

PARKSIDE

HERMANN PARK CONSERVANCY NEWSLETTER

1&3
Community makes *Kite Festival* a Special Day in Hermann Park

2
From the President

4-5
Hats in the Park

6
"Color Bursting Hermann Park"

7
Featured Plant—Duchesse de Brabant Rose

8
Apache Corporation's Tree Grant Program Keeps Hermann Park Green

Volunteers Help HPC Swing into Springtime

9
Happy Hearts in Hermann Park

10
Ornate Friendship Pavilion Preparing for Restoration

11
Save the Dates!

in the park

Community makes *Kite Festival* a Special Day in Hermann Park



Photos by Anthony Stringer Photography



HATS IN THE PARK
see pages 4-5

MISSION
Hermann Park Conservancy is a citizens' organization dedicated to the stewardship and improvement of Hermann Park—today and for generations to come.



The fifth year of the Hermann Park Conservancy Kite Festival welcomed thousands of visitors for a fun-filled day in the Park on Sunday, March 25.

From interactive activities and crafts, to live performances, and kite flying, of course, this day was one that brought Houstonians from all walks of life together to enjoy a beautiful day in the Park.

Morgan Garvey, Molly Neff, and Lindsay Radcliffe chaired the successful *Kite Festival* along with the support of our host committee, sponsors and volunteers. Thank you to Andrews Kurth Kenyon LLP, Kids' Zone sponsor H-E-B, Phillips 66, and Verisolar for their support in making *Kite Festival* come to life!

More Kite Festival photos on page 3

Letter from the president

I love the *Kite Festival*! When we planned it for our centennial year, our goal was to have an old-fashioned day of family fun—much as they would have 100 years ago.

Remarkably, you can still experience the warmth and friendliness of when Houston was a much smaller city but now the festival is a shared experience for families of all ages who come from every neighborhood across the city. 15,000 people with a diversity of backgrounds united in joy! It makes me grateful for our team who works so hard to provide this special place that engenders community.

But we don't do it alone. I often refer to Hermann Park as a "miracle of community engagement." Each year, we see hundreds of individuals from the local community contribute more than 20,000 hours of their time through our volunteer program. We saw volunteers contribute to the regrowth of the McGovern Centennial Gardens after an unusually cold winter, and many are getting trained in special techniques to help with the Japanese Garden or restore our native habitats.



Dedicated volunteers help to keep the Gardens growing

There is joy in getting involved. This spring we also welcomed an exuberant community-based art project, "Color Bursting Hermann Park," which invited individuals from across the city to create colorful vests and skirts donned by some of Hermann Park's iconic trees. And tens of thousands attend the many marvelous programs that take place here, like *Park to Port* Bike Ride or our free gardening classes and story hour in the McGovern Centennial Gardens.



Community members share what they want to see in Hermann Park at Kite Festival

We would like to thank the more than 1,200 households who call themselves members of the Conservancy community. And our supporters don't just enable fun for others – they have a wonderful time at our fundraising events such as our annual *Hats in the Park* luncheon and Valentine's Day "Dinner and a Cruise".

I hope you are proud to be part of the community that loves and supports Hermann Park and our work to keep the Park thriving and vibrant. Thank you to each and every one of you for visiting, volunteering, giving and loving Hermann Park—you bring joy to families every day.

See you in the Park,

Doreen

Doreen Stoller, President



A family bikes by "Color Bursting Hermann Park"

DONORS

Historic Clubhouse

\$10,000–\$24,999

River Oaks Garden Club

\$1,000–\$4,999

Steppie and Robert Holsclaw

Karin and Leo Shipman

Hermann Park Family Commons

\$100–\$499

E D Bartell

Japanese Garden

\$1,000–\$4,999

Doreen Stoller and Dan Piette –

In memory of Erin Gregory Neale and Lamar Gregory Neale

McGovern Centennial Gardens

\$10,000–\$24,999

Grace and Ranier Pabilona –

In honor of Jose and Lily Pabilona

\$5,000–\$9,999

Yvette Bhutani –

In honor of Jose and Lily Pabilona

Dog Park

\$1,000–\$4,999

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\$500–\$999

Sarah and Michael Beckham

Kite Festival

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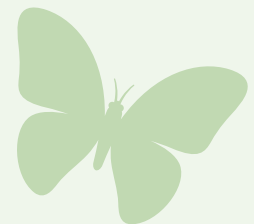
Carol and Dan Price

The Radcliffe Family

The Kim and Chris Reichert Family

Caroline and Justin Simons

The Vermillion Family



HERMANN PARK CONSERVANCY

continued from page 1

The Houston community came together on a beautiful day for the Fifth Annual Hermann Park Conservancy Kite Festival featuring a diverse array of activities, performances, and much more!

Photos by Anthony Stringer Photography

\$500-\$999

Gloria and Jesse Bounds
Elizabeth and Kevin Boyle
The Buck Family
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Karen Farber
Heather and David Houston
Ann Kennedy and Geoffrey Walker
Brittany Sakowitz Kushner and
Kevin Kushner
Molly and Rob Neff
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Erin and Adrian Patterson
The Prescott Family
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In Kind

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BikeHouston
Deep Eddy Vodka
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Hats in the Park Luncheon

*All gifts in honor of Diana Hawkins,
honoree, and chairs Francine
Ballard and Gregory Burk*

\$25,000-\$49,999

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McGovern Foundation
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Jenny Elkins/Jill Jewett/
Nancy McGregor
Superior Energy Services

\$10,000-\$24,999

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Sandy Godfrey/Franci Neely
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Letty Knapp
Colleen Kotts/Kim Tutcher/
Kay Watson
The Robert and Janice McNair
Foundation
Louisa Stude Sarofim
The Virginia and L.E. Simmons Family
Foundation
Phoebe and Bobby Tudor
Randa Weiner



Hats in the Park 2018

On Thursday, March 22, the blooms throughout the McGovern Centennial Gardens weren't the only bursts of lively color as 362 guests gathered in the Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion and Centennial Green for the annual *Hats in the Park* luncheon.

Event chairs Francine Ballard and Gregory Burk's efforts helped raise \$400,000 to support the Conservancy's mission to improve and maintain Hermann Park for generations to come, making it the most successful *Hats in the Park* to date.

Over a beautiful spring lunch, board chair Phoebe Tudor led a short program highlighting the Conservancy's achievements for one of Houston's most-loved greenspaces and shared a peek into what the Park's future has in-store with the Hermann Park Family Commons.

Mayor Sylvester Turner also spoke about Hermann Park's significance to the Houston community and its treasured history. "All the investments that are made in this Park, not only benefit this particular geographical area but it benefits the entire City of Houston, and keeps this city on the map," Mayor Turner stated. Adding, "Great cities all have fantastic parks that benefit their citizens and Houston now has great parks thanks to the hard work of the Conservancy and parks organizations, and your support helps to make that happen and is happening, here in this city."

Phoebe Tudor later introduced honoree, Diana Hawkins, who served as a Centennial Ambassador for Hermann Park's 2014 centennial celebrations, which saw the McGovern Centennial Gardens, including the Hawkins Sculpture Walk, come to fruition. A bottlebrush tree was presented in Diana's honor and will stand in the Gardens as a tribute to her dedication.

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the luncheon.



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HERMANN PARK CONSERVANCY



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30

1 Chairs Gregory Burk and Francine Ballard 2 Russell Hawkins and honoree Diana Hawkins 3 Conservancy Board Chair Phoebe Tudor and Conservancy President Doreen Stoller 4 Mayor Sylvester Turner addresses attendees 5 2019 *Hats in the Park* chairs Kelley Young and Laura Wareing Wheless 6 Katie Brass and Stephanie Cockrell 7 Becky Cooper, Nancy McGregor, Anita Elder, Jill Jewett, Cathy Chapman, Ellen Donnelly, and Lester Grundy 8 Paula Harris and Demetra Jones 9 Luba Bigman, Kristy Bradshaw, and Isabel David 10 Alice Burguieres, Kay Watson, and Linda Webster 11 Kim Tutcher, Gracie Cavnar, and Ellen Susman 12 Micah Kurtenbach, Holly Alvis, and Ashley Strickland 13 Isabelle Swartz, Gloria Luna Bounds, and Anna Kaplan 14 Judy Nyquist 15 Marianna Brewster and Ann Wolf 16 Cyndy Garza Roberts and Michele Leal 17 Letty Knapp, Jerry Ann and Victor Costa, and Lynda Underwood 18 Alison Weaver, Ellen Susman, Franci Neely, Sandy Godfrey, Frances Marzio, and Francoise Djerejian 19 Sherry Davis, Randa Weiner, and Cynthe Hughes 20 Courtney Fertitta, Lindsay Fox and Vanessa Sanchez 21 Liz Stephens, Shavonnah Roberts Schreiber, Roslyn Bazzelle Mitchell, and Kenedy Hughes 22 Susanne Pritchard and Blakely Griggs 23 Mary D'Andrea, Gina Bhatia, and Karen Bradshaw 24 Merele Yarborough, Sharon-Marie Hogge, and Dina McMearn 25 Elizabeth Boss, Shelli Lindley, Mary Jane Gallagher, and Suzanne Waller 26 Carrie Miller and Chandos Dodson Epley 27 Edward and Rini Ziegler 28 Mary Kay Story, Bonnie Longcope, Dede Roberts, and Linda Fields 29 Lesha Elsenbrook, Ellie Francisco, Denise Monteleone, and Jana Arnoldy 30 Stephanie Tsuru

“Color Bursting Hermann Park”

A special public art project has Hermann Park “bursting” with color this spring thanks to Houston artists Tami Merrick and Nicola Parente. As part of a project made possible by the Houston Parks and Recreation Department and the Houston Arts Alliance known as Bayou Trails, “Color Bursting Hermann Park” creates a symphony of visual art, dance, poetry, and music in celebration of spring.

While strolling through the Park, you’ll see a selection of the Park’s majestic trees sporting brightly colored skirts and vivid ribbon tree vests, made and installed by many community members, including students from YES Prep Eastside.

The project, on display through the beginning of May, also included dance, poetry, and musical components that made their debut at HPC’s *Kite Festival* on March 25.



Artists Tami Merrick and Nicola Parente with some of Hermann Park’s colorful trees.



Community members work on creating colorful tree vests



Students from YES Prep creating tree vests

DONORS

Hats in the Park continued

\$5,000–\$9,999

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 Tootsies
 Nicola Fuentes Toubia
 Hallie Vanderhider
 Linda Webster – In honor of
 Kay Watson
 Rini and Edward Ziegler

McGOVERN CENTENNIAL GARDENS

featured plant

\$500-\$999

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 Lindley Arnoldy
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 Kristen Berger
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 Cheryl Byington
 Carrie Carson
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 Valerie Fuller
 Morgan Garvey
 Blakely Griggs
 Jennifer Harkins
 Courtney C. Hopson
 Heather Houston
 Kenedy Hughes
 Kathleen Jennings
 Brenda Jones
 Laura Jones
 Allison Jordan
 Barbara P. LeGrange
 Ann Lents
 Leticia Loya —
 In honor of Phoebe Tudor
 Consuelo Macpherson
 Danielle Magdol
 Sandra Manela
 Laura McCullough
 Gretchen McFarland
 Mary Ann and David McKeithan
 Jessica Brown Mena
 Roslyn Bazzelle Mitchell
 Melissa Mithoff
 Marsha L. Montemayor
 Iris Mushin —
 In honor of Shelli Lindley
 H. Joe Nelson III
 Maggie Nicholson
 Judy Nyquist —
 In memory of Jane Schultz
 Lisa Oren
 Ashley Pearce

Duchesse de Brabant Rose



Named for the Duke of Brabant of Belgium and originally introduced in France by Bernede in 1857, this large, fragrant tea rose is a prospering bloom for the spring and summer months.

The pink, double rose, whose bloom was often worn by President Teddy Roosevelt on his lapel, is a beautiful accent to any garden.

The rose requires adequate airy spacing for optimum growth, and is a great specimen to be planted alone in a perennial border or in groups of three to five for a full flourish of color.

Discover this fragrant treat just around the corner from the McGovern Centennial Garden's entryway fountain as you enter the rose garden!



Joining the Conservancy is a Win-Win for Hermann Park and Members

Every Hermann Park Conservancy member is part of a team who believes Hermann Park is a treasure for all Houstonians. People join for different reasons. Some want to support urban conservation and wildlife habitat preservation, while others join to share the joy they had as children playing in Hermann Park with their own children. Membership support provides vital operating funds, which helps us to keep the Park looking better than ever.

In thanks for supporting this Houston treasure, Conservancy members receive exciting benefits including invitations to member exclusive events, free tickets to ride the Hermann Park Railroad and pedal boats, Member Express boarding lines, free unlimited rides on the train on the second Saturday of every month, and discounts in the Conservancy Gift Shop and Pinewood Cafe.

Learn more by visiting hermannpark.org/membership.

Apache Corporation's Tree Grant Program Keeps Hermann Park Green



Trees from Apache's Tree Grant Program arrive



Volunteers plant the newly donated trees in Bayou Parkland

Throughout late winter and early spring, HPC staff and volunteers joined together to plant 50 trees that were generously donated through Apache's Tree Grant Program. The gifted trees represent a variety of native trees that thrive in Hermann Park, including loblolly pine, bald cypress and wax myrtle. Most of

the trees found a new home in the Park's Bayou Parkland area, adjacent to Brays Bayou and the Bill Coats Bridge. Apache's Tree Grant Program has provided hundreds of trees to the Park's robust canopy over many years of support and the Conservancy is incredibly grateful. Thank you Apache!

Volunteers Help HPC Swing into Springtime



Volunteers harvesting in the Family Garden



HPC staff loads up produce from the Family Garden to be donated

The winter months hit the McGovern Centennial Gardens hard, but thanks to the help of our committed community volunteers, the Gardens are ready for a budding spring season!

Volunteers and HPC Gardens staff planted more than 500 flowering perennials to replace and replenish plants lost to the hard winter freezes in the perennial garden flanking the Centennial Green. Close to 100 pounds of produce from the Family

Garden was also harvested by volunteers to close out the winter growing season. The harvest included carrots, kohlrabi, cilantro, lettuce, collards, fava beans, and chard of all colors. The crop was donated to the Emergency Aid Coalition and will be used to help feed families in need.

Thanks to the efforts of our volunteers and Gardens staff, we have a blossoming spring to look forward to in the McGovern Centennial Gardens!

Hats in the Park continued \$500-\$999

Katherine Phelps – In honor of
Caroline and Boone Phelps
Kelly Provenzano
Leigh Anne Raymond
Beth Robertson
Brooke Robertson
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Trudy Wurzbarger
Katie Wynn
Kelley Young
Traci Young
Beth Zdeblick
Lyndsey Zorich

\$100-\$499

Terry Agris –
In honor of Hallie Vanderhider
Rosanna Blalock
Leslie D. Blanton
Minnette Boesel –
In honor of Phoebe Tudor
Ting Bresnahan –
In honor of Kristy Bradshaw
Cathy Brock –
In honor of Randa and KC Weiner
Robin Brooks
Lindsey Brown –
In honor of Evie and Elliott Brown
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Brenda Cook Cialone
Jerry Ann Woodfin Costa and
Victor Costa – In memory of Gene
M. Woodfin
Renee S. Davis
Jennifer Dolman –
In honor of Kristy Bradshaw
and Steve Dolman
Ellen Donnelly –
In memory of Paul Chapman
Peggy and Bert DuPont –
In honor of Tommy Lott
Lesha Elsenbrook
Martha Finger –
In honor of Phoebe Tudor

Julie Geer – In honor of Shelli Lindley
 Lynn Glazer –
 In honor of Carolyn Robertson
 Brooke Bentley Gunst –
 In honor of Beverly Bentley
 Ann Hamilton –
 In honor of Joe Nelson
 G.G. Hsieh
 Cynthe Hughes –
 In memory of Donna R. McWhirter
 Ann and Tom Kelsey
 Gaye Lovett Kelsey
 Ann Kennedy
 Carolyn Moore Khourie
 Franna Litton –
 In honor of Carolyn Robertson
 Marcia Mazingo
 Carrie Miller
 Kathleen O'Reilly –
 In memory of Kelly J. O'Reilly
 Anita G. O'Shaughnessy –
 In memory of Jim O'Shaughnessy
 Mary Patton
 Katherine Poncik – In honor of Mary
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 Vanessa Sanchez
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 In honor of Jane Curtis

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 Manik Talwani

Happy Hearts in Hermann Park

Valentine's Day 2018 brought a lot of love across all of Hermann Park. A large group of loving volunteers began the day in the McGovern Centennial Gardens' rose garden pruning rose bushes to prepare for a hearty spring bloom. The rose cuttings were donated to the Houston Zoo where

some of their resident elephants enjoyed chewing on their stems. Later in the evening, a sell-out crowd enjoyed HPC's annual "Dinner and a Cruise" at Pinewood Cafe where sweethearts enjoyed dinner on the terrace before pedal boating out on McGovern Lake.



Volunteers work in the Rose Garden



Happy couples were all around at the annual Valentine's Day "Dinner and a Cruise"

Ornate Friendship Pavilion Preparing for Restoration



Photo by Lifted Up Aerial Photography

Sitting atop the Tudor Family Pine Hill Walk within the McGovern Centennial Gardens, the Friendship Pavilion was a gift to the City of Houston from Taipei City to celebrate the bond between sister cities on the occasion of the United States Bicentennial in 1976. The pavilion arrived in Hermann Park in 1978 and has welcomed visitors for 40 years. Originally in the Houston Garden Center, it was moved to its current site as part of the McGovern Centennial Gardens plan in 2014. The elegant pavilion is rich in architectural symbolism representing good fortune and extolling international friendship.

Though refurbished in 1995, the Friendship Pavilion is now in need of a complete restoration project so that visitors can once again fully experience its intricate features. In partnership with the Houston-Taipei Society and the Parks and Recreation Department, the Conservancy will oversee the design and construction of the restoration. The Houston-Taipei Society has also generously donated \$20,000 to begin a maintenance fund for the pavilion to fund regular upkeep after the project's completion.

You can help the Conservancy and the Houston-Taipei Society restore the Friendship Pavilion and maintain it for generations to come by making a gift today at hermannpark.org.

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In memory of Archie Tafolla

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Plant a Tree**\$500–\$999**

Cece and Mack Fowler –
In memory of Lamar Cato
and in honor of the birth of
Ford Thompson

\$100–\$499

Laura Klingman – In memory of
Wilma Bushong

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In Kind

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The George Hermann Society recognizes donors who have provided for the future of Hermann Park through bequests or life income gifts to Hermann Park Conservancy.

The names listed above and on the preceding pages include donors who made gifts or pledges of \$100 or more between January 1 and February 28, 2018, as well as all *Hats in the Park* luncheon donors, *Kite Festival* donors, and George Hermann Society members. Gifts to the *Evening in the Park* gala will be recognized in the next issue. In compliance with IRS standards, commitments paid over time in installments are recognized once in full at the time of the pledge. Please contact the Conservancy if we inadvertently have not included your name or if you would like to be listed differently in future publications.

Save the Dates!

Hermann Park Conservancy Calendar of Events

**Evening in the Park**

Friday, April 27, 6:30 p.m. | Molly Ann Smith Plaza and
Jones Reflection Pool

**Urban Green's Urban Derby**

Thursday, May 3, 7–10 p.m. | McGovern Centennial Gardens

Mother's Day Breakfast

Sunday, May 13, 8:30 a.m. | Pinewood Cafe

**Member Sip and Stroll**

Tuesday, May 15, 6–8 p.m. | McGovern Centennial Gardens

Father's Day Breakfast

Sunday, June 17, 8:30 a.m. | Pinewood Cafe

Volunteer Orientations

April 18, May 19, June 13

Student Performances in the Park Series

Throughout the 2017–2018 School Year

Dates and times are subject to change

Details at hermannpark.org



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HermannPark](https://www.facebook.com/HermannPark)



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Improvements

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bench

Plant a tree

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Society

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the Park

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PARKSIDE / SPRING 2018

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