



Visitor Programs and Events

Fall 2016

Staten Island, 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 at 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"

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 at 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 or 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 amassed during the two days—making a statement piece

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.

September

Sunday Goat Talks

Fort Wadsworth Overlook
Sundays,
September 4, 11, 18, 25; 2 PM- 3 PM
Learn how the National Park Service uses goats at Fort Wadsworth to control vegetation and how we care for them. Call 718 354-4655 for questions.

Horseshoe Crab Molt Count and Beachcombing Journal Hike

Great Kills Park Beach Center
Lot G (flagpole)
Saturday, September 10
9:30AM – 12:30PM
Investigate the wrack line, the line of debris left on the beach by high tide. Join us for this exploration in all things left behind, with an emphasis on horseshoe crab molts. We will count these discarded shells in an effort to understanding the population of horseshoe crabs that live near our shore. Dress appropriately, bring water and lunch. The walk will begin at Great Kills Park and end at Fort Wadsworth- you can drop out at any point, but you must arrange for transportation. Hiking close to the shore, you may get your feet wet! Registration required, call (718)354-4655. ♥ 6.2 miles

Coastal Defense Trail Hike and Fort Tour

Fort Wadsworth
Meet at the Overlook
Monday, September 12
1PM – 2:30PM
Hike the overlook loop, along the paths at Fort Wadsworth. Bring binoculars, and comfortable shoes. Reservations required, call (718)354-4655. ♥ 2 miles

International Beach Clean-Up

Great Kills Beach Center Lot G
Saturday, September 17 (Rain Date:
Sunday, September 18)
11AM – 1PM
This is the 31st Annual New York State Beach Cleanup sponsored by the

American Littoral Society. Document what litters our shores, and send the data to help quantify patterns over time. Bring gloves, water, and sunscreen. Call (718)354-4655 for reservations. ♥ 2 miles

Who Lived in Fort Wadsworth?

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center
Saturday, September 17
2PM – 3PM
Learn the story of soldiers' and their families living in the fort long ago. Take a brief tour of Fort Tompkins and Officers' Row with a ranger and then draw a picture or write a story about life in the fort. Call for more information on this kid-friendly program: (718)354-4500.

A Soldier's Life

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center
Wednesday, September 21
1PM – 2PM
Join a ranger for a Powerpoint program about how soldiers lived in Fort Wadsworth in the past. Explore the difference between an enlisted man's barracks and officer's housing on Officer's Row. Afterward tour Fort Tompkins and stroll down Mont Sec Avenue. Call for information: (718)354-4500.

Stargazing

Amateur Astronomers Association of New York
Saturday, September 24; 8:30PM – 10PM
Great Kills Park, Lot A
The Staten Island Chapter of the Amateur Astronomer's Association hosts public stargazing at the main parking area, Lot A. Inclement weather will cancel this program.

October

Annual Monarch/Dragonfly Migration Hike

Great Kills Park Beach Center
Lot G (flagpole)
Sunday, October 2
1PM – 3PM
Join a National Park Service ranger for the annual hike to view the migration of the monarch butterflies and dragonflies. Be a citizen scientist and assist with tagging butterflies. Must wear long pants and closed shoes due to burr-bearing vegetation. For reservations, call (718)354-4655. ♥ 2 miles

Hidden Treasures of Tidal Pools

Great Kills Park Lot
Playground
Tuesday, October 4
10AM – 12PM
Discover the animals that call the tide pools home. Bring binoculars, and comfortable shoes. Reservations required at (718)354-4655. ♥2 miles

Annual Monarch/Dragonfly Migration Hike

Great Kills Park Beach Center
Lot G (flagpole)
Wednesday, October 12
10AM – 12PM
Join a National Park Service ranger for the annual hike to view the migration of the monarch butterflies and dragonflies. Be a citizen scientist and assist with tagging butterflies. Must wear long pants and closed shoes due to burr-bearing vegetation. For reservations, call (718)354-4655. ♥ 2 miles

Coastal Defense Trail Hike and Fort Tour

Fort Wadsworth
Meet at the Overlook
Wednesday, October 12
3PM – 4:30PM
Hike the overlook loop, along the paths at Fort Wadsworth. Bring binoculars, and comfortable shoes. Reservations required at (718)354-4655. ♥ 2 miles

Find Your Park: Whooo's in the Park?

For Kids
Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center
Saturday, October 15
2PM – 3PM
Join us at Fort Wadsworth and learn "whooo's" in the park. Children will listen to a story and learn about animals in National Parks and make a bookmark to take home. Reservations are required: (718)354-4500.

Greenbelt to Great Kills Hike

Meet at Carousel in Willowbrook Park (at the end of Eton place)
Sunday, October 16; 10AM – 12PM
Join the Greenbelt educators and National Park Service rangers for a hike from forest to field to coastal habitat. The White Trail of the Greenbelt connects to Great Kills Park. Please dress appropriately for weather conditions and make arrangements for transportation back to the Carousel, or arrange to depart from the Great Kills Park parking lot at Hylan Blvd. and Buffalo St. Bring water and a snack. Registration required, call (718)351-3450. ♥ 5 miles.

The Art of the Letter as History

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center
Wednesday, October 19; 1PM – 2PM
Before email, texting and Twitter, there was the letter. Join a ranger for a Powerpoint presentation and discussion about letter writing 100 years ago. We will peruse letters written by a Civil War enlisted soldier and those written by an officer's wife in 1887.

Stargazing

Amateur Astronomers Association of New York
Saturday, October 2
8:30PM – 10PM
Great Kills Park Lot A
The Staten Island Chapter of the Amateur Astronomer's Association hosts public stargazing at the main parking area, lot A. Inclement weather will cancel this program.

Beachcombing Wrack Line Journal Hike

Great Kills Park Beach Center Lot G (Flagpole)
Sunday, October 23; 2 PM -3:30 PM
Investigate the wrack line, the line of debris left on the beach by high tide. Join us for this exploration as we tally and illustrate findings, in an effort to understand species and populations that live near our shore. Dress appropriately, bring water and snack. Hiking close to the shore, you may get your feet wet! Registration required, call (718)354-4655. ♥ 2 miles.

Ghostly Intimations at Fort Wadsworth

Saturday, October 29; 8PM – 10PM
Meet at the Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center
Fee program. Get spooked at Fort Tompkins! Join us for an evening presentation exploring the fringes of photography, Victorian art, and occult phenomena.. Bring your own seating (blankets, chairs) and flashlights! Cocktail party at Alice Austen House to follow at 10PM. Tickets required and must be purchased in advance. Produced with The Museum of Morbid Anatomy and Alice Austen House. Visit aliceausten.org for tickets and more information.

November

Tell Me about a Civil War Soldier

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center
Saturday, November 5
2PM – 3PM
Children are invited to join a ranger to learn about soldiers during the Civil War. What did they carry? What did they eat? Learn what a Civil War soldier might have thought about Fort Wadsworth at this time? Come to the program and find out. Call for information. Reservations are required: (718)354-4500.

Stargazing

Amateur Astronomers Association of New York
Saturday, November 5
Great Kills Park Lot A
8:30PM – 10PM
The Staten Island Chapter of the Amateur Astronomer's Association hosts public stargazing at the main parking area, lot A. Inclement weather will cancel this program.

Fall Hike and Fort Tour

Fort Wadsworth
Meet at the Overlook
Sunday, November 6
3PM – 4:30PM
Hike the overlook loop, along the paths at Fort Wadsworth. Bring binoculars, and comfortable shoes. Reservations required at (718)354-4655. ♥ 2 miles.

Nursing in the Civil War

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center
Wednesday, November 9
1PM – 2PM
Join us for a Powerpoint program about the brave women who nursed and aided soldiers in the Civil War. Overcoming hostile doctors and unaccepting military, women nurses worked in difficult and overwhelming circumstances to tend to the nations wounded. Learn about New York City's role in establishing the United States Sanitary Commission and the role of Dorothea Dix, Elizabeth Blackwell and Clara Barton in the. Call for information at (718)354-4500.

Beachcombing Wrack Line Journal Hike

Great Kills Park Beach Center Lot G (Flagpole)
Sunday, November 13
2PM – 3:30PM
Investigate the wrack line, the line of debris left on the beach by high tide. Join us for this exploration as we tally and illustrate findings, in an effort to understand species and populations that live near our shore. Dress appropriately, bring water and snack. Hiking close to the shore, you may get your feet wet! Registration required, call (718)354-4655. ♥ 2 miles.

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