

# MESTA PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

News and information for ALL residents of the Mesta Park Historic Preservation District



## OFFICERS:

President, Justin Brannon  
Vice-President, Laura Linville  
Secretary, Mallory Carter  
Treasurer, Na'Cole Elledge &  
Megan Coldagelli

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Historic Preservation, Anne Zachritz  
Home Tour, By Committee  
Lighting & Signs, Jackie Arnold  
Membership, Lindsey McCarty  
Mesta Festa, By Committee  
Newsletter Editor, Laura Jergensen  
Parks, JB Schuelein  
Social Events, Mallory Carter &  
Debbie Wince  
Social Media, Lindsey McCarty

Contact:

[Chairs@MestaPark.org](mailto:Chairs@MestaPark.org)

[OfficersandBoard@MestaPark.org](mailto:OfficersandBoard@MestaPark.org)

The MPNA Newsletter is published six times per year (bimonthly) by the MPNA.

Neighborhood meetings, board meetings or social events occur monthly.

## GET INVOLVED!

### MESTA PARK'S PRESERVATION REVIEW COMMITTEE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

by Paul Shinn

As a historic preservation neighborhood, Mesta Park has a neighborhood preservation review committee (PRC), and we are looking for new members. The PRC confers monthly on the weekend before each scheduled meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission meetings, which are held the first Wednesday of each month (generally). The purpose of the PRC is to provide guidance and to answer questions for homeowners regarding their project applications as well as to review applications for Certificates of Appropriateness which have been submitted to the Planning Department by homeowners or their representatives. The PRC Chair also acts as a spokesperson regarding Historic Preservation matters.

The members of the PRC generally discuss items by email, with the chair or another member reviewing the MP agenda items and sharing opinions with the group. The group then discusses during the weekend. The PRC reviews each application with its supporting documents, the Staff Report and recommendations on each application. It then provides opinions to the Planning Department staff and the applicants, which are shared with the Historic Preservation Commission members prior to each Commission meeting.

If you have an interest in getting involved, please email PRC chair Paul Shinn at [pshinnok@gmail.com](mailto:pshinnok@gmail.com).

**Find Dates to Remember on  
page 4 of this issue!**

# MESTA PARK BUSINESS PAGE

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## Newsweek

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# GET INVOLVED!

## WILSON ARTS 'WONDER OF WILSON'

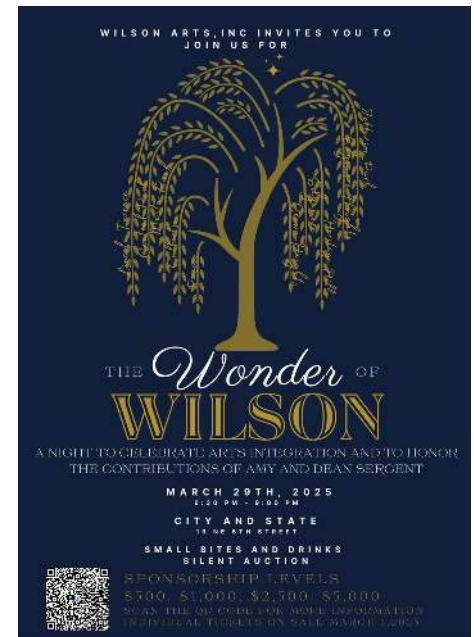
by Laura Linville & Jeff Gockstetter

Wilson Arts Inc is having their annual fundraising event, "The Wonder of Wilson," on **March 29th**. The proceeds from this annual event allow for continued Art Integration training and programming at Wilson Elementary. For the 2024-2025 school year, we have been able to fund teacher training through the Kennedy Center Arts Integration, support Arts Integration programming in the classrooms, offer a free after-school theatre program, purchase much needed instruments for the Music classroom, and continue funding of Wilson's outdoor gardening classroom.

Our previous playground capital campaign was a huge success! Thanks to additional contributions in 2023 and 2024, WAI was able to fund much needed trees, concrete pathways, sod, and irrigation. The most recent improvements include the installation of a nature area, sunshades, and new soccer goals.

This year Wilson stands with 46% of our student body being deemed socioeconomically disadvantaged. We need to raise \$60,000 this year in order to support our continued efforts of bringing arts integration to the school. We help bring in artists in residence, after school drama clubs, additional arts integrated teacher training, and overall arts integration to our student base. In a time when public education in Oklahoma is lacking, WAI is aiming to not only bridge the gap of student learning, but to actually make the arts equitable to all students at Wilson. This year's event is also honoring the hard and committed work of our neighbors, Amy and Dean Sergent.

This year's silent auction will include original art pieces from many notable OKC artists, simple modern gift basket, thunder items, and more! We look forward to your attendance and generosity in supporting our neighborhood's school!



## OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED!

by Justin Brannon

We are well underway for fundraising and beginning to put together committees for our large events. Not only have these weekends become beloved community traditions, but the bulk of MPNA funds are raised in these few days of the year. Funds are used to keep Mesta Park looking great, maintain our unique neighborhood lights, support community organizations like Wilson Elementary, and much more. The planning and execution of these events require help from many volunteers; if you are interested in learning more about Mesta Festa (September), the annual home tour (December), please e-mail [president@mestapark.org](mailto:president@mestapark.org) or click the 'Get Involved' link at [mestapark.org](http://mestapark.org) and we will let you know when and how to get involved. We look forward to serving with you!

## SEEKING NEW BOARD MEMBERS

by Justin Brannon

Each summer at the Annual Picnic, 5 new board members are elected to the board of directors for the Mesta Park Neighborhood Association. This group is responsible for maintenance of the park and lighting, putting on annual events like Mesta Festa and the Home Tour, and building community in the neighborhood. If you're looking to get more plugged-in with Mesta Park, we would love to have you!

Expectations include:

- 3-year term Attend board meetings (~6/year, 1 hour in duration)
- Serve on the planning committee for one of our major events (Mesta Festa or Home Tour).

If you would like more information on joining the MPNA board of directors, please reach out to Justin Brannon ([president@mestapark.org](mailto:president@mestapark.org)).

# GET INVOLVED!

## OU BIG EVENT - APRIL 5

by JB Schuelein

Mesta Park Welcomes the OU Big Event – 10:00am - Saturday, April 5!

Saturday morning, April 5, the Mainteneers and our Parks Committee along with students representing OU's Big Event will conduct our annual Spring cleaning in Perle Mesta Park. For newcomers to our neighborhood, The Big Event is a day of community service when OU students and staff volunteer at local non-profit organizations across the entire Oklahoma City metropolitan area. Nearly 6,000 students representing more than 100 campus organizations participated last year.

With the help of 30-40 students, we'll rake leaves, weed and clean out the flower beds, mulch the trees, and clean the volleyball courts, curbs and storm drains. It would take our neighborhood Parks Committee weeks to clean up, but with the assistance of the students and staff from OU, we will finish our 'chores' in a few short hours with time for lunch – provided by the student-led Big Event staff.

The students give up their Saturday morning to make our neighborhood park cleaner and safer. As a token of our appreciation, neighborhood volunteers provide the students with snacks, bottled water and energy drinks when they arrive. If you are unable to attend, but are willing to help out with a donation of cookies, donuts, bagels or other snacks – please contact JB Schuelein – (405) 525-2509. Your donation will be appreciated!



## Dates to Remember

**OU Big Event**  
**Perle Mesta Park**  
**Saturday, April 5**  
**10:00am**

**Easter Egg Hunt**  
**Perle Mesta Park**  
**Saturday, April 19**  
**10:00am**

**60+ Event**  
**Dunagin's Backyard**  
**Friday, May 2**  
**5:30pm**

**30th Annual Mesta Festa**  
**September 2025**

**Holiday Home Tour**  
**December 2025**

# MESTA PARK BUSINESS PAGE

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## Spring THING

March 19 - 21 | 10 AM - 2 PM

Hop on by for spring-themed activities & learning opportunities.  
Admission is free!



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Dear Neighbor,

Mesta Park is a wonderful neighborhood to live in, but WE CANNOT DO IT WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT! To help our neighborhood continue to thrive, we need your voice and input to share ideas about how we can continue to improve the beautiful neighborhood that we all call home.

FAQ

**Where do my dues go?**

- Contribute to the preservation and enhancement of our neighborhood and local organizations (such as dues-funded volleyball court improvements and sprinkler system installations in 2020)
- Enable the continuation of signature community events like Mesta Festa and the Mesta Park Home Tour
- Provide each member household with one vote at our annual meeting to elect our Board of Directors

**How much does membership cost?**

\$60 annually

**Who is eligible to be a member?**

All residents of Mesta Park

**Where do I join or renew?**

Using mail-in form below, or online with a credit/debit card ([www.mestapark.org/membership](http://www.mestapark.org/membership))

THANK YOU to those who renew their membership year after year! If you are not a member: please consider joining the Mesta Park Neighborhood Association. Dues are just \$60 per household each year and help keep Mesta Park one of the most sought-after residential areas in Oklahoma City. **To join or renew, simply return the form below or register and pay online at [www.mestapark.org/membership](http://www.mestapark.org/membership).**

MPNA activities & efforts:

- Easter egg hunt (annually around Easter)
- Picnic & election of officers/directors (annually in June)
- Ice cream social (annually each summer)
- Ongoing support to important local organizations
- Mesta Festa (annually in September)
- Mesta Park Home Tour & cocktail party (annually in December)
- Maintain and improve park and medians

Visit our website ([www.mestapark.org](http://www.mestapark.org)) for more information about Mesta Park, upcoming events, and our quarterly newsletter. Questions? E-mail us at [www.mestapark.org/contact](http://www.mestapark.org/contact).

**Yes! I'd like to join or renew my MPNA membership for 2025.**

*All donations are tax deductible!*

\$60 check enclosed for my 2025 membership

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

I would also like to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help maintain Perle Mesta Park and Shartel Blvd. (mowing, seasonal leaf removal, tree trimming)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to volunteer! Please contact me.

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make all checks payable to MPNA  
Mesta Park Neighborhood Association  
PO Box 61095  
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Please send me bi-monthly newsletter distributions using this e-mail address

*\*Your personal information is strictly for internal MPNA use and will never be sold or shared externally*

