



# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Dear Members, Supporters, and Friends -

Sustainability and resilience inspired us more than ever in 2019. As an environmental organization planning events, carrying out team maintenance tasks and designing new projects, we are focused on the long view.

As stewards of the Blackstone parks, we continued adjusting our practices to protect against changing weather patterns and intensifying storms. We built greater resilience with new watering plans and by monitoring spaces for resilience to changing conditions; we chose new plants based on their ability to handle new conditions. We learned about new management approaches through industry professionals at meetings and workshops.

Boosting our work with partners helped us build a more sustainable event program in 2019. A popular monthly children's program, created by an environmental educator with support from the Conservancy, continued with independent grant support. Our durable partnerships with other environmental organizations such as Save the Bay and the Audubon Society continued.

Our partnership with the Parks Department matured in many areas, from the heavily used Boulevard path to small but vital details around scheduling. As the Parks Department takes on large infrastructure projects that we had been doing ourselves, Conservancy volunteers will have more time to focus on long-term planning and community engagement.

In 2019 we also worked to make our organization more sustainable. After a board retreat, we returned to an almost completely volunteer model, keeping one very part-time business manager. Restructuring with the goal of keeping the work fun and manageable while still accomplishing our mission led to recruiting new board members and distributing responsibilities. In February 2020, after over 9 years as president, Jane Peterson moved into a new role as "president emerita" and former Vice-President Carrie Drake became president.

We could not accomplish any of our goals without you, our invaluable volunteers and supporters. Your volunteer efforts and financial contributions are vital, now more than ever. Thank you - we hope to see you in the parks soon.

With best wishes,

Carrie Drake  
President

Jane Peterson  
President Emerita

# Projects and Progress in 2019

## **Blackstone Park Conservation District** *Park Committee*

- Organized drop-in “park-keeping” sessions bringing together new and longtime volunteers to repair trails, spread wood chips, remove invasive plants, and repair fencing.
- Combated trail and slope erosion by leading volunteers from local schools, businesses, and the community to line path edges and add wood chips to stabilize trails and help control stormwater.
- Restored habitat near York Pond by adding native plants, clearing invasive plants, and adding two wood-duck boxes.
- Reduced trash in the park and along the river by joining the citywide Earth Day cleanup and—through Save The Bay—the International Coastal Cleanup.
- Began restoration work in the north section near Loring Avenue.
- Environmental stewardship continued as volunteers removed invasive and noxious plants from the Ravine, South Section, North Section and the Forest Health Works Project.

## **Blackstone Park Conservation District** *Education Committee*

- Organized and held numerous events and programming including: concerts, boat rides on the Seekonk River, concerts in Blackstone Field moonrise

celebration, winter duck watching, artist walks.

- Hosted monthly children’s “Art and Exploration” series.
- Worked with school groups learning to identify and correctly remove invasive plants.

## **Blackstone Boulevard** *Boulevard Committee*

- Organized and held four summer concerts at the Trolley Shelter, enjoyed by hundreds of residents.
- Maintained four gardens along the Boulevard.
- Planted five trees chosen for their suitability and beauty. Hired Groundwork RI to water new and struggling trees. Worked with Parks Department to prune selected trees.
- Coordinated with Groundwork RI on tree planting, watering of new and struggling trees.
- Began assessing all the boulevard trees with City Forester Doug Still to determine pruning needs in each section. Monitoring the tree pruning in progress. Expected completion late spring 2020.
- Collaborated with the Providence Parks Department on fundraising, design, and rebuilding a portion of the path, which now has a stable surface.
- Began studying the effects of Boulevard stormwater on York Pond, and possible remedies.

# BLACKSTONE PARKS CONSERVANCY

P.O. Box 603141, Providence, RI 02906

## Annual Financial Report, FY 2019

<b><u>Beginning Balance all funds January 1, 2019</u></b>	<b>9,347</b>
---	--------------

### Income

Contributions	50,643
Membership	44,643
Concerts	3,000
Benches, trees, special projects	3,000
Grants	8,189
Other	2,896

<b>Total Income</b>	<b>61,727</b>
---------------------	---------------

### Expenses

Administrative	-27,644
Contract work	-23,164
Copying, mail, signage , IT	-3,550
Events, gifts	-930
Park: Improvements	-2,970
Boulevard: Tree plantings	-3,737
Concerts	-5,366
Education	-618
Miscellaneous	-1,716

<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>-42,052</b>
-----------------------	----------------

<b>Net Result</b>	<b>19,675</b>
-------------------	---------------

<b><u>Ending Balance all funds December 31, 2019</u></b>	<b>29,022</b>
--	---------------

# Thank you

Our heartfelt gratitude goes to the many individuals who gave advice, grants, and time to the Blackstone Parks Conservancy in 2019. We are also deeply indebted to our many generous members.

AIPSO  
April Alix  
Gale Aronson  
Audubon Society of RI  
Stephanie Avila\*  
Dan Berard  
Ruth Berensen  
Boulevard Tree Sponsors  
Sara Bradford  
Anna Browder  
Brian Byrnes  
Caitlin Chaffee, Coastal Resources  
Management Council (CRMC)  
Don Cordner \*  
Carol Delaney  
Denali Providence  
Mary Dennis  
Harold Doran  
Peggy Edwards  
Midori Evans  
Martha Fraenkel\*  
Senator Gayle Goldin  
Sally Godfrey  
Melissa Guillet  
Isenberg Family Foundation  
Jewish Alliance of RI  
Joe's Backyard Band  
Brian Johnson, BKJ Productions  
Wendy Klein  
Lincoln School  
Karen Longeteig\*  
Felicia Megginson  
Moses Brown School  
Narragansett Boat Club  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Senator Donna Nesselbush  
Cranston Paull  
Wendy Nilsson, Supt. of Providence Parks  
Park-Keepers  
Partnership for Providence Parks  
Eric Peterson

Providence Dept. of Parks & Recreation  
Srinivas Reddy  
Suzanne Renfro\*  
Steve Ricci, Groundwork Providence  
Rhody Native  
Joan Richards  
RI Dept. of Environmental Management (DEM)  
RI Dept. of Public Works (DPW)  
RI Dept. of Transportation (DOT)  
RI Philharmonic Youth Jazz Ensembles  
RISD POSE  
RI Wild Plant Society  
Save The Bay  
Skyscrapers, Inc.  
Björn Sandstede  
Swan Point Cemetery  
Doug Still, City Forester  
J. Timmons Roberts  
Phil West  
Peter Wilhelm  
Jeff Williams  
Jamie Worrell  
Wheeler School  
\*BPC Committee members

## **Blackstone Parks Conservancy Officers and Trustees**

Jane Peterson, President  
Carrie Drake, Vice-President  
Deming Sherman, Treasurer  
Amy Zinsser, Secretary  
Allison Bryant  
Margaret Brookner  
Jonathan Ford  
Anthony Hollingshead  
Robert Murphy  
Ken Orenstein  
Rick Richards  
Colgate Searle  
Erik Wernevi

**Lifetime Members, \$1,000 or more**

Joseph A. Chazan  
 Carrie Drake  
 Anthony Hollingshead  
 Richard Lang  
 Kevin and Amy Orth  
 Rick Richards  
 Colgate Searle  
 Rosalyn Sinclair  
 Swan Point Cemetery  
 Jinxuan Zhu

**Sustainers, \$500-\$999**

Julie Armada  
 Cynthia Bertozzi  
 Kathy Bourque  
 Frederick Roses  
 Eric and Dana Falk  
 Doug and Denise Hill  
 Rick Kremenz  
 Ken Orenstein  
 Lisa Pryor  
 Jane Dietze and Robin Rains  
 David Riley  
 Clarkson Schoettle  
 Deming and Jane Sherman  
 Shivan and Jyothi Subramaniam  
 Marjorie L Sundlun  
 Richard and Barbara Wong  
 Amy Zinsser and Bob Ferreira

**Conservationists, \$250-\$499**

Gale Holmes Aronson  
 Ian Barnacle  
 Richard and Sandra Bornstein  
 Albert and Pamela Dahlberg  
 Katie Egge  
 Melanie and Peter Eleftherio  
 Joseph and Roberta Fisler  
 Jonathan Ford and Heather Wright  
 Marie Langlois and John Loerke  
 Paul and Pamela Lietar  
 Frederick R. Mattis  
 Rebecca Mayer and Joseph Rosenthal  
 McCain Family Foundation  
 Robert T. Murphy  
 Jane S. Nelson  
 Kenneth and Laura Nordstrom  
 Carl N. Raether  
 John and Jane Reeder  
 Ellen Reeves  
 Frank Schaberg

Don and Estelle Singer  
 Christine Townsend

**Protectors, \$100-\$249**

Roy and Judith Aaron  
 Dinaz Adenwalla and Gina Donofrio  
 Helen Anthony  
 Patricia Becker  
 Susanna Beckwith  
 Jon Bell  
 Oliver and Martha Bennett  
 Robert Berkelhammer  
 Judith Bloom  
 Jeffrey Bodestab  
 Michael and Alice Bonitati  
 Allison Bryant  
 Renee Chicoine  
 Terri A. Spisso  
 Lisa Conigliaro  
 David Cutts  
 Maria De Angelis  
 Cornelis and Kathryn de Boer  
 Thomas DiSanto  
 Kitty Douglas and Mark Sargent  
 Robert and Marilyn Edwards  
 Josh and Evelyn Fischer  
 Jordan Frank  
 Fred J. Franklin  
 Anneke Frazer  
 Ann Gallagher  
 Robert R. Garzillo  
 Wallace and Leslie Gernt  
 Thomas Getz  
 Sarah Gleason  
 Maxine Goldin  
 Roman and Kathryn Hayda  
 Sandra J. Heron  
 Michael Isenberg  
 Warren and Janet Jagger  
 Stephen and Judith Jagolinzer  
 Sharon and Richard Jenkins  
 Frank and Kathy Kahr  
 Mary F. Kesson  
 Boyd P. King  
 Michael Kosiver  
 Harold and Linda Kushner  
 Ms. Carol Landau  
 Ruth Landow  
 Joseph Winn and Elizabeth Laposata  
 Karen Longeteig  
 Kay Low  
 Alison and David Mandelbaum

Brock and Jamie Manville  
 Jack and Sara McConnell  
 Martha Fraenkel  
 Margaret Megowen  
 Terrence and Patricia Moran  
 Regina Kuecks Morgan  
 Douglas and Elizabeth Morse  
 Victor and Lila Neel  
 William O'Neil  
 Lianne Paolino  
 Martha Holman Paul  
 Ed and Gita Pensa  
 Deborah F. Perlman  
 Jane and Eric Peterson  
 Karen Pizzarello  
 Richard Plotz  
 Mercedes Quevedo  
 Patrick and Anne Quinn  
 William and Suzanne Reeves  
 Nancy Rhodes  
 Michael Rosen  
 Sally and Fred Rotenberg  
 Soren Ryherd  
 Jeffrey St. Sauveur and Karen Lustig  
 Jerrold A. Salmanson Foundation  
 James Sanford  
 Jane Sharp and Charles Rardin  
 Peggy and Henry Sharpe  
 Ameer Simmons  
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Szostak  
 William and Donna Templeton  
 William Twaddell and Susan Hardy  
 Joann Watson  
 Erik Wernevi  
 Gary Wessel  
 Jeff Williams  
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard Worrell  
 Karl Ziegler

**Family, \$50-\$99 (continued)**

The Hon. Edith Ajello  
 Peter and Susan Allen  
 Susan Allen  
 Hamilton Allen  
 Donald Baier and Marjorie Mann  
 Lionel and Anne Bercovitch  
 Buzz and Beth Billik  
 Stanley and Marcia Blacher  
 Cynthia Braca  
 Sara Bradford  
 Octavio Brito  
 Margaret and Edward Brookner

George Calcagni  
Roger N. Carlsten  
Joan Cirillo  
E. Tito Cohen  
John Coleman  
Rosemary Colt  
Donald Cordner and Jean Cavanaugh  
Carol Delaney  
Shirley DiMatteo  
Kenneth R. Dulgarian  
Myles Dumas  
Norine Duncan  
Kevin and Amy Egolf  
Mira Eides  
Kathryn Fisler  
Arnold Herman  
Dan and Sharon Hendriksen  
Robert and Laura Howe  
Donald and Diana Jackson  
Barry and Ellen Jagolinzer  
Petra Jenkins  
Maureen Johnson  
Roberta and Steven Lasser  
Marjorie Lederer  
Charles McNeil  
Philip Leis  
Judith Litchman  
Kevin Lohela  
Charles Mahoney  
Brad Marston  
Terry and Dorothy Martiesian  
Alan Metnick  
Adrienne Morris  
Burleigh and Carol Morton  
Philip Mullen  
Jennie Newkirk  
Jack and Patricia Nolan  
Lawrence and Ruth Page  
Donald and Margherita Pryor  
Judith Queen  
Kurt Raaflaub  
Frederic Reamer  
Philip Rivers  
Karen Romer  
Richard Sedano  
Martha Sherman  
Betsy and Kenneth Shimberg  
Caldwell Smith and Alice Benedict  
Beatrice and Robert Swift  
Ron Tabaddor  
Richard Terek  
J. Timmons Roberts and Holly Flood  
Julia Ann Tullis  
Lois Waller  
Meredith Walsh

John Wermer  
Sarah and Stefan Willmann  
Richard Zienowicz and Kathleen  
Glassie

**Individual, \$1-\$49**

Virginia M. Adams  
Michaela Amaral  
Eva Anderson  
Angela Badway  
Noel Bailey  
Nicole Barry  
Stephanie Benedetti  
William Binder  
Ann Bissett and Lynn Koerbel  
Anne Bozzi  
Ellen Brookman  
Margo Chiappinelli  
David Chopy  
Christina S. Clark  
Stephen W. Coon  
Kevin Cunningham  
Jane A. Desforges  
Charles Elder  
Temple Fawcett  
Ms. Lois Finkel  
Ms. Faith Fogle  
Ms. Gayle L. Gifford  
Edwin Gozonsky  
Samuel Greenblatt  
Adam Gutta  
Jana Hesser  
Betty R. Jaffe  
Elyse Kaprielian  
Gabor Keitner  
Jacqueline Ketner  
Shana L. Klinger  
John Kosterlitz  
Robert Landau  
Charles Larson  
Robert Lev  
James Mahoney  
Selena Maranjian  
Saul Martin  
Gay Martin  
Thomas McDonnell  
William Miles  
William and Carolyn Morgan  
Michael Nulman  
Marsha Nussdorf  
Susan Olson  
Mr. George Papandonatos  
Ann Pariseau  
Clifford Renshaw  
David Riedel

Barbara Riter  
William and Kristen Rose  
Ms. Barbara A. Rosen  
Bonnie Ryvicker  
Thibaut Schilt  
Helen Schinazi  
Lora Spalt  
Mary K. Staples  
Nini Stoddard  
Elisa Vele-Tabbador  
Cheryl Teverow  
Ann Thorndike  
Susan Triedman  
Nancy Whit  
Joanna C. Wood  
Michael Zifcak  
Samuel D. Zurier