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## **FAIRMOUNT PARK CONSERVANCY NAMES JAMIE GAUTHIER AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Board of Directors Chose to Promote from Within**

**PHILADELPHIA – October 9, 2017** – The Board of Directors of Fairmount Park Conservancy named Jamie Gauthier as Executive Director of the organization at its meeting on September 13. Gauthier has been at the Conservancy since January 2017, when she was hired as Senior Director of Public Partnerships, and she has served as Acting Executive Director since July, upon the departure of Rick Magder. With a master’s degree in city planning from the University of Pennsylvania, a decade of experience in community and business development within Philadelphia, and first-hand knowledge of the Conservancy’s network of relationships with city agencies, elected officials, grassroots organizations, and philanthropic institutions, Gauthier is uniquely qualified to lead the organization during this extraordinary time of revitalization and expansion of Philadelphia’s public spaces.



“We couldn’t be happier that the right person for the job was already part of the organization,” **said John Gattuso, President of the Board of Directors of Fairmount Park Conservancy.** “The leadership shown by Jamie has reaffirmed the Board’s conviction that she is the right Executive Director to take Fairmount Park Conservancy into an even greater role in the public life of Philadelphia.”

Jamie Gauthier brings with her a depth of experience related to community development, grassroots engagement, economic development, and nonprofit administration, and will work to expand the Conservancy's reach and engagement in neighborhoods across Philadelphia. Most recently, she served as Executive Director of the Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia (SBN); previously, she worked as a Program Officer with Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), where she directed investment towards community development corporations and supported their efforts to revitalize Philadelphia's neighborhoods.

"To be able to participate in my hometown's progress as a leader in creative place-making and urban redevelopment is a dream come true," **said Gauthier**, who grew up in the Kingsessing neighborhood of Southwest Philadelphia before moving to West Philly, where she currently lives with her two children. "Philadelphia has incredible assets in its public parks, and I'm thrilled to help Fairmount Park Conservancy leverage and improve those assets for the benefit of all Philadelphians."

As Acting Executive Director, Gauthier moved forward decisively to add to the organization's leadership team, hiring the Conservancy's first Chief Financial Officer. **As of September 5, the new CFO is Cynthia E. Roberts**, who brings over 15 years of business experience in nonprofit accounting and reporting, finance, strategic planning and operations. In her role as CFO, Roberts manages the overall financial and organizational operations of the Conservancy, ensuring compliance of required regulations, as well as the utilization of industry standards and best practices in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.



Prior to joining the Conservancy, Roberts worked for the Children’s Literacy Initiative (CLI) as the Director of Finance; previously, she was the Controller for The Philadelphia Foundation, where she was responsible for the management and stewardship of over \$300 million in assets. Roberts holds a master’s degree in business administration from Holy Family University and a bachelor’s degree in accounting from the University of Delaware. She lives in Drexel Hill, PA.

Gauthier and Roberts are gearing up for a busy Fall season at Fairmount Park Conservancy, with the annual membership event GLOW in the Park on October 19, LOVE Your Park Fall Service Day on November 4, and the opening of “A Very Philly Christmas” at the Historic Houses of Fairmount Park on November 30. For more of what’s coming up, see [myphillypark.org](http://myphillypark.org)

**Fairmount Park Conservancy exists to champion Philadelphia’s parks.** We lead capital projects and historic preservation efforts, foster neighborhood park stewardship, attract and leverage investments, and develop innovative programs throughout the 10,200 acres that include Fairmount Park and more than 100 neighborhood parks around the city. Philadelphia has one of the largest urban park systems in the world, providing residents with extensive health, environmental, social, economic and cultural benefits – including access to some of the region’s most famous attractions. For more information, please visit [myphillypark.org](http://myphillypark.org), join us at [facebook.com/fairmountparkconservancy](https://facebook.com/fairmountparkconservancy), and follow us on Instagram and Twitter @myphillypark.

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