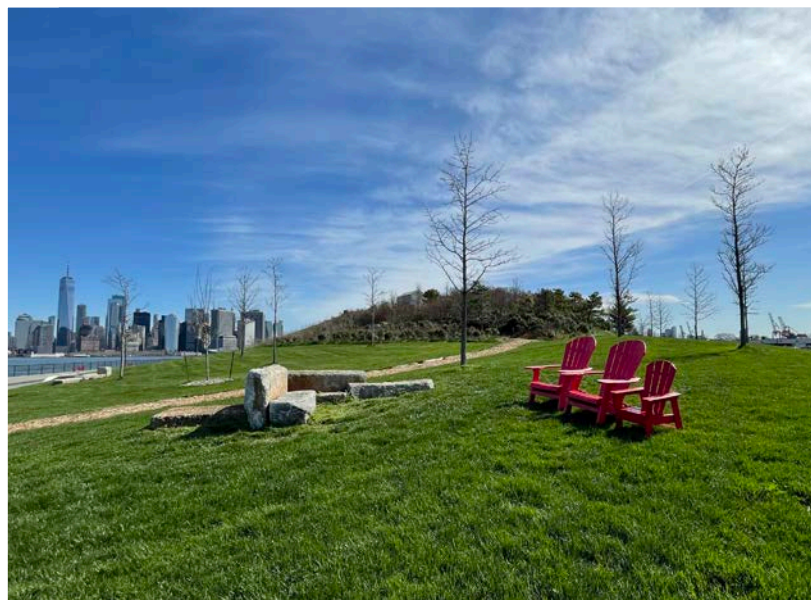
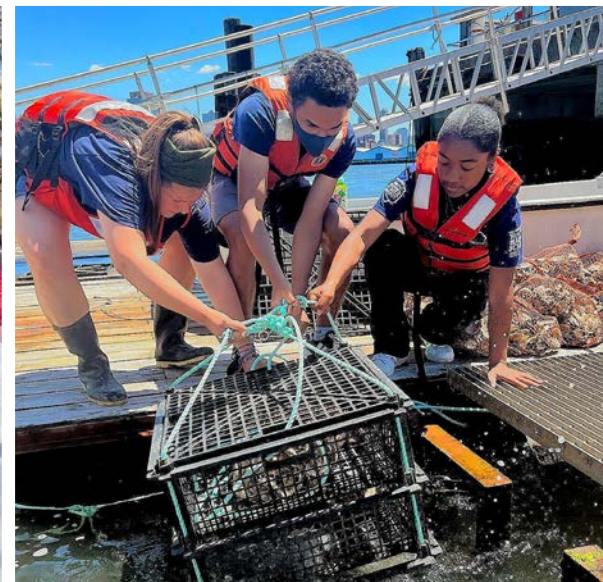


GOVERNORS ISLAND

2022 Year In Review



A unique destination at the center of New York Harbor, Governors Island is full of history and promise.

2022—the first full year of year-round public access—saw incredible milestones for Governors Island, including expanded ferry service; increased free educational and recreational programming; monumental public art openings; expanded visitor amenities; and progress in establishing the Island as a leading hub for education, research, and public engagement to address the global climate crisis through the Center for Climate Solutions

The Trust for Governors Island works together with its fundraising partner the Friends of Governors Island and in close collaboration with the National Park Service/Governors Island National Monument to ensure the Island is a beloved resource for New York City.

We remain committed to growing Governors Island as an exceptional public resource for New Yorkers through:

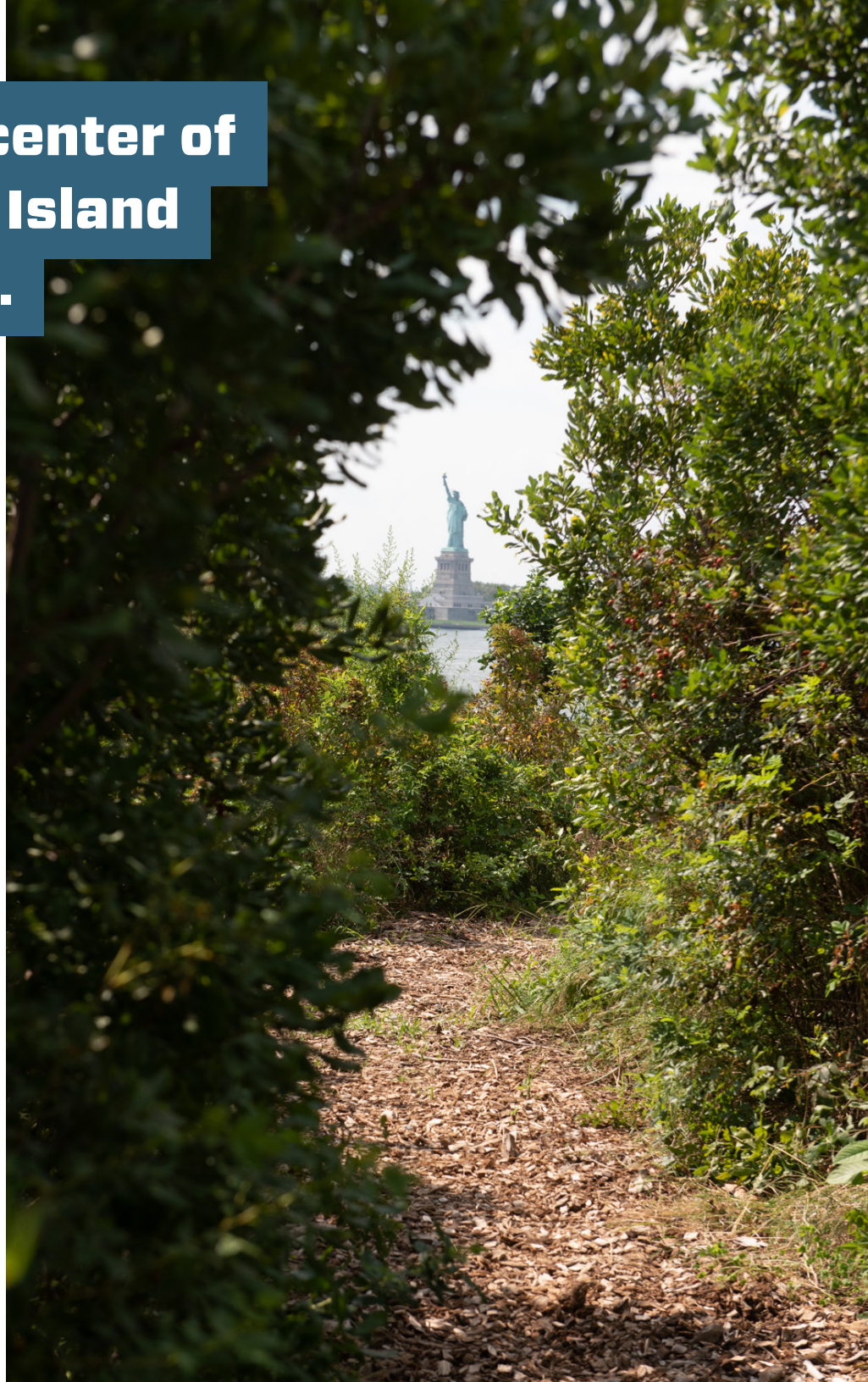
Accessible Open Space & Recreation

Transformative Public Art & Culture

Innovation in Climate & the Environment

THE TRUST FOR
GOVERNORS ISLAND

THE FRIENDS OF
GOVERNORS ISLAND



From Our Leadership

The transformation of Governors Island into a dynamic, year-round destination is one of the most remarkable stories in New York City's history. Since opening to the public in 2005, Governors Island has played a vital and growing role as a vibrant and accessible resource for all New Yorkers. Each year, an increasing number of visitors, tenants, and partners take the ferry to explore, discover, work, learn, and create—enjoying expansive views of New York Harbor, an award-winning park, year-round educational and cultural facilities housed within historic settings, thought-provoking artistic experiences, and a growing number of amenities.

In our shared role as stewards of Governors Island, we work each year to expand public access to this remarkable place. In 2022, as New York City continued its recovery, we remained steadfast in our commitment to providing equitable access to the Island's rich recreational, historic, and cultural resources. This year, thanks to the support of our donors, partners, tenants, volunteers, members, and visitors, we reached several milestones:

- Welcomed more visitors than ever to enjoy the Island year-round
- Increased public access hours in the evening and dramatically expanded ferry service, with direct daily connections to the Lower East Side and South Brooklyn waterfront via NYC Ferry
- Launched Governors Island Arts as the arts and cultural program of the Trust and debuted two colossal public art commissions
- Took critical steps forward in establishing a Center for Climate Solutions on Governors Island

Looking forward, we will continue to advance our bold vision to grow the Island as a year-round destination; steward our 120 acres of open space; bring transformative arts and cultural experiences to our visitors; and make strides in establishing a campus for learning, culture, education, and innovation in the areas of climate change and the environment. Our work and continued investment will foster expanded use and access, while maintaining and enhancing the Island's character.

Thank you for your support and for joining us on this journey. We'll see you on the ferry.



Clare Newman
President and CEO
The Trust for Governors Island

THE TRUST FOR
GOVERNORS ISLAND



Patti Davis
Interim Executive Director
The Friends of Governors Island

THE FRIENDS OF
GOVERNORS ISLAND

ACCESSIBLE OPEN SPACE & RECREATION

Ice skating in Colonels Row. Spring views in The Hills. Summertime blooms in Liggett Terrace. The changing leaves of Nolan Park's historic trees. Governors Island is open to the public year-round, allowing visitors to enjoy the splendor of all four seasons on the Island.



A Resource for All New Yorkers

2022 Top Neighborhoods:

Upper West Side

East Village

Lower East Side

Financial District

Brooklyn Heights

Boerum Hill

Prospect Heights

Park Slope

Kensington

Red Hook

"I love Governors Island. I am so happy to experience all seasons on this Island, finally. This is a very special place and I enjoy every visit!"

2022 Governors Island Visitor

During its first year open to the public year-round, the Island welcomed **939,000 individuals** over twelve months, with every **single residential zip code in New York City** represented.

The Trust partnered with **300+ community-based nonprofits, public schools, and NYCHA developments** across the city to invite New Yorkers to enjoy all that Governors Island has to offer.

In addition to daily Manhattan and seasonal weekend Brooklyn service operated by the Trust, **NYC Ferry began serving Governors Island year-round on its South Brooklyn route**, expanding direct access for the Lower East Side and Brooklyn waterfront neighborhoods.

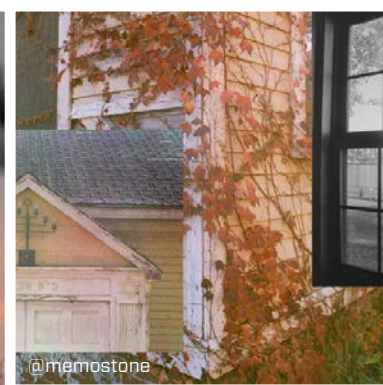
2022 also saw the **expansion of daily late-night public hours during the summer and fall**, with thousands of visitors able to enjoy stunning sunset views and nighttime food and drink from Island vendors.

The Trust continued to provide **free ferry access** to NYCHA residents, IDNYC holders, community groups, nonprofit organizations, military servicemembers, seniors, kids under 12, and all visitors on weekends before noon. **This year, 250,000 visitors took advantage of free ferries.**

Governors Island representatives fanned out across the city, **tabling at community days, block parties, and resource fairs** and directly engaging residents of Bushwick Houses, Red Hook Houses, Queensbridge Houses, Campos Plaza on the Lower East Side, and more.

Through Your Lens

Visitor Photos



Unique Open Space for Everyone

With 120 acres of open space, Governors Island is known throughout New York City as an affordable and accessible destination—providing a year-round outdoor oasis for nearly one million visitors each year.

For the first time ever, visitors were able to enjoy Governors Island's 40-acre, climate resilient park in every season—including **car-free bike paths, urban hiking, playgrounds, hammocks, slides, a new climbing boulder, snow on The Hills, stunning views**, and more recreational opportunities.

The Island's 12 acres of athletic fields were used for **more than 300 games, practices, and events** by youth and adult leagues, schools, and nonprofit organizations. **750 groups held barbecues and other gatherings** across the Island's two outdoor grilling areas.

Governors Island invited canine visitors to enjoy the Island's open space for the first time in 2022 with the new **Winter Dog Days** program and dog park, running from November through April.



The Trust debuted two seasonal, wheelchair accessible electric trams this year, which circle the Island on our highest visitation days in the spring, summer, and fall months.



Stewarding Our Open Space

The Trust's talented horticulture team works year-round to care for the Island's 120 acres of open space. Using a wide range of ecological gardening methods, they help to ensure our diverse landscapes can continue to thrive far into the future

Horticultural highlights from 2022 include:

- Planting **60 trees** around the Island comprising **18 different native species**, further diversifying our canopy.
- Conducting an **Island-wide tree survey** and developing a **Community Forest Management Plan** to better understand and steward the diversity, health, and longevity of our unique urban forest.
- Planting **more than 9,000 spring-flowering bulbs** to create a beautiful array of blooms for visitors to enjoy in the spring.
- Propagating **3,500 plants** to support native biodiversity.
- Using **solarization**, a zero waste non-herbicidal weed intervention tool, to manage invasive species and preserve native plant communities.
- Welcoming back a flock of sheep from Friends of Tivoli Lake Preserve and Farm, which once again provided eco-friendly landscape care that reduced the need for harmful chemicals. The flock **cleared three acres of invasive plants**, helping ensure our plant population can thrive.
- Identifying and cataloging **216 different species of insects and pollinators**, alongside an undergraduate insect ecology course from the City College of New York, to better understand and care for the smallest members of the Island's ecosystem.



Caring for trees at Liggett Terrace



Propagating native plants

A Diverse Mix of Events & Amenities

A record 27 food and beverage vendors helped cement Governors Island as a culinary destination this year.

- New vendors included **The Real Mother Shuckers**, **La Newyorkina**, **Gitano Island**, and **Carreau Club**—a Brooklyn-based pétanque club.
- The Trust's **partnership with NYCHA's Office of Resident Economic Empowerment & Sustainability** continued this year, with a rotating group of small businesses operated by NYCHA residents offering diverse cuisines from The Foodie Spot, located seasonally in Liggett Terrace.

The Trust, the Friends, and partners and organizers from throughout the city hosted 50 public events on Governors Island this year—90% of which were totally free.

- **Pumpkin Point**, the annual fall festival presented by the Friends in partnership with the Trust, allowed 28,000 visitors to enjoy two full weekends of New York City's largest free pumpkin patch.
- Governors Island Arts' inaugural **House Fest** celebrated collaboration among the Organizations in Residence in Nolan Park and Colonels Row with three days of free programs and performances.
- **Jazz by the Water** welcomed jazz musicians to the Island for two free outdoor festivals celebrating the genre's past, present, and future.
- **Pride Island**, NYC Pride's annual music festival, took place on the Island's Play Lawns this year, bringing thousands of revelers together to celebrate New York City's LGBTQIA+ community.
- Two **free outdoor film screenings**, co-presented with Film at Lincoln Center, saw New Yorkers descend on the Parade Ground for classics under the stars: John Cameron Mitchell's *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* and Sidney Lumet's *The Wiz*.
- **The Longines Global Champions Tour** gathered the world's best equestrians for a weekend of free events and horse jumping competition.
- **The Governors Island Winter Village** offered visitors a new cold weather activity in 2021 and returned for the 2022-23 winter season. Amenities include a 7,500 square-foot ice skating rink, fire pits, lawn games, seasonal food and drink, and bike and sled rentals from Blazing Saddles.



Pride Island, June 2022



Carreau Club



Pumpkin Point, October 2022

This Year at the Urban Farm

The **GrowNYC** teaching garden **donated produce grown on Governors Island to community-based organizations** that support food-insecure New Yorkers, minimizing waste and advocating for equitable food access.

Earth Matter processed more than **260,000 pounds of organic material** in 2022, including landscape materials, food vendor scraps, materials from our public composting stations, organics from every event held on the Island, and oyster material from Billion Oyster Project.





New Yorkers Give Back All Year Long

Volunteers play a vital role in caring for Governors Island year-round. 2022 saw more volunteers than ever dedicate their time and resources to the Island across two key areas: visitor services and horticulture.

Friends of Governors Island individual and corporate volunteers contributed **8,400 combined hours of service** at the Island's Welcome Centers, leading free public tours, welcoming visitors to Shantell Martin's *The May Room*, and assisting the Trust's horticulture team.

Through an ongoing partnership with youth workforce nonprofit Futures and Options, the Friends of Governors Island hosted a cohort of interns for the summer for the third year. This year, **nine interns gained direct work experience** serving as Island Ambassadors, greeting visitors, conducting tours, coordinating visitor surveys, and more.

Volunteers greeting visitors at the Winter Village



The first annual Earth Day of Service, presented by the Friends in partnership with the Trust, engaged more than 400 New Yorkers in high-impact ecological projects around the Island, culminating in a free community celebration featuring food trucks, games, performances, and crafts.



TRANSFORMATIVE PUBLIC ART & CULTURE

Governors Island is one of New York City's most dynamic cultural destinations. This year, the arts and cultural programs presented by the Trust officially launched as Governors Island Arts, and the program debuted two ambitious commissions—each years in the making.



Aerial view of *The American Manifest Chapter Two: Moving Chains* by Charles Gaines

GOVERNORS
ISLAND
ARTS

Singular Public Art Experiences



Sam Van Aken's *The Open Orchard*

Governors Island Arts presents a combination of short- and long-term public art projects that are uniquely situated here, existing in dialogue with the Island's history and conditions.

Sam Van Aken's *The Open Orchard* debuted in the spring, with 102 hybrid fruit trees planted in the Island's park. Each tree contains different heirloom fruit varieties grafted together, creating a living agricultural archive of fruits that were once grown in New York City but have disappeared due to climate change and industrialized agriculture.

Charles Gaines's *The American Manifest Chapter Two: Moving Chains* opened to the public on Governors Island in October. Evoking a ship's hull and calling attention to slavery's ongoing legacy in the United States, this 110-foot-long kinetic sculpture features massive chains running its length overhead—eight of which are representative of the pace of the currents in New York Harbor, while the ninth recalls the pace of ship traffic in the harbor over the past 400 years. This multi-year work presented by Governors Island Arts, Creative Time, and Times Square Arts launched in the summer of 2022 with Chapter One, an opera and installation in Times Square. The piece is on display at the base of Outlook Hill through June 2023, when it will move to Cincinnati, Ohio for Chapter Three.



Charles Gaines's *Moving Chains*



Church and The May Room, Shantell Martin's works that breathed new life into the former Our Lady Star of the Sea chapel, closed in October after a spectacular three-year extension. Commissioned in 2019, this immersive piece welcomed more than 36,000 visitors for reflective and contemplative artistic interactions during its four years open to the public.

Left: Shantell Martin celebrates her birthday and the final month of *The May Room* with free public performances inside the piece, October 2022

Building Cultural Community in the Historic District

Reflecting the diversity of New York City in one central hub, Governors Island Arts' seasonal Organizations in Residence present accessible programming and events while serving artists and cultural practitioners with free studios and workspaces.

This year, two dozen arts, cultural, educational, and environmental nonprofits utilized space in the historic houses of Nolan Park and Colonels Row to present nearly 200 exhibitions, residencies, and public programs that directly engaged 31,000 Island visitors, including:

- **The Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Art (MoCADA)** presented a season of programming centered around abolition and social justice, including Supremacy Project, a group installation that addressed the systemic violence and oppression that BIPOC communities are fighting to end.
- **American Indian Community House** exhibited works by Indigenous artists, held community events including staged readings and discussions, and presented workshops and events centering Indigenous traditions and culture.
- **New Art Dealers Alliance (NADA)**'s annual NADA House invited visitors to view works from 50+ international artists working in new contemporary and emerging art.
- **ArtCrawl Harlem** held their annual residency program on the Island, allowing artists the space to create a variety of theme-based artworks, alongside a photography exhibition, a textile exhibition, and an interactive piece interrogating microaggressions.
- **BronxArtSpace** provided residency space for Bronx-based artists and invited the public to monthly open studios.

"It's a privilege to be able to work on Governors Island. We appreciate the growing community, the space, and meeting passionate people who are working towards a better tomorrow."

Swale, 2022 Organization in Residence



INNOVATION IN CLIMATE & THE ENVIRONMENT



Taking Shape: The Center for Climate Solutions

In 2022, the Trust made monumental progress on the development of the Center for Climate Solutions.

Dedicated to preparing New York City and cities around the world for climate change, the Center for Climate Solutions will create a physical hub committed to researching and demonstrating urban climate development and advancing education, training, and workforce in climate and environmental fields. **The Center for Climate Solutions on Governors Island was announced as a key part of Mayor Eric Adams' "Rebuild, Renew, Reinvent: A Blueprint for NYC's Economic Recovery" this year.** At full scale, the project is anticipated to create 7,000 permanent jobs on Governors Island alone.

As part of a competitive Request for Proposals process, the Trust received three ambitious proposals from leading universities to create a premier institution on Governors Island to anchor the Center, which is envisioned to include multiple tenants and partners dedicated to education, research, and public programs to address the global climate crisis.

Proposals include visions to advance interdisciplinary research focused on urban adaptation, urban environments, public policy, environmental justice, and public health while expanding educational and workforce development opportunities for New Yorkers. A winning proposal will be selected and announced in 2023.



IN THE NEWS

“[Proposals] included extensive space for research labs, classrooms and dormitories for research and engineering personnel. They also emphasized goals for green-job creation...as well as support for entrepreneurs and startups working on innovative climate solutions.”

Crain's New York Business, October 2022

PLANNING, INVESTMENT & A GROWING COMMUNITY OF TENANTS



Sun Seekers by Amy Khoshbin and Jennifer Khoshbin at LMCC's Arts Center at Governors Island

Updates From Our Year-Round Tenants

Governors Island is home to a growing community of educational, nonprofit, and commercial tenants working in sectors including arts, climate, hospitality, and youth development.

Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's Arts Center at Governors Island granted residencies to nearly 50 artists, hosted monthly free public programs, and displayed three exhibitions: *Sun Seekers*, an immersive sculptural and performance work by Amy Khoshbin and Jennifer Khoshbin; *Back and Song*, a film and art installation by Elissa Blount-Moorhead and Bradford Young; and *Pillars*, a participatory sculpture by Simon Benjamin.

QC NY opened to the public in the spring, providing a range of wellness spa experiences including outdoor heated pools, saunas, steam rooms, water therapies, and more.

The Urban Assembly New York Harbor School is set to double in size. In August 2022, Mayor Eric Adams along with the Trust and the School Construction Authority announced plans to grow the school's footprint from two to four buildings, including one soon-to-be constructed facility, adding additional classroom space, a pool, a competition gymnasium, and specialty lab facilities to this maritime and environmental public high school on Governors Island.

Beam Center utilized their Maker Space on Governors Island to promote project-based STEM and artistic programs with their youth participants. In addition, the annual Beam Camp City welcomed 400+ young New Yorkers for an accessible outdoor summer camp experience on Governors Island.

Billion Oyster Project engaged more than 3,000 students through its partnership with the Harbor School and its K-12 STEM curriculum and introduced its first public shell collection site, where New Yorkers can drop off their used shells—diverting them from landfills to instead aid reef restoration efforts.

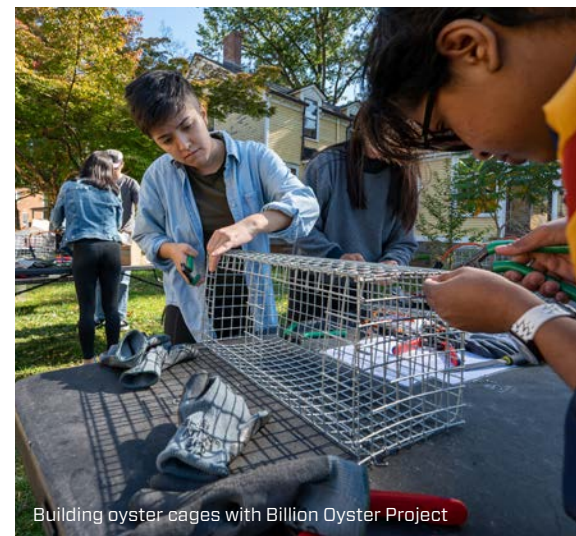
Wind Support NYC, which supports wind technology projects with a goal of decarbonizing ocean shipping, joined as a tenant in 2022.



Visitors engaging with *Pillars* at LMCC's Arts Center at Governors Island



Textile projects in Beam Center's Maker Space



Building oyster cages with Billion Oyster Project

Fostering Diversity in Real Estate in New York City

Now in its second year, the Real Estate Pathways Fellowship program—a collaboration between the Trust for Governors Island and the Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation—is providing CUNY students with direct experience across the real estate industry and related fields.

In 2021, the Trust and Brooklyn Navy Yard joined efforts to make commitments towards inclusivity within the New York City real estate sector. The Real Estate Pathways Fellowship program, a product of these efforts, provides CUNY students in the final year of their degree program with the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in jobs in real estate at both organizations, including real estate development, design and construction, property management, horticulture, and more.

Since its inception, the fellowship has served **20 CUNY students, with 90% of the Year One graduates getting full time employment in their field.** In 2022, Year Two participants were paired with mentors who are able to provide valuable insight and networking opportunities in each fellow's respective field of interest. The third program cohort will begin recruitment in earnest in early 2023.



Members of the Real Estate Pathways Fellowship program at a site visit with mentors at 75 Varick



Design and Construction fellows taking building measurements at Governors Island

A Permanent Cultural Campus in Nolan Park

Nolan Park's bucolic setting and central location in Governors Island's historic district help make it an incredible resource for visitors and tenants alike.

In 2022, Mayor Eric Adams announced investment in Governors Island Arts as part of his economic recovery blueprint. Over the next decade, the City of New York and the Trust are committed to investing in evolving Governors Island Arts' seasonal Organizations in Residence program into **year-round permanent homes for arts, cultural, and educational organizations on Governors Island.**

Two year-round tenants already occupy space in Nolan Park: Shandaken: Projects and the Institute for Public Architecture, each of which held several residency programs for cultural practitioners along with exhibitions and other public events in 2022. This year, **the Trust began restoration work in historic Nolan Park Building 20**, with longtime Island tenant and partner Billion Oyster Project set to relocate its office headquarters into the space in 2023.



In July, the Trust released two Requests for Proposals (RFPs) inviting operators of event, food and beverage, and hospitality venues to adaptively reuse several buildings in the historic district, including four in Nolan Park. Selected respondents will help breath new life into these historic buildings, offering long-term amenities that can advance Nolan Park and Governors Island's year-round community.

Right: Building 25 in Nolan Park, included in one of the two RFPs released in July 2022



Jerron Herman performing a lariat at Governors Island Arts' House Fest in Nolan Park



Work on Nolan Park Building 20 began in 2022, including restoration of the building's original wraparound porch and ensuring ADA accessibility.

Leadership

The Trust for Governors Island and Friends of Governors Island work together to ensure Governors Island is a beloved resource for New York City.

THE TRUST FOR GOVERNORS ISLAND

The Governors Island Corporation, doing business as The Trust for Governors Island, is the 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization created by the City of New York and charged with the planning, redevelopment, and ongoing operations of 150 acres of Governors Island. The Trust's mission is to realize the full potential of Governors Island for the inspiration and enjoyment of all New Yorkers, demonstrating a bold vision for public space.

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THE FRIENDS OF GOVERNORS ISLAND

The Friends of Governors Island is an independent nonprofit that works to ensure the Island's continued growth and accessibility as a vibrant public resource. As the designated fundraising partner of the Trust for Governors Island and the National Park Service, the Friends stewards the Island's green spaces, enhances the visitor experience, and builds a community dedicated to the Island's future.

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**Thank you for your support of
Governors Island in 2022. See you
on the ferry in 2023!**

GOVISLAND.ORG



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