

2012 ANNUAL REPORT

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



LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



Dear Friends,

Since its establishment in 1992, Hermann Park Conservancy has been committed to the improvement of Hermann Park for the benefit of today's visitors, but also for those who will visit it decades from now. Early on, we developed a master plan to guide all efforts to make sure the big picture was always kept in mind. As the Park reaches its mile-

stone 100th birthday in 2014, we are ever closer to completing the major projects laid out by the master plan, ensuring the Park will be in great shape for its next 100 years.

Leadership gifts from the Duncan Family Foundation, John P. McGovern Foundation, and Phoebe and Bobby Tudor, along with other generous donations listed in this report, kept the Conservancy on target to complete the Centennial Campaign for Hermann Park in time for the civic celebration in 2014. Transformations of the Park's main entrance and the 15-acre Garden Center, to be known as the Centennial Gardens, are in store. These multimillion-dollar endeavors, along with the other magnificent changes made over the last 20 years, will put Hermann Park solidly on the map as one of the best urban parks anywhere.

The Centennial Campaign also plans to bring temporary public art installations to Hermann Park throughout 2014. The Circle of Animals/Zodiac Heads exhibition by celebrated Chinese artist Ai Wei Wei in Lake Plaza this year demonstrated how public art can bring a diverse community together. Situated beside the expansive McGovern Lake, the touring display also showed how art and its surroundings can uniquely complement each other and create a magical experience. The Conservancy was pleased to work with the Houston Arts Alliance and its partners to bring this work to Hermann Park as part of its international tour.

As you read through this annual report, which reflects on the Conservancy's fiscal year from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012, you will learn about our plans for the 2014 centennial as well as efforts made every day to revitalize, maintain, and safeguard the resources of Hermann Park. The renovated running trail, construction of the Bill Coats bike bridge, ongoing renovation of the Japanese Garden, effective volunteer and maintenance programs, and the Conservancy's early response to the devastating drought of 2011 are among the highlights that characterized fiscal year 2012.

Thank you to the board, staff, donors, and friends who made this year's achievements possible and allow us to continue our work leading up to the centennial. With your help, Hermann Park will be a valuable resource and source of pride to Houstonians for many years to come.

Sincerely,

ann Kennedy

Ann Kennedy 2012 Board Chair

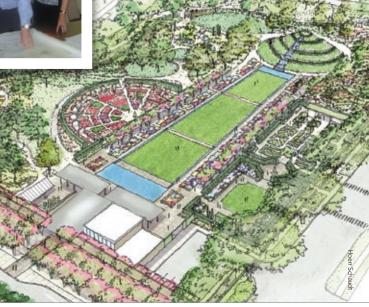


CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

The Conservancy continued planning for the 2014 Hermann Park centennial throughout fiscal year 2012. With the help of the board and staff, designers laid plans for improvement projects, generous contributions kept fundraising goals on track, and community partners helped spread the excitement of Hermann Park's upcoming centennial year.



Doug Hoerr, Peter Bohlin, and Doreen Stoller



Landscape architecture firm SWA Group developed their design for the Grand Gateway project, which will give the Park's historic main entrance a major facelift. Sophisticated landscaping including new trees and planter beds bursting with colorful flowers will add to the charm and stateliness of this welcome entry. New sidewalks, lighting, and bike racks will make the area more accessible from neighboring museums and residential areas, while irrigation will support the majestic Live Oaks that characterize the area. Construction is scheduled to begin in summer 2013, with a grand opening to take place during the 2014 centennial year.

The Centennial Gardens, the Conservancy's largest and lushest undertaking to date, came closer to becoming a reality in fiscal year 2012. The \$30 million project will transform Hermann Park's 15-acre Garden Center into an extraordinary destination. Hoerr Schaudt, the Chicago landscape architecture firm, continued their collaboration with White Oak Studio in Houston, with Dr. William C. Welch of Texas A&M University consulting. Following a nationwide search during fiscal year 2012, the Conservancy selected architect Peter Bohlin of the Philadelphia-based firm Bohlin Cywinski Jackson to design the entry pavilion in the Centennial Gardens. The whole team met in May 2012 to kick off their work together. The Conservancy aims to complete the entire project by the close of the centennial year, 2014.

The Conservancy continued efforts to garner enthusiasm for the centennial by joining forces with community celebration partners. These cultural, arts, and educational institutions will help publicize the upcoming centennial and extend the celebration to involve the entire city. A volunteer committee of local art patrons and experts researched and planned for the centennial Art in the Park series. This program will bring

public art exhibitions by internationallyrenowned artists to Hermann Park in 2014 as part of the community celebration. Throughout fiscal year 2012, prospective artists visited Hermann Park to consider potential installation ideas and locations.



Patrick Dougherty, Ain't Misbehavin', 2010, Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC, Courtesy of the artist

PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Bayou Parkland

Hermann Park's Bayou Parkland offers Houstonians 80 acres of natural area along Brays Bayou to explore. Thanks to SWA Group, who did the bayou master plan, and the Harris County Flood Control District, the bayou was widened and its sloped banks were reconstructed to reflect a more natural feel. New trails for biking and walking along the bayou now link a 35-mile path from the Houston Ship Channel to west Houston.

Bill Coats Bike Bridge

Connectivity was a major focus of planning for Hermann Park in fiscal year 2012. The construction of the modern, double-arched Bill Coats Bridge over Brays Bayou continued throughout FY2012. This bike bridge will be an important link in the effort to connect trails on both banks of the bayou. Spanning 290 feet, the contemporary bridge will provide increased convenience and safety for cyclists and pedestrians.

The Bill Coats Bridge has been made possible thanks to a federal bikeways program, the Texas Department of Transportation, the City of Houston, Houston Parks and Recreation Department, and Public Works and Engineering in conjunction with Hermann Park Conservancy. The lead designer was Barnhart Engineering with MC2 Architects providing the conceptual design.

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Pedestrian Trail

Mayor Annise Parker cut the ribbon on November 5, 2011, to celebrate the opening of Hermann Park's renovated pedestrian trail. The trail project is part of a multifaceted plan to increase connectivity and accessibility in the Park. Widened up to 14 feet across, the trail winds around the Hermann Park Golf Course. Runners and walkers now enjoy a two-mile path that features a decomposed granite surface with concrete curbs, attractive lighting, and improved drainage.

Matching funds provided by Conservancy donors leveraged federal funding administered by the Texas Department of Transportation for the \$2 million project, which was designed by Lauren Griffith Associates.

MAINTENANCE & VOLUNTEERS

The Conservancy's maintenance and volunteer programs made a huge impact as they supplemented the Houston Parks and Recreation Department's maintenance program in fiscal year 2012. Through these combined efforts, the Conservancy oversaw 21,480 hours of hard work in Hermann Park.













Individual and group volunteers contributed 12,948 of these hours as they assisted with tasks ranging from cleaning and weeding to planting and mulching. The Park benefited from visits by nearly 200 volunteer groups, including student groups from the University of Houston, Rice University, the University of St. Thomas, Houston Community College, and YES Prep Public Schools, as well as corporate groups including Shell, ExxonMobil, GDF Suez, Spectra Energy, and Bain and Company. KIPP summer youth interns participated in the Conservancy's Job Shadow volunteer service program, which provided opportunities to learn about conservation and public land management.

Major volunteer events on National Public Lands Day in September, Arbor Day in January, and National Day of Action in April rallied the community to support conservation and reforestation efforts. These three events alone brought over 500 volunteers to the Park

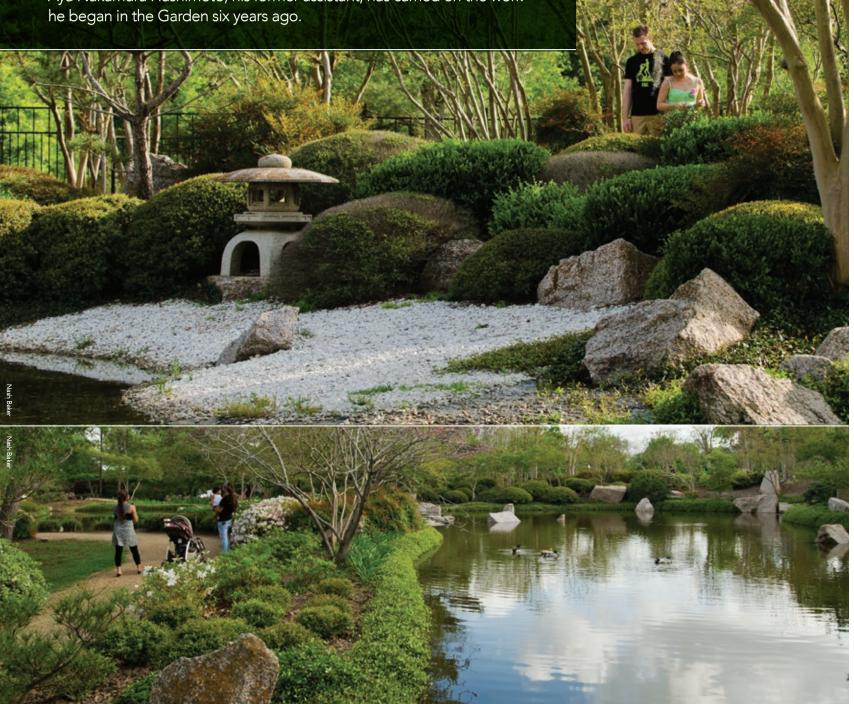
HPC staff contributed 780 hours to keeping the beds in Lake Plaza professionally maintained. The maintenance staff also oversaw the service of Harris County's Community Restitution Program, providing another 7,752 hours to keep the Park green and clean.

CONSERVATION

Project Blazing Star, Hermann Park's effort to restore Texas prairie to the Houston area, enjoyed a successful year. The first installation, Whistlestop Prairie, near the entrance to the Japanese Garden, was completed. Planning began for the Park's second pocket prairie to be located in Bayou Parkland. Because of the alarming rate at which original Texas prairies are being decimated by development, volunteers raced to regional prairie sites to rescue plants. They also visited existing remnant prairie locations to collect seeds and oversee their initial growth. These plants were then transferred to the Park.

JAPANESE GARDEN

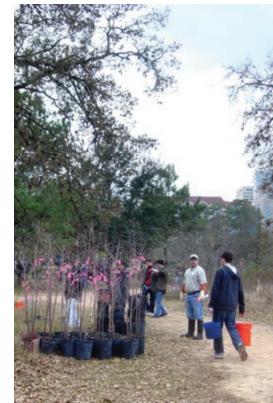
Fiscal year 2012 saw the continuation of improvements to the Japanese Garden with the assistance of the Garden's professional friends from Japan, landscape architect Terunobu Nakai and landscape gardener Hiroshi Iwasaki. New plant material was installed according to Mr. Nakai's design including fragrant Osmanthus trees, colorful azaleas, Indian Hawthorn, and additional plantings to replace those lost to the 2011 drought. Following Mr. Nakai's passing in January, landscape architect Aya Nakamura Hashimoto, his former assistant, has carried on the work he began in the Garden six years ago.



REFORESTATION

The summer of 2011 was hard on Hermann Park's tree canopy due to the unprecedented drought conditions that took a toll on the region's trees. Fortunately, only 676 affected trees were removed from Hermann Park, less than 10% of the total inventory. With percentages significantly higher around the city and region, the Conservancy helped minimize the drought's impact on the Park's trees through hand-watering, fertilizing, and special treatments to improve the soil and help roots stay healthy.

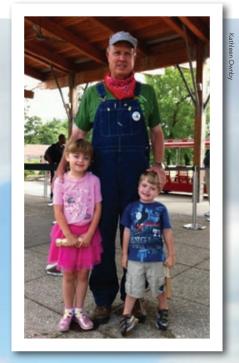
During January's Arbor Day, approximately 600 young trees were donated and planted throughout the Lake Picnic Area on the north side of McGovern Lake, the Park's hardest hit area. This opportunity was made possible thanks to organizations including the Apache Foundation, Houston Parks and Recreation Department Forestry Division's Replant Houston, Keep Houston Beautiful, and individuals concerned about the restoration of the tree canopy.



VISITOR SERVICES

The Visitor Services team works to ensure that Park visitors have a fun, safe, and memorable experience, while also generating vital operating revenues for the Conservancy. In fiscal year 2012, Visitor Services programs brought in more than \$1.3 million.

Over 320,000 people enjoyed a ride on the Hermann Park Railroad, generating just under \$1 million. McGovern Lake was a popular destination with over 20,000 pedal boat rides, raising over \$184,000 in revenue. Birthday parties and the Engineer for a Day program brought joy to children while bringing in \$25,000 for the Conservancy's mission. The Visitor Services team also manages a number of concessions in the Park, including Pinewood Cafe, the Park's popular new restaurant, the Conservancy Gift Shop, food carts, and fitness boot camps.



Besides generating much-needed revenue, Visitor Services sponsored a number of fun events for Park visitors including a party celebrating George Hermann's birthday in August. To the delight of Park visitors, the Conservancy presented the Second Annual Student Performances in the Park Series featuring hundreds of students from over 30 schools throughout the Houston area. Visitors enjoyed a variety of performances including band, orchestra, jazz, vocals, dance, cheerleading, and theater.





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SPECIAL EVENTS

Run in the Park



On Saturday, November 5, 2011, runners and walkers of all ages took their places in Molly Ann Smith Plaza for Run

in the Park. Due to recent improvements to the Park's pedestrian trail, the eighth annual run took place entirely in Hermann Park for the first time in its history. Mayor Annise Parker kicked off the morning's activities by firing the shot to start the five-mile run and two-mile family walk. Including the 1K kids' run participants, over 700 runners and walkers enjoyed a healthy trek around the Park, while hundreds of volunteers helped pull off the event. With the help of race chair Scott Dorfman, Run in the Park was a successful community event and raised over \$40,000 for the Conservancy.





Honoree Ernie and Janet Cockrell



hats in the park

Hats in the Park Luncheon

The fifth annual Hats in the Park luncheon brought friends together in floral and feathered hats of every color and style on the Historic Clubhouse lawn on March 6, 2012. Chair Donna Bruni greeted 250 guests who enjoyed an al fresco lunch by Jackson and Company while raising \$206,000 for the Conservancy's programs. Mayor Annise Parker presented longtime Park friend and honoree Ernest H. Cockrell with the 2012 Bob and Elyse Lanier Award. Saks Fifth Avenue, numerous fashion designers, and Hotel Granduca donated thousands of dollars' worth of fabulous raffle prizes.

Evening in the Park Gala

Chairs Ileana and J. Michael Treviño and Susan Krohn and Patrick Gehm welcomed guests to the 2012 Evening in the Park gala in the heart of Hermann Park on Wednesday, April 25, 2012. Guests dined on a delicious meal by Tony's and danced to the tunes of Julie Johnson with Spellbound. The Conservancy honored Rice University, the Park's Main Street neighbor, and its 100 years of excellence. Evening in the Park drew nearly 500 guests and raised over \$420,000 for Hermann Park Conservancy.



Y Ping Sun and Rice President David Leebron

Urban Green

The Miller Outdoor Theatre stage was the setting for Urban Green's The Green Gatsby



on November 17, 2011. The Roaring 20s theme brought guests in fringed dresses and plenty of pearls. Chairs Elizabeth Spradling, Annina

Stefanelli, Lindley Arnoldy, and Georgea Pappas (pictured above) welcomed 300 young professionals to the event.

and Susan Krohn

Chairs Ileana and

Michael Treviño



On May 10, 2012, over 400 Urban Green supporters mingled lakeside by McGovern Lake for Come Sail Away. Chairs Ben and Mary Patton, Catherine Bradley, Sarahbeth Pipkin, and Amy and David Doherty (pictured above) created a sensational nautical-themed event.

With the hard work of the event chairs and steering committee led by chair Brittany Sakowitz, both events were a tremendous success. Urban Green events and membership raised over \$38,000 in fiscal year 2012.





Chairs Patrick Gehm

Hermann Park Conservancy is grateful to all who generously contributed to the beautification, restoration, and improvement of Hermann Park during fiscal year

2012.

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\$1,000,000-\$10,000,000 Duncan Family Foundation John P. McGovern Foundation Phoebe and Bobby Tudor \$500,000-\$999,999 The Brown Foundation, Inc. The Cullen Foundation \$100.000-\$249.999 The Robert and Janice McNair Foundation \$1.000-\$4.999 The Anchorage Foundation. Inc. – In memory of Claire

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Lea Weingarten **Centennial Campaign**

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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 during the fiscal year from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012, as well as all George Hermann Society members. 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 listinas.

Statements of Financial Position as of June 30, 2012

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents\$ Receivables	820,832 474,397
Pledges receivable	14,780,441
Prepaid expenses and other assets	48,981
Investments	8,182,480
Property, net	1,460,688
TOTAL ASSETS	25,767,819

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities:

Liadinties.	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	66,826
Commissions payable to the City of Houston	22,138
Construction payable	69,528
Notes payable	1,103,505
Concessionaire deposits held	28,000
Funds held on behalf of City of Houston	1,291,535
Total liabilities	2,581,532
Net assets:	
	3.189.748
Temporarily restricted	17,766,014
Permanently restricted	2,230,525
Total net assets	23,186,287
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 25,767,819

Statement of Activities for the year

ended June 30, 2012

ended June 30, 2012	UN	RESTRICTED	TEMPORARII RESTRICTED	Y	PERMANENTL RESTRICTED	Y	TOTAL
REVENUE							
Contributions	\$	105,478 \$	15,904,019	\$	3,651	\$	16,013,148
Special events		649,313					649,313
Donor benefit costs – special events		(137,452)					(137,452)
Park concessions		926,908					926,908
Investment return		150,204	15,117	_		_	165,321
Total revenue		1,694,451	15,919,136		3,651		17,617,238
Net assets released from restrictions:							
Park projects and programs	_	381,579	(381,579)	_		_	
Total		2,051,869	15,561,718	_	3,651	_	17,617,238
EXPENSES							
Program services:							
Visitor Services		605,073					605,073
Planning, design, and construction		376,826					376,826
Park program and maintenance		365,447				_	365,447
Total program services		1,347,346					1,347,346
Management and general		136,134					136,134
Fundraising		321,067					321,067
Total expenses		1,804,547					1,804,547
CHANGES IN NET ASSETS		271,483	15,537,557		3,651		15,812,691
Net assets, beginning of year		2,918,265	2,228,457	_	2,226,874	_	7,373,596
Net assets, end of year	\$	3,189,748 \$	17,766,014		2,230,525	0	\$ 23,186,287

	Chair
$\tilde{\sim}$	Ann Kennedy
\bigcirc	Evenutive Committee
$\overline{}$	Executive Committee
	Jay Baker
ス	Sanford W. Criner, Jr.
	Danny David
\cup	Steve Dolman
	Cece Fowler
	Gregg Hollenberg
\leq	Margaret L. Kripke, Ph.I
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_	Terrylin G. Neale
\cup	Gary Kenneth Porter
_	Brian Rollins
ス	Cassie B. Stinson
	Phoebe Tudor
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\bigcirc	Sheridan Williams
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	Board
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	Marvin Taylor
	J. Michael Treviño
	John E. Walsh, Jr.
	Christine L. Wang
	Joe Weikerth
()	The Conservancy Team

The Conservancy Team

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	Lynne Donoghue Accounting Manager
	Barbara Jo Harwell Conservation Director
\preceq	Derrick Jackson Maintenance Coordinator
20	Mike Johnson Project Manager
	Diane Kerr

Manager of Volunteer Programs

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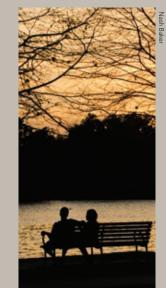
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