



HOLYOKE MERRY-GO-ROUND JOHN T. HICKEY PRESERVATION FUND



John T. Hickey, 1994

“ Many people call this a merry-go-round or a carousel. It is, in fact, a happiness machine. Man, and high tech, has not yet devised a better way to illuminate the faces of children and parents, with pure joy. The lights, the music, the kids dashing for the right horse, the clang of the starting bell, the motion and the adoring parents, waving back with every revolution. It never fails. It never will. ”

221 Appleton Street
Holyoke, MA 01040 • 413-538-9838
HolyokeMerryGoRound.org



**WE'VE BEEN
AROUND
(AND AROUND)
FOR A QUARTER-CENTURY!**

You don't really understand human nature unless you know why a child on a merry-go-round will wave at his parents every time around and why his parents will always wave back....

Dear Friends of the Merry-Go-Round,

2018

It has truly been an amazing adventure operating our Merry-Go-Round at Holyoke Heritage State Park in downtown Holyoke for 25 years. Thanks to our exceptionally dedicated Board of Directors, Staff and Volunteers, we take great pride in having welcomed over a million and a half riders and visitors while providing an enjoyable experience and maintaining the highest safety standards.

OUR 25 YEAR SUCCESS STORY

- Preserved a 1929 historic Merry-Go-Round, one of only 175 classic antique wooden carousels in No. America;
- Benefitted from the extraordinary generosity of loyal donors, in-kind service providers and countless talented volunteers while operating year round and keeping ticket prices affordable;
- Celebrated over 10,000 children's birthday parties, weddings, family, corporate and community-wide functions with city and park partners;
- Supported children's programs and agencies with thousands of free tickets;
- Hosted visits by American and National Carousel Associations;
- Restored 27 of our 48 hand-crafted horses, Artisan band organ, replaced metal stirrups, upgraded safety rail and primary electrical system;
- Replaced 864 incandescent lightbulbs with LED lightbulbs;
- Received donation of the Yankee Pedlar horse to our stable of horses from Clayton Insurance and PeoplesBank;
- Had Merry-Go-Round antique sleigh restored by Dean Technical students;
- Painted entire carousel building five times, landscaped gardens, replaced brass hardware, installed 48 Lexan windowpanes on exterior doors, added craft table and restored outside medallion.

OUR PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

- Research an education program for children, our future caretakers, about the history and preservation of the Merry-Go-Round;
- Recruit craftspeople with high level of technical and mechanical expertise to maintain Merry-Go-Round and building;
- Continue our horse restoration program for the remaining 21 of our 48 hand-crafted horses;
- Research energy-saving heating system for building;
- Replace bathroom plumbing fixtures;
- Maintain our annual exterior and interior building plan for extraordinary repairs and maintenance.

With your generous gift to our John T. Hickey Preservation Fund, we'll be able to achieve these goals and keep the Merry-Go-Round spinning in 2018 and in the future. **That's our dream. That's the brass ring.**

Sincerely, with our heartfelt gratitude and best wishes,

James J. Jackowski, Jr.,
President

Angela Wright,
Treasurer