



ANNUAL REPORT
BRACKENRIDGE PARK
CONSERVANCY

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



Park Friends,

Despite the challenges we have all faced the last two years, the Conservancy has made great strides in stewarding our community's shared treasure—Brackenridge Park.

Several transformative projects, described herein, are moving forward. Our dedicated staff and Board continue to work with the City and our park partners—the Zoo, the Witte, and the Botanical Garden—to elevate Brackenridge Park to its deserved status as one of America's premier urban public spaces.

My time on the Conservancy Board has been so rewarding, and the more I learn about the history and cultural significance of the Park, the more grateful I am to be a part of its stewardship.

I encourage all of you to stay committed to this special place, because it belongs to all of us, and it will take our collective efforts to take our Park—Brack to the Future!

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



As I walk along the riverbanks and through the century-old trees, seeing the historic buildings nestled among them, I feel happy that Mr. Brackenridge saw the value of sharing this land with the citizens of San Antonio as a public park. He and other community-spirited philanthropists, who made gifts to enlarge the Park, and the visionaries who shaped it, have provided us with a respite—even though it might be brief, a snapshot of our history, even though we might not always understand what it is.

I am reminded that all us have a great responsibility to preserve the Park for our families and work to sustain it for those families of the future.

The Brackenridge Park Conservancy remains steadfast as it strives to carry out its mission "to be an advocate for and steward of Brackenridge Park."

I express my gratitude to you for your generosity of time and gifts as we continue walking together in Brackenridge Park. Onward!

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE REPORT

"As a municipal park, Brackenridge Park is unequalled in its layers of history. It is one of the most culturally significant urban public parks in the United States."

Charles Birnbaum, Founder & CEO
The Cultural Landscape Foundation

The Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) establishes the importance and significance of Brackenridge Park and paves the way to begin healing the Park's ecological systems, to protect and celebrate the Park's historical and archeological sites, to tell the stories that are part of the City's diverse fabric, and to elevate the Park's status on local, state, and national levels.

For 18 months, an expert team of landscape architectural historians, landscape architects, ecologists, and environmental designers researched historical records, interviewed local historians, and examined the ecology of Brackenridge Park.

Their findings determined that, while the site of Brackenridge Park has been important for more than 12,000 years, improvements are critical to achieving a vibrant urban gathering place.

- For the complete Cultural Landscape Report, go to brackenridgepark.org.
- BPC commissioned the CLR in collaboration with the City of San Antonio Parks and Recreation Department and the San Antonio River Authority.
- The research team was comprised of Reed Hilderbrand Landscape Architects of Cambridge, Mass., Suzanne Turner Associates of Baton Rouge, La., and the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center of Austin, TX.

"A cultural landscape is the creation of the women, men, and children who lived their lives within that landscape."

Delores Hayden, Yale University
Professor emeritus of architecture

What is a Cultural Landscape?



Brackenridge Park is a landscape abundant with culture, history, and ecology. Like historic structures, historic landscapes require specialized approaches for their preservation and long-term management.

AMERICA'S PREMIER CULTURE PARK

Brackenridge Park's landscape contains 12,000 years of documented human interaction with the upper course of the San Antonio River.

With its relatively short 120-year span as a public park, Brackenridge Park is more than an urban park—it is a complex cultural landscape.

The relationship to the San Antonio River and its ecology, along with its culture and history, the landscape has national, state, and local significance, and even international significance.



PLANNING

- February 2017—City of San Antonio Master Plan for Brackenridge Park approved
A plan to shape the future development and rehabilitation of the Park
- June 2018—Brackenridge Park Conservancy, San Antonio River Authority, and San Antonio Parks and Recreation commissioned the Brackenridge Park Cultural Landscape Report (CLR)
A holistic understanding of the landscape from ecological and cultural perspectives
- December 2019—Cultural Landscape Report completed
A guide to the Park's preservation and its future management that will provide the underpinning for a National Heritage Area nomination



WHAT IS THE CLR?

- A long-term management document that supports the goals defined in the Master Plan
- Thorough historic documentation that puts Brackenridge Park into a larger perspective in the state and nation
- Uses the landscape's past to set a course for its future



DESIRED OUTCOMES

Brackenridge Park should be elevated in the minds of the local community and widely known outside of San Antonio.

The Park is a backdrop for understanding the diversity of culture. It should be experienced as an “immersive landscape of learning—a cultural park that is equal parts ecological laboratory, outdoor museum, leisure and recreational park, and revered setting.”

The CLR is the guide for reaching this outcome and for engaging the public in the process to achieve a thriving urban park.

INTENTIONS

Today, Brackenridge Park's complicated ecological and cultural layers are barely evident. It does not appear to be the landscape that its history merits. The CLR focuses on the many ways that this landscape defines San Antonio's identity, and it sets out four intentions:

- To heal Brackenridge Park's ecology
- To protect and celebrate the many layers of historic significance and cultural diversity
- To elevate its identity locally and nationally
- To usher it into 21st century



Landscapes are constantly in a state of growth or decline, making them difficult to stabilize or preserve, as represented in Brackenridge Park.

NARRATIVES

There are four critical narratives or storylines that relate to the site, and they form the framework for understanding the Park's development in relation to national and local events and movements.

- Stories of humans and hydrology, including the Park's ecological transformation and interpretation of future projects to restore riparian health
- Prehistoric and historic life, including hidden and difficult cultural histories
- Regional vernacular character, including the river as the Park's form-defining element, early vehicular traffic circulation, cultural access to the river, and regional art/craftsmanship
- Cultural layering that contributed to the physical and everyday development with focus on historic ties to indigenous people, people who were enslaved, and the Mexican-American community



PRIORITIES

System-Based Approach, Eight Systems

Every park contains a foundational framework of systems that define the landscape holistically. The CLR calls for an interdisciplinary systems-based approach to the Park's preservation and future growth.

Brackenridge Park is defined by eight natural and constructed landscape systems: 1. Archeology; 2. San Antonio River and Riparian Corridor; 3. River Structures (acequias, dams, ditches, tunnels, and retaining walls); 4. Vegetation/Soil/Hydrology; 5. Entry/Arrival Areas; 6. Circulation; 7. Edges Between Cultural Institutions; and 8. Collection of Historic Buildings, Structures, and Art.

New Framework, Five Priority Systems

Leadership must create a new framework by which each system is addressed comprehensively, moving away from the current piecemeal approach to funding and development.

Brackenridge Park has many periods of significance that have resulted in its distinctive character; however, this layering has presented the challenge seen today in a broken framework in which the culture and ecology are endangered. The recommendation is for a new framework focusing initially on five of its eight systems:

- River and Riparian Corridor—The Heart
- Circulation Through the Park—Connective Tissue
- Entry and Arrival Areas—The Public Face
- Archeology—Hidden Bones
- Interpretation—The Soul



RECOMMENDATION PROJECTS

In each system, projects should be identified that rise to the highest level of action and must be part of larger design efforts. The projects should concentrate on restoring a greater level of health to the Park's ecology; preserving and maintaining its distinctive homegrown regional character; making ecological systems and prehistory and history more evident and understandable; and creating a unified municipal park.

Character zones within the Park have been defined, each possessing a distinct experiential quality resulting from its cultural and ecological layering.

NEXT STEPS

Fundraising will be crucial to management and adoption of a systems approach. Funds will be needed to hire interdisciplinary teams to design each system. One or more of the five systems should be identified as a starting point for investment.





9200-6000 BCE
Prehistoric human
occupation, evidence
of rituals with the river
& human-mammoth
interaction



1691
Gov. Domingo Teran
de los Rios names the
San Antonio River



1714-1776
System of acequias,
including Upper Labor,
built by Indigenous
People



1925
An iron truss bridge
relocated to Park from
downtown after flood



1925
Alfred Witte leaves bequest
for museum in the Park



1926
Artist Dionicio
Rodriguez
creates faux bois
footbridge



1877
Newly constructed
pump house and
raceway provide power
to waterworks



1880
Alamo Portland cement
company begins operating
in quarries



1885-1890
General public uses
George Brackenridge's
land as a park



1926
Joske Pavilion
constructed



1931
City transfers control
of Park animal
preserve to the SA
Zoological Society



1950
Tuesday Musical Club
building completed



1899
George Brackenridge
donates 199 acres to the
City for a municipal park



1901
Ludwig Mahncke develops
the Park's drives and
walkways



1902
Mahncke adds an animal
preserve to the Park with
buffalo, elk, and deer



1957
Brackenridge Eagle
becomes operational



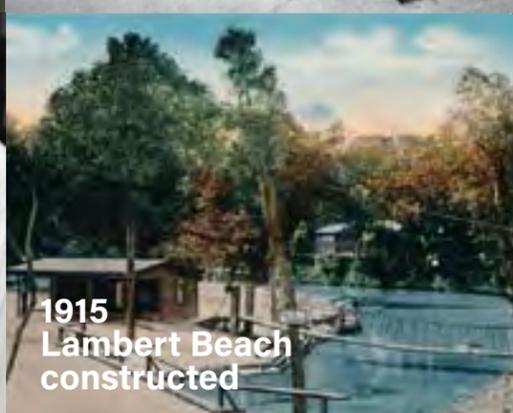
1977
Catalpha-
Pershing
drainage
project
completed



1979
First archeological
study in the Park



1915
Emma Koehler of Pearl
Brewery donates 11 acres
where alcohol may be served



1915
Lambert Beach
constructed



1917
Japanese Tea Garden
built with prison labor



1996
Upper
Labor
Dam and
Acequia
partially
excavated



1997 River Tunnel
Inlet completed for
flood control



2011
Brackenridge Park placed
on National Register of
Historic Places



1917
Low water crossing
constructed to connect
east and west sides of Park



1916
Park golf
course
designed
by A.W.
Tillinghast
opens



1925
Mt. Rushmore sculptor
Gutzon Borglum sets up
studio in Pump House
No. 2

“Brackenridge Park’s unrivaled prehistoric and historic resources are to municipal parks what national monuments like Yosemite are to the nation—places where the conservation of unique landscapes for posterity serve as a symbol of national pride and informed stewardship.”

Charles Birnbaum, Founder & CEO, The Cultural Landscape Foundation

The story of San Antonio is the story of water.



Olmos Basin



Blue Hole

San Antonio's system of missions, historic acequias, and dams, the River Walk, and public green spaces are all part of the intricate network of water.



Brackenridge Park



San Pedro Creek Culture Park



Confluence Park

Intentional linkages would lay the groundwork for a National Heritage Area designation along the San Antonio River, potentially the first in the state of Texas.



Mission Concepcion



Mission San Jose



Botanical Garden



River Walk



Mission San Juan



San Pedro Springs Park



The Alamo



Mission Espada

INTENTIONAL LINKAGES

The CLR postulates that San Antonio has an opportunity to create a WORLD-CLASS DESTINATION to cohesively teach about our shared history—a vernacular urban cultural park

TO ATTRACT CULTURAL TOURISM AND ECOTOURISM!

Intentional linkages—connecting Olmos Basin, Brackenridge Park, River Walk, the Alamo, San Pedro Springs, Confluence Park, San Antonio Missions Park, and others would illuminate the relationship between San Antonio's natural hydrology and cultural development.

PROJECTS

PUMP HOUSE & UPPER LABOR DAM

On May 6, 2017, the citizens of San Antonio approved the 2017-2022 Bond Project, and Brackenridge Park received \$7.75 million in funding for general Park improvements and rehabilitation.

Improvements would include the rehabilitation of the historic river walls as well as historic structures and features along the northern section of the San Antonio River in the Park and the restoration of the Upper Labor dam and acequia. The City of San Antonio commissioned the SWA Group of Houston to investigate, design, and prepare construction documents for this project.

To augment the City-funded projects, the Conservancy is committed to raising additional funds so that other features of the project area can be developed simultaneously. Our partners include Bexar County and the Conservation Society of San Antonio. These additional features include

- the reveal of the stone arches of the 19th-century pump house and cosmetic improvements to its interior to create a functional public space
- the restoration of the 1776 Upper Labor dam and acequia
- the historic reuse of a Confederate-era tannery sluice gate
- the creation of a cultural trail to interpret the story of water and the people who lived and worked along the San Antonio River within today's Park boundaries.

Dewatering of the Lambert Beach river channel from the pedestrian bridge to the iron bridge revealed the condition of the Depression-era channel walls and 19th-century pump house.



Pump House Arch Restoration & Reveal



Pump House Arch Reveal & Pedestrian Bridge

Sluice Gate Reconstruction



Upper Labor Dam

Concept Drawings Courtesy of SWA Group Houston
Photos Courtesy of San Antonio Parks & Recreation
and UTSA Center for Archeological Research

PROJECTS

MIRAFLORES



Work is underway to connect Miraflores to Brackenridge Park. ADA-accessible and walkway restoration will enable BPC to lead guided tours of Miraflores in the future. Additional improvements will include landscaping and irrigation.

Historic bricks are being re-installed around the Dr. Urrutia statue. Two columns, that have been stored by the Conservation Society of San Antonio, will also be re-installed through the generosity of the Octagon Foundation.



Photos Courtesy of San Antonio Parks & Recreation

COMMUNITY CATS



When the Brackenridge Park Community Cat Program was formalized 10 years ago, there were about 120 cats living in the main Park. Using the Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) process and an aggressive harvesting of friendly, adoptable, newly abandoned cats and kittens, the number has been reduced to 25. The Japanese Tea Garden has also seen a reduction in its cat population; there are about 34 cats living in four different colonies there. The two cat colonies on Avenue A have been reduced to one colony consisting of only two cats.

The population control is due to partnerships with several entities. Our partnership with the San Antonio Feral Cat Coalition is invaluable. We also work closely with the Animal Defense League that continues to take friendly adoptable kittens and place them into its adoption program.

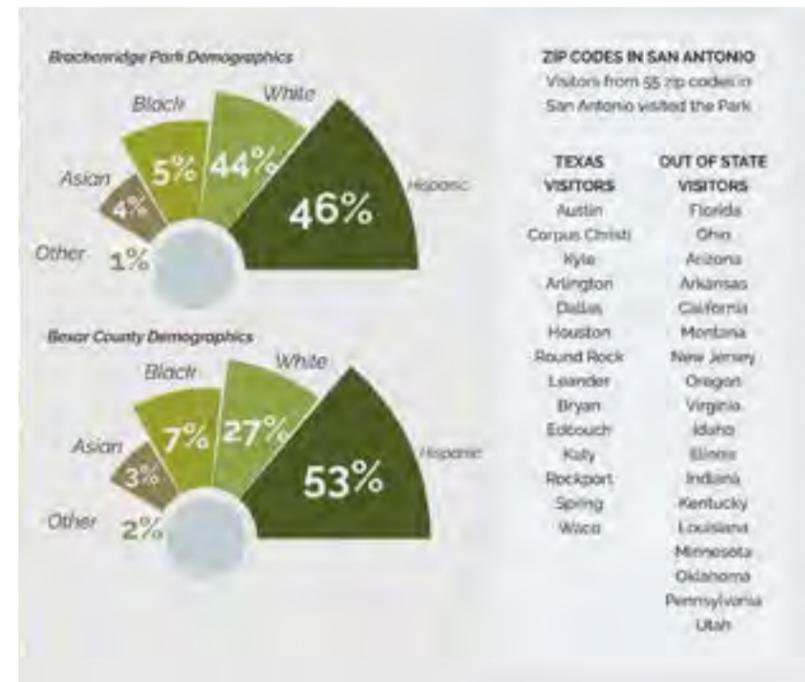
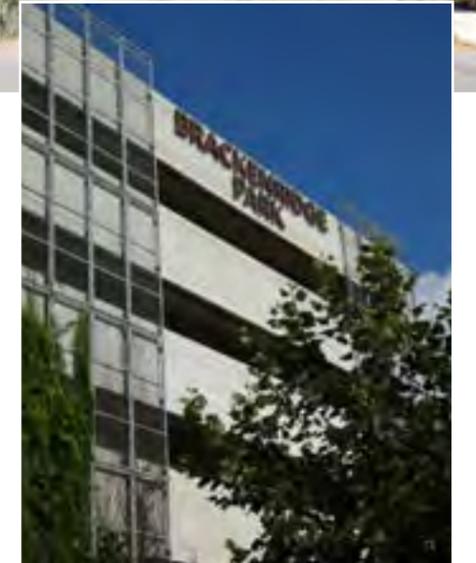
Under the direction of Volunteer Coordinator Monica Caballero, volunteers count and observe the cats, monitor their health, and if any new cats have been abandoned in the Park, trigger the TNR program. The volunteers also trap feral cats and transport them to Animal Control Services for spaying and neutering. The volunteer coordinator reports to the Conservancy executive director on a regular basis and is a hands-on expert on the ground.

PARKING GARAGES



The 2017 Bond Project also allocated \$11.75 million for the construction of the Tuleta Drive parking garage, located on the west side of the Park. The Brackenridge Park Conservancy spent \$37,000 for the Brackenridge Park sign (right) on the east side of this garage.

The Bond allocated an additional \$2 million for another level to the Avenue B parking garage (top right), and new silos were installed.



TRINITY UNIVERSITY

As part of the Brackenridge Park Conservancy's continuing partnership with Trinity University, marketing students designed and conducted research studies about Park users.

During the Spring 2019 semester, these students received 406 responses from Park users from March to May 2019.

Using observational research to profile the Park's users, they gathered data on demographics, motivations of Park users, and the facilities they use.

SUNKEN GARDEN THEATER



Concept Drawings Courtesy of OTJ Architects

The Brackenridge Park Conservancy revealed plans at a press conference to redevelop the Sunken Garden Theater as a world-class outdoor performing arts venue. The proposed plans for San Antonio's iconic amphitheater will feature a refreshed look and feel that incorporates a historically sensitive design and first-class amenities for artists and patrons.



San Antonio Mayor Ron Nirenberg & Bexar County Commissioner Trish DeBerry



Mayor Nirenberg, Gemma Kennedy with the River Road Neighborhood Association, & Tim Draves, Bexar County Historical Commission chair



San Antonio City Council Member Jalen McKee-Rodriguez



Gary Martinez, partner at OTJ Architects, Nick Hollis, BPC Board vice president, & Frank Burney, BPC attorney



Local musician Garrett T. Capps & BPC Board Chair Joe Calvert



Leroy Sance, president, San Antonio Zulu Association



Bexar County Clerk Lucy Adame-Clark, Commissioner DeBerry & BPC Board Treasurer Lukin T. Gilliland Jr.



Las Coronelas



BillyRay Sheppard



BPC Consultant Kirk Feldmann

Sept. 16, 2021
Sunken Garden Theater

2021 PARKTOBERFEST



1,000 happy revelers!

Eight breweries participated!

Music by
Beethoven Maennerchor &
Dirty River Jazz Band

Artists from Hausmann
Millworks Creative
Community

Pearl Memorabilia from
Charlie Staats

Sept. 26, 2021
Koehler Pavilion
& Cypress Pavilion



Photos Courtesy of Keri Atkins

PROMENADE THROUGH THE PARK



Board Chair Joe and Rhonda Calvert and Tracy and Nelson Wolff, Bexar County judge



Decorations by Ballooms of San Antonio



Dora Verde



Parks & Recreation Director Homer Garcia III



Event Co-Chair Vivienne Bathie



Sarah Palmer and Janet Hornberger



Tracy and Nelson Wolff and Bo McAllister and Taddy McAllister



Board Member Lewis Fisher, Christina Fisher, Maxwell Fisher, and Mary Fisher



Specially designed picnic dinner by the RK Group



Music By Dirty River Jazz Band



A socially distanced, one-of-a-kind driving excursion honoring Brackenridge Park

March 24, 2021
Alpine Drive & Low Water Crossing



Mayor Ron Nirenberg and Board Member Robin Howard



Photos Courtesy of Limelight

Event Chairs

Licie Hollis Robin Howard Vivienne Bathie

Thank you, Parks & Recreation crews, for your hard work preparing Alpine Drive & the Low Water Crossing for our event.

Thank you to our sponsors!



Flowers by Bell Flor

FOUNDERS RECEPTION

Leticia Van de Putte, BPC Board member, and Lukin T. Gilliland Jr., BPC Board treasurer



BPC Board Members Rick Shaw and Mary Alice Cisneros



Dora Verde, BPC CPA, Shannon Nisbet, OptIn Experts, and Joe Linson, BPC Board member



Chico and Ann Newman and Pat Semmes, Founders Circle members



Tom Semmes, Founders Circle member, Joe Turner, BPC special projects coordinator, and Lynn Bobbitt, BPC executive director

The BPC Board of Directors honored the members of the Brackenridge Founders Circle with a reception and dinner.

June 8, 2021
Japanese Tea Garden



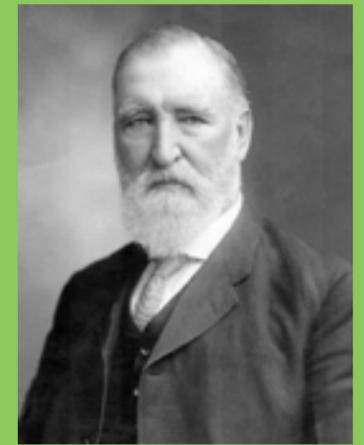
Annie and Tim Swan, BPC Board member



Kate and Bill Kingman, BPC Board member, and Rhonda and Joe Calvert, BPC Board chair



BPC Board Members Mac White and Lewis Fisher



BRACKENRIDGE FOUNDERS CIRCLE

(\$100,000 or more)

Mr. and Mrs. Walter F. Brown Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph D. Calvert

Doane Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Calvert
Mr. and Mrs. Tobin R. Calvert

Mr. Lukin T. Gilliland Jr.

Dr. and Mrs. Christopher Graham

Mr. and Mrs. Nicolas S. Hollis

Holt Foundation
Mrs. Corinna Holt Richter
Mr. Peter John Holt

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Mathews

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis J. Moorman IV

Mr. and Mrs. John E. Newman Jr.

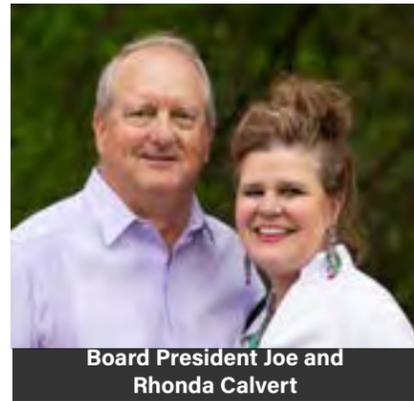
Semmes Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Semmes

Mr. and Mrs. L. Herbert Stumberg Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Timothy L. Swan

Mr. Graham Weston

EVENING UNDER THE STARS



Board President Joe and Rhonda Calvert



Our friend, Mayor Emeritus Lila Cockrell. We miss you.



Carol, Peter, and Catherine McGanity



Lisa Petrosky and Charles John

Honoring Elizabeth Barlow Rogers

Author, Founder of the Central Park Conservancy,
President of the Foundation for Landscape Studies

March 25, 2019, at the Historic Low Water Crossing



Theodore Rogers, Board Treasurer Lukin T. Gilliland Jr., and Betsy Rogers



Board Member Tony Cantu, Cathey Meyer, and Ray Knox



A.J. Sturm and Family



Elsi and Eduardo Parra



Ted and Katy Flato, Marcia Logan, and Lyn Selig



Mollie Zachry, Carol Barrett, Sarah Joe LeMessurier, Betsy Rogers, Lucile Pipes, and Peggy Mays

Event Chairs

Licie Hollis
Robin Howard
Vivienne Bathie

Steering Committee

Tracey Bennett
Elizabeth Bobbitt
Maura Bobbitt
Melissa Branch
Rhonda Calvert
Mary Fisher
Denise Gutierrez-Homer
Kathy Hoermann
Curtis Johnson
Virginia Koehl
Deborah Kline
Carol McGanity
Charlotte Mitchell
Molly Mitchell
Belinda Nixon
KaRynn O'Connell
Maria Pfeiffer
Katie Reynolds
Ethel Runion
Sharon and Stuart Seal
Bill Sibley
Carolyn Thornton
Barbara Tomaszewski



Rhonda Calvert, Event Chair Vivienne Bathie, Board Member Charlotte Mitchell

Board Member Robin and Mark Howard

Board VP Nick and Event Chair Licie Hollis



Maria and Fred Pfeiffer & Melinda and Jay Louden



Homer and Jennifer Garcia



Edward and Stella de la Garza and Susan Beavin



Chris Bathie and Mary and Board Member Lewis Fisher



Larkin and Yunhee Buchanan



Margaret Anderson and Marion and Cameron Munk



Mojo Rimba



Catering by the RK Group



Photos Courtesy of Limelight



2019 PARKTOBERFEST

Photos Courtesy of Jon Alonzo



Six craft brewers with complimentary samples

700 joined the fun!

Toast to Jazz Legend Jim Cullum

Music by Beethoven Maennerchor, Dirty River Jazz Band, and Riverwalk Jazz Reunion Band

Thank you, KRTU 91.7, for your sponsorship!

Sept. 29, 2019
Koehler Pavilion



PAINT THE PARK

Artists From Hausmann Millworks



Board Member Tony Cantu and Rex Hausmann

EASTER



San Antonians awakened Feb. 15, 2021, to see three to six inches of powdery snow and to feel bitter cold that shattered record low temperatures not seen in the Alamo City since Dec. 22, 1989. Artist John DeLeon ventured into the Park to paint (left).

Photos Courtesy of John DeLeon and Hilary and Jim Saunders

SNOW DAY



Although no overnight camping was allowed in 2021, the City opened Brackenridge Park so that San Antonians could enjoy their traditional Easter in the Park during the day. Ricardo Romo, BPC Board member, took photos and spoke with several families about their Easter traditions in Brackenridge Park.

San Antonians doing what San Antonians do—

Having a Good Time!



Photos Courtesy of Ricardo Romo

BRACK PACK



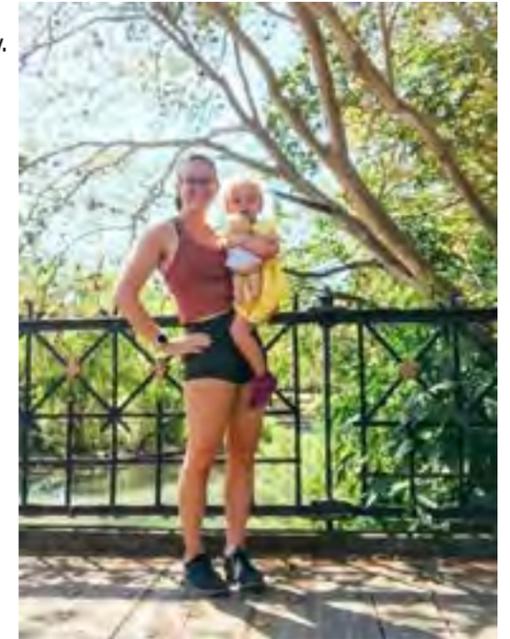
"We love Brackenridge Park because it has so much open space to work out and lots of running paths as well. The kids love all the wildlife and always enjoy watching the birds in the water!" — Stroller Strong Moms



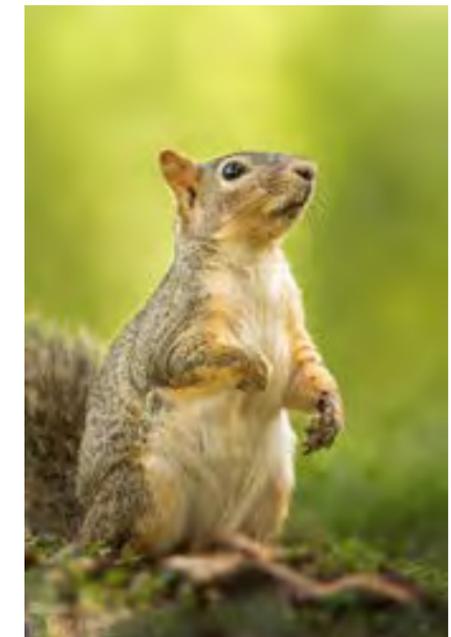
"One thing that has been important to me during COVID-19 is to safely get out on the trails for a bike ride. A 20-minute bike ride on the trails at Brackenridge Park has been helpful for my well-being. Sunshine, trails, and endorphins that end up making my mood and health better. I love the trails here for a quick, easy, and enjoyable ride." — Patty Tomas

Thank you, Brack Pack,
for sharing your photos
and stories with us!

"My family loves Brackenridge Park because it's a wonderful oasis from the city. It is centrally located with a rich history. Personally, I spend many hours running through the Park with the Downtown Run Group on Saturday mornings, so it's a special place of solitude for me." — Katie Soltas, mother, hospitality marketing professional, and travel writer



"I have so many favorite memories since hubby and I walk our pups there every Friday through Sunday. Plus we both have the fondest childhood memories of this beautiful Park." — Dee Dee Valdez



"Brackenridge Park is my 'go to' park, here in San Antonio. It's a great place with lots of nature and cool trails to go visit any day. Every time I go for a visit, my camera comes with me. Definitely an awesome place to photograph! My favorite in the Park are the birds, ducks, egrets, and hawks that fly around the Park. Brackenridge has tons of cool history as well. It makes the Park more special!" — Cristo Salazar, artist and fine art photographer



Volunteers from Culligan of San Antonio and Culligan Southwest painted picnic tables and cleaned grills.

BRACK PACK



"Brackenridge Park serves not only as a peaceful and beautiful Park but as a great inspiration for an artist such as myself. The trees are magnificent in height as they form a canopy over the water. The reflections of the water with the lily pads are wonderful when the sun is shining upon them. And who doesn't love the ducks?" — Sarah Palmer, Hausmann Millworks Creative Community artist



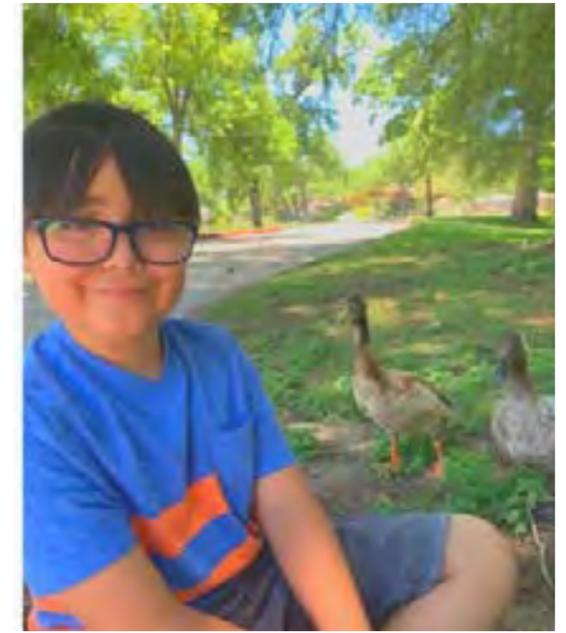
"My favorite memory of Brackenridge Park while taking photos is when we saw our first belted kingfisher hunting along the water path of Avenue A. I saw it out of nowhere swoop down and grab a fish right out of the water! It was so fast, like a bolt of lightning. Brackenridge Park is such a nice place for all kinds of wildlife to live and thrive!" — Daniel Gomez, photographer



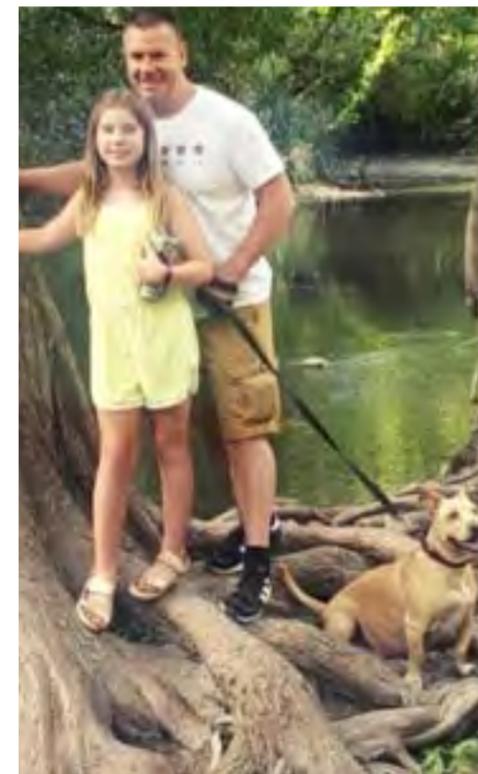
"My fiancé and I love to come to Brackenridge Park because it is a peaceful and relaxing place. We take walks during weekends. During the semester, we come here so I can study and get some sun at the same time. We also bring food and sit by the picnic tables for an outdoor breakfast. We are thankful that the Park is accessible to everyone, especially during this time where we are limited in places we can go to and activities we can do. We come to the Park to relax and refresh our minds." — Lorrie and Noah



"We are new to San Antonio and found this beautiful Park. Dog friendly is very important. It's very peaceful, and we love to take long walks, explore, people watch, and squirrel chase." — Dova's mom Carol



"My son and I have been walking here for over 5 months daily! We walk 3-4 miles a day. We love Brackenridge for the scenery, and we enjoy bird watching along the way." — Adrienne Cathy Martinez and her son Ivan



"Since moving to San Antonio from England 14 years ago, Brackenridge Park has been a huge part of our family life. My daughter and I like to cycle through the trails, while my hubby walks our dog Pedro along the shaded tree area by the water. We love the natural beauty of the Park." — Michelle Ball Walmsley



"I love Brackenridge Park because it has been a staple in my life and my family's life for as long as I can remember. I have had many wonderful memories at the Park. I enjoy its shady landscape, paths, and trails, and my lovely river. We also like to walk through 'the woods' because you completely forget you are in the city." — Cecilia Garza with her friend Carye Bye

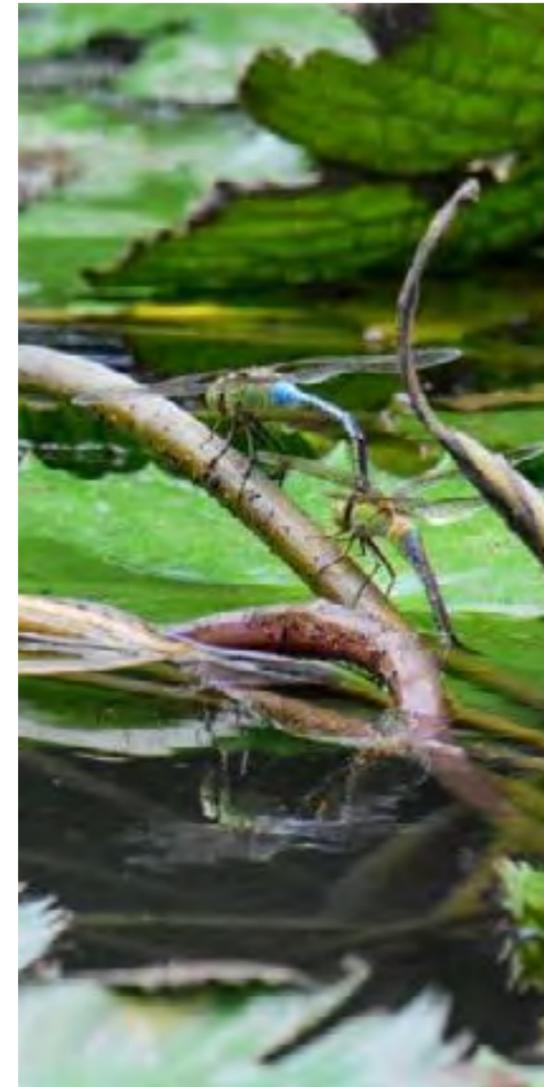
BRACK PACK



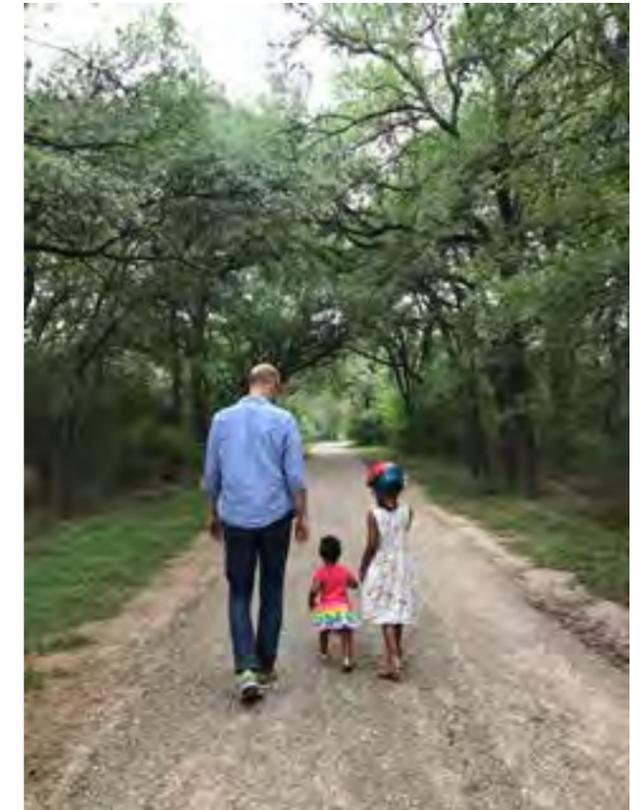
The Monday Walking Group on Alpine Drive—(from left) Renee Sethness, Henny Sands, Sally Dooley, Kimberly Anderson, Toni Hill, Pat Semmes, and Mary Fisher



"Pinto loves water so she loves that the river runs through Brackenridge Park. She's seen a lot of interesting things like ducks, a crane, and turtles! She loves being in the sun and meeting people and other dogs." — Pinto's mom Lauren

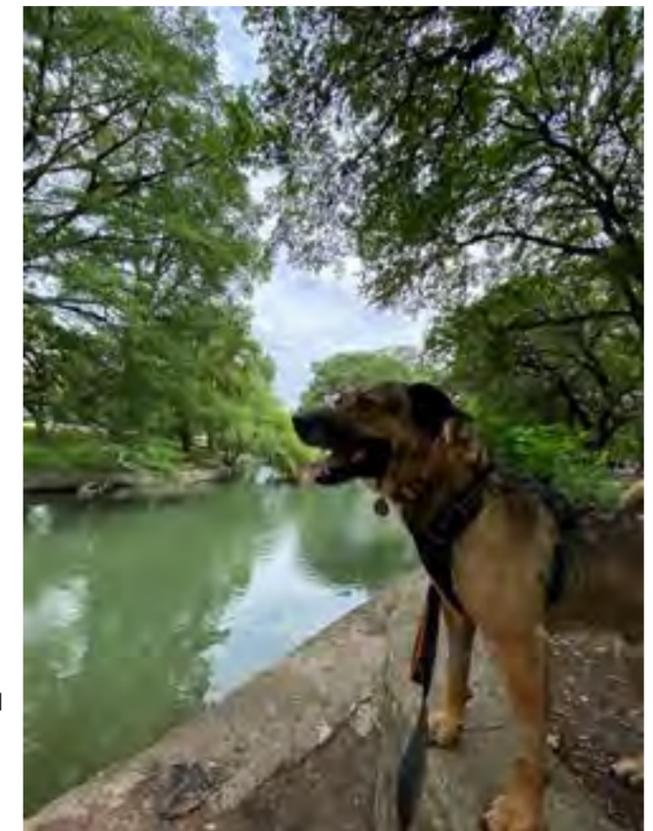
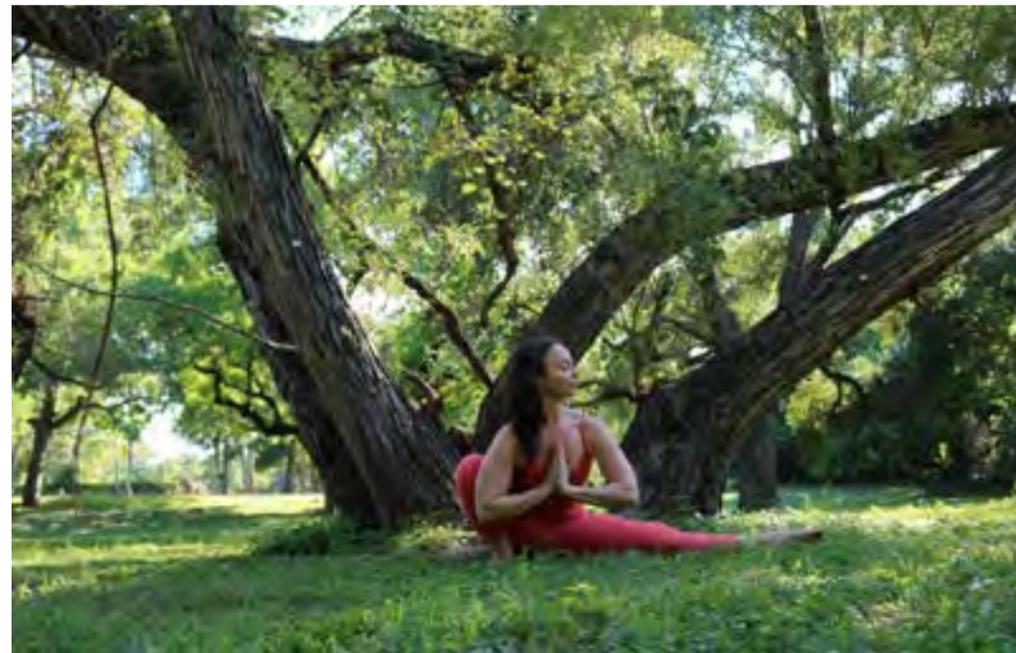


"I love Brackenridge Park because of all of beautiful wildlife all over the Park, inside and outside. The Park is so alive." — Dwayne Flores, photographer



The Lugalia-Hollon family shows their love for our nature trails!

"The Park offers many beautiful spots for my yoga practice and to spend time with my son and husband, maintaining social distance. We especially enjoy walks and duck encounters." — Mara, mom of an 11-year-old photographer who took this photo, spouse, and caregiver of a wounded veteran, yoga teacher, and fitness instructor



"We love the Park for all the trails, bird chasing—um—watching I mean, lol. It's also a great place to relax after hitting the trails by looking out over the water and forgetting you live in a big city! And you can't forget the people watching, of course! Always worth a trip to The Brack!" — Wookiee's mom Tara

BRACK PACK



Grace United Methodist Church and cemetery, Brazoria County, TX
(C) 2020 Everett L. Fly



Advisory Board Member Everett Fly, architect and landscape architect, was invited by the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University to present the Frederick Law Olmsted Lecture. His presentation was on "American Cultural Landscapes: Black Roots and Treasures".

A Harvard graduate, Everett was one of three recipients of the inaugural Harvard Graduate School of Design Alumni Award for his leadership and preservation of American culture and forgotten historical sites.



Stunning image of an owl in the Park!
Photo by @brassprowizs



"Painting in Brackenridge Park is both wonderful and historical. The personal history as well as civic history that is the Park is unreal. Finding out that the Faux Bois Bridge by Dionicio Rodríguez dates as far back as the '20s, or as something as modern as riding the little red train is something special. The Park is a part of a living history, and when I paint there, that action taps into a rich past that I'm happy to be a part of." — Rex Hausmann, Hausmann Millworks Creative Community



Committees comprised of Board members, community volunteers, and Park stakeholders spent several months studying the Cultural Landscape Report and Ecological Site Assessment to prepare for a public rollout. Joining the circulation committee were BPC Special Projects Coordinator Joe Turner; Parks and Recreation Manager Bill Pennell; Board Member Leticia Van de Putte; Scott Peacock, San Antonio Roadrunners; Board Member Tony Cantu; and Mary Fisher, community volunteer.



Volunteers from Valero helped clean up the Park on Earth Day.



County Commissioner Tommy Calvert (middle) joined Board Treasurer Lukin T. Gilliland Jr. and Executive Director Lynn Bobbitt for a walking tour.



Brackenridge Park was named the top park by San Antonio Current readers.



Parks and Recreation crews decorated the iron truss bridge and walking trails for the winter holidays.

BRACK PACK



The photograph above by Board Member Charlotte Mitchell was selected as the winner of the "Seasonal Variation & Judge's Choice for Bexar County" category in the 2020 River Clicks Photo Contest during FotoSeptiembre. Her photograph was displayed at an exhibit at the Witte Museum.



A beautiful kingfisher by Dwayne Flores

Parks and Recreation crews keep our sidewalks clean!



In May 2020, the Dionicio Rodriguez faux bois palapa (above) was damaged during a storm. Later, a San Antonio Parks and Recreation crew loaded the damaged palapa to deliver to local artist Carlos Cortés for repair and restoration. Carlos is the son of Maximo Cortés and nephew of Rodríguez. The palapa (right) returned to Brackenridge Park in August 2021.



City Council Member Jada Andrews-Sullivan joined other City Council Members as they commemorated the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th amendment granting women the right to vote by tying 100 white ribbons in Brackenridge Park and other City parks.



Parks and Recreation Manager Bill Pennell (left) gives Board members and staff a tour of the Upper Labor Acequia and Dam in Brackenridge Park. From left: Joe Turner, BPC special projects coordinator; Nick Hollis, Board vice president; Lynn Bobbitt, BPC executive director; and Charlotte Mitchell, Board secretary.



Local artist Julene Franki displayed her painting, "My Dream of a Sunday Afternoon in Brackenridge Park", at the Conservancy office. The acrylic on panel painting is inspired by Diego Rivera's 50-foot mural, "Dream of a Sunday Afternoon in Alameda Park," in Mexico City.

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Gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Our
Federal Taxpayer Identification Number is 26-3416330.

Brackenridge Park Conservancy
San Antonio, Texas
Statement of Financial Position
September 30, 2021 compared to Fiscal Years ended September 30, 2020 and 2019

	9/30/2021	9/30/2020	9/30/2019
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 112,770	547,284	\$ 581,815
Prepaid Expenses	2,590	7,502	10,481
Accounts Receivable	-	-	-
Total Current Assets	115,360	554,786	592,295
Fixed Assets			
Office Equipment	11,635	10,885	10,885
Leasehold Improvements	214,923	214,923	214,923
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(104,893)	(82,341)	(59,789)
Net Fixed Assets	121,664	143,466	166,018
Other Assets			
Designated Cash and Cash Equivalents	350,000	-	-
Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents	447,487	-	-
Pledges Receivable	412,500	325,750	590,000
Capital Campaign Pledges	1,456,917	-	-
Grants Receivable	-	64,977	-
Total Other Assets	2,666,903	390,727	590,000
Total Assets	\$ 2,903,928	\$ 1,088,979	\$ 1,348,314
Liabilities and Net Assets			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	-	-	-
Accrued Liabilities	17,645	3,884	1,622
Total Current Liabilities	17,645	3,884	1,622
Other Liabilities			
Unearned Revenue	1,900,017	358,950	590,000
Net Assets			
Unrestricted	67,115	348,611	548,177
Designated	350,000	150,000	-
Restricted	447,487	84,069	42,496
Fixed and Other Assets	121,664	143,466	166,018
Total Net Assets	986,266	726,146	756,691
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 2,903,928	\$ 1,088,979	\$ 1,348,314

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Brackenridge Park Conservancy
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Our Mission

The Brackenridge Park Conservancy is a steward of and an advocate for the Park and an instrument for preserving and enhancing the Park's natural, historic, educational, and recreational resources for the enjoyment of current and future generations.



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
real places telling real stories

Brackenridge Park is on the National Register of Historic Places and is a Texas State Antiquities Landmark.



PARKS & RECREATION
SAN ANTONIO



BRACKENRIDGE PARK
CONSERVANCY



SAN ANTONIO
RIVER AUTHORITY