PNC ImagiNature Playground Opens to the Public

On June 10, Hermann Park Conservancy and PNC held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially open the new PNC ImagiNature Playground in Hermann Park. These innovative outdoor play spaces are made possible by a $100,000 grant from the PNC Foundation’s $500 million early childhood education initiative, PNC Grow Up Great, which seeks to prepare children from birth to age 5 for success in school and life.

As part of PNC’s Grow Up Great initiative, this play space gives children an opportunity to explore, play, and imagine as they develop healthy minds and bodies. Taking inspiration from nature such as boulders, wildlife and forests, the seven interactive areas encourage young Hermann Park visitors to play their own way.

The PNC ImagiNature Playground was designed by landscape architects White Oak Studio. In addition, understory plants have been donated by Trees for Houston to further the Conservancy’s reforestation efforts, with additional support provided by Landscape Art, and A&A Stone and Masonry.
letter from the president

After a year of social isolation, Dan and I were looking forward to seeing our friends again at Evening in the Park. But to celebrate our honorees, Laura and Brad McWilliams, and thank them for their generous gift to the dog park, our Lulu was also on hand to ensure that the gathered crowd understood just how huge the McWilliams’ hearts are when it comes to the furry members of our families.

So when I introduced Brad and Laura that evening, I didn’t focus on their many professional accomplishments, or generous and steadfast philanthropic involvement in Houston. Lulu wanted me to tell them—and you—something even more important. Lulu and Brad: doggie heroes. If you watch the video linked in the QR code in this newsletter, you’ll see a beautiful close up of Lulu and I will see you in the Park, soon.

Thanks to Laura and Brad for their wonderful gift to theoggies who are all part of the Conservancy family. Lulu and I will see you in the Park!

Doreen L. Stiles, President, Lulu and Lulu at Evening in the Park

DONORS

Play Your Park Campaign
$500,000–$999,999
The Samuels Foundation
$375,000–$749,999
Mark McWilliams and Richard Hult – In honor of our children—Lucy, Genevieve, and Fontenelle
$250,000–$499,999
Danny Turner Foundation
$200,000–$249,999
Mary L. and Brian N. Rollins
The Commons at Hermann Park
$100,000–$199,999
Sherry and Tommy Lott
$50,000–$69,999
Phillip DeLe
Kathleen and Michael Schwach
$10,000–$14,999
Clare and Joseph Greenberg – in honor of John Clark
Kathleen and John Merrell – In memory of Kathy Breda
Stephanie and Robert Holcaw
Doreen Stiler and Dan Piette
$5,000–$9,999
Katey and Jesse Magdar
$1,000–$4,999
Mary L. and Brian N. Rollins
McWilliams Dog Park
$10,000–$24,999
Elizabeth Stephens Gregory
$1,000–$4,999
Alivia and Albert Choo – In honor of Laura McWilliams
Roselle Hitzhoft
Stephanie D. Lorenzi
Comedia Long
$300–$999
Cace and Mack Fowler
Carolyn Hilt – In memory of Clark, Darian, Dannielle, and Freyja
Elizabeth and Albert Kidd – In honor of Laura and Brad McWilliams
The Waters Family – In honor of Karen and Ken Redding
$100–$299
Mary and Mark Arnold
Valerie and Henry Chapman, L.M.D.
Cheryl and Tom Campana
Deb Perkins and Mark Sbraccia – In memory of Gus the Scottish Terrier
Kerry Ward and William Sager
McGovern Centennial Gardens
$10,000–$24,999
Carla Tours – In honor of Joe Tours
Japanese Garden
$5,000–$9,999
Sue Ann Jett – in memory of John Woods
$1,000–$4,999
Clifford Kallibjian
Friendship Pavilion
$1,000–$4,999
Laura H. e
Historic Clubhouse – Lott Hall
$100–$299
Larry and Larry Bernard – In honor of Tommy Lott

Evening in the Park Gala
$25,000–$49,999
Joan and Jerry Mathis
Stephanie and Park Turi
$15,000–$24,999
Kristy and Chris Bradshaw/Bristow Group

Virginia A. Clark
Hillblond Fund
Brighton and Brian Callicott
Alícia and Lance Smith
Laura and Brad McWilliams
Primo Neely
Phoebe and Bobby Tudor
$10,000–14,999
Choua and Loni Thao
Jo and Jan Fun/Rosie Bazellie Mitchell and Derek Mitchell
Ho–E
Marilyn Love/Louise Bentz/Jane and Bill Cartis
Sherry and Tommy Lott
Davi and Ryan McCorr
Rice University
Louisa S. Sanfin
Allison and Troy Tucker
$3,000–5,999
Henrietta Alexander
Marla and Ted Bannin
Carol and Joseph Folkert
Anne and Charles Lueders
CenterPoint Energy
Anne and John Luebeck
Susan and Sanford Cinerin
Caron and Mark Foster
Molly and Jim Crosson
Isabel and Danny David/Baker Bots, L.P.
C.C., S. and Duke Eriist
Cheese and Jim Flores

Houston Grand Opera Friends of Laura and Brad McWlliams
Mindy, Jeter and Gaven Davis
Sta and Harry Johnson
Ann Kennedy and Geoffrey Walker
Nancy and John Mann
Catherine O’Connell/Mary Patton
Walt and Matt Pewett
Isla and T. Reckling III
Yael and Michael Sabat
Winnie Schwarz and Kevin Boncek
Jane Coscullera Schmitt and Dick Schmitt – In memory of Abby Bowman
Barbara and Louis Edel
Kimberly and David Sterling
LeaRuth
Jane and Dick Weekley
Sue and Larry Wilke
Velvet and Robert Windham
$1,000–$4,999
Dorothy and Mickey Abile
Jana and John Scott Arnolds
Suze and David Akeens
Ann and Jonathan Ayre
Gayle and Lloyd Berendson III
Alex Beller and Mark Gross
Lea and Matt Harkness
Ann and John Huckabee
Harry L. Bowler
Cindy and Larry Burns
Terecia Cabralis and Kevin Richardson
Brenda and Joseph Calirne
Darlene Clark and Edward FRIENDS
Cathy and Joe Chery
Julie and John Coghe
Tanya and Michael Corleiss
C. C. Comer
Vivian and Christvas
Valerie and Tracy Dierste
Steve Dolman
Alina and Richard Doerce
Leah and Thomas Eckhoff
Clayton and Shet Erickson
Mark Fiskau and Christopher M. Johnston
Esther Friedman Family Foundation/Mihoko and Brent Friedman
Ann and J. Kent Friedman
Carroll and Ron Galen
Morgan Gaveny
Pieroscia and Federic Gauthier-Winther
Cullen Gesakman
Sandy and Lew Gregory

HERMANN PARK CONSERVANCY

Snow and Cold Make Way for Summertime Blooms

We may now be entering the sweltering months in Houston, but it was a very different story in February. With this previous edition of Parkside already going to press by the time Winter Storm Uri touched down, it was too late to cover the impact the snow and freeze had on Hermann Park.

Due to the severe cold, there were 13 burst pipes throughout the Park and the Conservancy saw the loss of many plants, but due to our gardening team’s ingenious selection of flora, thousands of affected plants were recovered beautifully! The Conservancy team has been busy cleaning back dead plant tops and re-planting since late February, with much more work still needing to be done.

Next time you’re in the Park, be sure to take an extra special moment to admire all of the wonderful blooms and color after one of the toughest winters Houston has ever seen!

What’s Blooming?

Aspen (Aspären Canadensis)

Parkside Trail covered in snow

Friendship Pavilion (Legend Walk)
Touring the Commons: Entry Garden

The iconic statue of George Hermann will greet visitors as they enter.

Six acres of colorful native plantings with walking paths throughout.

Live oaks will fill out the tree canopy and provide shade to Park visitors.

Fundraising is happening now. Visit hermannpark.org/thecommons to get involved.

Located across the street from the Texas Medical Center with easy accessibility for healthcare professionals.
Evening in the Park 2021

Though the rain was persistent throughout the day, the afternoon skies cleared just in time for Evening in the Park, held on Friday, April 30. Due to Covid-19 safety measures, this year’s event looked a little different than in the past. Instead of a singular gathering point at the Molly Ann Smith Plaza, socially distant and tented “pods” were meticulously placed along the Mary Gibbs and Jesse H. Jones Reflection Pool for each table’s party. But despite the breaking of tradition, the Hermann Park Conservancy surpassed its goal and raised $650,000 for the care and improvement of Hermann Park.

Co-chairs Jo and Jim Furr, and Roslyn Bazzelle Mitchell and Derrick Mitchell worked tirelessly to ensure that not only would guests have a fun and safe night, but that this Evening in the Park made up for lost time due to 2020’s gala cancellation. The honorees for 2021 were long-time Conservancy supporters and champions Laura and Brad McWilliams, celebrating the upcoming dog park, to be named in their honor after a generous leading gift.

Thank you to everyone who supported this special evening benefiting the Conservancy.
Urban Green returns with Ticket to Ride on June 3, 2021. 

Urban Green returns with Ticket to Ride on June 3, 2021. Despite being originally scheduled for May 20, unwieldy weather caused Ticket to Ride to be delayed by two weeks. However, there was an equally buoyant burst for the scheduled date and the event was moved to the newly renovated Lott Hall.

Every Membership Counts at Hermann Park Conservancy

Hermann Park Conservancy members all join for different reasons. Some want to support urban conservation and wildlife habitat preservation, some want to share the joy they had as children playing in Hermann Park with their own children, and some just love riding the train. But regardless of why people join, one thing all members have in common is that they are all supporting vital operational needs in Hermann Park, which helps us keep it looking better than ever. And just how do memberships do that?

• A Drones membership buys 24 pairs of garden gloves for staff and volunteers to work in the Park.
• A Centennial membership buys landscaping tools to remove invasive species from the Park’s plant beds.
• A Gold membership purchases a portable water tank to water newly-planted trees during drought conditions.

While maintaining and caring for Hermann Park isn’t always glamorous, it is essential. Every membership counts and they are the best way to directly support the Conservancy’s efforts to make sure Hermann Park is here today and for generations to come.

Learn how you can help by visiting Hermannpark.org/membership. 

Leaves Your Mark on Hermann Park

Help us ensure the Hermann Park you love will be here for future generations. If you are interested in including Hermann Park Conservancy in your will or personal trust, creating charitable remainder trusts, or making life insurance or retirement fund gifts to the Conservancy, please call 713-524-5876 or email development@hermannpark.org.

Hermann Park Conservancy members

Donations to the Hermann Park Conservancy are tax deductible to the fullest extent provided by law. 

Donors

• A Platinum membership purchases 1.5 acres of Coastal Prairie Seed Mix to help restore the natural habitat of the migratory bird islands.
• A Conductor’s Circle membership purchases 20 native trees to plant in the Park.

Please help support the Conservancy by visiting Hermannpark.org/membership.

**Leave Your Mark on Hermann Park**

**Hermin Park Conservancy**

**Every Membership Counts at Hermann Park Conservancy**

Hermann Park Conservancy members all join for different reasons. Some want to support urban conservation and wildlife habitat preservation, some want to share the joy they had as children playing in Hermann Park with their own children, and some just love riding the train.

But regardless of why people join, one thing all members have in common is that they are all supporting vital operational needs in Hermann Park, which helps us keep it looking better than ever. And just how do memberships do that?

• A Drones membership buys 24 pairs of garden gloves for staff and volunteers to work in the Park.
• A Centennial membership buys landscaping tools to remove invasive species from the Park’s plant beds.
• A Gold membership purchases portable water tank to water newly-planted trees during drought conditions.

While maintaining and caring for Hermann Park isn’t always glamorous, it is essential. Every membership counts and they are the best way to directly support the Conservancy’s efforts to make sure Hermann Park is here today and for generations to come.

Learn how you can help by visiting hermannpark.org/membership.

**Leave Your Mark on Hermann Park**

**Hermin Park Conservancy**

**Every Membership Counts at Hermann Park Conservancy**

Hermann Park Conservancy members all join for different reasons. Some want to support urban conservation and wildlife habitat preservation, some want to share the joy they had as children playing in Hermann Park with their own children, and some just love riding the train.

But regardless of why people join, one thing all members have in common is that they are all supporting vital operational needs in Hermann Park, which helps us keep it looking better than ever. And just how do memberships do that?

• A Drones membership buys 24 pairs of garden gloves for staff and volunteers to work in the Park.
• A Centennial membership buys landscaping tools to remove invasive species from the Park’s plant beds.
• A Gold membership purchases portable water tank to water newly-planted trees during drought conditions.

While maintaining and caring for Hermann Park isn’t always glamorous, it is essential. Every membership counts and they are the best way to directly support the Conservancy’s efforts to make sure Hermann Park is here today and for generations to come.

Learn how you can help by visiting hermannpark.org/membership.

**Leave Your Mark on Hermann Park**

**Hermin Park Conservancy**

**Every Membership Counts at Hermann Park Conservancy**

Hermann Park Conservancy members all join for different reasons. Some want to support urban conservation and wildlife habitat preservation, some want to share the joy they had as children playing in Hermann Park with their own children, and some just love riding the train.

But regardless of why people join, one thing all members have in common is that they are all supporting vital operational needs in Hermann Park, which helps us keep it looking better than ever. And just how do memberships do that?

• A Drones membership buys 24 pairs of garden gloves for staff and volunteers to work in the Park.
• A Centennial membership buys landscaping tools to remove invasive species from the Park’s plant beds.
• A Gold membership purchases portable water tank to water newly-planted trees during drought conditions.

While maintaining and caring for Hermann Park isn’t always glamorous, it is essential. Every membership counts and they are the best way to directly support the Conservancy’s efforts to make sure Hermann Park is here today and for generations to come.

Learn how you can help by visiting hermannpark.org/membership.

**Leave Your Mark on Hermann Park**

**Hermin Park Conservancy**

**Every Membership Counts at Hermann Park Conservancy**

Hermann Park Conservancy members all join for different reasons. Some want to support urban conservation and wildlife habitat preservation, some want to share the joy they had as children playing in Hermann Park with their own children, and some just love riding the train.

But regardless of why people join, one thing all members have in common is that they are all supporting vital operational needs in Hermann Park, which helps us keep it looking better than ever. And just how do memberships do that?

• A Drones membership buys 24 pairs of garden gloves for staff and volunteers to work in the Park.
• A Centennial membership buys landscaping tools to remove invasive species from the Park’s plant beds.
• A Gold membership purchases portable water tank to water newly-planted trees during drought conditions.

While maintaining and caring for Hermann Park isn’t always glamorous, it is essential. Every membership counts and they are the best way to directly support the Conservancy’s efforts to make sure Hermann Park is here today and for generations to come.

Learn how you can help by visiting hermannpark.org/membership.

**Leave Your Mark on Hermann Park**

**Hermin Park Conservancy**

**Every Membership Counts at Hermann Park Conservancy**

Hermann Park Conservancy members all join for different reasons. Some want to support urban conservation and wildlife habitat preservation, some want to share the joy they had as children playing in Hermann Park with their own children, and some just love riding the train.

But regardless of why people join, one thing all members have in common is that they are all supporting vital operational needs in Hermann Park, which helps us keep it looking better than ever. And just how do memberships do that?

• A Drones membership buys 24 pairs of garden gloves for staff and volunteers to work in the Park.
• A Centennial membership buys landscaping tools to remove invasive species from the Park’s plant beds.
• A Gold membership purchases portable water tank to water newly-planted trees during drought conditions.

While maintaining and caring for Hermann Park isn’t always glamorous, it is essential. Every membership counts and they are the best way to directly support the Conservancy’s efforts to make sure Hermann Park is here today and for generations to come.

Learn how you can help by visiting hermannpark.org/membership.

**Leave Your Mark on Hermann Park**

**Hermin Park Conservancy**

**Every Membership Counts at Hermann Park Conservancy**

Hermann Park Conservancy members all join for different reasons. Some want to support urban conservation and wildlife habitat preservation, some want to share the joy they had as children playing in Hermann Park with their own children, and some just love riding the train.

But regardless of why people join, one thing all members have in common is that they are all supporting vital operational needs in Hermann Park, which helps us keep it looking better than ever. And just how do memberships do that?

• A Drones membership buys 24 pairs of garden gloves for staff and volunteers to work in the Park.
• A Centennial membership buys landscaping tools to remove invasive species from the Park’s plant beds.
• A Gold membership purchases portable water tank to water newly-planted trees during drought conditions.

While maintaining and caring for Hermann Park isn’t always glamorous, it is essential. Every membership counts and they are the best way to directly support the Conservancy’s efforts to make sure Hermann Park is here today and for generations to come.

Learn how you can help by visiting hermannpark.org/membership.
On June 12, the Conservancy’s board and advisory board met in person as a group for the first time in over a year, but this wasn’t for a traditional board meeting.

Members of the Conservancy’s board and advisory board were invited to Hermann Park to get their hands dirty for a family-friendly volunteer day and picnic. Since children love playing in the dirt, Park-lovers of all ages helped mulch picnic. Since children love playing in the park over 100 trees and understory plant over 100 trees and understory. With their help, we were able to log 1,210 hours, totaling over $30,000 of labor impact in the month to celebrate Earth Day. The public answered and was able to log 1,000 volunteer hours throughout the month to celebrate Earth Day. The public answered and was able to log 1,000 volunteer hours throughout the month to celebrate Earth Day. The public answered and was able to log 1,000 volunteer hours throughout the month to celebrate Earth Day.

Afterwards, families enjoyed a picnic lunch in the blooming McGovern Centennial Gardens to kick off the beginning of summer and celebrate an accomplished year at the Conservancy.

Save This Summer

Make your big day unforgettable and help keep Hermann Park looking photo-ready.

Looking to have your event between July and September? Then check out our Summer Special pricing on event rentals for up to 25% off your booking!

Visit hermannpark.org/rentals for more details on how to save today.

Volunteers Give Back to Hermann Park

It has been a buoyous few months in the Park for our Conservancy volunteers. In April, a new initiative was kicked off that challenged the public to help log 1,000 volunteer hours throughout the month to celebrate Earth Day. The public answered and was able to log 1,000 volunteer hours throughout the month to celebrate Earth Day. The public answered and was able to log 1,000 volunteer hours throughout the month to celebrate Earth Day.

A Day Out with the Conservancy Family

If you are interested in giving back and volunteering in Hermann Park, visit hermannpark.org/volunteer.

The names listed above and on the preceding page are members who made gifts of pledges of $100 or more to Hermann Park in 2021, as well as all Evening in the Park donors and Conservation Society members. In compliance with IRS standards, contributions of any type in installments are recognized once in full at the time of the pledge. Please contact the Conservancy if inadvertently have not included your name or if you standards, commitments paid over time members. In compliance with IRS made gifts or pledges of $100 or more to Hermann Park in 2021, as well as all Evening in the Park donors and Conservation Society members. In compliance with IRS standards, contributions of any type in installments are recognized once in full at the time of the pledge. Please contact or if you have not included your name or if you have not included your name or if you have not included your name or if you have not included your name or if you have not included your name or if you have not included your name or if you have not included your name or if you have not included your name or if you have not included your name or if you have not included your name or if you have not included your name or if you have not included your name or if you have not included your name or if you have not included your name or if you have not included your name or if you have not included your name.

The names listed above and on the preceding page are members who made gifts of pledges of $100 or more to Hermann Park in 2021, as well as all Evening in the Park donors and Conservation Society members. In compliance with IRS standards, contributions of any type in installments are recognized once in full at the time of the pledge. Please contact the Conservancy if inadvertently have not included your name or if you would like to be listed differently in future publications.
See what’s coming to Hermann Park and how you can help

Play YOUR Park

Printed on recycled paper using soy-based ink