

OVERTON PARK

notes

may 2018

Conservancy kicks off first park plan in 30 years

In 2012, Overton Park Conservancy began its ten-year agreement with the City of Memphis to manage the park. Our top priority was addressing years of deferred maintenance and creating a place where Memphians would feel safe and welcome.

We were set up for success with seed funding from foundations and individuals who believed in the park's importance to the community. We shaped our initial project list using a Speak Up survey conducted in 2011 that revealed more than 1,600 park users' priorities for moving the park forward. On visitors' wish lists were improved cleanliness, safety, updated playgrounds, protection for the Old Forest, permanent restrooms, and a dog park.

In our first six years, the Conservancy raised and invested more than \$8 million in making those improvements and many others, reversing decades of underfunding and helping the park to once again become a place where generations came together.

This increased usage of the park, upcoming changes to the park's tenants, and the need to increase connectivity and access mean that it's time to take a careful look at where we go from here. That's why, in 2018, Overton Park Conservancy and the City of Memphis are launching the first comprehensive planning process for the park in more than 30 years.



Facility improvements at East Parkway will be addressed as part of the planning process.

The subjects of the plan fall under two categories: physical and operational. Areas where we expect to see physical changes include:

- The 13 acres at the southeast corner of the park currently being used as the City of Memphis' General Services Area (see story on page 3)
- The picnic area and playground on the East Parkway side of

the park, which are in need of updates and improvements

- Park access points, especially those used by cyclists, pedestrians, and people in wheelchairs, building on the Mid-South Greenprint plan from 2014 that identifies Overton Park as a major spoke in the citywide transportation hub

The Conservancy's operational needs include:

- Developing a business plan that identifies the costs of physical improvement projects and day-to-day maintenance, as well as revenue opportunities that will help us to become a financially sustainable organization.
- Ensuring complete collaboration with our park partner institutions, including the new tenants for Rust Hall and the Brooks Museum's buildings, once they've been identified.

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We expect that additional opportunities will emerge as we begin asking the community for your observations about the park and how the visitor experience could be improved.

A Tradition of Planning

The first comprehensive plan for Overton Park was the original design by landscape architect George Kessler. Hired in 1901 by the newly established Memphis Park Commission, Kessler created designs for Overton Park, Riverside (now MLK) Park, and a system of parkways that would connect them. Much of the park's layout from this plan survives today, although the park's cultural institutions and other recreational features were added at various points throughout the 20th century.

The Conservancy's upcoming planning process is the first since a 1988 master plan developed for the City by Ritchie Smith Associates. That 20-year plan recommended addressing the issues of parking and traffic in the park, ensuring coordination among park institutions, and improving the quality and management of park resources. During the implementation of the plan, several vehicular access points were eliminated, and vehicle traffic was permanently removed from the Old Forest.

Since that time, the park has continued to change,

with the amphitheatre enjoying a major resurgence due to the establishment of the Levitt Shell nonprofit organization, the growing success of the Memphis Zoo, and the establishment of the Old Forest as a Tennessee State Natural Area. With the news that Memphis College of Art, Brooks Museum of Art, and City maintenance will all be vacating the park over the next few years, 2018 is an optimal time to begin addressing the future needs of park visitors and how the Conservancy must adapt to meet them.

Our first step in kicking off the plan was to contract with Latanyua Robinson as project manager. In her role, Latanyua will guide Conservancy staff and board in developing a plan, including recruiting and working with an implementation team. An Arkansas native, she has over 25 years of experience in industrial manufacturing, workforce, and business development and has held leadership roles in operations, engineering, quality, and marketing management.

This summer, we'll be popping up in the park and visiting communities throughout Memphis to have conversations with residents about what they need from Overton Park. Stay tuned for dates and times!



Bookmark www.overtonpark.org/masterplan for updates and a schedule of conversations.

Final design for Greensward project released

Last month, Mayor Jim Strickland released the final version of a plan to reconfigure the Zoo's parking lot in order to permanently end overflow parking on the Greensward. The final plan reflects a compromise solution that was negotiated between the Memphis Zoo, Overton Park Conservancy, and the City of Memphis in 2016, which was ratified by a resolution of the Memphis City Council. It incorporates feedback gathered through several rounds of public input, while adhering to the Council's mandate to add 415 new parking spaces to the Zoo's existing lot.

While the final design converts approximately 2.4 acres of parkland into hardscape, the footprint of the new parking lot remains to the northwest of the ridgeline that gives the Greensward its distinctive curve. Almost all of the acreage taken up by parking for the past three decades will be returned to public use. It's a difficult sacrifice, but we acknowledge that the years of working to identify a permanent solution meant that all parties would have to compromise.



Powers Hill Design is now developing construction documents, and construction could begin as soon as November 2018. Following completion, parking on the Greensward will end permanently, and the Conservancy will begin refreshing the grass and working to reverse soil compaction.



View the final design concept at www.overtonpark.org/plan.

Over a dozen acres of land to return to Overton Park

The exact date that about 13 acres of Overton Park were converted into industrial use is lost to history. When George Kessler created design drawings for the park at the beginning of the 20th century, the southeast corner (then bordered by Poplar and Trezevant Avenue, now known as East Parkway) was depicted as an open green space. It was ringed by the Old Forest to the west and north, and by trees that buffered it from the street to the south and east. A bridle path that led into the woods is the only design feature noted on the map.

It doesn't seem to have survived for long in its capacity as a place for recreation and relaxation. Photos from the late 1930s show that buildings had begun to spring up. A structure that still stands today was built during the era of the Works Progress Administration, which provided jobs to unemployed Americans between 1935 and 1943.

In Memphians' memories, this land has always been used to house the City of Memphis' general services department. But that will change within the next few years, as the City relocates employees and equipment to a new complex.

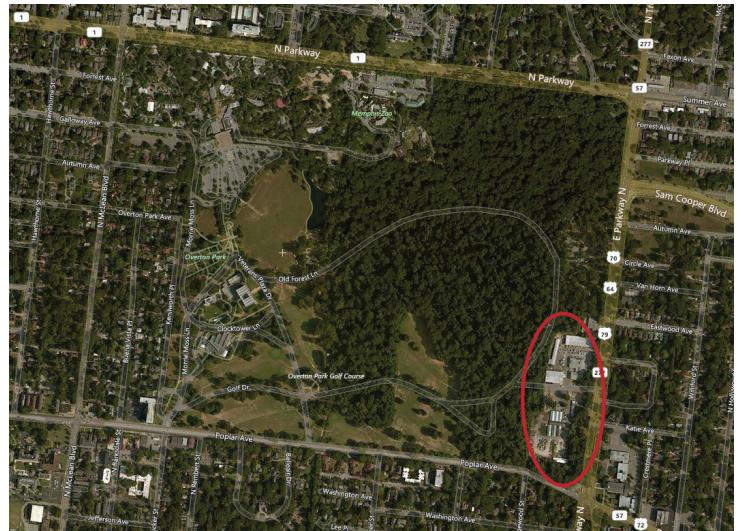
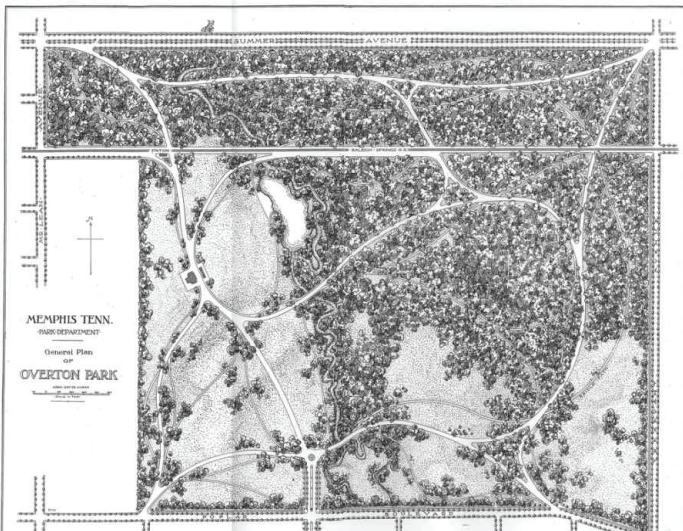
Under Mayor Jim Strickland's proposal, those 13 acres would be added to Overton Park Conservancy's



management agreement, pending approval by City Council. Envisioning a new, public use for the space would be a key component of our master planning project, one that would involve people from around Memphis sharing how they think this new parkland could best serve the community.

The Conservancy would also take over management of the piece of the Old Forest that rings this tract of land, which is included in the State Natural Area's 126 acres but currently falls outside the Conservancy's managed area. This would allow us to complete our removal of invasive Chinese privet plants throughout the entire State Natural Area, improving the overall health of the ecosystem by reducing its ability to spread further.

Restoring this significant piece of land to the park would strengthen the recreational offerings of the east side of the park, and alleviate some of the parking congestion that currently affects the East Parkway picnic and play area. As a new place of transition from open space into the Old Forest, it will continue to knit together the different parts of Overton Park into a whole, featuring the culturally- and recreationally-focused east and west sides of the park with the forest and trail system in between.



George Kessler's original design for Overton Park shows a Greensward area in the southeast corner; an aerial view of how the site looks today.

Cultivating connections

If you were to ask ten people what they love to do when visiting Overton Park, you'd get thirty different answers. The range of experiences—from cultural to natural to social—means you can find something to enjoy no matter what mood you're in.

And if you were to ask ten experts why parks are important, you might get a more specific list of answers—environmental benefits, social and physical health, strengthening the civic fabric, attracting and retaining talent, economic development. Still an impressive array.

But when you drill down into what makes Overton Park so uniquely special, answers tend to track along a common theme: it's about the people—the visitors, volunteers, supporters, and advocates that make up the Overton Park community, and who represent the diverse population of our city.

Memphis transplant CJ Kirkland wrote last year in *cityCurrent*, “Recently... I found myself at Rainbow Lake Playground in Overton Park surrounded by fellow Memphians who represented this goodness, peace, pride and diversity, leaving no doubt that the space was fully deserving of and living up to its name.”

It's something we observe every day in Overton Park: our community coming together. Whether that's to scale the Spiderwebs in the playground with a new friend, work with dozens of fellow volunteers to install new plants, or practice tai chi with neighbors, the park gives people countless ways to connect to each other.

We want to ensure that these connections strengthen, and that more Memphians have an opportunity to experience them. That's why our upcoming master plan process is so focused on how people interact with the park, and with each other while they're here.

To reverse decades of neglect, it was necessary for Overton Park Conservancy to focus resources on the physical aspects of the park during the first few years of our tenure. As we look toward the future of the park, we have an opportunity to broaden our scope, to ask our community the “how” and “why” questions that will inform park management decisions going forward.

The Overton Park master plan will be a people-driven plan. As we begin to engage the park community in our planning effort, we'll ask you how you get to the park, what you love about it, what you'd like to see improved. We'll begin building out a future plan based on what Memphians need, and how we can deliver. We'll also ask for your help in executing that plan.

Visit www.overtonpark.org/masterplan for updates, and make sure you're receiving our emails so you can watch for surveys about your use of the park. Look for news about an upcoming series of park conversations that offer opportunities for you to tell us about your current park experiences and your aspirations for Overton Park. You can check in with us to hear what we're learning through these conversations, and suggest ideas to consider during the master planning process.

As we make the transition from a startup to an organization with the experience and knowledge to care for the park in the long term, we're looking forward to this chance to check in with you. You've seen the difference it makes to have a conservancy “at home” in the park 365 days a year. Now let's work together to continue building an active, inclusive space that brings everyone together.

Tina Sullivan

tina's
message



Volunteers are among the many people who are instrumental in making Overton Park a destination. Here, a crew from Durham Housing Services plant ornamentals on the border of the golf course.

Sam Blair on three decades of park volunteerism

"In the early 2000s, you could not go 100 feet on the Old Forest trails before having to crawl through a blockage. It was that overgrown with brush."

Sam Blair remembers an Old Forest that was far less welcoming than it is today. An attorney and avid runner, Sam is president of the volunteer organization Park Friends, which has provided volunteer work and funding for Overton Park since the 1980s. He's also been a tireless volunteer for over 30 years, with a special gift for trail maintenance.

Prior to the Conservancy assuming management of Overton Park, City crews were stretched thin, with the same employees responsible for clearing city streets and park trails. Rogue trails were being cut through the southern part of the forest so that runners would have a place to go, which endangered the forest's fragile ecosystem and made it easy to get lost. With the City's permission, Sam and his fellow Park Friends members stepped in to get the Old Forest trails back in shape, clearing fallen trees and brush that were blocking the established paths, particularly in the southeast corner of the forest between the East Parkway picnic area and the golf clubhouse.

Along with friends John Houseal and Mike Cooley, Sam formed a volunteer trail crew dubbed HBC Trailworks, and they continued their efforts to keep trail edges clear. Sam remembers Mike, who passed away in 2016, as the one always tasked with moving almost impossibly heavy pieces of trees off the trails.

In 2012, Park Friends and the Rhodes College track team, coached by Robert Shankman, teamed up to fund and implement a major renovation of the limestone trail that rings the Old Forest. The work involves making periodic adjustments to things like the slope of the trail, with Sam and his fellow volunteers studying how stormwater moves through the forest. "We followed the water all the way upstream until we found a double culvert that had been blocked with



Sam (sixth from left) routinely serves as a crew leader for volunteer projects with the Conservancy, such as this tree planting near East Parkway Pavilion with University of Memphis students.

dirt," he explains. Cleaning out the culvert is just step one; it's connected to a brick-lined ditch that also requires regular cleaning to prevent it from sending water onto the limestone trail at such a large volume that the flat part of the trail washes out. "We're learning not to fight the water, but to guide it. Limestone maintains itself very well if you can direct

water across it effectively."

Today, Overton Park is a popular destination for runners, and its trail system is an important part of the Old Forest management plan established by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation and Overton Park Conservancy.

Park Friends provides much more than trail maintenance. The Overton Park 10K trail race, which was founded by Mike Cooley and is now run in his memory, raised \$10,000 for the repair of the 1930s-era stone bridges on the golf course. This year, the new landscape plants near the first fairway of the golf course was purchased by Park Friends and installed by a team of volunteers.

The group has also been involved in advocating for the park's future. Members helped to bring the community together for more than 100 public meetings surrounding the park's 1988 master plan, and they have advocated against development projects that would have compromised the park's integrity.

Sam supports Overton Park, he says, because it's the right thing to do. "I don't think Midtown would be Midtown without the park. It's an anchor that has been great for the city." Its proximity to multiple universities, he says, allows students to connect service with their use of a public amenity--particularly the Rhodes track team, which regularly performs volunteer trail work.

"We have so many days in the woods working on the trails, and ten people will come through and all say thank you. We're thrilled to have this trail system now, and seeing people enjoy it is really rewarding."

Rhodes College fellows study parks and neighborhoods

Overton Park is for everyone--but is it equally available to everyone, including its immediate neighbors? And what are the many ways that the park offers value to both citizens and the city as a whole?

Those are the questions this year's Rhodes College Urban Forestry Fellows, Helen Hope and Madeline Smith, set out to answer. They spent this semester using census tract data and conducting interviews to paint a picture of how Overton Park is--or isn't--interacting with the surrounding neighborhoods.

Maddie was interested in who *isn't* using the park, and why. She went to homes within a mile of the park, interviewing members of 30 households in Binghampton and 30 in Vollintine-Evergreen.

In Binghampton, she found multiple residents who valued the park as a place of recreation and connection, but who weren't able to be regular visitors because they had no quick or reliable way to get there. Cars are often in use during the day, so visiting the park requires walking or biking, which is often difficult for grandparents taking care of children in the afternoons. For residents who are separated from the Hampline trail by Sam Cooper Blvd., entering the park on foot or bike requires crossing six lanes of East Parkway either without a crosswalk or into a part of the park with no sidewalk. The travel time to get to and from the park, residents said, was so significant that a park visit was a planned event rather than something that could be a regular part of their schedules.

In V&E, the respondents reported some difficulties with traveling on foot to the park, particularly in pushing strollers over sidewalks that are in poor repair. They also had to cross a wide, high-traffic street in North Parkway, but by and large it was easier for residents in this neighborhood to access the park.

For Helen, who has been working as a fellow for the past several years, the question of how the park is valued became the subject of her economics senior seminar. She first examined how the park affected housing prices, learning that houses sold for an



2017-2018 Urban Forestry Fellows Helen Hope and Madeline Smith

average of \$16,000 more for each mile closer to the park.

She also focused on an intersectional way of communicating the value of Overton Park. While one person might find importance in the ecological diversity of the Old Forest, another might be more interested in the anthropological view: how the park shapes people's interactions with each other. For local businesses

and city government, the question of the park's economic effect--increased property values leading to more taxes, the ability to build more housing in the area--might be of paramount importance.

While Maddie and Helen both graduated this May, fellowship supervisor Dr. Kimberly Kasper plans to continue their research, increasing the sample size and synthesizing both studies into a broader look at the way the park interacts with residents. In the meantime, two other studies conducted by Rhodes students and faculty are in the data analysis phase as their authors prepare for publishing. Former conservation biology Professor Tara Massad is working to complete her study of seedling regeneration, while Dr. Kasper's fellows and Conservancy Director of Operations Eric Bridges complete work on a separate study of regeneration dynamics.

Both fellows are grateful that they had the opportunity to give back to the community as part of their coursework. "When I explain Memphis to people, I always say there's such a sense of community here," Maddie says. "But actually working with nonprofits, I could see first-hand how they were working together for the good of the city. It's not just an idea I explored on paper." Helen cites the opportunity to work with multiple nonprofits outside of an academic setting as one of the most meaningful parts of her time here.

After graduation, Maddie plans to stay in Memphis and enroll in the RN BSN program at UT Health Sciences Center. Helen has accepted an internship with the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, where she'll be based in Boston. The position offers her a direct hire into the National Parks System following the internship period.

Explore Bike Share Comes to Overton Park

Looking for a car-free way to explore Overton Park and the rest of the city? Explore Bike Share, a network of 60 stations and 600 bikes stretching from Downtown to Orange Mound, launches **May 23**.

Overton Park's two stations are located near the entrance of the Memphis Zoo and across the street from Rust Hall. We encourage visitors to use these bikes and help ease traffic congestion in the park!



Tai Chi Returns to the Formal Gardens

Join Marjean Liggett for free tai chi classes in the formal gardens from **May 29 through September 27**, 7:15 - 8:00 AM. Students of all levels are welcome.

Marjean is a certified instructor in the energy arts system of Dragon & Tiger Qigong. In this year's warmups, she will incorporate the practice of Five Animal Frolics, which develop flexibility, strength, grace, and balance.



A Day of Merrymaking Presented by Hollywood Feed

Our annual family festival is moving out of the summer heat this year! Join us on the Greensward on **Saturday, October 6** for music, food, a beer garden, and tons of activities for kids. Our presenting sponsor Hollywood Feed will make sure dogs have fun too, with a fashion show, costume contest, and more.

Vendor registration is now open for food trucks, artists, crafters, nonprofits, and small businesses. Find more information and reserve your spot at www.overtonpark.org/mmvendors.



Overton Park Community Farmers Market

Now through October, stop by East Parkway Pavilion **Thursdays from 3:00 to 7:00 PM** for fresh produce, baked goods, art, music, and more.

The market is a partnership between Rhodes College and Overton Park Conservancy, with the goal of bringing high-quality, locally-sourced products to our neighbors. Vendors accept SNAP and EBT benefits, and EBT dollars spent on fresh foods go twice as far with the Double Greens program. Visit www.overtonparkcfm.org for more information on vendors and programs.

Ready to give back or pay it forward to Overton Park?

For many supporters, the reasons for giving to Overton Park Conservancy are as individual as what brings them to the park. For runners, donating acknowledges the value of the Conservancy's management of the Old Forest and its upgraded trails. For adults who grew up playing here, gifts are often motivated by the experience of watching their children and grandchildren enjoy the upgraded Rainbow Lake Playground. For dog lovers, appreciation of Overton Park as a place to socialize and play often propels their financial support. The opportunity to unwind and gather with family on the Greensward is an experience that many supporters want to ensure continues.

Whether you're giving back or paying it forward, the Conservancy wants to make it as simple as possible to financially support the park you love. The dollars you donate make our work possible--efforts that have restored Overton Park to a vibrant, welcoming place where Memphians come together. Here are just a few ways you can support the park:

Become a Monthly Donor

Because Overton Park has no admission fees and relies largely on private dollars to fund its core costs, it's critical for Overton Park Conservancy to have a steady, reliable stream of income to plan our improvement projects in the park and forest, fund regular maintenance, and address emergencies.

If visits to Overton Park are a crucial part of your quality of life, consider making support of the park a regular part of your budget. Monthly donations allow you to fit care of the park into your financial plans.

Visit www.overtonpark.org/give to set up a

donation in the amount of your choice. Gifts will be debited from your account on the same day each month. Donations of \$20 and above per month qualify you for membership in our Roots giving society.

Join a Giving Society

Park supporters can join one of two giving societies, both of which offer special benefits of membership. You can join by making a one-time or monthly gift.

Roots Giving Society: Donors who give \$240 or more a year will receive invitations to two Roots events annually, including autumn's Flashlights in the Forest tour, an evening park walk with scientists and Conservancy staff. Roots members also receive two Overton Park t-shirts (see design on page 16).

Canopy Giving Society: Donors who give \$1,000 or more a year will receive all Roots benefits, as well as invitations to additional events like Wildflowers & Wine tours with regional experts on the Old Forest's biodiversity. As a Canopy member, you will also have the option of being recognized as the sponsor of a day in Overton Park, and we'll work with you to design a banner that will be displayed in the park on the day of your choice.

Access Employer Matching Funds

Many companies are eager to support causes that are important to their employees. If your company has a matching gift program, you can often double your gift just by putting in a request. Overton Park Conservancy staff will then verify your donation to meet your company's requirements.

Below are a few of the local companies that offer employees a chance to make contributions go further.

- AutoZone
- Bank of America
- CBRE
- Cigna
- The Coca-Cola Company
- Ernst & Young
- First Tennessee
- Macy's
- McKesson
- Medtronic
- Merck
- Nike
- Olympus
- Pfizer
- Raymond James
- Regions Bank
- SunTrust Bank

If you don't see your organization, check with your HR department or your employee web portal.



Visit www.overtonpark.org/give to get started. A return envelope is included in this newsletter if you prefer to send a check.



Medtronic employees support the park through matching gifts and volunteer events.

Businesses support the park with donations, volunteer work

As a centrally located green space with a variety of recreational and cultural amenities, Overton Park plays a vital role in Memphians' quality of life. Many of our area's major employers have chosen to give back through donations and volunteer efforts. We'd like to thank these companies for their support this spring:

AutoZone has been a major supporter of Overton Park Conservancy since 2013, when the company made a substantial donation to support Rainbow Lake Playground. The netted climbing structure that kids quickly named The Spiderwebs was sponsored by AutoZone. Critically, the company has continued to fund core operating costs. Most recently, AutoZone made a major gift to support the parking solution, helping the Conservancy reach its \$1 million goal to end Greensward parking.

Medtronic encourages its employees to support charitable causes, convening volunteer fairs and work days, and sponsoring a generous matching gift program. Every spring, we count on Medtronic volunteers to sand, repair, and paint every picnic table on the Rainbow Lake side of the park--a challenging task that requires expertise and teamwork.

Comcast also makes it easy for employees to give back by organizing the annual Comcast Cares Day, which has been the park's biggest volunteer event for the park three years. More than 100 volunteers come



Rockey Redbird came from AutoZone Park to check out the Spiderwebs.

out to help us replenish safety surfacing at Rainbow Lake Playground, and this year's group finished the task in less than three hours. Comcast also makes a donation to the park in honor of each volunteer.

Lipscomb & Pitts and the Memphis Redbirds named Overton Park Conservancy Nonprofit of the Game at AutoZone Park on May 2, generously donating a portion of group ticket sales to the park.

Whole Foods Market employees at the Poplar Avenue store selected Overton Park Conservancy to receive 5% of all sales made in the store on April 19. They also provided refreshments for a Canopy giving society event held this spring.

Overton Park Conservancy gratefully acknowledges the individuals and organizations who made donations and in-kind (noted with *italics*) gifts from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017.

\$100,000 - \$499,999

City of Memphis
A Friend of Overton Park Conservancy
Hyde Family Foundation
Allison & Richard W. Smith
Diane Smith

\$10,000 - \$99,999

Burch, Porter & Johnson, PLLC
Bena & George Cates
Drs. Aimée Christian & Benton Wheeler
The Commercial Appeal
Rebecca & William Deupree
Echo Systems
Lucia & Jim Gilliland
Emily & Houston Graves

Hollywood Feed
Dottie Jones & Angie Dagastino
Lyn & Bill Reed
Ring Container Technologies, LLC
Susan & Charles Schadt
Judy & King Self
Jewell Ward & Jim Brooks
Melanie & Dr. Frank White

List continues on following pages. If we have inadvertently omitted the name of one of our supporters, we sincerely apologize.

\$1,000 - \$9,999 (Canopy Giving Society Members)

A2H Inc.
Julie & Bryce Ashby
Annette & Lee Askew
AutoZone
Lydia & Ray Babaoglu
Rebecca & Les Ballou
Eric Barnes
Emily & Stephen Bishop
Pam & Sam Blair
Peggy Bodine
Susan & Roger Bransford
Linda & Craig Brashear
Lisa & Jody Brown
The Canale Foundation
Children's Dental Center of West Tennessee
Kay Clancy & Steven Brown
Katie & Keith Cole
Carol Coletta & John Montgomery
Comcast Foundation
Nora & Dan Conaway
Cooper Young Community Association
Meg & Scott Crosby
Alice & Matthew Crow
The Daily News
Lisa Daniel
Ned Dannenberg
Julie & William Denman
East End Neighborhood Association
Ecco on Overton Park
Eclectic Eye
Randy Engel
Evergreen Historic District Association
Mary & Glenn Ferguson
Desi Franklin & Alex Kenner
Margaret & Hugh Fraser
Anne Frassinelli & Bill Ferguson
Melanie & David French
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Joy & Frank Gilliam
Liz Gilliland
Mr. & Mrs. W. Jerry Gillis
Bess & Steve Ginty
Eleanor & William Halliday
Claudia & Bill Haltom
Miriam & Dr. Charles Handorf
Hattiloo Theatre
Lou Henslee & Roy Bell
Carolyn & Scott Heppel
Katie & David Hill
Hohenberg Foundation
Marcella & John Houseal
Huey's Restaurants
Independent Bank

Margaret & Kenny Jabbour
Jeanne & Frank Jemison, Jr.
Betty & George Johnson
Dr. Robbie Johnson Weinberg & Dr. Michael Weinberg
Carol & Gene Katz
The Kresge Foundation
Dr. Frances & Jake Lawhead
Dr. Kent Alan Lee
Leslie & Tim Lee
Allison & Peter Lemm
Mary & Bob Loeb
Loeb Properties
Shirley & Michael Lupfer
Lisa & Jim Maddox
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Susan & B. Lee Mallory
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Medtronic, Inc.
Marilyn & Benjamin Meeks
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Memphis Myofascial Release
MEMPopS
Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare
Bill Metz
Midtown Memphis Development Corporation
MLGW
Julie & David Nanney
Jennifer O'Bryan & Richard Wiggs
Rich Olcott
Orion Federal Credit Union
Park Friends
Patagonia
Catherine & Jason Piche
John Pickens
Anita & Ray Pohlman
Trish & John Pontius
Selden & David Popwell
Chaela Presley
Sarah Ranson-Martin & Mike Martin
Sara Ratner & Harry Freeman
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Michele & Scott Sammons
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Jennifer Sink & Buck Wellford
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Gillian & Bruce Steinhauer
Sternberg Foundation
SunTrust Bank
Lauren & Justin Taylor
Tennessee Valley Authority
Tanja Thompson

Beverly & Dr. Terry Trojan
Susan & Josh Tulino
Wagner General Contractors, Inc
West Cancer Center
Carole Whitehead
Mary Wilder & Charles Fox
Kathy & Steve Williams
Sue Williams
Susan & Kent Wunderlich
Mindy Wurzburg & Blair Parker
Young Avenue Deli
Youngblood Studio

\$240 - \$999 (Roots Giving Society Members)

Lesley & Jay Adkins
Drs. Louise & Ray Allen
Suzanne & Walter Allen
Abbey & James Allman
Ellery Ammons
Johnnie & Dr. Rex Amonette
Linda & Ward Archer
Hadley & Scott Arnold
The Art Project
Jeanne & Bill Arthur
Heather & Rodney Ashley
Pan & Carl Awsumb
Jimpie & Warren Ayres
Melissa Azzi
Jamie & Colin Bailey
Rebecca & Blake Ballin
Nicole & Ekundayo Bandele
Paula & Cliff Barnes
Susannah & Kevin Barton
Thomas M. Barzizza
Shauna & Jeremy Bateman
Thaler & Tom Beasley
Kathleen & Dr. Schorr Behnke
Robin & Dr. Stephen Behrman
Belleair Woods Association
Sarah Blackburn & Aaron Klimek
Patrick Blankinship
Blue Sky Couriers
Bluff City Sports
Barbara Blum
Wight Boggs
Ashley Bonds
Pam & Andy Branham
Cindy & Kevin Brewer
Eleanor & Philip Brooks III
Mark Brooks
Craig Brown
David Brown & Steven Hoover
Callie Bugg & Andrew Wofford
Lynn & Jon Buhler
Teresa & Bill Bullock
Ginny & Berkeley Burbank
Alice & Dr. George Burruss
Susan & Rice Byars
Pat & Sturla Canale
Margaret & Craig Cardwell

Daniel Case
Jennifer Case & Michael Stoughton
Karen Casey
Celtic Crossing
Central Gardens Association
Rachel Cheek & Matthew Jakes
Susan & Dr. Dale Childress
Gina & Jim Christian
Sue & Marshall Clark
Eric Clauson
Suzanna & Mike Cody
Ashley & Mac Coffield
Jan & Ron Coleman
Gary Cook
Madeline & David Cotton
Susan Courson-Smith & H.B. Smith
Margaret & William Craddock
Dr. Crista Crisler
Amy Daniel & Cameron Mann
Samantha & Christopher Dean
Terry & Phil Deboo
Mr. & Mrs. John Dewald
Vaughan Dewar
Diane's Art Gift & Home
Karen & Daniel Dixon
Beverly & Henry Doggrell
Ashley & Robert Donati
Wendy Doudrick & Laura Lanier
Marie Dowling
Kate Duignan & Chris Peck
Ben Duke
Debra & Reid Dulberger
Kristen & Doug Duncan
Melissa Duong & Yuki Namba
Mary Durham & Steve Lockwood
David Early
Edible Memphis
Elisabeth Eickhoff & Greg Gentry
Tara & Scott Elliott
Patti & Lew Ellis
Shawna Engel
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Lauren Paquette	Marie Santucci	Stewart Taylor	Jamie Wright
Margaret Park	Jason Sasser	Sue & Marc Taylor	Asuka Yow
Deanie Parker		Susan & Richard Taylor	Corinne Zejda & Tim Meier



VERTON PARK

CONSERVANCY

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New park shirts!

This year's Overton Park t-shirts illustrate Yvonne Bobo's Rhapsody gateway at the Old Forest entrance on Golf Drive. They were designed by Yvonne and by MCA student Oziel Juarez, who also worked with us on the bold "HEY!" signs for the park pedestrian safety campaign.

Get your shirt at the Brooks Museum gift shop or by becoming a Roots or Canopy member of the Conservancy.

