

Randall's Island Park



www.randallsisland.org AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2010

Randall's Island

Sports Fields Hotline 212-860-1830 • www.randallsisland.org/sportsfields

Randall's Island Urban Farm



July was a great month at the new Randall's Island Urban Farm site, with visits from the RISF summer campers and participants in Gracie Mansion's garden program, Our Growing Place. Children learned to identify plants, heard stories, and tried garden activities such as weeding and composting. They also helped to harvest some of the vegetables, and the RISF staff demonstrated how to cook them – the kids knew what to do next! There really is nothing like fresh, delicious food, grown and harvested in the great outdoors, to encourage healthy eating.

Summer Camp

The final day of RISF's free summer camp was celebrated on Thursday, August 5 with the annual awards presentation at the Sportime Tennis Center. Children from HELP USA, representing the hundreds of kids who attended camp this year, demonstrated skills recently learned in rugby, tennis, dance and percussion drums. Following the demonstration, the Howie Robinson Good Sportmanship Award was presented to each camper by the Robinson Family. Joining camp staff, HELP USA children and executives Rachel Chazin Halperin and Krizia Gardner, are donors Jon and Jill Weiner, Ken Rosenberg, Elliott and Jill Goldman, Harriett and Jeff Robinson, RISF Founder and President Karen Cohen and camp staff.



Camp Awards Presentation to HELP USA

Electric Zoo Festival



Following on the success of its kickoff year in 2009, Made Event is very excited to announce that Electric Zoo will return to Randall's Island Park on Labor Day weekend, September 4th & 5th, 2010. Artists include such international acts as The Chemical Brothers, Armin Van Burren, Moby, Benny Benassi and many many others. For more information or to purchase tickets please visit www.electriczoo festival.com

NYC Science Teachers Remember Don Cook

On Saturday, October 2, RISF and the New York Academy of Sciences (NYAS) NYC Science Teachers Initiative will host a Discovering the Urban Environment event for middle and high school teachers. The science teachers will visit the Randall's Island Wetlands for workshops focusing on observation and inquiry-based exploration, and incorporating ecology, environmental impact and inquiry skills from the NYC Living Environment Curriculum. The event is being conducted in fond memory of Don Cook, who was Director of the Bank Street College of Education's Tiorati Workshop for Environmental Learning, Chair of the New York Academy of Sciences Science Education Section, and Honorary Randall's Island Wetlands Steward. Don exemplified environmental stewardship, and was a true inspiration to teachers and students, at Randall's Island and beyond.

Fall Park Advisory

As we enter into the fall season, please be sure to drive carefully. The speed limit on the main roads is 25 mph, and only 15 mph on the loop roads around the fields. Pay special attention at stop signs, intersections and crosswalks.

RISF Receives USATF 2011 Excellent Challenge Grant

RISF was one of 3 winners named by the USA Track & field Board of Directors to receive a challenge grant "to improve and advance excellence in the sport". RISF's award will fund a series of 5 youth track & field/cross-country meets for athletes between the ages of 8 and 18.



NYC Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito and Speaker Christine Quinn were on hand at Sportime for World TeamTennis, July 19, as the John McEnroe Tennis Academy participants were announced.