



# ANNUAL REPORT

2022





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## A NOTE



# FROM OUR CEO



2022 was an amazing year for Bonnet Springs Park, Lakeland, and all Central Florida. After a global pandemic, supply chain challenges, a couple of hurricanes, and a myriad of other obstacles, we were finally able to welcome the community into Bonnet Springs Park on October 22, 2022. Billed as the biggest party in the history of Lakeland, we threw a bash worthy of this Park and over 43,000 people came from all over to celebrate this amazing gift! If you were there, you understand it and if you weren't you can relive the party in the recap video posted on our website.

We also launched the Carol Jenkins Barnett Endowment in early 2022. Keeping in mind that Bonnet Springs Park is free to visit and does not take tax dollars to fund the operations, an endowment is the best method for ensuring the Park's long-term sustainability along with Carol and Barney's legacy. Tasked with raising \$35 million over the next five years, we kicked off the campaign with a major gift and worked our way to 50% completion by the end of 2022.

The BSP Board of Directors also offered a 2:1 match for all dollars given to the CJB Endowment from major gifts or from rounding up to the nearest dollar on purchases at the park. It all goes to ensure BSP will be here for generations, and everyone can play a part in that.

2023 is going to be an amazing year at Bonnet Springs Park. We will be launching our educational activities and cultural programs in addition to just being open daily for the public to enjoy the most beautiful green space in Polk County. We are grateful for the community's support and hope to see you at the Park soon!

A stylized, handwritten signature of Josh Henderson in black ink.

**JOSH  
HENDERSON**  
CEO

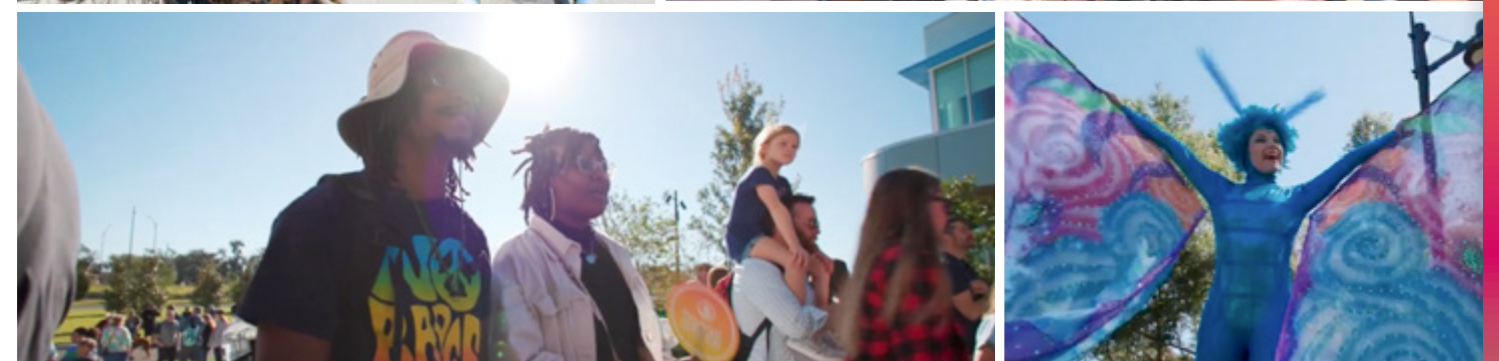




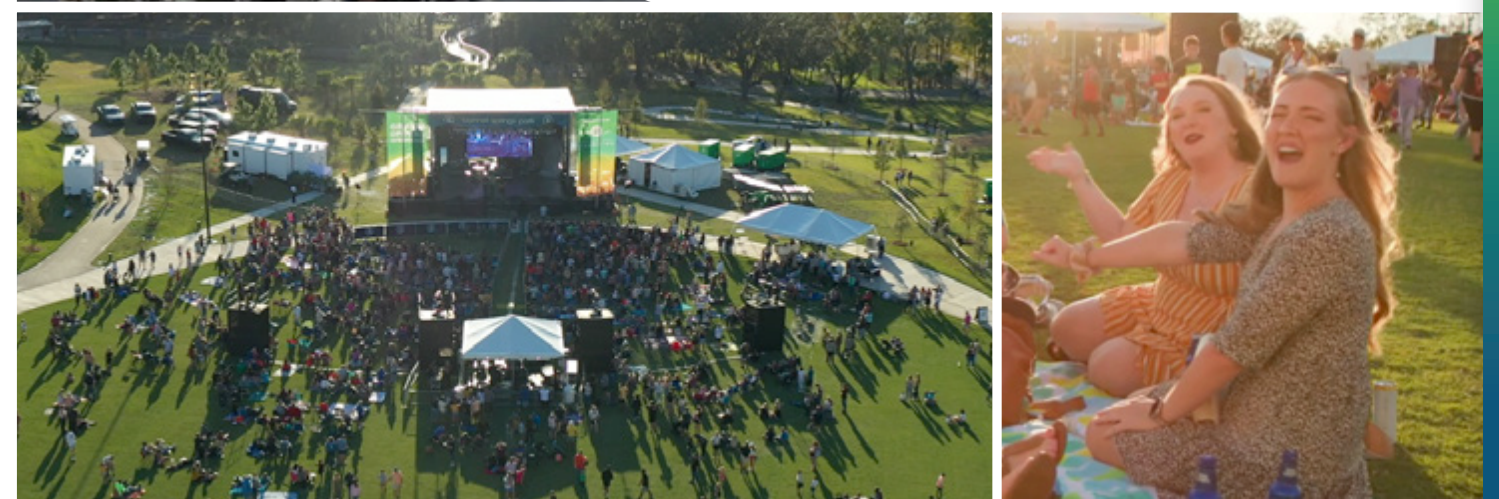
## MISSION AND VISION

Great parks complement the personality of a city and serve to unify its diverse populations, offering public spaces that serve the needs of many. Bonnet Springs Park is a place within walking distance to our city's urban core where art, recreation, fun, and tranquility intersect by design. This blended urban/natural park provides spaces to escape, engage, and explore with one another and with nature while experiencing and learning about the extraordinary history of Central Florida.

The uniqueness of this location enables a needed connection from downtown to the northwest quadrant of Lakeland, while promoting the economic development and expansion of the downtown area. Our oasis in the heart of Central Florida, nestled perfectly between Tampa and Orlando, allows easy access for visitors to travel from all over to enjoy Florida's best free natural attraction!



## A CELEBRATION WITH THE COMMUNITY







# GRAND OPENING WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS

**43,000**  
VISITORS

**3** STAGES

**22+** PERFORMANCES

**27** FOOD AND DRINK  
VENDORS

**16** GROUP  
VOLUNTEERS

**86** INDIVIDUAL  
VOLUNTEERS

**102** TOTAL  
VOLUNTEERS

**377** TOTAL  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS (SAT-SUN)

## F&B HIGHLIGHT | DOMI ITALIAN ICE

"The Grand Opening weekend at Bonnet Springs Park was one for the history books! Born and raised in Lakeland, Florida this was truly a special collaboration. We had so much fun celebrating with our fellow Lakeland natives and meeting some new friends as well! You could feel the love, pride, and appreciation of everyone present. This 168 acre park is an incredible asset to our community and we couldn't be more proud to be from Lakeland!!!"

*Ayanna Walker, MD Co-owner Domi Italian Ice*

## VENDOR HIGHLIGHT | CATAPULT

"We are grateful that Bonnet Springs Park chose to feature food startups from Catapult for their Grand Opening Weekend! The park is an incredible asset to the Lakeland community, and partnership with local makers adds value for all involved. We look forward to future collaborations!"

*Maggie Leach, Kitchen Director Catapult*

## SPONSOR HIGHLIGHT | THE LUNZ GROUP

"The Lunz Group has been involved with Bonnet Springs Park almost since inception. More than three years ago our team helped visualize what the park could be, and today we are seeing how these renderings match exactly what was depicted – it is overwhelming. We are thankful for the vision and generosity of our community philanthropists, whom without their passion and dedication we would not have such a treasure in our community. We are humbled to be a part of making this dream a reality."

*Maggie Briggs, Director of Marketing and Business Development, The Lunz Group*

## DONOR CELEBRATION

We had the best night celebrating our greatest supporters and those who turned this dream into a reality



*Special thanks to our Events Committee members - Suzanne Aranda, Jessica Lucido, Tina Patel, Linda Rice, Summer Roth, and Ellen Salm*



# VOLUNTEERS



Our robust and inclusive Volunteer Program offers opportunities for all to engage with Bonnet Springs Park. We are grateful to have such incredible volunteers who help us make BSP the best it can be!

**161**

INTERVIEWED &  
ORIENTED

**65**

VOLUNTEERS  
FROM GROUPS

**226**

TOTAL  
VOLUNTEERS  
THIS YEAR



## VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT

Jeff and Mary enjoy volunteering at Bonnet Springs Park. Their favorite place is Zoey's Butterfly House. Their greatest joy is seeing the children so excited to see and learn about the butterflies.

Jeff loves to share his knowledge and introduce the new butterflies to all that come to visit. It is wonderful to meet and greet so many people from all over.

Come say hello to Jeff and Mary next time you're at BSP!





## BSP BOARD



John Attaway  
Barney Barnett  
Nick Barnett  
Wesley Barnett  
Marcy Benton  
David Bunch  
Jean Bunch  
Jeff Cox  
Denise Crenshaw  
Kimberly Elmhorst  
Jack Harrell, Jr.  
Josh Henderson  
Donna Henricks  
Justin Hollis  
Kathleen Munson  
Sara Roberts McCarley  
Tim Rice  
Bill Tinsley  
Martha Tinsley  
Bill Vass

**WELCOME**  
NEW BOARD MEMBERS!



## BSP TEAM

**16**

BEGINNING OF  
YEAR TOTAL

**78**

END OF  
YEAR TOTAL

**12**

LEADERS



## SOCIAL ANALYTICS

OVER . . .

**19,000**

NEW  
FOLLOWERS

**1.5  
MILLION**

ACCOUNTS  
REACHED

**544K**

ACCOUNTS  
ENGAGED

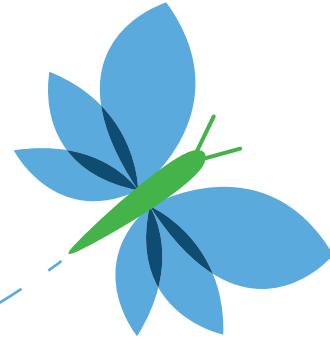
**60,000**

COMMENTS,  
SHARES, &  
REACTIONS



SCAN THE CODE  
ON THE LEFT FOR  
NEWS HIGHLIGHTS!





Since the end of 2019, the Friends of Bonnet Springs Park Board has been inviting the community to become supporters of BSP by inviting others to join Friends of BSP, hosting BSP Pop Ups, manning BSP tables at community events and advocating for the Park. We were pleased that even before the Bonnet Springs Park Grand Opening, over 1100 Founding Friends joined us in spreading the word about BSP. Since our October Grand Opening, we have introduced our new ANNUAL membership structure. Your annual membership will help to fund the Carol Jenkins Barnett Endowment Fund so we can ensure that BSP will be here to welcome visitors for generations to come. Right now, there is a 2 to 1 match for Friends memberships and donations made to the CJB Endowment. We hope you'll consider joining as a Friend of Bonnet Springs Park in 2023!

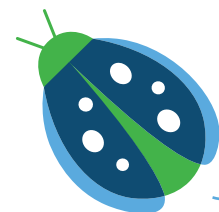
It has been my honor to serve as the President alongside a wonderful Friends of BSP Board since we were established in 2019. I am thrilled to introduce Arletta Black Torres as the new Friends of BSP President and am excited to pass the gavel to this capable leader.

**Kimberly Elmhurst,**  
2022 Friends of Bonnet Springs Park Board President

The Friends of BSP Board is excited to build upon the groundwork of the 1100 Founding Friends by adding NEW Friends to the Park, whether they be Dragonfly level or Butterfly level Friends. These annual memberships ensure that BSP remains open every day and that the natural resources of this park are protected and thrive for future generations.

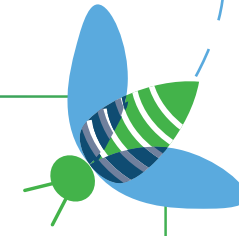
Some of my favorite things about BSP are the Crenshaw Canopy Walk and the variety of nature-based programming that we offer to the community. This is the perfect place to enjoy central Florida's wide diversity of species and ecosystems. I look forward to seeing you at Bonnet Springs Park!

**Arletta Black Torres,**  
2023 Friends of Bonnet Springs Park Board President



**\$30,810**

CONTRIBUTED TO ENDOWMENT FROM FRIENDS  
OF BONNET SPRINGS PARK MEMBERSHIPS



**\$26,523,842**

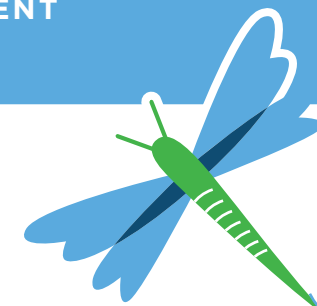
CONTRIBUTED TO CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

**\$18,586,072**

PLEDGED TO THE CAROL JENKINS BARNETT  
ENDOWMENT

**\$35,000,000**

GOAL FOR THE CAROL JENKINS BARNETT  
ENDOWMENT





# CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DONORS



We gratefully acknowledge those whose gifts, pledges, and in-kind services helped to build Bonnet Springs Park. These Founding Donors, along with others, upheld a steadfast belief in the Bonnet Springs Park vision and have helped create a transformational urban space, where all can escape, engage, and explore.

## ALTRUIST

Allen & Company	Ann and Ward Edwards*	The Hollis Family
Carol and Barney Barnett	GiveWell Community Foundation	David Jenkins
Denise and Ed Crenshaw	The Jack and Tina Harrell Family	Publix Super Markets Charities

## VISIONARY

AgAmerica	Nicholas and Ashley Barnett	Wauline Brooks*
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## PRESERVATIONIST

Bell-Barnett Family Fund*	Tony A. Gaskins Jr.	Pranay and Tina Patel
Wesley and Maya Beck Family Fund*	Harvey T. Hall, Jr.*	The Rodda Family
David and Jean Bunch	The Kincart and Jonsson Family	Joe L. and Karen Ruthven
The Scott Charlton Family	Kiwanis Clubs of Lakeland	Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits
City of Lakeland	John A. Leighty Family*	SouthState Bank
Marilyn and Jeff Clyne Family	The Mims Family	Weezie and John K. Vreeland
The Franklin Family	The Mosaic Company	Watson Clinic LLP

*\*Fund Within GiveWell Community Foundation*

## CULTIVATOR

Kathy Abels	Dr. Scott Mayer Friedman and Megan Camille Friedman	Sharon A. Miller
Keith and Payton Albritton	Anne and Michael Furr	Deb and Dave Misch
Alvarez Truck Brothers of Florida, John and Olga Alvarez	GrayRobinson, P.A.	Kathleen and Peter Munson
Anonymous	Hamic, Previte, and Sturwold, P.A.	Dale and Faith Myers
Attaway Family*	Harper's Hope, The Roth Family Foundation	OMS Group
W.S. Badcock Corp.	Julia and Will Harrell	Pranay and Tina Patel
Bank of Central Florida	Chris and Luisa Harrison	Peterson & Myers, P.A.
Barney's Pumps	Ellie M. Hartog*	Mark and Jane Phillips
Bayer CropScience LP	Schichtel and Heath Family	Dick & Pat Phillips, Founders of Phillips Photographers
The Hilda Sutton and William D. Blanton Charitable Foundation, Inc.	Donna and Bret Henricks Family	Polk Sheriff's Charities
Borglund Family	Dr. and Mrs. Keith Hilliard	Radiology and Imaging Specialists
Broadway Real Estate	MaryLee and Jack Hollis*	Jo Ann and John Rice
The Campisi Foundation	Ginny and Mike Houghton	The Linda and Tim Rice Family
Citizens Bank & Trust	Hulbert Homes, Inc.	Dr. Alan and Linda Rich
Coca-Cola	Dorothy and Charlie Jenkins	Saddle Creek Logistics Services
Katherine and Cliff Coleman Family	Kelly and Shawn Jones	Sasaki & Associates, Inc.
Curry Steel, Inc.	Todd and Suzette Jones	The Sebring Family
Stella Davis	Lakeland Regional Health	John and Heather Smith from the Dean Family Foundation
Carl Dockery Family & Alpha Ventures	The Lakeland Rotary	Sorenson Lighted Controls Inc., The Sorenson Families
Drake Family	Jeff and Darla Lang	Rob and Tammy Springer
The Ellsworth, Aldridge, and Hume Families	Linda and Bruce Leber	Springer Peterson Roofing
The Elmhorst Family	Danielle Drummond and Jeff Lenderman and Family	John D. & Kathryn J. Stemm*
Linda and Bob English	Joyner Lumber	Bill and Martha Tinsley
The Families of David R. Kirkpatrick and Dr. Harley M. Richards	Keller Williams Realty	Tye Family
	Marcobay Construction	The Max and Maxine Uzelatz Family
	Janice H. Martin	The Watkins Family

## CONTRIBUTOR

Anonymous	Susan and Jeff Cox	Robert and Deedra Knight	Shelley and David Robinson
Badia Spices, Inc.	CPS Investment Advisors	The Luffman Family	Diana and Jim Russell
Bena Bayless	CYNDEO Wealth Partners LLC	The Peggy and Doug McKeel Family	Harriett Rust
Deanna and Howard Bayless	Paula and Doc Dockery	Steven T. Moore	Ellen and Marc Salm
The Catherine and Iam Bhisitkul Family	Grace City Church	Pamela and Bill Mutz	Tammy and Steve Scruggs
BKS Partners	Joan and Jim Ham	Donna and Robert Newman	SHR Human Resources, Inc.
Polly and David Caldwell	Kate and Ford Heacock	Rupal and Piyush Patel	Mary Bowden Spears
Jill and Jeff Chamberlain	Heacock Insurance Group, Inc.	Mandy and Cory Petcoff	Gerry Talbert
Lauren and Brandon Clark	Hudson Family	Sally and Tom Petcoff	Tinsley Creative
Clark, Campbell, Lancaster, and Munson P.A.	Imperial Testing	Lester Register Jr.	Lavinia Stinson Wilson
			Ana Wood



# CAROL JENKINS BARNETT ENDOWMENT DONORS



We are indebted to our generous community of donors who play such an important role in the long-term sustainability of Bonnet Springs Park. These gracious donors ensure the future of this privately funded Park available to the public at no cost, making Lakeland and Central Florida enjoyable for generations to come.

## GRANDFATHER OAK

The Barnett Family	Sharon A. Miller	The Ruthven Family
Ann and Ward Edwards*	The Jack and Tina Harrell Family	

## QUEEN PALM

The Risener Family

## MAGNOLIA

Anonymous	Kate and Ford Heacock	Rupal and Piyush Patel
Joanne and Ralph Allen	The Hollis Family	Tina and Pranay Patel
Donna and Bret Henricks	Dorothy and Charlie Jenkins	Watson Clinic LLP

## CYPRESS

Olga and John Alvarez	Linda and Bob English	Tracy Shirah Peyton
Jean and David Bunch	Steven T. Moore	Citizens Bank & Trust
Kim and Kurt Elmhorst	The Lunz Group	

## CITRUS

Payton and Keith Albritton	Marcobay Construction
Bank of Central Florida	Janice H. Martin
Marcy and Steve Benton	Deb and Dave Misch
The Catherine and Iam Bhisitkul Family	Kathleen and Peter Munson
Judy and Harry Bopp	Lynn and Paul Noris
Harriett and Dean Boring	Jane and Mark Phillips
First United Methodist Church	Peterson & Myers, P.A.
Frank and Patti Foster	Jo Ann and John Rice
Scott Friedman	Linda and Tim Rice
Meghan and Edward J. Garcia	Jennifer and Dwight Royal
Ann and Keith Hilliard	Martha and Bill Tinsley
Rachel and Justin Hollis*	The Trohn Family
Hudson Family	The Tye Family
Christina and Eric Jackson	The Max and Maxine Uzelatz Family
Tom Joyner	

*\*Fund Within GiveWell  
Community Foundation*





bonnet  
springs  
PARK

escape. engage. explore.