

BRONX

RIVER ALLIANCE

ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016



Making Connections



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, connections 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 connector 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maggie Greenfield".

Maggie Greenfield, Executive Director
September 2017



Community Science Engagement



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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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)
Cyclopeda
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
REI
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
Conservation Crew Leader

José Fargas
Conservation Crew Apprentice

Elaine Feliciano
Conservation Crew Leader

Nick Garcia
Conservation Crew Member

Toniann German, Jr.
Recreation Coordinator

Maggie Scott Greenfield
Executive Director

Julia Apland Hitz
Manager of Institutional Giving

Claudia Ibañen
Director of Programs

Jonathan Jimenez
Conservation Crew Apprentice

Desiree Johnson
Volunteer Coordinator

Erica Lewis
Administrative Assistant

Michelle Luebke
Ecology Director

Claire Mardian
Foodway Coordinator

Michael Mendez
Conservation Manager

Brennan Ortiz
Greenway Coordinator

Joseph Sanchez
Outreach Manager

José Santiago
Conservation Crew Member

Maria Sawyer
Director of Finance and Administration

Christopher Velez
Conservation Crew Apprentice

Interns

Zoe Bellapigna
John Hughes
Jazmine Rodriguez

As of October 2017

DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS

Roseanne Andrade, Sara Armstrong, Linda Bauer, Jeffrey Behm, Sharon Behnke, Roderick Bell, Charles Berenguer, Susan Brenner, Jesse Brown, William Busk, Kevin Connolly, Stephen DeVillo, Mike Gupta, Dan Hamburg, Oscar Hutarra, Pope Jackson, Twahira Khan, Lisa Liquori, Nilka Martell, Rodney Millard, Nessie Payton, Lovie Pignata, Nicole Porco, Daniel Ranells, Hatuey Ramos-Fermin, Eric Sanderson, Frank Saurino, Jessica Schuler, Martha Schwartz, Gerry Segal, Hank Stroobants, Angela Tovar, Charles Vasser, Robert Ward, Jim Zisfein



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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Con Edison
D'Arrigo Brothers
Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation
Dougert Construction

Down East Seafood
Eileen Fisher
Fordham Bedford Housing Corp.
HDR, Inc.
Herbert Lehman College (CUNY)
Hub International
Hutchinson Metro Center I LLC
Kiss and Cathcart
Krasdale Foods
Langan Engineering and Environmental Services
LKQ
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
 Breitner
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 Veronica Vanterpool
 Carolyn and James McLaughlin
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 Maggie and Jeremy Greenfield
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 Newman's Own
 New York Botanical Garden
 New York City Bike Share, LLC
 New York Water Taxi
 Tonia Papke
 Patagonia
 Port Morris Distillery
 REI
 Riverdale Stables
 Rocking the Boat
 Jay Rook
 Sailors NYC

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
 New York City Councilmember Annabel Palma



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

Individual Donors

ESTUARY \$2500+

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

BRANCH \$1000+

Charles and Elia Armstrong
 Robert Bender and Loretta Nash
 Elizabeth Brody
 Bill and Paula Lauria Caplan
 Kevin Connolly
 Fabio Corsi and Susan Tressler
 Garry Cox
 Maarten De Kadt
 Elizabeth Elston
 Alfred Finger

Daniel and
Marguerite Greenfield
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Daniela Santiago
Robert and Julie Schaffer
Martha and David Schwartz
Ed and Susan Scott
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Christopher Snow
Veronica Vanterpool
Dart Westphal and Ellen Pollan

STREAM \$500+

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Elena Conte
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Mary Elston
Debbie Forester Tear
William and Ann Frey
Marilyn Gelber
Adam Green
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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	232,145	907,058	1,139,203	469,444
Government grants	218,321		218,321	182,701
In-kind contributions	474,240		474,240	477,258
Special event income	106,029		106,029	94,844
Interest income	3,577		3,577	1,731
Miscellaneous	53,080		53,080	9,732
Net assets released from restriction	259,979	(259,979)	-	-
Total public support and revenue	1,347,371	647,079	1,994,450	1,235,710
Expenses:				
Program services	1,021,951		1,021,951	1,016,092
Supporting Services				
Management and general	172,577		172,577	164,030
Fundraising	211,754		211,754	177,760
Total supporting services	384,331		384,331	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 Dengler
Stephen DeVillo
Elizabeth Figueroa
Jennifer Freeman
Lynn Genert
Michael Glazebrook
Sari Granat
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RIVULET \$100+

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Ryan Sweeney
Joseph Tanzillo
Kathleen Tashner
Salvatore Vaccaro
Marvin Wexler
Sasha Wilson and Kendra Sibley
Susan Wulff
Lew Wunderlich



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



BRONX
RIVER ALLIANCE

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bronxriver.org