

A photograph of a waterfront park. In the foreground, several wooden pilings are partially submerged in the water. In the middle ground, a group of people are kayaking in various colored kayaks (red, blue, yellow, orange). In the background, a long walkway with a blue metal roof and railings runs along the water. The sky is a pale, hazy blue.

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

**BROOKLYN BRIDGE
PARK CONSERVANCY**

PHOTO BY ETIENNE FROSSARD

2016 REVIEW | FINANCES

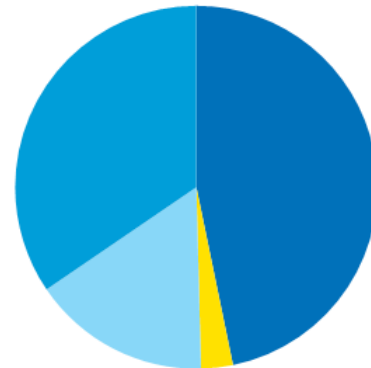
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

<i>Assets</i>	
Cash + cash equivalents	\$ 663,362
Receivables	\$ 214,669
Prepaid expenses and inventory	\$ 9,493
Property and equipment, net	\$ 273,797
<i>Total assets</i>	<u>\$ 1,161,321</u>
<i>Liabilities</i>	
Accounts payable and unearned revenue	\$ 47,777
<i>Net assets</i>	
Permanently restricted	\$ 15,000
Temporarily restricted	\$ 151,828
Unrestricted	\$ 946,716
<i>Total net assets</i>	<u>\$ 1,113,544</u>
<i>Total liabilities and net assets</i>	<u>\$ 1,161,321</u>

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

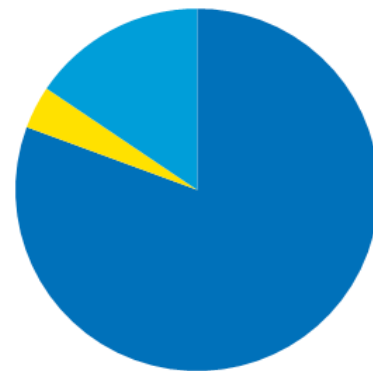
<i>Sources of funds</i>	
Contributions and grants	\$ 1,037,233
Government support	\$ 126,398
Program service revenue	\$ 383,475
Events (net of direct costs)	\$ 992,276
Other	\$ 669
<i>Total revenue</i>	<u>\$ 2,540,051</u>
<i>Use of funds</i>	
Program services	\$ 1,978,313
Management	\$ 143,141
Fundraising	\$ 406,205
<i>Total expenses</i>	<u>\$ 2,527,659</u>

REVENUE



- Contributions and grants 41%
- Government 5%
- Program services 15%
- Events 39%

EXPENSES



- Program services 78%
- Management 6%
- Fundraising 16%

2016 REVIEW | PUBLIC PROGRAMS



PHOTO BY ETIENNE FROSSARD



PHOTO BY ETIENNE FROSSARD



PHOTO BY ETIENNE FROSSARD

There was a rich variety of activities in the Park last year. Amateur yogis took in deep breaths and spectacular views during waterfront workout classes, and New Yorkers of all ages connected with the East River through public kayaking. All in all, the Conservancy served over 135,000 people through our public programs.

ARTS & CULTURE

From family festivals to music festivals, from contemporary dance performances to Shakespeare classics, last year's arts schedule was packed.

Our annual Movies With A View series drew over 25,000 viewers on Thursday evenings in July and August. Books Beneath the Bridge – the popular outdoor reading series curated by six local bookstores – hosted such acclaimed authors as Eowyn Ivey, Emma Straub, and Idra Novey.

Our season ended with a spectacular Harvest Festival, attended by over 7,000 visitors – the biggest we've ever had. Families from all over New York City (and even from Brazil) came out to Pier 6 to take in the beautiful fall foliage, and celebrate autumn with face painting and pumpkin carving.

RECREATION

Last year, we continued collaborating with a number of local organizations for our recreational programs. Partnering with the Dodge YMCA, Big & Little Skills Academy, and others we hosted over 125 free fitness classes for 3,500 participants during the summer.

We also worked with Brooklyn Kayak Guides and Brooklyn Bridge Park Boathouse to continue growing our public kayaking programs. Last year, nearly 5,500 new and returning kayakers drifted along the River.

Adult and youth soccer league players put Pier 5 to good use. Between spring, summer, and fall leagues, over 3,000 players sprinted, slid, and scored on New York City's most unique and picturesque turf field.

In total, fitness classes, basketball clinics, pop-up pools hours, and other recreational events attracted 59,652 visitors.



PHOTO BY ETIENNE FROSSARD

2016 REVIEW | EDUCATION

The Conservancy's robust environmental education program provides free classes to the general public, as well as classes and field trips tailored specifically to school groups and day camps. In 2016, our Education Program served over 11,000 students through a variety of classes, focusing on everything from sustainable design to the history of oysters.

These students came from 130 schools and represented every zip code in Brooklyn. Students took advantage of the Park's unique waterfront location in each of these courses: some walked the Bridge to better understand engineering concepts, while others went seining to catch and identify fish species.

After one fall class, a teacher emailed us:

"IT IS MORE REWARDING TO CHILDREN WHEN THEY ARE INVITED TO INTERACT WITH THEIR ENVIRONMENT AS OPPOSED TO JUST OBSERVING. THANK YOU FOR A LEARNING EXPERIENCE THAT MY STUDENTS WILL REMEMBER FOR YEARS TO COME"

To ensure that students do, in fact, remember what they have learned while visiting the Park, we have begun developing pre- and post-visit lesson plans for teachers to use in their classrooms.

Last fall, we also celebrated the first-year anniversary of the Environmental Education Center, which opened in September 2015. In addition to serving as the home base for the Conservancy's vibrant school programs, it also hosts open hours for the public, which drew nearly 12,000 visitors.

Between school programs and open hours, the Conservancy's Education programs served close to 23,000 individuals in 2016.



2016 REVIEW | STEWARDSHIP

SPECIAL PROJECT: BIOBLITZ

The Education and Volunteer Departments teamed up with the Park's Horticulture team last fall to host Macaulay Honors College students in the Park's first-ever BioBlitz – a 24-hour community-based ecological survey.

Working in shifts over two days, over 400 students observed and documented flora and fauna in the Park. They catalogued striped bass, oyster toadfish, comb jellies, tautog, mud snails, and blue crabs. One of the more special discoveries, however, was the American eel – noteworthy because of its endangered status.

One student participant remarked, "I'm a Brooklyn native and have hung around Brooklyn Bridge Park for most of my high school days. I have played basketball on the piers close to where we took soil samples, walked around the green space near where people tried to collect insect specimens, and relaxed on the shores where water samples were collected during BioBlitz. All the while, I was completely unaware of the huge amount of scientific data available around me."

Another wrote to us to say:

"THERE'S A GREAT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SEEING A PICTURE IN A BOOK, AND HAVING IT COME TO LIFE; BEING ABLE TO SEE A MONARCH WITH ITS VIBRANT ORANGE COLOR MADE EVERYTHING WORTH IT!"

We couldn't agree more.

Brooklyn Bridge Park is as special as it is in large part due to the people in the community who had a hand in making it a reality. Many people now have a hand in the Park – quite literally – through our volunteer program.

Last year, the Conservancy partnered with 1,850 volunteers who contributed a total of 7,118 service hours to the Park. These dedicated volunteers engaged over 2,800 Park visitors through the Info Station and Waterfront Walks, and removed over 450 pounds of trash from the Park's shoreline through Coastal Cleanups. In total, their service hours were valued at \$196,413.

2016 was an important year for our volunteer program as we launched two new specialized initiatives. Teens Interested in and Dedicated to Environmental Sciences (see page 4) and Park Peers – a volunteer program catering to individuals living with disabilities. For this initiative, we worked with Pier 77, Services for the UnderServed, Job Path, and the League of Education & Treatment Center to partner with over 40 individuals.

Of our 1,850 volunteers this year, over one-third (677) were 18 years old or younger. Some came with a school group, others came with their families, and still others came on their own. It is encouraging to see so many young people engaging with their surroundings, and thinking about stewardship. We are proud to provide them with the opportunity to connect with the Park, and to contribute to a cleaner, greener community.



PHOTO BY KAREN SOSORIO-PEREZ

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

The Conservancy is most appreciative of the thousands of individuals – members and friends – and organizations who generously support and attend our events and activities each year. We gratefully acknowledge the following neighbors, businesses, and foundations who have each made a gift of \$500 or more in 2016. List as of April 1, 2017.

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*** We make every effort to ensure accuracy; please let us know if there are any corrections.





BROOKLYN BRIDGE PARK CONSERVANCY
334 FURMAN STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11201

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CHECK OUT BROOKLYNBRIDGEPARK.ORG OR CALL 718.802.0603

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SUPPORT YOUR PARK!

THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE PARK CONSERVANCY INVITES PARK ENTHUSIASTS TO SUPPORT OUT WORK ON BEHALF OF THE PARK. YOUR GENEROSITY HELPS UNDERWRITE PROGRAMMING FROM CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES TO THE FILM SERIES, PLUS ALL THE ADVOCACY WORK IN BETWEEN.

SAVE THE DATE:

THE PARTY THAT
KICKS OFF
SUMMER

SUNSET

JUNE 1, 6 PM | PIER 1



BROOKLYN BLACK TIE BALL

OCTOBER 5, 6 PM | PIER 2