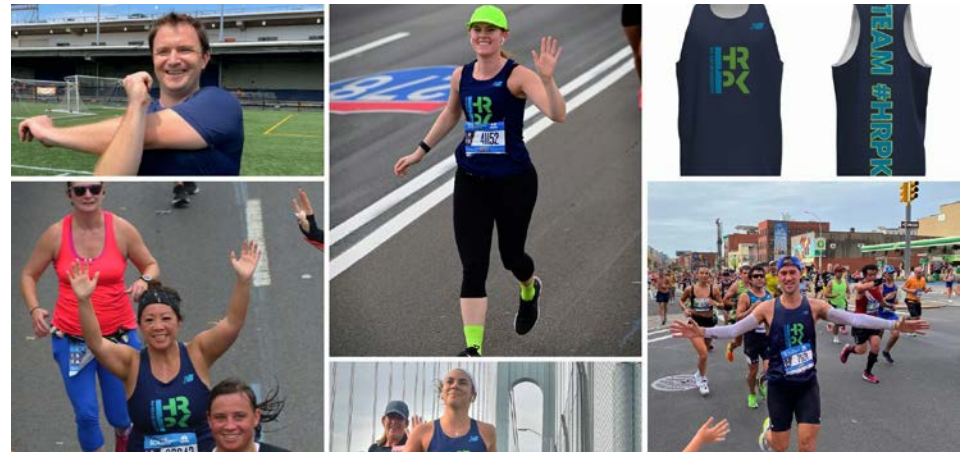
Playground Committee Summer Social >

New and old friends gathered in Southampton, NY for a summer soiree to mingle, shop and raise awareness for the Park's STEM education program, environmental sustainability, estuary research and more.



Gala >

Friends' 2022 Gala honored Ahmir "Questlove" Thompson, Hudson Yards and Michael Novogratz and raised \$2.6 million. All in-room giving contributed to the HRPK 550 Fund: Care for Every Acre, which supports the Park's landscapes and gardens, education and estuary research, environmental sustainability and free public programming.



2022 TCS New York City Marathon >

Led by our Sports and Athletics community, five runners represented Team HRPK at our inaugural charity partner race, the 2022 TCS New York City Marathon on November 6, 2022 and raised over \$26,000. In 2023, there will be even more opportunities for local athletes to ride and run for the Park.

More Community Connections



Community Composting >

In 2022, the Park diverted over 500,000 pounds of organic waste from landfills, including 350,000 pounds of horticultural waste and 160,000 pounds of food scraps. This was achieved in partnership with our neighboring communities who use the Park's [Community Compost](#) drop-off locations and through Compost Volunteer days.



SUBMERGE Marine Science Festival Returns >

Our two-day SUBMERGE Marine Science Festival hosted a day exclusively for NYC schools, welcoming over 1,000 students to dive into marine science with opportunities to interact with wildlife and learn about the work of our River Project team and a roster of local science partners.



Four-Legged Friends Events >

Every spring and fall, the Four-Legged Friends membership community gathers for two "pawsome" dog events: Paws for Happy Hour and Barktoberfest. Sponsors, Community Partners, dog owners and plenty of Four-Legged Friends celebrate and learn about our dog-friendly membership program.



Sports Field & Court Renovations >

The Park's athletic fields, basketball courts and tennis courts are among the most in-demand in all of Manhattan and are open daily all year long. Over 400,000 adults and children frequent our fields annually. In 2022, the Park opened a new rooftop field, specifically for ages 16 & under at Pier 40 and started renovating our three tennis courts.

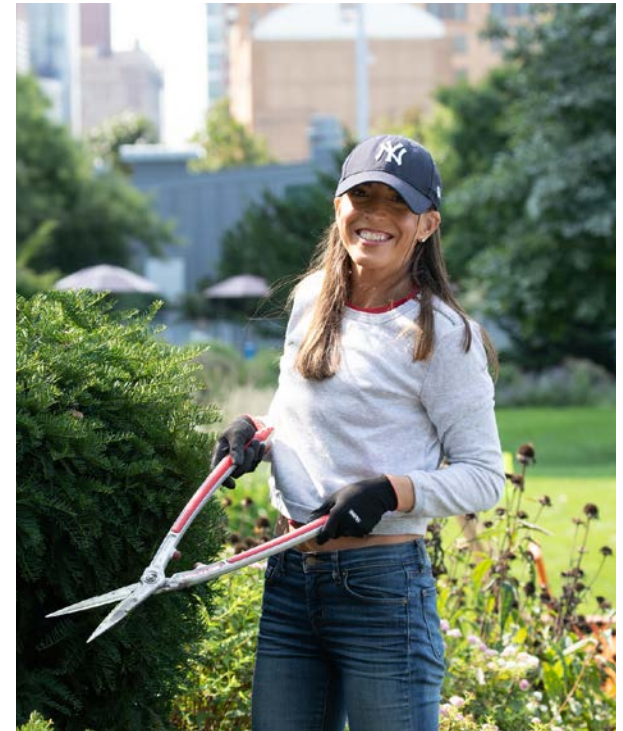
Volunteering in HRPK

Bringing New Yorkers Together to Keep Our Public Green Space Beautiful & Sustainable >

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 Hudson River Park Friends' growing Volunteer Program, which includes Neighborhood Gardeners, HRPK Green Team, Compost Volunteers, Corporate Volunteer Groups and Special Events volunteers.

In spring, summer and fall, you'll find volunteers trimming, weeding and planting in gardens all along the Park, taking part in shoreline cleanups, as well as helping out at major Park events. And you'll find Community Compost Volunteers dedicating their efforts year-round!

In 2022, our [Volunteer Program](#) participants and sponsors made an unprecedented impact, dedicating more time than ever before — **7,000 volunteer hours** — across 97 volunteer projects, more than we've hosted in any prior season.



Design & Construction



Pier 57 >

Historic Pier 57 is NYC's newest culinary, recreational and educational destination, celebrating the history and vitality of the city. Now open: [Market 57](#), a food hall curated by the James Beard Foundation; public community spaces and [HRPK's Discovery Tank](#), an interactive, tech-powered gallery and classroom.



Chelsea Waterside Park >

Opening in Spring 2023, the renewed Chelsea Waterside Park will include a spacious picnic area, public restrooms, an expanded turf field and a concession stand. A larger dog run with water features and separate areas for small and large dogs opened in October 2022.



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.

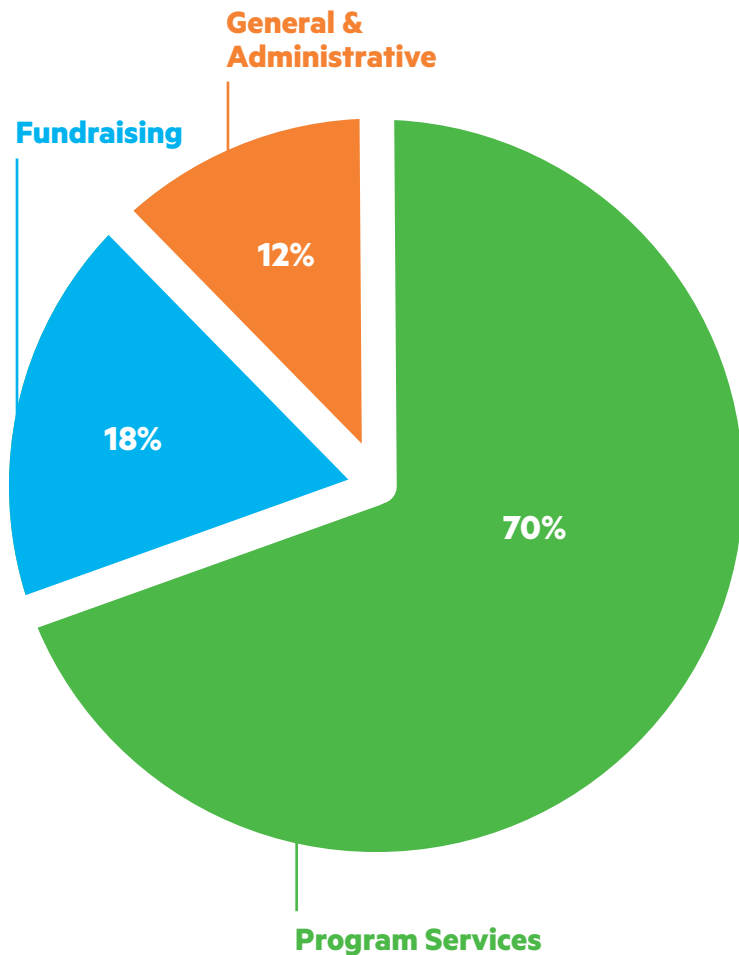


Pier 97 >

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

Financial Statements

Full audited financial statements available at hudsonriverpark.org/financial-information



Statement of Activities Year Ending 3/31/2023

Revenue	Unrestricted Funds	Temporarily Restricted	Year Ending March, 2022
Contributions	\$2,188,773	\$35,000	\$2,223,773
Grants	\$146,139	\$25,000	\$171,139
Events	\$1,930,781	\$-	\$1,930,781
Membership	\$662,650	\$-	\$662,650
In-kind	\$217,774	\$-	\$217,774
Investment income	\$18,446	\$-	\$18,446
Net assets released from restrictions	\$139,351	\$(139,351)	\$-
Total Revenues	\$5,303,914	\$(79,351)	\$5,224,563

Expenses

Program Services	\$4,132,271	\$-	\$4,132,271
General and Administrative	\$690,733	\$-	\$690,733
Fundraising	\$1,033,657	\$-	\$1,033,657
Total Expenses	\$5,856,661	\$-	\$5,856,661

Net Assets

Beginning of Year	\$934,884	\$506,557	\$1,441,441
End of Year	\$382,137	\$427,206	\$809,343
Change	\$(552,747)	\$(79,351)	\$(632,098)

Board of Directors

Diana L. Taylor
Chair

Scott M. Lawin
Vice Chair

Justin Sadrian
Vice Chair

Samuel F. Martini
Treasurer

Susanna Aaron
Secretary

Noreen Doyle
ex-officio

David Amsterdam

Cathy Blaney

Anthony Borelli

Peter Braus

Ben Brown

David Chang

Jennifer Cohan

Douglas B. Heitner

Shari Hyman

David Juracich

Larry Keigwin

Sarah Lambert

Meryl Levin

Joseph B. Rose

Ben Shaoul

Martha Stewart

David Tisch

Nat Turner

Mark Van Zandt

Greg Wasserman

Jacob Werner

Daniel J. Williams

As Board Chair of Hudson River Park Friends and former Chair of the Hudson River Park Trust, I'm so proud to be celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Hudson River Park Act in 2023. This cherished green space is near to my heart and has been part of my life for more than two decades.

This year we are fortunate to see the openings of nearly eight acres of new park at Pier 97, Gansevoort Peninsula, Pier 57 and the rejuvenated Chelsea Waterside. The extraordinary changes that Hudson River Park has brought to New York City since the HRPK Act was passed in 1998 have transformed the west side of Manhattan and brought unparalleled access to the Hudson River to the people of New York.

This unique public/private partnership serves as an institutional model for others to transform their own declining industrial waterfronts into exciting new public spaces that revitalize the urban environment. Thank you to all our generous supporters, donors and volunteers for helping guarantee Hudson River Park's bright, blue and green future.



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
Senior Director, Corporate & Community Engagement

Jean Kogut
Senior Director of Finance & Operations

Stephanie King
Major Gifts Officer

Phoebe Doran
Director of Events & Creative Services

Julie Goldberg
Senior Manager of Digital Media & Communications

Shannon Guttridge
Director of Development Operations

Eliza Kinsolving
Senior Individual Giving Manager

Tobin Kent
Senior Manager, Volunteer Program, Corporate & Community Engagement

Brenda Palencia
Finance & Operations Manager

Rita Tobin
Institutional Giving Manager

Lea Banks
Membership & Events Associate

Gloria Butler
Corporate & Community Engagement Associate

Lenke Defay
Corporate & Community Engagement Associate

For a full list of Friends, Donors, Foundations and Corporate funders, please visit
hudsonriverpark.org/donors

Celebrating 25 Years of Hudson River Park

Continuing our incredible growth spurt, 2023 looks forward to welcoming a refreshed Chelsea Waterside and the grand openings of Gansevoort Peninsula and Pier 97, which will bring nearly eight acres of new green space to New York City. Plus, anticipation continues to build for the arrival of the [Pier 26 Science Play Area](#), thanks to our generous donors and our elected representatives.

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 lives of New Yorkers.

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



2022
Annual Report