A Commemorative Permanent Public Art Installation in The Nation's Oldest City

Today, within our country, there is a great desire to bring individuals and entire communities together to heal old wounds and make firm commitments to cooperatively and collaboratively building a better future. The “Let Freedom Ring Chimes Project” initiative aims to invite all — residents of our city and county and visitors — to ponder the possibilities and wander with wonder on the unique peninsula at the confluence of the San Sebastian and Matanzas Rivers. Recently named Dr. Robert B. Hayling Freedom Park, this vast natural green space honors St. Augustine’s nationally acclaimed Civil Rights Movement hero and offers extraordinary opportunities to reflectively and experientially discover new ways to engage with one’s self, others and the 452-year-old African-American story in our nation’s oldest continuously occupied European city.

The “Chime Project,” a major interactive art initiative to be located in Hayling Freedom Park, is being undertaken by Compassionate St. Augustine; the grassroots organization Keep Riberia Pointe Green, and the City of St. Augustine. As the Ancient City’s first officially approved permanent public art installation, it will interpretively pay tribute to our city’s African–American storyline as well as the roles freedom, human rights, democracy, and compassion played in creating the narrative.

The core values of the Chimes Project are grounded in Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King’s quote: “...the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice.” This artistic expression of that compelling statement and universal yearning is threefold:

- a semi-circle of 14 graduated contrabass pentatonic aluminum chimes,
- "Toward," a marble semi-circular reflection bench, and
- Compassionate St. Augustine’s Obelisk Art 450 commemoration of the Emancipation Proclamation.

The bench will be sculpted by internationally acclaimed and local artist Joe Segal. It will be capped by monochromatic etched tiles designed by youth from the St. Augustine Boys & Girls Club Players Championship Unit, The Webster School, and incarcerated boys at St. Johns Youth Academy. "I designed the bench and the chimes to bend towards each other thereby creating a reflective gathering place that is in harmony with the park and panoramic vistas,” says Segal.

The Chimes Project has been awarded a $12,500 Challenge Grant from the Community Foundation for Northeast Florida Dr. Joann Crisp-Ellert Fund; a $4000 Rotary Sunrise Grant for the children’s tile project, and the Northeast Florida Regional Council’s 2016 Historic Preservation for Quality of Life Award. Compassionate St. Augustine donated seven of the Contrabass Chimes and Freenotes Harmony Park, the creator of the chimes, donated the second set of seven. We are beginning our fundraising efforts to secure donations to complete and install this project. At this time, the projected installation date is April 4, 2018 – the 50th anniversary of the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King.

Compassionate St. Augustine is the nonprofit organization responsible for the St. Augustine City Commission and Mayor officially proclaiming our city had met the requirements to officially be named a “Compassionate City.” Keep Riberia Pointe Green is the grassroots organization responsible for the Commission designating Riberia Pointe a “passive park” in 2014 and later renaming it in honor of Dr. Hayling.
Dr. Robert B. Hayling Freedom Park is a new passive park in the City of Saint Augustine. It is named after the late Dr. Robert B. Hayling, an acclaimed leader of the Civil Rights Movement, locally and nationally.

This unique green space, located on the confluence of the San Sebastian and Matanzas Rivers, preserves natural and scenic vistas for the public to enjoy for generations to come.

To collaboratively, creatively and compassionately bring Compassionate St. Augustine, residents and the City of St. Augustine (COSA) together to install public art honoring the Civil Rights Movement, our African-American storyline, and to complement COSA’s current efforts to create a beautiful and inspirational passive park.

**PROJECT PURPOSE**

1. **“Let Freedom Ring”**
   Contrabass musical chimes

2. **“Toward”**
   Georgia Marble Sculpture

3. **Urban Forest**
   Bird Habitat and Tree Buffer

4. **Land Stabilization**
   Using Florida wildflowers and Grasses

5. **Pedestrian Pathway**
   Accessible to Eddie Vickers Recreational Park and Hayling Freedom Park

Compassionate St. Augustine Obelisk Art 450
Emancipation Proclamation Sculpture
A. “Let Freedom Ring”

Stunning in both their towering appearance and low resonant sound, these pentatonic chimes are pitched one octave below middle C and range in height from 8 to 10 feet.

These Contrabass Freenotes Harmony Park chimes are made of four-inch diameter, heavy duty anodized tubes. The fourteen-piece “Let Freedom Ring” chimes installation create sound only when struck upon with a hand held mallets.

B. “Towards”

Joe Segal, artist
Title: Toward

This sculpture was inspired by a quote from the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., “The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice.” The sculpture, made from reclaimed marble, will act as a sitting place for peaceful reflection. It will be topped with tiles designed by local, underserved and vulnerable children.

The Rotary Club of St. Augustine Sunrise is the sponsor for the children’s tile portion of the project.

Emancipation Proclamation
Installation of the Compassionate St. Augustine Obelisk Art 450 Sculpture

John “Janhi” Moore, artist
Title: “rezHERAction”

The obelisk commemorating the Emancipation Proclamation and the 450th anniversary of St. Augustine to be permanently installed at the entrance into Hayling Freedom Park.

obelisk detail
There is strong support throughout St. Augustine for the development of the "Dr. Robert B. Hayling Freedom Park" on the southernmost end of Lincolnville. Since May 2014, residents citywide have taken action to help advance and implement this unique project within the St. Augustine city limits. Initially, the grassroots group named “Keep Riberia Pointe Green” (KRPG) organized a green rally that resulted in a successful petition drive to support the establishment of green space for the public to enjoy.

A follow-up team then created and presented a comprehensive KRPG overview to the St. Augustine City Commission that resulted in the unanimous passage of the passive park resolution. More recently, a professional team of residents created 3 designs and a detailed implementation plan. Since April 2016, the KRPG team has been working with the City of St. Augustine (COSA) to achieve the first infrastructure and commemorative goals. These include a completed accessible pathway that leads from Eddie Vickers Field to the point of Hayling Freedom Park, tree and grass plantings and handicap accessible parking. Compassionate St. Augustine and KRPG are now working together towards the successful implementation of the “Let Freedom Ring” Chimes Project. Overall, the driving force and beauty behind this process has been the cooperation, collaboration and communication that has spontaneously advanced a multi-faceted community-based effort from careful planning to this groundbreaking stage.
Your participation in the following 5 Sponsorship options will secure a $12,500 Challenge Grant from The Community Foundation.

- **Legacy**
- **Heritage**
- **Visionary**
- **Humanitarian**
- ** Advocate**

**Challenge Grant | $12,500**

- The Community Foundation Grant will be acknowledged with a permanently etched on a marker on site.
- A bench with two shade trees planted in Hayling Freedom Park in the name of The Community Foundation
- Special recognition:
  - VIP event and public dedication for "Let Freedom Ring"
  - CSA's website
  - In all press releases, related media events, brochures, and on programs and other printed material.

For more info contact: Caren Goldman (904) 501-3561 | carensgoldman@gmail.com
Donations can be made payable to: Compassionate St. Augustine
Mailing address: 115 Washington St., St. Augustine 32084
Sponsorship includes:

- Name, Business or “In honor or memory of” permanently etched on a marker below chimes 1A or 1B, the two center chimes are the largest chimes.
- 2 children’s tiles chosen by sponsors.
- A bench with a shade tree planted in Hayling Freedom Park in the name of the Legacy sponsor
- Special recognition:
  - VIP event and public dedication for "Let Freedom Ring"
  - CSA’s website
  - In all press releases, related media events, brochures, and on programs and other printed material.

Legacy | $7,500

Legacy

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Compassionate St. Augustine is a 501(c)(3) organization
www.compassionatestaugustine.org
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Heritage | $5,000

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- Name, Business or "In honor or memory of" permanently etched on a marker below chimes.
- 1 children’s tiles chosen by sponsor.

Special recognition:
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- CSA’s website
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Visionary | $2,500

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Humanitarian | $1,000

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- 1 children’s tiles chosen by sponsor.
- Special recognition:
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  - CSA’s website
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Advocate | $250

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