

Friends of Duboce Park

DUBOCE PARK UPDATE – MARCH 7, 2024

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GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MARCH 19

Friends of Duboce Park will hold its annual General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, March 19, 7-8:30 p.m., in the Ballroom at the Harvey Milk Center for the Arts. This is our first in-person meeting since the pandemic and we look forward to seeing you.

This is a chance to meet our board members, hear our plans for the next year, and meet your neighbors. We will review the past year's activities in the park and provide updates on all of the current maintenance issues and projects.



REGISTER FOR SPRING DANCE CLASSES

Registration for 2024 Spring activities, programs, and classes began on March 2. A complete listing with descriptions, times, and costs for all classes at Harvey Milk and other Recreation Centers in San Francisco can be found [online](#) or in the printed catalog available at the Harvey Milk Center or Photo Center.

23 classes for all ages are being offered at the Harvey Milk Center for the Arts, including five dance classes: Adult Ballet; Ballet & Creative Movement; Chinese Folk Dance; Global Dance for Active Adults.



Global Dance is for adults 55+ years and will teach you the elements of traditional folk dances from around the world including Chinese folk dances, and more. These classes are well-suited for beginner and intermediate level dancers. International Folk Dance is for adults of all ages and will teach you folk dances from around the world. The class will use circles, lines, sets couples, trios - and more! Both of these dance classes are free. d

Register online at sfrecpark.org/register or call the registration hotline at (628) 652-2900. Rec and Park offer annual Recreation Scholarships to eligible, low-income individuals and families. Call Lillian Bautista, Scholarship Coordinator, at (415) 831-2717 for information on how to qualify.



MOVIE NIGHT MAY 4 – *ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY*

Outdoor Movie Night returns to Duboce Park on Saturday, May 4 with *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story* (2016, PG-13). This is the first installment of the Star Wars anthology series and an immediate prequel to *Star Wars* (1977). Set a week before Star Wars, the plot follows a group of rebels who band together to steal plans of the Death Star, the ultimate weapon of the Galactic Empire. Wearing *Star Wars* costumes is encouraged!

The **movie begins at 8 p.m.** on the upper lawn with local musicians playing beforehand. The event is **free to attend** but [donations](#) to Friends of Duboce Park are welcome. Various snacks will be available for purchase (cash preferred). **Please remember to pack out your trash and recyclables after the event.** Thank you for helping to keep our park clean!

The N Judah stops right at Duboce Park and there are many other MUNI lines within a few blocks of

the park. The event is sponsored by Friends of Duboce Park and San Francisco Recreation & Parks or more information or to volunteer, please contact movienight@friendsofdubocepark.org. A special thanks to OTRA for their support of movie night.

May the Fourth Be With You!

SUMMER DAY CAMP SIGNUP MARCH 16

Five summer art day camps for ages 7-11 are being offered at the Harvey Milk Center for the Arts this year. Three 2-week camps are being offered, starting on June 17, July 8, and July 22. Two 1-week camps start on June 10 and August 5. Registration begins March 16.

If your child loves to make art all day long, then this is the camp for them! Rec and Park offers intensive art making where campers can explore and develop their artistic abilities in visual art, creative writing, storytelling, and movement, led by art specialists. Projects will focus on multi-step processes and challenge fine motor skills.

Young People's Teen Musical Theater Company (YPMTC) is offering the two-week Vocal and Acting

Camp at Harvey Milk to teenagers 13-17 years old from July 22 through August 2. This challenging course emphasizes musical theater performance for all skill levels.

There are still the old-time favorites like Silver Tree and Pine Lake, but also some new camps. The Ropes Course Experience will challenge campers while teaching teamwork at the McLaren Park Ropes Course and there's also a multitude of sports camps being offered around our City at centers like Kezar Pavilion, Crocker Amazon, and more.

Sign up early as space is limited and demand is great. For more information or the catalogue, [click here](#).



VOLUNTEER DAY IN THE PARK THIS SATURDAY

Our next volunteer day in the park is scheduled for Saturday, March 9, from 10 a.m.-noon. This is our first volunteer day in 2024 since Rec & Park suspended our volunteer days during the winter months as they typically done in past years.

In the last months of 2023, we refreshed the planted areas around the Scott Street Labyrinth with 20 new plants and planted 30 *Ceanothus* in the raised planter bed along the sloped area between the stairs and the MUNI retaining wall.

This month we will be doing some weeding and mulching in the Children's Playground and some light pruning if time allows. Please [sign up here](#) (scroll down to Duboce Park) if you are planning on attending. If it rains, the volunteer day will be cancelled. Hope to see you there.

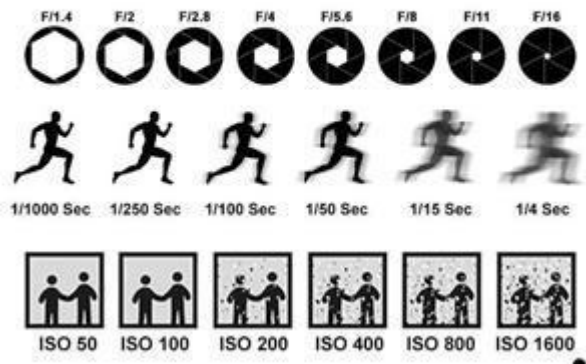
FILM CAMERA BASICS

The Harvey Milk Photo Center offers 23 classes this spring. There are courses for beginners and classes for more experienced photographers.

Film Camera Basics is a hands-on class that covers the basics in film camera usage starting with properly loading your film, exposure, depth of field basics and more. This class is being offered twice on Thursdays, from 6 – 8 p.m., starting March 21 and May 23. You will need to bring your film camera and a roll of film. 35 mm and medium format will be covered.

For any questions, please contact Photo Center 415-554-9522. Full descriptions, class dates, and costs of all Photo Center classes can be found in the Spring 2023 Catalogue available at the Photo Center or [online](#) or the [Photo Center website](#).

CAMERA BASICS



BODIES OF WORK PHOTO EXHIBIT

Bodies of Work opened with a reception and book signing on Saturday, March 2 and continues through April 20. This exhibition explores the commodification of athletic bodies. Bringing two projects into dialogue, Katinka Herbert delves into the lives of Mexican wrestlers and Cuban athletes. In doing so, her images capture the dilemma of physical performance: a tense relationship between economic necessity and the human form.

'Slam' offers unprecedented access to the stars of the Mexican wrestling scene. Notoriously secretive

about their true identities, it follows these hyper-masculine stars from the drama of the ring to the intimacy of their own homes. Eight years in the making, Slam is a story of trust. In documenting each costumed character, the project unmask their private lives and alter-egos.

'The Movers' explores the subject of mobility through portraits of Cuba's top athletes. Their lives are dictated by movement: running, dancing, leaping and jumping. For a lucky few, this opens up new kinds of mobility – geographic, economic and social. But most of them remain trapped: frozen inside a communist regime. This exhibition invites





us to consider the labor conditions that determine the lives of professional athletes, and the economic architectures that construct their performing bodies.

PLAYGROUND REOPENS, DOG PLAY AREA STILL FENCED



Playground resurfacing has been completed in the Playground. The new surface is green artificial turf has a lot of cushioning and bounce. A more durable rubber material was installed below the heavily used areas, e.g., under the swings or at the end of a slide. The old surface was 23 years old and was installed as part of the playground renovation completed in 2000.

The Dog Play/Multi-Use Area remains closed since due to the annual field closure that began on January 1 through March with a fence surrounding the closed area for turf renovations and rest from overuse. Michelle Pallavicini, Park Services Manager said, “the goal is to get the field looking its best for DogFest ‘24.” Other parks that also have annual field closures include St. Mary’s Dog Play Area, Upper Douglass Dog Play Area, and Dolores Park North Field.



DOGFEST RETURNS ON APRIL 27

DogFest, a celebration of dogs, families, community, and spring in San Francisco, returns to Duboce Park on Saturday, April 27. It's also a charitable event that raises funds for McKinley Elementary – a small public school in the neighborhood.

Starting 17 years ago as a small, grassroots event, DogFest has grown into a beloved San Francisco tradition with thousands of supporters and hundreds of businesses participating.

DogFest attendees can expect nonstop fun and games. The park fills with carnival-style games

staffed by McKinley students, while at the top end jumping castles keep the little ones busy. Dogs are the star of the event, of course, with a daylong show and contest. Food trucks ensure that everyone is well fed, while the book fair, merchant stalls, and the doggie adoption zone provide wonderful ways to support the community. For more information, visit the [DogFest website](#).



PARKS IN THE NEWS

The **Golden Gate Park Golf Clubhouse** reopened with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday, February 16 to celebrate the brand-new clubhouse. The clubhouse will serve as a hub for the 9-hole par 3 course, which is popular both with new players and experts. The Golden Gate Park Golf Course is operated by [First Tee San Francisco](#), a nonprofit youth development organization that teaches kids leadership, self-confidence and resilience through golf.





Construction has begun on the [Noe Valley Town Square Restroom Project](#). Rec & Park is preparing the site for the delivery of the prefabricated modular restroom, donated by the Public Restroom Company and Volumetric Building Companies. The new restroom structure is complete, ready to ship, and painted to match the existing chairs and trellis on site. The property at 3861 - 24th Street was purchased by RPD in June 2013 to establish a public open space at the site. The toilet was originally going to cost \$1.7 million but the cost came down to about \$850,000 after additional donations were made.

The first phase of the **Lake Merced Trail** Improvement project has been completed and added improvements such as a National Fitness Campaign fitness court with exercise equipment, two new picnic tables and benches, new ADA parking at the John Muir Drive lot, new signage along the asphalt trail, and landscaping upgrades including tree maintenance and new tree plantings. Phase 2 around North Lake Merced has begun.

The work around North Lake Merced (Phase 2) will replace existing paths at the northwest corner of the lake. A new ADA accessible asphalt path will be installed along with an adjacent stabilized soil path, which will provide a softer surface for runners. Additional site improvements will include installing new adult fitness stations and site furnishings.



Illuminate is beginning its robust performance season with 125+ diverse **free concerts** at the historic **Golden Gate Bandshell** in Golden Gate Park. The series kicked off its 2024 season on March 1 and continues through mid-November with shows every Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. The free concerts attract more than 250,000 music lovers throughout each season. To honor International Women's Day - the entire month of March will feature women or women-fronted musical groups. In total, 14 women-focused shows are planned during the month.

The full lineup of performers is as diverse and local

as it was in its first three seasons. The 2024 concerts will feature R&B, soul, jazz, funk, big band musicians, string ensembles, indie and psychedelic rock bands, and many singer-songwriters. In addition, the series will include reggae, salsa, and some EDM and electronic music. [A full schedule can be found at this link.](#)

JOIN FRIENDS OF DUBOCE PARK

Annual Membership dues for a Supporting Member are \$25 per person and entitle you to voting privileges and participation in the governance of the organization. Your dues help cover the few costs we have, such as our website, newsletter, movie nights, and insurance.

Your tax-deductible membership is gratefully accepted and should be sent to Friends of Duboce Park, 71 Scott Street, San Francisco, CA 94117. Friends of Duboce Park are a 501(c)(3) organization. General Membership is still available at no cost but does not carry any voting privileges. Another way to show your support is by getting involved.

Our Mission Statement includes the following: "to organize and represent the collective interests regarding Duboce Park; to beautify and promote safety within Duboce Park; and, to initiate and/or support beneficial neighborhood projects on behalf of Duboce Park."

MARCH-APRIL CALENDAR

Saturday, March 2, 10 a.m. ***Spring Class Registration***. Online at sfrecpark.org/register.

Saturday, March 9, 10 a.m.-noon, ***Friends of Duboce Park Volunteer Day***.

Tuesday, March 19, 7-8:30 p.m. Annual Friends of Duboce Park Membership Meeting. Harvey Milk Center for the Arts, 50 Scott St.

Wednesday, March 27, 6:30-7:30 p.m. ***Park Station Community Meeting*** via Zoom.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89948122093?pwd=OU8yeXBSQ0NTRXdVYXBQSjAvTUZxQT09>
Meeting ID: 899 4812 2093, Passcode: 911.

Tuesday, April 9, 6:30-8 p.m. ***Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association General Meeting***. Harvey Milk Center. Visit dtna.org.

Saturday, April 13, 10 a.m.-noon. ***Friends of Duboce Park Volunteer Day***.

Wednesday, April 24, 6:30-7:30 p.m. ***Park Station Community Meeting*** via Zoom.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89948122093?pwd=OU8yeXBSQ0NTRXdVYXBQSjAvTUZxQT09>
Meeting ID: 899 4812 2093, Passcode: 911.

Saturday, April 27, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. ***DogFest***. Visit mckinleyschool.org/dogfest.

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