



# Important Victories & A CALL TO ACTION

**2015** ANNUAL  
REPORT





To our supporters,

**Over the last year, Scenic Hudson achieved outstanding victories and made significant progress:**

- We reached a win-win agreement—the greatest environmental settlement of the last decade—that halts a corporate tower from marring spectacular vistas of the Palisades.
- We protected more than 2,800 acres of scenic vistas, critical habitats and working farmland—including properties that have been on our “must-save” list for a decade or longer.
- We conserved our 100th family farm and surpassed the 13,000-acre mark in protected agricultural land supplying fresh, local food to valley and New York City consumers.
- We helped convince the state Public Service Commission to put the brakes on a costly and environmentally harmful desalination plant proposed for Haverstraw, Rockland County.
- And we made great strides in safeguarding the region’s natural treasures from toxic PCBs, unsafe crude oil shipments and needless transmission lines.

**These successes attest to Scenic Hudson’s ongoing effectiveness in:**

- forging strong partnerships;
- basing our positions on the latest scientific data;
- maintaining the pressure in courts of law and public opinion;
- leveraging funding from public and private sources; and
- sustaining the fight as long as it takes.



### **Issuing a call to action—your support critical**

Scenic Hudson's work is far from over, which is why we're issuing a call to action. Persistent threats from unneeded transmission lines, PCBs and crude oil imperil the valley's health, economic prosperity and competitiveness in attracting jobs. In New York City, the widening gap between supply and demand for regionally produced food approaches \$1 billion. And the urgency of mitigating and preparing for rising sea levels keeps growing.

With you as a partner, we'll tackle these challenges head-on, ensuring future generations can enjoy and benefit from those special places we cherish so much.

James C. Goodfellow, Board Chairman

Ned Sullivan, President

Front cover: Visitors to New York City's Fort Washington Park beneath the George Washington Bridge enjoy magnificent Palisades views—protected via our win-win agreement reducing the height of LG Electronics' new headquarters.  
Above: James C. Goodfellow (left) and Ned Sullivan at Scenic Hudson's Long Dock Park in Beacon.



## PRESERVING THE PALISADES' MAJESTY

### Important Victories

We reached a historic settlement with LG Electronics over plans for its new North American headquarters in Englewood Cliffs, N.J., concluding our three-year campaign to **protect vistas of the Palisades**. A great example of how corporate and environmental interests can work together to the public's benefit, the agreement:

- Reduces the building's height from 143 feet to 69 feet, significantly minimizing its impacts on spectacular Palisades views; and
- Allows LG to retain jobs in the region while providing space for the planned doubling of its local workforce.

To achieve this win-win outcome, we used every strategy in our playbook: We served as **leading plaintiff in a lawsuit** challenging changes to local zoning rules that permitted towers along the ridgetop. We collaborated with the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs (a co-plaintiff), the Natural Resources Defense Council, New Jersey Conservation Foundation, New York-New Jersey Trail Conference and Larry Rockefeller in negotiations with LG. We also **helped establish the Protect the Palisades** coalition—uniting more than 30 environmental, cultural and civic groups to fight the plan—and **secured key support** from *The New York Times* and other influential media.

As originally designed, the building would have stood nearly 70 feet above the treeline, making it the first building prominently visible along an unspoiled, 20-mile stretch of this **National Natural Landmark**. A recent New Jersey court decision affirmed our contention that unique natural and historic resources such as the Palisades merit special protection—a precedent that will help assure future conservation victories.



## Call to Action

- This victory won't stop others from trying to build towers along the Palisades ridgeline—so we're actively supporting N.J. legislation that would prevent future high-rises atop it.
- Citizen action is crucial for the law's enactment.



Thanks to successful negotiations with LG Electronics, the height of the company's new headquarters has been reduced by half, preserving awe-inspiring vistas of the Palisades.



## SAVING THE LAND THAT MATTERS MOST

### Important Victories

In the past year, we conserved more than 2,800 acres—**scenic, agricultural and ecological treasures** that include some of the largest **“must-save” properties** along the entire Hudson River estuary:

- 590 acres we preserved in **Stockport**, Columbia County—2.4 miles of riverfront, grasslands, forested bluffs and ravines, and tidal wetlands—buffer vital wildlife habitat in the adjacent 1,500-acre Stockport Flats unit of the **Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve**. They also contribute to views enjoyed by Amtrak passengers and visitors to popular nearby parks, while offering outstanding potential for recreation and enjoying vistas of the **Catskill, Taconic and Berkshire mountains**. A low-interest loan from The Peter and Carmen Lucia Buck Foundation enabled us to acquire this magnificent property.
- The 376 acres we protected in **Ulster**, Ulster County, feature 280 acres of forest, more than 50 acres of grassland, high-quality freshwater wetlands and six acres fronting the Hudson. Prominently visible from our flagship **Poets’ Walk Park** and other tourism destinations, the property offers great opportunities to increase recreation by linking it with 260 acres of adjoining parkland.

**The following pages showcase recent Saving the Land That Matters Most victories.**



## Call to Action

- Many “must-save” scenic, agricultural and ecological treasures remain at risk from development. We’ll continue building on successes to date in our collaborative campaign—nearly 13,000 acres we’ve conserved and over 2,600 acres by our partners.
- By moving full-speed ahead to remove debris and dilapidated infrastructure from our newly protected properties while simultaneously developing plans for trails and amenities, we can quickly transform them into community assets. Volunteers can help us open these gems to public enjoyment.

Two newly protected riverfront properties on Scenic Hudson’s “must-save” list for decades: in Ulster County (top) and along Stockport Flats in Columbia County.





### Illinois Mountain

90 acres • Lloyd, Ulster County

Acquiring two ridge-top parcels not only enhances recreational opportunities at this popular mountain-biking destination but helps sustain the mountain's outstanding biological diversity and protects superb views from many area parks, including Walkway Over the Hudson.



### John Burroughs Black Creek Corridor

23 acres • Esopus, Ulster County

This mix of forest and hardwood swamp along Black Creek provides a vital link in creating the eight-mile John Burroughs Black Creek Corridor connecting our Black Creek Preserve with Chodikee Lake, the Hudson Valley Rail Trail and Walkway Over the Hudson.



### Shaupeneak Ridge

56 acres • Esopus, Ulster County

This wooded property—bordered on two sides by our popular preserve—safeguards views from existing trails and offers the possibility of creating a new trail leading to a ridge-top overlook affording stunning southerly vistas.



### Catskill Quarry

75 acres • Catskill, Greene County

A conservation easement donated by John Peckham/Peckham Industries protects a mile-long forested ridgeline—the most visually sensitive portion of this large quarry—that contributes to outstanding views enjoyed from the Hudson River, Olana State Historic Site and other public viewpoints.





### Falling Waters Preserve

149 acres • Saugerties, Ulster County

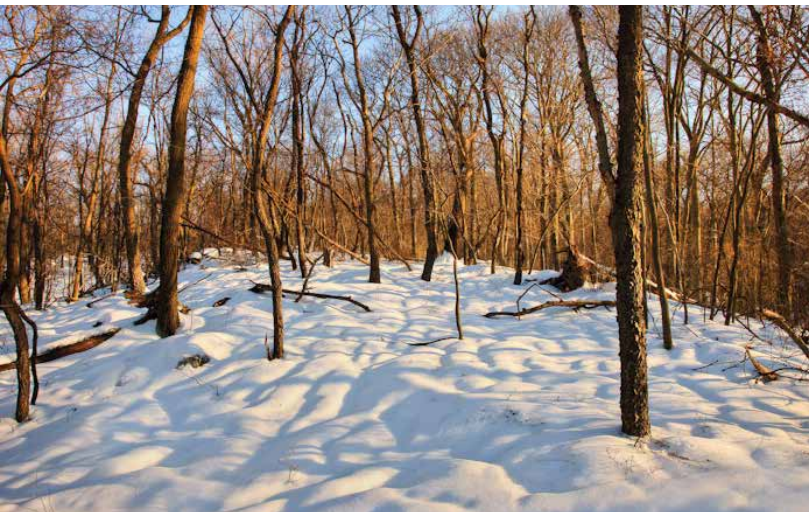
Acquisition of this land, previously protected by a limited-term conservation easement, ensures permanent public access to three miles of trails in what has become one of our most popular riverfront parks since its 2011 opening.



### South Bay Creek Watershed

105 acres • Greenport, Columbia County

In addition to contributing to outstanding Olana views, this property features 40 acres of high-quality farmland and forested bluffs and ravines along ecologically important South Bay Creek. The property is located just upstream of wellheads that provide the town's public drinking water.



### Watergrass Sanctuary

19 acres • Philipstown, Putnam County

Adding to the 49 acres we previously protected via a conservation easement, we partnered with the Hudson Highlands Land Trust, Putnam Highlands Audubon Society and Open Space Institute to increase the size of this prime bird habitat and facilitate safe public access to it.



### Binnen Kill

131 acres • Bethlehem, Albany County

Achieving this long-time conservation priority, made possible by a low-interest loan from The Peter and Carmen Lucia Buck Foundation, protects critical habitat in and along an important Hudson River tributary and offers a model for how the valley can adapt to rising sea levels.



## FIGHTING FOR A CLEAN HUDSON RIVER

### Progress

For decades, we stood up to **General Electric** as it evaded responsibility for removing PCBs it dumped in the Hudson River over a 30-year span. This fall, following six years of dredging, the company finally will complete the portion of its Superfund cleanup mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). But it's **far too early to celebrate**. Hundreds of thousands of pounds of PCB-contaminated sediment still foul the river. What's more, we've learned GE scientists have under-reported PCB levels in fish, calling into question the cleanup's overall effectiveness. The bottom line: Our American Heritage River remains America's largest toxic waste site.

Government agencies serving as federal trustees of the Hudson's **still-damaged natural resources** say more dredging is needed to restore fuller public use and enjoyment of the river, make its fish safe to eat and resume lucrative cargo shipping on the Champlain Canal. Without it, a 200-mile stretch of the Hudson will remain contaminated for generations. An expanded, immediate cleanup makes sense for all—riverfront communities could jumpstart long-delayed economic development plans, while GE would reduce substantial legal and financial liabilities.

The **Campaign for a Cleaner Hudson** coalition we helped establish this year has drawn widespread support—dozens of environmental groups, 80 valley municipalities, 169 state legislators and thousands of citizens—calling on GE to complete a more comprehensive cleanup now. An editorial in the Albany *Times Union* said it best, "**There's more to do, GE.**"



## Call to Action

- We'll continue to push GE to complete two more years of dredging—all it would take to remove toxic "hotspots" and ensure the river's speedy, thorough recovery. If GE won't finish the job, state taxpayers will unfairly foot the bill.
- Over the course of our 30-year campaign to rid the Hudson of GE's PCBs, we have learned that the company steps up to its legal responsibilities only when all powers combine to force action. With the EPA and New York State failing to exercise their authority to require GE to perform a comprehensive cleanup, your voice will be crucial in joining Scenic Hudson and our allies; the federal Natural Resource Trustees; and hundreds of communities, elected officials and businesses demanding action.

**Top: Activists calling on GE to conduct additional dredging to achieve a healthy Hudson held July 23 candlelight vigils in riverfront communities from Schuylerville to New York City. In October Ned Sullivan and Sierra Club National Board of Directors President Aaron Mair joined activists demanding NY State and the EPA use their authority to force GE to extend the cleanup.**





## SUPPLYING FRESH, HEALTHY FOOD

### Important Victories

Partnering with fellow land trusts, we protected more than 1,200 acres on 10 family farms this year, providing farmers with capital to **increase productive capacity** and in some cases transition to more eco-friendly farming practices. Conservation easements we acquired also allowed farmers to purchase land they'd previously been leasing, increasing the security of their operations, while **making the land more affordable for the next generation** of farmers.

Along with these "on-the-ground" successes, recent accomplishments will enable us to ramp up protection of the region's farms—the goal of our **Foodshed Conservation Plan**:

- Gov. Cuomo dedicated **\$20 million in his 2016 state budget** to preserve valley farmland based on our plan. Our advocacy helped ensure legislative approval for the appropriation.
- Our expertise in leveraging support for farmland protection attracted significant new funding, allowing us to **increase the pace and scope of our work**.
- An analysis we undertook to determine the role valley farmland plays in **preserving wildlife habitat and enhancing climate resilience** will allow us to focus on protecting agricultural properties that achieve these objectives as well.

**The following pages showcase recent collaborative farmland victories.**



## Call to Action

- We're working with the state Department of Agriculture & Markets and many land trust partners to advance an effective framework for disbursing the \$20 million in valley farmland funding.
- Enough farmland surrounds New York City to meet 30 percent of its food needs—but conserving it will require a substantial city investment. Building on strong support we've received from leading city chefs and restaurateurs, food and hunger policy groups, and over a dozen City Council Members, your action is crucial to persuade New York City to step up as a financial partner in protecting its regional foodshed.

Three farm families grow food on land we protected in Copake, Columbia County (top). A cooking class at New York City's CAMBA Beyond Hunger Emergency Food Pantry, which receives free food from a farm conserved by Scenic Hudson.





### **Brown Cow-Golden Farm**

*143 acres • Schodack, Rensselaer County*

This easement, acquired with the Columbia Land Conservancy, facilitated the land's purchase by the owners of multi-generational Dutch Hollow Farm, a Columbia County dairy operation milking the state's second-largest registered Jersey herd.



### **Echo Valley Farm**

*106 acres • Red Hook, Dutchess County*

A conservation easement acquired with the Dutchess Land Conservancy protects a successful sheep farm owned by the same family since 1943. A CSA leasing a portion of the land uses sustainable practices to raise vegetables distributed locally and in New York City.



### **Copake Agricultural Center**

*189 acres • Copake, Columbia County*

Easements on two farm properties acquired with the Columbia Land Conservancy facilitate the work of Northeast Farm Access, which connects private investors with farmers to provide stable land tenure. Farmers currently leasing the land grow organic vegetables.



### Old Mud Creek Farm

390 acres • Livingston, Columbia County

We partnered with the Columbia Land Conservancy to protect this land, previously used by corporations to test pesticides. The new owner is restoring the soil's health and transforming it into an organic grain farm utilizing methods leaving a minimal carbon footprint, with plans to establish a soil research laboratory.



### Whistle Down Farm

59 acres • Claverack, Columbia County

We partnered with the Columbia Land Conservancy to protect this sustainable, diversified vegetable operation that sells produce at a nearby farmers market and via a CSA, and also supplies four New York City food pantries.



### Delapenta Farm

83 acres • Taghkanic, Columbia County

Funds from this easement, acquired with the Columbia Land Conservancy, will enable this third-generation dairy farm to transition to an all-organic, entirely grass-fed operation.



## HALTING THE THREAT FROM CRUDE OIL SHIPMENTS

### Progress

Scenic Hudson and our allies **took significant steps to reduce the risk of flammable crude oil** flowing through the valley's "virtual pipeline," and our advocacy led to a **60-percent increase in state resources to respond to future disasters**. As a result of our efforts:

- **An oil terminal owner withdrew applications** to expand a riverfront facility in Orange County that would have enabled it to boost shipments of flammable Bakken crude oil by more than a billion gallons annually and handle Canadian tar sands crude oil—almost impossible to clean up if a spill occurs—for the first time on the Hudson.
- **New York State increased its Oil Spill Fund**—the first line of defense against devastating accidents and spills—to \$40 million from \$25 million.
- In an about-face—and following strong advocacy by Scenic Hudson and our partners—the state Department of Environmental Conservation has signaled intent to **order a full environmental review** of a plan to make the Port of Albany a hub for transshipping tar sands crude oil.





## Call to Action

- Puncture-prone railcars remain on the tracks, putting our communities and river at daily risk from explosions and spills. Since federal regulations don't go far enough fast enough, we've filed a lawsuit to compel the government to adopt more stringent rules for tanker car design and challenged a state permit allowing crude transport by rail through the valley.
- Threats to the Hudson River and municipalities along it will rise significantly if the state allows shipment of tar sands crude oil through the region—which is why we're also engaged in legal action to halt expansion of an Albany facility to transfer this product.
- A worst-case explosion or spill could cause over \$1 billion of damage—far in excess of state funds or railroad insurance coverage—which is why we're pressing for legislation requiring companies transporting crude oil through New York to shoulder the entire cost of cleanup following accidents. Your support is key to continued progress in safeguarding the Hudson from these threats.

**Top: Crude-filled railcars on the valley's "virtual pipeline." An April derailment of similar cars in Lynchburg, Va., caused an explosion and fouled the James River.**





## CONNECTING PEOPLE TO THE RIVER

### Important Victories

New parks and amenities provide greater access to the Hudson River and enhance opportunities to experience its power and majesty:

- A spectacular Hudson River overlook we protected in Hyde Park, Dutchess County, now is accessible to the public via a new section of the **Hyde Park Greenway Trail** beginning at Mills-Norrie State Park in Staatsburg. Volunteers helped us and the Hyde Park Greenway Trail Committee construct this 1.85-mile route—a vital link in creating a trail that will connect the Mid-Hudson and Kingston-Rhinecliff bridges. Benches at the overlook offer visitors a place to rest and admire sweeping views.
- Recently completed upgrades at our **Esopus Meadows Preserve** in Ulster County include a pavilion built to withstand flooding from rising sea levels. We also improved paths to make them compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- In tandem with providing funds enabling the **Hudson River Maritime Museum** in Kingston, Ulster County, to establish a wooden boat-building school in a newly acquired building, we received conservation/public access easements over the entire museum property—so visitors will permanently enjoy a 575-foot-long esplanade along Rondout Creek.
- Sustaining our efforts to “connect the dots” between communities and their natural assets, we’ve helped guide the **Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail** into the Master Plan phase. Linking Cold Spring, Putnam County, and Beacon, Dutchess County, this seven-mile route will enhance the safety and enjoyment of visitors seeking to hike in the Highlands by moving trailhead access off the dangerous shoulders of busy Route 9D.



## Call to Action

- Supporting the valley's \$5-billion tourism industry, this fall we'll complete new interpretive amenities at our West Point Foundry Preserve in Cold Spring, Putnam County. We count on volunteers to help us keep this and all of our parks inviting for people and wildlife.
- To fill in a vital "missing link" in the Westchester RiverWalk—the planned 51-mile shoreline trail that passes through five parks Scenic Hudson helped create—we're also working with local communities and government agencies to identify a secure route beneath the New NY Bridge (replacing the Tappan Zee).

**Top: Scenic Hudson's River Overlook on the Hyde Park Greenway Trail in Dutchess County. Visitors enjoy the new universally accessible trail at Esopus Meadows Preserve in Ulster County.**





## BLOCKING NEEDLESS & COSTLY TRANSMISSION LINES

### Progress

While the state continues pushing ahead with plans to construct towering new transmission lines that could **cut a swath through 25 communities in seven valley counties**, we've taken important steps to protect the region's natural and historic treasures from this costly project and to prove the initiative is unnecessary:

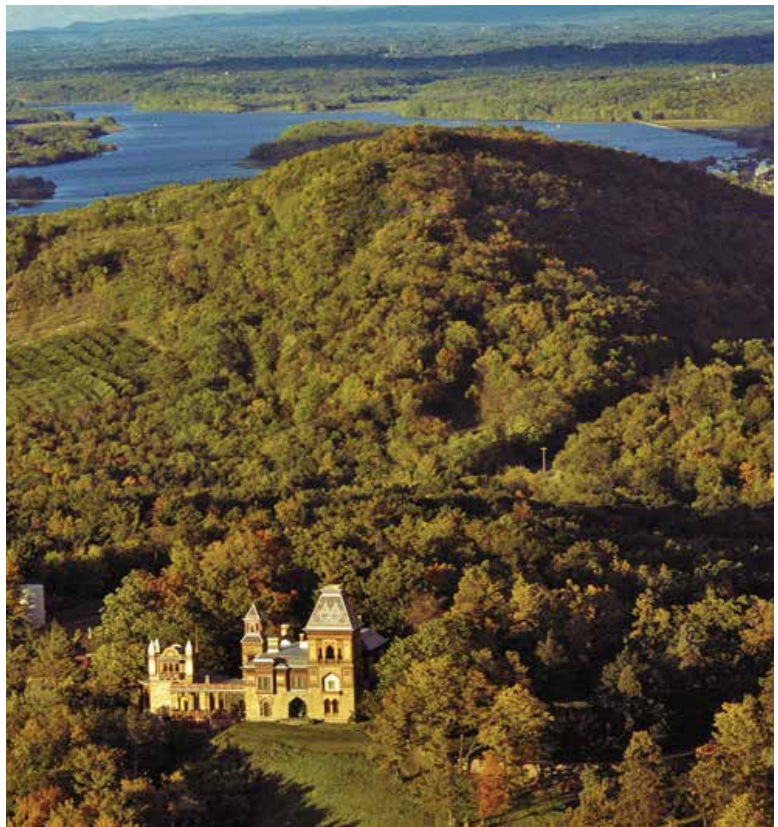
- Responding to **compelling advocacy** from Scenic Hudson and the Hudson Valley Smart Energy Coalition (HVSEC), the state Public Service Commission (PSC) transformed its regulatory framework for these projects—complying with Gov. Cuomo's **preference for lines within existing rights-of-way**.
- Following expert reports commissioned by the HVSEC on the proposed lines' negative visual and environmental impacts, the **PSC recommended eliminating 13 plans posing the biggest threats**.
- **Data compiled** by the HVSEC **proving the adequacy of current infrastructure** to meet future energy demands helped convince the PSC to convene a Technical Conference on this issue.
- Reports we commissioned from an expert consultant and a strategic advisory firm concluded there is **no need for new lines to address peak electricity demands in New York City** and that electricity congestion costs will decline significantly in the future without them, demonstrating **no economic need for the new lines**. The experts presented their findings at the PSC Technical Conference.



## Call to Action

- We'll continue battling against projects that imperil iconic vistas, family farms and prime wildlife habitats—and would burden local ratepayers with 90 percent of the lines' \$1.2-billion cost.
- Join us in sending a strong message to the PSC and Gov. Cuomo to scrap the transmission lines and commit to his Reforming the Energy Vision strategies that encourage utility companies to support renewable energy sources close to customers.

Plans for towering new transmission lines like those above threaten the region's scenic treasures, including magnificent vistas from Olana State Historic Site in Columbia County.





## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Scenic Hudson’s financial standing remains strong, reflected in part by year-end assets of \$264 million. Scenic Hudson’s total consolidated operating and capital budget during the year was \$27.4 million, including three components: the Scenic Hudson operating budget and The Scenic Hudson Land Trust operating and capital budgets.

### Scenic Hudson

Scenic Hudson’s operating budget was \$7.1 million with funds supporting our advocacy for cleanup of Hudson River PCBs, making rail and water transport of crude oil safer, improved land use in our communities and region, and for state and federal laws, policies and budgets that protect the beauty, environment and quality of life of the Hudson Valley.

### The Scenic Hudson Land Trust

The land trust spent \$3.1 million for creating, maintaining and improving our parks; for staff costs in monitoring conservation easements; and for working with partners to promote the Foodshed Conservation Plan. The land trust spent \$17.2 million in capital to secure conservation easements on farms and ownership of ecologically important lands along the Hudson that will provide outstanding recreational opportunities for people in the region. For every dollar of Scenic Hudson capital, we leveraged an additional two dollars of private or governmental funds.

### Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

	June 30, 2014	June 30, 2015
Land areas (at cost)	54,844	64,511
Cash and investments	208,132	196,825
Other assets	4,169	6,329
Total assets	267,145	267,665
Liabilities	1,356	3,542
Net assets	265,789	264,122
Total liabilities and net assets	267,145	267,665

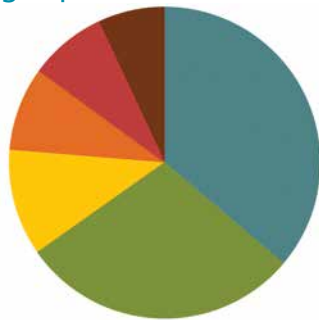
[in thousands]



Cyclists enjoying Scenic Hudson's annual Farmland Cycling Tour pass a family farm we conserved in Dutchess County.

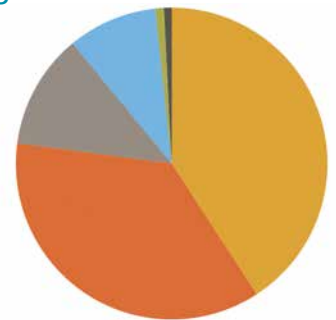
### Consolidated Operating Expenses

Land Acquisition*	36.2%
Parks & Preserves	29%
Land Use Advocacy	11.1%
Fund Raising	8.7%
Administration	8%
Communications & Public Policy	7%



### Consolidated Operating Revenues

Investment Allocations for Spending**	40.8%
Individuals	36.3%
Foundations	11.9%
Government***	9.3%
Corporations	0.9%
Other Sources	0.8%



### Financial Structure

Scenic Hudson maintains four endowments: The Lila Acheson and DeWitt Wallace Hudson Valley Land Preservation Endowment (\$157.9 million at year-end FY15), used to support land conservation activities; a board-designated fund for general operating expenses (\$14.9 million at year-end FY15); the Kathryn W. Davis Fund for Park Planning and Community Land Use (\$4.7 million at year-end FY15); and an Easement Enforcement Fund (\$1.1 million at year-end FY15). The assets are pooled in a diversified portfolio supervised by an investment committee. The board approved \$7.7 million in spending from the endowments for the year (5 percent of the past 12 quarters' rolling average value).

Although lands owned by the land trust are eligible for tax exemption, Scenic Hudson paid \$199,491 in property taxes and payments in lieu of taxes in FY15 and \$130,423 in FY14. Scenic Hudson generally seeks relief from taxes at the first opportunity following acquisition of the property.

The board engages Marks Paneth LLP to perform an independent annual audit, which is available on our website.

\*Including conservation easements. \*\*The vast majority of investment allocation for spending supports land acquisition and parks creation. \*\*\*The majority of revenues from government provide capital for farmland and open space preservation and parks.



Two seasonal Scenic Hudson traditions: Spring Sprint trail race at Shaupeneak Ridge in Esopus, Ulster County (below), and Pumpkins in the Park at Long Dock Park in Beacon, Dutchess County.



## Hudson River Stewardship Society

### INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE INCLUDED SCENIC HUDSON IN THEIR ESTATE OR LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLANS

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## 2015 Contributors

### INDIVIDUALS WHO MADE GIFTS BETWEEN JULY 1, 2014, AND JUNE 30, 2015

#### Gifts of \$500,000 and above

Anonymous (3)  
 Dyson Foundation\*  
 James and Susan Goodfellow\*  
 Nancy F. Perkins  
 The Walbridge Fund





**Gifts of \$100,000-\$499,999**

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 Nigel Widdowson/Field-Day Foundation  
 The William and Mary Greve Foundation, Inc.

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 Wheelock Whitney III

\* denotes multi-year commitment + participation in Matching Gifts Program



#### Gifts of \$5,000-\$9,999

American Conservation Association, Inc.  
Ralph Arditì and Robin A. Shelby Arditì  
Neil Bender  
Judith M. Buechner  
Clement Family/Winsted Foundation  
Joseph Cotter/Tarrytown Waterfront 1, LLC  
Linda Daines+  
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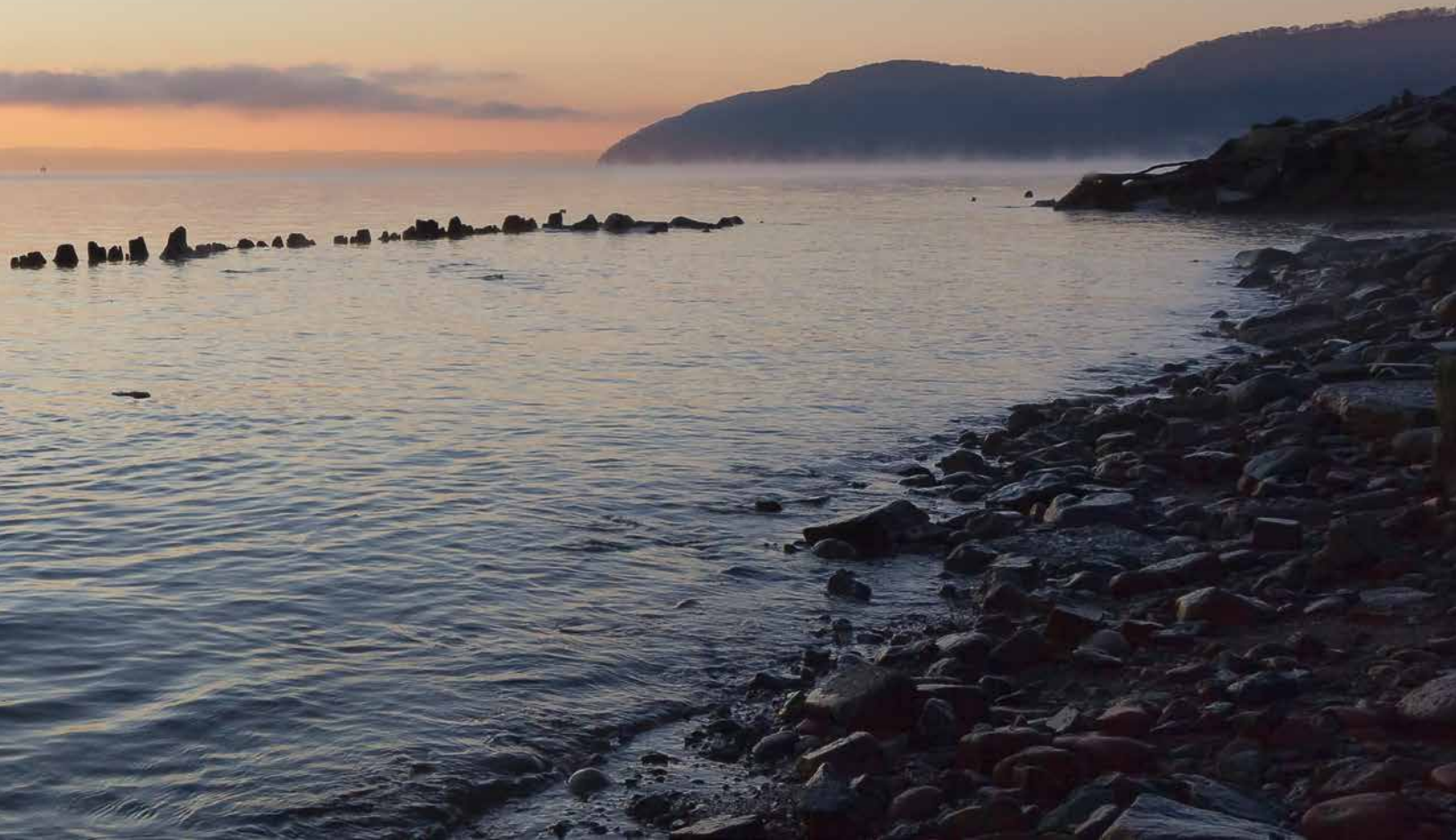
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Sacha Spector and Daphne Uviller  
Judith Spektor and Barry Benepe  
Pearl Spiro and Daniel Morrison  
Joseph Squillante and Carol Capobianco  
Alec Peter Stais  
Patricia Stalker  
William and Gwendolyn Stevens  
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Dr. and Mrs. Gary H. Swalsky  
Wylie and Sallie Sypher  
Frederick L. Taber  
Wai Chun Tang  
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Rebecca E. Thornton  
Russ G. Tigges  
Timely Signs of Kingston  
Barbara Joyce Torpie  
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University of Notre Dame  
Russell and Wendy Urban-Mead

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William Englert  
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Louis Frazita  
Harriet Gamper  
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Henry S. Sharp  
Cushing B. and Rosalie H. Snider  
John and Elise Stein  
Dorothy Dudley Thorndike  
Maris Van Alen  
Carla Latham Webb

### Gifts in Honor of

Betty Capaccio  
Peter Eriksen  
Ruth and Greg Gau  
Jonathan Goodnough  
Suzanne Hamlin  
Lisina Hoch  
Lauren Jacobson  
Douglas and Judi Krupp  
Richard and Natasha Krupp  
Chip Loewenson  
Richard Polich and Cathy Kuttner  
Hilary Russell  
David Sive  
Ian Solomon  
Dorit Straus  
Ned Sullivan  
JoAnn and Donald Waldorf



**Built to withstand flooding from rising sea levels, our new pavilion at Esopus Meadows Preserve will host environmental-education programs and community events.**

### Participating Matching Gift Companies and Foundations

American International Group  
Bank of America Matching Gift Program  
Bank of New York Mellon Community Partnership  
Capital Group Companies Charitable Foundation  
Chubb & Son, Inc.  
Goldman, Sachs & Co.  
Grainger  
IBM Corporation  
Johnson & Johnson Family of Companies  
Merck Foundation  
The Prudential Foundation  
Quaker Chemical Corporation  
Samson Capital Advisors  
Teleflex Foundation  
UBS Foundation  
USAA

### Gifts-in-Kind

Adams Fairacre Farms Landscaping  
Atlantic Kayak Tours, Inc.  
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Badey & Watson Surveying & Engineering, PC  
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Garrison Realty Group  
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Hudson Valley Harvest  
Hudson Valley Seed  
Hyde Park Visual and Environmental Committee  
Kellar Kellar & Jaiven  
Christopher and Claudine Klose  
T. Arron Kotlensky

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Brian Lynch/Botanical Designs  
Maple Leaf Associates, LLC  
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Josie Waters  
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Zero to Go

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The following board members served during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015

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**Richard Krupp**  
*Managing Partner, Pierpoint Capital*

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*The Chesapeake Group*

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**Elizabeth J. McCormack**  
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*Co-founding Partner, Tsao & McKown Architects*

**David K.A. Mordecai**  
*President and Co-Founder, Risk Economic Limited Inc.; Visiting Scholar, Courant Institute for Mathematical Sciences, NYU; Principal Scientist/Lead Investigator, RiskEcon Lab for Decision Metrics, NYU*

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*President, The American Assembly*

**David S.E. Noble**  
*Senior Advisor, Egon Zehnder; Senior Advisor, Oliver Wyman Group; Advisory Board Member for Credit Suisse*

**Sheila M. Platt**  
*MSW Clinical Social Worker*

**David Redden**  
*Vice Chairman, Solteby's North & South America*

**Simon Roosevelt**  
*Olimpia Fund Management, Ltd.*

**Leigh Seippel**

**Dawn Watson**  
*Dawn Watson Photography; Former Principal, Averdale International; Former DW Dance Company*

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**Usha Wright**  
*President, SHARE Africa*

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*Former Managing Director, Opera News*

**Ned Sullivan** Assistant Secretary

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**Marjorie L. Hart\***

**David H. Mortimer\***

**Alexander Reese\***

**Leigh Seippel\***

**Wheelock Whitney III**

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**Sarah A.W. Fitts**  
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**Carlos González**  
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**Evan Mason**  
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**David K.A. Mordecai**  
**Brian Shea\***  
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**Douglas S. Land**  
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**George Schuler\***  
**Bill Schuster\***

\* Board member of both Scenic Hudson and The Scenic Hudson Land Trust

\* Non-board member  
‡ The Scenic Hudson Land Trust board member



## Staff

The following are our staff members as of October 2015

### President

Ned Sullivan  
*President*  
Anna D. Tetrault  
*Executive Assistant to the President*

### Program Staff

Steve Rosenberg  
*Senior Vice President;  
Executive Director of The Scenic Hudson Land Trust, Inc.*  
Beth Myers  
*Executive Assistant*

### Conservation Science

Sacha Spector  
*Director of Conservation Science*  
Nava Tabak  
*Conservation Scientist*

### Environmental Advocacy

Hayley Carlock  
*Director of Environmental Advocacy*  
Audrey Friedrichsen  
*Land Use and Environmental Advocacy Attorney*  
Jake Salt  
*Advocacy Associate for Land Use and Public Policy*

### Land & Conservation Easement Acquisition

Seth McKee  
*Land Conservation Director*  
Othoniel Vazquez Dominguez  
*GIS and Land Resources Analyst*  
Michael Knutson  
*Land Project Manager*  
James Mudd  
*Conservation GIS Manager*  
Nathaniel Nardi-Cyrus  
*Land Stewardship Coordinator*  
Matt Shipkey  
*Senior Land Project Manager*  
Kim Tiller-Cook  
*Administrative Assistant*  
Cari Watkins-Bates  
*Assistant Land Conservation Director*  
Alicia Wiseman  
*Conservation Easement Manager*

### Land Use Advocacy

J. Jeffrey Anzevino  
*Director of Land Use Advocacy*  
Peter Barnard  
*Urban Designer*  
Amy Kacala  
*Senior Planner*

### Parks & Preserves

Rita D. Shaheen  
*Director of Parks*  
Heather Blaikie  
*Park Planner*  
Kate Brill  
*Education Outreach Coordinator*  
Geoff Carter  
*Parks and Stewardship Manager*

Anthony Coneski  
*Parks Events and Volunteer Coordinator*  
Dennis Heinz  
*Parks Stewardship Coordinator*  
Matt Kennedy  
*Parks Maintenance Assistant*  
Carley Kiernan  
*Parks and Trails Coordinator*  
Joseph Kiernan  
*Parks Project Manager*  
Dorothy McQuaid  
*SCA Parks and Trails Assistant*  
Meg Rasmussen  
*Senior Park Planner*  
Kristin Sullivan  
*SCA Education Outreach Assistant*  
Laura Sumner  
*Administrative Assistant*

### Public Policy

Andy Bicking  
*Director of Public Policy*  
Althea Mullarkey  
*Public Policy Analyst*

### Communications

Jay Burgess  
*Director of Communications*  
Corie Davis  
*Administrative Assistant*  
Seth Martel  
*Graphic Designer*  
Reed Sparling  
*Writer*  
Jason Taylor  
*Publications and Web Manager*

### Development

Erin Riley  
*Vice President for External Relations*  
Jody Harris  
*Assistant Director of Development*  
Margaret A. King  
*Assistant Director of Development*  
Leslie Lewis  
*Development Assistant*  
Patti Mitchell  
*Administrative Assistant*  
Veronica Renzo  
*Database Coordinator*  
Matt Rohr  
*Development Associate—Writer*

### Operations & Finance

Joe Kazlauskas  
*Chief Finance and Operations Officer*  
Nicholas Bona  
*Assistant Controller*  
Robin Elliott  
*Accountant*  
Gail Krein-Clearwater  
*Executive Assistant*  
Theresa Vanyo  
*Human Resources Director*



## Remembering Klara Sauer

Scenic Hudson mourns the passing of Klara Sauer, executive director from 1979-1999. Under her determined leadership, the organization conserved nearly 20,000 acres of land, established its farmland protection initiative and created 19 parks. All who enjoy the Hudson Valley's natural treasures benefit from Klara's vision and passion for making this a better place to live, work and play.

### Scenic Hudson, Inc.

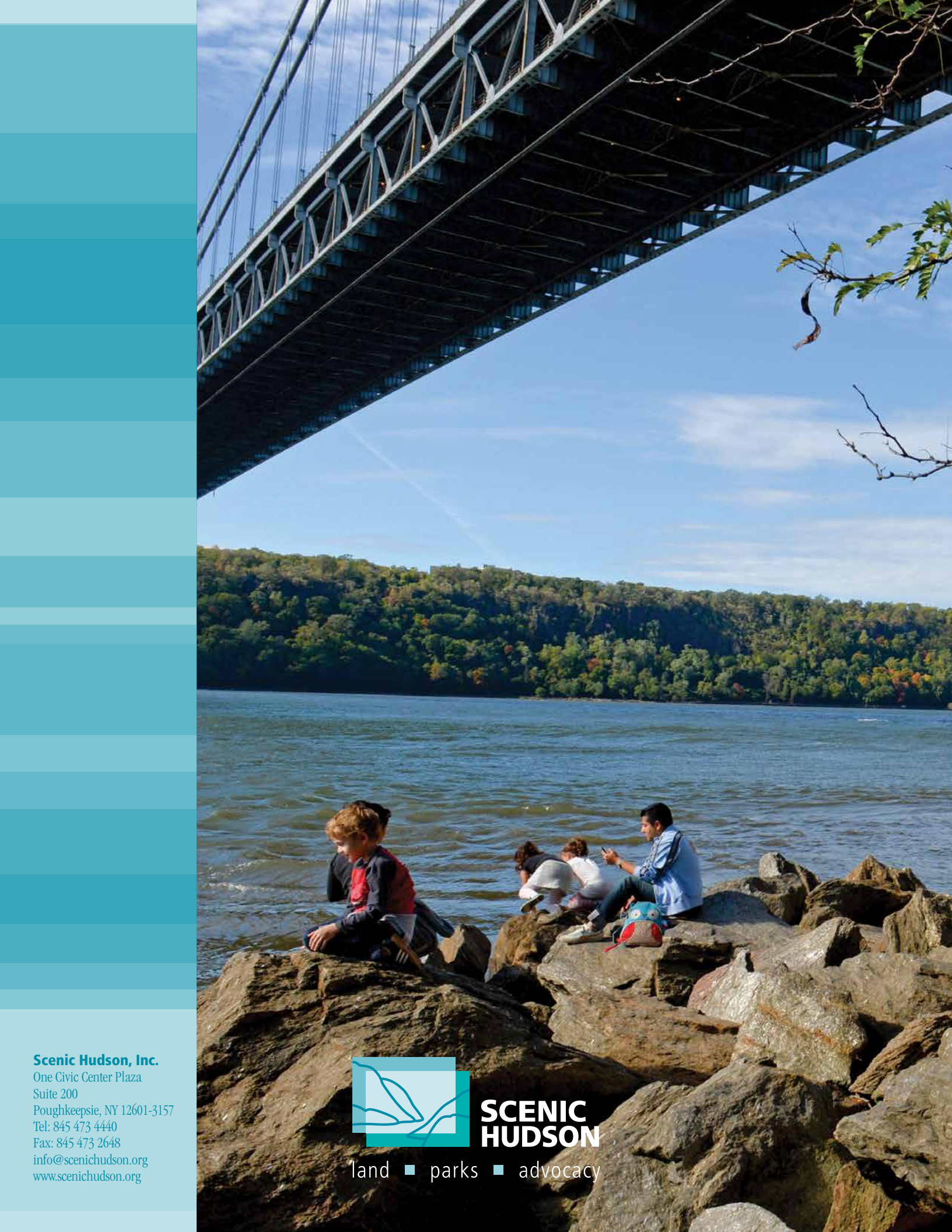
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Poughkeepsie, NY 12601-3157  
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### PHOTOGRAPHS

Daniel Avila/NYC Parks: cover  
Robert Rodriguez, Jr.  
[www.robertrodriguezjr.com](http://www.robertrodriguezjr.com)  
pp. 2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 7 (bottom), pp. 8-9 (clockwise from top left 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8), 12-13, 14-15, 18-19, 22-23, 26-27;  
Jim Peppler p. 9 (top left); Gwendolyn Chambers pp. 10-11; Matthew Kierstead: pp. 16-17; Reddit user SuperTuff p. 17 (bottom); Marion Mathison: pp. 20-21; Ted Spiegel p. 21 (bottom); MichaelCredo.com pp. 24-25;  
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**Scenic Hudson, Inc.**  
One Civic Center Plaza  
Suite 200  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601-3157  
Tel: 845 473 4440  
Fax: 845 473 2648  
info@scenichudson.org  
www.scenichudson.org



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