



**Hunters Point Parks**  
CONSERVANCY



# 2018 Annual Report



2018 was a landmark year for the Hunters Point Parks Conservancy, our parks and the Long Island City neighborhood. Phase 2 of Hunter's Point South Park opened in June to universal praise and awe. The Conservancy provided record programming, increased funding and volunteer support to the parks. Long Island City continued to be the fastest growing community in the country.

### PROGRAMMING

We provided an ever widening range of diverse programming. This year we offered 158 events that attracted over 16,000 people. The programming included fitness, concerts, art classes, dance festivals and outdoor movies. For the third year, we presented Summer Kids in July and August that offered 51 free classes for about 4,000 younger members of our community. Our successful 3rd annual LIC Post 5K Run in June attracted 1,300 runners.

### PARK MAINTENANCE

The Conservancy continued to advocate for funding for both Hunter's Point South Park and Gantry Plaza State Park. Since 2016, through grants and other fund raising efforts, we have provided Gantry Plaza State Park with over \$60,000 for park enhancements. In 2018, we invested \$50,000 in programming events in Hunter's Point South Park.

In 2018, we contributed nearly 1,500 volunteer hours towards gardening and park clean up. This included our

4th Annual LIC Bulbfest in November when we planted 7,500 daffodil and tulip bulbs. During the last four years, we have planted over 25,000 bulbs in both parks.

### OUR GOALS

Much has been accomplished, but much needs to be done. Our parks are the jewel of the NYC parks system and as more people discover this, the more congested and used the parks will become. Active, clean and accessible parks are vital to the health of all community. Our goal is to make sure that our parks remain the jewel that they are.

To meet this goal we need to do the following:

- Fill in the funding gaps from NYC & NYS Parks
- Expand volunteer, arts, education and cultural programming
- Promote community investment to meet park upkeep needs and manage growth from over 9,000 new apartments expected in the next 5 years.

Long Island City will experience incredible growth in the foreseeable future. We look forward to working with our community partners, residents and stakeholders in the park to make sure that our parks and green spaces are given the resources and space they need to thrive. As the song goes, Long Island City's future is so bright we gotta wear shades.

We look forward to seeing everyone in the parks.



**Rob Basch**  
President, HPPC

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**ROB BASCH**  
President

**MARK CHRISTIE**  
Vice President

**BARBARA ETZEL**  
Treasurer

**BILL BYLEWSKI**  
President Emeritus

**MATTHEW WALLACE**  
Secretary

**LILIAN CHEN**

**MEGAN DIBELLO**

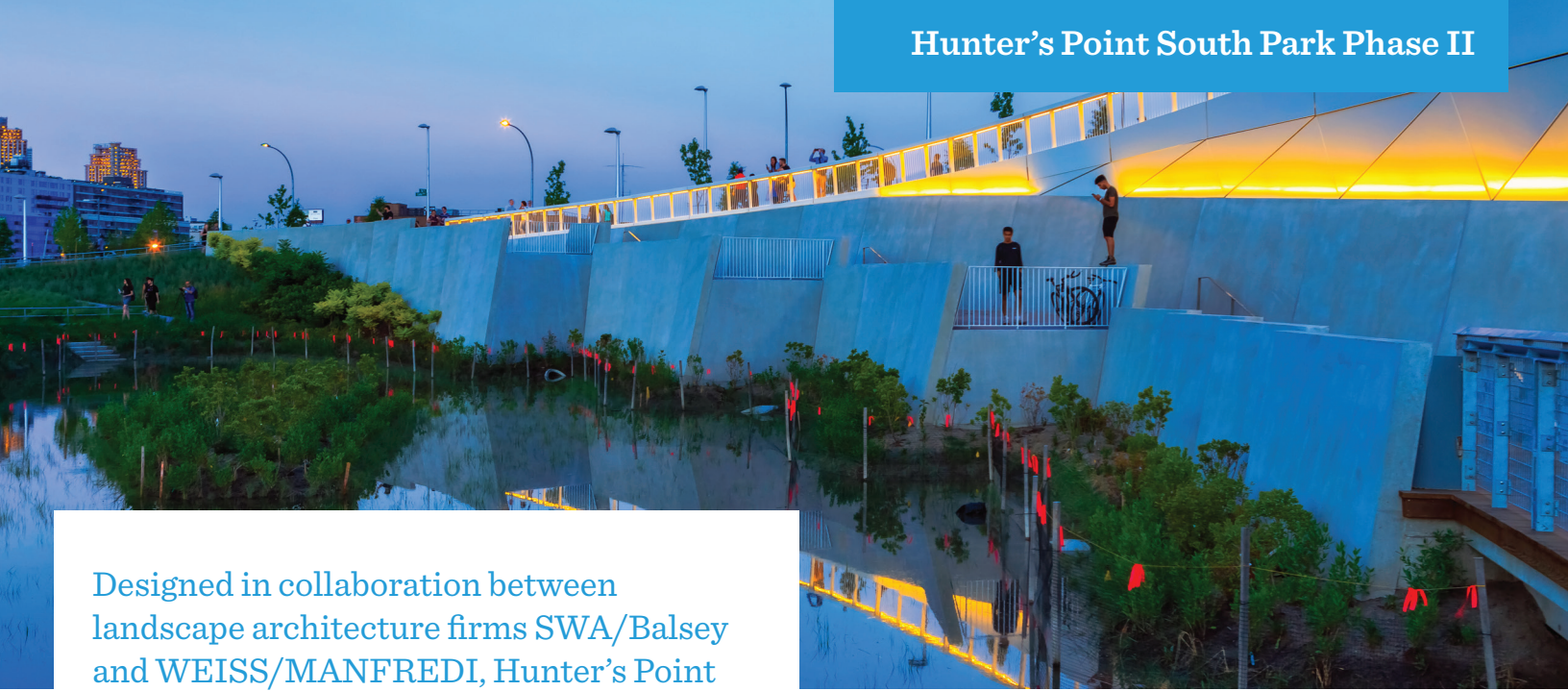
**CHRISTIAN MURRAY**

**ANN MARGARET O'CONNOR**

**MATT QUIGLEY**

**ANN SANSARICQ**





Designed in collaboration between landscape architecture firms SWA/Balsey and WEISS/MANFREDI, Hunter's Point South Park Phase II transforms 5.5 acres of former abandoned industrial landscape into one of the most strikingly beautiful places in New York City. Phase II serves as a complement to the bustling activity of Phase I by offering places of retreat and contemplation as well as a strong connection to the waterfront and the natural vegetation of the area's past.

The park is a prime example of resilient waterfront design, featuring nearly 1.5 acres of tidal wetlands, berms, and bioswales which will protect against stormwater surges, runoff, and erosion.

Phase II of Hunter's Point South Park completes our remarkable 23 acres of connected waterfront parks in Long Island City that began with Gantry Plaza State Park's construction 20 years ago. The LIC waterfront now truly has something for everyone and we hope you are taking full advantage of all it has to offer.

The Conservancy would like to thank Councilman Jimmy Van Bramer for his tireless work towards making this park a reality.

### PHASE II FEATURES

- Permanent art piece, "Luminescence" by Nobuho Nagasawa
- Cantilevered overlook
- Grassy promontory
- Outdoor workout equipment
- Playground
- Kayak launch
- Multi-level meandering pathways



Phase II ribbon cutting ceremony  
June 27, 2018

“

The second phase of the Waterfront Park has created an 11-acre urban oasis of green resilient recreation space that will serve the residents and growing families of Hunter's Point South and the surrounding community.

MELINDA KATZ

Queens Borough President

”



## Summer Kids at the Landing

In July and August the Conservancy held our third year of Summer Kids at the Landing in partnership with Gantry Parent Association. 2018 saw an incredible expansion of the program, with 51 free classes and activities attended by over 3,600 children. Activities included music, art, storytelling, dance, STEM, and more - a full list can be seen below.

Thank you to our performers and instructors who help make this program fun for all and special thanks to City Owlets for donating their classes and providing additional staffing help. This program is made possible by generous funding from Councilman Jimmy Van Bramer and ProHEALTH Dental as well as the donation of space by COFFEED.



### 2018 SUMMER KIDS AT THE LANDING PROGRAMS

- Music with Andy & Suzanna
- Jiggy Tots with McManus Irish Dance
- Owlbert Einsteins Science Class (City Owlets)
- Owlets Outlet Creative Movement Class (City Owlets)
- Art with Leonie & Natasha
- Dance Class with Jessica Lange Dance
- Bricks 4 Kidz STEM Lego Class
- Story Time with Court Square Library
- Improv & Music with Teaching Artists Collective
- Magic Show by Joe the Magician
- Bubble Extravaganza with Bubblemaster Gabe
- Animal Show with Petland







“

In a park like this what I love is that volunteers care. They care, they invest their time, they invest their love in this park and it shows.

**MITCHELL SILVER**

NYC Parks Commissioner

”

## JAZZY THURSDAYS

The Conservancy surveyed the community in early 2018 to find out what types of programming we should do. The number one response was music, and specifically jazz music.

In response, we launched our “Jazzy Thursdays” music series in mid-July. Each Thursday evening until the beginning of September, the Conservancy hosted local musicians at LIC Landing for intimate performances that were a hit with the local community.

Thank you to our Queens-based performers: Joe Knipes Trio, Anthony Cekay, Book of J, Fraternal Order of the Society Blues, Sunnyside Social Club, Salsa Masala, and Affinity.

## CINEMALIC

Now in its fifth year, our CinemaLIC movie series continues to bring huge crowds to the waterfront to enjoy free outdoor movies with the best backdrop in all of New York City.

Movie attendance this year reached 2,800 combined viewers, with a crowd of nearly 750 showing up for our kick-off event of Wizard of Oz on June 9.

This year’s movies showcased a wide range of eras and genres, but all were fun for the whole family. We screened Wizard of Oz, Moonstruck, Sleepless in Seattle, Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, and Ratatouille.

Thank you to Nestseekers for their continued support of all our movies since 2014 and NYC Ferry for their support in 2018.

**Nest Seekers**  
INTERNATIONAL





## LIC Post Waterfront 5K



The 3rd Annual LIC Post Waterfront 5K, held on June 2, drew nearly 1,300 runners to the Long Island City Waterfront.

The event continues to be organized as a team effort by The Conservancy, LIC Post, Woodside Sunnyside Runners, and Run LIC. All funds raised go towards furthering the mission of The Conservancy to enrich the quality of life in Hunters Point by preserving and enhancing its waterfront parks.

The event is truly a community effort and is made possible by the generous support of our many sponsors and volunteers, and services provided by the City and State Parks Departments, local elected officials, and the 108th Precinct.

### SPONSORS

#### DIAMOND

Douglas Elliman  
LIC Dental Associates  
TF Cornerstone

#### PLATINUM

Chelsea Pediatrics  
Compass Realty  
Metro Orthodontics  
Plaxall  
The Skillman  
Food Cellar Market

#### GOLD

Crossfit Gantry  
NYC Ferry  
Ravenswood Generating Station  
Rockrose  
Stribling & Associates -  
The Smith Team  
LIC Landing by COFFEED

#### SILVER

Manducatis Rustica  
Modern Spaces  
M&T Bank  
New City Church  
Related  
City Council Member  
Jimmy Van Bramer

#### BRONZE

Jackson's Eatery  
Lululemon  
Mt. Sinai Queens  
NYS Assembly Member  
Cathy Nolan  
NYS Senator Michael  
Gianaris  
Representative Joe  
Crowley  
Shi  
Woodbines  
UPS Store

#### ADDITIONAL SUPPORT BY

New York City Parks  
New York State Parks  
108th Precinct





## SPOTLIGHT OF THE SEASON

On September 14 the Conservancy held our first annual Spotlight of the Season event. The event celebrated another successful summer season of programming and highlighted many of the performers, instructors, and partners that helped the Conservancy put on 150 free events in the parks.

As part of the event, HPPC also honored Dana Aussenberg of the Gantry Parent Association, who worked tirelessly to help the Conservancy put on our extremely successful Summer Kids at the Landing program, and Nest Seekers International, our longtime sponsor of the CinemaLIC Movie Series and fantastic neighborhood partner.

A huge thank you to our event sponsor TF Cornerstone, our hosts COFFEED who provided the space as well as refreshments, and SingleCut Beersmiths for donating beer.



**TFC**

**COFFEED**  
EATERY • ROASTERY • CHARITY



## CHEERS TO QNS! BEER FESTIVAL

On July 28 the Conservancy hosted the Cheers to QNS! Beer festival. Twelve breweries from all across the World's Borough came together in Hunter's Point South Park for a day of good friends, good fun, and exceptional beer. Thanks to the generosity of the Queens brewers, 100% of proceeds were donated to the Conservancy. Please support these great breweries and drink local!

### PARTICIPATING BREWERIES:

Alewife, Big Alice, Bridge & Tunnel, Descendent Cider, Fifth Hammer, Finback, ICONYC, LIC Beer Project, Mikkeller NYC, Rockaway, SingleCut Beersmiths, Transmitter



## LIC PARTNERSHIP AWARD

On November 14, the Long Island City Partnership honored The Conservancy with the William D. Modell Community Service Award at their Annual Awards Gala. We are grateful for the recognition of the work we do to preserve and enhance our waterfront parks and truly thankful to the Partnership for their support.







The Conservancy greatly expanded our fitness program in 2018, putting on a total of 50 free fitness classes which reached nearly 4,000 people.

We held 27 free evening yoga classes, taught by Joy Chen of Cosmic Fit Club and Virna Sanabria of Surya Yoga Academy, 9 Zumba classes with Sophie Walters of Sophie Walters Fitness & Cosmic Fit Club, and for the first year brought 4 free pilates courses to the park with LIC Pilates.

In addition, we continued our partnership with lululemon to host 9 free Saturday morning yoga classes and a yoga and wellness festival at the end of the season attended by 500 people. Thanks to the many local artisans, fitness professionals, and other vendors who participated.







## WATERCOLORS ON THE WATERFRONT

Throughout the summer of 2018, the Conservancy put on seven watercolor painting nights at LIC Landing. This free art programming was hosted in partnership with local artist Donna Levinstone who was on hand to provide tips and pointers to our over 300 participants.

## SALSA

The ever-popular Wednesdays on the Waterfront Salsa Nights returned to Hunter's Point South Park this year, hosted by LIC-based Martinez Dance Studio. In total, five of these free dance parties were hosted and brought out over 700 revelers to dance, commune, and celebrate on the waterfront.



## DANCE FESTIVALS

The waterfront once again played host to two remarkable dance festivals in the summer of 2018. On August 4 and 5, Insitu Dance Festival took over the entire LIC waterfront with 144 performances by 22 dance companies in four parks. The festival drew over 8,000 visitors and activated our parks in a unique and awe-inspiring way.

On September 13 and 14 the Queensboro Dance Festival brought excitement to Hunter's Point South Park with 14 performances from Queens-based dance companies and a very special performance from the Inner Mongolian Performing Arts Troupe, who performed for the first time ever in New York City.



Hunters Point Parks Conservancy continued to grow our role as stewards of the park by expanding our volunteer gardening program in 2018.

We continued to hold our bi-weekly Saturday morning gardening sessions in partnership with New York Cares between May and October (albeit a few rain outs) which drew hundreds of people, some neighbors, some from across the city. In addition, we built on partnerships with business and community groups in the neighborhood, bringing out seven corporate groups and one school for gardening days, and partnering with a local boathouse for two shoreline cleanups. We held 21 gardening and cleanup events this year and were joined by 700 volunteers who contributed nearly 1,500 hours of service.



### BULBFEST

On Saturday, November 3 we wrapped up our season of volunteer gardening events with the 4th Annual LIC Bulbfest. Over two weekends we planted 7,600 daffodils, tulips and alliums throughout Gantry Plaza State Park and Hunter's Point South Park. Come Spring 2019, our waterfront parks will be blooming with excitement! Thank you to Van Zyverden for donating the bulbs and to Con Edison for sponsoring our season of gardening activities.





## IMPROVING OUR PARKS

In addition to providing volunteer labor to keep the parks clean and healthy, the Conservancy has also contributed financially and through activism.

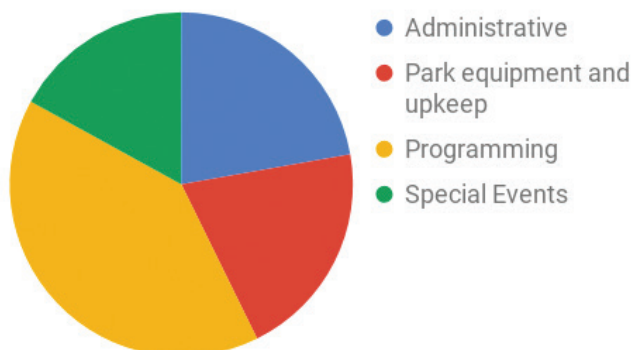
This past year, the Conservancy was awarded a grant through Parks Trails New York to purchase new wayfinding signage throughout Gantry Plaza State Park, which was installed at the beginning of the summer. We also contributed financially towards purchasing twelve new picnic tables which were installed in early October.

In addition, after much insistence from the Conservancy and the community, NYC Parks installed two dog poop bag dispensers in Hunter's Point South Park this fall. We hope to continue to provide supplemental funding to the parks for important improvement projects that may arise.

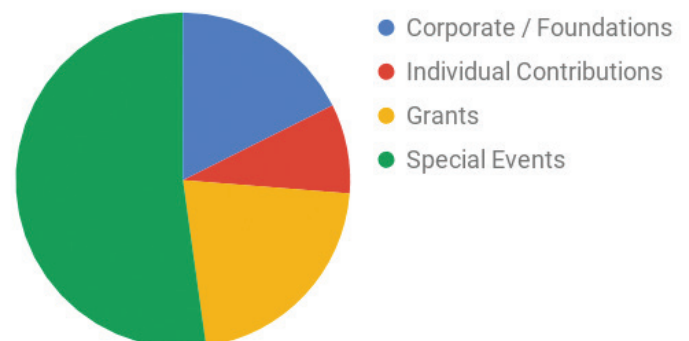


## FINANCIAL RESULTS

Expenses



Revenue







# Hunters Point Parks

CONSERVANCY



## THANK YOU

Hunters Point Parks Conservancy thanks all of our donors, volunteers, and elected and park officials for their generous support in making all of our programs possible.

### \$1000+

Klipper Family  
Foundation  
Lewis Rothkopf

### \$200+

Madani Adjali  
Carol Anderson  
Teresa Aprigliano  
Rob Basch  
Sandeep Belani  
Barbara Etzel  
Adnan Hasanovic  
Francesca & Trent  
Jones  
Andrew Karistinos

Mary Modica  
Maneesh Nisargand  
Matt Quigley  
Antonio Richardson  
Moitri Savard  
Jonna Stark  
Chris Wardak

### \$100+

Beck-Esmay  
Jason Belland  
Suzanna Bridges  
Albert Catusas  
Katie Cook  
Tara Culkin  
Astrid De Place

Michael DePuy  
Fazillah Durante  
Marcelo Fleitas  
Warren Frisina  
Mickey Fuertes  
Marilynn & Michael  
Geyer  
Samuel Goldsmith  
Robert Helman  
Douglas Houston  
Ester Jimenez  
Andrew  
Kapochnas  
Amy Kardon  
Andrew Lentz  
Alli Marcello

Didier Munoz  
Michael Myers  
Daniel Relyea  
Eugene Rhee  
Kimberly Rodriguez  
JoAnn Smith  
Robert Stephens  
Pyline Tangsuvanich  
Matthew Wallace  
Mark Watchus  
Ilse E. Westphal

## CITY OFFICIALS

### JIMMY VAN BRAMER

Councilman

### DOROTHY LEWANDOWSKI

Queens Borough Parks  
Commissioner

### 108TH PRECINCT

## STATE OFFICIALS

### MIKE GIANARIS

Senator

### CATHERINE NOLAN

Assemblywoman

### LESLIE WRIGHT

NYC Regional Director of NY  
State Parks, Recreation and  
Historic Preservation



Parks, Recreation  
and Historic Preservation

