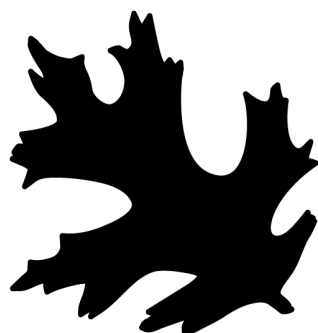


January 2011



High Park Nature Centre

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A NOTE FROM DIANA TEAL

After a year and a half spent pursuing studies in movement education and travelling for five glorious months, I am so excited to return to the High Park Nature Centre as Executive Director. I started at the Nature Centre in the spring of 2004, working as a nature interpreter, the coordinator and later, the director. For the past year, I have been writing grant proposals and coordinating the fundraising side of things. When asked if I would be interested in the Executive Director position, my immediate answer was YES! Working at the Nature Centre is the most rewarding experience of my career; thanks to the Centre's incredibly dedicated staff, board members and volunteers and all of you who support our work. The Nature Centre's future is full of promise and I am thrilled to be a part of it!

Diana, pictured with Noa, in summer of 2009



WINTER NATURE WALKS

Silent Hike

Saturday, January 29th
1—3 pm

Tired of having hikes interrupted by the sound of people talking? We turn our voices off for this hike in the woodlands to hear what we can hear.



Art Hike

Saturday, February 12th
1—3 pm

Come enjoy the winter beauty of High Park...and then create! We will visit the savannah, woodlands and wetlands for inspiration before returning to the Nature Centre to make some art.

Hikes are not wheelchair or stroller accessible.

NO PRE-REGISTRATION NECESSARY

Location: High Park Nature Centre
430 Parkside Drive
(Parkside Drive & Indian Valley Crescent)

All Ages: Bring the Whole Family!

Fee: \$2 Recommended Donation

Sponsored by Toronto Field Naturalists:

<http://www.torontofieldnaturalists.org>



Check out their website for weekly photo challenges, upcoming events including walks and lectures.

SUMMER CAMP 2011!

Come spend part of the summer at the High Park Nature Centre!

Registration day is **TUESDAY FEBRUARY 22nd**. We will open our door at **8 am** to start processing registration. Please visit www.highparknaturecentre.com/programs/summer-camp to download the registration form and read all of our registration policies and procedures.

July 4—8	Nature Nuts
July 11—15	Knee High Naturalists —morning and afternoon
July 18—22	Nature Nuts
July 25—20	Knee High Naturalists —morning and afternoon
August 2-5 (Tuesday to Friday)	Young Naturalists
August 8—12	Nature Nuts
August 15—19	Knee High Naturalists —morning only
August 22—26	Nature Nuts

Age Requirements: For all programs, children **MUST** be of the minimum age of the program on or before **the start of the program**.

Registration Policies: Programs are filled on a first-come, first-serve basis. Registration dates are announced about one month prior to the registration date to those people who are on our e-mailing list. If unable to register in person, you can send another person in your place to register your child(ren). This person may only register the children in a single family sharing the same address. This policy is in place to prevent a single person from registering several children from several families. We will not make exceptions to this policy.

Cancellation Policy: Plans can change quickly. For a refund, please email or call in your request at least 10 business days prior to the start of the program. An administration fee of 10% will be charged for early cancellations.

For requests received less than 10 business days prior to the start of program, an administration fee of 50% of the fee will apply. A full refund will be issued if a program is cancelled by the Nature Centre.

Do you work with youth? Do you know a youth aged 13—17 who would be interested in our pilot **Youth Naturalist Mentorship Program**? The program will focus on participants gaining local naturalist skills and knowledge, participate in the stewardship of local natural areas, and leadership training highlighting nature interpretation. Please contact us at naturecentre@highpark.org to learn more!

KNEE-HIGH NATURALISTS: Caregiver & Child Summer Nature Camp

Explorers big and small will have fun hiking the trails of High Park, searching for animal homes, hunting for bugs, learning about wildflowers, singing nature songs, watching birds and creating nature crafts to take home. Younger siblings are welcome.

Ages 3—5 (must be accompanied by caregiver)

Time 9:30 - 11:30am **or** 1:00 - 3:00pm

Cost \$85/session

NATURE NUTS Summer Nature Camp

Are you nuts about nature? The High Park Nature Centre is the place for you! Discover the amazing plants, animals and insects of High Park's forest, savannah and wetland habitats. "Nature Nuts" in training will develop their naturalist skills while exploring the nature trails in High Park. Campers will also play environmental games, make nature crafts to take home, swim at the pool, go on scavenger hunts, and meet lots of new friends!

Ages 6—10

Time 9 am to 4 pm

Cost \$220/session

YOUNG NATURALISTS CLUB Summer Nature Camp

The Nature Centre's Young Naturalists Summer Club is for kids who are seriously serious about nature! Studying a new natural history theme each day, campers will have fun learning how to hone their observation, identification, and environmental stewardship skills. Club members will be mentored by Nature Centre staff and "guest" local naturalists as they come into their own as naturalists.

Ages 8—12

Time 9 am to 4 pm

Cost \$180/session

THANK YOU!

Thanks to the over 100 people who came out over the weekend of December 18 and 19 to help us Decorate a Tree for the Birds. Many families remarked that this activity has become one of their holiday rituals and we're glad we could be a part of it!

We'd like to thank Wild Birds Unlimited (<http://toronto.wbu.com>) for the donation of the millet and black oil sunflower seeds and our raffle prizes.

The Sweet Potato (www.thesweetpotato.ca) contributed

the apples, oranges and cranberries for the garlands, as well as the yummy cookies provided as a snack.

Special thanks to all of our staff and volunteers: Katie, Jon, Zak, Sarah, Baxter, Evelisa, Diana, Jen, Gloria, Robin and Rebecca.

You can see photos and read about the event displayed on the Inside Toronto website: <http://tinyurl.com/4bro8ac>

EVENTS IN THE PARK

High Park Walking Tours

Sunday, January 16th:
Winter Wonderland Photo-Buff Walk
hosted by David Allen
www.highparkphotos.ca

10:30 am to 12 noon

Walks may go on wooded trails, so please wear appropriate clothing and footwear.

Meet at the benches across from the Grenadier Restaurant

For more information, please visit:
www.highpark.org/walking.htm

Be as a bird perched on a frail branch
that she feels bending beneath her,
Still she sings away all the same,
knowing she has wings.

-Victor Hugo

GLOBAL BEE EMERGENCY

Quietly, globally, billions of bees are dying, threatening our crops and food. But a global ban of one group of pesticides could save bees from extinction.

Four European countries have begun banning these poisons, and some

bee populations are recovering. But chemical companies are lobbying hard to keep all killer pesticides on the market. A global outcry now for a ban in the US and EU, where debate is raging, could provoke a total ban and a ripple effect around the world.

Let's build a giant global buzz calling for these dangerous chemicals to be outlawed in the US and EU until and unless they are proved to be safe.

Learn more and think about signing the petition:
https://secure.avaaz.org/en/save_the_bees/



Via www.avaaz.org

The Nature Centre is part of the High Park Initiatives, a not-for-profit charity dedicated to the protection, preservation, restoration and respect of High Park's natural environment.