

# Thank You To Our 2023 Supporters

We underwrite Park improvements and deliver the majority of our programs at no charge to ensure they remain accessible to all. This would not be possible without the generosity of the many individuals, foundations, and corporations that understand the importance of protecting Nashville's public spaces and providing free access to arts and educational programs in our city's central park.



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\*\$1,000 or more



## THANK YOU TO METRO PARKS

We're honored to partner with Metro Parks and remain grateful to Monique Horton Odom, Director of Parks, and the Metro Parks team including: Misty Adfield, Sean Alexander, Lauren Bufferd, Timothy Cartmell, Teresa Cook, Pam Crenshaw, Brian Day, Alan Enzo, Timothy Gibson, AC Pullig Gomez, Cindy Harrison, Jim Hester, Sherry Hips, John Holmes, Lt. Bryan Irvin, Jackie Jones, Timothy Kincaid, Lisa King, Randall Lantz, Phil Luckett, William Manuel, Jackie McKinley, Darlene Morrow, Stevon Neloms, Tim Netsch, Johnny Nutt, Katie Petrole, Captain Jason Proctor, Jennifer Richardson, Bonnie Seymour, Aaron Shelton, Larecia Travis, Joshua Wagner, Chinita White, Kathryn Wilkening, Helen Sanders, Parris Robertson, Kaity Hinson, Nicole James.

Thank you to George Anderson and the Metro Parks Board for providing leadership and commitment to Nashville's park system: Christiane Buggs, Pete Delay, Edward Henley, Crews Johnston, Susannah Scott-Barnes, Dr. Michelle Steele.

LEARN MORE, MAKE A DONATION, AND JOIN/RENEW A MEMBERSHIP: [CENTENNIALPARKCONSERVANCY.COM](https://CENTENNIALPARKCONSERVANCY.COM)



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CENTENNIAL PARK CONSERVANCY

P.O. Box 128139  
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# 2023 GRATITUDE & IMPACT REPORT



# A Message From Our President

Dear Centennial Park Conservancy Family,

While preparing this Gratitude and Impact Report, I was reminded again of the sheer volume of community connections that occur within Centennial Park and the diligent work it requires to facilitate them. The responsibility that we share with Metro Parks to sustain the vitality of Centennial Park and the Parthenon is equally tremendous and joyous. Where else but Centennial Park could more than 3 million annual visitors converge upon our 132-acre oasis to experience nature, arts, education, exercise, relaxation, and community? Centennial Park is a treasure. Thank you for sharing our team's passion for the Park and expressing it through your ongoing support.

2023 was quite a year in Centennial Park! Across the organization, the Conservancy truly hit its stride. In the area of Park Revitalization, plans were finalized to enhance pedestrian and vehicular access on the Park's north side, and introduce a new Event Pavilion and Croquet Cafe to further engage and serve Park visitors. Our team artfully implemented hundreds of concerts, festivals, educational, and rental events with fresh eyes and tireless vigor. Our efforts to create donor and partner programs that build deeper, meaningful relationships took root. Plus, we expanded our reach to cast an even wider net for community awareness and inclusion.

A defining exercise we conducted this year was revisiting our mission statement. It has been updated to reflect what we do and provide a lens through which we view our future endeavors.

*Centennial Park Conservancy sustains the vibrancy of Nashville's Centennial Park, home to the historic Parthenon, by supporting Metro Parks in revitalizing and activating this public green space to ensure the Park remains a welcoming destination for recreation, culture, education, and community connection for all.*

While it is a lofty mission, we know that we are not alone in fulfilling its promise. Will you continue to help us enact it? If you are reading this letter, you've already taken an interest in the Park and are empowering us to make Nashville stronger through the power of community. For this, and for all we will accomplish together in the years to come, we humbly thank you.

With Gratitude,

**John Tumminello**  
President



Together with Metro Parks and our generous supporters, we enhanced the Park and enriched our community in the following areas:

## CENTENNIAL PARK REVITALIZATION

- ◆ Completed design for latest phase of revitalization that includes:
  - Improving access to the Park's northern boundary by adding pedestrian and bike pathways as well as a new grand vehicular entrance
  - Creating a new Event Pavilion – a world-class 6,500-square-foot gathering space on Lake Watauga for hosting public and private events, including the Park's popular Big Band Dances
  - Repurposing the historic Croquet Clubhouse into the Croquet Cafe that will offer food, refreshments, and merchandise to Park visitors while using proceeds to support park enhancements
- ◆ Raised an additional \$400K for the upcoming capital improvements to the north side of the Park

## THE PARTHENON

- ◆ Welcomed over 330K visitors while upholding our reputation as a signature educational and cultural destination for Nashville visitors and locals
- ◆ Delivered 828 education programs to 70K people, consisting of tours, symposia, sketching, and book club events, and free STEAM Nights for all Metro Nashville Public Schools families
- ◆ Conserved 20+ larger-than-life size plaster casts from the Parthenon Marbles Cast Collection thanks to generous support from the Hays Foundation
- ◆ Hosted 5 new art exhibitions including the statewide Tennessee Triennial contemporary art installation and *The Role of a Replica*, an interactive, hands-on exhibition highlighting the important role of casts and replicas
- ◆ Supported the Parthenon's future care by raising over \$180K for the Parthenon Preservation Fund
- ◆ Presented 43 performances including the ECHO Chamber Music Series and Fever's Candlelight Concerts
- ◆ Funded an ArtSentry security system for the Parthenon through support from the Tennessee State Museum, Frist Foundation, and Preservation Fund

## NASHVILLE EARTH DAY

- ◆ Inspired more than 10K Nashville residents to support our planet and discover sustainability best practices at Nashville Earth Day
- ◆ Awarded \$50K in environmental grants to 15 local organizations, bringing our total grants to \$100K over four years through festival proceeds. The 2023 recipients included:
  - Crieve Hall Elementary School PTA, Cumberland River Compact, Friends of Beaman Park, Friends of Mill Ridge Park, Friends of Shelby Park & Bottoms, Harpeth River Conservancy, Inglewood Elementary School, Nashville Area Beekeepers Association, Nashville Tree Foundation, Nashville Wildlife Conservation Center, Native American Indian Association of Tennessee, Neighbors for Native Plants, Stratford High School, Turnip Green Creative Reuse, and Urban Green Lab
- ◆ Donated 600 free trees to community members in partnership with Nashville Tree Foundation, Amazon, and Twice Daily

## MUSICIANS CORNER

- ◆ Welcomed 97K individuals to 18 free music events during the series' 14th year as a vital contributor to Nashville's musical legacy
- ◆ Supported local artists by paying and curating a diverse lineup of 115 performers, including 57% female-fronted acts and 35% fronted by a person of color
- ◆ Promoted local businesses by showcasing 76 vendors, including 80% woman owned and 15% owned by a person of color
- ◆ Partnered with AmericanaFest, New West Records, Nashville Symphony, among others, to provide free public access to world class performances in Centennial Park

## KIDSVILLE

- ◆ Impacted over 70K children and families across 129 free children's events and StoryBook Walks
- ◆ Presented the Kidsville Family Festival to more than 4K enthusiastic guests
- ◆ Served children throughout Nashville by presenting 61 Kidsville classes at local community centers
- ◆ Enriched the Parthenon educational experience for children by underwriting and distributing 23K Kidsville activity guides

## ADDITIONAL PARK ENGAGEMENT

- ◆ Achieved 100% paid internships for the first time and helped ensure college students have equitable access to professional career paths in the nonprofit, arts, and culture sectors
- ◆ Introduced a volunteer program and activated "Green Sweep" individuals and organizations that donated their time to help keep the Park clean
- ◆ Promoted partner events in the Park to help increase engagement, including:
  - AEG Live, Celebrate Nashville, Centennial Performing Arts Studios, Centennial Art Center, Chinese Arts Alliance of Nashville, Creative Parks Nashville, Big Band Dances, Friends of Metro Dance, Nashville Humane Association, Nashville Women's Triathlon, Nashville Opera, OZ Nashville, Small World Yoga, Tennessee Craft, Water Lantern Festival, and more

## Thank You

Thank you from the Centennial Park Conservancy staff and board to Metro Parks, and the many donors, members, sponsors, and partners who made these accomplishments possible for our community!

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