



G R O U N D S F O R S C U L P T U R E

## Grounds For Sculpture Receives \$3 Million Gift from the Betty Wold Johnson Foundation

*Transformative Contribution is One of the Largest in the Sculpture Park's History*

Hamilton, NJ – February 20, 2025 – Grounds For Sculpture (GFS) is thrilled to announce a transformative \$3 million dollar gift from the Betty Wold Johnson Foundation, a contribution that marks one of the largest single donations from an individual in the organization's history. This generous endowment gift will play a crucial role in ensuring the lasting legacy of GFS and its commitment to promoting the interplay of art, nature, and wellness for the community.

Betty Wold Johnson, a devoted supporter of the arts and the cousin of Seward Johnson, the visionary founder of GFS, has left an indelible mark on the institution. She was one of the most celebrated philanthropists of her generation, and her commitment to the arts and her family's legacy of creativity continue to inspire the GFS's mission to engage the public with art in nature.

"We are immensely grateful to the Betty Wold Johnson Foundation for this remarkable gift," said GFS Executive Director, Gary Garrido Schneider. "This contribution not only enhances our endowment but also strengthens our ability to provide innovative exhibitions, educational programs, and community initiatives. We are committed to ensuring that Grounds For Sculpture remains a source of inspiration for generations to come."

The Betty Wold Johnson Foundation's generous contribution will enable Grounds For Sculpture to expand its programming and improve facilities, while also supporting the ongoing maintenance and preservation of the stunning 42-acre sculpture park. With this gift, the total endowment for Grounds For Sculpture now exceeds \$37 million, representing a significant step toward safeguarding the future of GFS and enhancing its role as a cultural beacon in New Jersey and the surrounding region.

Dr. Penelope A. Lattimer, Vice President of the GFS Board of Trustees and Chair of GFS's Development Committee reflected on her memories of Betty: "Each time I spoke with Betty Wold Johnson, I was inspired. Betty was a woman of substance and grace. Cherished memories of my conversations and walks through Grounds for Sculpture with Betty give joy to my voluntarism every day. She spoke with conviction and shared her values ardently; and so, I am grateful that at the top was her belief in and support for the unique mission and values demonstrated by work presented in the exhibitions at Grounds for Sculpture."

In expressing the Foundation's dedication to the arts, Ken Farber, Director of the Betty Wold Johnson Foundation, stated, "While Betty Wold Johnson is no longer with us, her passion for art and belief in its power to enrich lives continues. This gift reflects her unwavering commitment to supporting meaningful philanthropic endeavors. We hope it encourages others to join us in celebrating and preserving the legacy established by Seward Johnson at Grounds For Sculpture."

As Grounds For Sculpture continues to evolve and adapt to the changing landscape of the arts, this investment will ensure that the legacy of Seward Johnson and the foundation's commitment to fostering creativity endure.

### **About Betty Wold Johnson Foundation**

The Betty Wold Johnson Foundation operates as the legacy of Betty Wold Johnson (1921-2020), a renowned philanthropist and long-time contributor to arts, education, and healthcare initiatives. Mrs. Johnson was one of the most celebrated philanthropists of her generation, supporting many arts and science institutions particularly in New Jersey and New York, including the Nature Conservancy of New Jersey, the Liberty Science Center, the Arts Council of Princeton, the Princeton Public Library, the New York City Opera, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Lincoln Center.

Betty also supported many health organizations, such as the rebuilding of Princeton Hospital and, through Project Renewal, provided assistance to the homeless via mobile health programs. She was conscious of the need to promote the health of her community, inspired by a long-established Johnson family legacy.

### **About Grounds For Sculpture**

Grounds For Sculpture (GFS) is a 42-acre not-for-profit sculpture park, arboretum, and museum, founded by the late Seward Johnson. Featuring over 300 contemporary sculptures by renowned and emerging artists in a beckoning, ever-changing landscape, Grounds For Sculpture combines art and nature to surprise, inspire, and engage visitors from all backgrounds in the artist's act of invention. In addition to its permanent collection, Grounds For Sculpture offers exhibitions in six indoor galleries, alongside experiential art, horticulture, and wellness programs for all ages. Located in Hamilton, New Jersey, Grounds For Sculpture is easily accessible from the New York City and Philadelphia metropolitan areas by public transit and is open year-round. For more information, visit [groundsforsculpture.org](https://www.groundsfor Sculpture.org).

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