

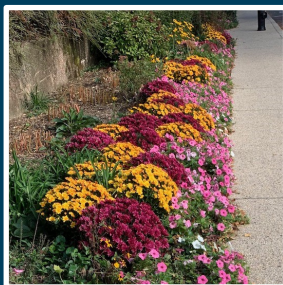
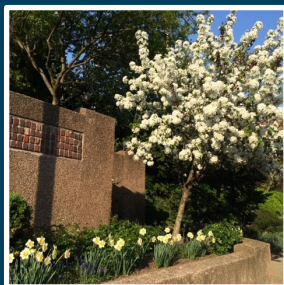
Friends of Station Square



Wendy Bachman, President; Karen Koffler, Vice-President; Barbara Marsh, Treasurer; Sue Gregg, Secretary

Directors: Giselle Bates, Arlene Cohen, Ann Dichter, Angela Duff, Rachel Borut-Firestone, Susanna Hof, Suzanne Parker, Noelle Shearman

SEASONS IN STATION SQUARE Every season is marked by a change in plantings in the Square. As winter recedes, we begin to see the first daffodil shoots along the sidewalk under the LIRR station. Then the warmth of the Spring sun encourages our flowering shrubs on the embankment to bloom and allows us to plant pansies outside the Inn. When all danger of frost is over and summer beckons, the rose and peony blooms burst forth and we can add a variety of annuals to the center beds – small at first, those alyssum, vinca, salvia and lantana plants gradually increase in size until the beds are overflowing with blooms by September. As temperatures drop, some of the annuals start to fade so we add “mums” and kale wherever the Square is looking bare. Just before the snow and freezing temperatures arrive we plant more daffodil bulbs, but eventually we must let nature take a rest during the winter months and wait for the whole cycle to begin again. Friends of Station Square (FOSS) is so grateful that community support has enabled us to repeat this cycle for over 30 years.



Work on the Long Island Rail Road Station

Early in 2024 FOSS attended presentations from the LIRR along with the Forest Hills Gardens Corporation to discuss the work necessary to upgrade the station ramps to new government mandated standards. Compromises were met and work began in late Spring before grinding to a halt during the summer. When and if construction resumes, we will continue to advocate for it to be carried out in a manner sympathetic to our neighborhood.

New Board member

FOSS is delighted to welcome Noelle Shearman onto our board. Noelle was born and raised in Forest Hills Gardens and, after getting married, she insisted on returning to raise a family. Noelle lives on Summer Street with her husband and two children; her father still lives on Puritan Avenue. She can often be found walking her dog, Finn, in the neighborhood. In a very happy coincidence Noelle’s mother, Dolores Shearman, was a founding member of our organization back in the early 1990’s (NB we remain indebted to the Shearman family for directing donations in memory of Dolores to FOSS during the first year of COVID). Noelle has a background in accounting.

Community Support

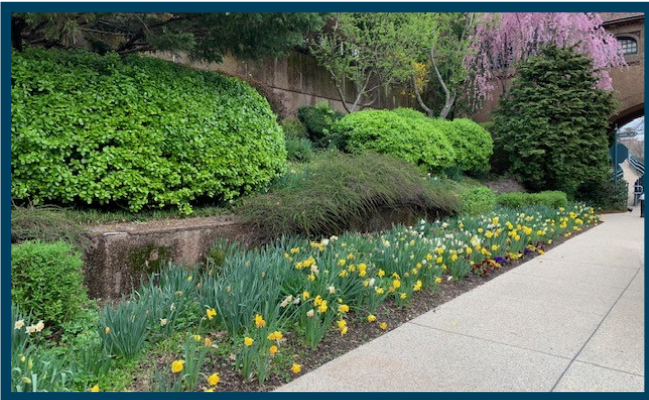
We continue to rely on donations from local residents and businesses in order to keep the landscaping in Station Square abundant and seasonally appropriate, and we are so grateful for them since we receive no other funding. Our annual Spring raffle was successful once again this year, and was made possible by the generosity of several Board members and the following local businesses: Aigner Chocolates, Ascend Spa, Studio Arts Florist, 5 Burro Café, Jade, Station House and Dirty Pierre’s plus the concert promoters and the West Side Tennis Club. We also thank the FHGC for their appreciation of our efforts and for watering the plantings in the center island beds this year.

FOSS has no paid staff, only volunteers. Your donations go directly for the pruning, weeding, mulching, sprinkler maintenance and planting material costs. A donation to FOSS makes you a member and supporter – a “friend.” A report on the finances of Friends of Station Square will be presented at the Annual Meeting on December 3rd (see overleaf). It can also be found on our website or by request to friendsofstationsquare@gmail.com.

VISIT US ONLINE AT: www.friendsofstationsquare.org
OR ON INSTAGRAM: https://www.instagram.com/friends_of_station_square/

Sad news

Friends of Station Square is saddened to learn of the passing of former board member William (Bill) Donohoe in August. Bill joined the FOSS Board early in the 1990's, soon after our organization was founded. His extensive experience, first as an urban planner for 10 years with the NYC City Planning Department at Battery Park City and then 20 years working for Ehrenkrantz, Eckstut and Kuhn, Architecture and Urban Design, was instrumental in helping us deal with planning issues and navigating city bureaucracy. Bill was on our board for over 20 years and remained a loyal supporter of FOSS even after moving to Rhode Island in his retirement.



Friends of Station Square Annual Meeting

Tuesday, December 3rd
7:30 PM

In the lobby of the Inn at
One Station Square
All are welcome



Please help us to continue taking care of our Square. Your support is what makes it happen.

I would like to join / renew my membership at the following level:

\$35 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$200 _____ Other _____

Check here if renewal

I would like to volunteer to help with:

Planting _____ Mailings _____ Events _____ Instagram posts _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Friends of Station Square is a private non-profit 501 (c) 3 charity and does not receive funding from the Forest Hills Gardens Corporation.

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Clip and return this form with your check made out to Friends of Station Square to:

Friends of Station Square
14 Station Square
Forest Hills, NY 11375

OR

Contribute online by visiting:

<https://www.friendsofstationsquare.org/donate>