



For Immediate Release

*Bios Attached*

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### **PIEDMONT PARK CONSERVANCY WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS**

ATLANTA, GA, February 11, 2019. Piedmont Park Conservancy welcomes ten new members to their board: Lee Echols, V.P. Marketing & Communications Northside Hospital; Makara Rumley, Founder & CEO, Hummingbird; Patrick Baldwin, Senior Associate, Jones Day; Erin Yabroudy, Harry Norman Realtors; Herman Howard, Founding Partner/Director of Planning and Urban Design - SHAPE; Timothy Montz, Vice President of Business Operations Cox Communications; Adriana Varela, Attorney, Fragomen's; Alex Wan, Executive Director, Horizons Atlanta; John Wilson, Senior Vice President, Jamestown; and Joni Winston, Community Philanthropist and Wellness Instructor.

The Conservancy looks forward to building upon their vast knowledge and individual skill sets in order to advance its mission to enhance and preserve Piedmont Park and all of its natural beauty.

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The Piedmont Park Conservancy is a member and donor funded nonprofit organization working in partnership with the City of Atlanta to maintain and enhance historic Piedmont Park. Founded in 1989, the Conservancy raises over \$3 million each year to enhance and maintain the park. Today, the Conservancy manages over 90% of the overall maintenance and security of Piedmont Park.

## **2019 NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **LEE ECHOLS**

V.P. Marketing & Communications, Northside Hospital, Atlanta

Lee joined Northside Hospital in 2014 and oversees the organization's programs in advertising, physician practice marketing, media relations, social and digital media, employee communications, direct marketing, community partnerships and issues management. His career spans 30 years in the Atlanta and Georgia markets. Prior to coming to Northside, Lee served as senior vice president of Edelman, managing the firm's crisis management practice in the Southeast U.S.

He is former press secretary and longtime counsel to Andrew Young, former mayor of Atlanta and United Nations ambassador. For 12 years, Lee led The Echols Group, an issues and media management firm whose clients included Aflac, the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games, and Delta Air Lines.

### **MAKARA RUMLEY, ESQ.**

Founder & CEO, Hummingbird

Makara is an experienced community engagement strategist and an important thought leader related to cultural competency, public meetings, stakeholder identification and management, and vision planning. She is practiced in facilitation, training & developing community engagement plans with a knack for identifying what makes each stakeholder successful.

As the Founder & CEO of Hummingbird, she uses her project management skills, commitment to sustainable solutions, and plain language translation tools for Hummingbird's private industry, municipality, and federal government clients.

Makara has served as the Senior Advisor on Community Engagement for the Regional Administrator at the Environmental Protection Agency and an Environmental Attorney with GreenLaw. She is a graduate of George Washington University Law School and received her undergraduate degree from Spelman College.

### **PATRICK BALDWIN**

Associate, Jones Day

Patrick is a senior associate at Jones Day in the Mergers & Acquisitions practice. Patrick's primary focus is domestic and cross-border mergers and acquisitions, advising public and private companies and private equity firms and their portfolio companies on buy-and sell-side mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, joint ventures and leveraged buyouts.

Prior to joining Jones Day, Patrick worked as a senior project manager for a commercial construction company in the Atlanta area and clerked for the Hon. Chief Judge Ed Carnes of the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals. Patrick joined the Piedmont Park Conservancy as a Young Professionals for Piedmont Park members, and now currently serves on the PPC's Finance Committee and co-chaired this year's Party for Piedmont Park event.

Patrick is a graduate of the University of Florida and the University of Georgia School of Law.

### **ERIN YABROUDY**

Harry Norman Realtors

Erin is one of Atlanta's leading realtors for premier communities such as Ansley Park & Morningside. Beginning her career in 2005, Erin quickly established a solid track record of excellence and has been recognized as a top 15 company-wide real estate agent. Erin is a life member of Top Producers, a recognition bestowed on the leading 15% of realtors in sales and/or volume annually.

Erin Co-Chaired Piedmont Park Conservancy's 2018 Landmark Luncheon and was Chairperson of the 2008 Ansley Park Tour of Homes. She is currently a member of the Ansley Park Garden Club as well the Cathedral of St. Philip, where she has been involved with the Cathedral Antique Show. Erin is also engaged in local schools and is a member of the Parents Associations of both the Westminster Schools and the Lovett School. She is a former Morningside Elementary PTA member and a former member of the First Presbyterian Preschool Board of Directors.

Erin is a Georgia native and Vanderbilt alumnae, where she was a member of the Pi Beta Phi Sorority.

## **HERMAN HOWARD**

Founding Partner/ Director of Planning and Urban Design\SHAPE

Herman Howard has designed projects and built works at the scale of Master Planning, Urban Design, Architecture and Interior's for over 30 years. In late 2015 he co-founded the firm Studio H Architecture Planning Environments - SHAPE with offices being developed in NYC and Atlanta, GA . Prior to forming SHAPE, Mr. Howard was part of the design teams and leadership of some of the leading firms across the nation and the world. Early in his career he was a part of the design teams with KPF (Kohn Pedersen Fox) and SOM (Skidmore Owings and Merrill).

Some of the later positions and projects (after Graduate School) included the firm of Pei Cobb Freed & Partners (formerly known as I. M. Pei). During this time period 1989 - 1995, Herman Howard was also involved in the early efforts of the discovery of the African Burial Ground of Lower Manhattan, which later became a National Historic Treasure. While at HOK from 2005 – 2011, Herman served as a VP & Regional Practice Leader. The last firm that Herman Howard was a part of before starting SHAPE was KAI-Design + Build where he was the Director of Planning + Urban Design and headed up their Atlanta office.

Herman Howard has taught Design studio at GA Tech College of Architecture for 14 years where his studio has won numerous design awards.

## **TIMOTHY MONTZ**

Vice President, Business Operations, Cox Communications

Timothy Montz is Vice President of Business Operations for Cox Communications. In this role he is responsible for supporting the financial needs of the Marketing & Sales Organization. Tim is also tasked with managing the financial planning and analysis of all Residential Revenue (\$9B) and subscriber activity.

Tim began his career at Cox fifteen years ago in the Atlanta corporate finance department. After two years, he was promoted and transferred to the Louisiana market where he served as director of finance for four years. He then moved back to Atlanta where he was promoted to Executive Director of Enterprise Analysis. Tim's next career move was into his current role as Vice President of Business Operations.

Prior to joining the Cox team, Tim worked for Intercontinental Hotels in their corporate finance office. He also jumped on the .com start-up craze in the late '90s. Tim has worked a total of 21 years in the finance industry, bringing a breadth of knowledge and experience to the table.

Tim received a bachelor's degree in management and finance from the University of Mississippi (Ole Miss) where he was the starting Place Kicker on the football team.

## **ADRIANA VARELA**

Attorney, Fragomen's

Adriana is a Foreign Attorney and Director of Global Client Services in Fragomen's Atlanta office. Her practice includes working with clients to develop effective strategies for international business immigration while ensuring compliance with applicable international rules and regulations. She also advises employers with global operations on immigration requirements for employees assigned to work in North and South America, Europe, Asia and the Middle East.

Prior to relocating to the United States, Adriana practiced law in Mexico as an associate for a renowned multi-practice firm. Subsequently, she served as in-house counsel for a Financial Group. Adriana's corporate and litigation background provide a singular and holistic perspective when advising companies on how to structure their immigration programs.

Adriana is a member of the Board of Directors, Refugee Family Services, a member of the National Bar Association and International Bar Association and a member of Leadership Atlanta, Class of 2018. She is also Board Chair, New American Pathways (helping Refugees and Georgia thrive).

Adriana received her Master of Law at Emory University, School of Law and a J.D. at the Universidad La Salle.

### **ALEX WAN**

Executive Director, Horizons Atlanta

Alex Wan currently serves as the Executive Director of Horizons Atlanta, a nonprofit organization that provides tuition free summer enrichment programs focused on literacy, mathematics, and swim skill to at-risk K-8 students in the metro Atlanta area. Prior to joining Horizons Atlanta, Alex Wan most recently served as Director of Development and Alumni Relations at Emory University, and before that as Director of Development at Jerusalem House, Atlanta's largest HIV housing provider.

Alex represented the in-town neighborhoods of District 6 on the Atlanta City Council for two four-year terms. During his tenure, he chaired the Finance-Executive, Zoning, and Utilities Committee, and served as Council President Pro Tempore in 2015. He has served on the boards of Invest Atlanta, Leadership DeKalb, Little Five Points Community Improvement District, Piedmont Park Conservancy, Olmsted Linear Park Alliance, and Organization of Chinese Americans GA. He recently joined the board of directors of Live Thrive Atlanta, a nonprofit focused on sustainability and recycling.

Alex holds a Bachelor of Industrial Engineering degree from Georgia Tech and an MBA from Wharton Business School and has also completed educational programs at Dartmouth College and Harvard University. After growing up in Stone Mountain, GA, Alex now lives with his partner in Morningside, where has been a resident since 1994. He has been a beekeeper since 2009.

### **JOHN WILSON**

Senior Vice President, Jamestown

John Wilson is a Senior Vice President at Jamestown. In this role, he leads value creation efforts across a range of retail, office and mixed-use investments. Since joining the company in 2012, John has led teams responsible for large-scale adaptive reuse projects like Chelsea Market and Ponce City Market. He began his real estate career at Jones Lang LaSalle in Washington, DC.

John earned a Bachelor of Arts in Government from Dartmouth College and a Master of Business Administration in Real Estate and Finance from The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania.

### **JONI WINSTON**

Teaching Breathwalk and Meditation, Greater Atlanta Area / Costa Rica

Joni Winston is pursuing a career in teaching and educating people about wellness practices. She teaches Breathwalk, which is a walking meditation taught in the Kundalini School, as well as a meditation curriculum she has developed. She also is certified to teach CBCT (Cognitively Based Compassion Training) through Emory University. Emory conducts research into the empirical benefits of meditation on stress reduction, she is a teacher in this fall's research.

She is studying sound healing and expects to be certified in 2019. Joni is creating a wellness center in Las Catalinas, Costa Rica that will open in 2019. There are plans to open a wellness center in Atlanta after that, and then expand to other cities.

Prior to exploring a career in wellness she spent decades raising three children in Atlanta and worked as a community volunteer. The areas of focus are green space, education, the arts, and wellness. She has a BA in Psychology.