

# PARKSIDE

HERMANN PARK CONSERVANCY NEWSLETTER

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## MISSION

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



in the park

## Kites Take Over the Sky at the Inaugural Hermann Park Kite Festival



Photos by Jared Kudbeck - www.jaredk.com

In honor of Hermann Park's centennial year, the Conservancy hosted the first ever **Hermann Park Kite Festival** on Saturday, March 29.

The day started off a little cold and dreary but by mid-morning the sun was shining, the wind was blowing, and the blue sky over Miller Hill and the Jones Reflection Pool was filled with kites in all shapes, sizes, and colors. Over 5,000 people came to the Park to try their hand at kiting with many experiencing for the first time the joy that flying a kite can

bring. For those whose kites couldn't quite get off the ground, there was plenty more to enjoy including face painting, roaming jugglers, stilt-walkers, and ribbon dancers, as well as appearances by the Houston Texans cheerleaders and the Houston Rockets promo team.

*Continued on page 3*

Hats in the Park Chair Laurie Morian, Doreen Stoller, Honoree Cherie Flores, and Honorary Chair Lynn Wyatt



Priscilla Doleen Photography

*Hats in the Park* is always a magical event, but this year's luncheon took on special meaning as we celebrated Hermann Park's centennial.

Almost 380 guests, the largest crowd ever, braved rain and near-freezing temperatures to attend the luncheon, dressed in a range of attire from spring frocks to fur hats. *Hats in the Park* chair Laurie Morian, and honorary chair, Lynn Wyatt, took the chilly temps in stride and didn't let the weather dampen their spirits.

It was our great pleasure to recognize longstanding Hermann Park advocate, Cherie Flores, as this year's honoree and to have Mayor Annise Parker on hand to introduce Cherie to the luncheon guests. Cherie was appointed to the Garden Center Advisory Board by Mayor Bill White seven years ago, and is passionate about gardening. She nurtures her own collection of roses and camellias and is an avid vegetable grower.

Cherie has been invaluable in making the McGovern Centennial Gardens a reality. Last spring, for her 50th birthday, her husband, Jim, surprised her with a \$5 million gift to the McGovern Centennial

Gardens and the honor of naming the new pavilion in the Gardens the Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion. Traditionally, the Conservancy plants a tree for the honoree, but because of her love of camellias, a grove of camellias will be planted in her honor. As Cherie graciously accepted the honor, she thanked her many friends who were in attendance that day for their support. She also thanked her husband Jim in absentia for his behind-the-scenes work on the donation to the McGovern Centennial Gardens.

Many thanks to the chairs, to Cherie, and to everyone who came to *Hats in the Park*. There are many more special events to come as we continue to celebrate the Park's centennial year including *Evening in the Park* on April 25, the completion of the renovation of the Grand Gateway this summer, the *Park to Port* Bike Ride in September, and the grand opening of the McGovern Centennial Gardens in October. We hope you will join us at all of these events!

See you in the Park,

*Doreen*

Doreen Stoller  
Executive Director

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- \$100–\$499**  
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Linda and Larry Andrews  
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Andrea and David Faulkinberry  
Karen and Bob Fritz  
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Nonya and Jonathan Grenader  
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Punkin and Walter Hecht – In honor of our great city of Houston  
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- \$100–\$499**  
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**Centennial Underwriters**

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- In-kind**  
Houston Chronicle  
TPRB Advertising



**\$100-\$499**

Doreen Stoller and Dan Piette

**Centennial Art in the Park**

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of June Lott

**Kite Festival**

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JAEKAE LLC  
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**Park to Port Bike Ride**

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Robin and Richard Brooks  
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Shawn Beatty, and Katie Beatty  
Maureen and Geoff Goddard  
Lou Ann and Milton Gray  
Sharon and Cecil Griffin  
Steppie and Robert Holsclaw  
Tim Horan  
Judith Ann Jewels  
Bobetta and Bill Lindig



*continued from page 1*

One of the most popular activities were the parachute races taking place up and down Miller Hill with many kids nearly getting lifted off the ground as their parachute filled with air above them. A day's worth of student performances, magic shows, and music filled the main stage in Molly Ann Smith Plaza and kept the dance floor in front of the stage busy throughout the day.

The Orange Show for Visionary Arts, the Alley Theatre, and Asia Society Texas Center provided arts and crafts for kids and families in the Houston Public Media Kids Zone. S.H.A.R.K., the South Houston Area Recreational Kites, demonstrated their high-flying skills with giant colorful kites in the shape of lizards and fish. Kids of all ages competed in the Kite Flying Contest

sponsored by United Airlines. Winners in categories such as largest kite, smallest kite, best homemade kite, most unique kite, and most colorful took home medals provided by United Airlines. Guests enjoyed fine food truck fare from the Waffle Bus, Custom Confections, and Tila's Tacos Truckeria, and sipped cold root beer from Saint Arnold Brewing Company. New park-goers and Hermann Park regulars alike enjoyed the sights and sounds of this very special and truly magical day in the Park. Chairs Morgan Garvey and Paul-David Van Atta put on a fantastic event. Many thanks to them, to the host committee, the sponsors, and to everyone who came to the Kite Festival for helping make this a memorable day for all.

Photos by Jean Miracle Whitaker and JAEKAE LLC





**HATS IN THE PARK**  
*LAISSEZ LES BON TEMPS ROULER*

On Tuesday, March 4, ladies and gents headed to Hermann Park for the centennial *Hats in the Park* luncheon. It was a blustery day outside in Hermann Park, but the luncheon tent was transformed by Todd Events into an ethereal spring setting with custom ombre'd draped ceiling swags and a wall of hand-painted watercolor paper flowers. Black and white linens and flooring were combined with fuchsia-toned flowers to give the event a sleek and elegant feel. Adding to the fun was a delectable lunch from City Kitchen Catering and an exciting raffle of two watches donated by Tiffany & Co.

Chair Laurie Morian and honorary chair Lynn Wyatt hosted a record-breaking event with \$289,861 raised specifically for the luncheon along with a portion of the \$731,750 in special centennial underwriter packages which included a luncheon table. The event honored Cherie Flores, for whom the McGovern Centennial Gardens Garden Pavilion will be named. Next year's *Hats in the Park* luncheon will be chaired by Estela Cockrell and Denise Monteleone at the new Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion and is certain to be another fabulous event.

**Hope to see everyone next year!**

Photos by Priscilla Dickson Photography



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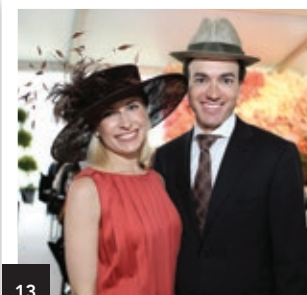
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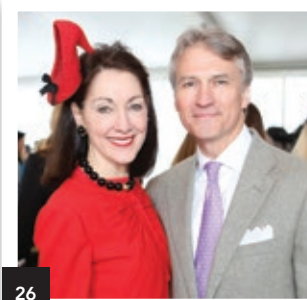
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HERMANN PARK CONSERVANCY



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1 Laurie Morian, Cherie Flores, and Lynn Wyatt 2 Sis Johson, Sheridan Williams, Franci Crane, Cynthia Petrello, Ann Short, Sima Ladjevardian, Françoise Djerejian, Y. Ping Sun, and Sandy Godfrey 3 Anne Mendelsohn, Martha Turner, and Cassie Stinson 4 Linsay Radcliffe and Rachel Solar 5 Don Weissman, Mike McClure, and Laurie Morian 6 Alice Mosing and Kim Moody 7 Gracie and Bob Cavnar 8 Pat Breen, Jeanie Kilroy Wilson, and Linda McReynolds 9 Bo Pamphilis, Ana Blackmon, Electra Elliot, Mary Ross, and Cheryl Sorak 10 Jim Nelson, Ann Kennedy, and C.C. Conner 11 Phoebe Tudor and Jana Arnoldy 12 Mary D'Andrea and Gina Bhatia 13 Isabel and Danny David 14 Ariel Harper Bradshaw and Karen Bradshaw 15 Divya Brown, Janae Tsai, and Valerie Palmquist Dieterich 16 Rosemarie Johnson, Melissa Mithoff, Luba Bigman, and Estela Cockrell 17 Y. Ping Sun and Mayor Annise Parker 18 Katie Flaherty, Carlos Perez, and Judi Wuncht 19 Faith Majors and Emily Reaser 20 Franci Crane, Morgan Garvey, and Linda Hunsaker 21 Mary Beth Aspromonte, Kelli Blanton, and Joan Schnitzer Levy 22 Peggy Smith, Rebecca Mark-Jusbasche, and Diana Mark 23 Danielle Ellis and Alex Blair 24 Holly A. N. Smith, and Austin Alvis 25 Winell Herron and Cyndy Garza-Roberts 26 Susie and Sanford Criner 27 Valerie Palmquist Dieterich and Kristy Bradshaw 28 Cece Fowler and Susie Criner



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## Art in the Park Brings a Rainbow of Color to Hermann Park



Trenton Doyle Hancock (American, 1974),  
*Destination Mound Town*, 2014, vinyl, mixed  
media, dimensions variable.



Doreen Stoller and artist,  
Trenton Doyle Hancock

You may have noticed that Hermann Park is looking very colorful these days. In addition to spring flowers, Hermann Park has two new colorful *Art in the Park* installations. *Art in the Park* is the Conservancy's Centennial Art Project which will bring contemporary art to the Park throughout 2014—with some works staying much longer.

On March 6, Houston-based artist Trenton Doyle Hancock unveiled his permanent installation, the whimsical mural *Destination Mound Town* in the Hermann Park train tunnel. *Destination Mound Town* depicts the Hermann Park train going through a

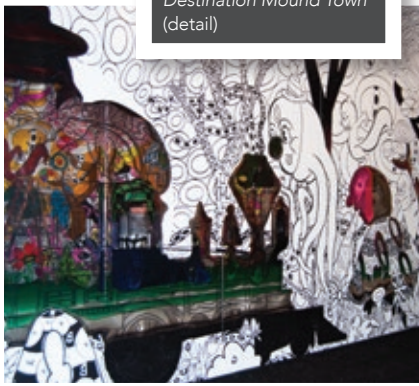
mythical landscape filled with creatures including a purple rhino, a mischievous beaver, a wide-eyed alligator, and Hancock's signature fur-covered Mounds, his half-animal, half-plant characters. Also hidden throughout the mural is the artist himself (look for him driving the train and cuddling up to an elephant). Train passengers will want to ride again and again to get a good look at both sides of the 150-foot long by 14-foot tall work.

On March 13, *Boys Cry Too*, a massive installation by artist Orly Genger, was unveiled on the banks of Brays Bayou. Stretching over 225 feet, this maze of color made from knotted climbing rope jumps off the landscape in colors like



HERMANN PARK CONSERVANCY

Destination Mound Town (detail)



Orly Genger (American, born 1979), *Boys Cry Too*, 2009, painted climbing rope, dimensions variable.



Destination Mound Town (detail)

Jay Baker, *Art in the Park* co-chair Cece Fowler, and HPC Board Chair, Ann Kennedy at the opening for Orly Genger's *Boys Cry Too*



*Art in the Park* co-chair Judy Nyquist, Chris Goins, and Josh Pazda at *Boys Cry Too*

Ruffled Iris, Lime Pop, Jazz Blue, and Lemon Tart. For the best view, ride your bike to the Bill Coats Bridge on the Bayou Parkland side of the Park. *Boys Cry Too* will be on view through March 2015. These works join Patrick Dougherty's "stickwork" sculpture *Boogie Woogie*, Yvonne Domenge's *Wind Waves*, and the University of Houston's Micro Pavilion: *ReFRAME x FRAME* already on view in the Park.

Many thanks to *Art in the Park* co-chairs Cece Fowler and Judy Nyquist for making this project possible. Stay tuned for more *Art in the Park* installations throughout the year.

*Boys Cry Too* (detail)



*Boys Cry Too* (detail)





## Urban Green and Playground 2020 Lend a Hand



Volunteers gather for a group shot.



Volunteers Kevin Dewhurst and Jeff Marin get to work spreading mulch.



Co-chair Kelly Leonard picks up leaves to help the cause.

On Saturday, March 8, over 30 volunteers gathered to spruce up the Buddy Carruth Playground for All Children.

Volunteers made up of young professionals from the Conservancy's Urban Green membership group and the Playground 2020 committee gathered to rake leaves, scrub down playground equipment, and spread mulch. The Playground 2020 committee was formed in 1995 when members of the community helped the Houston Parks Board raise \$1.3 million to build a playground that children of all abilities could enjoy. The committee then left the care of the playground in the hands of their then school-aged kids.

Flash forward to this spring, Playground 2020 co-chairs Kelly Hunsaker Leonard and Claire Cormier Thielke, now young professionals, wanted to gather the group together for a project to support the Park. "It is such an exciting year for Hermann Park and we wanted to be a part of the centennial celebration," said Thielke. "And, of course, who better to partner with than Urban Green," added Leonard. To help get volunteers motivated in the morning, River Oaks Donuts donated their delicious breakfast treats. While the volunteers were raking and mulching, several park-goers stopped by to thank them for the hard work they were doing. After the project was complete, the group enjoyed frosty beverages from Saint Arnold Brewing Company and burritos from Chipotle Mexican Grill. A fun day was had by all!

## DONORS

### Annual Fund/General Contributions, continued

In memory of June Lott  
Julie and Robert Thurber  
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Amber and Byron York

### Garden Conservancy

\$100-\$499  
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In memory of Dr. Richard and  
Laurie Coco Ranheim

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Carolynne and Douglas White  
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**Plant a Tree**

**\$100-\$499**

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Kim and Mark Kressenberg –  
In memory of Bill Hemphill  
Judy Upton Molsbergen – In memory  
of Susan Grace Antonelli  
Laurens and Vasilias Wilkes,  
Scott Cowan, Nicole Perry, and  
Whitney Heard – In memory of  
Emma Elizabeth Scobie

**Volunteer Programs**

**\$1,000-\$4,999**

CenterPoint Energy

**Dog Park**

**\$100-\$499**

John Benham

**Hats in the Park Luncheon**

All gifts in honor of Cherie Flores,  
honoree, and chair Laurie Morian  
and honorary chair Lynn Wyatt.

**\$50,000-\$99,999**

Cherie Flores

**\$10,000-\$14,999**

Cornelia and Meredith Long

Laurie Morian

Lynn Wyatt

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Elena and Gregg Davis

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Clayton Erikson

Diane Lokey Farb

Cullen K. Geiselman

Maureen Hackett – In honor of  
Phoebe Tudor

Stephanie Hamilton

Ann H. Hamman

Terri Havens

## Reforestation Project Adds New Trees to Bayou Parkland

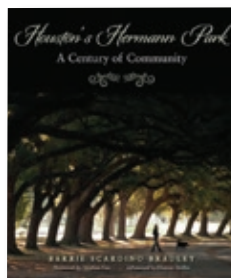


New trees have been planted in Hermann Park's Bayou Parkland as part of the Harris County Flood Control District's Brays Bayou project. The county has flattened the banks of the grassy slopes leading to the existing channel to reduce flood damage

to the surrounding area. The project also included reforestation on both sides of the bayou between Holcombe and

South MacGregor Streets. A total of 1,071 mixed native trees, shrubs, and vines were added to the Park's tree inventory bringing the total number of trees in Hermann Park to approximately 9,000.

Other amenities included in the Brays Bayou project are new trails for walkers, joggers, and bicyclists, along with the Bill Coats Bridge, added in 2012, to take trail users across the bayou, and an underpass, also opened in 2012, below North and South MacGregor streets which allows passage to the heart of the Park by foot or bike from the Bayou.



## Become a Hermann Park Conservancy Member

Join or renew your Hermann Park Conservancy membership today to help support Hermann Park in its centennial year. Members receive invitations to special events, discounts in the gift shop and cafe, train and boat tickets, and more! Centennial-level members and above receive commemorative merchandise including a t-shirt, tote bag, hat, and new book,

*Hermann Park: A Century of Community*, depending on the level. Membership supports daily operations critical to the care and maintenance of Hermann Park. Please consider joining — or renewing — your membership today to be a part of this exciting year in Hermann Park's history!

Visit [hermannpark.org/membership](http://hermannpark.org/membership) for more information.



## Centennial Underwriters

Hermann Park Conservancy would like to thank those that signed up to be a Centennial Underwriter to help celebrate the Park's 100th birthday this year.

Macy's, Inc.  
Kathrine G. McGovern  
Palmetto Partners, Ltd./ The Robert and Janice McNair Foundation  
Laura and Brad McWilliams

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Houston First Corporation  
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Rebecca Mark-Jusbasche and  
Michael Jusbasche  
Dean Putterman  
Phoebe and Bobby Tudor

Special thanks to Hotel Zaza, Houston Chronicle, TPRB Advertising, and United Airlines.

(As of April 1, 2014)

The commitments from these underwriters help ensure that the special centennial events planned for 2014 will be a success. These gifts are also directed toward the Conservancy's beloved annual fundraising events, *Hats in the Park* and *Evening in the Park*. Centennial underwriting packages range from \$25,000 to \$100,000 and include a table at *Evening in the Park*, among other benefits. For more information about underwriting opportunities, please contact [mmiller@hermannpark.org](mailto:mmiller@hermannpark.org) or call **713-524-5876** ext. **339**.

## DONORS

### *Hats in the Park Luncheon,* *continued*

*All gifts in honor of Cherie Flores, honoree, and chair Laurie Morian and honorary chair Lynn Wyatt.*

#### **\$1,000-\$4,999**

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Sharon-Marie Hogge  
Lindsay Holstead  
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Linda McReynolds  
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Allison and Troy Thacker  
Abby and Christopher Venegas  
Suzanne Waller  
Randa Duncan Williams  
Jeanie Kilroy Wilson  
Rini and Edward Ziegler

#### **\$500-\$999**

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Gayle Bentsen  
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Minnette Boesel  
Polly Bowden  
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Renee Lewis  
Cora Sue Mach  
Amber Mostyn  
Terrylin G. Neale – In memory of  
Erin Neale and Lamar Neale  
H. Joe Nelson III  
Betty Newton



## Centennial Campaign Donor Wall

**Don't miss your chance to be a part of Hermann Park's history!** Join other Conservancy donors for a once-a-century recognition opportunity on the Centennial Campaign Donor Wall in Lake Plaza at Kinder Station and be a lasting part of Hermann Park's legacy. This special donor wall, which has been on temporary display since 2009, consists of Conservancy donors whose cumulative giving for any purpose totals \$50,000 or more. Want to learn more about the donor wall or just how close you are to qualifying for listing?

Contact 713-524-5876 x339 or  
[development@hermannpark.org](mailto:development@hermannpark.org).



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 Martha Oti  
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 Mary Tere Perusquia  
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 Emily Reaser  
 Barbara Robertson  
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The names listed above and on the preceding pages include donors who made gifts or pledges of \$100 or more between January 1 and March 4, 2014, as well as all *Hats in the Park* luncheon donors and George Hermann Society members. Please note that gifts to the *Evening in the Park* gala and Urban Green spring event 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.

## Upcoming Events

**Art in the Park**  
 Throughout 2014

**Evening in the Park Centennial Gala**  
 Friday, April 25, 6:30 p.m.



**Urban Green Spring Event**  
*Birthdays en Blanc:*  
*Still White Hot at 100*  
 Thursday, May 15, 7–10 p.m.

**Julia Ideson Library Exhibition**  
 May 24–July 26

**Grand Gateway Official Opening**  
 Summer 2014



**Park to Port Bike Ride**  
 Saturday, September 13



**Centennial Gardens Official Grand Opening Celebration**  
 Saturday, October 18



**Run in the Park**  
 Saturday, November 8, 8 a.m.



**Urban Green Fall event**  
 November

**Student Performances in the Park**  
 Throughout the 2013–2014 school year  
*Dates and times are subject to change.*

Details at  
[hermannpark.org](http://hermannpark.org)

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

[instagram.com/HermannPark](https://instagram.com/HermannPark)

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[hermannparkhouston.wordpress.com](http://hermannparkhouston.wordpress.com)



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the Centennial  
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George Hermann  
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Volunteer in  
the Park



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