



NEWS

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\$1.5 MILLION GIFT FROM THE ANNIE W. & ELIZABETH M. ANDERSON FOUNDATION WILL ESTABLISH THE ANDERSON PAVILION IN SMALE RIVERFRONT PARK

CINCINNATI, OH:---The Cincinnati Park Board announced today that the Cincinnati Parks Foundation has received a \$1.5 million gift from the Anderson Foundation to underwrite the Annie W. & Elizabeth M. Anderson Pavilion in Smale Riverfront Park. The Pavilion, located at street level underneath the Carousel, will offer a 350+ seat conference facility. As part of this gift, the Longworth Room and Mendenhall Room will be established in honor of the donors.



*Annie W. & Elizabeth M. Anderson Pavilion
in Smale Riverfront Park*



Elizabeth Mendenhall Anderson and her sister, Annie Wallingford Anderson, were longtime Cincinnati philanthropists who supported numerous area charities throughout their lives, including the Krohn Conservatory, the Cincinnati Zoo and Cincinnati Children’s Hospital. Elizabeth (Betty) and Annie, born in 1912 and 1917 respectively, were descendants of Nicholas Longworth, the celebrated statesman and philanthropist who supported the poor and contributed to countless organizations. (Longworth famously donated the land to construct the Cincinnati

Observatory.) Catherine Longworth, Nicholas’ granddaughter, along with her husband Larz Anderson, became patrons of the arts and encouraged their niece, artist Emma Mendenhall, to cultivate her craft. She did, and became a watercolor artist of significant renown.

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“The Anderson Foundation, established in the late 1990s, works to support many of the charitable causes the sisters championed during their lifetimes,” said Joe Krabbe, President of the Anderson Foundation. “And while the Foundation has made gifts to other deserving local organizations, this gift to Smale Riverfront Park is by far the most significant.



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“While visiting the park earlier this year, I was amazed to see all that was happening there,” continued Krabbe. “We had been searching for an appropriate legacy for the Anderson sisters and we knew that a gift to this park was something that was consistent with their strong sense of Cincinnati and its history.”

Foundation trustee Chris Buttress concurs. “This is a connection between the history of the old and the new. Annie and Betty would be excited to be a part of that.”

The new Annie W. and Elizabeth M. Anderson Pavilion and conference rooms, along with the Carousel, will be completed in 2015, just in time for Major League Baseball’s All-Star Game, which will take place at Great American Ballpark in July, 2015. “There are really good things that have been going on downtown,” said Anderson Foundation trustee James Wellingshoff. “With Betty’s passing in 1998, and Annie’s death in 2011, it became clear to us that there was no better way to illuminate all they did for our community than to name this pavilion and conference center spaces in their honor.”

“Annie and Betty Anderson’s lifelong commitment to the vitality of this community will live on in perpetuity through this extraordinary gift,” said Susan Dorward, Executive Director of the Cincinnati Parks Foundation. “We are extremely grateful to the Anderson Foundation for this new venue which is destined to become one of the most well-used meeting and event centers in the city.”

Construction of several new features continues in Smale Riverfront Park, including the Heekin/PNC Grow Up Great Adventure Playground at the foot of the Roebling Suspension Bridge (east side); and the Vine Street Plaza, fountains and carousel on the west side of the bridge.

For more information, please contact Joyce Kamen at 513.543.8109; or Manda Hurdelbrink at 513.324.8610.

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About Smale Riverfront Park

The City of Cincinnati's Park Board—a long-time and much-trusted steward of our region's natural resources—is leading the construction of Smale Riverfront Park. The new 45-acre public park-- a regional attraction which will welcome millions of visitors to downtown Cincinnati—is being built with a blend of federal, state, city and private dollars. Construction of this destination park, located adjacent to The Banks development, is progressing on time and on budget. Citizens are invited to visit www.MySmaleRiverfrontPark.org to see the exciting park designs and video updates of park construction.