



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 29, 2021

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San Francisco Parks Alliance Celebrates 50 Years and Raises \$320,000 for SF Parks & Public Spaces at Party for the Parks

Annual Gala Returns after Year-Long Hiatus to Fundraise for the City's Parks and Public Spaces, and Celebrate the Organization's Golden Anniversary

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – SF Parks Alliance hosted its 50th anniversary celebration last Saturday night with the return of its annual fundraising gala, Party for the Parks! Family run, local restaurant Mission Rock Resort welcomed over 200 guests to the outdoor celebration, which included stunning views of the Bay, a surprise appearance by the SF Fire Boat, drag queens, and more. A total of \$320,000 was raised in support of San Francisco's many unique parks and public spaces, as well as the people who help advocate and care for them.

"We are so excited to be able to safely bring supporters of our parks together this year to help celebrate our golden anniversary," said SF Parks Alliance CEO, Drew Becher. "It is an honor to be involved in an ongoing legacy that champions free and equitable access to public spaces for all."

The milestone is marked by a year and a half of life during a pandemic that only proved how essential San Francisco's parks are. Throughout the pandemic, SF Parks Alliance continued to partner with communities and public agencies to produce innovative programming and activations that include: Golden Gate Park's 150th anniversary celebration, Sundown Cinema Movie Nights in the Park, and the Entwined light show in Peacock Meadow last winter and currently on display, Bloomtown on Union.

Due to the pandemic, last year the Party for the Parks was reimagined as a public gratitude campaign known as #HeartYourParks. SF Parks Alliance partnered with the SF Recreation and Park Department to paint socially distanced hearts in select parks across the City. The campaign not only provided an opportunity for residents to give back to the parks, but also to share their stories of gratitude and love for these spaces during a universally difficult year.

"The continued work that SF Parks Alliance and our partners contribute to is the

backbone of our mission. These 50 years speak to the dedication of every group that came before us, and to the evolution of who we are today,” said SF Parks Alliance Board Chair Liz Farrell. “Our current strategic plan will help us envision the next fifty years, and beyond, where every SF park is safe, welcoming and belongs to everyone.”

We are thrilled to be able to gather safely to celebrate the essential role parks have played through this challenging year.” said Sonia Gonzalez Banks, Director of External Affairs, Marketing and Development. “During this anniversary, we celebrate the previous visionaries who helped craft the beautiful city we have today, and the proceeds from this event to help ensure that future generations have even more equitable, accessible, and welcoming parks.

Proceeds from Party for the Parks support San Francisco’s many unique parks and public spaces, as well as the people who help advocate and care for them. All donations go towards this work, and can be made directly [here](#).

Co-Chairs of the event were: Laurie Hannah Carrade, Brian Baker, [Michael Ramirez](#) , & Sarah Gallo

Please note: To ensure the safety and health of all Party goers, proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test (within 72 hours of the event) from all guests was required prior to admission. Additionally, the Party was held entirely outdoors with a limited capacity.

Approved Links

partyfortheparks.org

Donation Details: <https://secure.sfparksalliance.org/give/342164/#!/donation/checkout>

Link to Photos:

<https://drewaltizer.com/event/20442-party-for-the-parks-san-francisco-alliance/>

SF Parks Alliance 50 Year Timeline: <https://sanfranciscoparksalliance.org/history/>

Bloomtown: <https://sanfranciscoparksalliance.org/bloomtownsf/>

Most Recent Impact Report:

<https://sanfranciscoparksalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/2020ImpactReportSFPA.pdf>

SF Parks Alliance social media:

Instagram: [instagram.com/sfparksalliance](https://www.instagram.com/sfparksalliance)

Facebook: [facebook.com/sfparksalliance](https://www.facebook.com/sfparksalliance)

Twitter: twitter.com/sfparksalliance

Website: sfparksalliance.org

[About San Francisco Parks Alliance](#)

SF Parks Alliance is San Francisco's only city-wide parks nonprofit. For over 50 years, SF Parks Alliance has partnered with communities and public agencies to create, sustain, and advocate for parks and public spaces that welcome and belong to everyone.

Throughout the pandemic, SF Parks Alliance has continued to offer safe, accessible, and joyful ways to celebrate our city's parks and public spaces with impactful programming that includes: Entwined, the SkyStar Observation Wheel, concerts at the Golden Gate Bandshell, Sundown Cinema outdoor movie nights, Skybridge on Stevenson community performances, Bloomtown on Union and more!