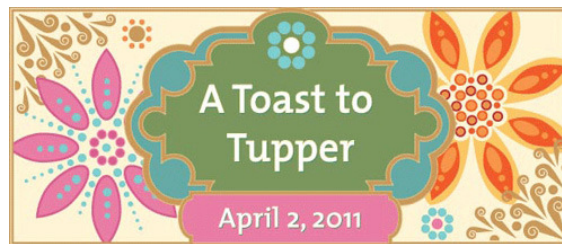


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[Digital photos available]

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Brooklyn, NY – The Prospect Park Alliance will honor its founding President, Tupper Thomas, and celebrate Prospect Park's future at its **April 2nd "Toast to Tupper" gala**. Nearly 900 people are expected at the gala, and proceeds from ticket sales have already raised more than \$1.1 million to help support the care and restoration of landmark Prospect Park.

[Tupper Thomas](#) served as the Alliance's President for 23 years (as well as Prospect Park Administrator for 31 years). All of Prospect Park has been touched by her dedication and enthusiasm, as has everyone who uses the Park. Tupper always stressed the importance of bringing people together in and for Prospect Park. That is why on April 2nd hundreds of Park supporters will celebrate her legacy, and the ongoing revitalization of this magnificent Park at the heart of New York City's most populous borough.

"On behalf of the Department of Parks & Recreation and the City, I'd like to raise my glass to Tupper Thomas, in salute of her accomplishments as Prospect Park Administrator and President of the Prospect Park Alliance," said Parks Commissioner Adrian Benepe. "Prospect Park is a shining example of the positive impact that concerned citizens and public/private partnerships can have on our city's green spaces. Under Tupper's leadership, The Alliance has reclaimed Prospect Park from the scourges of the 1970s and has made it into what it is today—a New York City landmark, a prize park, and a peerless expanse of green."

"There has never been a better time than now for people to show their support of Prospect Park and the Alliance," said Prospect Park Alliance Chairman Albert H. Garner. "The can-do verve that Tupper brought to Park projects, not the least of which is the construction of [Lakeside](#), has been taken up by the Alliance's new President Emily Lloyd. Just as Tupper led the Alliance from one success to another, I know there are many great things ahead for Prospect Park under Emily's leadership."

"It is a great privilege to be asked to carry forward the work of someone like Tupper, who has achieved so much for Prospect Park and urban Parks everywhere," said Prospect Park Alliance President and Park Administrator [Emily Lloyd](#). "Tupper cultivated strong community support for the Alliance and put together a great staff at the Park. I'm proud to be working with everyone at Prospect Park and the many people who help the Park; from volunteers, to Alliance members and our board."

"Prospect Park and the Alliance are incredibly fortunate to have so many friends who have helped the Park over the years," said Prospect Park Alliance founding President Tupper Thomas. "It means so much to me to see that support continues to grow. Really this is a 'Toast' to and celebration of a fabulous community of people brought together around the greatest public Park in the world: Prospect Park."

(cont.)

Toast to Tupper, p.2

A Toast to Tupper

Saturday, April 2, 2011

6:30 p.m. to Midnight

In a tent at the Bartel Pritchard Entrance to Prospect Park

(Prospect Park West & 15th Street)

Cocktails • Dinner • Dessert & Dancing

Silent Auction • Live Auction

For tickets, email lcasale@prospectpark.org

Honor Tupper with a special gift to the [Tupper Thomas Tribute Fund](#)

Dinner Chair: Barbara McTiernan

**Business Chair: Gordon J. Davis, partner Dewey & LeBoeuf and past Commissioner,
New York City Department of Parks & Recreation**

Event Sponsors:

Jenny & Michael Messner and the Speedwell Foundation,

Leslie & Alan Beller, Martha & Robert Rubin, Bloomberg LLP,

Constance & Henry Christensen III, Florence Davis, Stephanie & Timothy Ingrassia, The Leon

Levy Foundation, Robert Menschel, Ronay & Richard Menschel,

Leslie & David Puth, The Starr Foundation, Billie Tsien & Tod Williams, Shelby White

For more information visit <http://www.prospectpark.org/calendar/event/tuppertoast>

**For more information on Prospect Park events, programs,
membership and volunteering, call the Park Hotline at
(718) 965-8999 or visit www.prospectark.org**

Dial 311 for all Parks & Recreation information

In partnership with the City of New York and the community, the Prospect Park Alliance restores, develops, and operates Prospect Park for the enjoyment of all by caring for the natural environment, preserving historic design, and serving the public through facilities and programs. Prospect Park's 585 acres of meadows, waterfalls, forest, lakes, and athletic facilities comprise a masterwork of urban green space.

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