



## Dear Friend,

Houston Audubon's community-centered approach to conservation plays a vital role in addressing the biodiversity and climate challenges we face. Birds are declining at alarming rates, which is why we work tirelessly to protect high-priority properties and restore critical bird habitat on Houston Audubon lands. Migratory birds on the Central Flyway depend on the Greater Houston Gulf Coast region for protection during their long journeys. The more than 4,000 acres we currently own and protect provide essential habitats for birds to survive and thrive throughout their life cycles. Our sanctuaries also sequester carbon from the atmosphere, help protect us from extreme weather, and offer opportunities for people to enjoy the benefits of nature, including bird watching.

We are proud to be a part of a nationwide network of land trusts working to save land, strengthen communities, and create a healthier planet. Houston Audubon's system of 17 nature sanctuaries is an example of how land trusts can help support birds. Our sanctuaries provide critical habitat and safe spaces for birds to find food and refuge. They also provide places for children and adults alike to appreciate nature and become inspired to better protect nature in their everyday lives. Investments in boardwalks, restrooms, and trails have helped us improve access and enhance the visitor experience within our sanctuaries. And, as we expand our engaging nature-based programming into diverse and underserved communities, we are growing a more inclusive and representative community of nature enthusiasts and aspiring conservationists who will help address the challenges of tomorrow.

Land trusts like Houston Audubon protect our natural world — our water, wildlife and open space — for all people, forever, and they can play a pivotal role in bird conservation. When you support Houston Audubon, you're investing in local initiatives and programs that have an exponential effect on global bird conservation and direct tangible benefits for our local communities.

Your support is crucial to our mission of protecting the almost 400 bird species that depend on our sanctuaries. Please join us with your support today, and learn more about the power of land trusts at <a href="mailto:GainingGroundUSA.org">GainingGroundUSA.org</a>. Thank you for considering a year end donation to help us continue gaining ground.

Sincerely,

Helen E. Drummond President & CEO

Helen E. Drummond