Prospect Park Honors Volunteers with Recognition Brunch
On Saturday, March 9 at the Prospect Park Picnic House

Brooklyn, NY - On Saturday, March 9, volunteers who gave 20 or more hours in 2012 received the recognition they deserved at Prospect Park’s annual Volunteer Recognition Brunch. This year was particularly special as the 25 anniversary of the Volunteer Corps was celebrated as well.

In 2012 over 4,144 individuals volunteered at the Park; as well as 47 community groups, 31 school groups, and 12 corporate groups. At the Recognition Brunch, the Administrator’s Award was presented to those volunteers who have given over 500 lifetime hours of service to the Park. They included: Ken Diamond, Margaret Hagen, Kathy Matson, and Paulette Segal.

“They rake leaves, pick up trash, plant trees, assist visitors, and help maintain this historic and magnificent park,” said Prospect Park Alliance President Emily Lloyd. She added, “After Hurricane Sandy, they were invaluable in getting the Park cleaned up. We cannot do this without them.”

Volunteers generously gave over 250 hours of service in one year received the Mary Cregg Award: James Goetz, Michael Hsu, Carl Podwoski, and Lauren Ziska. Special Certificates of Appreciation were also given out to volunteers, including Emily Akpan, Phillip Akpan, Bob Levine, and Ann Tracy for their service to the Park. The New York Road Runners were honored as the outstanding group for 2012.

Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz, US Representative Yvette Clarke, NYC Council Members Brad Lander and Stephen Levin, NYC Parks First Deputy Commissioner Liam Kavanagh and Prospect Park Alliance staff were on hand to thank the volunteers for their extraordinary efforts in helping to keep Brooklyn’s flagship green space beautiful.

And don’t forget that the 2013 Volunteer Corps season starts on March 25! Anyone can join the Prospect Park Volunteer Corps: individuals and families, students and retirees, friends and neighbors. Community and corporate groups are also encouraged to help the Park by joining the Volunteer Corps. For more information, visit us online at www.prospectpark.org/volunteers

Special volunteer events helping to kick off the spring season include Opening Day Clean-up on Saturday, March 30 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and It’s My Park! Day on Saturday, May 18 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
A special “thank you” goes out to the following organizations for their donations to the Volunteer Recognition Brunch: Bon Soir Caterers, La Bagel Delight, Movable Feast, Smiling Pizza and Stone Park Café.

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

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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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