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New York Junior League Volunteers to Revitalize Marcus Garvey Park

The NYJL to Continue Longstanding Partnership with the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation

New York, New York (February 21, 2023) - The [New York Junior League \(NYJL\)](#) is pleased to announce that its [Playground Improvement Project](#) program has selected [Marcus Garvey Park](#) as the site of its 2023 revitalization project in partnership with the [New York City Department of Parks and Recreation \(NYC Parks\)](#). Over five weekends this spring, the Playground Improvement Project committee will lead NYJL volunteers in painting, landscaping, and restoring this well-loved community space.

Since 1991, the NYJL's Playground Improvement Project program has partnered with NYC Parks to plan and execute a yearly large-scale park or playground improvement project in Manhattan, creating safe and beautiful green spaces for the greater New York City community to enjoy. Parks are a vital part of city life, supporting improved physical and mental health while strengthening communities. The 2023 restoration of Marcus Garvey Park will mark the Playground Improvement Project's 32nd restoration.

"The Playground Improvement Project is one of the NYJL's longest running programs and we are thrilled to continue our work creating safe and enjoyable spaces for the NYC community," said NYJL President Serra Eken.

Marcus Garvey Park, named after businessman and Black activist Marcus Mosiah Garvey, is located in East Harlem, where it nurtures the entire close-knit community. Spanning over twenty acres, the park provides pastimes for all ages through its playgrounds, swimming pool, amphitheater, and various athletic courts.

"The parks of NYC, including Marcus Garvey Park, have historically played an important role in developing and strengthening their neighborhoods. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, parks have become even more appreciated for the opportunity they provide for community members to gather, exercise, and relax," said Eken.

To learn more about the New York Junior League's Playground Improvement Project, please visit nyjl.org/pip or email pip@nyjl.org.

About the New York Junior League

Since 1901, the New York Junior League (NYJL) has responded to New York City's most pressing socioeconomic challenges. Powered by more than 2,300 women volunteers, the NYJL works with more than 60 community-based organizations to advance children's social-emotional learning and to provide life skills programs to youth and adults who are navigating periods of difficult transition. Bringing their diverse experiences and talents, trained NYJL volunteers engage women and children in health, education, and arts workshops specially customized to their needs. The NYJL advocates with state and city government for women- and children-centered policies and develops volunteers' leadership skills for service in the NYJL and on other nonprofit boards, all while cultivating a community that reinforces women's personal relationships and collective power as drivers of positive change. The NYJL also responds to community partners' requests for immediate support and invests funds and volunteers' time in restoring public parks and community spaces to create welcoming environments conducive to fitness, health, recreation, and socialization.

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