LYPMumbai

LOVE YOUR PARKS MUMBAI

2018–2026

love your parks mumbai

Eight years of free events, songs and campaigns for open, free and welcoming parks in Mumbai.

250+
free events



www.lypmumbai.com

@lypmumbai

our story

Love Your Parks Mumbai began in November 2018, when two mothers in Bandra wanted better parks for their children and for every Mumbaikar.

Their first idea was a community choir. Its two free concerts, at Patwardhan Park and Joggers' Park, started a conversation about who our parks are for.

More than 250 free events have followed, from sunrise yoga to festivals on The Steps, with musicians, naturalists, teachers and neighbours. Alongside the events, LYPMumbai speaks up for open spaces: it gave inputs to the BMC's open spaces policy in 2019 and now campaigns for parks to stay open from 5 am to 11 pm.

LYPMumbai believes that citizens taking part in the creation, activation and care of public open spaces is the backbone of a healthy society and democracy. It is led by **Anca Florescu Abraham**, works with the MCGM, and is a sister of Bombay Greenway and The Steps, Bandra.



"One day every Mumbaikar will have access to abundant, welcoming and user-friendly public open spaces."

our purpose

mumbai's parks in numbers

250+

free events in Mumbai's parks and open spaces since November 2018.

1.1 m²

of public open space per Mumbaikar. Healthy cities give around 10.

6–10

BMC park hours, 6 am to 10 pm, announced after citizens' inputs in 2019.

5–11

the hours we now ask for: every park, garden and promenade open 5 am to 11 pm.

7th

Festival at The Steps, Bandra, 19 December 2026 – 6 February 2027.

14

stories in the press since 2019, from The Hindu to Free Press Journal.



the people





Anca Florescu Abraham

founder, LYPMumbai

Anca leads LYPMumbai and The Steps, Bandra programme. A landscape and interior designer, she is co-principal at Abraham John Architects and co-founded Bombay Greenway in 2013. Originally from Romania, she has made Mumbai her home since 2005, and believes in placemaking: small, practical steps, taken with the community, that make parks better for every Mumbaikar.

Alan Abraham

architect, co-founder of Bombay Greenway

Alan is co-principal of Abraham John Architects and leads design and research at Bombay Greenway: urban proposals for a city for people, where open spaces, connectivity and other ways of getting around make communities thrive. He sparks dialogue on accessible open spaces, walking and cycling, and the small design decisions that keep Mumbai liveable.

working with

MCGM / BMC
ward offices and the Garden department

Bombay Greenway
bombaygreenway.org

The Steps, Bandra
stepsculturalfoundation.org

2018–2026 at a glance

2018

- November: the LYPMumbai Chorus starts rehearsing at HaikuJam, Bandra
- December: first #SingForYourParks concerts at Patwardhan Park and Joggers' Park, Bandra West

2019

- Stories Under the Tree, Kaifi Azmi Park, Juhu · Republic Day at Muktananda Park, Santacruz
- Yoga in the park, Enjoy-a-ball and a bootcamp with Mumbai Juniorthon at Patwardhan Park · Lil' Yogis and an Easter scavenger hunt at Joggers' Park
- Storytelling and Kangatraining at Rajesh Khanna Garden, Khar · Birds of Mumbai at Maharashtra Nature Park, Mahim
- Community meets at Pushpa Narsee Park, Juhu · Learn from Dream Grove, D'Monte Road, Bandra
- OpenDoor Fest and pétanque with Alliance Française at Mahim Beach · Coastal Life exhibition on Earth Day, Worli Promenade
- International Yoga Day and meditation, Katrak Park · Diwali storytelling, St. Paul's Garden · Read Aloud Project, Kaifi Azmi Park
- August: **Shape the Future of Your Open Spaces**, our campaign for the BMC's new open spaces policy
- November: LYPMumbai speaks at Placemaker Week ASEAN, Kuala Lumpur
- December: Sing For Your Parks at St. Stephen's Steps and Pushpa Narsee Park · the first Festival at The Steps

2020

- Republic Day and SpringFest at St. Stephen's Steps · KangaTrail at Sanjay Gandhi National Park
- #WheresMyFootpath · our story in *The City at Eye Level Asia*



2021–2022

- Love Your Parks Days: free events in parks across Mumbai on the last Saturday of the month
- November 2021: Love Your Parks Association is registered as a not-for-profit company
- Festival at The Steps returns every December–February

2023

- Anca picks eight parks to breathe in, for Paper Planes

2025

- 3 June: World Cycle Day ride with the Bicycle Mayor of Mumbai, ending at St. Stephen's Steps
- With Bombay Greenway, the petition to keep parks, gardens and promenades open 5 am – 11 pm

2026

- February: **Re-imagine Your City**, an art competition for young city-makers, part of *The Everyday City*
- March: Sing For Your Parks returns: 15 March at Pushpa Narsee Park, 22 March at Joggers' Park
- 1 March: Love Your Parks Days community meet in three places, including a Holi edition with Saree Sakhiyaan
- November: a new lypmumbai.com, with every event and park on one map
- 19 December 2026 – 6 February 2027: the 7th Festival at The Steps

every year

- Yoga For Your Parks, World Yoga Day in three parks, #ParkStories and #CitiesForPlay
- KultureBay at Worli Koliwada · Wagathons with Rotary Club of Mumbai SoBo





"Cultures and climates differ all over the world, but people are the same. They'll gather in public if you give them a good place to do it."

Jan Gehl, architect and urban designer

since 2018

#singfor yourparks

A community choir, the LYPMumbai Chorus, was founded in November 2018. After six weeks of rehearsals it gave two free concerts in Bandra's parks.

The aim was simple: make a public and joyful noise, and grow a community that would speak up for parks with us, and have fun doing it.

In 2026 the choir came back. Children (8+) and adults rehearsed for eight weeks, then sang for their parks at Pushpa Narsee Park, Juhu, on 15 March and at Joggers' Park, Bandra West, on 22 March.





Public spaces work best when the community runs them together and they are kept busy with regular events. Every concert is also feedback to the people who run our parks.

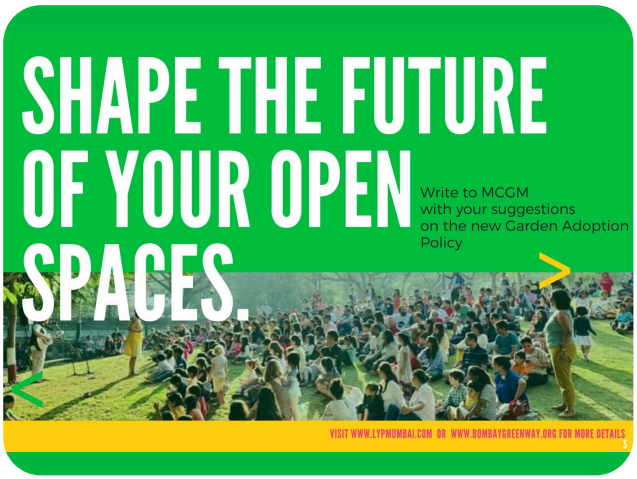
2019

shape the future of your open spaces

In August 2019 the BMC asked citizens for ideas for a new open spaces policy.

LYPMumbai wrote a six-page draft policy and ran a social media campaign so that followers could send their own suggestions. The response was overwhelming.

We were then invited to a meeting with Joint Municipal Commissioner Ashutosh Salil and other groups. One big result: local BMC parks would no longer close in the afternoon. They would stay open from 6 am to 10 pm, every day, with one park in every ward open around the clock.



accessibility

Entrances, signs and wayfinding, and access for people with disabilities.

inclusivity

A park within a short walk, open to everyone, with users involved in how it's run.

sustainability

Parks that soak up floods, handle waste and water well, and are protected and funded.



since 2025

keep parks open 5 am – 11 pm

"Open spaces should welcome us all day, every day."

The 2019 promise is not kept everywhere. Many parks still lock their gates at random times, set their own rules and lack basics like drinking water and toilets. With Bombay Greenway, we asked the BMC for:

longer hours

Parks, gardens and promenades open from 5 am to 11 pm, every day.

one city, one park rule

The same clear rules everywhere: no random bans on sitting on the grass or closing when it rains.

the basics

Drinking water, clean toilets, access for people with disabilities, and cycle tracks where possible.

sign and share

change.org/p/keep-mumbai-parks-gardens-and-open-spaces-open-5am-11pm

every December–February

festival at the steps



St. Stephen's Steps in Bandra West was once a narrow, neglected staircase. Designed by Abraham John Architects through Bombay Greenway and built by the MCGM H West ward, it is now The Steps, Bandra: Mumbai's first true 24×7 pedestrian square.

To celebrate, Bombay Greenway, LYPMumbai and LittleBigCity held the first Festival at The Steps over five weekends in December 2019 and January 2020: music, art, games, open mic, film, dance and storytelling.

It has returned every winter with Steps Cultural Foundation, Arts By The Bay, the MCGM and local ALMs. The **7th edition** runs on eight Saturdays, **19 December 2026 – 6 February 2027**.

stepsculturalfoundation.org

since 2021

love your parks days

Free community get-togethers in parks across Mumbai, with local artists, civic bodies, entrepreneurs and community groups.

Each day brings something different: yoga, music, storytelling, nature walks, journaling, games. On Sunday 1 March 2026 a Love Your Parks Days community meet ran in three places at once: a Holi edition with Saree Sakhiyaan at Pramod Mahajan Park, Lokhandwala; Yoga For Your Parks with Save Mumbai Mangroves at Nana Nani Park, Versova; and a Juhu nature walk with journaling.

Anyone can host one in their own park. We help with ideas and with BMC permissions.











ongoing

#yogafor yourparks



Free yoga for all ages in Mumbai's public parks and gardens, led by teachers who give their time.

From Lil' Yogis for children to sunrise sessions for adults, yoga brings people into parks at the quietest hours. On World Yoga Day, 21 June, we hold sessions in three parks at once: Hanging Gardens, Patwardhan Park and Van Vihar Garden, Eksar, Borivali West.



2026

#citiesforplay

Is Mumbai safe, beautiful and play-friendly? We asked the experts: children.

The Children's Audit of Play is a series of workshops and an exhibition by children aged 8–12, showing how they see the city and where they can play.

In February 2026, with Bombay Greenway, **Re-imagine Your City** invited young city-makers to draw and build the city they want, as part of *The Everyday City* exhibition, with a jury of artists and educators.

> **"Children are a kind of indicator species. If we can build a successful city for children, we will have a successful city for everyone."**
>
> Enrique Peñalosa







coming next

New ways to bring neighbours together in their parks, being worked on now.

#ArtInThePark

Open-air drawing, painting and making for all ages, with local artists, and an Arts in the Parks festival.

#BooksInThePark

Reading circles, read-aloud mornings and book swaps under the trees, building on the Read Aloud Project and Stories Under the Tree.

the Mumbai Parks app

An app, in development, to find parks near you, see what's on, learn about them and become a Friend of the Park.

#ParkStories

Park by park: why you should visit, what is going wrong, and ideas to fix it.

a citywide park audit

Opening hours, toilets, water, access and rules, checked park by park.

mapping heritage neighbourhoods

Walks and maps of the old neighbourhoods around our parks, and placemaking workshops with ALMs.



out in the parks

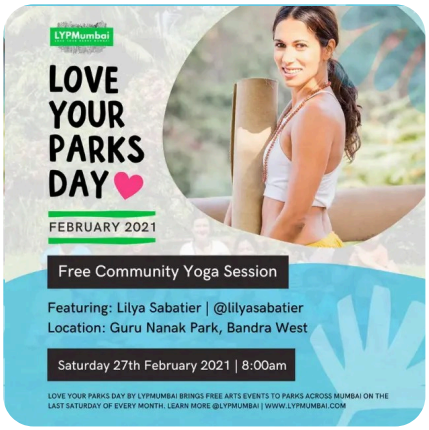




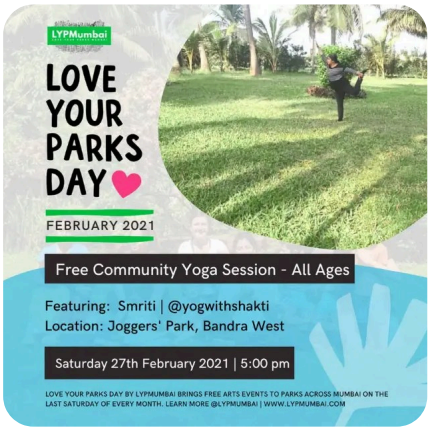














in the news

2026	**Free Press Journal**	Sing For Your Parks campaign returns, promoting music and open spaces
2026	**Citizen Matters**	Music, play and community action help residents protect and celebrate Mumbai's parks
2025	**Free Press Journal**	Campaign launched to make parks accessible from early morning to late night
2024	**Sustainable Cities**	Nature and community experiences not to miss in Mumbai
2023	**Paper Planes**	8 parks in Mumbai where you can breathe fresh air, picked by Anca Florescu Abraham
2020	**The City at Eye Level Asia**	Turning spaces into places in Mumbai
2019	**Mid-day**	Bandra's stepping up
2019	**Times of India**	Mumbai kids connect with nature and open spaces at this city event
2019	**Governance Now**	A unique project gives new life to a chaotic Mumbai fishing village
2019	**Verve**	Love Your Parks Mumbai is creatively putting Mumbai's open spaces to good use
2019	**The Hindu**	Photo exhibition urges authorities to focus on the big picture
2019	**Mid-day**	Roping people from different walks of life into a choir
	Homegrown	A multi-use public space in Bandra promotes community building with art workshops
	Hindustan Times	Mumbai citizens take the Twitter route to throw light on neglected footpaths

partner with us

LYPMumbai is free for everyone who comes to a park. Partners make that possible, and help us grow from one-off events into steady care for the city's parks.

CSR partners

Love Your Parks Association is registered for CSR (Form CSR-1) and under section 12A of the Income-tax Act. Support a series or a project:

- a year of Love Your Parks Days
- Sing For Your Parks
- Yoga For Your Parks
- Children's Audit of Play
- Art and Books in the Park
- the Mumbai Parks app
- a citywide park audit

volunteer

Help at events, on social media, with photos, or run a Love Your Parks Day in your own park.

programme partners

Artists, teachers, naturalists, choirs, fitness groups, schools and ALMs: bring your free session to a park.

Partnerships, programming and funding: hello@lypmumbai.com · +91 98196 91971 · lypmumbai.com/csr







see you
in the park.

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Love Your Parks Association

A not-for-profit company, registered November 2021

CIN U92413MH2021NPL372080

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friends

Bombay Greenway · bombaygreenway.org

The Steps, Bandra · stepsculturalfoundation.org

Abraham John Architects · abrahamjohnarchitects.com

Report updated November 2026. Photographs: LYPMumbai and friends.