



Visitor Programs and Events

Fall 2016

Jamaica Bay, Brooklyn, Queens New York

Gaia's portrait, right, of Robert Moses, one of the most influential figures New York's history, captures and comments upon his yin yang nature. Nattily clad Moses is shown against a vast sea of rubble, while accurate depictions of migrating wildfowl fly overhead. The original mural is 8' high by 12' wide, acrylic on canvas, 2016. Gaia will speak on October 23 during the Fall Lecture series the Wildlife Refuge.



Arts Afire.

Gateway was the only park among 413 NPS units to have two partner organizations receive funding from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Centennial *Imagine Your Park* grants. They were awarded to the Monmouth Arts Council, at Sandy Hook. At Jamaica Bay, Rockaway Artists Alliance received funding for its *Forbidden Fruit: Street Art in a National Park Exhibit*. This exhibit was shown at Fort Tilden this summer and we are in the process of creating an exhibit for Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge this fall, so if you missed the full size mural show you will have another chance to see it. Also, the MoMA PS1 special outdoor installation at Fort Tilden, Rockaway! with Katharine Grosse's painting and décor of former military buildings is on display through November.

At Sandy Hook, on September 17 and 18, Monmouth Arts presents *Gateway to the Arts* at Fort Hancock in partnership with the park and the NEA, to engage the public in their national park. This two-day arts fest includes swing dancing with instruction, jazz performances, guided tours of Fort Hancock, kids arts and environmental activities, "naturehood"

watch project, kite-making, coffee sack racing, face painting, community & *plein air* painting, food trucks and vendors, shuttles tours to environmental art sculptures and much more! See calendar listings below for information.

Art in a park is an idea that burns brightly Gateway. Installations including landscaping, exhibits and painting have been featured and expected by visitors. And of course there's music, dance, theater, movies... people love to attend performances in parks. Art may in fact be the main drawing point for some park units, as some were created to showcase special forms of artistic expression. And parks have always been the inspiration for art. Painters, photographers, writers, dancers, actors—all find inspiration and resonance in these spaces. In many settings the naturally occurring landscape, vista, flora and fauna, and even the soundscape are sufficiently attractive to create unbelievable parklands, but we seem to want more than nature provides.

Why do we want art in parks? What is the fascination? We love to see the addition of art... it makes it better, it communicates, adds something, it enhances the park experience.

We are going to explore *Art in the Park* as our theme for the fall lectures honoring Herbert Johnson, designer and first park manager of the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. He created a habitat for wildlife and a beautiful landscape and park setting. We are asking artists to tell us about their creation of arts programs in the park, what they do, when and where they do it. For this series fall lecture series, we are exploring that *connection* to the park...what is the story, agenda that makes their creation special, and how they feel that creating art in this park is in a special category.

We are inviting artists to give talks during this fall lecture series on Oct, 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Sundays at 2PM at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. Each will be a presentation of 50-60 minutes and then Q & A to follow.

The fall lecture series includes:

October 2. **Christine Mullally**, Education Director of long-time partner, **Rockaway Artists Alliance**, tells the story of twenty years of the arts at Gateway, and will discuss the NPS Centennial Celebration *Forbidden Fruit, Street Art in a National Park Exhibit*, funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

October 9. **Conrad Winslow**, Artistic Director of **Wild Shore New Music**, tells the story of his organization's work celebrating music in parks and the compositions inspired by national parks which they have presented.

October 16 **CERN**, who began as graffiti artist and has become a well-known **muralist**. His lifelong interaction with Queen's geography and natural habitat is handsomely depicted in his mural, *Seed Posture* which was inspired by Ft. Tilden and the blend of nature and human development there.

October 23. **Gaia** (Andrew Pisacane) street artist and **muralist**, grew up in NYC. Gaia's portrait of Robert Moses, one of the most influential figures New York's history captures and comments upon his yin yang nature. Gaia is in demand as an artist and lecturer in the US and abroad.

October 30. **Ritty Mahoney, Stage Director** at Staten Island Shakespearean Theater (SIST) tells the story of presenting live theater performances in outdoor public spaces and parks. SIST, a new partner with Gateway has done many theater performances in parks in Staten Island, and presented *Trojan Women* this summer at Fort Wadsworth.
--C. Markis

The ♥ symbol denotes a hike or walk of moderate activity. Improve your health, as you enjoy your park.

Sandy Hook--Gateway to the

Arts is a collaborative art + environment project funded primarily by the National Endowment for the Arts *Imagine Your Park* grant. Monmouth Arts has partnered with the U.S. National Park Service, Gateway National Recreation Area, Sandy Hook Unit to engage the public in their local national park through the visual and performing arts. We are creating four summer installations of temporary public art pairing artists with environmental groups at several park locations, leading up to a two-day *Zero Waste Arts Fest (ZWAF)* in partnership with artists and arts, environmental and community groups.

The four artists and their paired environmental groups are: Laura Petrovich-Cheney & Clean Ocean Action; Angeles Cossio & American Littoral Society; Manda Gorseger & National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; Lisa Bagwell & New Jersey Sea Grant Consortium. Three of the public art installations are in phases of installation leading up to the September 17 and 18 *Zero Waste Arts Fest*. These three locations are: Area D, Area E, and Gunnison Beach. The fourth installation will be constructed live, during the two-day Fest in September, at the Parade Grounds at Fort Hancock.

ZWAF will engage diverse communities through an array of arts, environmental and historical education activities, public art and battery tours, games, arts and food vendors, and overall free family fun! Shuttles will be available to take people to the three public art locations on Sandy Hook and to Battery Gunnison for historical tours provided by the Army Ground Forces Association. The Army Ground Forces Association will also be hosting a swing dance event the evening of Saturday, September 17 as the Fest ends around 4pm and the swing dancing kicks into high gear at 7PM right on the Parade Grounds! The Fest will be zero-waste as one artist will create a growing sculpture from recycled refuse

on waste and individual responsibility.

Our goal for this project is to intersect the worlds of art and local environmental science to find common grounds to engage the public through educational activities, in order to inspire and increase arts and environmental awareness and stewardship.

Bilingual signage and marketing for the public art and the festival will be available in English and Spanish.

This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, the OceanFirst Foundation, and the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders. The **Zero Waste Arts Fest** is a co-sponsored project of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

For more details on the festival and on the project, please visit: <http://monmoutharts.wix.com/imaginetheart> and check out the Sandy Hook Fall Program Guide.

--Manda Gorseger

Do you receive email notifications of Gateway's programs and events? If you are not on our mailing list and would like to be, please send a message to Charles.Markis@nps.gov, with 'program guide' in the subject line and we will add you.

Love your park? Enjoy your park? Visit often? Leave no trace. Take nothing; Leave nothing.

RECURRING PROGRAMS

Beach Clean-up

North Channel Bridge
Every Saturday ; 10 AM – 12 PM
Want to help take care of New York's National Park? Come out to the North Channel Bridge area to lend a hand for our weekly beach clean-up. Help make a difference in your local community while protecting the distressed ecosystem of Jamaica Bay. Clean-ups are in partnership with Sadhana: Coalition of Progressive Hindus.

Refuge Detectives

Second Saturday of every month
11AM – 12PM
Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Hey kids! Want to know what makes a salt marsh? How about who lives in the waters of Jamaica Bay? Join us on the second Saturday of every month as we investigate different aspects of life at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge.

Stargazing

Friday, September 9; Friday, October 7;
Friday, November 4; 8PM – 10PM
Community Gardens
Floyd Bennett Field
Come gaze at the wonders of the night sky over Floyd Bennett Field with the Amateur Astronomers Association. Weather permitting; clear or partly cloudy skies only.

Herbert Johnson Lecture Series – “Arts in the Park”

Sundays in October; 2PM – 3PM
Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
New York is a city of world-class art, and that extends to art happening in and around Jamaica Bay. Learn about art initiatives happening throughout the unit as different artists share and discuss their work each week. See listings below for a complete list of speakers.

Historic Aircraft Restoration Project

Floyd Bennett Field; Hangar B
Open House Tuesdays, Thursdays,
Saturdays; 9AM – 4PM
Ranger-Guided Tours Sundays
2PM – 4PM
Observe park volunteers as they restore vintage aircraft from Floyd Bennett Field's past. Organized group tours are available by reservation. Call (718)338-3799 to reserve.

September

Beach Plums and Goldenrod

Sunday, September 4
10:30AM – 12:30PM
Plumb Beach Round House
Explore ever-changing Plumb Beach with naturalist Mickey Maxwell Cohen. Discover its early autumn beauty, replete with groves of seaside goldenrod and ripened beach plums and learn about heroic efforts to halt the most severe beach erosion in our area. American Littoral Society/Gateway NRA Partnership Program.

Habitat Bingo and Nature Walk

Sunday, September 4
11AM – 12:30PM
Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Join us for a quick game of Habitat Bingo before we head outside and hit the trails.

Gyotaku Fish Printing

Sunday, September 4
2PM – 3PM
Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Learn about our fishy friends that reside beneath the surface of Jamaica Bay while making your own Gyotaku fish prints! Gyotaku is the traditional Japanese method of printing fish that began in the 1800's. Reservation requested: (718) 318-4340.

Writing Wild: Exploring Jamaica Bay through Poetry and Prose

Saturday, September 10
10AM – 12PM
Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Join a ranger for a meditative, engaging nature hike, accompanied by nature prose and poetry. Try your hand at penning your own works through guided writing prompts and free writes. Please bring your own notebook and writing utensil. Rain or shine. Ages 12 and up.

Wild about Wildflowers

Saturday, September 10
3PM – 4:30PM
Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Each week a new variety of

wildflowers blooms and creates the colorful canvas of the landscape. Join a ranger on this walk around Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, learn how to use a field guide to identify plants and discover the wildflower species that are in their full splendor as the autumnal season progresses. Stop to smell the roses this fall!

Birds in a Changing Climate

Sunday, September 11
10AM – 11:30AM
Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
The reaction of birds to weather has been monitored for hundreds of years and changes in the movements of some species are an indicator of the warming of the earth's atmosphere. Join a ranger for an information session on the challenges that climate change can have on habitat and birds.

Composting 101

Sunday, September 11
12PM – 2PM
Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Learn about what makes the best compost! This introductory-level workshop will focus on how you can compost food scraps in your home to make the wonderful, nutritious garden soil you'll need to grow high-quality vegetables in the spring. Learn how microbes and beneficial insects not only help but are a crucial part of the local ecosystem.

International Coastal Cleanup

Saturday, September, 17
Multiple Sites
Ocean trash is a serious pollution problem that affects the health of people, wildlife, and local economies. Come join the National Park Service and participate in the Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup at the North Channel Bridge, Frank Charles Park and other Gateway locations. Call (718) 318-4340 for more information.

Full Moon Hike

Saturday, September 17

7:30PM – 9PM

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Experience the park after dark and learn more about the nocturnal residents at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge! A flashlight and bug spray are recommended.

Creepy Crawlies

Sunday, September 18

1PM – 2:30PM

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

The itty bitsy spider is fun to learn about, and the insects are too. Hear all about creepy crawlies during this interactive family-friendly program which includes a short walk. You may wish to bring water and sun and insect protection.

Sunset Ecology Cruise Jamaica Bay

Saturday, September 24, 2016

4PM – 7PM

Pier 8, Sheepshead Bay

Explore the backwater marshes of Jamaica Bay aboard the "Golden Sunshine." See migrating herons, egrets, ibis, raptors and shorebirds and learn about the history, wildlife and ecology of the 13,000 acre preserve. Cost: \$55/person, includes 3-hour narrated tour plus wine & cheese, food, drink. Leaders: Mickey Cohen, Don Riepe. This is a partnership program with NYC Audubon, American Littoral Society and Gateway NRA. Call (718) 474-0896 or e-mail donriepe@gmail.com to reserve.

Gyotaku Fish Printing

Saturday, October 1

12PM – 1PM

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Learn about our fishy friends that reside beneath the surface of Jamaica Bay while making your own Gyotaku fish prints! Gyotaku is the traditional Japanese method of printing fish that began in the 1800's. Reservations requested: (718) 318-4340.

Walking Tour of Ft. Tilden

Sunday, October 2; 10AM – 12PM

Fort Tilden, Building 1

Join a park ranger for this walking tour along Shore Rd., and through the back fort, to discover the hidden history of this former coastal defense post.

Art in the Park Lecture: Christine Mullally

Sunday October 2; 2:00 PM

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Christine Mullally, Education Director of long-time partner, Rockaway Artists Alliance, tells the story of twenty years of the arts at Gateway, and will discuss the NPS Centennial Celebration *Forbidden Fruit, Street Art in a National Park Exhibit*, funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Fall Raptor Migration

Saturday, October 8

10AM – 1PM

Fort Tilden, Building 1

Hike along the beach, dunes and woodlands of the fort and visit the hawk watch platform on top of Battery Harris East to observe the many species of raptors migrating along the coast. Leader: Don Riepe. To reserve, call (718) 474-0896 or e-mail donriepe@gmail.com. This is a partnership program with NYC Audubon, American Littoral Society and Gateway NRA. Kids welcome.

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge: The Cultural Landscape

Sunday, October 9

12PM – 1PM

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Join a park ranger for this walking tour and discussion about how the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge came into being.

Bird Topography

Sunday, October 9; 1PM – 2PM

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Learn how to identify the basic parts of a bird, which is important to improving observational and identification skills. This fun activity shares basic bird topography with beginner and young birders and then puts the skills in to practice during a short guided walk.

Art in the Park Lecture:

Conrad Winslow

Sunday, October 9

2:00 PM

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Conrad Winslow, Artistic Director of Wild Shore New Music, tells the story of his organization's work celebrating music in parks and the compositions inspired by national parks which they have presented.

Canarsie Pier and Beach

Sunday, October 16

10:30AM – 12:30PM

Canarsie Pier

Meet at the historic pier at Canarsie and learn about Pre-World War II plans to construct dozens of wharves and storage facilities in a partially filled-in Jamaica Bay. Join naturalist Mickey Maxwell Cohen on a hike along a biologically-rich intertidal beach on a search for native flora and fauna. American Littoral Society/Gateway NRA Partnership Program.

Famous Flyers of Floyd Bennett Field

Sunday, October 16

1:30PM – 2:30PM

Floyd Bennett Field - Ryan Visitor Center

Join a park ranger for a presentation to learn about some of the famous pilots associated with Floyd Bennett Field's rich aviation history.

Art in the Park Lecture: CERN

Sunday, October 16;

2:00 PM

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
CERN, who began as graffiti artist and has become a well-known muralist. His lifelong interaction with Queen's geography and natural habitat is handsomely depicted in his mural, *Seed Posture*, which was inspired by Ft. Tilden and the blend of nature and human development there.

Full Moon Hike

Sunday, October 16

7PM – 8:30PM

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Experience the park after dark and learn more about the nocturnal residents at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge! A flashlight and bug spray are recommended.

Art in the Park Lecture: Gaia

Sunday October 23;

2:00 PM

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Gaia, (Andrew Pisacane) street artist and muralist, grew up in NYC. Gaia's portrait of Robert Moses, one of the most influential figures New York's history captures and comments upon his yin yang nature. Gaia is in demand as an artist and lecturer in the US and abroad.

Garden Restoration Project Phase II

October 25 – 29

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Come get your hands dirty and help us restore the South Garden to a more natural habitat. We will be planting over 10,000 native trees and shrubs over several days. Volunteers of all ages and abilities are welcome; there will be a job for everyone. Registration is required. Call (718) 318-4340 for more information.

Art in the Park Lecture: Ritty Mahoney

Sunday October 30;

2:00 PM

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Ritty Mahoney, Stage Director at Staten Island Shakespearean Theater (SIST) tells the story of presenting live theater performances in outdoor public spaces and parks. SIST, a new partner at Gateway has done many theater performances in parks in Staten Island, and presented *Trojan Women* this summer at Fort Wadsworth.

Lantern Tour of Fort Tilden

Sunday, October 30

7:30PM – 8:30PM

Fort Tilden, Building 1

Join a Park Ranger to experience and learn about historic Fort Tilden, during our annual evening lantern tour. Bring a flashlight and dress for the weather. Space is limited; call (718) 338-3799 for reservations.

Walking Tour of Ft. Tilden

Sunday, November 6

10AM – 12PM

Fort Tilden, Building 1

Join a park ranger for this walking tour along Shore Road and through the back fort to discover the hidden history of this former coastal defense post.

Birdhouse Building and Feeder Workshop

Sunday, November 6

12PM – 1:30PM

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

It's never too early to start building birdhouses for next spring. Join us for a workshop to build and paint bird feeders and bird houses.

Owl Prowl

Sunday, November 6

1:30PM – 3PM

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Junior Rangers are invited to an owl adventure. Learn about owls and their habitat through a hike and an owl pellet investigation. Dress for the weather and wear comfortable shoes.

Naval Aviation in Jamaica Bay

Friday, November 11

11AM – 12PM

Floyd Bennett Field

Ryan Visitor Center

Join the National Park Service as we honor our veterans and learn about U. S. Naval Aviation's long history at Jamaica Bay.

Animal Origami

Friday, November 11

2PM – 3PM

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Practice the humble art of paperfolding on World Origami Day and celebrate Veteran's Day by learning how to make a paper crane, a traditional Japanese

Explore the Mysterious Back Woods at Fort Tilden

Sunday, November 13

10AM – 12PM

Fort Tilden, Building 1

The leaves will have fallen and the mysteries of the Back Woods at Ft. Tilden are now revealed. Walk the woods with naturalist Mickey Maxwell Cohen to witness the beauty of autumn and discover little-known historic fortifications of World War II. American Littoral Society/Gateway NRA Partnership Program.

Native American Plant Uses

Sunday, November 13

2PM – 3PM

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

In honor of Native American Heritage month, join us on a walk along the refuge ponds as we discuss how Jamaica Bay's first residents used natural resources for medicine, footwear and more.

Winter Waterfowl Workshop

Saturday, November 19

10AM – 1PM

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Enjoy a slide program and hike around the ponds of the refuge to look for migrating and wintering ducks and geese. Learn about their behavior and biology and how to identify them in the wild. Leaders: Don Riepe and Tod Winston. To reserve call (718) 474-0896 or e-mail donriep@gmail.com. American Littoral Society, NYC Audubon, and Gateway NRA Partnership Program. Kids welcome.

--end of listings--