



2022 Activity Report

Hemisfair Park Area Redevelopment Corporation (HPARC) and the Hemisfair Conservancy continued working together in support of the aspirational vision to create one of the world's great public places. The Conservancy augments HPARC resources by raising philanthropic funds for park operations and construction, historic preservation, environmental initiatives, and community programming. We are proud to report that charitable giving in 2022 supported all of the activities, outputs and outcomes listed below.

- Hemisfair has hosted more than four million visitors since opening Yanaguana Garden in October 2015! Over 85% of park visitors are local residents who enjoy all the playful amenities and beauty throughout the Hemisfair District.
- Two commemorative benches were unveiled at Yanaguana Garden. Park visitors watch movies, enjoy picnics, play with Big Blue Blocks, jump rope, and do much more on the Kelleher Family Lawn. Children and their caregivers utilize the Theatre Courtyard, donated by Community First Health Plans, for gathering and eating lunch before playing at the park.
- In response to park visitor surveys, the Conservancy secured funding for a new [Toddler Play Area](#) at Yanaguana Garden through the generosity of individual donors in our community, along with major gifts from an anonymous foundation and the Jeanie Rabke Wyatt Family Foundation. The Toddler Play Area will open in Spring 2023.
- [Civic Park construction commenced](#) in early 2022 and continued throughout the year. [Civic Park Phase I](#) is on track to open to the public in Fall 2023. Phase I encompasses five acres of public parkland, including a shaded Promenade, The Springs (a water feature with five limestone pools, two of which have been named by the John R. and Greli N. Less Charitable Trust and the Nancy Smith Hurd Foundation), and the Great Lawn for large events accommodating up to 15,000 people!
- We shared our [augmented reality tree donor recognition app](#) with other parks around the country during a Tech in Public Parks session at the High Line Symposium in Miami, Florida. Additionally, Skanska began [planting the first of 200 mature trees](#) at Civic Park. Each will have a unique QR code to highlight donors' stories or the people they wish to honor.

- Free monthly programming and major community events continue to take place at Hemisfair. In August, Hemisfair celebrated the 150th Story Time with the San Antonio community, and in October [Muertos Fest](#) attracted over 135,000 attendees! The second annual SA Veterans Day at Hemisfair presented by Endeavors welcomed thousands of our neighbors, friends, veterans, and active-duty service members for a full day of sponsored activities.
- Harvard Business School selected Hemisfair as one of its FIELD Immersion Course partners. Six international MBA students worked with our team to outline realistic, actionable steps to expand our Diversity, Equity & Inclusion efforts. We have used their final presentation as a framework to develop and help secure necessary funding for a Community Outreach Coordinator position.
- Renovations began on two nineteenth century structures at Yanaguana Garden. Bombay Bicycle Club launched construction on the Espinoza House to accommodate a kitchen and an outside patio area for guests, while Künstler Tap and Brat-Haus started to update utilities for their space at the Pereida House. Künstler will open in March, and Bombay is projected to open in Summer 2023.
- Philanthropy was the driving force behind the successful rehabilitation of the historic Kusch House. Hemisfair signed a new license agreement with the owners of DASHI Sichuan Kitchen + Bar to operate Kusch Faire.
- The City of San Antonio Historic and Design Review Commission approved conceptual designs for two public-private partnership developments located within the Hemisfair District: a [200-room hotel](#) proposed by Zachry Hospitality, and [a 29-story residential tower accompanied by a three-story retail building](#) proposed by Post Lake Capital Partners.
- Hemisfair began activating Tower Park by utilizing the space for community-wide events like Diwali and Muertos Fest. Temporary activations at Tower Park are projected to continue in 2023.
- The Conservancy distributed over \$1,946,000 in funds to HPARC and submitted over \$279,800 to the endowment.

“Hemisfair is so important to so many in San Antonio as a gathering place, a celebration place, fun place, a small business place, a housing place and a happy place. It deserves to be protected and nurtured as a beautiful park space.”

- Barbara Ankamah Burford, Wells Fargo