PRESS RELEASE

Capital Roots Raises $88,000 at 13th Annual
Autumn Evening in the Garden

Non-profit to Fund the Purchase of a Pavilion for the Produce Project

(Troy, N.Y.) – Capital Roots held their 13th annual Autumn Evening in the Garden on Sept. 12, 2019 at the Hilton Garden Inn, celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Produce Project job-readiness program and raising $88,000 for the continuous support of Capital Roots’ programs.

The local non-profit, which works to provide access to fresh food and green spaces for all in the Capital Region, hosted roughly 300 community members to sample culinary fare, highlighting fresh meat, produce, and dairy provided by 42 local farmers and producers, and prepared by 21 of the region’s top chefs and bakers. The event also featured samples of local wine, beer, spirits and coffee supplied by 11 local beverage purveyors. As guests mingled and enjoyed samples using seasonal ingredients, the Neil Brown Band Quartet filled the room with their lively music.

Auctioneer Dr. Mark Fruiterman helped lead the Mission Auction during the event, along with Capital Roots staff and Produce Project student trainees. The nearly $30,000 raised at the “raise the paddle” style auction will support the purchase and construction of a permanent pavilion for the Produce Project 8th Street Urban Farm in Troy. These funds will help guarantee a safe place for students to work, rest and learn out of the sun and storms.

“Now more than ever, people are beginning to ask where their food is coming from and who is involved in the growing process. That’s exactly what tonight is about,” said Capital Roots’
Chief Executive Officer Amy Klein. “Autumn Evening exists to help bridge that gap between provider and consumer and show our appreciation for all that local farms bring to our community.”

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*About Capital Roots.* Capital Roots is a 44-year-old nonprofit organization that nourishes healthy communities with more than 50 Community Gardens, the Veggie Mobile®, Healthy Stores, the Produce Project, Squash Hunger and more. Capital Roots is headquartered at the Urban Grow Center, a regional food hub focused on urban agriculture and produce distribution to four counties, enabling Capital Roots to deliver local food and services to underserved neighborhoods and low-income families.

Learn more at [www.capitalroots.org](http://www.capitalroots.org).

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