FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kate Sann, Communications & Programs Manager
914.234.6992 ext. 15, kate@westchesterlandtrust.org

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Donation of Conservation Easement by Weinstein Family to Westchester Land Trust
Protects Inspirational Viewshed for Artists and Nature Lovers

CROTON-ON-HUDSON, NY— An 18-acre portion of the Kenoten Estate has been preserved forever thanks to a generous donation to Westchester Land Trust by the Weinstein Family—Gerald Weinstein, Martin Weinstein and Teresa Liszka. The donation of a conservation easement means that the land, located in Croton-on-Hudson, will never be developed in a way that conflicts with its current use, and that its fields, woods and wetlands will remain habitable for birds and wildlife.

Ms. Liszka and Mr. Martin Weinstein are both accomplished visual artists and have long drawn inspiration from their land which straddles a high hill and overlooks the Hudson River. Martin’s most recent body of work features landscapes of the newly-protected property and demonstrates the intimate connection between nature and creative expression.

“Finalizing the easement with the Westchester Land Trust was hugely important to us,” shared Ms. Liszka. “We don’t have to worry now that the land is secure. It can’t ever be built on. It’s going to be taken care of forever.”

The Weinstein conservation easement abuts the 156-acre Brinton Brook Sanctuary which is owned and stewarded by Saw Mill River Audubon. The Weinstein property has significant conservation attributes including the protection of water quality; the providing of habitat for wildlife, particularly migratory songbirds, waterfowl, raptors, amphibians, and large mammals. This conservation easement provides a scenic view shed from nearby roads, the Hudson River and the mountains directly across the Hudson River. Together, the Weinstein Conservation Easement and the Brinton Brook Sanctuary form a critical conservation corridor providing additional habitat and refuge to the wild flora and fauna.

“In an area as heavily developed as Westchester County, the Weinstein conservation easement is remarkable not only for its scenic beauty but for its unity,” said WLT Vice President, Kara Whelan. “Whenever possible, our preservation work aims to connect existing parcels of protected open space. The Weinstein Conservation Easement is a great example of expanding conservation corridors.”

A conservation easement is a legal agreement between a land owner and a not-for-profit organization like the land trust to forever limit development on a piece of property for environmental purposes. The land remains in private ownership and stays on the property tax rolls Westchester Land Trust stewards nearly 200 easements on roughly 5,200 acres spread throughout Westchester and eastern Putnam Counties.

ABOUT WESTCHESTER LAND TRUST

Based in Bedford Hills, the Westchester Land Trust works with public and private partners to preserve land in perpetuity and to enhance the natural resources in Westchester and eastern Putnam counties—a densely populated region under persistent threat from the pressures of development. Through the use of conservation easements and outright acquisition, WLT’s efforts benefit the long-term health of these communities by safeguarding air quality, food supply and community character, as well as critical watershed areas. Since its founding in 1988, WLT has preserved almost 8,000 acres of open space including more than 700-acres of preserves owned by the organization which are free and open to the public year round.
For more information about WLT, please visit westchesterlandtrust.org and connect with us on Facebook & Instagram (@WestchesterLandTrust) as well as Twitter (@WLT_NY).

To request a copy of WLT’s recent newsletter featuring a full interview with Martin Weinstein and Teresa Liszka, please contact Communications & Program Manager, Kate Sann—kate@westchesterlandtrust.org/914.234.6992 ext. 15.

IMAGES

“WeinsteinEasement.jpg”
A spectacular view of the Hudson River from the Kenoten Estate in Croton-on-Hudson—18-acres of which, are now permanently protected through a conservation easement with the Westchester Land Trust.

“M.Weinstein, T.Liszka, G.Weinstein.jpg”
From left to right: Westchester Land Trust’s most recent easement donors Martin Weinstein, Teresa Liszka and Gerald Weinstein at the organization’s annual benefit in June.

“June, 2 Evenings.jpg”
June, 2 Evenings, 2014
Martin Weinstein
Acrylic on acrylic sheets
37 x 40 inches

“November, Afternoon, Evening, Nightfall.jpg”
November, Afternoon, Evening, Nightfall, 2014
Martin Weinstein
Acrylic on acrylic sheets
37 x 40 inches