For Immediate Release
Photographs Attached

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Replacement of Piedmont Park’s Beloved Climbing Magnolia
The Vasser Woolley Foundation donates $20,000 for tree and care

ATLANTA, GA, June 14, 2017 – In spring of last year, Piedmont Park was highlighted in the AJC for being home to the most recognizable and most photographed tree in Atlanta – the “Climbing Magnolia.” If you grew up in Atlanta, or are a frequent park visitor, chances are you have either climbed on this tree yourself or taken a picture in front it. Its sweeping limbs made the perfect perch for that keepsake photo or unique vantage point of Atlanta’s historic park.

But in July 2016 the Climbing Magnolia sadly toppled over succumbing to a column of rot that had weakened its core. Based on its rings, many believe the magnolia dates back to the Cotton States Exhibition in 1895 –an important milestone in Atlanta’s history.

Fortunately, a 20’ magnolia, with a 70” root ball, weighing over 8,000 lbs has been successfully installed in Piedmont Park. The Piedmont Park Conservancy extends great appreciation to the Vasser Woolley Foundation for donating $20,000 towards the replacement, installation and ongoing care of this iconic Atlanta landmark. The Conservancy looks forward to the many years ahead of the new Magnolia.

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The Piedmont Park Conservancy, a nonprofit organization, is a member and donor-funded organization working in partnership with the city of Atlanta to enhance and preserve Piedmont Park as a vital, urban green space, and as a cultural and recreational resources that enriches the quality of life for all Atlantans. Since 1989, over $66 million has been invested into Piedmont Park through capital improvements raised by the Conservancy. Today, the Conservancy requires over $3 million dollars in donations every year in order to manage and enhance Piedmont Park and its programs.

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