



Table of Contents

A Message from Four Freedoms Park Conservancy Leadership	2
A Message from NY State Parks Commissioner Rose Harvey	3
Board Spotlight: Eduardo Jany	4
Park Visitorship 2013-2018: 1,000,000 & Counting	5
Planning for the Future: Preserving an Architectural Masterpiece in the East River	6
Inspiring the Next Generation Through FDR's Four Freedoms	8
Public Programs & Events at FDR Four Freedoms State Park	12
Four Freedoms Exemplars Lifetime Achievement Awards: Honoring Tom Brokaw & William J. vanden Heuvel	14
Our Founding Benefactors & Donors	17
Conservancy Staff & Board of Directors	24

A Message From Four Freedoms Park Conservancy Leadership

We are happy to present Four Freedoms Park Conservancy's 2017 & 2018 yearbook, and to share with you moments from the past two years that highlight our mission and our goals. More than a decade ago, we began building Louis Kahn's Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms State Park on Roosevelt Island, and we thank you, sincerely, for your support and for believing that dream was possible. Since the Park opened in October 2012, we have sought to preserve and program this architectural masterpiece, and now, just six years later, we are pleased to share with you the many ways more than 1,000,000 visitors have brought this space to life.

Not too long ago when we became Roosevelt Island's newest resident, the architecture critic Michael Kimmelman wrote in the New York Times that the Park gave New York "nothing less than a new spiritual heart." For many visitors, the Park is just that: a respite from a city that operates at an unrelenting pace, a place of quiet contemplation and solitude, and a meaningful public space for civic dialogue. We are thankful to call Roosevelt Island and New York our home, to partner with the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, and to welcome Cornell Tech, a world-class graduate campus dedicated to academics and research for the digital age, to our Roosevelt Island neighborhood.

As the Conservancy enters its seventh year of programs and operations at the Park, we have pivoted from an organization that realized Kahn's vision of a four-acre granite monument to human rights, 1,500 feet from the UN; today our job has shifted into building new communities of school visitors, families, aspiring architects, and FDR fans, among many others. We thank you for



Barbara Shattuck Kohn, Chair



Howard Axel, CEO

sharing our dream for this Park that stands as a beacon for the four freedoms and a vital reminder of Franklin D. Roosevelt's legacy.

Our board and staff talk often about community: how to create it, how to foster it, and what it really means to the people who visit the Park. Thank you for being a part of our community of supporters, and helping us shape the Conservancy for the future.

A Message from New York State Parks Commissioner Rose Harvey

On behalf of New York State, I congratulate Four Freedoms Park Conservancy for another outstanding year honoring the profound legacy of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. New York is fortunate to have the committed and imaginative leadership of the Conservancy to manage this special and iconic state park, which symbolizes and reminds us of America's fundamental values: freedom of speech & expression, freedom of religion, freedom from want, and freedom from fear.

Congratulations as well on surpassing one million visitors. The programs are amazing and enlightening. School education programs have almost doubled over the last few years, and we believe they have much room for growth. Visitors come away inspired by the Park's hopeful message as well as its architecture and stunning views of New York City. Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms State Park shows us how people's lives are enriched by art, beauty, and discovery – and encouraging public access to these things is a noble effort.

Particularly in this sad era of political and social polarization, Four Freedoms State Park is one of our most important state parks – a place everyone should visit to see, understand and remember the sacrifice that our country, communities and individual Americans have given to honor these values, in the most turbulent of times. Parks bring us together in a way few other social institutions do. Our parks are the great gathering places, for all colors, all creeds, all religions, all countries. On any given day, walk around FDR Four Freedoms State Park or any other state park and enjoy the diversity and rich social fabric of so many cultures together.

We at the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation are honored to include Louis Kahn's architectural masterpiece into our system, and we look forward to continuing to work with the Conservancy to care for this special place. Thank you again for helping create the kind of world President Franklin D. Roosevelt envisioned.



Board Spotlight: Q&A with Eduardo Jany

Eduardo Jany directs security operations for Bloomberg in the Americas. He has served in law enforcement with 26 years of police service in Florida, Minnesota, and Washington State, and in the military with 33 years of combined service in the Army and Marine Corps. Eduardo lives on Roosevelt Island and has been a Four Freedoms Park Conservancy board member since 2017.



You're one of the Conservancy's newest board members. What first drew you to the

Conservancy? First of all, I am absolutely thrilled to be a member of the board. This is an impressive group of people who have lifetime commitments to altruism, community, and philanthropy. What really drew me was the spirit of the board and the Conservancy, both of which embody FDR's ideals. To say I am proud to be a part of this is an understatement, and if I can contribute in some small way to further the cause I will.

With all the recent changes, has Roosevelt Island kept its small-town atmosphere? It is certainly a challenge to maintain the small-town feel, but the very structure of the island with the parks, open spaces, and more residential versus commercial areas has helped to keep that feel. It is nice to walk about and get a smile and a wave or to see folks you know everyday. Roosevelt Island is a great neighborhood and Four Freedoms Park contributes to the beauty we enjoy.

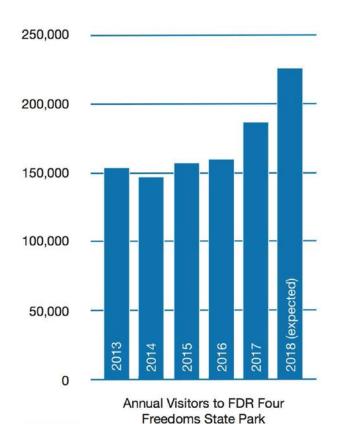
As a political independent, do you think our divergent ideologies prevent us from progressing as a nation?

Having been in the military and in law enforcement I did have the opportunity to travel and move about quite a bit. What I have learned in those years is that as much as we may speak or dress a bit differently we are all really quite similar in our hopes and aspirations. We all value freedom; we value time with our families. being able to move about without restriction, and express ourselves freely without fear. Unfortunately there are elements that are pulling the country to extremes. I can't recall any time in my life that our politicians have been so vitriolic and that hurts us. We really do need to listen, pay attention to facts, to learn from one another, to read, to be culturally attuned and informed.

On your website, you quote John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King. Have these two leaders informed your career and ideology? Absolutely. The selflessness and unwavering sense of duty is something I admire in both those great men. JFK was not without conflict and controversy yet he managed to persevere and stay laser focused on moving the nation forward, as did MLK, who refused to bow to incredible pressure. I identify with many great historical figures, but these two really embody the ideology I have hoped to promote.

In his "Four Freedoms" speech, FDR claimed that the four freedoms were attainable in our own time and generation, "everywhere in the world." Are we moving closer to this goal, as a global community? What can the Conservancy do to help make FDR's vision a reality? Unfortunately I see that nationalism, isolationism, and xenophobia are taking us further away from FDR's aspiration. Having said that I truly believe that the pendulum will swing back and that we do have a tremendous number of good people, young and old; great thinkers and doers who will most certainly rise to the challenge to lead with innovation, collaboration and peace. The Conservancy should definitely be a part of these efforts through education, awareness and outreach promoting the four freedoms. I am so proud to be part of that and I look forward to helping achieve this in any way I can.

Park Visitorship



1,000,000+

people have made their way by tram, subway, ferry, foot, bike & Q102 bus to Roosevelt Island to visit FDR Four Freedoms State Park



Preserving an Architectural Masterpiece in the East River

Wrapping the most vulnerable of the Park's 120 little-leaf linden and five copper beech trees gives protection from the sun's harsh winter rays.







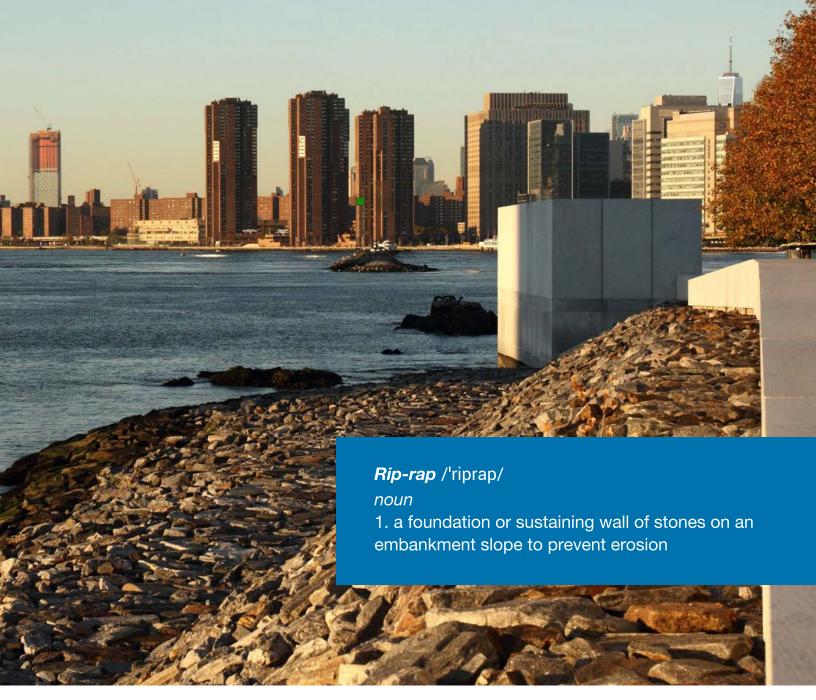
Caring for the
Park's 30,000
square feet of
cobblestone
walkways is
essential to
preserving the Kahn
design and
accessibility for all.







Jo Davidson's
colossal bronze bust
of FDR is cleaned
and restored annually
by experts from the
foundry that
fabricated it, Polich
Tallix.



The rip-rap barrier is comprised of 11,000 cubic yards of local gneiss rock that protects the Park and also collects an estimated 10,000 lbs of washed-up debris annually (including this message in a bottle!).



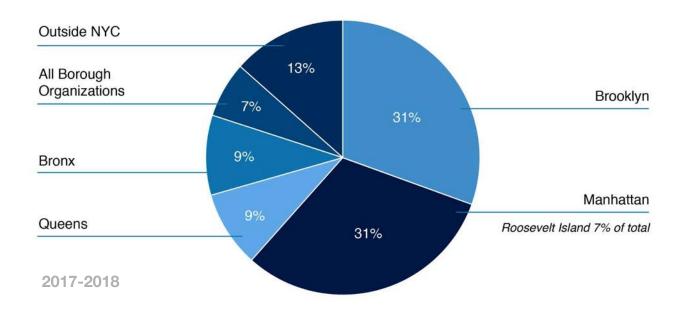
Inspiring the Next Generation Through FDR's Four Freedoms

Exploring FDR's vision of "a world founded upon four essential human freedoms": freedom of speech & expression, freedom of worship, freedom from want, and freedom from fear

Conservancy educators offer multiple dialogue-based programs for school groups in grades 2-12, encouraging students to value their own voices and understand the complex political and historical forces that shape their lives. Field trips meet New York City and New York State learning standards and the Common Core through deep observation, primary source learning, and persuasive writing. In addition, the Conservancy brings the four freedoms to NYC classrooms with intensive residencies, and teaches educators about the four freedoms through professional development workshops at the Park. Each summer, the Conservancy hosts high school interns in collaboration with Studio in a School to create film and social media content informed by the four freedoms.



Guided Field Trips by Borough



Student Visitors by School Year



Inspiring Students with FDR's Four Freedoms

Here's what NYC school teachers from Queens' District 30 are saying about our education programs...





"Civics education has been brought to the forefront of the NYC curriculum, so all of the info and resources are relevant. The resources really helped me better understand how relevant these issues are to our present day."

"The educators are enthusiastic – the kids definitely need more people like this."

"The facilitators were well prepared, interesting, and provided a lot of information. Good PD. Highly recommended."



Engaging with the Four Freedoms Through Media



Each summer, the
Conservancy hosts NYC
high school interns, in
collaboration with Studio
in a School, to create a
media project inspired by
the four freedoms.

The interns explore the four freedoms through social media and videos, interviewing elder New Yorkers, leading school groups, and screening their work.









Public Programs & Events

at Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms State Park



In June 2017, 48 immigrants became America's newest citizens at a U.S. Department of Homeland Security naturalization ceremony.

Our Cultural Partners

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Clockwise from upper left: (1) over 11,000 people visited the Park during the 2018 Roosevelt Island Cherry Blossom Festival, one of NYC's cultural highlights; (2) and (3) photographers both professional and amateur make watching the sunset on 'Manhattanhenge' one of the Park's most popular and anticipated annual events; (4) Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative hosted a Park tour for 42 mayors of American cities; and (5) volunteers at New York State Parks' I Love My Park Day







Four Freedoms Exemplars Lifetime Achievement Awards

Tom Brokaw - presented on June 14, 2017



Honorary Event Chair Mrs. Mario M. Cuomo and Conservancy Founder & Chair Emeritus William J. vanden Heuvel with journalist Tom Brokaw. **The Conservancy recognized Mr. Brokaw as a four freedoms exemplar for his commitment and extraordinary leadership in defense of freedom of speech and expression.**

Ambassador William J. vanden Heuvel - presented on June 13, 2018



Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, Senator George J. Mitchell, and Conservancy Chair Barbara Shattuck Kohn presented this award in recognition of **Ambassador vanden Heuvel's peerless work as the preeminent guardian of Franklin D. Roosevelt's inspired vision** of "a world founded upon four essential human freedoms."

Sunset Garden Party Fundraiser – June 13, 2018



Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., William L. Bernhard, Edwina Sandys



Barbara Shattuck Kohn, Gene Kohn, Pat Schoenfeld



Sydney & Stanley S. Shuman



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Alexander von Perfall, Katrina vanden Heuvel, Stephen Cohen, Isabelle von Perfall, John vanden Heuvel Pierce, Nicholas Von Perfall, Ashley von Perfall, Felix von Perfall, Melinda vanden Heuvel, William J. vanden Heuvel



New York State Parks Commissioner Rose Harvey, Kathleen Kennedy Townsend



Mrs. Mario M. Cuomo, Sally Minard, Janet Ross



Veronica & Dimitrios Liassidis, Clark & Fauzia Copelin



Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms State Park

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Four Freedoms Park Conservancy operates, maintains, and programs Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms State Park to the highest standard. As steward of this extraordinary civic space designed by Louis I. Kahn, the Conservancy advances President Roosevelt's legacy and inspires, educates, and engages the public in the ideals of the Four Freedoms: freedom of speech and expression, freedom of worship, freedom from want, and freedom from fear. The Conservancy does this by:

- safeguarding the memorial as a space for inspired use
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