



BARK for BARC Pet Walk Shines Again: Supporters Raise Almost \$65,000 to Save Houston's Homeless Pets

By Barc Staff | Photos By Barc Staff

The 2nd annual BARK for BARC Pet Walk took place at Rice University, hosted by First Lady Y. Ping Sun and the Houston BARC Foundation. Proving to be the best yet, over 200 registered walkers happily strutted their mutts across Rice's beautiful campus raising awareness and much needed funding for the BARC shelter.

Participants enjoyed passionate declarations from some of Houston's key leaders. Mayor Sylvester Turner addressed the value and need of protecting all walks of life within our city limits—"This is one organization where we do not turn any animal away; we provide them a loving home and do our best to take care of them." To that end, BARC takes in between 25,000-30,000 animals per year. BARC Advisory Board Event Chair and First Daughter Ashley Turner spoke about the importance of spay/neutering efforts and the goal that all Houstonians be engaged in promoting adoptions and animal welfare.

Houston Astros Pitcher Lance McCullers Jr. joined the event as Honorary Chair to advocate for BARC's shelter and the thousands of animals who need forever homes. Houston BARC Foundation Board Member Sofia Adrogué envisioned and spearheaded the event along with her fellow board members, Y. Ping Sun and Caroline Baker Hurley. Schuyler Adrogué Gustafson and Bruce Hurley III served as Co-Chairs, working with BARC, Rice University, and the BARKfor BARC Committee, resulting in a vibrant, pet-friendly family event raising almost \$65,000.

BARC is the only animal shelter in Houston required by law to accept every dog, cat, or other animal regardless of breed, temperament, health conditions, and circumstance. Created in 2010, the Houston BARC Foundation raises money to support BARC's programs, including pet adoption, spay/neuter accessibility, and awareness for responsible pet ownership.

Sofia Adrogué summed up the success of not only the walk, but also the future for the City of Houston and its passion to make animal welfare a mission accomplished—"As Mayor Turner said last week in his State of the City address, 'the time is now for Houston to be the city of tomorrow. This is our time, this is our moment, this is our season.' If the success of this walk today is any indication, we have seized it and delivered."

Please visit www.HoustonBARCFoundation.org for more information about getting involved in the effort to find forever homes for Houston's homeless animals.



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