



STONINGTON COMMUNITY ROWING CENTER & The Hart Perry Boathouse



*“Heart pounding, salt on my skin,
sweat rolling down my face, and blood dripping
down my knee from cutting it on a rigger
this is all I know now.”*

Cailee Mathewson, SHS '17, Girls Crew

The Opportunity

A Community Rowing Center and Park on the Mystic River

The Friends of Stonington Crew organization plans to build a premier rowing center that will provide access for youth and adults to learn, train and compete on the water. The site is already secured by the Town of Stonington and the new boathouse will permanently honor the many substantial contributions Hart Perry made to the sport of rowing.

The Hart Perry Boathouse will feature three main components:

- A boat bay on the ground floor for Stonington High School rowing
- An adjacent boat bay for community rowing
- A common area on the second floor for workout facilities and associated programs and services

The Community Impact

The Stonington Community Rowing Center will become the home to the Stonington High School Crew team and the Stonington Community Rowing Club. The Club will host racing regattas, as well as offer youth, masters, adaptive, recreational, and instructional programs to the community year-round. Stonington High School Crew began in 1998 and, since then, more than 650 rowers have passed through the program. Each year over 80 students participate in crew, most of them continuing to row in college and many of those receiving scholarships. Based on the success of this program, we are now working to bring rowing to the broader community.

Rowing builds self-confidence, promotes a healthy lifestyle, and accelerates student achievement. Rowers learn about team building, the importance of collaboration and the many rewards of hard work.

Rowing is a lifelong sport that benefits participants of all ages.



Future site of the Stonington Community Rowing Center

The Hart Perry Legacy

Hart Perry is regarded as one of American rowing's true patriarchs. Hart was a resident of North Stonington, CT for many years and was one of the most influential figures in rowing in the United States and abroad. Hart passed away in 2011 but not before leaving an indelible mark on the sport. Hart was a rower, coach, promoter and crew advocate. He helped establish many successful youth rowing programs over the years at sites including Kent School, Dartmouth College and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy.



How to Give

Our fundraising strategy parallels the sport of rowing: a group of individuals comes together and works to reach a common goal. We are looking for pivotal donors who can provide the financial resources to launch our capital campaign, which will provide the funding to secure construction of the boathouse and rowing center. Your generous support will be forever associated with the extraordinary legacy of Hart Perry and the Stonington Community Rowing Center.

The Fundraising Plan

\$ 2,200,000 Park funding provided by the Town of Stonington - secured
\$ 200,000 CT State funds a park Master Plan - secured
\$ 1,500,000 Capital Campaign/Private Donors - including naming opportunities
\$ 500,000 Community Support and Special Events
\$ 500,000 Corporate Partnerships

\$2,500,000 CAMPAIGN GOAL
\$4,900,000 PROJECT GOAL

Learn More

Web: stoningtoncrc.org
Social: @StoningtonCRC
Connect: Richard R. Larkin, ricklarkin@stoningtoncrc.org
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Friends of Stonington Crew is a registered 501(c)3 self-funded, non-profit organization that strives to promote diversity, teamwork and awareness within the rowing community. EIN 061549558

“When I found rowing,
I found something I liked.
I found something I could commit myself to.
But I never realized
it would shape who I am today.
Rowing has taught me dedication, leadership,
and perseverance, especially after failure.”

Sam Bunger, SHS '17, Boys Crew co-captain



Project Leadership

The Friends of Stonington Crew, the local non-profit organization supporting the Stonington High School crew team, has gathered a select group of people dedicated to making the dream of the Stonington Community Rowing Center and The Hart Perry Boathouse a reality. The group is a cross section of rowers, supporters, and pillars of our community.

Campaign Leadership

Honorary Chairperson: Gillian Perry Millsom

Campaign Steering Committee: Bob Fountain, Dana Hewson, Maggie Jones
Charlie MacLachlan*, Michael O'Neill, Breck Perkins, Tom Sanford, Heidi Simmons

**In Memoriam*

We welcome ideas and involvement at all levels.

Goals

Build the Hart Perry Boathouse
Create a Safe and Secure Location for the SHS Crew and Equipment
Provide Training and Rowing Programs for the Community

