



c. Martin Seck

Dear Friend,

2024 was a milestone year in Prospect Park, with unprecedented challenges, such as the severe drought and resulting fire in our beloved woodlands, and also great accomplishments, including our new strategic plan, [A Thriving Park for a Thriving Brooklyn](#), which will guide our work over the next five years.

Now more than ever we need spaces where people can come together, and we are heartened by how much our community has stood by us in moments of crisis and celebration.

We're grateful to all who visited our natural areas, attended our public programs, volunteered your time, made a donation, and advocated for funding for our city's green spaces. Our community's support makes a bigger impact than ever before in Brooklyn's Backyard.

In this report, we highlight the important work we accomplished in the park in 2024, from sustaining our natural areas, designing new park destinations and restoring beloved landscapes, to providing important, community-responsive programs for the public that celebrate the diverse cultures of Brooklyn and also support our health and well-being.

In the coming year, we look forward to advancing our strategic plan, which recognizes the Alliance's essential role in a post-pandemic Brooklyn: amplifying our capacity to serve Brooklyn's diverse communities; fulfilling the park's potential as a world-class public space; boosting our city's resilience with a thriving landscape; creating programs that champion our community's needs; and securing the financial future of the park.

None of this would have been possible without your support. Thank you for all you do to keep our green oasis thriving for our community.



Morgan Monaco
Prospect Park Alliance President



c. Bess Adler

Sustaining the Park

In 2024, **2,352 volunteers** sustained our park, volunteering 14,880 hours of service. Their accomplishments include removing 1,259 bags of litter, planting 6,375 native plants, and supporting the **third annual City of Forest Day**. The Alliance also launched our Summer Circuit series to engage teens, and a Sunset Series for evening volunteer opportunities.

Through **Re:New Prospect Park**, the Alliance dedicated private funding for work traditionally undertaken by the City. We improved drainage at sites across the park including the 10th Avenue Lawn, restored paths near Harmony Playground and more. We supplemented the City's trash management through a partnership with **ACE New York**, which provided additional cleaning crews in peak months. Our community also helped Prospect Park thrive by pledging to **Be a Park Champion**: carrying out litter, keeping dogs on leash and staying on paths.



c. Prospect Park Alliance

Advancing the Park

This year the Alliance embarked on many improvements to enhance the park visitor experience. We completed robust community visioning to inform the **Shirley Chisholm Welcome Center** design, produced the **Lakeshore Master Plan** to transform Brooklyn's only lake to improve its environmental resiliency, wildlife habitat and visitor experience.

The Alliance cut the ribbon on the **Harmony Adult Fitness Area** including new equipment that is accessible for all abilities. We completed the restoration of the Grand Army Plaza and Berms, with the iconic Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial Arch making significant progress. Restored paths welcomed our community at the Garfield Entrance and Long Meadow between the Endale and Meadowport Arches. New bubbles were installed at the Tennis Center, and the Alliance brought the new, sustainable **Purslane Cafe** to the scenic Prospect Park Boathouse.



c. Bess Adler

Caring for Brooklyn Nature

Always innovative with ways to help our ecosystem thrive, the Alliance implemented new strategies to help sustain our 350 acres of natural areas and 30,000+ trees, including boosting the immunity of our trees from pests and viruses; deploying **downed branches and other plant materials to enrich the soil in our woodlands**; and planting 16,691 native trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants of 107 different native species to sustain our park.

The Alliance empowered future leaders while caring for our park through the **Woodlands Youth Crew**, a team of teens who worked in 16 acres of our forest, clearing invasive species and planting 3,000 native plants. The Alliance also expanded our EcoZone Volunteer Crew program, where committed volunteers worked alongside our Landscape Management team to care for the park's forest, meadows and waterways.



c. Laylah Barrayn

Engaging the Community

As part of our Reimagine Lefferts initiative, the Alliance welcomed our first **Reimagine Lefferts Artist in Residence**, Adama Delphine Fawundu, whose installation *Ancestral Whispers* honored legacies of those enslaved at Lefferts, and also unveiled a new **interpretive plan** for the museum. Additional arts highlights included **Park of Dreams** at Grand Army Plaza, and dynamic performances with **The Public Theater** and Moliere in the Park.

The Alliance furthered our commitment to our community through a range of wellness partnerships, including **Open Air Care Connections**, a community health outreach initiative; and hosted both a NewYork-Presbyterian mobile medical unit, which addresses sexual health disparities and a Department of Education **Summer Meals truck**, which served 15,000 meals to youth. **Wellness programs** included yoga, meditation, walks for older adults and caregivers. Alliance nature programs served 35,000 community members, many led by our **Park Youth Representatives**.