

friends of patterson park

Maintaining Patterson Park in 2007

Patterson Park's 137 acres is home to hundreds of trees, 12 gardens, 2 playgrounds, dozens of benches, ball fields of all types, a lake, historic buildings and monuments, miles of paths, and acres of open green space. Without help, these would fall into disrepair. Baltimore City spends a mere \$48 per year per resident on parks and programming. Compare that to the \$184 per year per resident spent in Kansas City, Missouri (the highest per capita expenditure on parks in the county) or even the average spending of \$80 per resident per year across the country and one can see why Friends groups such as the Friends of Patterson Park are important in Baltimore for the maintenance of our parks.

2007 saw Patterson Park receive some much needed repairs made in Patterson Park east as well as general maintenance plans flourish throughout the rest of the park thanks to hard work by volunteers and the generous funding provided by our members and sponsors.

While clean fields and sturdy benches are important features of a healthy park, programming is one of the main aspects that keeps people coming back. That's why the Friends of Patterson Park also provides numerous events and programming to ensure that the people of Baltimore City continue to enjoy Patterson Park.

In 2007, the Friends provided the community with a multitude of free programs and events. Programming for children included free youth soccer clinics for over 200 neighborhood kids, a new free tennis and tutoring program which taught children how to play tennis and helped improve their study skills, as well as fun afternoons in the park during the summer by the fountain with



Teaching the youngest park users the importance of proper maintenance and care of Patterson Park is one of the most rewarding endeavors we embark upon.



Top: The newly spiffed up Patterson Park East shines with its new lamps, benches and sidewalks.

Bottom: Local children taking part in our tennis and tutoring program.

games and other activities. Events like the summer concert series drew in over 4,000 spectators and introduced some new faces to Patterson Park. The Great Halloween Lantern Parade was the biggest it has ever been with over 5,000 in attendance and 1,000 participating in the parade.

Events and programming like these are part of the reason the City Paper voted Patterson Park the Best Park in 2007 in the paper's annual "Best of Baltimore" edition.



Goals and Successes

Accomplishments of 2007

The Friends of Patterson Park were working hard in 2007.

Here are some of our accomplishments:

- Hired a new Program Coordinator and created the Park Stewardship Coordinator position
- Expanded our youth soccer program
- Participated in a strategic visioning process which allowed the board and staff to create a clear vision of how critical aspects of the organization should work
- Revamped Patterson Park East (the area of the park between Linwood and Ellwood Aves) including new lights, new paths, new benches
- Started a recycling program within Patterson Park
- Produced the 8th annual Great Halloween Lantern Parade
- Successfully ran the concert series which had over 4,000 people attend our 7 concerts
- Removed 4,775 lbs of trash from the boat lake
- Planted 800+ bulbs around the Pagoda
- Received almost 6,000 visitors at the Pagoda
- Replaced doggie bag dispensers
- Mulched and watered 168 trees
- Planted 46 trees and 13 shrubs
- Logged almost 3,000 volunteer hours



*Top: Concert goes on Pagoda Hill.
Middle: Youth Volunteer Day.
Bottom: Tree Planting by the Boat Lake.*



Two of our youngest volunteers



Park Neighbors enjoying our Salsa concert

Goals for 2008

- Improve park lighting
- Find a partner to help expand our soccer clinics
- Finish the strategic visioning process
- Continue with plans to renovate the white house.
- Start a movie series in the park
- Join up with partners to expand children's programming
- Have a chess tournament for local schools.
- Improve backstops
- Improve seating in the park
- Redesign and revamp the website
- Improve resources for the Pool
- Improve outreach to local schools
- Lacrosse clinics
- Attract new members
- Increase membership
- Begin revamping entrances

ANNUAL REPORT

Thank You! We can't say it enough. Often, in our lives and in the world around us there is so much turmoil and uncertainty. During these times "simple" pleasures make the world brighter. Our 140-acre urban oasis provides us with many of these illuminating moments and flashes of clarity brought on by music, movies, wood ducks, first soccer game, view of the harbor from the Pagoda, etc. More and more, we are realizing the importance of recreation and parks in solving larger community problems, from combating toxic run-off, to climate change, to parks providing healthy outlets for our children and next generation. We just came back from an International Urban Park conference in Pittsburgh and we saw many stories of success and how urban parks can positively change the lives of those who enter them, similar to Patterson Park's story.

What makes this positive change possible is YOU! From the volunteers who donated the 6,000 hours of volunteerism that drives this park's engine; to great partners like PNC and 1st Mariner Banks, the Allegis Group, and Rauch Foundation; to children, families and neighbors playing in the park; or to donor's like you who generously help us despite some current financial uncertainty. One thing is for certain is that Patterson Park will always be here for us to share and experience.

Thank You!

Tim Almaguer
Executive Director

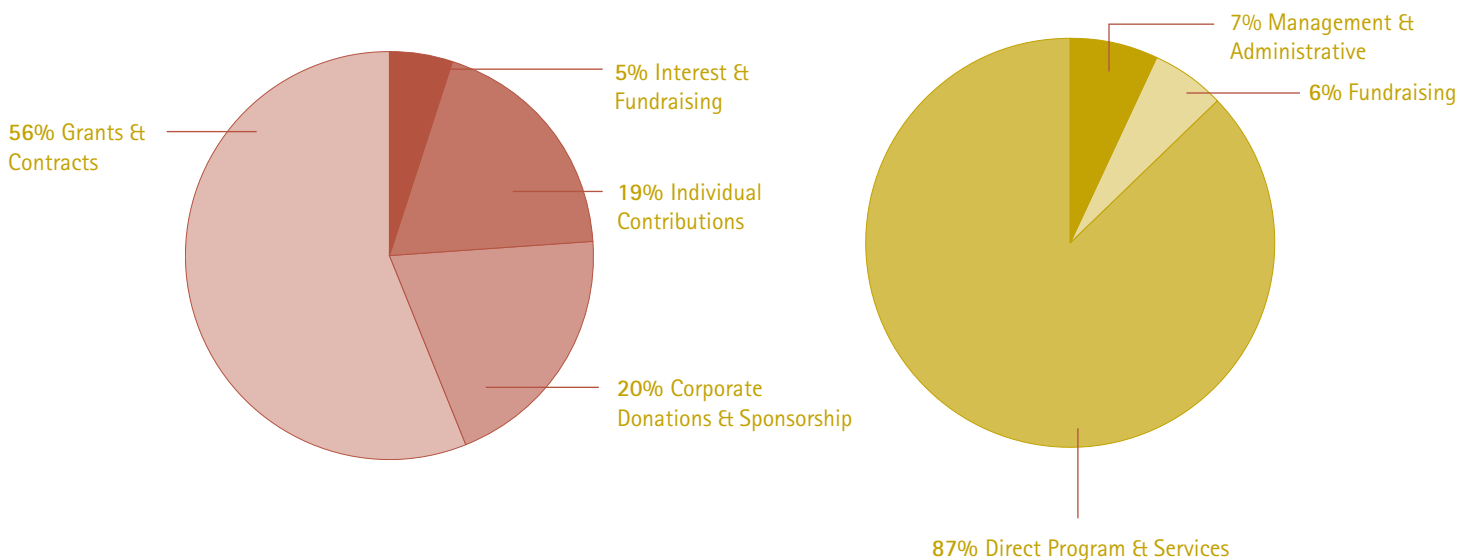
Staff in 2007:

Tim Almaguer—Executive Director
Lesley Gardiner—Volunteer Coordinator
Christina Hailman—Program Coordinator
Amanda Holloway—Part Stewardship Coordinator
Caryn Horrigan—Program Coordinator

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Statement of Activities Year Ending December 31, 2007



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Park's Permit Office	410.396.7070
Bob Wall, Youth and Adult Sports	410.396.6136
Audubon	410.558.2473

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Christina Hailman, Program Assistant	christina@pattersonpark.com
Lesley Gardiner, Volunteer Coordinator	lesley@pattersonpark.com

Join the Friends

Your tax deductible contribution to the Friends of Patterson Park supports our staff positions, sponsors park events, provides supplies for our volunteer efforts, and is greatly appreciated!

Mail your contribution to the Friends of Patterson Park, 27 S. Patterson Park Ave., Baltimore, MD 21231.

Download forms and information about membership levels online at www.pattersonpark.com or call our office at 410-276-3676.

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