



SAN DIEGO PARKS FOUNDATION

Summer 2021 Newsletter



CHAIRPERSON'S LETTER



Dear San Diego Parks Foundation Supporter:

On behalf of the Parks Foundation, I am thrilled to provide an update on the exciting progress we continue to make in creating a more equitable and vibrant parks system.

Early this summer, the San Diego Parks Foundation joined Mayor Todd Gloria, County Supervisor Board Chair Nathan Fletcher, Councilmember Monica Montgomery-Steppe, representatives from the Parks and Recreation Department, and the Martin Luther King Junior Recreation Council to launch Come Play Outside. This summer thousands of children and families have come to our city parks to experience enriching recreational programs, outdoor community performances, teen programs, and family movie nights. For these special families, it has been a summer of joy creating lasting memories.

I would like to personally extend my gratitude to our donors: Price Philanthropies Foundation, the JEM Project, Walter J. & Betty C. Zable Foundation, Hervey Family Fund at The San Diego Foundation, Robert & Allison Price Charitable Trust, the Walmart Foundation, and the Albertsons Nourishing Neighbors program for their generous contributions. In addition, we would like to acknowledge the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency and its unprecedented investment in the City's recreational programs.

We have continued with our successful planting efforts to improve the urban tree canopy. We are also making progress on our goal of installing free public Wi-Fi at every recreation center in the city to address disparities in digital access and improve the programs available for youth participants.

Additionally, I am pleased to report passage by the City Council of the new citywide [Parks Master Plan](#) that prioritizes funding for park-deficient and historically underserved communities which is a priority in our [mission statement](#).

As this unprecedented pandemic continues, our parks continue to

demonstrate their importance in our communities by providing a safe outdoor place for all to enjoy. Thank you again to our contributors for helping make our goals possible.

Sincerely,
Michel Anderson
Chair

PROGRAM *Updates!*



A SUMMER OF JOY!

With the support of Price Philanthropies Foundation, the JEM Project, Walter J. & Betty C. Zable Foundation, Hervey Family Fund at The San Diego Foundation, Robert & Allison Price Charitable Trust, the Walmart Foundation, Albertsons Foundation, and the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, the City of San Diego Parks & Recreation Department was able to deliver summer enrichment programs such as youth sports, arts education, and STEAM programming for thousands of local youth. Programs will continue through the Fall.

[For more information >>](#)

COME PLAY OUTSIDE COMMUNITY PERFORMANCES:

This August, the San Diego Parks Foundation hosted 7 free community performances in Linda Vista, Southeast San Diego, City Heights, and San



Ysidro. The event featured community-based arts organizations Maraya Performing Arts and Fern Street Circus!

[For more information >>](#)



ALBERTSONS - A KEY PARTNER THIS SUMMER:

This summer, through their “Nourishing Neighbors” initiative, Albertsons Companies provided a generous grant to provide healthy meals to children and families participating in “Come Play Outside” summer programs.

[For more information >>](#)



CITY WIDE TREE PLANTING PROGRAM UPDATE:

We are grateful for the continued partnership with SDG&E and its environmental champion program. The generous support of SDG&E will make possible the planting of 32 trees at Southcrest Recreation Center through September.

[For more information >>](#)

FREE WI-FI PROGRAM



EXPANDED:

We are excited to announce that we have received approval from the City of San Diego to expand our partnership with Lokket Free Wi-Fi San Diego to address disparities in digital access. This partnership expands connectivity to an additional 35 sites and will provide coverage to at all rec centers and pools across the city.

[For more information >>](#)



San Diego Mayor launches 'Come Play Outside' Program: *"More than 15,000 children are expected to participate in the "Summer for All of Us" initiative. Michel Anderson, chair of the San Diego Parks Foundation, said his one message to families is to "get outside." In partnership with the mayor and county, he said they are concentrating on communities of concern. The foundation wants families to enjoy the parks, beaches and many programs San Diego has to offer." [Union Tribune article here>>](#)*

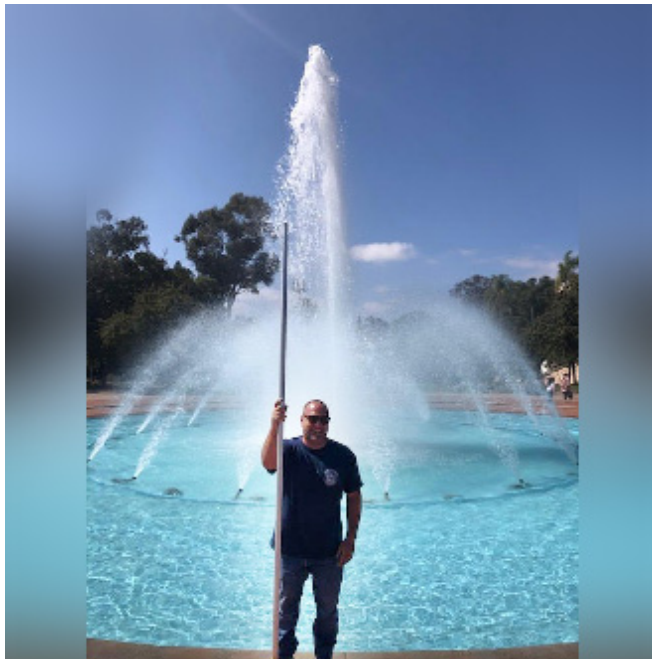
San Diego City Council passes Parks Master Plan focusing on citywide equity: *"Parks serve as powerful conveners and social gathering places that strengthen connections between people and communities," said Katherine Johnston, executive director of the San Diego Parks Foundation. "However, years of underinvestment and neglect have created stark differences in the quantity and quality of local parks and recreation centers." [KUSI article here>>](#)*

Fern Street Circus Tumbles into San Diego Communities this month with Free Neighborhood Tour: *"The circus, in partnership*

with the City of San Diego's Parks and Recreation Department, San Diego Parks Foundation and San Diego County's Live Well San Diego program, will host shows in several communities, including San Ysidro, Linda Vista, Southcrest, Barrio Logan and City Heights." [Times of San Diego article here>>](#)

No connection? San Diego uses public spaces to bridge digital divides in neighborhoods: "The San Diego Access 4 All initiative focuses on providing free Wi-Fi at libraries and rec centers and hot spots in neighborhoods and parks. The city also lends laptops and portable hot spot devices at its libraries. The city also partners with the San Diego Parks Foundation to open public Wi-Fi at parks and the San Diego Futures Foundation to provide used computers for refurbishing." [Union Tribune article here>>](#)

SDPF PARKS *Superstar!*



MEET CG FREDRICKSON!

Aquatics Technician

City of San Diego Parks & Recreation

DIRECT FROM OUR SUPERSTAR!

I grew up in a very small town called Ashland, Oregon. Growing up I played football, baseball, waterskiing, rafting, camping, snow skiing, mountain biking and camping. I started working for the City of Medford at 16 as a Lifeguard. After high school, I attended the University of Oregon. Additionally, I worked as a Head Lifeguard for the City of Eugene. I graduated from the University of Oregon in 2000 with a B.S. in Political Science. GO DUCKS!

I moved to SD in 2001 and began working at Bud Kearns swimming pool as a lifeguard, then promoted to Pool Manager 1 for several years in 2004, then PM II where I worked at Vista Terrace for 5 or 6 years before moving to Kearny Mesa for a few years. About 6 years ago I made the switch to aquatics maintenance as an Aquatic Technician I.

Growing up, my sister was a lifeguard and I thought it was the greatest job so I followed in her footsteps. I liked interacting with all kinds of different people, being outside and of course wearing flip-flops and shorts to work every day. Most of all, I liked to teach swim lessons and see the progress of my students throughout the process.

I like the freedom and happiness that water provides to people of all ages and abilities. As an Aquatic Technician, I enjoy troubleshooting and fixing pool equipment and get great satisfaction from refurbishing fountains and completing projects. I take pride in keeping the pool open and safe for the public to use on a daily basis, and know how important being in the water is for some people. What drew me into Parks and Recreation initially was the comradery with my peers, fun atmosphere and laid back feel!

WHAT HIS COLLEAGUES SAY:

“I’ve had the honor of knowing CG Fredrickson for over 6 years. CG began his career as a Pool Manager and continuously sought out opportunities in becoming an Aquatic Technician. CG was

determined, and as soon as I had a position available he joined our crew. CG has been a great asset to our unit, always working to improve, repair, and upgrade many fountains throughout the City of San Diego. Due to being understaffed, CG has been working OCA as an Aquatic Tech II for several years and he really excels in the operation and repairs of pools. As of this month, CG has volunteered to work as the Supervisor for the Aquatics unit until this position gets filled. I really look forward to seeing CG grow within our Parks and Recreation Dept.”

Mario Parra
Grounds Maintenance Manager
City of San Diego Parks & Recreation

THANK YOU CG!

NEW GRANTS *Thank You!*

- Hunter Industries | \$5,000
- The JEM Project | \$50,000
- Walter J. & Betty C. Zable Foundation | \$50,000
- The Hervey Family Fund | \$150,000
- The Parker Foundation | \$35,000
- Albertsons Companies Foundation | \$100,000
- Walmart Inc | \$10,000
- SDG&E | \$50,000

NEW DONORS *Thank You!*

Thank you to the following new supporters for their enthusiasm and confidence in our work:

Arthur & Jeannie Rivkin
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Forbes Family Fund
San Diego Public Library Foundation
Paul Hegyi*

*Founding Circle Members



SKILLED IN PHOTOGRAPHY, VIDEOGRAPHY OR WEBSITE DESIGN?

We are looking for volunteers with professional experience in photography, videography, and website design to help us tell engaging stories and narratives.

KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT GIS MAPPING?

We are looking for a volunteer with professional expertise or who is tech savvy and willing to learn GIS Mapping to support our urban greening initiatives.

To learn more, email info@sandiegoparksfoundation.org

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER!



SAVE THE DATE!

Undertow Charity Golf Classic registration opens November 1, 2021 - mark those calendars!

Event is on February 2, 2022 at Torrey Pines North and South courses.

[For more information >>](#)

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!

[SEE SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES HERE](#)



Contact Martha Phillips:

mjpsandiego2018@gmail.com

619-300-1961



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Please support our projects and help San Diego's communities - thank you!

[CLICK TO DONATE](#)

For any questions, please email: info@sandiegoparksfoundation.org

EQUITY PROMISE

The San Diego Parks Foundation's mission is to provide a world-class inclusive park system that strengthens communities and provides equitable access to recreation for all San Diegans. Please see our [Equity Promise](#).

San Diego Parks Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization #83-2553368

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