

“This used to be a dead zone, and now it’s filled with life.  
People come here just to experience the wonderful things  
in Millennium Park.”

*Ed Uhler*

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

# Millennium Park Foundation





Since its creation in 1998, Millennium Park Foundation has remained devoted to the vision of maintaining uncompromisingly high standards for Millennium Park as a premier free and equitable public space for all Chicagoans and visitors today and generations to come.

I believe in the vision and opportunity those words bring to the Foundation and Park—uncompromising, free, equitable. As curators of the vision for Millennium Park, we have the unique opportunity to bring together the art and culture that make Chicago a truly cosmopolitan city and exceptional place of outstanding design quality.

Millennium Park Foundation is among only a few nonprofit organizations in the world solely dedicated to enhancing the experience of a free public cultural space. Through the vision and support of its Founders, Board of Directors, and the commitment and talents of its staff, the Foundation helps bring more than 500 free cultural programs and amazing public art and architecture to over 20 million visitors each year. For the inspiration and awe we bring these visitors, we should pause and celebrate!

I see so many ways in which our dedication to the founding principles of Millennium Park were put into action by the Foundation during 2017, a few of which include:

*Completing major technology upgrade at Crown Fountain*

*Completing restoration of the Millennium Monument and Founder Wall at Wrigley Square*

*Programming the Family Fun Festival in its 11th season*

*Designing enhanced décor for the City of Chicago holiday tree in Millennium Park*

*Designing new interior and exterior signage at the Jay Pritzker Pavilion*

*Initiating enhancements in landscape design and management at Millennium Park*

Beyond the many external infrastructure enhancements throughout Millennium Park, the Foundation oversaw numerous important internal changes to its operation. In the past year, it has made great strides in advancing the functionality of many of its internal processes, including more effective and collaborative communication strategies, adopting resourceful business practices by moving towards a paperless office, collating its exposure from multiple media outlets, and maturing existing procedures, such as improving granting relations with the City of Chicago.

None of this work would have been successful without the support and generosity of our Founders. Your early dedication to the possibility of Millennium Park has been curated and crafted over the past 20 years into the achievements we see today and the exciting future that is to come for both the Foundation and Park.

Sincerely,

Scott Stewart, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
Millennium Park Foundation







Millennium Park Foundation experienced one of its most dynamic years in history during 2017. We must think back to the earliest moments of the Foundation's inception and the subsequent construction of Millennium Park to remember a time of such engagement, activity, and excitement.

The vision you—the Founders of Millennium Park—have demonstrated, along with the efforts of the Foundation's staff and Board of Directors, continues to make great the idea of an outstanding, free, and diverse public space to showcase innovative art, architecture, and cultural programming. In all respects, Millennium Park has become the cultural heart of Chicago.

We are especially grateful to report the success of the New Founders campaign, which brought nine new Founders and \$10,000,000 in support of Millennium Park. This support will ensure the Foundation's original vision that the Park would become a leader in Chicago's cultural and artistic community. To our newest Founders, we are most excited to welcome you and thankful for your generosity and commitment to the vision of Millennium Park.

We are further excited to share that the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE) Commissioner, Mark Kelly, has warmly embraced the Foundation as an equal partner with the City of Chicago in the curation and programming of Millennium Park. We could not ask for a more perfect moment to represent the future successes of the Park—the ongoing generosity of Founders, a supportive partnership with DCASE, dedicated staff, and an engaged Board of Directors.

None of the Park's successes would be possible without the support of its Founders. Your backing makes possible the unwavering standards that have become synonymous with Millennium Park. John, myself, and the entire Millennium Park Foundation Board of Directors thank you for your ongoing dedication to the ideals that represent Millennium Park.

As Millennium Park Foundation enters its 20th year as the chief curator and steward of this strategic concept, we could not be more optimistic about the bright future for our exceptional Park.

Best wishes,

Donna LaPietra  
Chair  
Millennium Park Foundation



John Bryan  
President  
Millennium Park Foundation







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# Enhancing Your Park Experience

Millennium Park Foundation is the nonprofit organization dedicated to the stewardship and curation of Millennium Park, maintaining it as a free and diverse public space that has come to represent the cultural heart of Chicago.

In partnership with the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, Millennium Park Foundation is committed to the preservation and care of Millennium Park, with the responsibility of programming and conservation of several features in the Park, including its public garden, sculpture galleries and public art.





# Restoration of Crown Fountain

We all know the love affair between Chicagoans and Crown Fountain. After 13 years as one of the City’s most iconic pieces of public art—and 13 years as the City’s most loved urban water park—the time had come to update aspects of Crown Fountain to ensure the work’s artistic integrity for decades to come.

The restoration was overseen by a partnership comprised of the Millennium Park Foundation, the Crown family, Jaime Plensa, and DCASE.



*Scaffolding being completed as  
work begins on Crown Fountain*





Donna LaPietra, Bill Sick, Jaume Plensa, and Krueck + Sexton  
Architects surveying the scope of the restoration project

Technology upgrades and maintenance were completed at the Fountain, which included installing the most current LED panels to project more vibrant and crisp colors, repairing the pool pavers to assist with maintenance, replacing damaged glass blocks in both Fountain towers, and a thorough cleaning, both inside and out.

The new-and-improved Crown Fountain was revealed on April 22, 2017 as part of the Year of Public Art in Chicago.

Our greatest thanks to the Crown family as Founders and generous supporters of Millennium Park for their leadership in the curation and stewardship of Crown Fountain as a truly iconic Chicago experience.





## Restoration of Millennium Monument at Wrigley Square

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The Millennium Monument at Wrigley Square is known for its classic Doric-style columns and is the location where all 124 Founders of Millennium Park are recognized. As the anchor of the most-traveled corner of the Park over the past 14 years, the Monument required maintenance. Through the generosity of our Founders, Millennium Park Foundation was able to restore and improve the Millennium Monument as a classic cornerstone to the art and architecture of the Millennium Park experience. This restoration also allows the names of our newest Founders to be added to the Founders Wall. These names will be engraved in the fall of 2018.



*The Monument displaying new LED lighting  
representing National Breast Cancer Awareness*





Workers complete the paving and the newly cast wall around the Monument's fountain

Restoration and enhancements included:

*Adding new color-changing LED lighting system allowing dramatic commemorative displays at Millennium Monument*

*Replacement of the stone fountain elements, Founders Wall panels, and the surrounding paving using pre-cast concrete for improved environmental resiliency*

*Cleaning and resealing of the entire structure*



## Anish Kapoor

Eleven years have passed since Sir Anish Kapoor watched the final pieces of steel coming together to form Chicago's most beloved "Bean."

The iconic piece of work—his first in the U.S.—has reshaped the idea of interacting with public art. His return to Millennium Park in 2017 was Anish's first opportunity to capture himself in the reflection of his own sculpture.

The selfie has become synonymous with the iconic public art piece since smartphones have become the most invaluable piece of technology in our modern time. Since its completion in 2006, Cloud Gate has drawn hundreds of millions of visitors.

Anish Kapoor takes a selfie in front of his own Cloud Gate while the media looks on





Total attendance for the 2017 Summer Film Series averaged 10,000 visitors per featured film

Jay Pritzker Pavilion continued to be a gracious host to the Summer Film Series bringing new, international, classic and indie films to an outdoor audience every Tuesday evening from June through August. Dedicated film seekers scouted out space on the Great Lawn for the ultimate movie-viewing experience.

Films such as *La La Land*, *Hidden Figures*, *Princess Bride*, *Bend It Like Beckham* and the 80th anniversary matinee of *Snow White*, drew devoted fans young and old.

Other films featured during the 2017 Film Series included: *El Norte*, *Network*, *Caddyshack*, *Julie and Julia*, *Ghost*, *The Shining*, *The Five Heartbeats* and *Wayne's World*.



Booker's open-air sculptures were received by an estimated 12 million visitors in 2017

Chakaia Booker's recycled-tire sculptures continued their exhibition in the Boeing Galleries throughout 2017. Millennium Park Foundation introduced the rubber and metal sculptures by the African-American abstract artist in 2016, allowing audiences to engage both visually and interactively. This exhibit was supported by the Boeing Endowment, with additional support provided by the Richard Driehaus Endowment.





Over 102,000 people visited the Family Fun Festival in 2017, averaging over 1,500 attendees each day

Under the Chase Promenade North tent, Millennium Park Foundation continued its support of the annual Family Fun Festival in 2017, with generous support from the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation. The Festival provided educational and nature-based activities to children and families throughout the summer season. Kids congregated in anticipation of Wiggleworms®, who continue to be the Festival star, every day drawing in upwards of 300 people to their performances. The Reading Circle also drew attentive listeners eager for storytelling.

Nanci Mortimer, a Chicago-born author, showcased her book *Electric Angel*, illustrated by Della Wells, as part of the Wednesday book giveaways. This story highlights a child's journey on the "L" train with her family to enjoy an orchestra playing in Millennium Park. The Foundation was honored to support this book reading and author signing as the closing activity of the 2017 Festival.

Our Chicago-based cultural partners in 2017 included Millennium Park's own Lurie Garden, Chicago Museum of Science and Industry, Swedish American Museum, Lookingglass Theater, National Hellenic Museum, Kidtrail.com, National Mexican Museum of Art, Chicago History Museum, Chicago Architecture Foundation and the DuSable Museum of African American History.



### Inspiring healthy lifestyle choices through fitness and exercise programs

The Great Lawn became a popular outdoor summer studio, drawing active crowds focused on fitness or interested in experiencing a new summer activity in the Park. Yoga, Pilates, Zumba and other strength training sessions were held during the summer season, with its opening weekend set to gospel music in collaboration with the Chicago Gospel Music Festival.

Ice skaters flocked to the McCormick Tribune Ice Rink as one of the most popular things-to-do in Chicago during the winter season, inclusive of Chicago Public Schools' winter break. From November to early March, free skating and lessons are offered to the public.

The McDonald's Active Lifestyles Endowment supported the 2017 Summer and Winter Workouts at Millennium Park.



## Lurie Garden

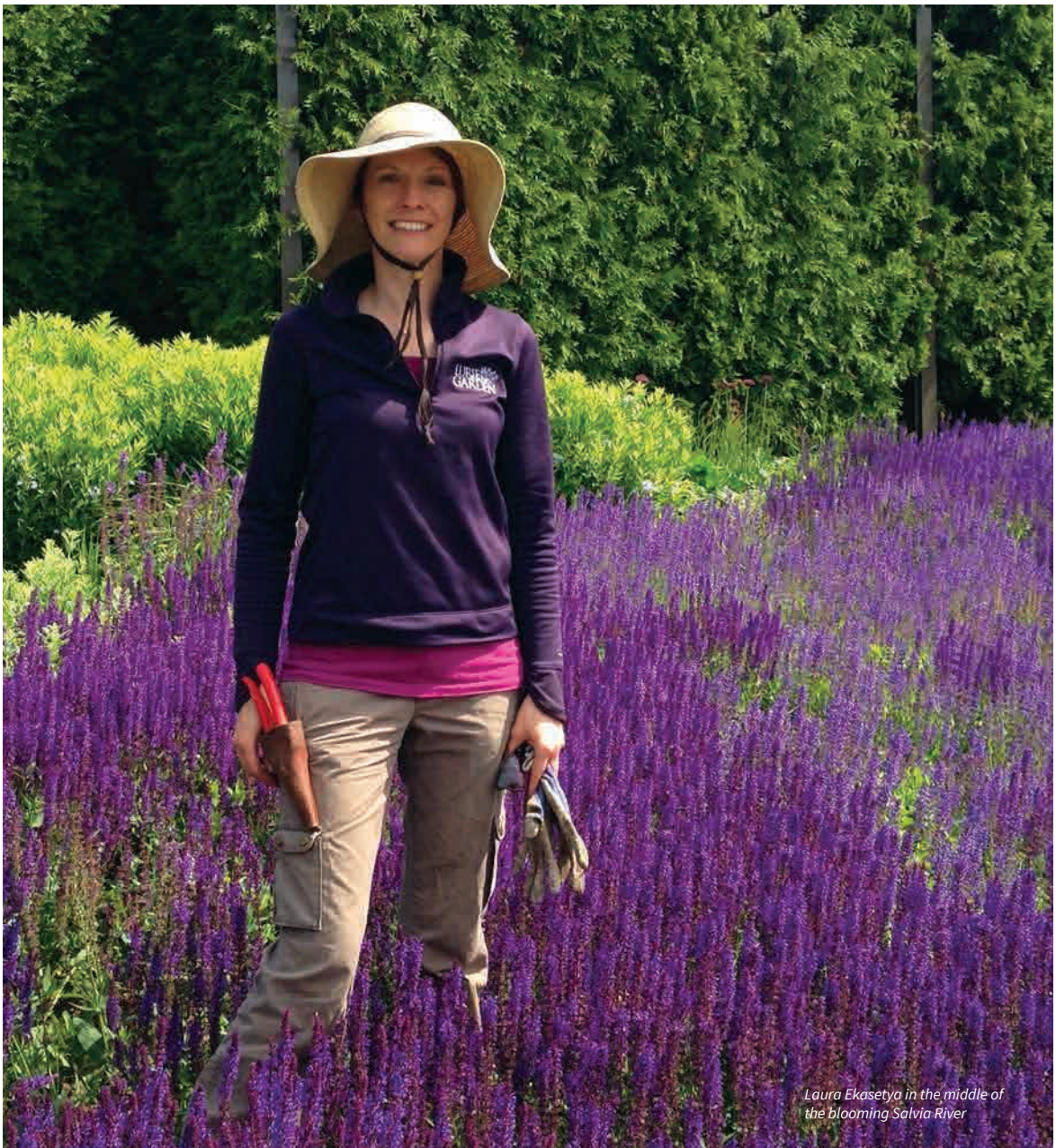
Lurie Garden remains a model of responsible and sustainable urban gardening practices. The diversity of plant life within the Garden supports an abundance of local insects, pollinators, and wildlife, making it a leader in plant selection and maintenance practices. The management philosophies of Lurie Garden are examples of how public gardens and parks can provide beauty and ecological service while minimizing their environmental impacts.







Guided tour for school students focused on water conservation and Illinois native plants and insects



Laura Ekasetya in the middle of the blooming Salvia River

Over 7,000 people attended the 80 public workshops and lectures hosted by Lurie Garden in 2017, representing a 40% increase over 2016

**PROGRAMS**

Lurie Garden prides itself in educating the public through its variety of nature-based programs and events. Changes to the programming structure and registration process helped increase overall attendance. Additionally, our new Featured Speaker Series hosted three distinguished speakers, including Andi Pettis, Director of Horticulture for High Line Park in New York City. Each speaker highlighted the influence of Piet Oudolf in garden design.

**NEW DIRECTOR**

Laura Ekasetya was promoted to the position of Director of Lurie Garden in February. Her prior years working as the Garden's Horticulturist and currently as Head Horticulturist inspired her to immediately address several deferred maintenance projects, such as broken lighting and drainage issues. Her vision for Lurie Garden is focused on:

- Reaching a diverse audience for nature programs
- Improving and repairing the Garden's hardscape features to the highest standards

- Maintaining the integrity of Piet Oudolf's original design
- Assuring effective and exceptional communication of the Garden's design intent, its place in the landscape design world, and sustainable management practices
- Maintaining a culture of community and shared vision with staff and volunteers to work toward the best possible visitor experience





Lurie Garden had the assistance of 65 volunteer docents in 2017, who accumulated 1,290 hours and reached 2,921 guests from 37 states and 32 countries

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**PUBLIC GARDEN APPRENTICE PROGRAM**

Lurie Garden appointed its first Public Garden Apprentice, Yaritza Guillen, in 2017. The apprenticeship program is an evolution of the former internship program, wherein a seasonal intern was hired each year. The Public Garden Apprentice position now encompasses both a true mentorship opportunity as well as providing operational assistance, allowing the apprentice to actively engage in all aspects of the Garden's activities. The role was established with generous support from GGN (Gustafson Guthrie Nichol).

**MELANIE SCOTT, VOLUNTEER MANAGER**

Melanie Scott has brought tremendous success to Lurie Garden by establishing the volunteer docent program. She onboards, instructs and manages the docents who embody what the Garden truly represents. This program exists because of her skill, knowledge, and dedication to the Garden and its underlying principles.

In gratitude of her years of service, our current and former Directors shared the following:

*"So much of a public garden's success and reach hinges on an effective system for managing volunteers. Melanie's genuine care of the Garden and for each person she works with inspires that same enthusiasm and professionalism in our dedicated volunteers who are sincerely appreciated."*  
Laura Ekasetya

*"Part of the Lurie Garden experience is its dedicated volunteer group. Melanie has grown this group into an integral part of the Garden—its operation, its programs, and its community impact."*  
Scott Stewart

*"Melanie embodies the spirit of Lurie Garden. Her dedication to this amazing space is what has allowed it to continue to grow. The volunteer program has been so successful due to Melanie's thoughtful and careful oversight."*  
Jennifer Davit

*"Gardens need volunteers to help make them whole, add enrichment and increase community connections. Melanie was the perfect person to assist in the critical role of managing the Garden's growing volunteer interest, bringing with her an abundance of history and experience, which has allowed the Garden to grow in many ways."*  
Colleen Lockovitch



We wish Melanie the very best as she retires from this position in 2018 and thank her for her dedication to Lurie Garden over the past 12 years

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*Ed in the early years  
of his career with the  
Chicago Park District*



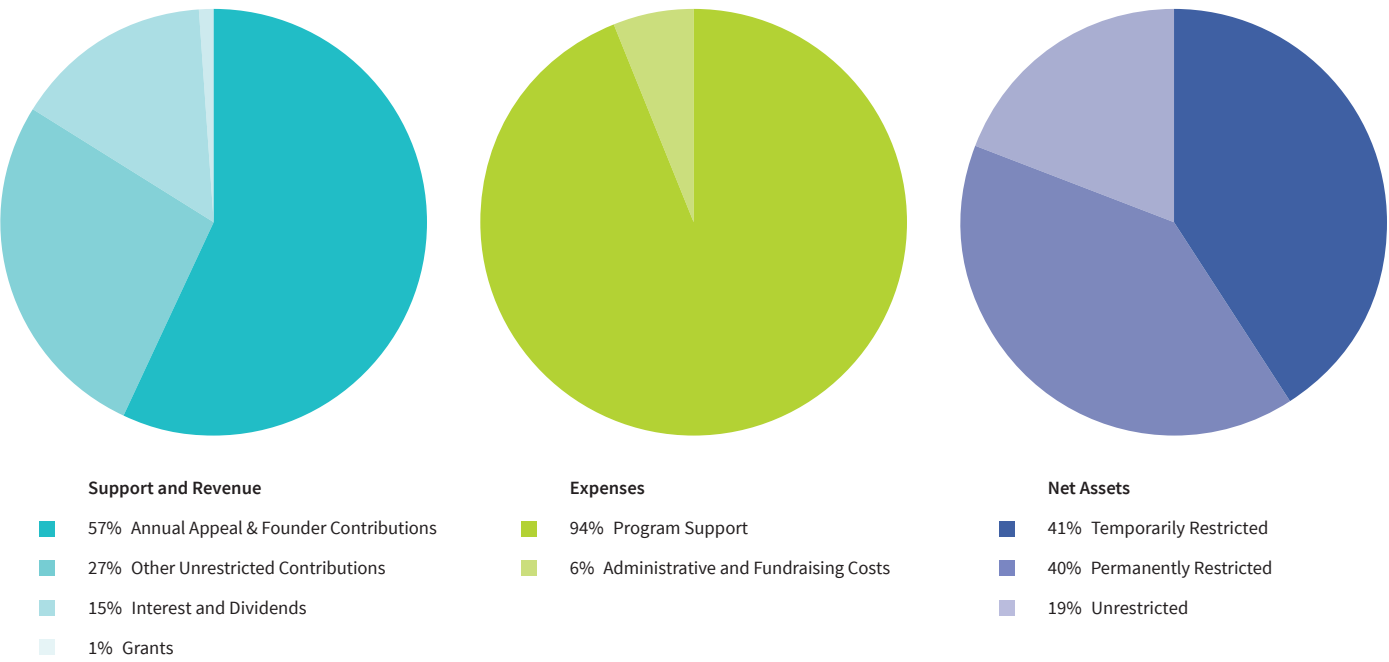
On November 22, 2017, the Millennium Park Foundation family, the City of Chicago and the public parks’ world, lost a dear friend and colleague with the passing of Ed Uhler.

Many of us had a deep personal relationship with Ed—for some of us that relationship spanned many decades and a variety of projects, while others knew him for only a brief time within the context of Millennium Park. No matter how we may have known Ed, his interactions with us were always positive and his legacy, in Millennium Park and throughout Chicago, is unquestionable.

Ed had two great loves in his life: his family and Millennium Park. In his final days, Ed was surrounded by family and remained involved in Millennium Park to the end. The Millennium Park Foundation and its collaborators are grateful for the many years he dedicated to the Park and the legacy he allowed to be passed to future generations.



	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
<b>SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>				
Contributions				
Annual Appeal and Founder Contributions	\$2,410,574			\$2,410,574
Other Unrestricted Contributions	36,256	1,089,412		1,125,668
Grants	24,444			24,444
Interest and Dividends	72,183	578,161		650,344
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	1,815,609	(1,815,609)		—
Total Support and Revenue	\$4,359,066	(\$148,036)	—	\$4,211,030
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Program Support	4,524,359			4,524,359
Administrative and Fundraising Costs	283,673			283,673
Total Expenses	\$4,808,032	—	—	\$4,808,032
<b>NET ASSETS</b>				
Change in Net Assets from Operating Activities	(448,966)	(148,036)	—	(597,002)
Net Realized and Unrealized Gains on Investments	521,911	4,068,488	—	4,590,399
Beginning Net Assets	8,495,358	14,270,573	18,175,000	40,940,931
Ending Net Assets	\$8,568,303	\$18,191,025	\$18,175,000	\$44,934,328



This financial statement was abstracted from the December 31, 2017 financial statements from the Millennium Park Foundation, which were audited by Washington, Pittman & McKeever, LLC. The information presented does not include all disclosures required by U.S. GAAP and, as such, does not purport to present the financial condition or results of operations of the Millennium Park Foundation. A copy of the audited financial statements of the Millennium Park Foundation will be provided upon request.

INDIVIDUALS

Anonymous (1)  
Barbara and James F. Beré  
Naomi T. and Robert C. Borwell  
Joan Boughton and Henry Kleeman\*  
Suzann and Gary Brinson  
Neville and John Bryan  
Gilda and Henry Buchbinder Family  
Kay and Matthew Bucksbaum  
Rosemarie and Dean L. Buntrock  
Rita and John Canning\*  
The Clinton Family  
Gary and Francie Comer  
The Crown Family  
Judy and Jamie Dimon  
Sue and Wes Dixon  
Richard H. Driehaus  
Janet and Craig Duchossois  
Deborah and Bruce Duncan  
Andrew "Flip" & Veronica Filipowski Family  
Ginny and Peter Foreman Family  
Linda and Bill Gantz  
Glasser and Rosenthal Family  
Anne and Howard Gottlieb  
William B. Graham  
Perry and Marty Granoff  
Joyce and Avrum Gray and Family  
Anne and Kenneth Griffin  
Sandra and Jack Guthman  
Bette and Neison Harris  
Joan W. and Irving B. Harris  
Natalie and Ben W. Heineman  
Mellody Hobson and George Lucas\*  
Blair Hull and Family  
Judy and Verne Istock  
Debby and Ned Jannotta  
Gretchen and Jay Jordan  
Anne and Burt Kaplan  
Dolores Kohl Kaplan and Morris A. Kaplan  
Lindy and Michael Keiser  
Connie and Dennis Keller  
Rebecca and Lester Knight Family  
Janet and Michael Krasny  
Kay and Fred Krehbiel  
Posy and John Krehbiel  
Bill Kurtis and Donna LaPietra  
Lavin and Bernick Family  
Liz and Eric Lefkofsky\*  
Carol and Larry Levy Family  
Loucks Family  
Ann Lurie  
Martha and John Mabie  
Barry MacLean Family\*  
Mary and Robert C. McCormack  
Newton N. and Josephine Baskin Minow  
Janet and Richard Morrow  
Muriel Kallis Newman & son Glenn Steinberg  
John D. and Alexandra C. Nichols  
Ellen and Jim O'Connor  
Cathy and Bill Osborn  
James A. Otterbeck Family  
Sarah and Peer Pedersen  
Port, Washlow, and Errant Family  
Eleanor and William Wood Prince  
Pritzker Family  
Diana and Bruce Rauner  
Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Family  
Michele Schara and Randy Mehrberg Family\*  
Chris and Ted Schwartz  
Dan Searle  
Sally and Bill Searle  
Stephanie and Bill Sick

Alice and Frank Slezak Family  
Lois and Harrison Steans  
Stone Family  
The Stuart Family  
Helen and Richard Thomas  
Howard J. and Paula Miller Trienens  
Tina and Byron Trott\*  
Kim and Miles White\*  
Oprah Winfrey  
Vivian and Alexander Wislow  
Helen and Sam Zell  
Lisa W. and James J. Zenni, Jr.

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Robert R. McCormick Foundation  
Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable Trusts  
Polk Bros. Foundation  
The Regenstein Foundation  
Dr. Scholl Foundation  
The Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust  
The Siragusa Foundation

\* New Founders as of May 30, 2018

A heartfelt welcome and thank you to our nine new Founders of Millennium Park! You join a select group of visionaries that share in the belief that Millennium Park, as a free and diverse place, is of tremendous value to Chicago and all of its visitors.

NEW FOUNDERS

Joan Boughton and Henry Kleeman  
Rita and John Canning  
Mellody Hobson and George Lucas  
Liz and Eric Lefkofsky  
Barry MacLean Family  
Michele Schara and Randy Mehrberg Family  
Tina and Byron Trott  
Kim and Miles White  
The Grainger Foundation



MILLENNIUM PARK FOUNDATION STAFF



Scott Stewart, Ph.D.  
Executive Director



Kristina Farrar  
Strategic Initiatives Manager

LURIE GARDEN STAFF



Laura Ekasetya  
Director and Head  
Horticulturist



Melanie Scott  
Volunteer Manager and  
Tour Coordinator



Karen Taira  
Environmental  
Programming Manager



Jo ana Kubiak  
Membership and  
Communications Manager



Yaritza Guillen  
Assistant Horticulturist

CONSULTANTS

Janet Handley  
Accountant, Mission Accounting, Inc.

Falona Joy  
Donor Development, SNP Strategies, Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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- Mr. A. Steven Crown
- Mr. James F. Feldstein
- Mr. Scott Hurwitz
- Mr. Michael L. Keiser
- Mr. Henry Kleeman, Secretary
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- Mr. Doug Mabie
- Mr. John Mabie
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- Mr. Cary D. McMillan, Treasurer
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- Mr. James J. O’Connor, Jr.
- Ms. Gigi Pritzker Pucker
- Mr. John W. Rogers
- Mr. William Sick

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