

ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016





In early 2017, I was honored to follow Linda R. Cox in the role of Executive Director of the Bronx River Alliance. Ever since I began at the Alliance in 2005, I've loved the myriad connections we make in our work: connections for communities to come to the river, connections for wildlife to access the healthy habitats they need to survive, conections for our youth to make between the science they learn in textbooks and the real-life issues confronting a river in their own backyard. I'm pleased to share a number of connections we've made along the river in 2015 and 2016.

Over this period, we secured essential funding for a link in the Bronx River Greenway that will connect Starlight and Concrete Plant parks and provide more neighborhoods with direct access to the river. In 2016 we celebrated the groundbreaking for the project, with the many partners who helped us build momentum and raise the funds for this important project.

We also worked closely with NYC Parks and community partners to install new connections for migratory fish to access the river's freshwater stretches, which are essential for their life cycles. In 2015 we opened a fish passage at the lowermost dam on the river (at East 182nd St in River Park) to allow Alewife herring to migrate upstream to spawn, as well as a separate passage for American eel. We are happy to say that monitoring confirms that both passages are working as we had hoped!

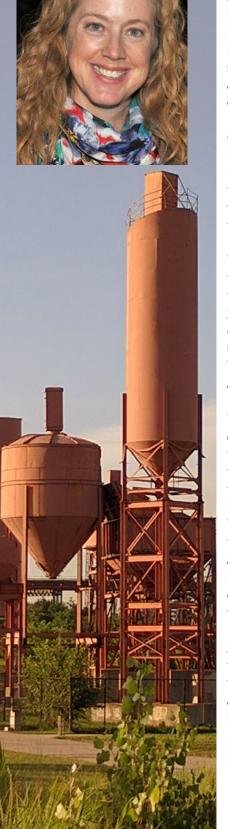
Through our Trees in the Classroom project, developed in 2015, we enable educators to bring young trees right into their classrooms for students to steward and monitor their growth. The fostered trees are planted by the students in the Bronx River Forest, giving the children a real sense of connection to the forest and the river.

We also launched a focused effort to connect citizen scientists through the entire Bronx River watershed, in both Westchester and Bronx Counties, to work together on water quality and habitat issues. A new coalition is growing, increasing communication and coordination - and sharing an infectious sense of excitement about working in the context of the full river.

As demonstrated by these highlights, the Alliance is a connetor that brings communities to this vital slice of nature that flows through the heart of the Bronx. Just as importantly, the Alliance also connects us to one another as we continue the work of reclaiming the river for our communities.

MSic Grunfield

**Maggie Greenfield**, Executive Director September 2017







Today's headlines underscore the need for continued engagement and informed action to protect our global environment and shared natural resources. Tucked away in the Bronx, the Bronx River is an important end to that goal.

Our science-based programs connect everyday people to a unique freshwater habitat. Citizen Scientists emerge from these programs knowing about water quality monitoring, salinity, pH, dissolved oxygen and turbidity.

Over 1,000 school children and teachers use the river as their learning lab and collect data they then upload to the Alliance's

database. Their education in the concrete jungle is complemented by monitoring of macroinvertebrates and eels—beneficiaries of the river's improved ecological health.

A new program, Project WASTE, connects the litter on our streets and in storm drains with the river flow. Participants remove floatable trash from the river at Muskrat Cove and note the types and quantity of waste found. These are the actions that inform policy decisions about recycling, waste collection and environmental stewardship.

The Bronx River Alliance offers unique opportunities for education and action. The river is a resource because the community cares, the staff is dedicated and the progress continues. While the headlines can be scary, it is encouraging and uplifting to see the awareness, skills and activism spurred from exposure to the Bronx River and the Alliance's programs.

The Bronx River Alliance is one more reason I am proud to be from the Bronx and excited to spend time on the Bronx River.

**Veronica Vanterpool**, Chair September 2017

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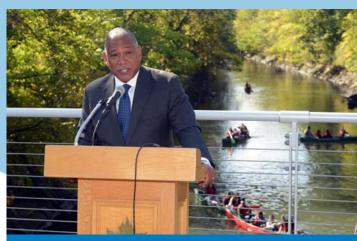
Sonia Manzano

Gail Nathan

Wendy Neu

Richard Reagan

Dart Westphal



NYC Parks Commissioner Mitchell Silver speaks during Bronx River House groundbreaking

## PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

## COMMUNITY-BASED AND OTHER NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Angela's Pulse

Bike New York

Boogie Down Rides

Bronx Children's Museum

Bronx Community Health Network

Bronx Council for Environmental Quality

Bronx Park East Community Association

Bronx River Parkway Reservation Conservancy

Bronx River Art Center

Bronx Sole

Bronx Tourism Council

Bronx Works

BuildOn

Christodora City Parks Foundation

Sarah Lawrence College Center for the Urban River at Beczak

(CURB)

Cvclopedia

Discover Outdoors Foundation

Drew Gardens

East Bronx History Forum

East Coast Greenway Alliance

Five Borough Bicycle Club

Friends of Shoelace Park

Friends of Soundview Park

Friends of Van Cortlandt Park

Gaia Institute

Global Learning and Observation to Benefit the Environment

(GLOBE), Queens College

Greenburgh Nature Center

Green City Force

Green Street Solar Group

Groundwork Hudson Valley

**Grow NYC** 

Harding Park Homeowners Association & Environmental Center

Hutchinson River Restoration Project

Long Island Sound Study (LISS)

Loving the Bronx

Mary Mitchell Community Center

The Mission Continues

Montefiore Medical Center Natural Areas Conservancy

Natural Resources Defense Council

New York Botanical Garden

NYC H2O

NYC WaterTrail Association

NY/NJ Baykeeper

NY NJ Harbor Estuary Program

NY Public Library

The Osborne Association Partnerships for Parks

Patagonia

Phipps Community Development Corporation Pratt Center for Community Development THE POINT CDC

Regional Plan Association

Riverkeeper

Rocking the Boat

Save the Sound

Sebago Canoe Club

Solar One

Southern Bronx River Watershed Alliance

Swale

S.W.I.M Coalition (Storm Water Infrastructure Matters)

Sustainable South Bronx / The Hope Program

Transportation Alternatives

Tri-State Transportation Campaign

United By Blue

Urban Health Plan

Waterfront Alliance

Westchester Parks Foundation

Wildlife Conservation Society

Youth Ministries for Peace & Justice

## FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Urban Waters Federal Partnership

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

National Park Service, Rivers and Trails

Office of Congressman Joseph Crowley

Office of Congressman Eliot Engel

Office of Congressman José E. Serrano

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

U.S. Department of Transportation

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

U.S. Forest Service

U.S. Geological Survey

## STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Bronx Borough President's Office

Mayor's Office of Sustainability

Mayor's Office of Recovery & Resiliency

New York City Community Boards: 2, 6, 9, 11, 12

New York City Department of Design & Construction

New York City Department of Education

New York City Department of Environmental Protection

New York City Department of Parks & Recreation

New York City Department of Transportation

New York City Soil & Water Conservation District

New York State Office of the Attorney General

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

New York State Department of Transportation

Westchester County Department of Health

Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Conservation

Westchester County Department of Planning

Westchester County Department of Public Works

#### SCHOOLS

Bronx Center for Science & Math High School

Bronx Community Charter School

Bronx Green Middle School

Bronx International High School

Bronx Park Middle School

Columbia University

Community School for Social Justice

Dr. Izquierdo Charter School

Fannie Lou Hamer Freedom High School

Fieldston School for Ethical Culture

Fordham University

Hostos Community College

#### STAFF

Tahai Addae

Development Associate

Penny Brown

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José Fargas

Conservation Crew Apprentice

Elaine Feliciano

Conservation Crew Leader

Nick Garcia

Conservation Crew Member

Toniann German, Jr.

Recreation Coordinator

Maggie Scott Greenfield

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Manager of Institutional Giving

Claudia Ibaven

Director of Programs

Jonathan Jimenez

Conservation Crew Apprentice

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Volunteer Coordinator

Kathalene Lamboy Education Coordinator Erica Lewis

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Michelle Luebke

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Administration

Christopher Velez

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Zoe Bellapigna John Hughes

Jazmine Rodriguez

As of October 2017

## **DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS**

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Former Executive Director Linda R. Cox (left). Participants at the Amazing Bronx River Flotilla! (right) Lehman College, CUNY Manhattan College New York Institute New Visions Charter School One To World Pace University Queens College, CUNY Van Nest Academy Washington Heights Expeditionary Learning School Young Woman's Leadership School

## **Donors** (From 01/01/2015-12/31/2016)

#### Foundations

Altman Foundation Bay and Paul Foundations Booth Ferris Foundation Bronx Council on the Arts Dalio Foundation The Hagedorn Fund Hudson River Foundation Hyde and Watson Foundation Janey Fund Charitable Trust Jockey Hollow Foundation Lucius N. Littauer Foundation Michael Tuch Foundation National Fish and Wildlife Foundation New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC) New York Community Trust Norcross Wildlife Foundation Prospect Hill Foundation Sarah K de Coizart Perpetual Trust Sims Metal Management Charitable Foundation Westchester Community Foundation

## Corporations

Bank of America Bloomberg L.P. CITGO Petroleum Corporation Clif Bar Family Foundation Con Edison The Durst Organization The New Yankee Stadium Community Benefits Fund Patagonia **RBC** Foundation Sims Metal Management TD Bank/ Arbor Day Foundation

## Corporate Event Sponsors

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Mathews Nielsen Landscape Architects MBD Community Housing Corporation

Metro Optics Eyewear Montefiore Medical Center New York Water Taxi Oak Property LLC Phipps Neighborhood/Houses Pratt Center PWB Management RBA Group/NV5 Renaissance Power & Gas Ridgewood Bank Shock Top Signature Urban Properties LLC Sims Metal Management Starr Whitehouse Landscape Architects and Planners Sustainable South Bronx Tryax Realty Management

Urban Health Plan Verizon Vista Food Exchange, Inc Webster Lock Weiser Mazars

#### Campaign for River House Donors

Con Edison Booth Ferris Foundation New York City Council, Speakers Fund Prospect Hill Foundation New York City Council, Capital Fund



Community youth planting trees along the Bronx River.

Dalio Foundation Carrie Elston-Tunick and Jamie Tunick Jay and Lisa Rook Heather and Tom McArdle The Hyde and Watson Foundation Julia Robbins Joan Byron

Ethan Strell

Sims Metal Management Linda Cox and John Robinson

Kenneth H. Kirshenbaum and Wendy Dixon

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Maggie and Jeremy Greenfield

Steven Smith and Ana Lavdas

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Bronx Council on the Arts

Ivan Braun

**Bronx Brewery** 

CitiBike

City Winery

Clif Bar

Coca Cola Enterprises Bottling Company

Dave and Busters

Down East Seafood

Eastern Mountain Sports

Eileen Fisher

Gail Nathan

Garyline Plastics

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Hornblower Dinner Cruise

Mamita's Ices

MetroPlus Health Plan

Modells

Mott Haven Bar & Grill

Newman's Own

New York Botanical Garden

New York City Bike Share, LLC

New York Water Taxi

Tonia Papke

Patagonia

Port Morris Distillery

Riverdale Stables

Rocking the Boat

Jay Rook

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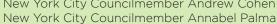
## **Government Agencies**

Congressman Jose E. Serrano's WCS-NOAA South

Bronx Waterfront Partnership

New York City Councilmember Maria del Carmen Arroyo

New York City Councilmember Andrew Cohen





Rendering of River House; the "greenest building in the South Bronx."

New York City Councilmember Rafael Salamanca Jr. New York City Councilmember Ritchie Torres New York City Department of Parks & Recreation New York State Council on the Arts via Bronx Council on the Arts

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

U.S. Community Development Block Grant

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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Susan Babcock and Ralph Schmidt Frances Beinecke and Paul Elston Elizabeth Bennett Peter and Manuela Bourbeau Joan Byron Linda Cox and John Robinson Carrie Elston Tunick and Jamie Tunick Joshua Ginsberg Kathryn and Vincent Heintz Kenneth Kirshenbaum & Wendy Breitner Marit Larson & Adam Sobel Thomas and Heather McArdle Edith McBean Carolyn and James McLaughlin

Julia Robbins Barbara Robins Jay and Lisa Rook Ethan Strell and Jacqueline Elias Tim Tompkins

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#### BROOK \$250+

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Kellie Terry

Webler

Angela Tovar

Marcia and Franz Allina Kenneth Arroyo Alex Avitable Alexi Torres Ismael Betancourt Cristina Bonaldes Stephen Byrns Peg Byron John Calvelli Fernando and Barbara Camacho Miguel Colon

# BRONX RIVER ALLIANCE INC. STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

for the year ended December 31st 2016 and totals for the year ended December 31, 2015

	2016 Unrestricted	2016 Restricted	Total 12/31/2016	Total 12/31/2015
Public support and revenue: Contributions Government grants In-kind contributions Special event income Interest income Miscellaneous Net assets released from restriction Total public support and revenue	232,145 218,321 474,240 106,029 3,577 53,080 259,979 1,347,371		218,321 474,240 106,029 3,577 53,080	469,444 182,701 477,258 94,844 1,731 9,732 - 1,235,710
Expenses:				
Program services Supporting Services	1,021,951		1,021,951	1,016,092
Management and general	172,577		172,577	164,030
Fundraising Total supporting services	211,754 384,331		211,754 384,331	177,760 341,790
Total Expenses	1,406,282		1,406,282	1,357,882
Change in net assets	(58,911)	647,079	588,168	(122,172)
Net assets - beginning of year	615,492	474,349	1,089,841	1,212,013
Net assets - end of year	556,581	1,121,428	1,678,009	1,089,841



Edward Coyne Norbert Denaler Stephen DeVillo Elizabeth Figueroa Jennifer Freeman Lynn Genert Michael Glazebrook Sari Granat Jennifer Herring Marie Kallio and Twig Henwacker Peter Kohlmann Lisa Liquori Jack Lehnert I.C. Levenberg-Engel Nilka Martell Deborah Mintz Elizabeth Nitz Allison Palmer David and Marcy Robinson Linda Rosenbury Carol Samol Gerald Segal Joseph Sherman Ruth Siegler Norma Silva lan and Manon Slome Gregory and Cathy Solomon Joanne B. and Peter Spellane Lois Strell Henry Stroobants Saudy Tejada Laura Truettner Coles Robert and Hillela Ward John and Jasmine Zutter

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Participants in the Bronx River Estuary during the Soundview Park Oyster Restoration event.





**One Bronx River Parkway Bronx, NY 10462** 718.430.4665 bronxriver.org