

Winter 2006

PROJECT JUMPSTART

Summer's Success Stories

This summer, San Francisco Parks Trust funded three community-initiated programs that served more than 250 kids in Bayview, Sunnydale, Visitacion Valley and the Mission. These programs fostered the development of a positive self-image for the children, and promoted community engagement and skill building.

With support from the Recreation & Park Department, the Mayor's Office, Team Up for Youth, San Francisco City College – Southeast Campus, and the Wallace Foundation, SFPT spearheaded a successful campaign to develop community-initiated programming. Project Jumpstart awarded seed money to community partners, capitalizing on collaboration and relationship building to create sustainable programming vital to the neighborhoods they serve.

Jumpstart Summer Sports

Mission Satellite Summer Sports Clinics :: *Elizabeth Gee, Assistant Recreation Supervisor, SF Recreation & Park Department*

From funding provided by SFPT and Team Up for Youth, the San Francisco Recreation & Park Department's Mission Satellite provided 110 boys and girls, ages 7-11, an opportunity to participate in basketball and soccer summer clinics.

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PROJECT RECREATION

Coming Together in the Southeast

Franco Mancini, President, Friends of McLaren Park

On a sunny Saturday in September, SFPT's Project ReCreation created the ultimate model of community building at John McLaren Park's Louis Sutter Playground. An energetic workforce of volunteers descended upon this needy playground with its generous share of weeds, abundance of litter, mud-filled drainage troughs, and overgrown shrubbery. Friends of McLaren Park hosted the workday with representatives from four surrounding neighborhoods: Visitacion Valley, Portola, Excelsior and Crocker Amazon. With significant support from One Brick volunteers and supervision by Recreation & Park gardeners, some volunteers spread out to give the play areas the care it had missed for so long. Other volunteers cleaned and cleared Lake McNab - a special habitat that has long been the home to a variety of birds including redwing black birds, great blue herons, egrets and terns. After toiling together for four hours, neighbors rewarded the tired and hungry crew with a delicious barbecue lunch.

The newfound friends looked back to appreciate their work, lounging on surrounding lawns under blue skies. The wow-factor kicked in the next day, when many of the neighbors returned to inspect their work. However, the avian residents had already inspected the lakeshore and woodlands uncertain if this restored habitat could really be theirs... And so continues great community building!

PROJECT JUMPSTART

(continued from p. 1)

Mission Satellite Summer Sports Clinics focused on technique, teamwork, and social skills. By building on the school-year sports programs at Mission Rec Center, this program created opportunities for local kids of all ages to get involved. Resulting in an excellent leadership training program, alumni from current sports programs worked as coaches, while teens were assistants. Participants were

treated to a special trip to see professionals at work at Sacramento Monarchs and San Jose Earthquakes games.

We hope to build on the friendships and successes forged this summer, and to establish Jumpstart as a model for youth development in Recreation & Park's programming.



Camp Jumpstart

Southeast Summer Sports and Enrichment :: *Ronnie Scott, Assistant Recreation Supervisor, SF Recreation & Park Department*

Working with San Francisco Parks Trust and Team Up for Youth, the San Francisco Recreation & Park Department served 50 youth from Sunnydale and Visitacion Valley. The inaugural class of Camp Jumpstart had a remarkable 100% graduation rate. Program Director Justin Johnson provided inspiring leadership, challenging participants to try something new every day. Summer highlights included:

- guided hikes in McLaren and Golden Gate Parks,
- swimming in Coffman Pool,
- basketball and volleyball games at Visitacion Valley Playground,
- trips to the San Jose Tech Museum and the Exploratorium.

Rounding out the excitement was a well-attended Potluck Banquet and Graduation Celebration where students received awards and trophies. A slide show highlighting the students' achievements showed parents all of the fun and excitement their kids had over the summer.

Y.E.S.! Program

Youth development in the Bayview :: *Veronica Hunnicutt, Ed.D., Dean, City College Southeast Campus*

The Y.E.S.! Program, sponsored by SFPT's Project Jumpstart, Mayor Gavin Newsom, the Southeast Campus of City College of San Francisco, and the San Francisco Recreation & Park Department touched the lives of youth participants in Bayview.

The Y.E.S.! Program, held at the City College, Martin Luther King, Jr. Pool, and Joseph Lee Recreation Center during the summer hosted over 100 kids between the ages of 8-15. Students enjoyed classes in personal development, sewing, theatre, art, music, volleyball, hip-hop dance, swimming, and tai chi. Introducing students to a variety of skills and activities, this program provided a great opportunity for personal enrichment. A formal graduation ceremony, hosted by participants and their teachers, had excellent attendance by parents and family members. Participating students received gifts and certificates for their completion of the program. A true sense of accomplishment was evident in the smiling faces of students, teachers and parents.

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San Francisco Parks Trust, formerly Friends of Recreation & Parks, is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, founded in 1971.

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1ST ANNUAL SFPT FALL FUNDRAISER

Coit Tower 360°

On September 15, over 500 guests attended Coit Tower 2005 - SFPT's inaugural fall fundraiser for San Francisco parks. Parks were the theme in three gorgeous garden rooms that wrapped the base of the tower, transforming the parking lot into a wonderland filled with luscious plantings, decorations, and food. The highlight of the evening was Coit Tower itself as guests delighted in the breathtaking 360-degree view of San Francisco at night.

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Hilary Bates, SFPT Board Member at Coit Tower 2005.

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Meg Bertero, Coit Tower 2005 Co-Chair and Jay Banfield, Executive Director at SFPT's fall fundraiser

SF PARKS TRUST PARTNER SALUTE

Friends of Alta Plaza Park



In 2002, a group of neighbors discovered that San Francisco's Recreation & Parks Department Capital Program budget could not cover all the costs to renovate Alta Plaza Park. They thought of a way to help and formed Friends of Alta Plaza Park (FAPP), enabling neighbors and the community to work with the City on the renovation of this beautiful terraced park.

FAPP is committed to privately raise the remaining funds needed for Alta Plaza Park's renovation in exchange for the City's pledge of public funds for upgrading the bathrooms and making the park ADA accessible. In December 2004, Phase I, tennis courts renovation and creation of a multi-sport court, was completed. Construction on Phase II, a new beautiful and safe playground, has now begun.

Phase III: the creation of a master horticulture plan will come out of a design competition hosted by UC Berkeley's Department of Landscape Architecture & Environmental Planning.

The mission of FAPP is to help Alta Plaza Park thrive for years to come.

Want to get involved? Visit FAPP at www.sfpt.org or call Giuliana Matioli at 415.710.6936.



Did you know that San Francisco was the first city in the western United States to begin a captive breeding program to prevent extinction of the American Bison? The San Francisco herd has resided in Golden Gate Park since 1891.

LETTER FROM THE BOARD Help is on the way.

San Francisco's parks enrich lives each day; they shape the fabric of our communities, and enable our city to thrive. Yet these treasured open spaces are poor competitors in the fight for public dollars, and the lack of funds is evident in every park.

Along with the Recreation & Park Department, we are making some positive changes to ensure that we can sustain the continual upkeep and beautification of our parks.

Yomi Agunbiade, appointed General Manager of the Recreation & Park Department in July, is implementing plans to build a strong foundation for the department, which is integral to the health of our parks. Share your constructive solutions with him at yomi.agunbiade@sfgov.org.

In September, San Francisco Parks Trust welcomed Jay Banfield as our new Executive Director. Jay began his career in management at Oracle Corporation, where he built corporate volunteer programs and participated in the launch of the Clinton Administration's AmeriCorps program. After earning his Master in Public Policy at UC Berkeley, Jay joined San Francisco city government and became Assistant Treasurer where he spearheaded a national award-winning e-government initiative. Jay received the City's Public Managerial Leadership Award in 2001 and later was appointed as an Assistant General Manager of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission. His financial acumen, leadership skills, and close ties to the city will fortify our mission to provide support for the City's parks. Send him your thoughts and suggestions at jay@sfpt.org.

In July, we bade farewell to Amy Boebel, who resigned as Executive Director of SFPT. With her entrepreneurship and foresight she built a strong team of seasoned professionals within the office. She expanded our reach into the community, adding 15 projects to our repertoire, and served over 250 under-privileged San Francisco youth with summer programs in the Bayview, Sunnysdale, Mission, and Visitacion Valley neighborhoods. We know that she will continue as a friend and mentor well into the future.

With Yomi and Jay, we look forward to ushering in a new day for parks. Learn more about SFPT's commitment to protecting, enhancing and promoting stewardship for San Francisco's parks, recreation centers and open spaces by visiting us on the web at www.sfpt.org.

Many thanks for your support.

Nancy Conner :: Chair, Board of Trustees



Yomi, Nancy, and Jay - Coit Tower 2005



GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

On **November 30th**, San Francisco Parks Trust presents an exclusive advanced screening of the new film, *Memoirs of a Geisha*.

The evening will begin with a hosted reception at the elegant Betelnut Restaurant, followed by an advanced screening of the film at the nearby UA Metro Theater. Proceeds support SFPT and promote our efforts to restore the Japanese Tea Garden in Golden Gate Park.

Tickets are \$150 per person, Patron levels \$500 and above. To purchase tickets, contact Patricia Ivancich :: 415.750.5107 or development@sfpt.org.

For corporate sponsorship opportunities, contact Jenifer Botch at 415.750.5109 or jenifer@sfpt.org.

MEMBERSHIP



Angelique Griep and Amy Walsh, Coit Tower patrons and Host Committee members at supperclub party.

PARK VOICES

What is your favorite landmark in an SF park?



Dennis Kern :: SF Recreation & Parks Department, Director of Operations

It's a tough question, but I'd have to say that the many vistas and surprising views that are discovered in our parks are my favorite landmarks. Rounding a curve in Golden Gate Park and seeing Lindley Meadow unfold before you – or driving through a densely populated neighborhood and suddenly coming upon gorgeous green space like Ferry Park, Alta Plaza, Buena Vista or South Park – is really invigorating.



John Ware :: SFPT Board Member

Without a doubt, it is the Japanese Tea Garden in Golden Gate Park. Bearing a history that reflects the historic relationship between Japan and United States, this marvelous and serene garden always inspires me. From the soaring height of its old pagoda, to the gentle lapping of the water at the pond's edge, I feel myself transported, and the worries and stresses of my day fall away.



Veronica Hunnicutt, Ed.D. :: SFPT Board Member

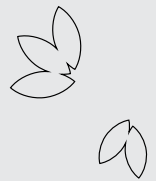
One park landmark that touches my heart deeply is the American Bison Paddock, home to these beautiful animals that were once hunted to near extinction. I believe the American Bison and our parks symbolically represent our past and our future, and the presence of bison in the park reminds me that we, all of us, need to continue to keep our animals and physical environments safe. Without caring for our animals, as Bison Volunteers do in the case of the bison, and without caring for and advocating for our beautiful parks, as SFPT does so wonderfully, we will not have parks and animals to leave for our children, our culture, or America.

COIT TOWER KICK-OFF AT SUPPERCLUB

supperclub san francisco hosted the September 8th Coit Tower Patron kick-off party, more than 150 guests enjoyed eclectic entertainment with extraordinary cocktails and appetizers served by staff in costume.

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We extend our deepest thanks to our donors who have given their support through membership, our programs and events, and donations to local park projects supported through our fiscal

sponsorship program. San Francisco Parks Trust thanks the following donors for their generous gifts received between May 1, 2005 and August 31, 2005 (gifts of \$125 and above are listed).

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CALENDAR For up-to-the-minute event and program details visit us at www.sfparkstrust.org

NOVEMBER

Golden Gate Park Nursery Plant Sale

Saturday, November 17 :: 10 am – 1 pm
SFPT Members welcome at 9:30 am (with valid Membership card).
For information, call Channing Sargent at 415.750.5105

SAN FRANCISCO PARKS TRUST presents *Memoirs of a Geisha*

Wednesday, November 30
5:30 pm :: Cocktail Reception at Betelnut Restaurant
7:30 p.m :: Film Screening at UA Metro Theater

Cocktail Reception and Special Advanced Screening of the new Columbia Pictures film. *Tickets \$150 per person, Patron levels \$500 and above, corporate sponsorships \$1000 and above.*

Please contact Patricia Ivancich at 415.750.5107 or development@sfpt.org for tickets and more information.

For information about corporate sponsorships please call Jenifer Botch 415.750.5109 or jenifer@sfpt.org.

DECEMBER

Annual Tree Lighting and Holiday Member Reception at McLaren Lodge

December 1 :: 5:30 – 7:30 pm
McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park
Members RSVP to Lori Quinn at 415.750.5443 or lori@sfpt.org.

Golden Gate Park Nursery Plant Sale

December 19 :: 10 am – 1pm
SFPT Members welcome at 9:30 (with valid Membership card).
For information, call Channing Sargent at 415.750.5105



**Annual Tree Lighting and
Holiday Member Reception
at McLaren Lodge**

**December 1 :: 5:30 – 7:30 pm
McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park**

Members are cordially invited to celebrate the holidays in the Park! Join SFPT and the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department for the 76th Annual Holiday Tree Lighting. This popular event features activities and treats for the whole family. Decorate a cookie, drink hot apple cider, and enjoy live entertainment including the Golden Gate Park Brass Band and the Young People's Teen Musical Theatre Company. Bring your smiles and holiday cheer!

Members please RSVP to Lori Quinn at 415.750.5443 or lori@sfpt.org.

San Francisco Parks Trust is dedicated to providing leadership and support for San Francisco parks, recreation centers, and open spaces.



**SAN FRANCISCO
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