

MORVEN *Park*



IMPACT REPORT 2023



A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We cannot do this work without you.

Dear Morven Park Members, Donors, and Friends,

It is my pleasure to share this 2023 Impact Report with you, highlighting the many ways the Morven Park team touched so many lives last year.

From record crowds at *Polo in the Park* and at the Morven Park International & Fall Horse Trials to celebrating 50 Years of Eventing and our progress on the 246 Years Project, 2023 was a remarkable year for Morven Park and The Westmoreland Davis Memorial Foundation (WDMF), which owns and operates Morven Park.

As a private park that is open to the public, Morven Park needs YOU. We're particularly grateful for the overwhelming support we have received from the community. Our members and donors allow us to maintain the grounds, increase our outreach to the community, and share the property's rich history.

One of the most significant milestones in 2023 was the launch of the 246 Years Project. This social justice initiative is dedicated to honoring enslaved men, women, and children, starting in Loudoun County and reaching other areas of the Commonwealth. Volunteers are working to enter county records into the database--a first step in making this information accessible to everyone.

2023 was also the year that longtime WDMF Board Trustee and President, Mary Lou Leipheimer, stepped down from her board service after six years of dedicated leadership and unwavering support of our Morven Park team and the Trustees. Under Mary Lou's leadership, we created our 2021 Strategic Plan and the Morven Park Scholars program.

Thank you for being a part of the Morven Park family and for helping us to preserve and protect this 1,000-acre open space in Loudoun County during 2023.

See You in the Park!



Stacey Meicalfe

Executive Director/CEO

Westmoreland Davis Memorial Foundation/Morven Park



MORVEN PARK CENTER FOR CIVIC IMPACT

Morven Park Helps Area Students Find Ways to Contribute

For nine years, the talented educators with the Morven Park Center for Civic Impact (MPCCI) have focused on teaching Loudoun County’s youngest community members how to use their voice, examine issues, take responsibility, and make an impact. MPCCI’s free civics education programming is delivered via classroom visits, field trips to Morven Park, an online platform, and Summer Youth Leadership sessions.

In 2023, two new lessons were piloted in the classroom: a 6th grade lesson focusing on communication strategies during the Revolutionary War era and a 7th grade New Deal lesson, which allows students to look at previous successful community improvement projects to better create their own. This brings the number of lessons offered by MPCCI to 13.

“MPCCI’s free lessons have also been digitized, so classrooms within and beyond Loudoun County can take advantage of these high-quality and authentic offerings,” noted Gwyneth Mac Murtrie, Director of Education. “The team also is working on creating a prop-kit lending library to enhance these virtual lessons for our LCPS partners.”

2023 MILESTONES:

- A 100WomenStrong grant allowed 488 students from 6 Title I schools (schools that receive federal funding based on the percentage of students eligible for free meals) to travel to Morven Park for field trip lessons.
- A Loudoun Chamber of Commerce grant covered general supply costs for MPCCI lessons, helped finish digitization efforts, and expanded Summer Youth Leadership programs.
- During the summer, MPCCI’s educators offer short camps for Loudoun County high school and middle school students. This past summer, Morven Park hosted 50 students for the high school Youth Leadership Institute and 61 students for the two middle school Youth Leadership Retreats.
- MPCCI also supported the JMU CASE Renewable Energy Camp. Twenty middle school students worked through the Teen Advisors lesson to create solutions to renewable energy issues in their communities.

Impact Snapshot

Serving **7,168**

Students from

46

Schools



The team looks forward to celebrating MPCCI's 10th Anniversary in 2024 by showcasing students and teachers whose lives were impacted by the Center's authentic learning experiences.



MORVEN PARK SCHOLARS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The inaugural class of Morven Park Scholars began their college journey as part of the 2023 James Madison University freshman class.

The scholarships are available for Loudoun County graduates who have participated in MPCCI programming at any time during their K-12 education. The three \$3,000 scholarships will be awarded each of the four years the students are enrolled at JMU and maintain good academic standing.

This effort is a result of the 2021 Morven Park Strategic Plan, when The Westmoreland Davis Memorial Foundation (WDMF) Board of Trustees set a goal to reinstate a Foundation scholarship program to help area students attend a Virginia college. Morven Park, Inc., the charitable arm of WDMF, provides the scholarship funds to JMU for disbursement.

“Expanding our community outreach to offer these college scholarships fulfills one of the wishes expressed by Marguerite Davis when she established the Foundation to honor her late husband, former Virginia governor Westmoreland Davis,” explained Stacey Metcalfe, Executive Director/CEO.

“The mission of the James Madison Center for Civic Engagement aligns with the Morven Park Center for Civic Impact’s programming, so it was a perfect fit to partner with JMU for this scholarship effort,” Metcalfe added. In 2022, the staff worked to establish a partnership with JMU and raise funds to cover the first few years of this effort.

The MPCCI team is working with Loudoun County Public Schools guidance counselors to promote the scholarship opportunity to program graduates and is planning a gathering in 2024 to introduce the inaugural Morven Park Scholars class to donors and JMU alumni.



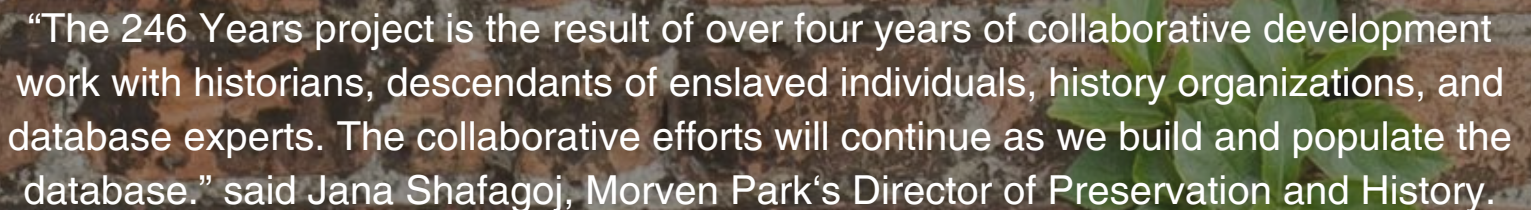
246 YEARS PROJECT LAUNCHED

Morven Park's 246 Years Project, a social justice initiative dedicated to honoring enslaved men, women, and children, launched in 2023.

“The 246 Years Project will bring to light thousands of untold stories of strength, resilience, and persistence, creating an opportunity for truth-telling, recognition, and memorialization,” stated Stacey Metcalfe, Executive Director/CEO. “We are honored to be a part of the stories and healing that will come from these efforts to find their names and honor their legacies.”

The records to be included in the database are found in the archives of historic sites, community history organizations, and local courts. Loudoun County Circuit Court has provided historic records of when the enslaved were bought and sold as part of estate records, and those records will be included in this online database.

The 246 Years Project assembles this biographical data and organizes it within a custom-built, online database, reassembling the pieces to reveal the life events of individual men, women, and children who were enslaved. Even more importantly, the 246 Years Database links parents and children, allowing descendants to trace their family's story through 246 years of slavery.



“The 246 Years project is the result of over four years of collaborative development work with historians, descendants of enslaved individuals, history organizations, and database experts. The collaborative efforts will continue as we build and populate the database.” said Jana Shafagoj, Morven Park's Director of Preservation and History.

Over 40 volunteers, including 10 students enrolled in an African American history course at Stone Bridge High School, are entering information from the Loudoun County records into the database.

A database developer is finalizing the public-facing search side of the database. The team expects it to be available online, free of charge, for everyone later in 2024.

The initiative takes its name from the 246 years between 1619, when the first enslaved Africans were brought to Jamestown, Virginia, and 1865, when the 13th Amendment abolished slavery. Before 1865, enslaved individuals were rarely included in government records such as census, birth, or death registries.



BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

The Morven Park Buildings and Grounds team takes great pride in making sure that the property is stunning. They know that first impressions matter!

“We maintain these grounds without any local, state, or federal funding and feel that Morven Park, including the resources it holds and the sense of community it promotes, is an integral part of Loudoun County,” said Stacey Metcalfe, Executive Director/CEO.



Impact Snapshot

Planted **72** Trees

Spent **4,000** Hours on lawn mowers.

OTHER 2023 MILESTONES:

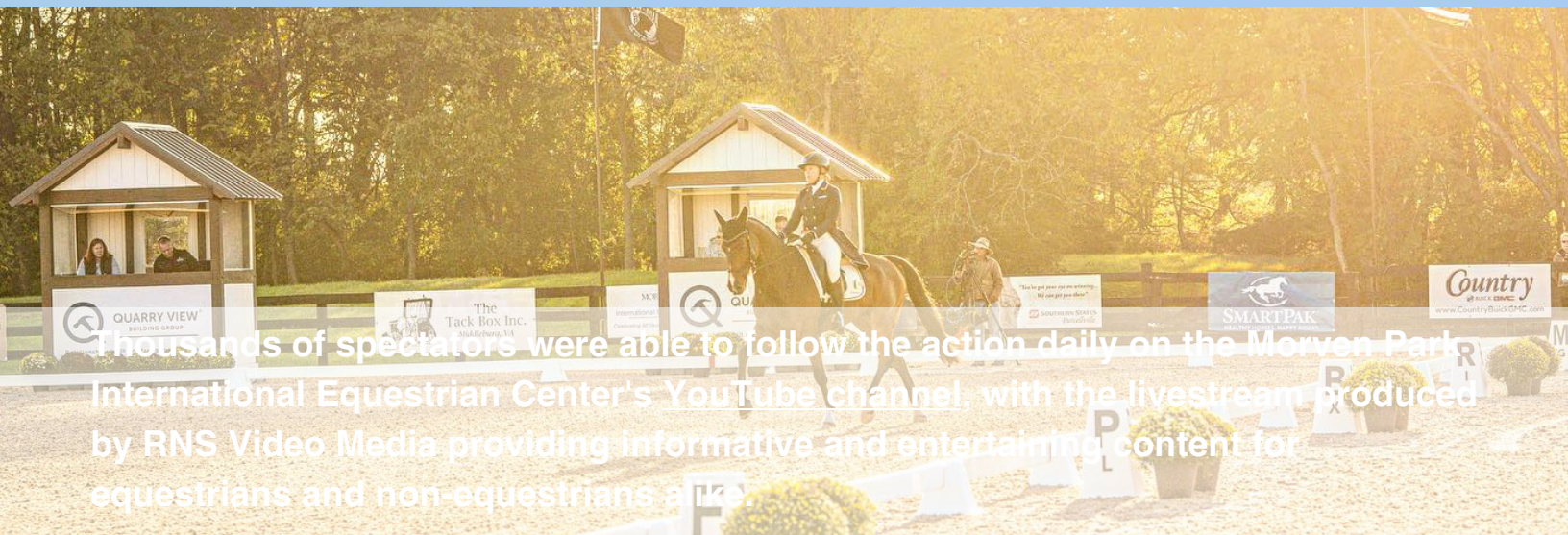
- Refreshed and added wi-fi access points at all buildings
- Replaced the Boxwood Garden Path retaining wall that dated to the Davis era
- Placed new planters on the garden pathway
- Repaired and painted the Park’s fencing along Southern Planter Lane and around the Polo Arena
- Planted and maintained thousands of plants and tended to scores of flower containers around the Park
- Replaced the siding and repainted the Hofmann Center, which houses the offices of the Morven Park International Equestrian Center.

50 YEARS OF EVENTING

Morven Park has hosted recognized Horse Trials since 1973, and marked its 50th year of eventing, or horse trials, in style, with a new layout and the addition of a livestream broadcast at the Morven Park International & Fall Horse Trials in October.

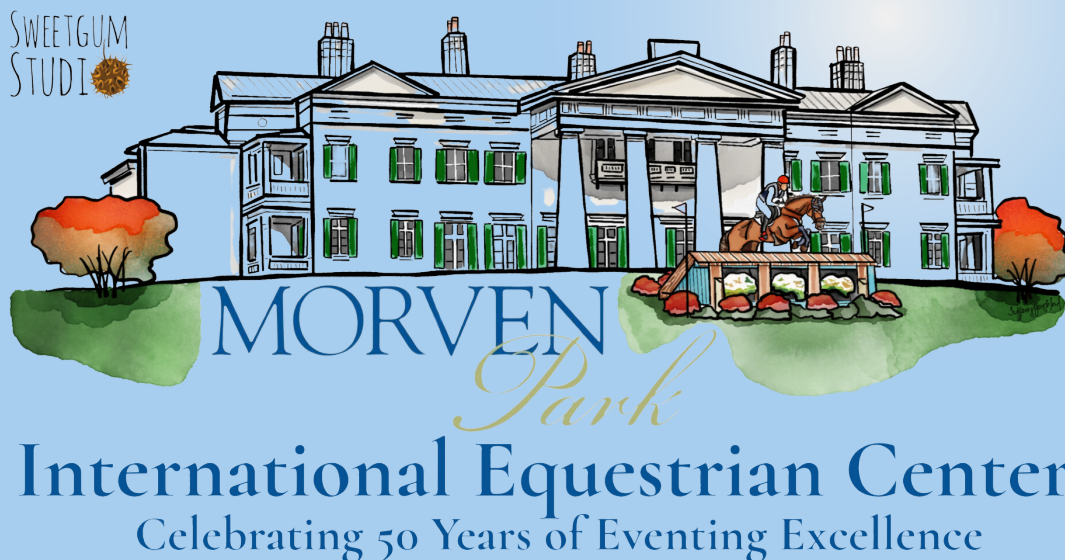
“Today, we are proud to continue this legacy and host the Morven Park Spring Horse Trials and the Morven Park International & Fall Horse Trials as one of six venues in the United States to hold a CCI4*L competition,” noted Stacey Metcalfe, Executive Director/CEO.

The livestream broadcast allowed more than 10,000 viewers around the world to watch the competition and see three-time Olympian Boyd Martin ride to victory with Yankee Creek Ranch’s Commando 3.



Thousands of spectators were able to follow the action daily on the Morven Park International Equestrian Center's YouTube channel, with the livestream produced by RNS Video Media providing informative and entertaining content for equestrians and non-equestrians alike.

The Vendor Village and the VIP Tent overlooking the Grand Prix arena, the sold-out tailgate section on the cross-country course, and the wide variety of food trucks made for a festive atmosphere.



EQUESTRIAN EVENTS FLOURISH AT MORVEN PARK

Named Loudoun County's favorite equestrian facility by Loudoun Now readers in 2023, the Morven Park International Equestrian Center serves as a resource for the equestrian community, spanning all levels across multiple disciplines.

Continuing education for horses and riders is a key element in fostering the next generation of equestrians. In June 2023, Morven Park welcomed the East Coast regional clinic of the USEA Emerging Athlete U21 Program.

OTHER 2023 EVENTS

- Maryland Regional Pony Club Dressage and Show Jump Rally
- The Horse Within: Biomechanics with Gillian Higgins and the North American Saddlery School
- Mounted Games Across America
- Mid-Atlantic Hanoverian Breeders Club Inspection
- VADA Nova and the Potomac Valley Dressage Association Schooling Dressage Show
- Loudoun Hunt Point-to-Point and the Loudoun Hunt Pony Club Horse Trials
- Carriage Association of America celebrated their centennial with competitors from across the nation coming to Morven Park.



TELLING THE MORVEN PARK STORY

During its 240-year history, Morven Park's mansion transformed from a modest fieldstone house into the impressive Greek Revival building we see today. The Morven Park team takes pride in telling the story of this iconic mansion, overseeing the care of **16 historic buildings on the 1,000-acre property**, and preserving the extensive collection of arts and antiques acquired by Westmoreland and Marguerite Davis.

2023 PROJECTS



- Four red velvet backstools were cleaned and restored by a conservator.
- The Davis silver collection was rehoused to ensure its long-term stability.
- The Davis Ballroom Exhibit was installed, providing an overview of the lives and times of Westmoreland and Marguerite Davis.
- A written tour was developed for the deaf and hard of hearing, and will be publicly available in 2024.

SPOTLIGHT PROJECT

One of the largest projects in 2023 was repair work on the north tower of Corbell, the historic building between the Davis Mansion and the boxwood gardens. Errors in the original 1861 construction of the tower caused a structural fault in the front wall.

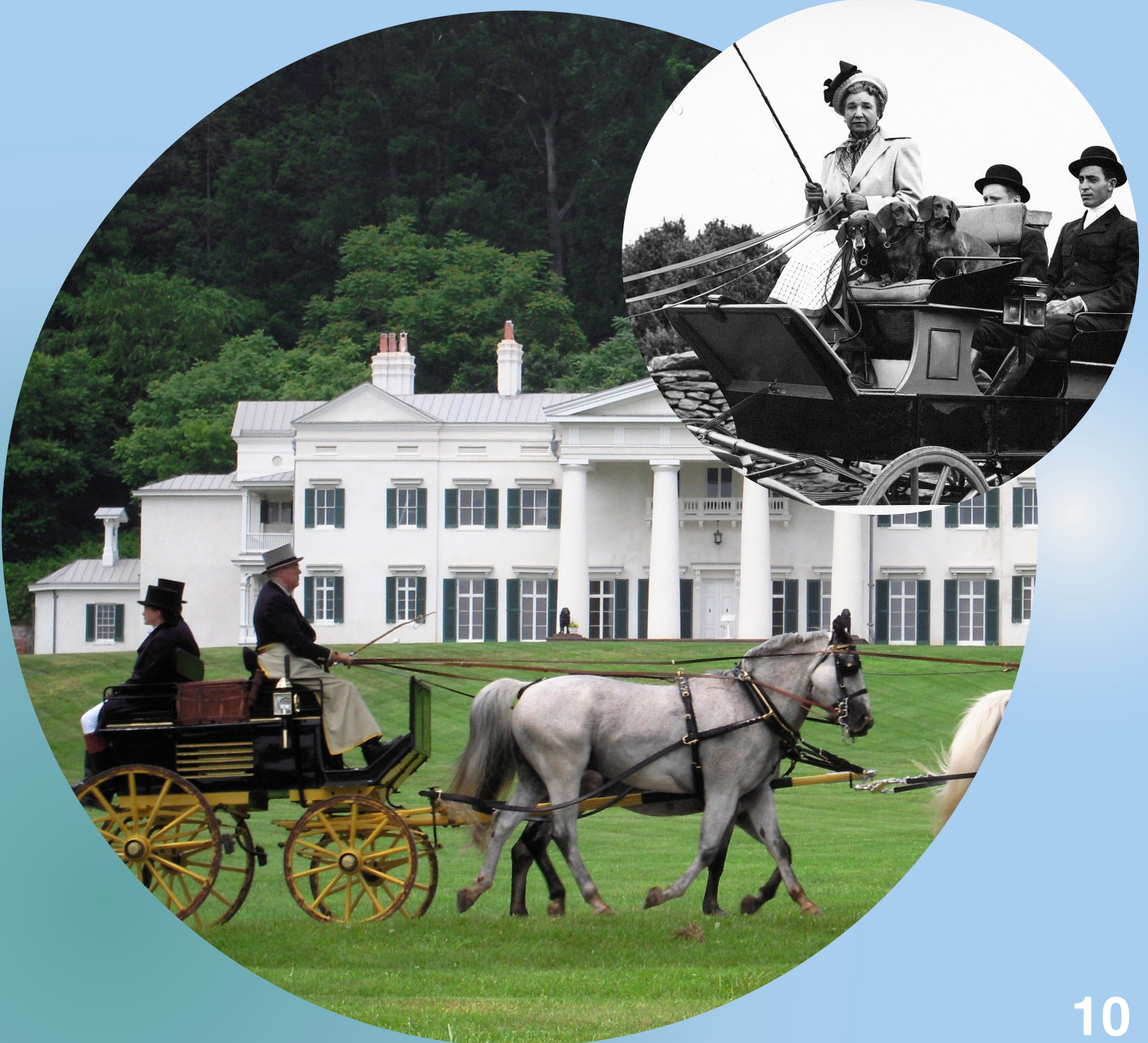
“After bracing the corners, the wall was dismantled from the top down and then successfully reconstructed using the original stone and new lime mortar,” explained Jana Shafagoj, Director of Preservation & History. “It also allowed a glimpse into the building’s history. After years of debate, the presence of ash within the mortar and layers of charcoal under the cement floor confirmed the building once served as a smokehouse.”



THE WINMILL CARRIAGE MUSEUM

Following a multi-year review, the WDMF Board of Trustees concluded that the Winmill Carriage Museum collection did not align with the historical significance of the Morven Park property, Morven Park's past occupants, or the history of Loudoun County, and should be deaccessioned.

WDMF donated the entire collection to four carriage museums, with most of the items accepted by the Buggy Barn Museum in Texas. Morven Park is thrilled that Mrs. Viola Winmill's collection will continue to be preserved and shared with the public through these prominent institutions.



#THEBESTPARTYINLOUDOUN IS A CROWD FAVORITE!

For the 6th season, Morven Park's *Polo in the Park* was one of the top family-friendly summer events in Loudoun County.

Guests enjoyed two arena polo matches each evening over seven Saturdays in June and July. They brought picnics and their beverage of choice to the terraced viewing area next to the arena or upgraded to a tailgate or rail box vantage point.

"We're thrilled to offer polo to the community each summer," said Stacey Metcalfe, Executive Director/CEO. "Each year proves to be better than the last, and it has become the can't-miss event and the best party in Loudoun."

Impact Snapshot

More than **12,000** spectators
attended *Polo in the Park!*

The matches showcased the skills of polo players from around the world, including internationally renowned players Juan Salinas-Bentley and Doug Barnes, as well as Tareq Salahi and the Hotels at Sea Polo Team for fast-paced polo action. Magner Law created a trophy specifically for junior Polo players to recognize their efforts and to encourage more teenagers to learn to play the sport of Polo.





GARDENS AND GROUNDS EVENTS

Morven Park's mission of preserving and protecting this 1,000-acre green space in urban Loudoun County is a year-round effort. Although the Park's educational programs, lush gardens, and Davis Mansion tours bring visitors throughout the year to explore the Park's history and celebrate the outdoors, many unique events introduce the Park to a larger audience.

IN 2023, MORVEN PARK WAS THE SITE OF:

- LCPS cross-country running events and a Marymount University cross country meet
- [Trials of Miles](#) cross-country racing
- Quantico Orienteering Club's Search & Find
- The Annual Walk for Water
- 6 Weddings, 3 birthday celebrations, 4 corporate meetings, an anniversary, and a celebration of life ceremony
- Morven Park's *Springtime in the Park*
- Morven Park's *Sparks in the Park*
- Briar Woods High School Prom
- Destiny School of the Arts Videography
- The 75th Annual Virginia Hound Show
- The Museum of Hounds and Hunting exhibit and reception
- Ride to End ALZ - Nation's Capital
- Step Up Loudoun Youth Competition

- Loudoun Youth Inc.'s Claude Moore Community Builders Class of 2024 orientation
- LoCo Disc Golf Club Annual Tournament
- Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy's Spring and Fall Native Plant Sales
- High School Homecoming and Prom Photoshoots
- Loudoun Chamber's - Loudoun on Tap
- Virginia Bloodhound Search and Rescue Association annual training
- LCSO Search and Rescue Training Operation
- The Family One 5k Walk
- Chicks Picks Craft Fair
- Walk for Hope 5k
- Morven Park's *Yuletide in the Park*
- 1000 Miglia Warm Up USA



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OUR MISSION

We preserve and protect Morven Park for all. We invite current and future generations to explore history, embrace civic engagement, and celebrate the outdoors.

OUR VISION

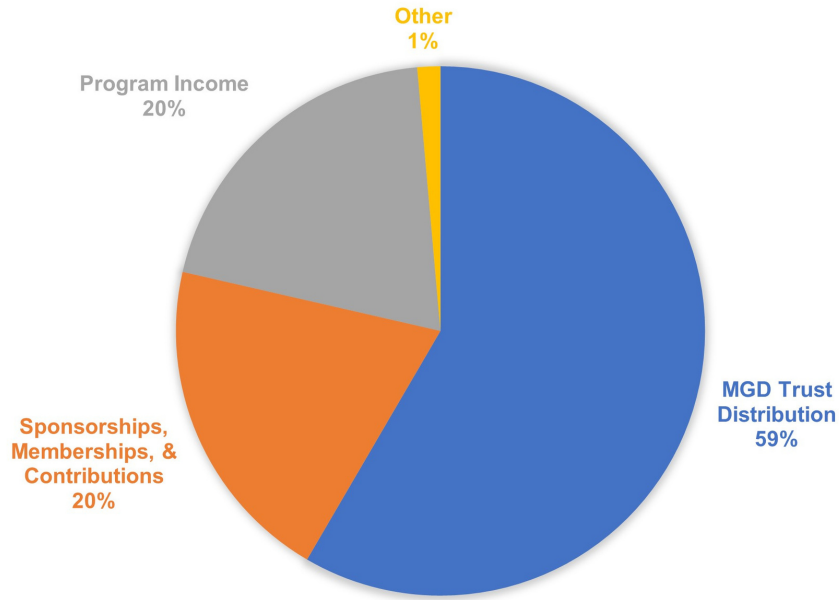
Everyone will benefit from the opportunity to connect with nature, history, and one another.

Morven Park is operated in the public interest by The Westmoreland Davis Memorial Foundation, Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization founded to protect, preserve and promote the historic and cultural resources of Morven Park. Morven Park is on the National Register of Historic Places and is a Virginia Historic Landmark.

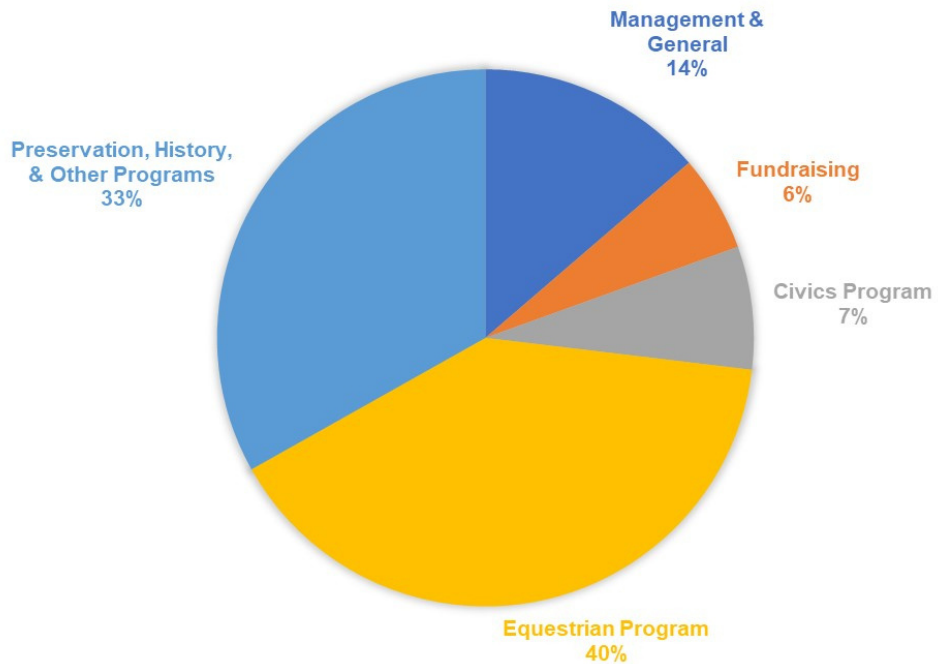
2023 FINANCIALS

MORVEN PARK'S FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY TO THE PARK AND OUR MISSION.

THE WESTMORELAND DAVIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, INC. & SUBSIDIARIES: OPERATING INCOME BY SOURCE



THE WESTMORELAND DAVIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, INC. & SUBSIDIARIES: OPERATING EXPENSES BY FUNCTION



THANK YOU!

Morven Park relies on a group of dedicated Annual Fund supporters to fulfill its mission of preserving and protecting this Park. With deep gratitude, we recognize those who have generously donated to Morven Park between January 1 and December 31, 2023.

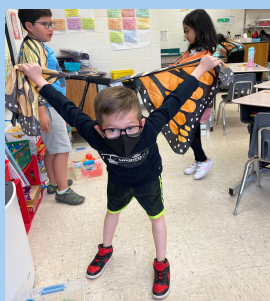
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WITH GRATITUDE TO OUR MEMBERS

“We walk our dog here every day, walk in the park to get our steps, and sometimes just sit on a bench to enjoy the park’s beauty.” - Sharon L.

I hope to support Morven Park for the rest of my life! Jeff N.

“Best place in Leesburg!” - Mike W.

“Morven Park is my "happy place" and I am happy to contribute to such a beautiful place.” - Lori S.

“Is it Polo in the Park season yet?” - David M.

“I want to support this beautiful treasure I have in my back yard. I walk the grounds frequently and want to give back.” Leigh M.

“This is our go to place for lovely, peaceful walks with our dog.” Susan T.

