



THE CANAL QUARTERLY

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TRUST ADVOCACY RESULTS IN \$3.45 MILLION AWARD

Towpath resurfacing and canal rewatering projects planned

The C&O Canal National Historical Park was awarded \$3.45 million from the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) through the Maryland Department of Transportation, thanks to an advocacy effort led by the C&O Canal Trust to engage the greater canal community: \$2.45 million for "A Rewatered Canal" and \$1 million for "Towpath Rehabilitation: A Safe Towpath."

"With less federal funding available to take care of critical infrastructure needs in the Park, the Trust is working to identify, access, and advocate for available state and local funding that benefits local communities, boosts local economies, and preserves the C&O Canal National Historical Park," said Trust President Robin Zanotti. "It's a win-win for everyone. We are pleased so many members of the community share our commitment."

The \$2.45 million "A Rewatered Canal" grant will be used to launch year one of a proposed three-year program to rewater 19 miles of the canal from Violettes Lock (Lock 23) downstream to Lock 5 (Fletchers Cove). This year's grant will rewater from Violettes Lock to Great Falls Tavern (Lock 20). It complements the federally-funded Locks 5 through 22 project, currently underway, to repair water management structures along the canal, such as locks, culverts, and waste weirs.

The \$1 million "Towpath Rehabilitation: A Safe Towpath" grant will fund year one of a proposed five-year project to sustainably resurface sections of the towpath most in need of attention and to create a safer, world-class riding and hiking surface for our visitors. This year's TAP funding will support 12 miles of towpath resurfacing in Washington County, from the Shepherdstown Bridge to the Byron Bridge across from Harpers Ferry. Funding in future years will resurface an additional 68 miles of towpath in Allegany, Frederick, and Montgomery Counties. Work will include improving drainage, removing tree roots and other hazards, and resurfacing the towpath with a material similar to that used on the Great Allegheny Passage (GAP) trail, which connects to the C&O Canal towpath to form one of the premier cycling routes on the east coast from Washington, D.C. to Pittsburgh, PA.

The C&O Canal Trust will continue to advocate on the Park's behalf to help it secure TAP funding for future projects. We invite Park users to donate to the towpath resurfacing projects through our Towpath Forever initiative, which raises funds for infrastructure projects, including repairing and preserving the towpath and its



PHOTO BY ROBERT KURTTIS

Complaints about muddy bicycle ruts are common along the canal, but a \$1 million grant from the Maryland Department of Transportation will begin to address the problem. The Park will also benefit from a \$2.45 million grant to rewater the canal in Montgomery County, MD.

adjacent trails and historic structures. These private gifts will be used to provide matching funds to attract large government grants and together, they will be used to support these major projects.

**C&O CANAL
GIVING
DAYS**

GIVE TO THE CANAL ON APRIL 27 & 28

To celebrate the return of spring, National Park Week, and our beloved C&O Canal, the C&O Canal Trust will be hosting its first C&O Canal Giving Days on April 27 and 28, 2018. There are a variety of ways you can give on these two days:

1. Give online at our website at www.canaltrust.org/give. Invite your friends to give too!
2. Text "GIVE2CANAL" to 1-844-544-7171. You will be texted a link to make your gift.
3. Visit one of our tables in the Park on Saturday, April 28. We will be stationed at Great Falls, Anglers, and Swains Lockhouse.

Thank you in advance for your support!

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A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Spring is in the air, which means we are busy gearing up for another season out in the C&O Canal National Historical Park. Spring always conjures up thoughts of rejuvenation, and our Canal Pride events scheduled in April and May provide a great way for you to help rejuvenate the Park. These events (see page 5 for a schedule) bring many canal lovers out to the Park, where they help us paint buildings, pull weeds, rake leaves, lay mulch, and celebrate the return of birds and flowers. We hope you will make plans to join us in the Park this spring.

As you can see from our front page article, we will be rejuvenating the towpath and canal in the coming years, thanks to two grants from the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) through the Maryland Department of Transportation. This \$3.45 million will help us to rewater portions of the canal in Montgomery County, as well as resurface 80 miles of the towpath that is most in need of attention. We know both of these issues are important to many of you, and we are thrilled to have played an advocacy role in ensuring this money was allocated to these projects.

Our long-awaited rehabilitation of Swains Lockhouse has finally begun, and crews are hard at work readying this popular lockhouse for guests. The lockhouse, once complete, will join our award-winning Canal Quarters program. We encourage you to keep track of the rehab at www.canaltrust.org/swains.

We ask that you join us on April 27 and 28 for our first C&O Canal Giving Days, when we put the focus on raising funds to help preserve and beautify the C&O Canal. You can give online on Friday, April 27 or Saturday, April 28, or visit us at one of our three in-Park locations (Great Falls, Anglers, and Swains Lockhouse) on Saturday to make your gift in person. Your valuable support helps us fund the important work of keeping the Park the historic, recreational, and restful escape you love.



Robin Zanotti, Trust President

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Robin Zanotti, ACFRE

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Giving Levels:

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William O. Douglas Society – Canal Preserver (\$1,000-\$2,499), Canal Traveler

(\$2,500-\$4,999), Canal Explorer (\$5,000-\$9,999), Canal Visionary (\$10,000+)

___ \$50 ___ \$100 ___ \$184.50 ___ \$250 ___ \$500 ___ \$1,000 ___ Other ___

Please make your check payable to the C&O Canal Trust.*

Name: _____

Address: _____

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The C&O Canal Trust is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations to the Trust are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Phone: 301-714-2233

* MAIL TO: C&O Canal Trust, 1850 Dual Highway, Suite 100, Hagerstown, MD 21740

ONLINE: Make a secure donation online at www.CanalTrust.org



GROUND BROKEN ON SWAINS REHABILITATION

The C&O Canal Trust and the C&O Canal National Historical Park broke ground on the Swains Lockhouse rehabilitation project on March 17.

Since announcing the Swains rehabilitation two years ago, we have successfully raised \$75,000 for the project. Work began in February to restore the lockhouse to its appearance in 1916, which will be the time period the lockhouse will interpret once complete.

The contractor will begin by making the first floor structurally sound. From there, they will jack up and level the second floor and the roof. This will provide a structurally-sound base for their next project: to install a brand new standing seam metal roof, just as the lockhouse would have had in 1916.

When complete, Swains Lockhouse will join our award-winning Canal Quarters program as the seventh lockhouse that is available to guests for overnight stays.

Swains will be a multi-purpose Canal Quarters lockhouse, with part of the building housing the Canal Quarters program, with accommodations for up to eight guests. When not in use as a Canal Quarters residence, it will be a designated space for the Canal Classrooms program. Students on educational trips to the Park will be able to participate in learning activities in the lockhouse.

We want to thank our donors for their support of this project: France-Merrick Foundation, Paul & Gail Chod, Knight Austin and Ann M. Kiplinger and the Kiplinger Foundation, Eastern National, Preservation Maryland, Captain John Chapter of Questers International, and the Trust's Board of Directors. The Friends of the Historic Great Falls Tavern and the C&O Canal Association also donated money to the project.



PHOTO BY CHRIS STUBBS

Participating in the groundbreaking at Swains Lockhouse are, from left to right, Don Harrison, President of the Friends of the Historic Great Falls Tavern; Bill Holdsworth, President of the C&O Canal Association; Bert Swain, C&O Canal Trust Board Member and member of the Swain family; Kevin Brandt, Superintendent of the C&O Canal National Historical Park; Meshelle' Johnson, representing Senator Chris Van Hollen; Kevin Mack, representing Congressman John Delaney; and Mike Mitchell, Chair of the C&O Canal Trust Board of Directors.

You can follow the rehab at www.canaltrust.org/swains.

We are still raising money to furnish Swains Lockhouse with unique period pieces. Visit this website to donate: www.youcaring.com/saveswains.

LOCAL COUPLE DONATES FIFTEEN PARK BENCHES

The C&O Canal Trust will be installing 15 new benches in 2018 in the C&O Canal National Historical Park (NHP) at popular access points between Swains Lock and Cumberland, thanks to philanthropists Daofeng He and his wife Angela Yang Cui. The couple is making the donation in appreciation for the Park and to provide a much-needed amenity for visitors upriver from Great Falls.

Daofeng He and C&O Canal Trust President Robin Zanotti signed the agreement in November, 2017, whereby Daofeng & Angela

Foundation will sponsor the 15 benches for six years for a donation of \$60,000. It is one of the largest individual gifts ever made to the C&O Canal Trust.

"We are so grateful to Daofeng and Angela for making this exceptionally generous donation," Zanotti said. "We have placed many benches in the eastern end of the Park, but before this gift, only one bench has been installed upstream of Great Falls – at Monocacy Aqueduct. This new gift from Daofeng and Angela will provide for benches in the western part of the Park, and we are very pleased that visitors will benefit from their generosity."

Daofeng He, an entrepreneur and nonprofit leader in China, and his wife Angela Yang Cui have retired to Bethesda, Maryland, and are big fans of America's national parks. The former executive president of the China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation, He has been a leading figure in promoting philanthropy in China and internationally. Now the President of Daofeng & Angela Foundation, he continues to travel extensively to promote

microfinance and poverty alleviation projects and is a Board Director for Mercy Corps, a global humanitarian organization. Yang Cui, the Foundation's Director and Treasurer, enjoys hiking the Billy Goat Trail A at Great Falls.

"The number one request we hear from visitors to the Park is for benches, and our fundraising partner, the C&O Canal Trust, has been working with donors to bring benches to the Park," said Kevin Brandt, the Superintendent of the C&O Canal National Historical Park. "This generous donation will be truly appreciated by many people who need a place to rest, meet friends, or just enjoy the peace and beauty of the Park."

The C&O Canal Trust manages the Bench Donation Program on behalf of the C&O Canal National Historical Park. The benches are installed by volunteers from the C&O Canal Association. For more information, please contact Patricia Barber, Director of Development, at barber@canaltrust.org or 301.745.8880.



PHOTO BY C&O CANAL TRUST

Daofeng He and his wife Angela Yang Cui pose with Park Superintendent Kevin Brandt.

AFRICAN AMERICAN CCC RESEARCHED

The C&O Canal Trust recently funded a research project on the African American men who worked in the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camps along the C&O Canal in the 1930s and 40s, with the goal of improving the interpretation of this important piece of history in the Canal Quarters program's Lockhouse 10. Part of Roosevelt's New Deal, the CCC was a work relief program that provided millions of young men employment during the Great Depression. Below, historian Josh Howard, Ph.D. summarizes his findings.

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The C&O Canal National Historical Park (NHP) traces its existence as a recreational site to hundreds of young black men. These men, like all CCC enrollees, were out of work and between 18 and 25 years old. They lived and worked at two camps operated by the CCC, located from 1938 to 1942 along the canal near present-day Cabin John and the Carderock Recreation Area.

Recreation projects were a priority, with work focused on re-watering the Seneca-Little Falls section of the canal, repairing the

Widewater area, and preventing future floods. Beyond this, laborers worked on "landscaping, repair and restoration of historic buildings, lockhouses, lock shanties, shops, lock bridges, and development of such areas as Great Falls, Carderock, and Georgetown."

Enrollees sent the majority of their pay home to their families, as the CCC provided them food, shelter, education, and recreation. Cooks prepared a varied diet that included regionally-available foods such as oysters and clams, basic staples, fruits, and vegetables. Cooks also prepared at least one protein for most suppers and dinners. It is quite likely these men were eating better in the CCC than they ever had before, an idea that is supported by the reported 10+ pounds of weight gain for the average enrollee.

Life wasn't all work and no play in the CCC camps. Enrollees participated in sports, music, religious practice, and dramatic arts, as well as classes in English, mathematics, typing, and various trades. Basketball was probably the most popular recreational activity amongst enrollees.



PHOTO COURTESY C&O CANAL NHP

Civilian Conservation Corps enrollees dig out a prism along the C&O Canal.

Boasting basketball uniforms that they believed to be some of the best out of the entire CCC, each enrollee-player also wore a warm-up sweatshirt with their camp number sewn onto the front.

Enrollees also crafted some of the first public programming at the canal. Working with NPS historian T. Sutton Jett, CCC men gave some of the first tours of the C&O Canal by leading mules along the towpath, manning the bow, and operating the canal locks. In essence, CCC enrollees were the canal's first living historians.

You can learn more about the men of the Canal's CCC on our website. Visit www.canaltrust.org/explore.



PHOTO BY W.J. MEAD

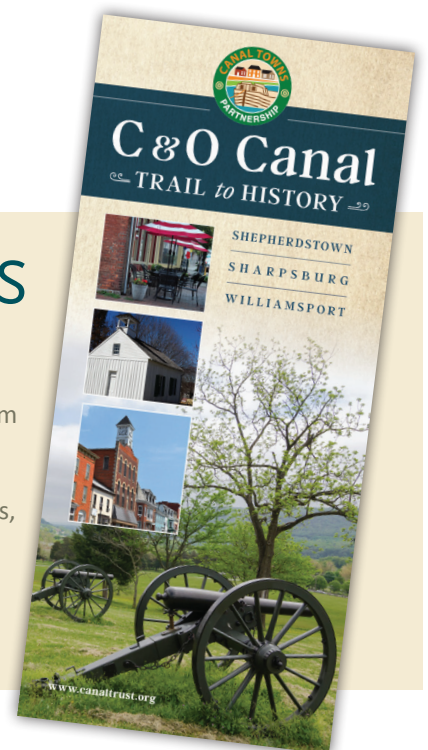
Enrollees from a CCC camp are engaged in a national defense auto mechanics training class in the school building near Rockville, MD.

CANAL TOWNS RELEASES BROCHURES

The Canal Towns Partnership recently produced a series of three "C&O Canal Trail to History" brochures featuring the histories and points of interest of the eight Canal Towns and two others. The brochures group the towns by locales and include Shepherdstown, Sharpsburg, and Williamsport in one booklet; Point of Rocks, Brunswick, and Harpers Ferry in a second; and Hancock, Paw Paw, Oldtown, and Cumberland in a third.

The C&O Canal Trust works in partnership with the Canal Towns Partnership to promote tourism and economic activity in these

unique towns that border the C&O Canal. The brochures were supported by a grant from the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority. Print versions are available from town merchants, or electronic versions can be downloaded at www.canaltrust.org/canaltowns.



VOLUNTEERS TO PARTICIPATE IN CANAL PRIDE DAYS

We are gearing up for our eleventh annual Canal Pride Days, when over 350 volunteers will help clean up the C&O Canal National Historical Park to ready it for spring.

Volunteers will be working in the Park on April 21 at Great Falls, April 28 at Hancock/Little Tonoloway, May 5 at Point of Rocks, and May 19 at Fifteenmile Creek Campground.



Volunteer projects this year will include painting visitor facilities and historic structures, removing graffiti, planting grass seed, mulching, removing invasive plant species and trash, and more.

We also host private corporate and community groups in Canal Pride events throughout the year. The work our volunteers perform make a

lasting difference in the Park. By handling these maintenance tasks, volunteers allow Park Service employees to focus on larger projects. In 2017, a total of 1,314 Canal Pride volunteers performed 4,953 hours of service in the C&O Canal National Historical Park. The value of their service was \$139,760.



Canal Pride volunteers paint a picnic table during a 2017 event.

For the third year in a row, we held a Canal Pride logo design contest, and this year's winner was Kevin Rudolph, who designed the cheerful logo shown at left. His logo will appear on this year's volunteer t-shirts.

Registration for Canal Pride Days 2018 is now open. Please visit www.canaltrust.org/pridedays to sign up!

Thank you to our Canal Pride sponsors!



Friends of the
Historic Great Falls Tavern



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C&O CANAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPDATES

A variety of exciting construction projects are in progress in the Park. More information on all of these projects is available at www.nps.gov/choh.

Georgetown Project

The walls of Lock 3 are currently being reconstructed and new lock gates are being built off-site to make this area usable for canal boats once the project is finished. The canal is drained from Lock 5 to the Georgetown boundary, and detours are in place around the construction site.

Locks 5-22 Project

The contractor began work on the Locks 5-22 project in December 2017 to improve several

locks, waste weirs, bridges, and other water control structures to help them withstand impacts from flooding and to enable the canal to consistently hold water.

Currently, the contractor is working on the canal structures near Locks 20 (Great Falls) and 21 (Swains Lock). In the next few weeks the contractor anticipates beginning work at Rock Run Culvert near Locks 10 and 11. Construction will continue at eight work sites between mileposts 5 and 16.9 until spring 2019. Because the canal has been drained for this work, the Mercer canal boat will not offer rides during the summer of 2018. The mules will still be at Great Falls to visit with guests. Detours around the project areas are in place.

Conococheague Aqueduct Project

Masonry work is continuing on the aqueduct. The towpath and aqueduct are currently closed around the Cushwa Basin and will be until the project ends early 2019. Detours are in place.

Paw Paw Tunnel Project

The Paw Paw Tunnel project is addressing the deteriorating rock slope that has caused several dangerous rock slides. Loose, unstable rock is being removed from the area approaching the north tunnel portal. Detours over the Tunnel Hill Trail are open, but require cyclists to dismount and walk their bikes.

WINTER PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

Even in the winter months, the C&O Canal provides gorgeous vistas. Many of our photo entries this season showcased the snow and ice blanketing the towpath and canal. Congratulations to Michelle Holshue, Kevin Donahoe, Wanda Poffenberger, and Daina Bolsteins on their winning photographs, shown here. Their photos could be featured in our 2019 Annual Calendar, and your photos could too! Visit <http://www.canaltrust.org/photocontest> for more details on how you can enter your canal photography in our monthly contest, and visit our Facebook page at the beginning of every month to vote for your favorites!



PHOTO BY MICHELLE HOLSHUE (December Winner)



PHOTO BY KEVIN DONAHOE (February Winner)

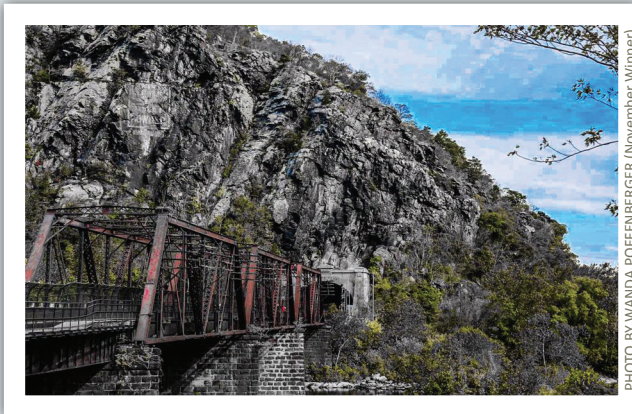


PHOTO BY WANDA POFFENBERGER (November Winner)



PHOTO BY DAINA BOLSTEINS (January Winner)

MOBILE APP WINS NATIONAL AWARD

The C&O Canal Trust's new mobile app, the C&O Canal Explorer, was awarded the Innovative Product Partnership Award from the Public Lands Alliance on February 28 during the Public Lands Alliance Convention and Trade Show in Palm Springs, CA.

The mobile app launched in the summer of 2017 as a navigation and interpretation tool to assist visitors in exploring the 184.5 mile-long C&O Canal National Historical Park. It includes over

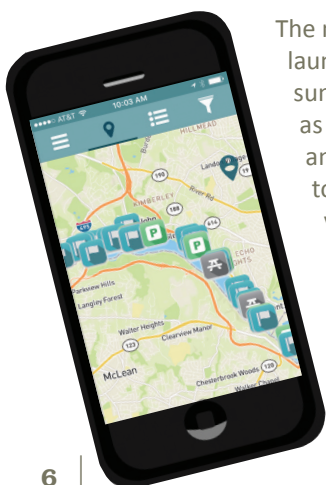
600 points of interest in the Park mapped in a searchable format, allowing users to find at a glance hiking trails, historic sites, trailheads, parking, and more. The app also calculates the distance from a user's location to nearby amenities and points of interest, with the ability to view what lies both upstream and downstream of a current location.

The Public Lands Alliance's Innovative Product Award recognizes an interpretive product created in partnership by a nonprofit organization and land management agency that embodies a path-breaking approach to achieve a public lands mission.

"This mobile app incorporates both beautiful photos and design," the judges explained. "The app solves a complicated issue that

many large and diverse public lands sites face and is packed with every conceivable question answered to encourage the user to move on to the next site. It's easily accessible, no matter where you start your tour and is an excellent use of multiple partners, each bringing their own expertise to tell the story."

Cermak Technologies, Inc. from Chambersburg, PA, handled the design and programming, and a corps of volunteer photographers shot the images used in the app. The Potomac Appalachian Trail Club GPS Rangers also volunteered their time to collect GPS coordinates for each location. The project was funded in part by the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority. The app can be downloaded at www.canaltrust.org/app.



DONOR PROFILE: MARK STOVER

Like many people who grew up in the Washington area, Mark Stover was introduced to the canal through the Boy Scouts – including being one of the two Scouts who testified before the Senate Select Subcommittee on the bill that led to the creation of the C&O Canal National Historical Park in 1970. He rediscovered the canal as an adult in the 1990s – first volunteering in the clean-up after the February 1996 floods and then as a level walker, and since 2010, a steward at Lockhouse 70.

Since 2009, Mark, who lives in Rockville with wife Marlene and rescue rabbits Noir and Oliver, has been one of the Trust's most faithful supporters, giving personally and through his companies, Quality Systems and Products, Inc. and Preservation and Moisture Protection Systems, Inc.

As a former Boy Scout, Mark has taken a special interest in scouting activities in the Park. In December 2009, he created the Charles M. Stover Eagle Scout Memorial Fund in honor of his father who was involved in his sons' scouting and who had recently passed away. Over the years, the Fund has supported dozens of Eagle Scout and Girl Scout Service Projects. Examples include building an ADA-accessible fishing pier on

the canal at Oldtown; building a new picnic area in Williamsport; fabricating benches and renovating the campground at the Paw Paw Tunnel; placing signage on the Tunnel Trail; renovating the steps leading to the new pedestrian bridge at Marsden Tract in Potomac; and constructing steps over an eroded section of the Billy Goat Trail A.

For many Scouts, funding from the Eagle Scout Memorial Fund is the deciding factor that leads them to perform their projects in the Park, rather than elsewhere. This is stewardship at its best. It not only ensures that the Park is the beneficiary of great improvements, it also teaches the next generation about the importance of caring for this treasured resource.

Section hiking portions of the canal on weekends and holidays, Mark walks the entire canal towpath twice each year, providing assistance and direction to Park visitors,



PHOTO BY C&O CANAL TRUST

Eagle Scout Solomon Fenton (middle right) leads three volunteers on construction of the steps at Marsden Tract, a project funded by the Charles M. Stover Eagle Scout Memorial Fund.

collecting trash and removing debris along the way. He contributes generously to the Park's Volunteers-In-Parks Program which helps make the Park the special place that it is.

The C&O Canal Trust recognized Mark's generosity in 2016 by presenting him with the William O. Douglas Award for Stewardship at Park After Dark's National Park Service Centennial Celebration.

CANAL CLASSROOMS FINISHES FIFTH YEAR

Canal Classrooms, the education program of the C&O Canal National Historical Park, completed the final year of its five-year strategic plan, which was aimed at developing a Park-wide curriculum-based education program. Launched in 2013, the program has grown every year since its inception, with over 47,000 local school-aged children participating in STEAM-based lessons

(science, technology, engineering, arts, math) over the past five years.

Canal Classrooms gets kids out of the traditional classroom and into the Park, where

they learn about the C&O Canal through hands-on lessons taught by Park Rangers and the Canal Classrooms Corps (CCC). The CCC is made up of 50 retired teachers, recruited and trained on the Park's education programs. The C&O Canal Trust supports stipends for these teachers, who this year provided over 3,000 hours of service.

"The Trust strongly supports the Canal Classrooms initiative as a means to provide grade school and high school-aged children the chance to learn the history, culture, and science of the canal outside of a traditional classroom setting," Trust President Robin Zanotti said. "We are so appreciative of the generosity of the individuals who, through their gifts, have made this unique educational opportunity a reality."

The Canal Classrooms program was recognized in 2017 with two awards from the National Park Service: the National Capital Region's Achieving Relevance in Education Award, and the Freeman Tilden Award, the highest honor for excellence in interpretation and education, which was awarded to Canal Classrooms education coordinator Hollie Lynch.



PHOTO BY C&O CANAL TRUST

Canal Classrooms Corps member Christina Doucette leads students in a lesson at the Cushwa Basin.



C&O CANAL TRUST
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SUPPORT THE TRUST

Make a gift that will help protect, restore, and promote the extraordinary resources of the C&O Canal National Historical Park by visiting www.CanalTrust.org today!

SAVE THE DATE!



Park After Dark

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2018

Historic Great Falls Tavern
featuring The 19th Street Band
Tickets will go on sale in June



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