

DONOR NEWSLETTER

September & October 2022



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The Constantine's Carousel Adventures

The PNC Carousel in Schenley Plaza is undoubtedly one of Pittsburgh's most beloved public spaces. From the magnificent colors to the old-fashioned pipe music, visitors of all ages light up when they take a spin on the carousel.

For the Constantine Family, making the trip to Schenley Plaza has become a weekly tradition, thanks to their two and a half-year-old daughter, Olivia.

"Livi absolutely loves the PNC Carousel," Olivia's mom, Caroline explained. "Her favorite thing to do as soon as we arrive is select which animal she'll ride first. She loves the tiger, so if he's not first, she makes sure she rides the tiger at

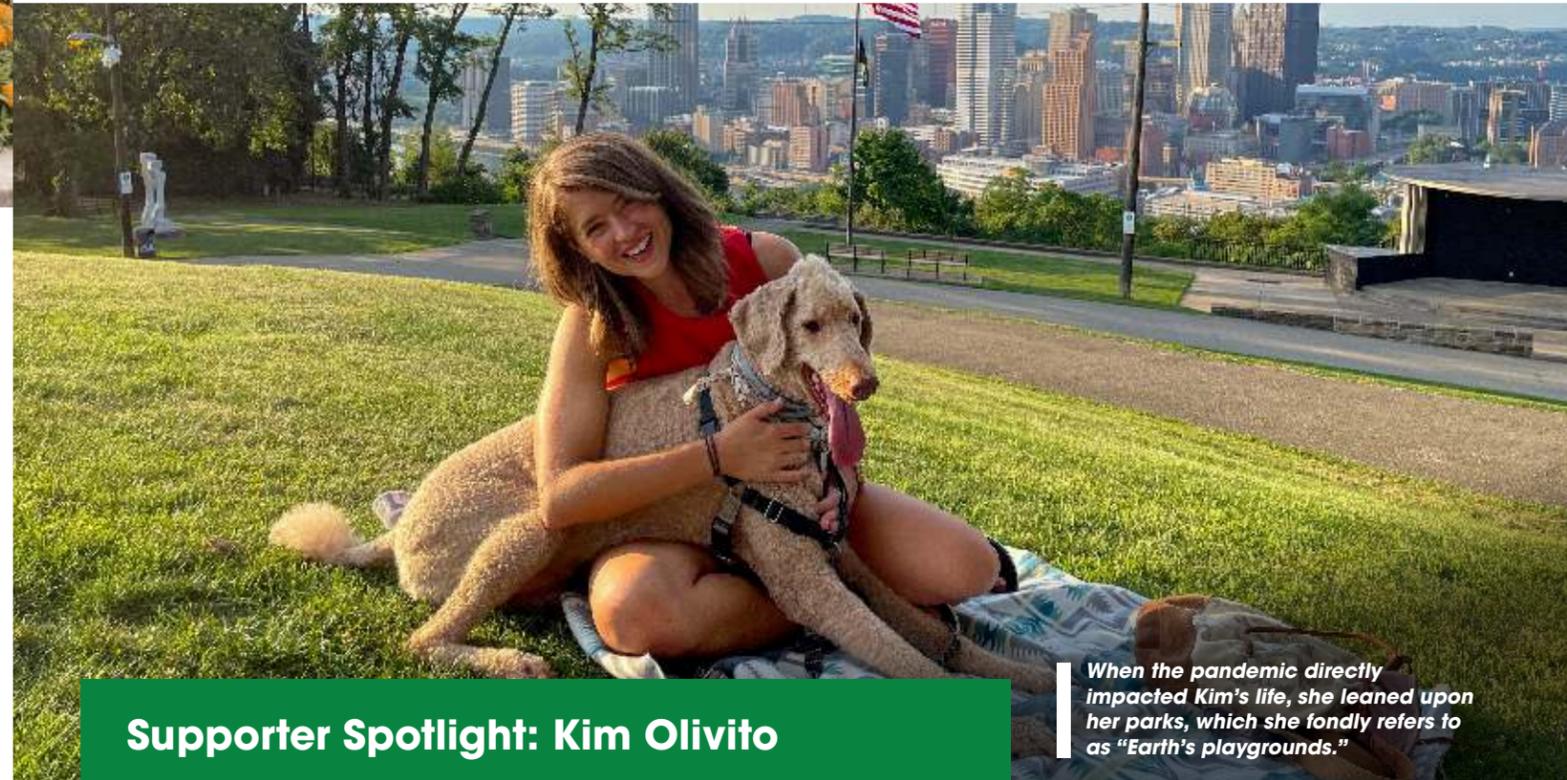
least once per visit! Livi asks to visit the carousel daily. Multiple times per day, actually! We have started using the carousel as a reward for her - any time she is a good listener for the week, we promise to go to the carousel that weekend."

Not only does riding the PNC Carousel bring Olivia joy, but it also creates lasting memories for Caroline and her husband Anthony.

"Watching Livi's excitement while she's riding the carousel is the best feeling in the world! She also enjoys seeing other children and saying hi to them in the line and asking them to ride beside her, which is really magical to witness," Caroline said. "My favorite

memory was the first Kid's Day of the summer. Livi's grandparents were in town, and they knew how much she loved the carousel, so we had lunch in Schenley Plaza and promised Livi we'd stay for Kid's Day. Unfortunately, it started raining hard and the carousel ride had to shut down for a while. Livi was devastated but the amazing Conservancy Staff quickly brought lawn games and park-themed coloring books under the tent and Livi made friends with all the other kiddos while they waited for the rain to stop. Once it did, she made sure to ride every single animal with her new friends!"

Donors like you make memories like this possible. Thank you for supporting your parks!



"When the pandemic directly impacted Kim's life, she leaned upon her parks, which she fondly refers to as 'Earth's playgrounds.'"

Supporter Spotlight: Kim Olivito

It's safe to say that Kim Olivito is passionate about the outdoors. She serves as a valued committee member for the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, works for FedEx Ground, where she focuses on sustainability initiatives, and helped to launch the Pittsburgh Green Workplace Challenge at Sustainable Pittsburgh.

Kim has long admired Pittsburgh's parks, and when the pandemic impacted her life, Emerald View Park was the one place that remained a constant.

"Prior to the pandemic, I was constantly focused on work and didn't prioritize my mental health," Kim explained. "When COVID-19 directly effected our region, I was forced to slow down, prioritize my mental and physical health, and leaned upon my neighborhood park to do so."

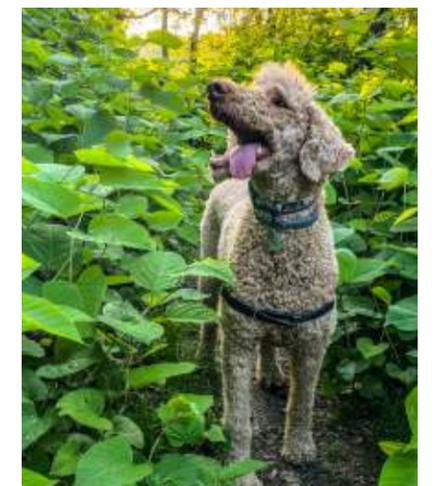
From hiking with her husband and dog to picnicking in Grandview Park to even taking virtual therapy Zoom sessions atop scenic Mt. Washington, Kim relied on her parks more each day.

"I love visiting Emerald View Park and make it a priority to walk there as often as possible from my home in the Southside," Kim said. "It feels like a little adventure each time I visit because it's such a dense urban space but also contains such robust trails to explore."

And even now, more than two years into the pandemic, Kim continues to emphasize the importance of these treasured public spaces that donors like you make possible every day.

"Until the pandemic, we took for granted how close we lived to such incredible parks," Kim explained.

"Parks are Earth's playgrounds, and I can't tell you how fortunate we are to have so many right here in our backyard. They kept us connected when we were forced to be apart, and for that, I'm forever grateful."



"Kim's dog, King Henry, enjoys exploring the robust trails of Emerald View Park."

Care for the PNC Carousel

In the coming weeks, the PNC Carousel will close for another fantastic season and the beloved animals will go into hibernation for the winter. Make a gift today to support the ongoing care and maintenance of the PNC Carousel.

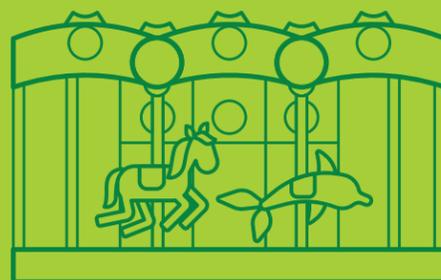
\$25

\$75

\$150

Other \$

See enclosed envelope or visit pittsburghparks.org for more information.



Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy does not solicit contributions from persons or entities in states other than Pennsylvania, New York, or Florida.

Celebrating Summer 2022 Made Possible by YOU.

As we enjoy all that autumn has to offer in Pittsburgh, let's look back at the fantastic memories created across our parks that YOU made possible!

The Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy hosted hundreds of free programs and events at some of your most beloved green spaces throughout the summer.

From movie night to yoga to stewardship initiatives, the wide variety of free programs provided ample opportunity for community connection across Pittsburgh's parks, especially in August Wilson Park and Robert E. Williams Park, located in the historic Hill District.

"Hill District programming is important because this neighborhood is a crucial part of Pittsburgh's history. This community has so many valuable things to offer," explained Chastity Bey, the Parks Conservancy's Community Nature Educator. "Our free programming highlights and adds to the value of the community and the people within it."

Pittsburgh's parks serve as thriving community hubs, and the Parks Conservancy hosts many free events and programs that unite the unique neighborhoods and provide visitors with memorable experiences.



Millie's Ice Cream generously donated cool treats for movie night attendees to enjoy in the park.



"There's such a tremendous value in free programs," explained Tim Murphy, Schenley Park program attendee. **"It brings the community together and is fun and educational. Plus, it allows people to explore new parts of the city they love, and of course, it offers families like mine the opportunity to create new memories together."**

Parks Conservancy staff members worked together all summer long to provide inclusive, fun, and memorable events in Pittsburgh's parks.



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From June through September, community members and even corporations donated their time to care for August Wilson Park!

The abundance of free programs you allow the Parks Conservancy to provide to thousands of Pittsburghers annually positively impacts park visitors of all ages.

Special thanks to the additional sponsors of this summer's programs: The Margaret Ritchie R. Battle Family Charitable Fund, UPMC Health Plan, The Buhl Foundation, F.N.B. Corporation, the Pittsburgh Penguins Foundation, The Benter Foundation, and Giant Eagle.

"My family and I had such a great time at movie night in Robert E. Williams Park this summer," explained Earl Hord. **"We are looking forward to attending the next one!"**



Save the Date: Gearing up for Giving Tuesday

Giving Tuesday 2022 is nearly here, and your parks need your support!

Save the date because **Tuesday, November 29** is a day to make **DOUBLE** the impact when you give a gift to support Pittsburgh's parks, thanks to a generous donor who is matching every gift, dollar-for-dollar, up to \$25,000.

Only with your help are the memories and moments made in your parks possible!