2022 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER
where art meets the earth

josephine sculpture park
3355 Lawrenceburg Rd.
Frankfort, KY 40601

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josephinesculpturepark.org
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FREE & OPEN EVERY DAY, DAWN TO DUSK

Ze’ev with Cat by Boaz Vaadia joined the Park’s exhibits in 2022.

Visit JSP year round! Winter is a beautiful time to explore the sculptures and play in the snow.

join us in 2023
• concerts
• volunteer opportunities
• self-guided & private tours
• field trips

FREE & OPEN EVERY DAY, DAWN TO DUSK

LEARN MORE
josephinesculpturepark.org
HELP JSP WIN $10,000
Thursday, December 1st between 9am-9pm
The non-profit with the most individual donations on DECEMBER 1ST wins!

DONATE AT josephinesculpturepark.org
Blue Grass Community Foundation’s
 GOOD GIVING CHALLENGE

Look for JSP blue flags outside of downtown Frankfort businesses that support JSP for GoodGiving.

JSP STAFF
Melanie VanHouten, Founding Director
Jeri Katherine Howell, Assistant Director
Karen Lanier, Administrative Assistant
Josie Kirker, Grants Manager
Jill Malusky, Communications Manager
Mollie Rabiner, Park Manager
Billie Faye Duvall, Office Assistant
Jamie Howell, Event Coordinator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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Carol Baughman, Secretary
Garth Waterfield, Treasurer
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Theodore T. Myre, Jr.
Wayne E. Potratz
Art VanHouten III

Kentucky State University NAACP members volunteered to remove invasive plants, helping to restore the Park’s native wildlife habitats.

Eggcited by Kimber Fiebiger, part of our Arts Downtown exhibition in partnership with the City of Frankfort, sponsored by Richard and Anna Marie Rosen. Photo by Lucy Azubuike.

A hummingbird moth visits bergamot in JSP’s native wildflower and grass meadows. Photo by Lucy Swenson.

Artist in Residence, Céline Browning (left) created Fly Away with support from Park Manager, Mollie Rabiner (right). The sculpture features native plants and birds and serves as a bird blind.
Dear JSP Family,

We have experienced another challenging year of growth, creativity and change at JSP. We installed 11 new sculptures in the Park and 9 sculptures in the Arts Downtown exhibition! We welcomed artists in residence and interns; hosted a sold out audience for our Barn Raisin’ fundraiser concert featuring Amythyst Kiah and The Possum Queens; partnered with Lexington Philharmonic for our second, magical Symphonic Stroll; and had schools, businesses, community groups and youth visit for field trips, tours, camps and volunteer opportunities. We also launched a new website, logo, map and kiosk! All of this has brought our mission to life, to connect people with each other and the land through the arts.

We are grateful to announce that the GROW WITH US Reforestation Initiative planting is complete! The area around the amphitheater is now home to several hundred native, pollinator-friendly trees, shrubs and forbs. Thank you to Inside Out Landscape Design, Richard and Anna Marie Rosen, Nancy Osborne and everyone who helped us reach our fundraising goal for this project. A celebration is planned for this spring to thank all our GROW WITH US donors.

Several exciting internal changes have strengthened our work. We welcomed two new staff members: Karen Lanier as Administrative Assistant and Mollie Rabiner as Interim Park Manager. Jeri Katherine Howell was promoted to Assistant Director. Together with our board, we launched a multi-year Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility consultation process to identify important areas for change.

It is an honor to work with our inspiring staff and community every day. We’re excited to share more with you in 2023. Please continue to help us spread the word about the park, and we hope you’ll visit us again soon. We are so thankful for each of you and your continued support!

Artfully and naturally yours,

Melanie VanHouten

With help from the Remove Invasives Partnership of Franklin County and Kentucky State University Forestry and Natural Resources, volunteers removed bush honeysuckle from the GROW WITH US Reforestation Initiative planting site.

Hank and Rebecca Conn established the Rebecca Fund in the fall of 2022 to kickstart JSP’s endowment campaign.

**ANNOUNCING THE REBECCA FUND: JSP’S ENDOWMENT FOR THE FUTURE**

JSP’s board and staff are grateful to announce that this fall, an endowment fund has been established that will help to secure the Park’s future. The endowment is called The Rebecca Fund, named in honor of philanthropists Hank and Rebecca Conn, who have provided the fund’s first gift of $100,000.

Establishing The Rebecca Fund and growing the endowment will allow JSP to transition from a start-up organization to an institution whose financial future is secured. The Park’s board intends to grow the endowment to $2.5 million over the next three years.

Hank and Rebecca understand the benefits that exposure to Kentucky’s beautiful nature provides. As Hank shares, “I believe in education and in the value of exploring new ideas. JSP is a place of inspiration and we connect it with Rebecca’s memories of good times spent on her grandparents’ farm. We want to help Melanie and the team ensure it is here for generations to come.”

Learn more about The Rebecca Fund at josephinesculpturepark.org/endowment.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Hank & Rebecca Conn, Margaret A. Frank Fund,
Nancy Osborne, Richard & Anna Marie Rosen,
Kim Vaddia, Art & Beverly VanHouten

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Josephine Ardery Foundation
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Charles VanMeter
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PROGRAM PARTNERS
Black Women Artists of Frankfort
Bluebirds of Central Kentucky
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Frankfort Audubon Society
Franklin County Conservation District
Frankfort Parks, Recreation & Historic Sites
Frankfort/Franklin County Tourist Commission
Franklin County Arts Council
Franklin County Health Department: Just Say Yes
Focus on Race Relations
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Remove Invasives Partnership of Franklin County
Scouts BSA
Starpointe Astronomy
University of Kentucky
University of North Florida
West Sixth Brewing
Wild Birds Unlimited: Frankfort
Yes Arts

WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPORT BY

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

JSP's 2022 Artist in Residence program was supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

JSP is also supported in part by an American Rescue Plan Act grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to support general operating expenses in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Kentucky Arts Council, the state arts agency, provides operating support to JSP with state tax dollars and federal funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.

In June, Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter, Amythyst Kiah, performed to a sold out audience at JSP's annual fundraiser concert, Barn Raisin’.

Sculpture students from the University of North Florida install Obedience by Ethan Harmon.

Visitors experienced Lexington Philharmonic musicians performing throughout the park at Symphonic Stroll in September.