

WATERFRONT MATTERS

SPRING 2022



ANNUAL REPORT

© JOHN ENG



BROOKLYN BRIDGE
PARK
CONSERVANCY

“We had so much fun premiering ‘Water’ at Brooklyn Bridge Park. It was the first dance I made for a live audience since the pandemic began, and I choreographed it specifically to be done outdoors. I used four short selections from Handel’s Water Music, composed to be played on a boat on the River Thames. We were performing on the East River, so what better name? It was a fabulous experience. We hadn’t performed for live audiences in months, so it was a big relief for dancers and a great return for audiences. I’m thankful to the Conservancy for the chance to reclaim the magic of live performance together.”

MARK MORRIS, FOUNDER OF ACCLAIMED MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP



MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP PERFORMS AT BROOKLYN BRIDGE PARK'S PIER 1 PROMENADE © JOHN ENG

BROOKLYN BRIDGE PARK CONSERVANCY

Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy plays a vital role in creating and energizing this community-focused, world-class urban oasis on the Brooklyn waterfront. A 501(c)3 non-profit, we bring this unique park space to life with more than 500 innovative and engaging educational, cultural, fitness and recreational programs each year. Our free and low-cost events create new and exciting opportunities for tens of thousands of NYC residents and visitors to learn, grow, and experience all that Brooklyn Bridge Park has to offer.





**INAUGURAL SOUNDS AT SUNSET WITH AMERICAN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
AT PIER 3 GREENWAY TERRACE © JOHN ENG**

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Nancy Webster,
Executive Director

A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your support over this past year.

For so many during 2021, the Conservancy's programs were a safe and accessible option for summertime learning, play, and culture — especially for those without access to vacation homes or summer camps outside of the City. To the delight of New Yorkers and Brooklynites, this past summer saw a significant return to in-person programming in Brooklyn Bridge Park, and each day was filled with activity: kids stepping into a kayak for the first time and seeing their home in a completely different way; seniors staying active in workout classes and reconnecting with their neighbors; families taking in a new dance piece by Mark Morris; teens learning how to be citizen scientists; and so much more.

Highlights of the year included:

- **26,000** audience members enjoyed open-air films, dance performances, book readings, and music concerts throughout the Park
- **10,000** kids of all ages learned about the plants and animals of the Park and the East River estuary at Conservancy-led environmental education classes
- **3,200** people got stronger and healthier in fitness programs including Double Dutch, Yoga, Pilates, and Zumba
- **2,000** children and adults took to the field in recreational soccer leagues on Pier 5

As we look forward to 2022, The Conservancy is planning even more free and low cost cultural, educational, and recreational activities in Brooklyn Bridge Park.

We hope that you will join us back at our newly reopened Environmental Education Center, at a summer camp session with Trail Blazers and Conservancy educators, at one of our dance socials on Pier 3, at our signature Movies With A View, returning to Pier 1 for eight evenings in July and August – along with many, many more programs and events coming your way this spring, summer, and fall.

We'd like to extend a special congratulations to our partners at Brooklyn Bridge Park Corporation — President Eric Landau and the entire BBP team — for opening Emily Warren Roebling Plaza this December. As a longtime leader in the citizens advocacy movement to create and fund the park, the Conservancy is overjoyed to celebrate the completion of the Park as originally designed. We also want to thank Eric and the BBP team for their dedication and hard work keeping the Park open and beautiful throughout the pandemic as parks became even more needed and valued as places of recreation, respite, and social gathering.

In closing, we hope you are healthy and well. We know the pandemic has been so hard for so many families in Brooklyn and beyond. But we are coming out of it stronger than ever. And that's because of you --- and everyone who has visited the Park or contributed to the Conservancy over the last 2 years. We look forward to a vibrant year in Brooklyn Bridge Park and most especially to seeing you there.

Chris Coffey
Board Chairman

Nancy Webster
Executive Director

FINANCES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Assets

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$1,286,141 |
| Contributions and grants receivable | \$410,588 |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets | \$16,632 |
| Furniture and equipment, net | \$115,086 |
| Total assets | \$1,828,447 |

Liabilities

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Accounts payable and unearned revenue | \$88,528 |
|---------------------------------------|----------|

Net assets

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| With donor restrictions | \$154,900 |
| Without donor restrictions | \$1,585,019 |
| Total net assets | \$1,739,919 |

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Total liabilities and net assets | \$1,828,447 |
|---|--------------------|

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

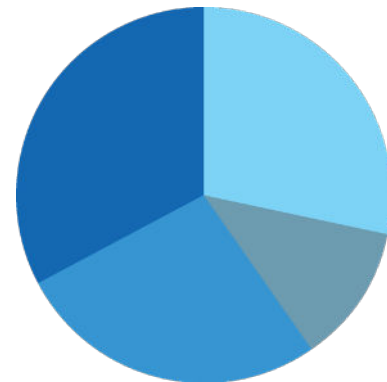
Sources of funds

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Contributions and grants | \$932,046 |
| Government support | \$771,107 |
| Program service revenue | \$344,995 |
| Events (net of direct cost) | \$814,285 |
| Other | \$199 |
| Total revenue | \$2,862,632 |

Use of funds

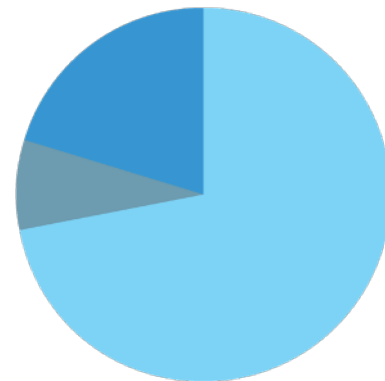
| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Program services | \$1,640,844 |
| Management and General | \$178,104 |
| Fundraising | \$456,282 |
| Total expenses | \$2,275,230 |

REVENUE



■ CONTRIBUTIONS & GRANTS 32.5%
■ EVENTS 28.4%
■ GOVERNMENT 26.9%
■ PROGRAM SERVICES 12%

EXPENSES



■ PROGRAM SERVICES 72.1%
■ FUNDRAISING 20.1%
■ MANAGEMENT & GENERAL 7.8%



ENJOYING THE PUMPKINS PATCH AT THE CONSERVANCY'S ANNUAL HARVEST FESTIVAL © JOHN ENG



FAMILY-FRIENDLY SCAVENGER HUNT AT EARTH DAY 2021 © ALEXA HOYER

ARTS & CULTURE

2021 was an exciting season for the Conservancy. More than 20,000 visitors experienced dynamic arts and cultural offerings despite the challenges of an ongoing pandemic. The season featured the return of the Conservancy's most anticipated annual events, plus innovative offerings showcasing the richness of the Park community with new, creative collaborators and partners.

While stages and studios remained closed due to COVID-19, the Conservancy provided open-air opportunities for audiences to enjoy local music, theater, and dance performances. The summer launched with the first-ever Brass Bands Festival, followed by a spirited lineup of cultural events — the world premiere of *Water* by the iconic Mark Morris Dance Group at Pier 1; an energetic all-ages waterfront dance party; book readings and slam poetry; intimate live theater; the launch of a new Sounds at Sunset series with American Symphony Orchestra; and an inaugural Open Studios Residency with Fogo Azul NYC and Oyu Oro Afro-Cuban Experimental Dance Ensemble.



“As an artist, working together with my people and the community is the prosperity of our art. Being here in Brooklyn Bridge Park was healing, a blessing for me. This was the first platform that gave Oyu Oro an opportunity to work outside during the pandemic. Here everything is working, the scenery, the river, the people, the organizers of the program. Everything matches, everything is in harmony, and that makes this space unique.”

**DANY PEREZ LE MORA, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR,
OYU ORO AFRO-CUBAN DANCE ENSEMBLE**

A much anticipated 21st season of Movies With A View returned for a 4-week run featuring the theme “Grit,” celebrating heartwarming, hilarious, and uplifting stories of resilience and perseverance. Over 10,000 filmgoers enjoyed movies set alongside beautiful views of NY Harbor, with food and drink provided by Smorgasburg, short films curated by BAMCinématek, and DJ sets provided by Brooklyn Radio.

Finally, the Conservancy's long-awaited family festivals returned in-person — over 9,500 kids and families from Brooklyn and beyond celebrated Earth Day, Hindu Lamp Ceremony, Brooklyn Americana Music Festival, and our popular Harvest Festival.

BRASS BANDS FESTIVAL PROCESSION TO PIER 4 BEACH © WILL RAGOZZINO





OYU ORU AFRO-CUBAN DANCE ENSEMBLE PERFORMS AT OPEN STUDIOS IN JULY 2021 © JOHN ENG

MOVIES WITH A VIEW

10,000

SUMMER FILMGOERS

WATERFRONT DANCE PARTY

1,000

MOVERS AND GROOVERS

BRASS BANDS FESTIVAL

1,500

ROVING MUSIC LOVERS

HARVEST FESTIVAL

5,000

FRIENDS AND FAMILIES

HINDU LAMP FESTIVAL

2,000

CELEBRANTS

BROOKLYN AMERICANA

2,500

LIVE MUSIC FANS

RECREATION

More participants than ever before — over 8,000 — took part in the Conservancy’s free fitness and recreational offerings this season, as residents and visitors sought affordable and safe opportunities to stay active and healthy outdoors.

At an extended fitness season from May through October, Waterfront Workouts featured free classes — Zumba, Pilates, Family Fitness, Amp’d Bootcamp, and Yoga — taught by top notch instructors representing local partners including Dodge YMCA, Chelsea Piers Fitness, ONEYOGAHOUSE, SETU, and Abhaya Yoga.

At the spirited return of Double Dutch, participants learned the fundamentals of street-style and competitive jump rope with Coach Kizzy Samuels, while getting in touch with a beloved and historical Brooklyn past-time.



“I am grateful to the Conservancy for providing incredible arts, culture, education, and recreation programs. They offer something for everyone, regardless of ability to pay. Everything I attended was high quality, engaging, and lots of fun. During lockdown, Waterfront Workouts Zumba brought me out of my living room to soak in the fresh air, listen to great music, and dance with others, in front of one of the most beautiful skylines in the world. Alma, the instructor, provided an energetic workout, the Conservancy team took care of everything else, so all we had to do was dance like no one was watching.”

SIMMI DEGENEMAR, ZUMBA PARTICIPANT

Recreational offerings included strong seasons of Adult and Youth soccer leagues, youth basketball clinics, and walk-up kayaking. In partnership with Brooklyn Bridge Park Boathouse, over 2,600 paddlers launched into the water off the Pier 2 floating dock. First-time kayakers experienced their city from a new perspective, while connecting with the harbor as a revitalizing educational and recreational resource.



WALK-UP KAYAKING OFF THE PIER 2 FLOATING DOCK © ETIENNE FROSSARD



PUBLIC KAYAKING

2,600

EAST RIVER PADDLERS

ADULT SOCCER LEAGUES

754

FOOTBALLERS

YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUES

545

TEAM PLAYERS

WATERFRONT WORKOUTS

3,000

FITNESS FANS

DOUBLE DUTCH

80

JUMPERS

YOUTH BASKETBALL CLINICS

300

DRIBBLERS

EDUCATION

Each year the Conservancy's environmental educators use Brooklyn Bridge Park as a living classroom to teach students and families about the plants, animals, and urban ecology of the East River estuary. Our Environmental Education team continued to innovate and pivot, offering flexible outdoor, virtual, and hybrid offerings to meet emergent needs of teachers, parents, and caregivers.

Over 10,000 students and visitors learned about the Park's ecology and the East River estuary on K-12 field trips, including: oyster monitoring sessions; seining and rod & reel fishing clinics; Early Nature Experiences classes; and more. K-12 school program students — representing 47 institutions, 32 zip codes, and 23 council districts — came from across the five boroughs for field trips in the Park and online. Overall, 31% of the classes identified as Title 1 and 35% as ESL.

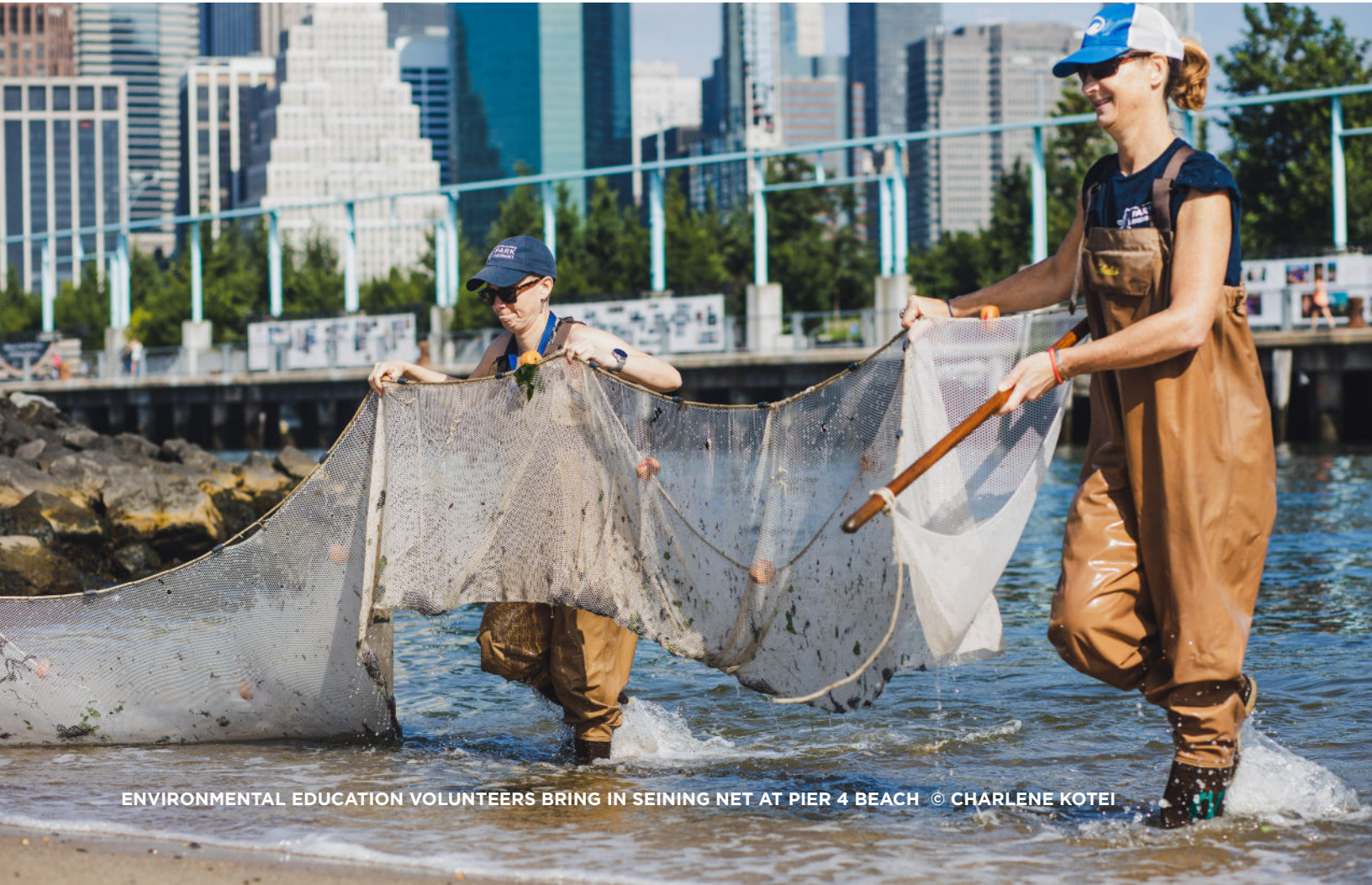


Hello my name is Kymani Thompson I'm 9-years-old. I attended the Trail Blazers camp last summer and was so excited to be outdoors after being in the house because of Covid. It was fun to make new friends and to be outside exploring. I loved going. The camp leaders were helpful, friendly, and I learned a lot about the environment. It was all around a fun summer!"

KYMANI THOMPSON, 2021 CAMPER

July featured the inaugural launch of Trail Blazers Brooklyn Bridge Park in partnership with the Conservancy. More than 440 K-5 campers—eager to be outside!—safely learned, explored, and played together, getting to know the Park and all its wonders. Students gained a deeper appreciation for nature and the environment through dedicated activities led by Conservancy and Trail Blazers educators.

Finally, after a temporary closure of the Education Center in 2020, the Conservancy officially celebrated its long-awaited reopening and 6th anniversary in September 2021. The Center is now open to the public for free, drop-in Open Hours three days a week, and features a variety of hands-on exhibits, educational games, and activities highlighting monthly ecology and nature themes.



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION VOLUNTEERS BRING IN SEINING NET AT PIER 4 BEACH © CHARLENE KOTEI



TRAIL BLAZERS / CONSERVANCY SUMMER CAMP GROUP ON PIER 1 © TRAIL BLAZERS

TOTAL EDUCATION

10,000

KIDS, FAMILIES, AND VISITORS

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

5,000

PARTICIPANTS

TITLE 1 SCHOOLS

35%

FROM UNDERSERVED AREAS

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

2,075

STUDENTS

VIRTUAL CLASSES

1,172

ONLINE LEARNERS

TRAIL BLAZERS / CONSERVANCY CAMP

440

CAMPERS IN THE PARK

STEWARDSHIP

Over the course of the season, more than 400 Conservancy volunteers of all ages and skill sets generously donated over 2,000 hours to service projects in the Park. Stewardship opportunities included everything from beach cleanups, horticulture projects, oyster monitoring, photography opportunities, and ongoing support at the Conservancy's family festivals and events.



"What the Conservancy does every day is critical to the health and well-being of New Yorkers."

"As a volunteer for the Conservancy's coastal cleanups and seining, we document, we educate, and we work to reduce the human impact on the environment. It's gratifying to know I can do my part to move the needle for the future. It has been a life-changing inspiration to live in a city with such incredible green spaces and parks."

IFE LAWAL, CONSERVANCY VOLUNTEER



"I was looking for volunteer opportunities that were outdoors, since I'd been inside for a whole year due to the pandemic, and found the TIDES program. I chose it because of the many opportunities to learn about the environment through exciting hands-on activities. It was a fun program. I got to have many new experiences like collecting samples from the river, oyster monitoring, learning about landscape architecture, cleaning trash along the water, or weeding to keep the Park's plants healthy. One thing that stood out to me about being in the TIDES program was how much life there is in the Park. For example, at seining it was so cool to see all of the wildlife we caught in our nets."

CHRIS LEE, TIDES VOLUNTEER

A joint program of the Conservancy's education and stewardship departments, TIDES (Teens Interested In and Dedicated to Environmental Stewardship) returned to introduce 35 young adults from across the five boroughs to conservation, sustainability, and stewardship through a combination of hands-on workshops and community service projects in the Park. Over 600 volunteer hours were donated at Green Team, Coastal Cleanups, oyster monitoring, seining, citizen science fishing clinics, and more.





TIDES STUDENTS AT COASTAL CLEANUP SESSION © ALEXA HOYER

VOLUNTEERS

400

GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

SERVICE HOURS

2,400

TOTAL HOURS CONTRIBUTED

VALUE OF SERVICE

\$79,608

WORTH OF LABOR

TIDES PARTICIPANTS

30

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
CONTRIBUTED OVER 600 HOUR

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

117

EVENTS AND TOURS SUPPORTED
BY VOLUNTEERS

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 people, businesses, corporations, and foundations who have made gifts of \$250 or more in 2021. List as of December 31, 2021.

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Anita Abraham-Inz and Richard Inz
Diana and Kenneth Adams
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*Organizations that donated in 2021
 continued on next page...*



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DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Hannah and Ricky Robinett, Conservancy donors and Brooklyn Bridge Park enthusiasts, share:

“For our family, Brooklyn Bridge Park is our backyard. From daily walks to entertainment, it is our home away from home. When we decided to live near the Park many years ago, little did we know how important it would be during the pandemic. It was a peaceful escape during stressful times and got us moving when we felt we couldn't go anywhere else.

One of our favorite places is the lawn at Pier 6. It's our go-to spot for countless picnics and fun times at the Conservancy's annual Harvest Festival (we never miss it!). Walking through the Park, we are filled with memories of our daughter learning how to ride her bike, taking her first soccer class, and learning some new moves at the *Holiday Fam Jam Dance Party*. Having this oasis for her to grow up in will only get better as she grows and experiences the park in new ways.”

ORGANIZATIONS

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Brooklyn Bridge Park Corporation
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Special thanks to our friends at Brooklyn Bridge Park — Eric Landau and his entire team, for creating and maintaining this beautiful Park.



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BROOKLYN BRIDGE PARK CONSERVANCY

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BROOKLYN, NY 11201

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE PARK PLEASE
CHECK OUT BROOKLYNBRIDGEPARK.ORG OR CALL 718.802.0603

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**WOMENS LUNCHEON
MONDAY, MAY 16**

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**BROOKLYN BLACK TIE BALL
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6**

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**SPRINGTIDE
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27**

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**SUNSET
THURSDAY, JUNE 2**

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