





CONFERENCE

# PARKS & PEOPLE A DECLARATION OF INTERDEPENDENCE













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We're proud to be the presenting sponsor of Park Pride's 14th Annual Parks & Greenspace Conference.

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Great parks require community involvement and dedication to guarantee their creation, revitalization and activation. The 2015 Parks and Greenspace Conference theme explores the relationship between engaged communities and successful parks.

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#### SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

| 7:30 AM           | Hardin Visitor Center | Registration Opens                        |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 7:30–8:30 AM      | Day Hall              | Continental Breakfast / Networking        |
| 8:30-10:25 AM     | Day Hall              | Welcome & Opening Plenary Session         |
| 10:40 AM-12:00 PM | Various Locations     | Morning Concurrent Sessions               |
| 12:00–12:50 PM    | Day Hall              | Lunch                                     |
| 12:50-2:00 PM     | Day Hall              | Mid-day Plenary Session                   |
| 2:15–3:30 PM      | Various Locations     | Afternoon Concurrent Sessions             |
| 3:45-5:00 PM      | Day Hall              | Closing Plenary Session & Closing Remarks |
| 5:00 PM           | Mershon Hall          | Reception / Networking                    |

# WELCOME TO THE 2015 PARKS AND GREENSPACE CONFERENCE





ABOVE: VOLUNTEERS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS GATHER FOR A WORKDAY IN DEARRORN PARK

LEFT: MICHAEL HALICKI, PARK PRIDE'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR t this year's Parks and Greenspace Conference, we celebrate the role communities play in making parks great. Our theme, *Parks & People: A Declaration of Interdependence*, recognizes that great parks don't fall from the sky; they aren't delivered on high from the experts. Over the past 25 years, Park Pride has come to appreciate the pivotal role that the community plays in sustaining and improving park health, and vice versa.

This brings me to three "declarations of interdependence" that frame today's conference:

- Parks aren't parks without people. Greenspaces provide many environmental benefits in terms of air and water quality and support of biodiversity. However, what makes a greenspace a park is the people. Plans for new or reimagined parks tend to focus on the hardscape, the plantings and other physical improvements. Equally as important is what is not on the page: Who is this park for and are those park users engaged? Once a park is created, is it used as envisioned?
- Great parks aren't "great" if they don't reflect the unique character and needs of a community. Some communities need nature trails and some need ball fields. All have a range of diverse and conflicting needs. Parks are not great in absolute terms; they must respond to a community's needs. Communities have personalities and parks are great when they tap into an aesthetic that reflects a community's past, present and future.
- When parks successfully reflect the unique character and needs of our communities, everybody
  wins. The City of Atlanta and DeKalb County are treasure troves of amazing parks and greenspaces. Our
  parks' diversity reflects the diversity of communities that engage to create, revitalize and activate their parks.
  These benefits are shared more broadly as residents associated with one particular park come to know and
  appreciate other parks that provide a range of different, yet wonderful, experiences.

Today, we've assembled an amazing group of speakers and thought provoking topics. However, the Parks and Greenspace Conference will not live up to its full potential without *your* participation. Much as "parks aren't parks without people," this conference won't be a great conference unless you are an equal part of the experience. Share thoughts. Ask questions. Get to know your peers. Join the conversation on Twitter with #PGC15. Help to *build* community as we *celebrate* community at this year's Parks and Greenspace Conference!

Sincerely,

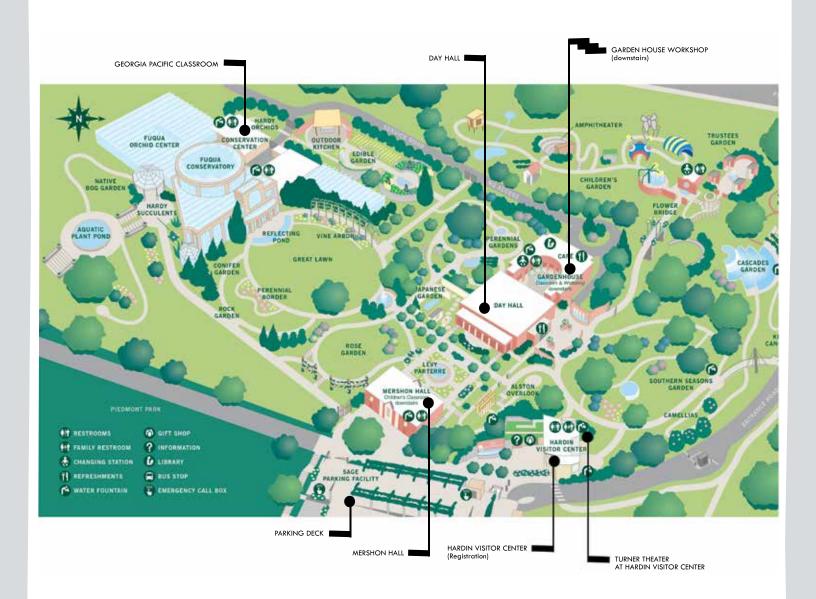
Michael Halicki

Executive Director, Park Pride

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# VENUE MAP





WIFI ACCESS:

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**#PGC15**, @parkpride

# PARKS & PEOPLE: A DECLARATION OF INTERDEPENDENCE

7:30–8:30 AM Registration & Continental Breakfast

Registration: Hardin Visitor Center

Breakfast: Day Hall

8:30–10:25 AM Welcome & Opening Plenary Session

Location: Day Hall

8:45–9:25am • Another Change in Climate: The Heating Up of the Urban Parks

Movement

Sponsor: The Trust for Public Land

Keynote Speaker: Peter Harnik, Director, The Trust for Public Land, Center for City Park Excellence

Peter Harnik has been following and investigating the growth and evolution of the city parks movement for nearly two decades. He has helped chart and analyze the resurgence of urban parks from the depths of despair in the 1980s to such breakthrough successes today as Piedmont and Centennial Olympic Parks in Atlanta, Millennium Park in Chicago, Railroad Park in Birmingham and the High Line in New York. Harnik will discuss the latest techniques in parkbuilding, park-fixing and park-funding, as well as the critical role that park advocates must have in the process.

9:30–10:10am Parks as Multi-Use Destinations and Catalysts for Community Development

Keynote Speaker: Cynthia Nikitin, Senior Vice President, Project for Public Spaces

With the importance of parks growing in the public's consciousness, now is the time to question what distinguishes great parks. Project for Public Spaces has identified nine strategies that help parks achieve their full potential to become active, multi-use, accessible, inclusive, safe public spaces that enhance neighborhoods and catalyze local economic development, highlight community authenticity and support multiple users.

#### 10:25–10:40 AM TRANSITION TO SESSIONS

Sessions take place in rooms throughout the Atlanta Botanical Garden and will begin promptly. Please see the map on Page 3 for reference. Park Pride staff and volunteers will also be available to guide you.

#### 10:40 AM-12:00 PM MORNING CONCURRENT SESSIONS

#### Community Improvement Districts: Improving Parks and Places

Location: Mershon Hall

Moderator: George Dusenbury, IV

Panel: Kevin Green, President & CEO, Midtown Alliance

A.J. Robinson, President, Central Atlanta Progress (CAP) and Atlanta Downtown Improvement

District (ADID)

Denise Starling, Executive Director, Livable Buckhead

The City of Atlanta's Community Improvement Districts invest significant time, money and effort to create new public spaces and improve existing ones. Listen to three Atlanta business leaders discuss how and why they invest so heavily in parks.



#### ioby: A Community Fundraising and Engagement Tool

Location: **Hardin Visitor Center** 

Speaker: Erin Barnes, Co-founder & Executive Director, ioby

How can crowd-funding support park advocates in Atlanta and other great cities? Join a discussion with joby (In Our Back Yards), a fundraising platform for communities, to hear real-life case studies of how neighborhood and park groups from Brooklyn to Los Angeles use crowd-resourcing to fund their neighborhood-transforming work.

#### 20/20 Vision: The Role of Park Visioning in Shaping the Future of Your Greenspace

Location: **Georgia Pacific Classroom** 

Walt Ray, Director of Park Visioning, Park Pride Moderator:

Panel: Byron Amos, Friends of Vine City Park

Mandy LeCompte, Friends of Little Nancy Creek Park

Barbara Marin, Friends of Springbrook Park

Park Visioning is a collaborative process that helps communities identify the unique character and needs of their neighborhood to create a shared vision for a local greenspace. Representatives from three communities will share stories and offer insights into the transformative impact of the process on both the community and their park.

#### Creating High-Performance Public Spaces<sup>©</sup>: Effectively Blending Society, **Economics and the Environment**

Location: **Garden House Workshop (Downstairs)** 

Sponsor: **HR&A Advisors** 

Moderator: Candace Damon, Vice Chairman, HR&A Advisors

Panel: David Barth, Principal, Barth Associates

Connie Chung, Director, HR&A Advisors

Erica Madsen, Project Manager, Foresite Group

A High-Performance Public Space© (HPPS) is defined as a publicly accessible space that generates economic, environmental, and social sustainability benefits for the local community. An HPPS can be a park, trail, square, green, natural area, plaza or any other element of the 'public realm' that generates all three types of benefits. This panel discussion will focus on the unique qualities that lead to the creation of HPPSs, the factors that influence their planning and design, and case studies from Atlanta, Boston and Florida.

#### People for Parks: Perspectives on Park Creation and Greenspace **Preservation**

**Turner Theater at Hardin Visitor Center** Location:

Moderator: Jonah McDonald, Author of Hiking Atlanta's Hidden Forests

Panel: Mera Cardenas, Executive Director, Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance, Inc.

> Bruce Morton, Hampton-Beecher Nature Preserve Rochelle Routman, Morningside Nature Preserve

A panel of park advocates will discuss the importance of engaging a broad range of partners including citizens. community leaders, government, nonprofits, funders, environmental advocates, and experts in land acquisition and development. Hear stories about the creation of Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area, Hampton-Beecher Nature Preserve, and Morningside Nature Preserve, and learn about the multiple stages of staffing, funding, and development involved in protecting these greenspaces.

# PARKS & PEOPLE: A DECLARATION OF INTERDEPENDENCE

12:00–12:50 PM **PICNIC LUNCH** 

Location: Day Hall

12:50–2:00 PM MID-DAY PLENARY SESSION

Location: Day Hall

12:50–1:05pm Inspiration Awards

Presenters: Commissioner Amy Phuong, City of Atlanta, Department of Parks and Recreation

Director Roy Wilson, DeKalb County, Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs

Park Pride's Annual Inspiration Awards recognize outstanding achievements in the parks and greenspace field. They honor leaders from across Park Pride's service area who inspire others to expand and improve public parks and greenspaces and work to raise awareness about critical issues.

1:10–1:50 pm Private/Public Partnerships and the Creation of Resilient Public Space

Keynote Speaker: Thomas Woltz, Owner, Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects (NBW)

Public/private partnerships have become the engines that drive the creation of public spaces. Thomas Woltz will discuss strategies and tactics in park creation, stormwater management, sustainable agriculture, and funding partnerships that transform degraded sites into healthy, connected and engaging civic spaces. Recent NBW projects illustrate that resiliency is achieved through the engagement of communities and stakeholders and through the consideration of the ecological and economic health of our greenspaces.

#### 2:00–2:15 PM TRANSITION TO SESSIONS

Sessions take place in rooms throughout the Atlanta Botanical Garden and will begin promptly. Please see the map on Page 3 for reference. Park Pride staff and volunteers will also be available to guide you.

#### 2:15– 3:30 PM AFTERNOON CONCURRENT SESSIONS

#### Just Green Enough: Contesting Environmental Gentrification

Location: Mershon Hall

Moderator: **Tami Thomas-Burton**, United States Environmental Protection Agency

Speaker: Winifred Curran, Associate Professor, DePaul University

As cities strive to make their urban landscapes greener, environmental gentrification is a growing concern. Improvements like parks and bike paths raise surrounding property values and housing costs, which often result in the displacement of working class residents. Learn how sustainable development can provide communities with alternative ways of thinking about economic development, resource use, and social justice.

#### ● From Park to Plate: Civic Agriculture & Public Greenspace

Location: Hardin Visitor Center

Moderators: **Kwabena Nkromo**, Founder, Atlanta Food and Farm, PBC Inc.

Ayanna Williams, Director of Community Building, Park Pride



Panel: Fred Conrad, Community Garden Manager, Atlanta Community Food Bank

Suzanne Girdner, Director, Atlanta Local Food Initiative

Alsie Parks, Office Coordinator, American Community Gardening Association

Tina Perrin, Gardener, Welch Street Park Community Garden

The term "farm to table" has been popularized by the local food movement to emphasize the importance and value of establishing a more direct relationship between farmers and consumers. This session will explore the civic and agricultural benefits of growing food within City of Atlanta parks, or "park to plate," and highlight the resources that are available.

#### Greenspace Heroes

Location: Georgia Pacific Classroom

Moderator: Jami Buck-Vance, Senior Manager, Corporate Responsibility & Communications, Cox Enterprises

Panel: **Joy Carter**, Leader, Friends of Constitution Lakes

Na'Taki Osborne Jelks, Co-founder, West Atlanta Watershed Alliance

**Angel Poventud**, Community Activist

Come hear from three local Cox Conserves Heroes who have played pivotal roles in the creation, preservation and enhancement of parks and greenspaces in our community. Learn how these heroes leveraged their time, enthusiasm and community connections to turn suffering spaces into successful community places.





# PARKS & PEOPLE: A DECLARATION OF INTERDEPENDENCE

#### The Evolution of a Park Conservancy

Location: Garden House Workshop (Downstairs)

Moderator: Peter Harnik, Director, The Trust for Public Land, Center for City Park Excellence

Panel: Mark Banta, President and CEO, Piedmont Park Conservancy

Rosa McHugh, Executive Director, Chastain Park Conservancy

Catherine Spillman, Executive Director, Atlanta Memorial Park Conservancy

The leaders of three Atlanta park conservancies at different stages of development will provide a comprehensive look at the evolution of park conservancies. The panel will offer unique perspectives on the operations, funding mechanisms and donor relations of their organizations.

#### How to Grow a Local Land Trust

Location: Turner Theater at Hardin Visitor Center

Sponsor: The Conservation Fund

Moderator: Stacy Funderburke, Assistant Regional Counsel, The Conservation Fund

Speakers: Miriam Avins, Founder, Baltimore Green Space

Robin Cline, Assistant Director, NeighborSpace

Two greenspace enthusiasts will discuss the benefits and workings of local land trusts, entities that own land for the benefit of others. Using Baltimore Green Space (Baltimore) and NeighborSpace (Chicago) as the framework, this presentation will explore mechanisms of creating land trusts, as well as the challenges of maintaining them. The panelists will share strategies for navigating internal conflict, maintenance problems, and misunderstandings to keep well-loved greenspace in the hands of community members.

#### 3:30–3:45 PM TRANSITION TO CLOSING SESSION

Closing session will begin promptly in Day Hall. Please see the map on Page 3 for reference. Park Pride staff and volunteers will also be available to guide you.

#### 3:45–5:00 PM CLOSING PLENARY SESSION & CLOSING REMARKS

Location: Day Hall

3:45–4:00pm Announcement of 2016 Conference Theme

4:00–4:40pm From the Ground Up–A Story of Community Action Along the Bronx River

Sponsor: American Rivers

Keynote Speaker: Alexie Torres-Fleming, Executive Director, Access Strategies Fund

Alexie Torres-Fleming believes that empowering communities with the skills and tools needed to engender change is as important as the physical results. In 1994, she founded Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice (YMPJ) to prepare young people to become voices for peace and justice. Under her leadership, YMPJ developed riverside parks, restored the Bronx River and improved access to it, and cleaned up brownfields. Ms. Torres-Fleming will share her experience working for positive change in her community and along the Bronx River.

#### 5:00 PM RECEPTION

Location: Mershon Hall

Sponsor: Ed Castro Landscape



# Activating Communities

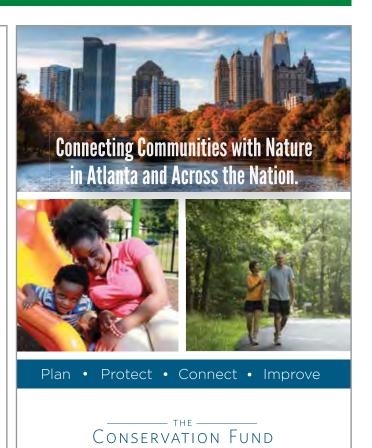
From Pints for Parks, to The Parks and Greenspace Conference and monthly PARC meetings, Park Pride creates opportunities for park enthusiasts to connect, network and discuss current greenspace issues. park pride

www.parkpride.org/get-involved/events



HR&A Advisors is an economic and real estate consultancy at the leading edge of a movement to design, operate, program and fund the development of urban open spaces. We have more than three decades of experience contributing to the planning and development of parks, plazas, streetscapes, and other urban spaces. We view these spaces as both public amenities and catalysts of economic development. Our approach helps communities create value by making strategic connections among parks, other civic assets, and private real estate. Our work products quantify the value of those connections using robust, data-driven analysis, and demonstrate how that new value can be used to fund open space revitalization, programming, and maintenance.

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# **KEYNOTE SPEAKER BIOS**



**Peter Harnik is the Director of The Trust for Public Land's Center for City Park Excellence.** He has led numerous research projects into what makes for great park systems, and he speaks and writes frequently about the relationship between cities and parks. His most recent book, *Urban Green: Innovative Parks for Resurgent Cities*, was named one of the five best books of 2010 by the American Society of Landscape Architects.



**Cynthia Nikitin is the Senior Vice President at Project for Public Spaces.** Her expertise stretches from the development of downtown and public art master plans to transit facility enhancement projects, using placemaking to create safer cities, and more. She facilitates approximately 40 public workshops, visioning sessions, and public meetings annually.



Alexie Torres-Fleming is the Executive Director of Access Strategies Fund as well as an activist, community organizer, advocate and urban planner. She co-founded the Bronx River Alliance and the Southern Bronx River Watershed Alliance to support the community residents committed to reclaiming and restoring the river. Though she has spearheaded several successful projects that have added parks, provided access to the Bronx River, and cleaned up brownfields, she notes that "it is even more important that I contribute to leaving a legacy of a community that understands its own power."



Thomas Woltz is the owner of Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects (NBW), an honored American Society of Landscape Architects Fellow, and was named "Design Innovator of the Year" by the Wall Street Journal Magazine in 2013. Woltz is leading NBW towards creating and reinvigorating public spaces through community engagement and public-private partnerships, as reflected in projects such as Centennial Park (Nashville), Memorial Park (Houston), and Hudson Yard (New York City). He seeks to connect people to where they live to inspire greater care for, and interest in, those places.

#### Here's to growing a

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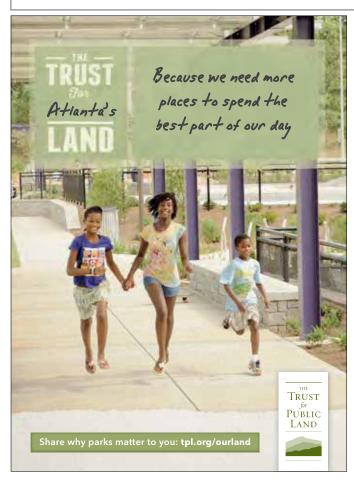
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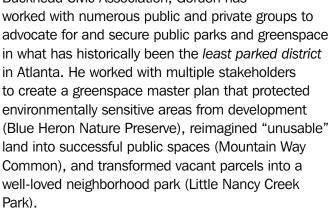
# PARK PRIDE'S 2015 INSPIRATION AWARDS

Park Pride's Annual Inspiration Awards honor leaders who inspire others to expand and improve public parks and greenspaces and work to raise awareness about critical, relevant issues.

We know that great parks exist through the efforts of leaders who nurture and strengthen the bond between the parks and communities of which they are a part. Turning a "good" park into a "great" park requires profound commitment on behalf of a champion to envision, create and sustain a neighborhood park. This year's Inspiration Awards honor eight community leaders from across Park Pride's service area who embody that commitment:

#### **GORDON CERTAIN**

The recent increase in parks in Buckhead has much to do with Gordon Certain. As the President of the North Buckhead Civic Association, Gordon has



#### **JEFF CLARK**

Jeff Clark, Vice President of the Garden
Hills Neighborhood Association,
has made a name for himself as a
motivational leader, master fundraiser,
and community organizer. In 2011, when it became
clear that the Garden Hills Pool needed a new
clubhouse, Jeff took the helm to work with multiple
partners (the City of Atlanta, community leaders,
developers) to not only get a building demolished,
but also to negotiate plans for a new building
that would meet the community's needs. Over
just four years, Jeff rallied the community to raise
more than \$895,000, and the new pool house

opened in May, 2014! Speaking with Jeff, it's clear that the completion of the pool house is a major accomplishment for the neighborhood; the larger success, however, is the friendships that were forged through the planning meetings and fundraising events.

#### **CLARENCE SHAHEED DUBOIS**

Shaheed DuBois is remembered as a greenspace defender, peacemaker, and positive influence. For decades, he was a steadfast community leader in West Atlanta, from his participation in NPU-L, Vine City Civic Association, Historic Westside Gardens, and the Proctor Creek Stewardship Council, to his advocacy efforts on behalf of Lindsay Street Park and Mims Park. He committed himself to projects that would better his community, such as conducting water quality testing and supporting green infrastructure projects to mitigate flooding. The entire parks community is saddened by the recent loss of Clarence Shaheed DuBois, but his passion for greenspace and community will prevail as he has inspired others to continue his great work.

#### COOPER HOLLAND

"A park is a human equalizer." The words and philosophy of Cooper Holland, the champion of Woodruff Park. Cooper, motivated by her sincere desire to create a better used and more loved Woodruff Park



for all, began her service with inquiry; she got to know the neighbors, leaders, and organizations working around the space. Cooper's decisions while outfitting the park illustrate her impressive understanding of human nature and park users. Through design, community engagement & commitment, she facilitated improvements that have brought people back to Woodruff Park and serves as a role model for park activists everywhere.

#### AMY JOHNSON

Amy Johnson is a community force. She left no stone unturned in making sure every sector of Oakland City had a voice in the redevelopment of Reverend



James Orange Park. From church groups to labor union volunteers and neighbors, she helped build lasting partnerships that assisted with community workdays, back-to-school supply giveaways, game nights and positive programming in the park. Amy led this diverse group in completing a Park Pride Park Visioning in 2012, and worked tirelessly to raise the funds for the first phase of the park's transformation. Since assuming her role as the leader of the Friends of Reverend James Orange Park, Amy has been committed to creating a park that reflects the needs of the community.

#### PAM MCNALL

Pam McNall has an overflowing enthusiasm for greenspace. Elected as the first Chair of the Friends of Tucker Parks, Pam formed several Friends



groups for each park in the community to better serve their greenspace. Today, Friends of Tucker Parks show up in the hundreds to volunteer and advocate for greenspace, and it shows; each park in the area has received much needed care under Pam's leadership. She is a connector and believes that communities that work together are stronger for it. Thanks to Pam, the Friends of Tucker Parks groups share a close

reciprocal and supportive relationship; no one is alone when it comes to bettering their parks!

#### LINDA COTTEN TAYLOR

Chapel Hill Park is a recreational jewel because of Linda Cotten Taylor. For years prior to becoming President of the Friends of the Park group, Linda led volunteer days in the park, worked with



security to ensure visitors' safety, and hosted picnics and other positive activities in the park that would bring the community together. She believes that a park is a place for all members of the community to enjoy; therefore, she has organized countless fundraisers and has received multiple grants for park amenities that benefit all community members and draw them to the park. Her passion for parks and community, as well as her abilities to connect and work with DeKalb County and other corporate partners, are the reasons Chapel Hill Park is so successful today!

#### EARL WILLIAMSON

Earl Williamson, the man who organizes more than 3,000 volunteer hours in parks annually, is quick to minimize his own efforts, shining a light on his



volunteers instead, saying "These [volunteer projects] are the result of a wide variety of partners, both groups and individuals, who show up and put boots on ground." As a long time community advocate (he has been the Kirkwood Neighborhood Organization Environmental Chair for 13 years), it is undeniable that Earl has a passion for partnerships and parks as he stewards six separate greenspaces across Atlanta and DeKalb County. Among his greatest achievements, Earl has led the restoration of a forgotten cemetery from the 1860s (Clay Cemetery) and created a prairie atop 15 feet of illegally dumped concrete at Kirkwood Urban Forest.

# 14TH ANNUAL PARKS AND GREENSPACE CONFERENCE SPONSORS

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# **CONNECT WITH YOUR COMMUNITY**

The discussions at this year's Parks and Greenspace Conference make it clear that parks and people are inextricably connected, and that it benefits both to nurture and strengthen that bond. Throughout 2015, Park Pride is offering multiple ways to connect with your community through greenspace.

# PARKS ATLANTA RESCUE COALITION (PARC) MEETINGS 2ND WEDNESDAY, MONTHLY

Park Pride brings together community leaders and park advocates from throughout Atlanta for education, networking and strategy at monthly PARC meetings. Representatives from dozens of Friends of the Park groups, conservancies and the parks department visit a different park each month to learn more about community efforts in that park, discuss current greenspace issues, and support each other in efforts to improve our park systems.

No registration necessary.

# FRIENDS OF THE PARK ENGAGEMENT EVENTS PLANNED

There are several opportunities in 2015 for Friends of the Park group members and those interested in becoming part of a group or starting a group to learn more about the program, resources available, and learn from other park advocates about how to best engage the community in their park:

- Sunday, May 31 | Walk & Talk Social
- Wednesday, July 15 | Volunteer Workshop
- Thursday, August 27 | Fundraising Workshop
- Saturday, November 14 | Cider & Donuts Social

Register online. Cost: \$5



#### COMMUNITY GARDEN TOUR SATURDAY, MAY 30

Be inspired by what's growing in Atlanta and DeKalb with local garden enthusiasts at Park Pride's Community Garden Tour! You don't have to be an experienced gardener to enjoy this event; if you want to learn more about community gardens in Atlanta and DeKalb, this tour will provide plenty of insight and inspiration. *Register online.* 

**Cost: Bike tour, \$10; Bus, \$25** 



#### PINTS FOR PARKS TUESDAY, JUNE 16

Join park (and beer!) enthusiasts at Pints for Parks at Orpheus Brewing on Tuesday, June 16 from 6-9pm, benefitting Park Pride's Volunteer Program. Prepare for a fun evening of tasting unique beers at this new Midtown brewery, enjoying the views of Piedmont Park from the patio, a silent auction, plus great company and networking with community members who love parks and volunteerism as much as you do! *Register online. Cost:* \$30

Find all event information and registration forms at http://www.parkpride.org/get-involved/events. Contact Jane Zoellick (jane@parkpride.org) for sponsorship opportunities and information.

# THANK YOU



The Parks and Greenspace Conference is made possible not only by our sponsors, but also by a dedicated group of individuals committed to the belief that healthier and happier communities result from a stronger park system. This year, we extend our special thanks to:

#### THE 14TH ANNUAL PARKS AND GREENSPACE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

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Rich Alvarez, Club Sport Ventures, Inc.

Dave Butler, Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Affairs, DeKalb County

Dan Calvert, Department of Parks and Recreation, City of Atlanta

George Dusenbury, IV

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Stacy Funderburke, The Conservation Fund

Cooper Holland, Atlanta Downtown Improvement District / Central Atlanta Progress, Woodruff Park

Tim Hollis, Friends of Central and Renaissance Parks

Kwabena Nkromo, Atlanta Food & Farm PBC, Inc.

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Recreation

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# 15TH ANNUAL PARKS AND GREENSPACE CONFERENCE

# SAVE THE DATE MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2016 ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDEN

# PARKS & PLAY: A CONVERSATION FOR ALL AGES

#### Join us as we explore:

- Why we play. How does our understanding of play influence the ways we use our parks and public spaces? How might an exploration of play illuminate new opportunities to activate our parks and strengthen our communities?
- Different kinds of play for different ages. How do kids, active adults, and seniors play differently? How is play a part of lifelong learning?
- Where we play affects how we play. From traditional playgrounds to alternative play spaces to the town square, how do people play differently in different spaces?
- The importance of play. How does play impact health and happiness? Education and learning?
- Local, national and international perspectives on play.

Visit www.parkpride.org/conference/play to tell us your interests and ideas and to suggest session topics!

**Sponsorship opportunities are available.** 

Contact Jane Zoellick for more information. Jane@parkpride.org or 404-546-6855