



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**EMERALD NECKLACE CONSERVANCY ANNOUNCES
16TH ANNUAL PARTY IN THE PARK LUNCHEON**

Night at the Boston Symphony Orchestra and "Must Attend" Party in the Park at Franklin Park

Boston, MA – The [Emerald Necklace Conservancy](#) is kicking off its fundraising season to support the Justine Mee Liff Fund with a concert at the Boston Symphony Orchestra, followed by the must-attend 16th Annual *Party in the Park* luncheon. Designed to raise funds and awareness for the Emerald Necklace, the city's beloved annual event will be held on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at the Franklin Park Playstead.

"The Emerald Necklace is a 1,100-acre park system that serves as a backyard for City residents and a destination for more than one million visitors each year," said *Party in the Park* founder Wendy Shattuck. "Thanks to the dedication of many over the years, we are looking forward to a successful fundraiser to continue to restore and maintain Olmsted's landscape masterpiece."

Last year, the luncheon raised over \$1.24 million for special restoration projects in the park system throughout Boston and Brookline. Held in spring for the past 15 consecutive years, the event attracts 800 of Boston's most notable women and gentlemen for a stylish afternoon under a tent. *Party in the Park* will be held at Franklin Park, the largest park in the system at over 500 acres, and considered by Frederick Law Olmsted the "crowning jewel" of the Necklace.

Party in the Park will feature the presentation of the Liff Spirit Award to a superior park advocate who has made an indelible impact on the preservation of parks and open space.

"*Party in the Park*, the signature fundraising event for the Emerald Necklace Conservancy, funds capital improvements and important tree care in the parks," noted Karen Mauney-Brodek, President of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy. "We are extremely proud of the work the Conservancy does each year to maintain, improve, and celebrate our parks, which are such an important part of our city,



communities, environment and of Frederick Law Olmsted's legacy. We are grateful to the community for its support, and to the *Party in the Park* committee, whose hard work and dedication make Party in the Park's season of events so successful."

***Party in the Park* Fundraising Season:**

Night at Symphony

Tuesday, February 5, 2019; Boston Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston
6:30pm - Pre-concert reception and raffle at Symphony Hall in the Cabot-Cahners Room
8:00pm - Concert

Conducted by Juanjo Mena featuring
Julian Rachlin on violin
HAYDN Symphony No.44, Trauer
MENDELSSOHN Violin Concerto
JANÁČEK Suite from *The Cunning Little Vixen*
JANÁČEK *Sinofonietta*

All funds raised at the Night at Symphony go to the Justine Mee Liff Fund for the Emerald Necklace. Supporter-level tickets with preferred seating are \$250; individual tickets are \$150.

Members of the public are invited to purchase tickets online

<http://www.emeraldnecklace.org/party-in-the-park/night-at-symphony/> or by calling 617.522.2700.

16th Annual *Party in the Park* Luncheon

Wednesday, May 15, 2019; Franklin Park Playstead, Pierpont Road, Boston

11:00am - Reception

12:00pm - Luncheon

Boston's most generous philanthropists and park supporters will be in attendance at *Party in the Park*, widely considered the city's "Must-Attend Fundraiser." More than 800 women (and a few brave gentlemen) will mingle under a tent on the picturesque grounds of the Playstead in Franklin Park,

wearing their finest millinery. From picture hats and fascinators to cloches and pillboxes, every conceivable type of headgear will be on display. Festive spring décor, including stunning Winston Flowers arrangements, will grace the venue while attendees enjoy a champagne and hors d'oeuvres reception, courtesy of The Catered Affair, before lunch is served.

Proceeds from *Party in the Park* benefit the Justine Mee Liff Fund, named in honor of the late Boston Parks Commissioner, who served from 1996 until her untimely passing in 2002. Liff's vision, leadership and dedication have encouraged a new generation of park supporters and advocates dedicated to the



continual restoration and enhancement of the historic Olmsted-designed Emerald Necklace. *Party in the Park* continues Liff's legacy of bringing people together to support and champion the parks. The Liff Fund supports the Emerald Necklace's renewal initiatives, including major capital improvements like buildings, water fountain/bottle fillers, pathways and footbridges, as well as landscape restoration and other specialized activities such as tree plantings and installing lighting, signage, and park furniture. Additional fundraising opportunities to benefit the Justine Mee Liff Fund include an exciting "fund-a-need" auction and a luxury raffle at the luncheon. Members of the public are invited to purchase tickets online <https://www.emeraldnecklace.org/party-in-the-park/purchase-tickets/>

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About the Emerald Necklace Conservancy

The Emerald Necklace Conservancy is a non-profit organization founded in 1998 to steward and champion the Emerald Necklace, Boston's largest park system. The Conservancy protects, restores, helps maintain and promotes the Emerald Necklace's six distinct parks designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, and comprises 1,100 acres of meadows, woodlands, and paths. In collaboration with its public partners, the Conservancy provides maintenance of the parks and capital restoration projects, free cultural events, visitor services and environmental education. The parks serve as a respite from the city, a valuable commuting connector and a community convener for more than one million residents and tourists each year. Learn more at www.emeraldnecklace.org.

For more information, please contact:

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