

*"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." - William D. Iammeus*



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

221 Appleton Street Holyoke, MA 01040 413-538-9838

[HolyokeMerryGoRound.org](http://HolyokeMerryGoRound.org)



Support our high-steppers

Please  
Come  
Along  
For The  
Ride!



1929 - 2020

## DEAR MERRY-GO-ROUND FRIENDS,

Lancelot, our magnificent lead armored horse, is dedicated to the schoolchildren of Holyoke who, in 1988, with support from teachers and families, took pride in presenting our founder John Hickey with the extraordinary gift of \$32,000 to help save Lancelot and our Merry-Go-Round. Now, over 30 years later, those children are sharing the joy of the Merry-Go-Round with their own children, and passing on their legacy of preserving and enhancing this local treasure. We take immense pride in this legacy and have worked hard to honor it in order to not let those schoolchildren down. You can also honor the children's gift to that legacy by helping us keep our 91-year-old Merry-Go-Round well maintained so it can continue to operate year-round in downtown Holyoke.

## THANKS TO YOU, IN 2019 WE HAVE

- Conducted an extensive media campaign to promote the Merry-Go-Round's 90 years of fun-filled "Ups and Downs";
- Made extensive repairs to the Merry-Go-Round's 91-year-old operating mechanism, including its gears and electrical system;
- Passed the annual safety inspection with flying colors, thanks to our dedicated staff and volunteers;
- Made major repairs to roof shingles that were significantly damaged by storms and squirrels;
- Replaced and upgraded exterior landscaping necessitated by changing the location of park sidewalks to better accommodate disabled visitors;
- Updated and replaced original bathroom fixtures;
- Continued annual painting of internal and external sections of our 26-year-old building.

## WITH YOUR HELP, OUR PLANS FOR 2020 INCLUDE

- Developing an educational program for children about the history and preservation of the Merry-Go-Round, cultivating the next generation of carousel lovers;
- Continuing our horse restoration program for the remaining 21 of 48 hand-crafted horses by the New England Carousel Museum, including replacement of reins and metal stirrups;
- Arranging for horse restoration experts to make on-site repairs as part of a maintenance plan for 27 restored horses;
- Making critical repairs to the Merry-Go-Round operating mechanism including a significant pillow block replacement project to reduce daily maintenance;
- The ongoing recruitment of craftspeople with high levels of technical and mechanical expertise needed to maintain our Merry-Go-Round and building;
- Developing a plan for an energy-saving heating system.

Please consider what our Merry-Go-Round means to children and families who will in years to come experience the magic of this masterpiece of hand-carving, mechanical simplicity, music and fun. **Our expenses have greatly increased, and we need your support now more than ever. Your donation will help us continue our efforts to keep our "Happiness Machine" spinning for you and for future generations.**

Sincere and heartfelt gratitude from our horses!



James J. Jackowski, Jr., President



Angela Wright, Treasurer