

2013



ANNUAL  
REPORT

## President's Message

For more than thirty years, Friends of Oakland Parks and Recreation have worked to strengthen our diverse Oakland communities through helping kids and restoring our parkland. We are happy to say that, in the last year, significant strides were made to help us in our mission.

At our 2013 Annual Meeting we were proud to announce the Thompson – Bliss Family Gift. The gift from Kim Thompson and former Friends President, John Bliss, is being given in increments of \$20,000 over five years. Approximately half of the Gift funds are for youth swim scholarships, while the other half of the funds are dedicated to funding a small grants program for Oakland's Office of Parks and Recreation's (OPR) facilities and programs. Our profound thanks go out to Kim and John for choosing Friends as the focus for their Oakland-based philanthropy.

2013 also saw the establishment of the Lewis P. May Fund. The Fund was set up to honor the memory of founding board member, Lewis P. May. Gifts of stock were made to Friends over the years by May and his son (also a former board member), Pete May. The Fund serves as a source for community micro-grants, which help to pay for materials to further the work of our many Community Partners. Our thanks to the May family for providing for the Fund.



As the year drew to a close, we were thrilled to partner with OPR to lay the groundwork for our first collaborative capital project: the renovation of the Curt Flood Sports Complex (formally Curt Flood Field). Located in the Fruitvale District, the Complex has long served as a home for numerous baseball, softball and football teams. We are excited to undertake a capital campaign to restore this historic sports field, with the hope that this is just the start of campaigns that will enable Friends to restore parks throughout Oakland.

Our thanks go out to three departing Board members: Charles Crowder, whose great enthusiasm for Friends and OPR lit a fire under many of us; Friends Treasurer, Maria Alderete, for championing the establishment of the May Fund, and working tirelessly on many budget related issues; and Howard Nathel. Howard is a tireless advocate for Oakland kids who come from some of the City's most underserved neighborhoods and during his time on the Board, he helped to spearhead and support many initiatives and funds that will continue for years to come. We wish them all good luck and we will miss their leadership and guidance as board members.

Sincerely,

*Jen Vedock*

President, Friends of Oakland Parks and Recreation



## Mission and History

The Friends of Oakland Parks and Recreation was created in the fall of 1981 by a group of Oakland activists who believed that the quality of life for all of Oakland's citizens included a healthy system of city parks and recreation centers. Their belief was that the City needed a nonprofit partner that could generate funding and support to enhance Oakland's parks and recreation centers. Friends' founders knew that Oakland's recreation centers served as a vital linchpin, providing sports programs, art programs, and other educational opportunities to children and adults in all of Oakland's neighborhoods. Friends supports OPR's programs through youth scholarships and recreation center grants. In addition, Friends continues to support and raise funds for many needed park and recreation center related capital improvements.



## A Home for Community Partners

For much of its history, Friends has provided a fiscal umbrella to community groups that are dedicated to pursuing mission-aligned goals. Our Community Partners work diligently to provide outdoor sports and educational opportunities to Oakland's children and help to restore and maintain parks and sports-fields throughout the City. Friends is proud to support these groups, by providing strategic advice, and through the Community micro-grant program.

## Donors Like You

The Friends of Oakland Parks and Recreation has always relied on the generosity of concerned citizens from all across Oakland through membership pledges and other donations, the annual A Taste of Spring gala, and other events. These funds support Friends' operating budget and Youth Scholarship Fund, making it possible for the organization to carry out the mission of support for all of Oakland's parks and recreation centers. The staff and Board of Friends are particularly proud of the Youth Scholarship program. Thanks to the generosity of donors, Oakland youth from low income families are able to take part in the many character building activities that the City's recreation centers have to offer. Please see our website at [oaklandparks.org](http://oaklandparks.org) to become a member and to make a scholarship donation today.

## Community Partners

40th St. Median Project  
Ace Arts  
Alameda County - Oakland Community Action Partnership  
Artemis Rowing  
Brett Park Fund  
Burnham Bench Fund  
Community Arts  
Dimond Improvement Association  
Friends of Cleveland Cascade  
Friends of Glen Echo Creek  
Friends of Joaquin Miller Park  
Friends of Lake Merritt Japanese Garden  
Friends of Maxwell Park  
Friends of Oak Glen Park  
Friends of the Gardens at Lake Merritt  
Friends of the Grove - Dimond Park  
Garber Park Stewards  
Glenview Median Strip  
Greening of Oakland / PG&E  
I Heart Mama  
Jobs and Housing Coalition  
Junior Chef Society  
Keep Oakland Beautiful  
John and Mittie Phillips Scholarship Fund  
Lake Merritt Pollinator Posse  
Lakeshore Homes Association  
Morcom Rose Garden Fund  
NEWT (Native Environment Watershed Transformation Project)  
Oakland Block Party  
Oakland (Northern Hills) Landscape Cmte.  
Oakland Civic Orchestra  
Oakland Community Orchestra  
Oakland Parks Coalition  
ODOG (Oakland Dog Owners Group)  
Rockridge Phase 2  
Shepherd Canyon Homeowners  
Splash Pad Neighborhood Forum  
Today's Future Sound  
Town Park  
Wonderarium

### MEMORIALS

Kristin Anderson Bench  
Delores M. Duffy Memorial Fund  
Shirley Green Memorial Fund  
Dr. Sabra Jones Memorial Fund  
Betty Price Recreation Center Fund  
Simon Richardson Bench  
Marcelle Weed Memorial Fund

OAKLAND PARKS & RECREATION  
Arroyo Viejo Recreation Center  
Bench and Naming Fund  
Bushrod Recreation Center  
Carmen Flores Recreation Center  
Community Gardening Program  
DeFremery Recreation Center Sponsor\*A\*Child  
Digital Arts and Culinary Academy  
Dimond Recreation Center  
Director of OPR / Anniversary / Events / Intimate Evening / Sundays in the Redwoods  
Dunsmuir Hellman Historic Estate  
East Oakland Sports Complex  
FM Smith Recreation Center  
Franklin Recreation Center  
Ira Jinkins Recreation Center  
Lake Merritt Boating Center  
Malonga Casquelourd Center for the Arts  
Manzanita Recreation Center  
Montclair Rec. Center (Bernice Ratto Fund)  
Mosswood Recreation Center  
Oakland Discovery Center  
Redwood Recreation Center  
Rotary Rec. Center & Duck Pond Fund  
Sheffield Park and Recreation Center  
Sheffield Village Preschool  
Studio One  
Tassafaronga Recreation Center  
Teen Leadership

### OAKLAND PARKS AND RECREATION: SPORTS AND AQUATICS

ACE Kids Golf Program  
Adult Sports  
Davie Tennis  
Girls' Sports  
Young American Little League  
Oakland Pools  
Castlemont Swim Team  
City Of Oakland Pools  
City Swim Team  
Fremont Pool  
Gator Sharks (Fremont/Castlemont)  
Lion's Swim Team  
Live Oaks Swim Team  
Temescal Tidal Waves  
West Side Swim Team

## Board of Directors

Jen Vedock, President  
Karen Krolewski, Secretary

Jill Broadhurst  
Leah Casey, Immediate Past President  
John Coppinger, Past President  
Charles Crowder  
Emily Gordon  
Michael Hammock

Barry Weiss, Vice President  
Maria Alderete, Treasurer

Erik Ludwig  
Lori McKee  
Howard Nathel, Past President  
Daniel Swafford  
Paul Vidican  
Liz Westbrook  
Audree Jones-Taylor, ex officio



## Advisory Board

John Bliss, Past President  
Ray Bobbitt, Past President  
John Brown, Past President  
Ces Butner  
Dave Cannon, Past President  
Kim Duff  
Larry Graham  
Tom Guarino, Past President  
Pat Hardy, Past President  
Ethel Howze  
Matthew Inadomi  
Judith Johnson  
Sean Marx

Pete May  
Howard Neal, Past President  
Bill Patterson  
Jacqueline Phillips, Past President  
Ken Pries  
John Protopappas  
Ann Richter  
David Stein, Past President  
John Sutter  
Phil Tagami  
Miye Takagi  
Sedrick Tydus  
Midge Walterhouse  
Anne Woodell, Founding Member

## Staff

Ken Lupoff,  
Executive Director

Melinda Morris,  
Finance Manager



# Donor Acknowledgement List

## \$10,000 and Over

Pacific Gas and Electric  
Thompson - Bliss Family Gift

## \$5,000 and \$9,999

Coca-Cola Refreshments  
Kaiser Permanente  
Kirby Foundation - East Bay  
Community Foundation

## \$1,000 - \$4,999

Delta Dental  
Donahue Gallagher Woods LLP  
Elizabeth Harris & John  
Coppinger  
Ethel Howze  
Kazan, McClain, Abrams,  
Fernandez  
McGuire & Hester Foundation  
Susan Molloy  
Oakland Police Officers Assn.  
Oakland Running Festival  
(Corrigan Sports Ent., Inc)  
Susan Rasmussen  
Rachel Richman  
Safeway Foundation  
Shorenstein Realty Services  
Carmen & Michael Smith  
Miye Takagi  
Torrey Pines Bank  
Donald & Bonnie Walls  
Jen & Tod Vedock  
Walmart Foundation  
Barry & Ann Weiss

## \$500 - \$999

Maria Alderete  
John Brown & Laranda Marr  
California Bank and Trust  
Susan Casentini  
Leah Casey & Kevin Ingersoll  
Vickii Collins  
Sally & Mike Fitzhugh  
Jane Funk  
Larry Gremillion  
Peter Grube  
Mariko Highsmith  
Linda H. Huber  
Audree Jones-Taylor  
Lake Merritt Joggers and  
Striders

Naomi Ling  
Pete May & Diana Biondo  
Howard Nathel  
William "Bill" Patterson  
Mary Ann & Patrick Piette  
Jacqueline Phillips  
Sam Roberts  
SCI Consulting Group  
Touchstone Golf LLC  
Sandra M. Venning

## \$250 - \$499

Ronald & Nancy Blackman  
David Barron & Jean McClellan  
Shelagh & Robert Broderson  
Terry D. Buller  
Catherine Burns  
Anne Campbell-Washington  
Raymond T. Chester  
Sarah Connick  
Celeste Davis  
Donald & Catherine De Coss  
Kim & Malcolm Duff  
Arleen Feng  
Patricia Hardy  
Michael & Pamela Hammock  
Brent Hennefer  
Matthew Inadomi  
Alan & Carol Koch  
Phyllis Lynn Lun  
Douglas MacLellan  
Jameison Martin  
Thomas McCoy  
John & Margaret Mooney  
George T. Nobori  
Shanna O'Hare  
Gael Pardi  
Christine G. Pattillo & Dianne  
Sierra  
PGA Design Inc.  
Jean Quan & Floyd Huen  
Emily Rosenberg  
John & Eloise Sutter  
Kim Thompson & John Bliss  
Joe Tuman & Kirsten Weisser  
Gordon Vinther

## \$35 - \$249

Anonymous (5)  
Annalee & James Allen  
Rodger P. Allen

Artemis Rowing  
Dick Austin  
Hoang Le Bahn  
Steven & Carolyn Balling  
Gordon Baranco  
Susanne Baum  
Heinz E. Battermann  
Joseph Berzok  
Jose & Melinda Blackorby  
Carolyn Bliss  
Richard Bolecek  
Vinzuela Bolden  
Daniel & Anne Bookin  
Diane Boyd  
Roland Breaux  
Frits Brevet  
Erica Brevet-Stott  
Jil Broadhurst  
James L. Buhler  
Joanne Brown  
Linda Brown  
Ross & Lillian Cadenasso  
Kathryn & James Carroll  
John Chalik  
Christine Chapon  
Cristina Ciolfi  
Leila Clark - Riddell  
Steven Cobbledick  
Ann & Ken Cohn  
Deborah Cooper  
Maribel Corral  
Richard Cowan & Kathleen  
Collins  
Katherine Creighton  
Helen Crothers  
Gerald & Carol Cullinane  
Michael Darby  
Robert Davila  
Linda Davis  
Linda Dobson  
Pamela Dernham & Gregory  
Linden  
Michelle Dong  
Roberta Dooley  
Robert Dorsey  
Lew Douglas  
Douglas Drummond  
Marjorie Duggins & Susan  
Sunderland  
Ken Dupee & Nancy Scanlon

Teresa Maura Eade & Stephen  
John Lautze  
Audrey F. Elbert  
Debra Farris  
Martin Fassler  
Joshua Feldman  
Barbara "Bobbi" Feyerabend  
Barbara Mitchell-Finlayson &  
Ron Finlayson  
E. Linda Fogel  
Ruben Flores (A-1 Spring  
Service)  
Elizabeth Garfinkle  
William H. Gavelis  
Winnifred Gen  
Jennie Gerard & Steven  
Steinhour  
Alan & Barbara Goldenberg  
Gilbert & Kay Gong  
Reka Goode  
Dale Hagen  
Douglas Hammer & Patricia  
Durham  
David Harris  
Harry Hasegawa  
John & Tamra Hege  
Paul Herzmark & Sheila Cormick  
Carolyn & Robert Heywood  
Adrienne Hillebrandt  
Hillside Gardeners of Montclair  
Yin Peh F. Hsu  
Gerald Huff & Judith Bliss  
Kent & Debra Hughes  
Kathy Hull  
Gina Hunt  
Robert & Jean Huston  
Martin & Ellen Jaffe  
Douglas Jensen  
Dean & Nancy Johnson  
Kate Johnson  
Leslie Ann Jones  
Peter & Rachel Kahn  
Valarie & Daniel Kalb  
Kaplan & MacLellan Law Office  
Roy Kaplan  
Muigai & Nancy Karigaca  
Ken Katz  
Patricia Kernighan & Paul  
Gordon  
Bonnie Killip  
Kate Klingensmith  
Karen Krolewski  
Terry Kulka

Carole Levenson  
Lake Merritt Sailing Club  
Lakeshore Homes Association  
Melvin Landry  
Sung Wook Lee  
Gaye Lenahan  
John & Nancy Lenahan  
Alan Lessik  
Thomas and Sharon Lipping  
Tina & Jerry Lowden  
Marta Lozoya  
Monica & John Marcone  
Redge & Carole Martin  
Frances & Francis Matarrese  
Fredrika May  
Gregory McConnell  
Dennis & Eloise Middleton  
Mario & Sharon Millan  
Barry J. Miller  
Alex & Christopher Miller-Cole  
Aileen Moffitt  
Susan T. Montauk  
Ann Morales  
Patrick Morrin & Janice Jagelski  
Melinda Morris  
Barbara Morrisette  
Janet & Dennis Mulshine  
Reva & Charles Murphy  
Patricia Muscatelli  
John & Barbara Nagle  
Edina Nelson  
Sujata Neurgaonkar  
Helene Frances Neville  
David & Patricia Newhouse  
Roberta O'Grady  
Jason Patton & Diana Downton  
Kimberly Penney  
Gordon & Susan Piper  
Richard Quiroz  
Ruth Poole  
Joanne Rankin  
Deborah Rego  
Crystal Reiss & Ken Lupoff  
Harlan & Ann Richter  
Mary Lou & Straty Righellis  
Drew & Margaret Robarts  
Ross Recreation Equipment  
Steven & Kirsten Ritchie  
Patricia Russ  
Courtney Ruby  
James Ryugo  
Marcelina Sanchez  
Joel Sanders

Alan Sauer  
Barbara Schaaf & Robert  
Schock  
Frederik Schodt  
Karen Schroeder  
Liane & Eric Scott  
Debra Wood Schwartz & Robert  
Schwartz  
Michael Sears  
Gordon Seligson  
Jane & Marc Seleznow  
Robert Selna  
Michael Sherwood & Kathryn  
Keeran  
Wade & Virginia Sherwood  
Jeffrey & Denise Shields  
Douglas Siden  
Melvin Silverman  
Marion Sims  
Vernal "Hap" Smith  
Shelby & Vicki Solomon  
Elizabeth Spander  
Linda Spencer  
Mario Starc  
Thor Start  
David Stein & CJ Hirschfield  
James C. Steele  
M. B. Strauss  
Daniel Swafford  
Paul & Susan Sugarman  
Paul & Bonnie Swinderman  
Gregory Tiede  
C. E. Toland  
Alison Townley  
Michael & Gail Udkow  
Susan & C. Henry Veit  
Paul Vidican  
Eileen & James Vohs  
F. Delvin Washington  
Jonelyn K. Weed  
Steven Weinberg  
Stanley James Weisner  
Jimmie & Evelyn Wesley  
Bruce Williams  
Jennifer Webber  
Liz Westbrook  
Linda Williams  
Anne Woodell  
Gerald Jay Wolfe  
Ellen Wyrick-Parkinson  
Jovita Zarate  
Michael Zittel & Tiffany Edwards

## **A Taste of Spring**

Friends' tenth annual A Taste of Spring was held on the evening of May 2, 2013 at Oakland's Lakeside Park Garden Center. Kim Thompson and John Bliss were honored with the Anne Woodell Community Award. Kim and John both spoke passionately about the need for Oakland's residents to invest their philanthropic dollars in the town they live in. The couple also stressed the critical importance of insuring that all of Oakland's children are able to take advantage of swim lessons offered by the Office of Parks and Recreation.

The proceeds from A Taste of Spring were used to support Friends' work in the community, and attendees also generously donated directly to Friends' Youth Scholarship Fund.

Many thanks to the staff of Oakland's Office of Parks and Recreation and to our A Taste of Spring chairs, Maria Alderete and Jill Broadhurst.

### **A Special Thank You to the 2013 A Taste of Spring Sponsors**

Kaiser Permanente

Pacific Gas and Electric Co.

Donahue Gallagher Woods LLP

McGuire & Hester

Torrey Pines Bank

Oakland Running Festival/  
Corrigan Sports

Delta Dental

Kazan, McClain, Abrams,  
Fernandez, Lyons, Greenwood,  
Harley & Oberman Foundation

Oakland Police Officers' Association

Safeway Foundation

Shorenstein Realty Services

Ross Recreation Equipment

### **And Thanks to the 2013 A Taste of Spring In-Kind Providers:**

17 Jewel's Salon & Spa  
Bacheeso's  
Bay Area Children's Theatre  
Bay Area Discovery Museum  
Beach Blanket Babylon  
Bellevue Club  
Berkeley Bowl  
Berkeley Ironworks  
Berkeley Symphony  
Buddy Club  
California Canoe and Kayak  
California Shakespeare Theater  
California's Great America  
Chabot Space & Science Center  
Charles M. Schulz Museum & Research Center  
Cheese Steak Shop  
City of Oakland, Davie Tennis Stadium  
Commonwealth Cub of California  
Cotton Patch  
Crogan's Restaurant & Bar  
Crown Liquors  
Cyclesports  
Dailey Method  
Elements of Being  
Farley's East  
Farmstead Cheeses & Wines  
Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse  
Golden Skate  
Gymboree Play & Music  
Hearst Castle  
Holistic Veterinary Care  
Hula Boutique  
Italian Colors  
Jack Hyde Soccer Camp  
Kinetic Arts Center, LLC  
La Farine Bakery  
La Note

Lake Chabot Golf Course  
Landmark Theatres  
Lindsay Wildlife Museum



Luka's Taproom & Lounge  
Monkey Business Camp  
Montclair Veterinary Hospital  
Namaste  
New Parkway Theater  
Oakland A's Community Fund  
Oakland Hills Tennis Club  
Oakland Ice Center/Sharks Ice  
Oakland Zoo  
Oaktoberfest  
Ozumo - Oakland  
Paramount Theatre of the Arts  
Pave Fine Jewelry Design  
Piedmont Spa  
Piedmont Yarn  
Polish on Piedmont  
Renaissance Rialto Management  
Rick & Ann's  
Scott's Restaurant  
The New Parkway Theater  
Transport  
Treehouse Green Gifts  
UC Botanical Garden  
Viewpoint  
Village Chiropractic & Wellness Center  
Village Market  
Wax Museum at Fisherman's Wharf  
Western Railway Museum  
Yerba Buena Center for the Arts



## Income and Assets

### Income

Program Fundraising	
Curt Flood Sports Complex	\$4,050
Lewis P. May Fund	\$2,500
Thompson – Bliss Family Gift	\$20,000
Youth Scholarship	\$21,050
General Fundraising	\$88,402
Program Mgmt Income	\$4,124
Fiscal Account Mgmt Income	\$33,073
All other Income	\$1,341
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$174,540</b>

### Expenses

Program Costs	
Curt Flood Sports Complex	\$ ---
Lewis P. May Fund	\$1,500
Thompson – Bliss Family Gift	\$15,798
Youth Scholarship	\$19,532
General Administration	\$120,208
Development, Marketing and Events	\$25,776
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$182,814</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(\$8,274)</b>

### Fiscal Accounts Assets

Fiscal Account Income	\$617,515
Fiscal Account Expenses	\$526,575
<b>Change in Fiscal Account Assets</b>	<b>\$90,940</b>
<b>Total Change in Assets</b>	<b>\$82,666</b>

## Lewis P. May Fund

The Lewis P. May Fund was established to honor the memory of Lewis P. May. The Fund serves as a source for community micro-grants, to help to pay for materials needed to further the work of our many Community Partners. Some of the items that May Fund micro-grants helped to pay for included, a Bee Hotel (located in the Gardens by Lake Merritt), new bricks for the Montclair Park Amphitheater, landscape work at Maxwell Park and music classes provide by Today's Future Sound to kids at deFremery Recreation Center and the East Oakland Sports Complex. Our thanks



go to Pete May and his family for providing the assets for the Fund.

To find out how you can donate to the Lewis P. May Fund, or set up your own specialized fund, please visit [oaklandparks.org](http://oaklandparks.org), or call 510.465.1850.



## ***Thompson – Bliss Family Gift***

The Thompson – Bliss Family Gift was established by Kim Thompson and former Friends President, John Bliss. Half of the funds from the Gift are set aside youth swim scholarships, while the other half is dedicated to funding a small grants program for OPR facilities and programs. 2013 gift funds enabled 63 kids to enroll in swim lessons at the East Oakland Sports Center in East Oakland, and deFermery Pool in West Oakland.

In 2013, Thompson – Bliss funds were used to award thirteen grants to OPR recreation centers and programs. These grants helped to pay for items such as an automated

external defibrillator for the aquatics program, helmets and bicycles for the Bicycle Safety Adventure program offered at Manzanita Recreation Center, gardening equipment for the edible schoolyard program, and much more. Thompson – Bliss funds were also used in conjunction with donations from other foundations to pay for the installation of new basketball courts at deFremery Park in West Oakland.

To find out how you can set up your own specialized fund, please visit [oaklandparks.org](http://oaklandparks.org), or call 510.465.1850.

