



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

March 20, 2022

Dear Members and Friends,

We are tremendously grateful to our wonderful members, friends, and partners who helped the Conservancy through another successful year in the face of unusual challenges. Your commitment is inspiring.

We made real progress in 2021, if not always exactly as planned. Some of our popular nature-based activities resumed, with enthusiastic community participation. Favorite artists and appreciative audiences returned to the Trolley Shelter lawn for summer concerts. We successfully assisted in the City Parks Department's transformative trail project in Blackstone Park. Small groups of volunteers, plus a few extraordinarily dedicated individuals, helped maintain and improve both the Boulevard Park and Blackstone Park. To mention just one effort, volunteers planted new sweeps of daffodil bulbs near the Trolley Shelter – look for bright blooms this spring.

We took advantage of the reduced event calendar to undertake other important projects. Education efforts included committing to the City's "Pesticide Free Providence" initiative to promote environmentally friendly practices, advancing stormwater solutions in the York Pond watershed, and creating t-shirts and vests to identify our volunteers. We also made progress in key governance and administrative matters – envisioning long-term priorities for both parks, updating our website to be more mobile-friendly, and archiving historic records at the Providence Public Library.

Inevitably, the pandemic interfered. Large volunteer groups could not yet return, which slowed our progress against the invasive plants stoked by last year's abundant rain. Fortunately, the rain strengthened desirable plants too, and significantly reduced our watering needs compared to recent years. The pandemic also delayed large-scale trail construction in both parks. We begin 2022 with more in our general fund for pending projects, and are hard at work planning major new ones. With your support we are ready to spring into action. Expect exciting news about both the Boulevard and the Conservation District in the next few months!

We hope to hold our annual meeting this summer, in one of the Blackstone Parks.

Sincerely,

Carrie Drake
President

Jane Peterson
President Emerita

Projects and Progress in 2021

Blackstone Boulevard

- ◆ GroundworkRI was hired to mulch, plant trees, and water 15 times in the growing season.
- ◆ Volunteer efforts included an Earth Day “pick-up sticks,” a daffodil planting, litter collection, invasive plant removal, and care for the southernmost garden.
- ◆ We sponsored five well-attended concerts in July and August, returning jazz, motown, pop, and more to summer evenings.
- ◆ We funded an engineering survey for part of the Boulevard and worked with the Parks Department on plans for repairing the path between Mount and Rochambeau. Construction to start this spring.
- ◆ We worked with the Parks Department toward better lawn care, including mowing leaves in fall.
- ◆ A pilot project to naturalize sweeps of daffodils began with 700 bulbs near the Trolley Shelter.
- ◆ Planning and design began for new projects at the Boulevard’s north and south ends.

Blackstone Park Conservation District

- ◆ We hosted monthly “Art and Exploration” family events and helped a local artist with an interactive nature-based art project. Other popular activities resumed, including MoonRise, RiverRides, and nature and birding walks.
- ◆ We helped the City Parks Department with outreach, coordination, and new signs as part of its sizable DEM-funded project to add split-rail fences, signage, and trail stabilization.
- ◆ We hired a contractor to control invasive woody plants in the wetland meadow by mowing.
- ◆ We purchased 4 new trash cans for River Drive.
- ◆ We worked with the City Parks Department to expand better mowing practices.
- ◆ Working both individually and at eleven Park-Keeping events, energetic volunteers fixed trails, removed graffiti, litter, and invasive plants, controlled erosion, and upgraded signboards. A Scout troop improved Blackstone Field’s children’s circle and wood stage.
- ◆ To protect the bluff edge in the North Section, contractors added native shrubs, grass seed, and erosion-mitigation measures. Dedicated neighbors watered new plantings.

BLACKSTONE PARKS CONSERVANCY

P.O. Box 603141, Providence, RI 02906

Annual Financial Report, FY 2021

Assets January 1, 2021			71,914
Income			
Membership Contributions		49,460	
Membership	48,460		
Benches, trees, special projects	1,000		
Grants		25,100	
Other		282	
Total Income			74,843
Expenses			
Administrative		(17,293)	
Contract work	(11,238)		
IT, printing, mail, signage	(4,606)		
Events and gifts	(1,355)		
Licenses	(94)		
Blackstone Park Conservation District		(4,912)	
Blackstone Boulevard		(6,460)	(11,220)
Boulevard Concert Series		(4,759)	
Education		(4,245)	
Miscellaneous		(1,116)	
Total Expenses			(38,785)
Net Result			36,057
Assets December 31, 2021			107,971

Thank you

Our heartfelt gratitude goes to the many individuals who gave advice, grants, and time to the Blackstone Parks Conservancy in 2021. We are also deeply indebted to our many generous members.

April Alix
Gale Aronson
Audubon Society of RI
Patricia Becker
Thomas Bennett
Dan Berard
Boulevard Tree Sponsors
Sara Bradford
Brian Byrnes
Alison Chaltas
Classical Band
Don Cordner *
The Croft School
Carol Delaney
Harold Doran
Peggy Edwards
Greg Gerritt
Melissa Guillet
Tatiana Holway
Joe's Backyard Band
Brian Johnson, BKJ Productions
Wendy Klein
Rich Lang
Karen Longeteig*
Brad Marston
Miss Wensday
Moses Brown School
Narragansett Boat Club
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Nickel Jukebox
Wendy Nilsson, Supt. of Providence Parks
Park-Keepers
Partnership for Providence Parks
Providence Dept. of Parks & Recreation
Miles Rardin, Scout Troop 28 Providence
Allan Raskin
Steve Ricci, Groundwork RI
Rhody Native
RI Dept. of Environmental Management (DEM)

RI Dept. of Public Works (DPW)
RI Dept. of Transportation (DOT)
RI Wild Plant Society
Amelia Rose, Groundwork RI
Save The Bay
Bob Segal
Scout Troop 28 Providence
Betsy Shea-Taylor
Skyscrapers Inc
Pamela Steager
Stone Cold Gypsies
Swan Point Cemetery
Doug Still, City Forester
H Philip West, Jr

*BPC Committee members

Blackstone Parks Conservancy Officers and Trustees

Carrie Drake, President
Jane Peterson, President Emerita
Deming Sherman, Treasurer
Amy Zinsser, Secretary
Rick Richards, Education Comm. Chair
Colgate Searle, Boulevard Comm. Chair
Margaret Brookner
Allison Bryant
Jonathan Ford
Martha Fraenkel
Anthony Hollingshead
Jennifer McLean
Robert Murphy
Ken Orenstein
Jeff Williams

Members

This a list of our members who contributed between January 1st and December 31st, 2021.

Lifetime Members, \$1,000 or more

Joseph A. Chazan
Carrie Drake and Cranston Paull
Goldstein Associates Llc
Mary P Oenslager Foundation Fund
Kevin and Amy Orth
Frederick Roses
Joseph and Rosalyn Sinclair Foundation
Mary C. Speare

Sustainers, \$500-\$999

Elisabeth Adler
Cynthia Bertozzi
Kathy Bourque
City and Estate Gardener
Jane Dietze and Robin Rains
Norine Duncan
Marc Dunkelman
Jonathan Ford and Heather Wright
Martha Fraenkel
Ira S. and Anna Galkin Charitable Trust
Anthony Hollingshead
Karen Jo Lee
Frederick R. Mattis
Robert T. and Kathy Murphy
Kasey Pickell
Lori and Fred Polacek
Lisa and Lawrence Pryor
Ress Family Foundation
Rick Richards
Colgate Searle
Jyothi and Shivan Subramaniam
Marjorie L Sundlun
Lee Wesner
Amy Zinsser and Bob Ferreira

Conservationists, \$250-\$499

Cherry Arnold
Ian Barnacle
Judith Bloom
Stephen Blough
Richard and Sandra Bornstein
Maria De Angelis
Thomas and Megan DiSanto
Katie and Erik Egge
Eric and Dana Falk
Barbara Feibelman and Ken Orenstein
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Fisler

Gertrude M. and Seebert J. Goldowsky Foundation
Denise Hill
Barry and Ellen Jagolinzer
Susann Mark
Ruth Landow
Paul and Pamela Lietar
Rebecca Mayer
McCain Family Foundation
Katherine McCleary
Jack and Sara McConnell
James and Jayne McKivergan
Jennifer McLean
Adrienne Morris
Douglas and Elizabeth Morse
Carl N. Raether
Sally and Fred Rotenberg
Deming and Jane Sherman
Santina Siena
Amee Simmons
Jeff Williams
Karl Ziegler

Protectors, \$100-\$249

Roy and Judith Aaron
Abrams-Bell Foundation
Dinaz Adenwalla and Gina Donofrio
The Hon. Edith Ajello
Hamilton Allen
John Amaral
Jane Arnold
Gale Aronson and Samuel Hawkes
Patricia Becker
Michael and Alice Bonitati
William and Judith Braden
Ellen Brookman
Allison Bryant
Roger N. Carlsten
Renee Chicoine
Joan Cirillo
Daten B. Cohen
Dr. Franklin DePeters
Ann and Jeff Diehl
James Doak and Carol Smith
Martha Dunkelman
Robert and Marilyn Edwards
Timothy M. Empkie
Jordan Frank
Elizabeth Fussell
Ann Gallagher

Wallace and Leslie Gernt
Thomas Getz
Jeremy Giller
Sarah Gleason
Ruth and Mark Guyer
James Hallan
Roman and Kathyn Hayda
Dan and Sharon Hendriksen
Sandra J. Heron
Laura Howe
Meghan Hughes and Kimball Mayer
Donald and Diana Jackson
Warren and Janet Jagger
Stephen and Judith Jagolinzer
Kathy Jellison
Rudolph and Maureen Johnson
Gabor Keitner
Deborah Kelley
Mary F. Kesson
Linda and Harold Kushner
Richard Lang
Joseph Winn
Guy Lombardo
Karen Longeteig
Kay Low
Alison and David Mandelbaum
Brock and Jamie Manville
James Maxwell
James Maxwell
Daniel McGuire
Margaret Megowen
Jennifer Miller
Patricia Moran
Regina Kuecks Morgan
Victor and Lila Neel
Jane S. Nelson
Simon Nemzow
Jennie Newkirk
Kenneth and Laura Nordstrom
Joseph O'Hearn
William O'Neil
Calvin Oyer
Deborah F. Perlman
Jane and Eric Peterson
Karen Pizzarello
Judith Queen
Marilyn Quesenberry
Cristiana Quinn
John Reeder
William and Suzanne Reeves
J. Timmons Roberts
Rick Roessle
John J. Romasco
Jeffrey St. Sauveur
Jerrold A. Salmanson
James Sanford

Monica and Frank Schaberg
Christopher Schmid
Clarkson Schoettle
Bob Segal
Brett Smiley
Caldwell Smith and Alice Benedict
Beatrice and Robert Swift
William and Donna Templeton
Julia Ann Tullis
William Twaddell
Joann Watson
Erik Wernevi
H. Philip West Jr. and Anne Grant
Joseph Hoefflerle and Sabrina Witherby
Richard and Barbara Wong
Joanna C. Wood
Kimberly and James Worrell
Richard and Mary Worrell
Jimmy and Harriet Wrenn
Steven and Beverly Wright
Fred Zimmerman

Family, \$50-\$99

Robert Abbatomarco
James and Susan Allen
Peter and Susan Allen
Dennis Stark and Robert Amarantes
Donald Baier
Jennifer M. Becker
Stephanie Benedetti
Anne and Lionel Bercovitch
Abby Berkelhammer
Annie Bissett and Lynn Koerbel
Stanley and Marcia Blacher
Anne Bozzi
Michael and Cynthia Braca
David Cashman
Tony Clapsis
E. Tito Cohen
John Coleman
Jane A. Desforges
Shirley Di Matteo
Diana Ditto
Gladys Duffie
Amy and Kevin Egolf
Elizabeth Fradin
Marilyn Franklin
Anne and Wayne Franklin
Anneke Frazer
Robert R. Garzillo and Kate Wodehouse
Gayle L. Gifford
Karen Grant
Leah and Kenneth Hersh
Elaine and Donald Kallio
Boyd P. King

Carol Landau
Roberta and Steven Lasser
Marjorie Lederer
Lucy A. Lepreau
Paul Levinson
Kevin Lohela
Charles Mahoney
James Mahoney
Ronald Markoff and Karen Triedman
Brad and Marcie Marston
Terry and Dorothy Martiesian
Thomas McDonnell
Carie and Eugene McGrane
Charles McNeil
Alan Metnick
Zachary Morello
Carol and Burleigh Morton
Philip Mullen
Rory Neuner
Patricia Nolan
Nancy Nowak
Vera Old
John Olerio
Ann Pariseau
Martha Holman Paull
Joe and Holly Polhemus
Donald and Margherita Pryor
Kurt Raaflaub
Martha Ragsdale
Dianne Riley
Dennis J. Roberts II
Karen Romer
Thomans and Audrey Ross
Duane and Mary Schmidt
Richard Sedano
Andrew Seiden
Mary Shepard
Adam Sinel
Elisa Vele
Norma Taylor
Susan Triedman
Christine Turgeon
Terrance Tyree
Ronald Viafore
Erika Wallington
Meredith Walsh
Margaret Watkinson
Gary Wessel
Terry and Connie Worthington
Richard Zienowicz and Kathleen Glassie
The Hon. Samuel D. Zurier

Individual, \$1-\$49

Noel Bailey
Sarah Baldwin

William Binder
James Burnham
Margo Chiappinelli
Rosemary Colt
Donald Cordner and Jean Cavanaugh
Kevin Cunningham
Robin Densten
Alex and Mira Eides
Temple Fawcett
Lois Finkel
David Francis
Fred J. Franklin
Leslie Fuller
Robyn Furman
Maxine Goldin
David and Gail Hamel
David Hart
Brett Jacob
Petra Jenkins
Shana L. Klinger
Berit Kosterlitz
Steven Krohn
Robert Landau
Greg Landsberg
Philip Leis
Robert Lev
Edna and Ann Lipsitt
Judith Litchman
Margaret MacDowell
Saul Martin
William and Carolyn Morgan
Grace Novick
Michael Nulman
Susan Olson
Lawrence Page
George Papandonatos
Clifford Renshaw
David Riedel
Barbara Riter
William and Kristen Rose
Barbara F. Ruttenberg
Bonnie Ryvicker
Thibaut Schilt
Helaine Schupack
David Shapiro-Zysk
Nicholas Sofios
Mary K. Staples
Pamela Steager
Nini Stoddard
Deborah Strauss
Cheryl Teverow
Ann Thorndike
Susan Tremblay
Colleen Zeitz
Michael Zifcak
Morrisa and Joseph Zwetchkenbaum