

GREEN- WOOD



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Established in 1838, The Green-Wood Cemetery, a National Historic Landmark, is recognized as one of the world's most beautiful cemeteries. As the permanent residence of over 580,000 individuals, Green-Wood's magnificent grounds, grand architecture, and world-class statuary have made it a destination for nearly 450,000 visitors in 2023, including national and international tourists, New Yorkers, and Brooklynites. At the same time, Green-Wood is also an outdoor museum, an arboretum, and a repository of history. Throughout the year, it offers innovative programs in arts and culture, nature and the environment, education, workforce development, restoration, and scholarly research.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT



Richard J. Moylan

This was a year of innovation for Green-Wood. We broke ground on our new Education & Welcome Center. We began work on a massive stormwater management initiative. We opened our first-ever dedicated area for green burials at Cedar Dell. For the first time, we offered “Tree Lots”, which allow families to utilize one of Green-Wood’s beautiful trees as a grave marker. And we also hosted a fresh new repertoire of arts and cultural programs on the grounds.

While innovation has been a hallmark of Green-Wood since its earliest days, the Education & Welcome Center will be a game changer. On May 23rd, we gathered to celebrate the groundbreaking on this structure, which will connect our restoration of the landmarked Weir Greenhouse with 20,400 square feet of new construction. When completed in 2025, the Center will offer visitors a place where they can be introduced to Green-Wood before exploring our 478 acres of art, history, and nature. The space will also house an exhibition gallery, a classroom, a new Center for Research, and more. Staff offices will be upstairs. The beautifully restored Weir Greenhouse (built in 1895) will offer exhibitions, a large-scale map of Green-Wood embedded into the floor tile, and an area that can be made available for community or private events. Of course, the interior beauty of the Victorian-era greenhouse itself may well be the main attraction. Importantly, the Center will allow us to offer comfortable indoor space for expanded year-round programs.

Our school programs had some important breakthroughs as well. Green-Wood forged a unique partnership with nearby PS 958, an inclusive elementary school that opened its doors in fall 2022. Students from the school came to Green-Wood weekly as part of our shared “Community and Sensory Exploration” program. By getting the kids outdoors, connecting them to nature, and inspiring questions about the world around them, this program has attracted the attention of the press and many educational leaders in New York City. We are very proud that, collectively, our school educational programs served over 5,000 3K-12th grade students in 2023.

Outside the classroom, Green-Wood continues to be a leader in environmental resilience, working to mitigate the impact of climate change in our community. As anyone who lives in New York City can tell you, the city’s infrastructure for wastewater is outdated and

This timeless and beautiful historic landscape offers solace and tranquility to everyone throughout the year.

overburdened. Our stormwater management project will use innovative strategies to keep rainwater here on the grounds during a storm event, and out of the city's sewer system. Large water storage basins and new permeable pavers will allow rainwater to seep into the ground, diverting 50 million gallons annually from the city's infrastructure. We're grateful to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation and the NYC Department of Environmental Protection for grants of \$1.775 million and \$600,000, respectively. Construction on the initial components began in November.

In the arts and cultural arena, our programs continued to delight audiences and find new ways to interpret this historic cemetery. We hosted the Limón Dance Company, which performed *Orfeo*, along with other pieces, in an evening entitled *Exploring the Underworld*. We staged an evening, hosted by artist Danny Simmons, to honor permanent resident Jean-Michel Basquiat with performances in dance, spoken word, and song. Other highlights of the 2023 calendar included Concerts in the Catacombs, *Nightfall*, Open Doors, and our annual Spirited Strolls.

I've seen a lot of innovation and change at Green-Wood in my 37 years as president. But some things will never change. The compassionate service we provide to families. The dedication of our staff. And the ability of this beautiful landscape to offer solace and tranquility to everyone throughout the year.

Finally, I have to end on a bittersweet note. We at Green-Wood were humbled and thrilled when Spike Lee, the award-winning filmmaker and actor, agreed to accept our highest honor, the DeWitt Clinton Award at our 2023 gala. So, why bittersweet? The event was scheduled for June 8th, the day when smoke from Canadian wildfires put New York City's air quality into the danger zone. Out of an abundance of caution, we canceled the event. We're grateful to Spike for his gracious response and continue to be very proud of our association with this quintessential Brooklyn filmmaker.

FROM THE CHAIR



Peter W. Davidson

Big things are happening at Green-Wood.

Our Education & Welcome Center, now under construction and expected to open in 2025, will elevate visitor experience by providing expert guidance on how to explore the grounds, a community space for public programs, a setting for research and education, and more. An exhibition gallery will offer context on the Green-Wood's past, present, and future. Our Center for Research will, for the first time, offer access to thousands of one-of-a-kind archival documents. We'll also be able to showcase many of our innovative measures to bolster climate resilience—a topic of great interest to me personally—throughout the grounds. Many visitors will also enjoy the indoor classroom that will provide our education programs a home for year-round learning.

All of us connected with Green-Wood know that it deserves special care and innovative planning to ensure its long-term health and continual improvement, blending history with forward-looking endeavors. As the City's oldest intact landscape, at 185 years old, it spans 478 acres of rolling hills, glacial ponds, and winding pathways. It is a living museum, an arboretum, a center for learning, and a spectacular venue for the performing and visual arts. It is also a hub for environmental initiatives. Above all, Green-Wood stands as a sacred space, honoring the memories of over 580,000 individuals who rest here. It's no wonder that in 2023, even before we open the Education & Welcome Center, more than 450,000 visitors came to and enjoyed Green-Wood.

As you read through this annual report, I hope you feel as inspired as I do by the incredible achievements of our highly committed and dedicated staff and board. Their talent, hard work and commitment are essential to our collective success, and it is an honor to work with them.

Equally important is our gratitude to you. All members, volunteers, donors, patrons, and supporters make our work possible. We deeply appreciate your support and collaboration. We encourage even greater and wider involvement and support for Green-Wood, a true gem in New York City and beyond. We look forward to continuing to improve and expand our community's experience of this remarkable place.

Planning for the Future



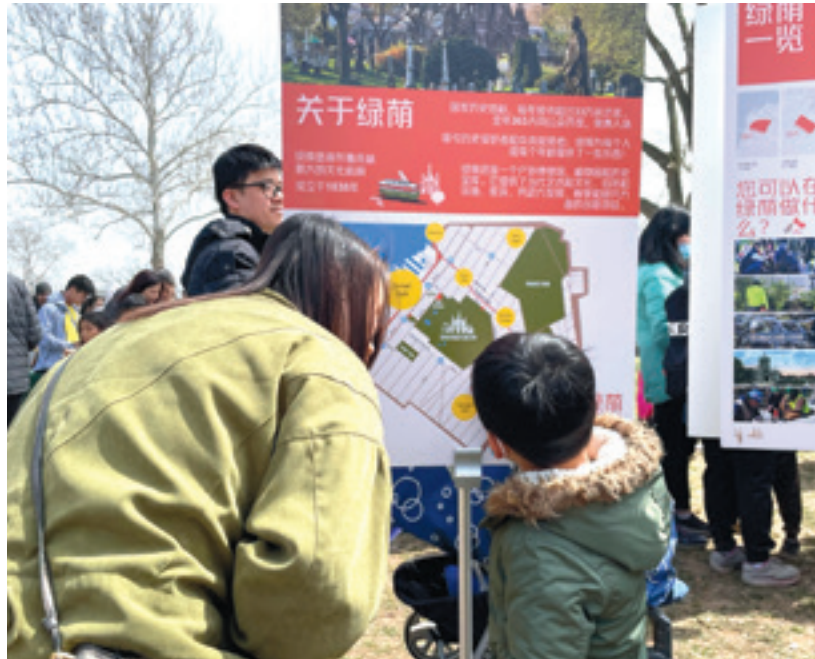
BACKGROUND: C&G PARTNERS / RENDERING BY ARCHITECTURE RESEARCH OFFICE

Green-Wood stands at a pivotal moment in its history, poised to expand its offerings with the opening of the Education & Welcome Center.

Understanding our Community

In 2023, Green-Wood commissioned a community engagement plan from Grain, a Brooklyn-based urban planning firm. The goal was to raise awareness of Green-Wood's activities, particularly the forthcoming Education & Welcome Center, within the Sunset Park community and gather feedback. Through small group meetings, listening sessions, multi-lingual workshops, and surveys, Grain gathered input from neighborhood residents, community leaders, local organizations, and elected officials. In July, they delivered a final report of their findings and recommendations, which will be critical in shaping Green-Wood's future programming. The plan outlines ways to actively engage with Sunset Park residents, including the building of community partnerships and developing tailored programs and initiatives.

To gain insight into how we can best serve Green-Wood's many audiences, a visitor experience audit was commissioned from Samir Bitar of The Art of Consulting. Samir is the former Director of Visitor Experience for the Smithsonian Institution. His process assessed the current visitor experience and identified areas for improvement through a series of visitor surveys and interviews, staff discussions and brainstorming, and an audit of internal systems that support visitor interactions. He delivered a final report with a list of actionable recommendations.



Left: Rendering of the Education & Welcome Center by Architecture Research Office.

Right: A community engagement session in Sunset Park.



“A project like this doesn’t just happen. It’s the concerted effort of the entire community working together, putting forth their vision, putting forth their dreams, but also hearing from the community and hearing what they need and what they want”

LAURIE CUMBO
Commissioner of the NYC
Department of Cultural Affairs

Gearing Up for the Education & Welcome Center

Significant progress was made on the Education & Welcome Center, slated to open in fall 2025. The restoration of the historic Weir Greenhouse was completed by West New York, which included the installation of the sloped glazing (greenhouse windows) designed by Walter B. Melvin and Associates. On Tuesday, May 23rd, guests, staff, project contributors, and Trustees gathered beside the Greenhouse to celebrate the start of construction on the new building. President Richard J. Moylan and Chair Peter W. Davidson were joined by Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso; Commissioner of the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs Laurie Cumbo; District 38 NYC Council Member Alexa Avilés; and Executive Director of the New York State Council on the Arts Mara Manus for a ceremonial groundbreaking. Senior Vice Presidents Lisa Alpert and Eric Barna joined them and also gave brief remarks.

The firm C&G Partners was selected in 2022 to design the Education & Welcome Center’s primary exhibition gallery, greenhouse interior, and reception lobby. They presented their final concept design in July 2023. The planned exhibition gallery will highlight Green-Wood’s history, architectural and landscape features, and notable permanent residents, while the Greenhouse will feature a large-scale artistic map of the Cemetery in tile on the floor. Meanwhile, the design firm Pentagram developed a new branding and identity package for Green-Wood that will guide signage, wayfinding, and text panels for the Center.

Green-Wood welcomed five new Trustees in 2023.

Additions to the Board

Meryl Breidbart is a creative strategist, designer, and entrepreneur whose expertise extends to crafting dynamic brands, developing websites, and formulating strategies for social impact organizations.

Catherine Feldman is the Head of Community at the investment firm Thrive Capital.

Michelle Nasir is an independent consultant who has deep expertise and experience in human capital, including M&A due diligence, executive coaching, succession planning, organizational design, and talent acquisition.

Elyse Newman also works as an independent consultant, having spent her career working on behalf of New York City's cultural institutions and green spaces, most recently at Prospect Park Alliance.

John T. Reddick, is an architectural preservationist and historian and serves as the Director of Community Engagement Projects for the Central Park Conservancy.

In May, we received notice of a grant award of \$1.5 million from the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA), bringing the total NYSCA funding to date to \$2 million. Further, New York State Assembly Members Robert Carroll and Marcela Mitaynes and State Senators Andrew Gounardes and Iwen Chu each earmarked \$125,000 in additional State funds. This brings the total of government funding, including federal funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities, to \$18.4 million.

Capital campaign Co-Chairs and Trustees, Peter W. Davidson and Carla P. Shen, kicked off the silent phase of capital fundraising from individuals in summer 2023. By the end of the year, nearly all of Green-Wood's Trustees had made pledges to the project. We were pleased and delighted to be awarded a \$500,000 grant from the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation to support the Center for Research within the new structure.

Nature & the Environment



Since Green-Wood's founding in 1838, a connection to nature has been central to the Cemetery's identity. Today, Green-Wood is committed to environmental sustainability and climate resilience through education, scholarship, and strategic decisions about the use of Cemetery space.



Ecological Research

Green-Wood continued to serve as a field site for urban ecological research. We welcomed our 2023 environmental research fellows in February. Erica Kirchhof, a PhD student in the Department of Horticulture of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, studied the cold hardiness and dormancy of woody perennial plants at Green-Wood. Additionally, a cohort of researchers from Genspace, a Brooklyn-based community biology lab, and local high school interns studied the bacteria that live around the root systems of trees and plants throughout Green-Wood.

Our collaboration with the United States Forest Service continued. Green-Wood arborists sent samples from thirty trees to the Forest Service's entomology lab for its survey of wood-boring beetles. Green-Wood also assisted the Early Detection and Rapid Response program of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Our team set pheromone traps for invasive forest insects and forwarded samples every two weeks from May through July 2023 to the DEC's laboratories in Albany.

Left: Assessing tree health through excavation and examination of its root collar (where the trunk meets the roots).

Right: A researcher at Genspace studying the bacteria composition of soil from Green-Wood.



Stormwater Project

This year marked the first stage of a multi-phase stormwater management initiative that will prevent millions of gallons of runoff from entering the city’s outdated and overburdened combined sewer system annually. It will also enable us to repurpose pond water for irrigating the Cemetery, reducing our use of water from the city’s water system.

The first phase of the project was the building of an underground storage tank with a rain garden filter. Located at the Cemetery’s service yard near the Sunset Park Entrance, it was designed to collect stormwater runoff. Designed by engineering firm Arcadis and installed by Galvin Brothers, a green infrastructure contractor, it was completed in December 2023. Work on components of the project involving the glacial pond, Sylvan Water, will begin in early 2024.

The project is funded by a \$1,775,000 award from the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation’s Green Innovation Grant Program and supplemented by \$600,000 from the New York City Department of Environmental Protection’s NYC Resilient Partners Program.

Landscape Management

Sustainability remains a key priority in managing our landscape. In 2023, we continued to build on our Rethinking Urban Grasslands initiative, established with Cornell University’s School of Integrative Plant Science in 2017. The goal is to reduce mowing frequency in key areas of Green-Wood, reducing our use of fossil-fuel burning lawnmowers. We now maintain nearly forty acres of grassland as managed meadows. The strategy also reduces the risk of damage to gravestones from mowing and provides critical habitat for pollinators and birds. The 1.2-acre wildflower meadow along Magnolia and Lake Avenues had its first bloom season. Designed by Larry Weaner Landscape Associates and seeded in fall 2022, the meadow is being used to test different combinations of native grasses and wildflowers. Our goal is to determine an ideal mix of plant species to introduce in additional areas of the Cemetery.

To combat erosion at the steep bank that abuts Fifth Avenue and Lot No. 39000, which had been overtaken by non-native growth, we planted a sustainable microforest with native trees, shrubs, wildflowers, and grasses. Additionally, the turf in the front of the Delafield vault was replaced with a garden of drought-tolerant native shrubs and wildflowers that will outcompete non-native species and require minimal maintenance throughout the year.



Tree Care

As an accredited Level III arboretum, Green-Wood places a top priority on the health of its Living Collection. In 2023, over 400 trees were pruned to support their health and development, 115 unstable or diseased trees were removed, and 232 new trees were planted. Just over 2,200 cubic yards of the wood chips produced from the removed trees were sent to composting sites and community gardens. One hundred sixty-two trees received treatment applications by Emerald Tree Care to support their vitality and help prevent pests and disease. Seventy-seven trees were field inspected by Christopher Fields Johnson, PhD, from The Davey Institute.

In December, The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation awarded Green-Wood \$93,000 to conduct a new tree inventory and assessment in 2024. The inventory will be a critical tool for management of the arboretum, helping us to identify and reduce potential hazards, establish optimal pruning schedules, and set goals for tree removals and plantings. The award is funded through the Urban and Community Forestry Grants from the State's Environmental Protection Fund.

Wildlife

In June, 2023, Green-Wood completed a retrofit of 8,000 square feet of windows at the Hillside Mausoleum. "Feathered Friendly," a plastic film with a dot pattern that deters birds from colliding with the glass, was installed. In partnership with NYC Bird Alliance (formerly known as NYC Audubon), the initiative mitigates the threat to birds that mistake reflections in the glass for an open flyway, and collide with the windows.

PhD student Laura Plimpton continued her fieldwork at Green-Wood studying wildlife disease in urban mammals, with support of the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

After we received calls about a stray dog loose on the grounds, Queens-based animal rescues Zion's Mission and Sasha's Mission stepped in to humanely trap the dog, who they named Cypress after the avenue on which she was trapped at Green-Wood.

Arts & Culture



Green-Wood is venue for a wide variety of programs, from site-specific installations inspired by the Cemetery to dynamic musical and dance performances and more.



Art Installations

Acclaimed dancer and interdisciplinary artist Eiko Otake created an installation in the Historic Chapel, entitled *Mother*. The work paired video and sculpture to reflect on Otake’s relationship with her own mother, who passed away in 2019. She also presented a performance, *With the Dead*, in conjunction with the installation.

In summer 2023, Green-Wood’s second annual artist in residence, Rowan Renee, presented the culmination of their year-long exploration of the Cemetery and its extensive archives. *The Perimeter Path* was a site-specific installation in the Historic Chapel that examined how race and class influence memorialization. The work was composed of hundreds of hand-crafted pieces. Many were made from materials sourced at the Cemetery. Renee also hosted a discussion and several walking tours to the public lots that inspired the installation. Our 2023–2024 artist in residence, pianist and author Adam Tandler, began his work in the Fort Hamilton Gatehouse in September.

In recognition of Día de los Muertos, artist Cinthya Santos-Briones created a large-scale community altar in the Historic Chapel, where visitors were invited to pay tribute to lost loved ones. The installation, titled *Mictlán*, incorporated indigenous traditions with well-known images and symbols associated with contemporary Día de los Muertos celebrations. Thousands of tributes were left over the installation’s five-week run. The altar also served as a centerpiece for our annual Day of the Dead Family Day. At the free event, we welcomed community partners including arts organizations and Sunset Park businesses, for an afternoon of crafts, performances, food, and celebration in honor of the holiday.

Green-Wood presented a youth art exhibition, *The Door Project*, in collaboration with the Art Students League of New York’s Seeds of the League program. It featured twelve artworks created by

Left: Artist in residence Rowan Renee’s installation, *The Perimeter Path*.

Right: A performance by the Limón Dance Company



Acclaimed artist Eiko Otake and her installation *Mother* in Green-Wood's Historic Chapel.

Brooklyn public school students and teaching artists who used ordinary doors as their canvases. The works, which reflected on the literal and conceptual nature of doors, were on display at the Fort Hamilton Parkway Entrance from June through September.

Engaging Programs

Visitor-favorite programs returned alongside our walking and trolley tours. *A Night at Niblo's Garden* ran for two nights in July, featuring performances by Bindlestiff Family Cirkus. Artist Gelsey Bell curated an experimental music series in our Catacombs. In October, thousands gathered for *Nightfall*, an immersive cemetery-wide spectacle. Co-curated with Death of Classical and Rooftop Films, it featured entertainment by Bindlestiff Family Cirkus, Rooftop Films, and Morbid Anatomy. We also hosted outdoor screenings with Rooftop Films, a live storytelling event with The Moth, and the fifth series of the *Angel's Share* concert series with Death Of Classical.

We also welcomed new collaborators. In May, the world-renowned Limón Dance Company presented *Exploring the Underworld*, set in front of our Historic Chapel. In September, Wordsmith and artist Danny Simmons came together to present *From Canvas to Stage: A Tribute to Basquiat*. The showcase featured music, poetry and visual art celebrating the life and legacy of iconic artist and Green-Wood permanent resident Jean-Michel Basquiat.

In October, Green-Wood collaborated with WORTHLESSSTUDIOS as part of FREE FILM: NYC, an initiative to document each borough of the City through photographs taken by community members. As they focused on Sunset Park, an Airstream parked beside the Gothic Arch served as both a studio for artist-in-residence Adalena Kavanagh (a photographer and Sunset Park High School librarian) and a site for distributing free rolls of film to the public.

The annual Memorial Day concert returned for its 23rd year, presented with the support of Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso and featuring the talented young musicians of the ISO at Third Street Symphonic Band.

With 185 years of history and countless natural and human-made assets across our grounds, Green-Wood is the perfect place to learn and engage.

Education & History

Interns of the Summer Youth Employment Program unearthing sunken monuments in public lot 11189, which dates to 1865.



School Programs

Our education department continued to engage 3K-12th grade students in programs that utilize the Cemetery's resources in art, history, and nature. In 2023, Green-Wood educators led 247 school programs, serving nearly 5,000 students. For the 2023–2024 school year, we offered over twenty different programs for teachers to choose from, including greatly expanded environmental education offerings. We continued our collaboration with PS 958 (located just outside Green-Wood's southern perimeter) and local educational nonprofit Sunset Spark, allowing young learners to visit the Cemetery weekly. This innovative program was awarded \$25,000 funding from the Walentas Foundation for the 2023-2024 school year.

Family Programs

Throughout the year, we offered free community programs for families. In celebration of Earth Month in April, we partnered with Brooklyn-based community biology lab Genspace for a day of family-friendly activities. Attendees looked at natural material through microscopes, took a guided tree walk, and contributed to the City Nature Challenge, in which people across the world join in to help identify wildlife. In June, we held our annual Juneteenth Family Day in partnership with ASNEAA's Community Legacy Project. (The organization takes its name from the continents of African migration: Africa,



South America, North America, Europe, Asia, and Australia.) Attendees were invited to participate in Arts as Advocacy creative projects and visit the gravesites of Black pioneers. Our popular Battle of Brooklyn Family Day returned in August, commemorating the 247th anniversary of the 1776 battle that was fought in part on land that is now Green-Wood. The event also served as the unveiling of a free augmented reality experience at Green-Wood presented on the 1776AR smartphone app. Funded by a grant from the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation as part of its Digital Tapestry initiative, the app presents key figures of the revolution, including George Washington, as they tell the story of the Battle of Brooklyn in their own words.

Educational Experiences

Over the summer, we welcomed twenty-five interns aged 16–24 through the New York City Department of Education's Summer Youth Employment Program. Presented in partnership with World Monuments Fund and the Sunset Park-based nonprofit Center for Family Life, the six-week, multi-disciplinary internship gave participants hands-on experience in the many kinds of work that go into maintaining a historic Cemetery. Activities included preservation of historic monuments, tree care, and landscape management.

From March through May, Green-Wood hosted its fifth cohort of Bridge to Crafts Careers,

Left: A family learning about nature at a free family program celebrating Earth Month in April.

Center: Graduates of the 2023 Bridge to Crafts Careers program with the restored Delafield vault.

Right: A procession to the grave of Ebenezer Stevens on the 250th anniversary of the Boston Tea Party



a workforce development program sponsored, in part, by World Monuments Fund. The program provides hands-on training in masonry restoration. They utilized two worksites, the marble hillside vault of the Delafield family and the granite Parker family mausoleum, to learn stone cleaning, repair, and mortar removal and replacement. Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow offered invaluable support for the trainees in the soft skills to build their careers. We're very grateful to our funders, including The Pinkerton Foundation, the Delafield Family Foundation, the New York Regional Economic Development Council, and the donors and members of Green-Wood. The Excelsior Society of the Preservation League of New York State honored the program with its 2023 Excellence in Historic Preservation Award.

Death Education

Green-Wood's free programs in death education continued to engage audiences in discussions around death, grief, and loss. In 2023 we offered 27 programs on topics ranging from the history of cremation to dealing with grief in the workplace. Our "Day in the Life" series, which highlights people working in the deathcare field, saw standing-room-only crowds for programs featuring Green-Wood gravediggers and a post-mortem restoration specialist. We welcomed open conversations on death at regularly scheduled Death Cafes, held both in-person and online.

History

In March, we unveiled a new searchable database of detailed interment records: The Burial and Vital Records 1840–1937. Funded by a generous grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the extensive project included the transcription of Green-Wood's handwritten Burial Registry, a sixty-volume series including records on over 400,000 individuals. Through the new database, the extensive data is now completely searchable online through Green-Wood's website.

Historian Jeff Richman and a team of volunteers continued to identify WWII veterans interred at the Cemetery and preserve their legacy through online biographies. One hundred and twenty-five biographies were added to the website. Volunteers also began research on veterans of the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and Mexican-American War in plans to publish online biographies in 2024.

On December 16, 2023, the 250th anniversary of the Boston Tea Party, Green-Wood honored the legacy of permanent resident Ebenezer Stevens (1751–1823), the only participant of the historic event buried in New York City. Participants marched in a procession to Stevens' monument, where a commemorative medallion provided as part of an initiative of the Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum was unveiled, as well as a marker provided by the Sons of the American Revolution.



Memorialization

Green-Wood is committed to offering new options to the families of New York City and beyond. At the same time, we continue to beautify our landscape for those with loved ones memorialized at the Cemetery and offer dignified service to all those who choose Green-Wood as the place of final disposition.

Winter Walk, located in the Locust Grove section, provides a beautiful setting for the disposition and memorialization of cremated bodies.

Cemetery Services

Green-Wood has been providing compassionate deathcare to the Brooklyn community and beyond since its establishment in 1838. In 2023, the Cemetery conducted 1,292 burials, bringing the total number of interments to 580,812. Additionally, Green-Wood performed 3,521 cremations and 132 entombments in our community mausoleums. Furthermore, 758 lots, single graves, urn sites, niches, and crypts were purchased, reflecting the enduring trust and respect the community places in our historic institution.

New Developments

Spring 2023 marked the completion of a major project to revitalize the area known as Cedar Dell into a new site for interment and memorialization. Eighty-six eighteenth-century monuments, which predated the Cemetery and were transferred to Green-Wood in the late nineteenth-century, were meticulously cleaned, restored, and reset by the restoration team. Simultaneously, the landscape was reinvigorated with plantings of trees and perennial gardens. The new area includes Green-Wood's first designated area for natural or "green" burials, a process which reduces the environmental impact of final disposition. The first natural burial in this area occurred in August, and four additional spaces were purchased by year's end. Cedar Dell also includes premium lots for traditional burial, space for the interment of cremated bodies, and an area for communal memorialization.

To further expand Green-Wood's green burial options, a new method of memorialization was developed in 2023, which addressed several requests for a "living" memorial. Instead of marking a burial with a stone marker, Green-Wood's new "Tree Lots" allow for the burial of a cremated body alongside the roots of a designated tree within Green-Wood's arboretum. A special plaque is placed nearby to mark the living memorial.

Progress was made in the revitalization of the Rosewood section, located beside Green-Wood's Sunset Park Entrance at Fourth Avenue and 35th Street. The plan for the area, designed by Wolf Landscape Architecture, incorporates native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers. It will also include a new columbarium with niches as well as stone and wooden benches for seating. Prep work for the site was begun by Wolf in late 2023 and Kelco was contracted to complete the work.

Winter Walk, a cremation garden composed of a serpentine boardwalk nestled between shady garden beds, was designed by Julie Moir Messervy Design Studio. It was completed in 2018 and had its first interment in August 2023. Containerless burial spaces for 40 cremated bodies were created, with the opportunity for memorialization on communal granite ledger stones.

Research & Genealogy

5,775

Total war veteran
biographies published
online since 2002

308

Genealogical inquiries
received

121

Additional WWII
biographies
published online

Visitors & Engagement

659,630

Website visitors

442,679

Visitors to the grounds

54,847

Social media followers
on Instagram,
Facebook, and X

29,842

Public program attendees

4,997

School program participants

2,809

App downloads

336

Public programs

247

School programs

GREEN-WOOD BY THE NUMBERS

Horticulture & Wildlife

51,900

Bulbs planted

2,200

Cubic yards of wood chips were donated to compost sites and community gardens

655

Trees and shrubs planted

415

Trees pruned to support plant health and reduce risk

115

Total trees removed due to age, disease, or storm events

39

Trees adopted by Green-Wood donors

31

Tree species and cultivars added to the Living Collection

Restoration & Preservation

563

Monuments reset

375+

Monuments cleaned

31

Monuments unearthed by summer interns

17

Monuments repaired

13

Monuments installed at unmarked graves

8

Bronzes waxed and polished

2

Mausoleums cleaned and restored

Cemetery Services

3,521

Cremations performed

1,292

Burials, bringing the total interments since Cemetery founding to 580,812

758

Lots, single graves, urn sites, niches, and crypts purchased

132

Entombments in community mausoleums

82

New Perpetual Care Fund accounts deposited by lot owners, bringing the total to 13,891

THE GREEN-WOOD CEMETERY

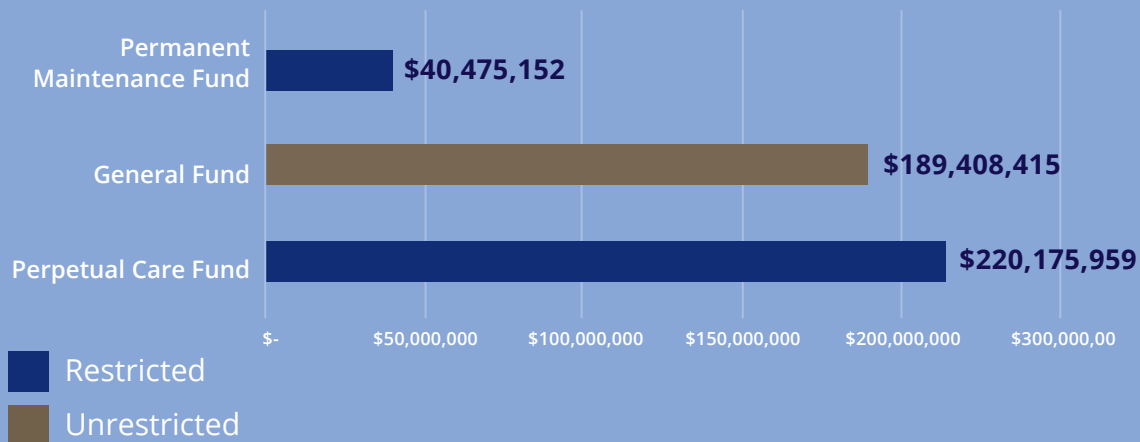
A NOT-FOR-PROFIT 501(C)13 CEMETERY CORPORATION

An active cemetery, The Green-Wood Cemetery has provided burial services and memorialization since 1838.

For a copy of The Green-Wood Cemetery's Form 990 for the most recent year, please contact the Executive Office at 718-788-7850.

Financial Review 2023

Invested Assets

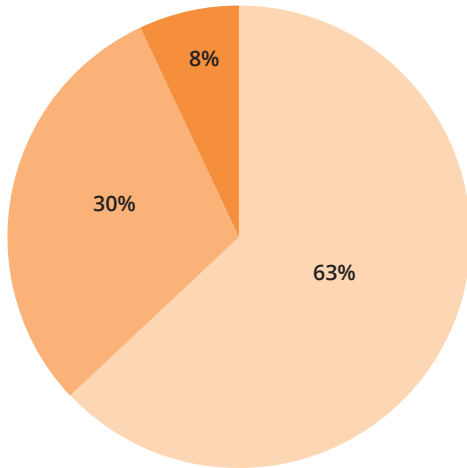


Beginning of Year: \$407,463,833

End of Year: \$443,768,916

Change in Net Assets: \$36,305,083

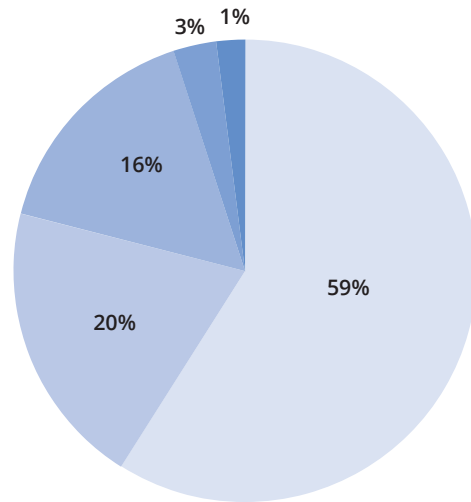
2023 OPERATING REVENUE



■ Net Sales	\$8,498,152	63%
■ Service Fees	\$4,029,964	30%
■ Grants	\$1,044,986	8%

TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES \$13,573,102

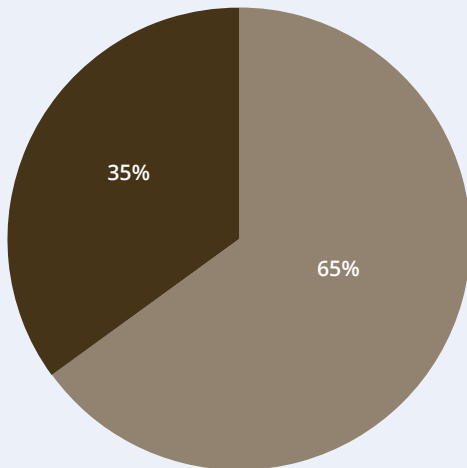
2023 OPERATING EXPENSES



■ Payroll	\$10,914,928	59%
■ General Administration	\$3,786,000	20%
■ Maintenance	\$3,043,500	16%
■ Crematory	\$600,000	3%
■ Mausoleum	\$140,000	1%

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES \$18,484,428

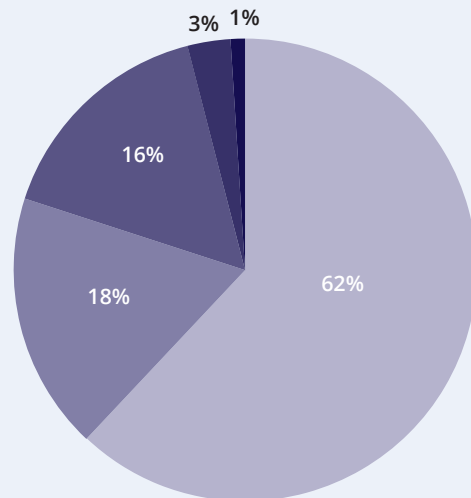
2022 OPERATING REVENUE



■ Net Sales	\$7,850,084	65%
■ Service Fees	\$4,149,894	35%
Grants	\$15,940	0%

TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES \$12,015,918

2022 OPERATING EXPENSES



■ Payroll	\$12,247,170	62%
■ General Administration	\$3,475,500	18%
■ Maintenance	\$3,222,000	16%
■ Crematory	\$507,000	3%
■ Mausoleum	\$223,000	1%

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES \$19,674,670

THE GREEN-WOOD HISTORIC FUND

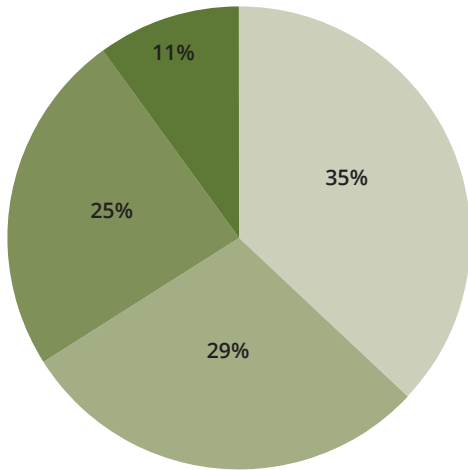
A NOT-FOR-PROFIT 501(C)3 ORGANIZATION

The Green-Wood Historic Fund was launched in 1997 to preserve and build upon the historical and cultural legacy of the Cemetery.

For a copy of The Green-Wood Historic Fund, Inc.'s Form 990 for the most recent year, please contact the Executive Office at 718-788-7850.



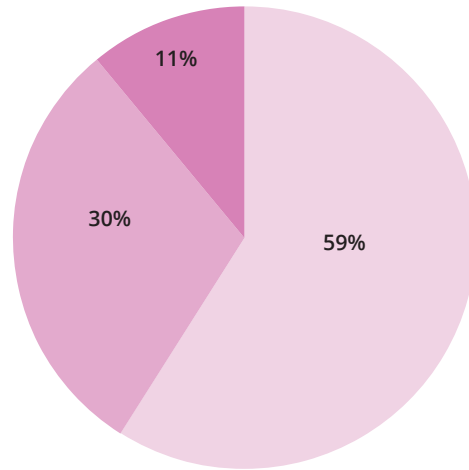
2023 REVENUE



Contributions	\$1,125,314	35%
Grants	\$931,010	29%
Programs / Other	\$803,172	25%
Annual Gala	\$341,328	11%

TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES \$3,200,825

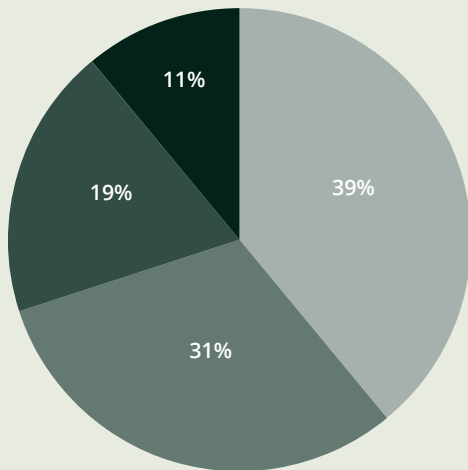
2023 EXPENSES



Administration	\$1,739,612	59%
Programs	\$882,647	30%
Fundraising	\$314,307	11%

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES \$2,936,566

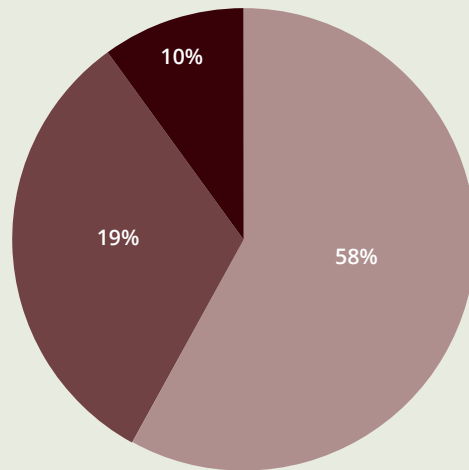
2022 REVENUE



Programs / Other	\$971,083	38%
Grants	\$788,551	31%
Contributions	\$520,176	20%
Annual Gala	\$284,267	11%

TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES \$2,564,077

2022 EXPENSES



Administration	\$1,634,591	58%
Programs	\$887,496	32%
Fundraising	\$279,134	10%

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES \$2,801,221

A large, mature tree with a thick trunk and a wide, spreading canopy of leaves in shades of green, yellow, and orange. The tree is situated in a cemetery, with several gravestones visible in the background. A path of fallen leaves leads from the foreground towards the tree. The overall scene is peaceful and evokes a sense of history and nature.

DONORS TO THE GREEN-WOOD HISTORIC FUND

THANK YOU!

The Green-Wood Historic Fund gratefully acknowledges the support of the individuals, foundations, corporations, and government agencies listed below. We also appreciate the commitment of the thousands of members and donors, too numerous to list here, who ensure our ability to fulfill our mission.



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Institute of Museum and Library Services
National Endowment for the Humanities
New York City Department of Cultural Affairs
New York State Council for the Arts
New York State Education Department
New York State Parks Recreation & Historic Preservation
Office of the Brooklyn Borough President

Individuals \$10,000+

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Green-Wood is grateful to have collaborated with the following organizations for programs and initiatives in 2023.

1776 AR Experiences
6th United States Colored Troops
(reenactment group)
Afro Latin Jazz Alliance
Art Students League/Seeds of the League
Amateur Astronomers Association
American Public Gardens Association
ASNEAA
Bindlestiff Family Cirkus
Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum
Brooklyn College CUNY
Center for Brooklyn History
Center for Family Life
Cetiliztli Nauhcampa
Department of Youth and Community
Development (Summer Youth
Employment Program)
Death of Classical
Earth Matter
Folklore Hispanico Guana
Forest For All NYC

Fort Hamilton Distillery
Genspace
Gowanus Canal Conservancy
Green City Force
History at Play
Cathedral Stone Mortars
Columbia University Department of
Ecology, Evolution and Environmental
Biology
Columbia University Graduate School of
Architecture, Planning, and
Preservation Alumni
Limón Dance Company
Mariachi Nuevo Amanecer Academy
Ministers of Apollo
The Moth
Morbid Anatomy
Museum of the American Revolution
NAMING THE LOST Memorials
The Nature Conservancy
New York City Department of Education
NYC Bird Alliance (formerly known as
NYC Audubon)
NYC Department of Environmental
Protection
NYC Compost Project hosted by Big Reuse
NYC LGBT Historic Sites Project
NYC Pollinator Working Group
The New-York Historical Society

New York Mycological Society
New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation
New York State Environmental
Facilities Corporation
Old Stone House
Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow
PAZ Morningside
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Red Hook Farms
Rooftop Films
TalkDeath
Things that Matter
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Sunset Spark
Third Street Music School
United States Department of Agriculture,
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