



John T. Hickey Preservation Fund
2026 CAMPAIGN



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Dear Lancelot's Friends,

For nearly 100 years, Lancelot and the 47 hand-carved horses of the Holyoke Merry-Go-Round have brought joy, laughter, and lasting memories to our community. As we approach this historic milestone, we're asking for your help to ensure this beloved carousel continues spinning for generations to come.

We are proud to launch our **2026 Preservation Campaign**, focused on several urgent needs essential to keeping the Holyoke Merry-Go-Round safe, protected, and operational. In addition to caring for our historic horses and mechanism, we must address critical repairs to the aging pavilion that shelters them.

As the Holyoke Merry-Go-Round enters its 33rd year of operation as part of Heritage State Park, we respectfully ask for your continued and timely support to help preserve this treasured cultural landmark. The carousel has brought joy to families throughout our region, and with your assistance, we can ensure it remains a safe, vibrant, and accessible experience for all who visit. These improvements will modernize the space while preserving the historic character of the Holyoke Merry-Go-Round.

This year, our most pressing priorities include:

- Replacement of the pavilion roof, which has reached the end of its useful life and is critical to protecting the carousel, horses, and visitors.
- Replacement of deteriorating windows throughout the pavilion to improve safety, security, and energy efficiency.
- Critical repairs to the merry-go-round's operating mechanism to ensure continued safe operation.
- Continued restoration of carousel horses to enhance safety and preserve historical integrity.

Thanks to your past generosity, we have restored 35 carousel horses, renovated restroom facilities, installed new rider-safety stirrups, painted the carousel platform with specialized non-slip paint, and taken important measures to protect these historic figures.

We are deeply committed to protecting this beloved 'Happiness Machine.' Every dollar donated goes directly toward essential renovation efforts and the ongoing care of both the carousel and its pavilion.

With sincere and heartfelt gratitude from our horses,

Joe McGiverin
Chairman of The Board of Directors
Friends of the Holyoke Merry-Go-Round



SCAN TO DONATE!